

**RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE  
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**13.0 RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT**  
*[RULE 9J-5.005(2)]*

The Recreation and Open Space Element of the Monroe County (County) Comprehensive Plan addresses the data inventory requirements of 9J-5.005(2) of the Florida Administration Code (F.A.C.). The data inventory requirements will support the development of goals, objectives, policies, and implementation programs for the Recreation and Open Space Element.

The Recreation and Open Space Element is designed to meet the requirements of Florida’s Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act (Chapter 163, Florida Statutes).

The purpose of this *Recreation and Open Space Element* is to plan for a system of recreational areas, parks, and facilities, both privately-owned and publicly-owned which are accessible to permanent residents and the significant tourist population for the County.

**13.1 Introduction**

Monroe County possesses an abundance of recreational and open space resources that are enjoyed by the permanent residents and visitors to this unique area. The County is a desirable place for people to live and for tourists from all over the world to visit due to its subtropical climate, natural beauty, and numerous water and conservation oriented recreational facilities.

The County, its unique environments, and the presence of bountiful off-shore waters provide the full spectrum of recreational facilities which include:

- national, state, county, and municipal parks;
- refuges and rookeries;
- preserves and sanctuaries;
- botanical sites;
- historic, geological, and archeological sites; and,
- conservation lands and natural areas.

All of the conservation and recreation lands and waters of the County provide a full range of active and passive activities available to permanent residents and seasonal visitors alike. However, due to the natural characteristics of this subtropical chain of islands (keys), with large bodies of waters on both sides of a central roadway connecting the islands, the focus of the majority of these recreational opportunities are and will continue to be water-dependent and water-related uses.

The County, along with other governmental agencies and the public in general, shares the responsibility of providing recreational opportunities and protecting open space resources and the natural and unique environment of the Florida Keys region. Further, the provision of

providing recreation and conservation lands and facilities in the County serves two primary purposes: 1) to conserve valuable natural and cultural resources that might otherwise be destroyed; and 2) to provide a reasonable balance of passive and active recreational opportunities for permanent residents and visitors. These two purposes are equally important in supporting the recreation-related tourism which plays such an important role in the economy but also for the enjoyment of the resident population of the County.

The County has five incorporated cities which range in size of permanent and seasonal population from a few hundred to the City of Key West at about 41,000. Recreational and open space lands and facilities are distributed within all of the city boundaries as well as the unincorporated areas of the County. A park or recreation site that contains recreational facilities may be located in a city and may be owned by that city, Monroe County, a private entity, or even the Federal government or the state of Florida. Facilities within that recreation site, such as a baseball field or a swimming pool, may service a population that extends beyond the city's boundaries. In like manner, the Monroe County School District (MCSD) schools serve populations beyond the city boundaries as well as the unincorporated County as a whole. Therefore, for the purposes of this update, city recreational lands and facilities as well as the MCSD lands and facilities have been included.

The County has divided only the unincorporated county into "Planning Areas" (PA); however, since the Recreational and Open Space Element update includes the incorporated cities, different boundaries are needed to be set for all the land areas. For purposes of this inventory and discussion, they will be designated as "Recreation and Open Space Planning Areas" or ROSPA; there are four ROSPA areas which utilize the mile markers along U. S. 1 as the dividing lines. The linear geography of the Keys portion of the County lends itself to these clearly defined areas which are marked along U.S. 1 by mile marker (MM) signs. Most of the permanent resident population and seasonal population utilize these markers for locating sites.

The four designated areas are the Mainland ROSPA (MROSPA), the Upper Keys ROSPA (UKROSPA), the Middle Keys ROSPA (MKROSPA), and the Lower Keys ROSPA (LKROSPA). The MROSPA encompasses the south and southwest tip of Florida. Although the MROSPA is connected to the keys portion of the County by roads, these roads actually travel through Dade County, Florida. The northernmost limit of the UKROSPA is MM 112 which is the southern limit of Dade County. The UKROSPA continues southeast and then south to MM 73 and includes a portion of the keys on Key Largo along SR 905 to Ocean Reef. The UKROSPA contains the incorporated city of the Village of Islamorada. The MKROSPA extends west-southwest from MM 73 to MM 38.5 which is the south end of the Seven Mile Bridge. The MKROSPA contains the incorporated cities of Layton, Key Colony Beach and Marathon. The LKROSPA extends west from MM 38.5 to MM 0 and includes the non-land linked keys of the Dry Tortugas, the Sand Keys, and the Marquesas Keys. Key West, the County seat and the largest city, is included in the LKROSPA.

## 13.2 Inventory of Existing Conservation and Recreation Lands and Facilities

Unlike any other County in Florida, over 90 percent of the land area in the County is and will continue to be dedicated to conservation and recreation lands. The Mainland Planning Area lands, for example, are entirely part of the Federal Government's Everglades National Park and the Big Cypress National Preserve. There is 4.07 million acres of publicly-owned conservation and recreation lands and waters provided in the County. The mainland portion of the County accounts for 1.63 million acres of this total. The vast majority of these areas are conservation lands which provide, activity-based, water-dependent and water-related recreation opportunities. In addition to these publicly provided lands and waters, many County businesses provide recreational activity-based facilities which are available to the functional population (which includes both the permanent and seasonal populations) of the County.

Conservation and recreation lands in the County can generally be differentiated based on the purposes for which they were acquired or established and management priorities between natural resource protection and the provision for recreational opportunities. These defined distinctions follow the State of Florida, Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) as outlined in the *Outdoor Recreation in Florida 2008* and are as follows:

- **Conservation lands** include lands that have been acquired by either public agencies or private organizations for the purposes of protecting significant natural resources, historic or archeological resources, and plant and wildlife habitats. Although these lands may include recreational facilities that provide passive or active recreational opportunities, these recreational facilities and activities are generally limited in scope, tied to compatibility with the resource, and are enhanced by the protection of that natural resource. In all cases, the recreational uses and facilities are of secondary importance to the preservation of the natural resource.
- Due to the unique and sensitive natural resources in the County, these conservation lands typically include large amounts of terrestrial and submerged lands ranging in size from several hundred to almost one million acres of total acreage per site. Florida Statutes 161 and 9J5 do not distinguish between conservation lands and conservation waters. The provision of conservation lands, especially in the County, is to consider largely the responsibility of the State and Federal governments, due to their broad natural resource commitments and preservation powers, and large-scale land management requirements (Florida DNP, 1991 and ORF 2008).
- **Recreation lands** include publicly and privately-owned lands which provide opportunities for active and passive recreational pursuits. Recreation lands generally focus on user needs, rather than the resource protection of the conservation lands, and as such are typically smaller and more densely developed than conservation lands and provide a broader range of recreational activities and facilities. Recreation lands are typically classified by the *Outdoor Recreation in Florida 2008* as being either "resource-

based" or "activity-based." Resource-based recreation lands and facilities focus around a significant natural or preserved resource and include appropriate recreation activities which occur in a particular natural setting of that resource. Activity-based (or user-based) recreation lands or facilities are not dependent upon a specific resource and are typically developed with recreation and support facilities which can be provided almost anywhere for the convenience of the user. According to *Outdoor Recreation in Florida 2008*, the responsibility for the provision of activity-based recreation areas and facilities is largely the responsibility of the local government.

It should be noted that there are inherent potential conflicts in providing recreational activities in close proximity to sensitive natural resources, preserves, archeological sites, wildlife habitats, and other significant resources, especially in the County. These conflicts are generally resolved through management plans to protect the natural resource, which either limit the scope of recreational activities in or adjacent to the resource or prohibit public access to these lands altogether.

### *13.2.1 Inventory of Conservation Lands and Facilities*

#### 13.2.1.1 Publicly-Owned Conservation Lands and Facilities

##### 13.2.1.1.1 Federally-Owned Conservation Lands and Facilities

The vast majority of the 4.07 million acres of conservation and recreation lands or waters in the County are under the Federal jurisdiction (**Table 13.1**). These are mainly large, resource-based conservation areas that include environmentally significant marine, wetland and/or terrestrial habitats. These areas function to protect and preserve resources and habitats that might otherwise be destroyed and provide both passive and active recreational and environmental education opportunities for permanent residents of and visitors to the region of South Florida and the Florida Keys. The federally-owned conservation lands for the County are listed in **Table 13.1** and are more fully described in the *Conservation and Coastal Management Element*.

##### 13.2.1.1.2 State of Florida - Owned Conservation Lands and Facilities

The State of Florida owns approximately 102,000 acres of lands and waters in the County and its surrounding waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Florida Bay as shown in **Table 13.2**. The State of Florida administers these facilities which include large areas of significant marine or terrestrial habitats. These facilities also often contain limited resource-based recreational opportunities such as nature trails, overlooks, camping, fishing, and boating. The State of Florida also owns and maintains smaller recreational sites throughout the Keys. Most of these sites are water-dependent recreation sites and facilities such as beaches, boat ramps, old bridges, catwalks, and docks (see **Table 13.6**). State-owned conservation lands are listed in **Table 13.2** and are more fully described in the *Conservation and Coastal Management Element*.

13.2.1.1.3 *Monroe County-Owned Conservation Lands and Facilities*

County-owned conservation lands have been acquired over the years through land purchases by the Monroe County Land Authority (MCLA), land purchases by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), and the dedication of ROGO lots to the BOCC. These properties are located throughout the Keys, are undeveloped, and generally have parcel sizes of one acre or less. In many cases they are near or adjacent to larger conservation properties owned by the state or federal government. Many of the properties originally acquired by MCLA and the BOCC have been conveyed to the State or federal government. As of September 30, 2010, the inventory of conservation lands titled in either MCLA or the BOCC totaled approximately 1,400 acres.

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**Table 13.1 - Inventory of Federally-Owned Conservation Lands**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Planning Area	Total (Acres)	Upland (Acres)	Submerged* (Acres)	Facilities
<b>National Park Service</b>							
Everglades National Park	Mainland	NA	Mainland	1,500,000	800,000	700,000	Visitor Centers / Information Area, Interpretive Center, Canoe & Hiking Trails, Trailer & Camp Sites, Beach, 3 Boat Ramps
Big Cypress National Preserve (1)	Mainland	NA	Mainland	126,362	126,362	NA	Hunting, Hiking Trails
Fort Jefferson National Preservation; Dry Tortugas National Park (2)	Dry Tortugas	Offshore	Lower Keys	64,761	104	64,657	10 Tent Sites, 10 Picnic Tables, Museum, Interpretive Building, Hiking Trail, Beach, Swimming, Fishing, Coral Reefs, Snorkeling
<b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</b>							
Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge (3)	North Key Largo	SR 905	Upper Keys	6,800	6,150	650	Breeding & Nesting Habitats, American Crocodiles, Other Wildlife

**Table 13.1 - Inventory of Federally-Owned Conservation Lands (continued)**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Planning Area	Total (Acres)	Upland (Acres)	Submerged* (Acres)	Facilities
Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge (4) (5)	Big Pine Key to Key West	20	Lower Keys	7,600	7,500	100	Beach, Great White Heron & other Birds' Habitat, Fishing
National Key Deer Wildlife Refuge (5)	Big Pine to Sugarloaf	15 to 30	Lower Keys	9,200	9,100	100	Nature Trail, Visitor's Center
Key West National Wildlife Refuge	Key West	Offshore	Lower Keys	2,019	2,019	NA	Mangrove Habitat, Nesting Birds
<b>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</b>							
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary	Offshore Florida Keys	Offshore	Lower Keys	2,351,403	73,650	2,377,753	Fishing, Diving, Snorkeling, Coral Reefs
<b>Total</b>				<b>4,068,145</b>	<b>1,024,885</b>	<b>3,143,260</b>	
NA = Not available							
* Area approximately below the mean high water line							
(1) Approximately 74.75 additional acres of privately owned lands are within the boundary of Big Cypress National Preserve.							
(2) Approximately 3.220 additional acres of submerged lands owned by the State of Florida are within the boundary of Fort Jefferson National Monument.							
(3) An additional 1.713 acres of privately owned lands within the boundary of Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge are planned for future acquisition.							
(4) The total acreage includes 1,200 acres under perpetual lease from the State of Florida since 1936.							
(5) Approximately 100 acres within National Key Deer Wildlife Refuge and Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge are submerged lands.							
(6) Approximately 3,400 additional acres of privately owned lands are intended to be acquired for the National Key Deer Refuge.							

**Table 13.2 - Inventory of State of Florida-Owned Conservation Lands**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Planning Area	Total	Upland (in Acres)	Submerged*	Facilities
<b>State Parks and Recreation Facilities</b>							
John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park	Key Largo	102.5	Upper Keys	61,072.2	7,388.1	53,684.1	47 RV/Trailer sites, marina, dumping station, 122 tables, 21 shelters, 2 beaches, boat ramp, visitors center, trails, concessions, restrooms
Long Key State Park	Long Key	67.5	Middle Keys	966.0	849.0	117.0	30 RV/Trailer Sites, 30 tent sites, 6 shelters, Fishing, Interpretive/Nature trails, canoe trails & rentals, observation tower, picnic, restrooms
Curry Hammock State Park	Marathon	56	Middle Keys	970.0	970.0	NA	Beach, Basketball, Trails, Camping, Bicycling, Restrooms, Play Equipment, Picnic Tables
Bahia Honda State Park	Bahia Honda	37	Lower Keys	325.0	325.0	0.0	48 RV/Trailer Sites, 32 Tent Sites, 6 Cabins, 142 Tables, 12 Shelters, Trails, Beach, Boat Ramp, 2 Marinas, Fishing, Picnic, Dockage
<b>State Botanical, Geological and Historic Sites</b>							
Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park (2)	N. Key Largo	106.5	Upper Keys	6,588.0	6,563.1	24.9	Trails, ADA accessible, protected plants & animals, bicycling, picnic

**Table 13.2 - Inventory of State of Florida-Owned Conservation Lands (continued)**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Planning Area	Total	Upland (in Acres)	Submerged*	Facilities
Lignumvitae Key Botanical State Park	Lignumvitae Key	78	Middle Keys	587.0	486.0	101.0	Historic/Archeological Structures, Interpretative / Nature Trail, Docking, Fishing
Windley Key Fossil Reef Geological State Park	Windley Key	85.5	Upper Keys	29.0	28.5	0.5	Nature trails, native plants, coral reefs, picnic
Ft. Zachary Taylor Historic State Park	City of Key West	0	Lower Keys	54.0	54.0	0.0	Guided tours, trails, fishing, snorkeling, restrooms, picnic, bicycling
Indian Key Historic State Park	Indian Key	78	Middle Keys	115.0	17.0	98.0	Interpretive/Nature trails, boat ramp, docking, beach, Wrecker's Village ruins, ferry service, picnic
<b>State Aquatic Preserves</b>							
Lignumvitae Key Aquatic Preserve	Lignumvitae Key (off shore)	78	Middle Keys	7,000.0	0.0	7,000.0	Boating, snorkeling, fishing, wildlife, observation
Biscayne Bay-Card Sound State Aquatic Preserve	Ocean Reef (offshore)	SR 905	Upper Keys	7,080.0	0.0	7,080.0	Boating, canoeing, fishing, swimming, snorkeling
San Pedro Underwater Archeological Preserve (Aquatic Preserve)	Offshore Indian Key	77.5	Middle Keys	650.0	0.0	650.0	Historic/Archeological ship wreck, dive site, mooring buoys, snorkeling, glass bottom boat, tours

**Table 13.2 - Inventory of State of Florida-Owned Conservation Lands (continued)**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Planning Area	Total	Upland (in Acres)	Submerged*	Facilities
Ft. Jefferson National Preservation (1)	Dry Tortugas	Offshore	Lower Keys	3,220.0	0.0	3,220.0	snorkeling, fishing, canoe trails
Coupon Bight State Aquatic Preserve	Big Pine Key	30	Lower Keys	6,000.0	0.0	6,000.0	Boating, snorkeling, fishing, observation, beach
<b>Other State Acquisitions</b>							
Coupon Bight/Key Deer/CARL Project (3)	Big Pine Key	30	Lower Keys	1,769.0	1,769.0	0.0	To be incorporated into Coupon Bight Aquatic Preserve and National Key Deer Wildlife Refuge
Florida Keys Ecosystem (4)	Key Largo to Boca Chica	NA	Upper, Middle, & Lower Keys	5,610.0	5,610.0	0.0	Preservation
Total				102,035.2	24,059.7	77,975.5	
* Area approximately below the mean height water line							
(1) Leased to the State of Florida by the National Park Service. This is in addition to the federal acreage shown.							
(2) An additional 651 ac. yet to be acquired.							
(3) An additional 1,061ac. yet to be acquired.							
(4) An additional 6,253ac. yet to be acquired.							
Sources: Florida Department of Natural Resources: Div. of Recreation and Park, Properties Under the Jurisdiction of the Division, July 1, 1991 and Div. of State Lands, Aquatic Preserves Status Report, November 1989 National Audubon Society, South Florida Water Management District.							

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13.2.1.2 Privately-Owned Conservation Lands and Facilities

The Florida Keys Land and Sea Trust (FKLST) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) are the two private, non-profit organizations involved in the acquisition and maintenance of environmentally-sensitive lands in the County. Conservation lands, of approximately 377 acres, are currently owned by these organizations and **Table 13.3** summarizes these lands and facilities. In addition to these two organizations, other private organizations may own small parcels of land in the County for conservation purposes. However, an inventory of these other private organization’s lands is not included in this Element.

**Table 13.3 - Inventory of Privately-Owned Conservation Lands**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Planning Area	Size Acres (1)	Facilities	Ownership/ Management
<b>Florida Keys Land and Sea Trust</b>						
Crane Point Hammock	Marathon	50.5	Middle Keys	64.0	Hiking trails, 2 museums, historic sites	Owned and managed by FKL&ST
Spoonbill Sound Hammocks	Cudjoe Key	22.0	Lower Keys	26.0	Fishing, Canoeing, Hammock Preserve	Owned and managed by FKL&ST
Ocean Reef Club Parcel Sunrise Cay Park-Hammock Golf Course	North Key Largo	SR 905	Upper Keys	4.0	Private preserve in the Ocean Reef Club-Golf Course	Owned by FKL&ST
Subtotal				94.0		
<b>The Nature Conservancy</b>						
Lower Matecumbe Hammock Site	Lower Matecumbe Key	74.0	Middle Keys	26.0	Hammock Preserve	Owned and managed by TNC
Cross Keys Mangroves, Terrestris	Big Pine Key	30.0	Lower Keys	123.0	Hammock Preserve	Owned and managed by TNC

**Table 13.3 - Inventory of Privately-Owned Conservation Lands (continued)**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Planning Area	Size Acres (1)	Facilities	Ownership/ Management
Big Pine Key Holdings, National Key Deer Refuge	Big Pine Key	30.5	Lower Keys	2.0	Will eventually be turned over to the FWS as part of the National Key Deer Refuge	Owned and managed by TNC
John J. Pescatello Torchwood Hammock	Little Torch Key	28.5	Lower Keys	132.0	Hammock Preserve	Owned and managed by TNC
Subtotal				283.0		
Grand Total				377.0		
(1) Total acres may include some submerged lands						
TNC = The Nature Conservancy						
FKL&ST = Florida Keys Land & Sea Trust Note: Facilities indicated above are publicly-owned facilities plus privately-owned facilities which allow public access with or without a fee paid. Included are sites in the unincorporated County and the incorporated cities as well as the federal and state owned facilities, and private conservation owned facilities.						

**13.2.2 Summary of Existing Conservation and Recreation Lands and Facilities**

In summary, currently the County boasts approximately 4.07 million acres of Conservation lands and waters. The ownership and maintenance of these lands and waters is primarily under the Federal Government, the State of Florida, private Conservation organizations and the MCLA. Arguably, the Conservation lands in and around the County serve a population more regional and statewide than the County itself, however, for comparison, the Level of Service (LOS) based on the County’s 2010 functional population equates to over 26,500 acres per 1,000 functional population. The distribution of these lands, due to the unique linear geography of the Keys allows for the population to be within a short drive or walk of numerous and varied conservation lands.

**13.2.3 Inventory of Recreation Lands and Facilities**

Generally the large Conservation lands are primarily sensitive natural resources but also contain some activity type recreation facilities. Recreation lands are typically smaller in size than Conservation lands and contain fewer sensitive natural resources or no natural

resources. Some of the activity-based recreation facilities and lands in the larger Conservation lands, have been included in the Recreation Lands and Facilities inventory for specific activities such as camping or boat ramps. Recreation lands in the County, regardless of ownership, all have at least some activity-based (user-oriented) forms of recreational facilities, unless they are not yet developed. Since the County is such a popular tourist destination, many user-oriented recreational facilities are also provided under private ownership of businesses. These lands have not been included in the inventory herein. The following discussion and associated tables describe and summarize both the lands and facilities for all the ownership categories throughout the County.

13.2.3.1 Publicly-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities

13.2.3.1.1 Monroe County-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities

The County owns approximately 216 acres of recreation lands. These lands and facilities are inventoried in **Table 13.4** and are shown as being either resource-based and/or activity-based.

There are 42 parcels identified by name, MM, location by particular Key, and the specific recreational facilities contained on each site. As inventoried, the County owns approximately 104 acres of resource-based recreation lands and 112 acres of activity-based recreation lands. Approximately 22 of the 42 sites offer activity-based recreational opportunities and the other 20 sites are resource-based lands.

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**Table 13.4 - Monroe County-Owned Recreation Lands**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
				Resource	Activity
<b>Mainland Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (MROSPA)</b>					
None				0	0
<i>Subtotal</i>				0	0
<b>Upper Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (UKROSPA) MM 73-112</b>					
Hibiscus Park (Buttonwood Lane)	Key Largo	101.5	Vacant, inaccessible waterfront	0.5	NA
Riviera Village Park (Bay Drive)	Key Largo	105.5	Boat basin, four picnic pavilions, waterfront, benches	1.8	NA
Garden Cove Park	Key Largo	106	Boat ramp	1.5	NA
Friendship Park	Key Largo	101	Ball field, 3 basketball courts, picnic shelters, Play equipment, restrooms, trail	NA	2.38
Key Largo Community Park- Jacob's Aquatic Center	Key Largo	99.6	2 boat ramps, play equipment, aquatic park, 3 swimming pools, beach	1.5	13.6
Varadero Beach Park	Key Largo	95.5	Beach	2.0	NA
Harry Harris County Park	Key Largo (Tavernier)	94	Beach, two ball fields, play equipment, swimming boat ramp, BBQs, shuffleboard, beach, picnic tables, restrooms	2.0	15.1
Old Settlers Park	Key Largo (Tavernier)	92.5	Play Equipment, picnic, shelter, beach, butterfly garden	NA	3.0
Sunset Point Park	Key Largo (Tavernier)	92	Vacant, waterfront access, boat ramp	1.2	0.9
Burr Beach Park (Sunny Haven)	Key Largo	91	Vacant, waterfront access	0.1	NA
Old State Rte. 4A	Upper Matecumbe Key	82.5	Vacant	0.3	NA
Old State Rte. 4A, Hurricane Monument	Upper Matecumbe Key	81	Historical marker	1.2	NA
Anne's Beach, Lower Matecumbe Beach (5)	Lower Matecumbe Key	73.5	Beach, swimming, bike path, picnic pavilions, boardwalk	6.1	6.0
<i>Subtotal</i>				18.2	34.98

**Table 13.4 - Monroe County-Owned Recreation Lands (continued)**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
				Resource	Activity
<b>Middle Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (MKROSPA) MM 38.5-73</b>					
Sunset Bay Park	Grassy Key	58	Beach	0.6	NA
Yacht Club (1)	Vaca Key (Marathon)	54	Boat ramp, teen club, 2 tennis courts, basketball court	NA	2.0
Sombrero Beach (Switlik Park)	Monroe County	50	Beach, picnic pavilions, ball field, 2 volleyball courts, equipped play area, dog park, pier, fishing, BBQ	0.6	8.0
Old 7-Mile Bridge	Monroe County	41-47	Fishing, Bicycling, Beaches	5.0	NA
7-Mile Bridge	Pigeon Key	45	Historical structures	5.0	NA
<i>Subtotal</i>				10.6	10.0
<b>Lower Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (LKROSPA) MM 0-38.5</b>					
Veteran's Memorial Park	Little Duck Key (Ohio Key)	40	Picnic pavilions, beach, BBQs, boat ramp, swimming, beach, restrooms *	0.6	24.9
Missouri Key/South side US 1	Missouri Key	39	Roadside pull-off, beach	3.5	NA
Heron Ave./Tarpon St.	Big Pine Key	30	Vacant	0.7	NA
J. Watson Field (Stiglitz Property) (2)	Big Pine Key	30	Historic House, 2 tennis courts, volleyball, play equipment, baseball, picnic	1.2	2.4
Big Pine Key Park	Big Pine Key	30	Vacant	5.5	4.6
Blue Heron Park	Big Pine Key	30	Play equipment, 3 pavilions, basketball, volleyball,	NA	5.5
Bob Evans/ Chamber of Commerce	Big Pine Key	30	Vacant	0.3	NA
Palm Villa Park	Big Pine Key	30	Benches, waterfront, play equipment, basketball	NA	0.6
State Road 4	Little Torch Key	28	Boat ramps	0.1	NA
Ramrod Key Park	Ramrod Key	27	Beach *, swimming	1.2	1.2
West Summerland Park	West Summerland Key	25	2 Boat ramps	31.8	NA
Bay Point Park	Saddlebunch Key	15	Play equipment, volleyball, picnic tables, trail, basketball, 2 tennis courts, pavilions, soccer nets	NA	1.58

**Table 13.4 - Monroe County-Owned Recreation Lands (continued)**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
				Resource	Activity
Boca Chica Beach, S R 941 (3)	Boca Chica Key	11	Beach, picnic table *	6.0	NA
Palm Drive cul-de-sac	Big Coppitt Key	11	Vacant	0.1	NA
Big Coppitt Volunteer Fire Department Park (4)	Big Coppitt Key	10	Play equipment, benches, skateboard	NA	0.75
Wilhelmina Harvey Park	Big Coppitt Key	9.5	Play equipment, path	NA	0.65
Gulfview Park, Delmar Ave.	Big Coppitt Key	10	Boat ramp	0.2	NA
Rockland Hammock	Rockland Key	10	Vacant	2.5	NA
Bernstein Park	Raccoon Key	4.5	Play equipment, volleyball, baseball, track, trail, soccer field, tennis courts, basketball, restrooms	NA	11.0
East Martello Park	Key West Island	1.5	Picnic, teen center, Historic Fort	14.56	NA
Higgs Beach Park, C.B. Harvey, Rest Beach	Key West Island	1	1.6 mile beach, concession area, 2 band shells, pier, picnic pavilions and grills, 5 tennis courts, play area, bike path, volleyball, swimming, dog park	5.0	12.1
West Martello Park	Key West Island	1	Historic Fort	0.8	NA
Whitehead Street Lighthouse	Key west Island	1	Historic Fort, Museum	0.8	NA
Pines Park (S. Roosevelt)	Key West Island	1	Picnic	NA	1.72
<i>Subtotal</i>				74.9	67.0
<b>Grand Total</b>				103.66	111.98
(1) The total acreage of the Yacht Club is approximately 6.0 acres. The unique layout of this facility restricts active recreation to approximately 2 acres partially leased to the Marathon Yacht Club by Monroe County.					
(2) House and yard (1.2 acres) owned by Monroe County. Additional 2.4 acres leased by Monroe County from the Big Pine Athletic Association.					
(3) Lands Leased to Monroe County from U. S. Navy.					
(4) Church to west of park has public access 2 basketball, volleyball, and boucci courts.					
(5) Beach leased to Village of Islamorada *Denotes approximate acreage; (for beaches the length of the beach x a minimum of 15 ft.)					
Source: Monroe County Growth Management Division.					

The activity-based recreational facilities that are inventoried include facilities and activities such as baseball/softball, football/soccer, tennis courts, basketball courts, picnic tables and picnic pavilions, volleyball courts, handball/racquetball courts, equipped play areas, multi-use areas, benches, tracks, piers, bike paths, boat ramps, fishing, swimming, swimming pools, barbeque grills, shuffleboard courts, beaches and restrooms. Additionally, other recreation uses and facilities are indicated such as historic structures, bandshells, dog parks, skateboard facilities, aquatic parks, museums, and concessions.

Detailed plans and scheduling for up-grades to the Monroe County Recreation and Open Space activity-based lands and facilities are discussed in the Monroe County Parks and Recreation Master Plan, dated March 2005, by Wade and Trim.

#### 13.2.3.1.2 Beaches - Recreation Lands and Facilities

The beaches in the County are a very significant part of the Recreational Lands and Facilities. There are 29 public beaches in the County which are owned either by the Federal Government, State of Florida, Monroe County, the City of Marathon, the Village of Islamorada, or the City of Key West. In addition, there are some privately-owned beaches; however, these have only been included in the level of service (LOS) calculations for the recreation facilities. A beach, under the State of Florida SCORP definitions can be both an activity-based recreation land and a resource-based recreation land. **Table 13.5** lists the public beaches and indicates the estimated acreage split between these two recreation type lands for the purposes of both the land LOS projections and the LOS facilities projections. Where the beach is located on a large tract of land (federal and state parks and conservation areas), the split of the activity-based lands are estimated for just the active uses present and the balance of the land is applied to the resource-based lands for LOS calculations. This gives a good indication of the extreme excess of resource-based recreation uses that are available to the permanent resident and seasonal population of the County without having to place beaches in one or the other recreation category.

#### 13.2.3.1.3 Roadside and Bridge- Recreation Lands and Facilities

Because of the linear geographic nature of the Keys, many roadside sites as well as out of service vehicle and railroad bridges along U.S. 1 have been modified to be used as recreational and open space. Currently, not all of these sites have been developed; **Table 13.6** lists these unique sites. These sites are mostly government owned and due to their locations are water-dependent, resource-based recreation uses. Uses such as parking, scenic overlooks, fishing piers, boat ramps, and old bridges are examples of these particular sites. The inventory in **Table 13.6** has each site named (although some sites do not have formal names), its location by MM and ROSPA, the ownership of the site, and the type of water-dependent use facility. Most of these sites are very small in land size, but have been included in the resource-based lands summaries for the LOS calculations because the uses are uniquely resource-based.

**Table 13.5 – Monroe County - Beaches and Waterfront Parks**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
				Resource	Activity
<b>Mainland Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (MROSPA)</b>					
Everglades National Park	Mainland	NA	3 boat ramps, beach, trails, camping	NA	20.0
<i>Subtotal</i>				0.0	20.0
<b>Upper Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (UKROSPA) MM 73-112</b>					
Riviera Village Park (Bay Drive)	Key Largo	105.5	Vacant, inaccessible waterfront	0.5	NA
John Penekamp Coral Reef State Park	Key Largo	102.5	Camping, Shelters, Picnic tables, Boat Ramp, Marina, Beach Concessions, Restrooms, Swimming	2,300.0	49.6
Hibiscus Park (Buttonwood Lane)	Key Largo	101.5	Waterfront, 4 pavilions, benches, boat basin	1.8	NA
Key Largo Community Park	Key Largo	99.6	Aquatic Park, 2 boat ramps, play equipment, beach, 3 swimming pools	1.5	13.6
Varadero Beach Park	Key Largo	95.5	Beach	2.0	NA
Harry Harris County Park	Key Largo (Tavernier)	94	Beach, two ball fields, play equipment, swimming boat ramp, BBQs, shuffleboard, beach, picnic tables, restrooms	2.0	15.1
Sunset Point Park	Key Largo (Tavernier)	92	Vacant, waterfront, access, boat ramp	1.2	0.9
Burr Beach Park (Sunny Haven)	Key Largo	91	Vacant, waterfront access	0.1	NA
Founders Park	Islamorada	87	Beach, pool, ball fields, boat ramp, fishing, tennis courts, basketball, skate park, vitae course, trails, dog park, boucci courts	1.0	39.0
Islamorada Library Beach Park	Islamorada	81.5	Beach, BBQ, benches, play equipment, pavilion, picnic tables, restrooms	1.2	NA
Indian Key Fill	Matecumbe	78	Beach	0.75	NA
Anne's Beach, Lower Matecumbe Beach	Lower Matecumbe	73.5	Beach, swimming, picnic pavilions, bike path, boardwalk	6.1	6.0
<i>Subtotal</i>				2,318.15	124.2
<b>Middle Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (MKROSPA) MM 38.5-73</b>					
Sunset Bay Park	Grassy Key	58	Beach	0.6	NA
Curry Hammock State Park	Fat Deer/ Little Crawl Keys	56	Basketball, Restrooms, Play Equipment, Picnic Tables, Beach	350.0	15.0

**Table 13.5 – Monroe County - Beaches and Waterfront Parks (continued)**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
				Resource	Activity
Sombrero Beach (Switlik Park)	Monroe County	50	Beach, picnic pavilion, ball field, equipped play area	0.6	8.0
<i>Subtotal</i>				351.2	23.0
<b>Lower Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (LKROSPA) MM 0-38.5</b>					
Veteran's Memorial Park	Little Duck Key (Ohio Key)	40	Picnic pavilions, beach, BBQs, boat ramp, swimming, beach, restrooms	0.6	24.9
Missouri Key/southside US 1	Missouri Key	39	Roadside pull-off, beach	3.5	NA
Bahia Honda State Recreation Area	Bahia Honda Key	37	Camping, Picnic Tables, Trails, Boat Ramp, Marina, Shelters, Beach	310.1	15.0
Palm Villa Park	Big Pine Key	30	Beaches, play equipment, basketball	0.6	NA
Ramrod Key Park	Ramrod Key	27	Beach, swimming	1.2	1.2
Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge	Big Pine Key	20	Fishing, Beach, Bird Wildlife Refuge	7,599.0	1.0
Boca Chica Beach, S R 941	Boca Chica Key	11	Beach, Picnic Table	6.0	NA
Smathers Beach	City of Key West	2	2 miles beach, volleyball, swimming, canoeing, restrooms, concessions	1.0	2.6
Higgs Beach Park, C.B. Harvey, Rest Beach	Monroe County	1	1 mile beach, concession area, 2 band shells, pier, picnic pavilions, grills, 5 tennis courts, play area, bike path, volleyball, swimming, dog park	5.0	12.1
Pines Park (S. Roosevelt)	City of Key West	1	Unimproved Beach, Picnic	1.7	NA
Simonton Street Beach	City of Key West	0.5	Beach, Boat Ramp, Bath House	1.5	NA
Ft. Zachary Taylor State Historic Park	Key West Island	0	Beach, Historic Fort, camping, fishing, trails	52.0	2.0
Ft. Jefferson National Monument	Dry Tortugas Islands	0	Hiking, Trails, Swimming, Fishing, Beach, Picnic Tables, Museum, Camping, Dock	37.3	2.0
<i>Subtotal</i>				8,019.5	60.8
<b>Grand Total</b>				10,688.9	228.0
Note: this table includes only those facilities that are owned or leased by Federal, State, County or City lands.					
Source: Monroe County Growth Management Division.					

**Table 13.6 – Roadside and Bridge Recreation Lands and Facilities**

Location	Mile Marker	Planning Area	Facilities	Ownership/Maintained	Classification (Acres)	
					Resource*	Activity
Flamingo Visitor Center	NA	Mainland	4 Boat ramps	Private-fee	1.5	NA
Card Sound Road	SR 905A	Upper Keys	Boat ramp	Fl Dept. of Transportation	0.5	NA
Cross Key	113	Upper Keys	Boat ramp	Everglades National Park	1.0	NA
Little Blackwater Sound	111	Upper Keys	Boat ramp	Fl Dept. of Transportation	1.0	NA
Caribbean Club	104	Upper Keys	Boat ramp	Private-fee	0.5	NA
Sunset Point Public Boat Launch	95.5	Upper Keys	Boat ramp	Monroe County	0.5	NA
Tavernier Creek	91	Upper Keys	Boat ramp	Monroe County	1.0	NA
Hurricane Monument	82	Middle Keys	Monument	State of Florida	0.5	NA
Indian Key	78	Middle Keys	Boat ramp, ferry service to Lignumvitae	Fl Dept. of Transportation	1.8	NA
Lower Matecumbe Key	73.5	Middle Keys	Beach, parking	Fl Dept. of Transportation	1.5	NA
Channel Two Catwalk	73	Middle Keys	Fishing area, parking	Fl Dept. of Transportation	1.3	NA
Channel Five Catwalk	71	Middle Keys	Fishing area, parking	Fl Dept. of Transportation	1.3	NA
Fat Deer Key	54	Middle Keys	Boat ramp, parking	Fl Dept. of Transportation	1.5	NA
Marathon Boat Ramp	53	Middle Keys	Boat ramp	City of Marathon	0.5	NA
Marathon Yacht Club	49	Middle Keys	Boat ramp, dock	Private-fee	0.8	NA
Boot Key	48	Middle Keys	Roadside Bird Watching	Fl Dept. of Transportation	0.5	NA
Missouri Key	40	Lower Keys	Pull off, Overlook	Fl Dept. of Transportation	0.5	NA
Spanish Harbor Wayside Park	34	Lower Keys	Boat ramp, parking	Fl Dept. of Transportation	1.5	NA

**Table 13.6 – Roadside and Bridge Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Location	Mile Marker	Planning Area	Facilities	Ownership/Maintained	Classification (Acres)	
					Resource*	Activity
Big Pine Key- Old Wooden Bridge Marina	30.5	Lower Keys	Fishing areas, parking	Fl Dept. of Transportation	2.3	NA
The Blue Hole	30	Lower Keys	Observation Deck, habitat	State of Florida	3.0	NA
Big Pine Key	30	Lower Keys	Boat ramp	Monroe County	0.5	NA
Little Torch Key	28	Lower Keys	Boat ramp	Monroe County	0.5	NA
Kemp Channel	23.5	Lower Keys	Fishing area, parking	Fl Dept. of Transportation	1.5	NA
Shark Key	11.5	Lower Keys	Boat ramp, parking	Fl Dept. of Transportation	1.0	NA
Boca Chica	6.5	Lower Keys	Catwalk	Fl Dept. of Transportation	0.8	NA
Stock Island	5.5	Lower Keys	Boat ramp, parking	Fl Dept. of Transportation	2.0	NA
Totals (24 sites)					29.3	NA
* All acreages are estimated from aerial photos and include adjacent parking & other facilities related to the facility						
Source: Monroe County Growth Management Division						

13.2.3.1.4 City-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities

**Table 13.7** is an inventory of lands owned by the five incorporated cities. The incorporated cities of Key West, Key Colony Beach, Marathon, Layton, and the Village of Islamorada all provide public recreational lands and facilities. Although these city-owned lands and facilities are primarily meant for use by the citizens of the cities, currently no restrictions are in place to prevent the use of these facilities by the functional population of the County. In fact, some of the County-owned recreation lands and facilities are located within the incorporated boundaries of these cities.

The functional populations used in this Element have been adjusted for inclusion of the permanent and seasonal unincorporated populations as well as the incorporated city populations, permanent and seasonal. These adjusted populations are then used in the LOS calculations for each of the four ROSPAs. Note however, that the Mainland ROSPA has no reported population, but the facilities on the Mainland are included in the LOS calculations for the County as a whole.

The facilities provided by municipalities are primarily activity-based and with a few exceptions are on small sites. The recreational facilities on city-owned lands can be seen to surpass the SCORP rated LOS for that facility in relation to the total population of the individual cities; the facilities of the cities serve a population outside of the municipal

boundaries. This table identifies these city lands by name and location, including MM, identifies the facilities within each recreational land; and approximates the acreage of each site for resource-based and activity-based uses.

**Table 13.7 - Summary of City-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities**

Name	Location Park Type	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
					Resource	Activity
<b>VILLAGE OF ISLAMORADA</b>						
Founders Park	Community Park	87	Upper Keys	Pool, Beach, 2 Baseball Fields, Bocci Courts, Tennis Court, Trails, Basketball, Skate Park, Vita Course Trails, Dog Park, Open Play Field	1.0	33.0
Plantation Yacht Harbor Site	Community Park	87	Upper Keys	4 Tennis Courts, 6 Shuffleboard Courts, Boat Ramp, Picnic Tables, Volleyball, Fishing, Play Equipment, Rec. Building, Bike Course, Marina	1.0	5.0
Islamorada Library Beach Park	Community Park	81.5	Upper Keys	Beach, BBQ, Benches, Play Equipment, Pavilion, Picnic Tables, Restrooms	1.2	NA
Hurricane Monument (1)	Mini Park	81.5	Upper Keys	Historical Marker	1.2	NA
Bay Hammock	Mini Park	79	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp	0.5	NA
Pen Key Club	Mini Park	83.5	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp	0.5	NA
Bayside Boat Ramp	Mini Park	71	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp	0.5	NA
<i>Subtotal</i>					5.9	38.0
<b>CITY OF LAYTON</b>						
No Parks or Facilities			Middle Keys		0.0	0.0
<i>Subtotal</i>					0.0	0.0
<b>CITY OF MARATHON</b>						
Bayside Boat Ramp	Mini Park	54	Middle Keys	Boat Ramp	0.5	NA
Coco Plum Beach	Mini Park	54	Middle Keys	Beach, Dog Park	0.5	NA

**Table 13.7 - Summary of City-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location Park Type	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
					Resource	Activity
Aviation Blvd.	Mini Park	51	Middle Keys	Boat Ramp, Picnic Tables	0.25	NA
Waloriss Subdivision Park	Mini Park	49.5	Middle Keys	Vacant, cleared	0.3	NA
Dorothy Blvd. Park	Mini Park	48.5	Middle Keys	Waterfront, vacant	0.1	NA
Calle Ensenada	Mini Park	49	Middle Keys	Vacant	0.25	NA
Marathon Community Park	Community Park	49	Middle Keys	2 Baseball Fields, 4 Tennis Courts, Dog Park, Picnic Tables, 2 Soccer Fields, 2 Boucci Courts, 3 Pavilions, 2 Shuffleboard Courts., Play Equipment, Concessions, 2 Basketball Courts., Restrooms, Skate Park	NA	30.0
Boot Key City Marina*	Mini Park	48	Middle Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage, Restrooms	38.0	NA
Jesse Hobbs Park	Community Park	49.5	Middle Keys	Basketball court (lighted), Play Equipment, Benches, Dog Park	NA	1.5
33rd Street Boat Ramp	Mini Park	48.5	Middle Keys	Boat Ramp, Restrooms	1.0	NA
Rotary Field of Dreams	Community Park	48	Middle Keys	Play Equipment, Picnic Pavilion, Picnic Tables, Restrooms	NA	3.0
Events Field	Community Park	47.5	Middle Keys	Open Play Field, Fishing, Picnic	1.3	9.7
Knight's Key	Community Park	47	Middle Keys	Vacant	NA	4.0
<i>Subtotal</i>					42.2	48.2
<b>CITY OF KEY COLONY BEACH</b>						
Tract C	Mini Park**	53	Middle Keys	Vacant	0.5	NA
City Hall Park	Mini Park	53	Middle Keys	Picnic	NA	1.0
Gazebo Park	Mini Park	53	Middle Keys	Picnic	NA	1.0
Tract E	Mini Park**	53	Middle Keys	Vacant	0.5	NA
Sunset Park	Mini Park	53	Middle Keys	Beach, Benches, Picnic Tables	NA	1.2

**Table 13.7 - Summary of City-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location Park Type	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
					Resource	Activity
East Side Park	Mini Park	53	Middle Keys	Jogging, 2 Tennis courts	NA	2.0
<i>Subtotal</i>					1.0	5.2
<b>CITY OF KEY WEST</b>						
Bayview Park	Community Park	1.5	Lower Keys	Softball Fields, Play Equipment, 2 Pavilions, 6 Tennis Courts, Restrooms, Basketball Court	NA	7.5
Bill Butler Park	Mini Park	0.5	Lower Keys	Play Equipment	NA	0.5
Clayton Sterling Complex	Community Park	3	Lower Keys	4 Baseball Fields	NA	7.0
Cozumel Park	Mini Park	4.5	Lower Keys	Play Equipment, Open Space	NA	0.5
Dr. Martin Luther King-Community Center and Pool	Community Park	1	Lower Keys	Pool, Play Equipment, Basketball Court	NA	1.0
Sonny McCoy Indigenous Park	Community Park	1	Lower Keys	5 Boucci Courts, Pavilions, Picnic, Trails	7.0	3.0
Little Hamaca Park	Community Park	3	Lower Keys	Trails, Picnic Areas	5.5	NA
Nelson English Park	Community Park	1.5	Lower Keys	Play Equipment, Picnic Tables, Open Spaces, Basketball Courts	NA	0.25
Wickers Sports Complex	Community Park	3	Lower Keys	Volleyball, 2 Tennis Courts, 3 Ball fields, Football, Soccer, Softball, Play Equipment	NA	2.0
Stock Island Boat Ramp	Mini Park**	5	Lower Keys	Boat Ramp	1.0	NA
Smathers Beach	Community Park**	2	Lower Keys	2 miles of Beach, Volleyball, Canoeing, Swimming, Concessions, Restrooms	1.0	2.6
Simonton Street Beach	Neighborhood Park	0.5	Lower Keys	Beach, Boat Ramp, Bath House	1.5	NA
Willie Ward Park	Mini Park	0.5	Lower Keys	Picnic Tables, Play Equipment	NA	0.25
<i>Subtotal</i>					16	24.60
<i>Grand Total</i>					65.1	116.00
* Includes submerged lands						
** estimated acreages						

**13.2.2.2 Monroe County School Board-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities**

In addition to the recreation lands owned by the County and the incorporated cities, the recreational lands owned by the Monroe County School District are available for public use. Public access to these recreation sites are governed through an interlocal agreement between the County and the Monroe County School Board. The 14 school sites and their individual facilities are described in **Table 13.8** in terms of size, facilities provided, and the distribution within the Monroe County Planning Areas. Although these school sites and their facilities may be located within an incorporated city, the users for these facilities may come from outside the city limits. As indicated, there are approximately 192 acres of activity-based recreation lands owned by the School District.

**13.2.2.2.1 Recreation Lands Leased to Monroe County**

The County also leases land from public and private entities in order to provide permanent residents and seasonal visitors with adequate recreation opportunities. These lands are described in **Table 13.9**, in terms of being either resource-based or activity-based. This inventory includes the name of the facility, the location by MM and by ROSPA, the types of recreational facilities on each site, and the Owner of the lands. As **Table 13.9** indicates, there are approximately 6 acres of activity-based and 7 acres of resource-based recreation lands leased by the County.

**Table 13.8 - Monroe County School District-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities**

Key/Location	Name/Grade Level	Mile Marker	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
				Resource	Activity
<b>Mainland Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (MROSPA)</b>					
No Facilities					
<i>Subtotal</i>				0.0	0.0
<b>Upper Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (UKROSPA) MM 73-115</b>					
Key Largo	Key Largo Elementary/Middle School	105	Play equipment, baseball field, 2 basketball court, running track, multi-purpose field (soccer field), 4 racquetball courts, picnic tables, shelters, benches, play equipment, indoor gym	NA	29.0
Plantation Key	Plantation Key Elementary School	89.5	Play equipment, 1 tennis court, 2 basketball courts, 1 baseball field, 1 volleyball court, picnic tables, shelters, benches	NA	7.0

**Table 13.8 - Monroe County School District-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Key/Location	Name/Grade Level	Mile Marker	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
				Resource	Activity
Plantation Key	Coral Shores High School*	90	Baseball field and football field (lighted), track (health course), 5 tennis courts, softball field, indoor gym, basketball court (indoor)	NA	16.0
<i>Subtotal</i>				0.0	52.0
<b>Middle Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (MKROSPA) MM 38.5-73</b>					
City of Marathon	Marathon High School	49.5	Baseball field, soccer and football field (lighted), 1 softball field, 3 tennis courts, 3 basketball courts, picnic tables, indoor gym, basketball court (indoor)	NA	27.0
City of Marathon	Stanley Switlik Elementary School* Sue M. Moore Public School	48.5	Play equipment, 2 baseball fields (lighted), basketball court, shared soccer/football field, shelter, play equipment, picnic tables	NA	7.0
City of Marathon	Grace Jones Community Center (leased)	47	Play equipment, basketball court	NA	0.2
<i>Subtotal</i>				0.0	34.2
<b>Lower Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area (LKROSPA) MM 0-38.5</b>					
Big Pine Key	Big Pine Key Neighborhood School	30	Play equipment, picnic tables, benches	NA	5.0
City of Key West	Key West High School*	0.5	Baseball/softball field, 2 soccer/football fields, 4 tennis courts, track (health course), benches, picnic tables, basketball court (indoor), volleyball court (indoor)	NA	24.0
Sugarloaf Key	Sugarloaf Elementary/Middle School*	19.5	2 baseball/softball fields, play equipment, 3 basketball courts, track (health course), shelters, benches, picnic tables, volleyball court (indoor)	NA	37.0
City of Key West	Gerald Adams Elementary School*	10	Baseball/softball field, soccer field, 2 basketball courts, play equipment, pavilions, picnic tables, benches	NA	12.0
City of Key West	Poinciana Elementary School*	3	Basketball court, play equipment, pavilions, picnic tables, benches	NA	7.0

**Table 13.8 - Monroe County School District-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Key/Location	Name/Grade Level	Mile Marker	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
				Resource	Activity
City of Key West	Glynn Archer Elementary School	1.5	Play equipment, pavilions, picnic tables, benches	NA	2.0
City of Key West (N.A.S.)	Sigsbee Charter Elementary School (1)	1.5	Play equipment, basketball court,	NA	9.0
City of Key West	Horace O'Bryant Middle School*	1	Soccer field, 6 basketball courts, 3 racquetball/handball courts, track (health course), pavilions, picnic tables, benches, volleyball court (indoor)	NA	10.0
<i>Subtotal</i>				0.0	106.0
<b>Total</b>				<b>0.0</b>	<b>192.2</b>
(1) Owned by the Monroe County School District, but made a charter school in summer 2010.					
*Denotes only those schools that currently have interlocal agreements in effect between Monroe County and Monroe County School District					
Mile Marker designations are approximate to nearest point on U.S. 1					
All acreages are approximate					
Sources: Monroe County Public Facilities Capacity Assessment Report 2008; Monroe County Parks and Recreation Master Plan (draft) 2005; Monroe County School District 2010.					

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**Table 13.9 – Recreation Lands Leased to Monroe County**

Name	Location	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification (Acres)	
					Resource	Activity
No Facilities			Mainland		0.0	0.0
<i>Subtotal</i>					0.0	0.0
No Facilities			Upper Keys			
<i>Subtotal</i>					0.0	0.0
No Facilities			Middle Keys		0.0	0.0
<i>Subtotal</i>					0.0	0.0
St. Peters Church (2)	Big Pine Key	30	Lower Keys	Ball field, picnic pavilion	0.0	3.7
Watson Field (3)	Big Pine Key	30	Lower Keys	Ball field, equipped play area, volleyball	1.2	2.4
State Road 941 (4)	Boca Chica Key	8	Lower Keys	Beach	6.0	0.0
<i>Subtotal</i>					7.2	6.1
<b>Total</b>					<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.1</b>
(1) Beach leased to the Village of Islamorada						
(2) Leased from the Archdiocese of Miami with conditions restricting use for ten year beginning 1991.						
(3) Leased from Big Pine Athletic Association under terms of 10 year maintenance agreement beginning in 1989.						
(4) Leased from the U.S. Navy, approximate acreage.						
Source: Monroe County Growth Management Division						

**13.2.2.3 Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities**

Due to the nature of the Keys tourist-oriented economy, privately-owned recreation areas and facilities play an important role in the quality and availability of recreation throughout the County. While almost all of the resource-based recreation lands and facilities are provided by Federal, State, not-for profit private agencies, and the County itself, the majority of all activity-based recreation is provided through the County and the extensive group of privately-owned businesses which cater to tourists. While not every private community or business provides activity-based recreation facilities, many businesses and communities do provide facilities that service the functional population of the County. Swimming pools, camping facilities, playgrounds, golf courses, and tennis and volleyball courts are examples of some of these privately provided facilities. For the purposes of this Element, only the facilities that are judged to be available to the larger functional population, which includes the seasonal population, are counted in the current and future LOS summaries. There are over 94 swimming pools, 52 playgrounds, 180 tennis courts, 19 volleyball courts, 40 camping facilities, and 135 holes of golf on 8 courses. **Table 13.10** is a partial summary of these privately-owned community and business facilities.

Additionally, these privately-owned businesses provide some resource-based facilities. The significant facilities in this category are the boat ramps, marinas, docks, and piers. The nature of these privately-owned recreational facilities in the County are oriented in and around the great natural recreation amenity of the Atlantic and Gulf waters. In the County, the majority of the marinas, boat ramps, fishing facilities, and camping facilities are privately-owned. A few small beaches are also privately-owned. These types of water-dependant and water-related recreational uses are itemized and mapped in the *Coastal Management Element* of this update. However, the distinction between “water-dependant” uses and “water-related” uses has ramifications in the planning for the County in both the Recreation and Open Space planning and the general private development planning because of the continued attraction of the Atlantic and Gulf waters for both permanent residents and seasonal visitors.

### 13.2.4 *Summary of Recreation Lands and Facilities Provided in Monroe County*

The most pertinent activity-based recreational facility standards as described in the 2008 SCORP are shown in **Table 13.11**. This table identifies that there is a great deal of variation in demand for different types of facilities throughout the State of Florida due to geographic, cultural and population variations. For some facilities the maximum and minimum populations per facility are close and therefore the median is also close. However many of the facilities vary greatly in the guide for the user population and therefore the SCORP does not prevent use of criteria other than the maximum, minimum or median as long as the level of service standard is within the population ranges given. For this Update Monroe County will use the median for all facilities except for beaches.

For management and projection purposes for the *Recreation and Open Space Element* as part of the update to the Comprehensive Plan, the lands as reported in the summary in **Table 13.12** are used as the current recreation lands toward meeting the adopted LOS for the County based on the current functional population which includes all five incorporated cities within the County. The majority of the recreational facilities on the recreation lands, service both residential and the seasonal populations beyond the boundaries of the individual cities. Both resource-based lands and activity-based lands, shown in **Table 13.12**, are broken down by the ROSPA in which the lands are located without regard to the location of the population which is serviced by these lands. The seven categories of resource-based lands shown in **Table 13.12** are the County-owned lands, the County-leased lands, Monroe County School District lands, City-owned lands, beach lands, road and bridge lands, and privately-owned lands. The five categories of activity-based lands shown in **Table 13.10** include the County-owned lands, the County-leased lands, Monroe County School Board lands, City-owned lands, and Privately-owned lands.

It should be noted that no acreages were added to **Table 13.12** under the privately-owned lands in any of the ROSPA totals. Acreages for those portions of privately-owned recreation lands were not readily available and would be difficult to obtain without physical measurement or aerial photo interpretation; any acreages in the privately-owned lands

would only increase meeting the Levels of Service (LOS) on both the ROSPA and overall County basis.

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
<b>Private Parks</b>						
Ocean Isle Estates	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage	Resource	Activity
Sexton Cove Estates	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage	Resource	Activity
Key Largo Mobile Home sites	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Shuffleboard	Resource	NA
Cross Key Waterway Estates	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp	Resource	NA
South Creek Village	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Basketball	Resource	Activity
Coastal Waterways Trailer Park	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Basin	Resource	NA
Key Largo Village	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage, Tiki Hut	Resource	NA
Port Largo 2nd.	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Vacant	Resource	NA
Key Largo Beach	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Basin	Resource	NA
Thompson's	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Vacant	Resource	NA
Key Largo Ocean Shores	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Basin	Resource	NA
Pirate's Cove	Key Largo	101	Upper Keys	2 Boat Ramps, Clubhouse	Resource	NA
Winken, Blynken & Nod	Key Largo	96	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Picnic tables, Beach, Volleyball	Resource	Activity
Lime Grove Estates	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Basin, Tiki Hut	Resource	Activity
Bay Harbor	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Boat Basin, Tidal Swimming	Resource	Activity
Hammer Point Park	Plantation Key	93.1	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp	Resource	Activity
Edenaire	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Basin	Resource	Activity
Tavernero	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage	Resource	NA
Plantation Key Colony	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, BBQ, Picnic Tables	Resource	NA
Driftwood Trailer Park	Plantation Key	92	Upper Keys	Camping	Resource	NA

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
Plantation Shores	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Picnic Tables	Resource	NA
Indian Harbor	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp	Resource	NA
Key Heights	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp	Resource	NA
Plantation Beach	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Picnic Tables, Volleyball	Resource	Activity
Bayridge	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Pool, Boat Basin, Picnic Tables	Resource	Activity
Plantation Harbor	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp	Resource	NA
Toner's Nautical	Plantation Key	NA	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp	Resource	NA
Treasure Harbor	Plantation Key	87	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage, Clubhouse	Resource	NA
Venetian Shores	Plantation Key	86	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Common Area	Resource	NA
Antiqua	Lower Matecumbe	NA	Middle Keys	Vacant	Resource	NA
Dorsett	Grassy Key	NA	Middle Keys	Vacant	Resource	NA
Coral Key Village	Duck/Conch Key	61.5	Middle Keys	Volleyball, Basketball	N/A	Activity
Indies Island	Duck/Conch Key	61.5	Middle Keys	Vacant	Resource	NA
Crane Hammock	City of Marathon	NA	Middle Keys	Vacant	Resource	NA
Waloriss	City of Marathon	NA	Middle Keys	Vacant	Resource	NA
Port Pine Heights	Big Pine Key	NA	Lower Keys	Vacant	Resource	NA
Summerland Estates	Summerland Key	NA	Lower Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage	Resource	NA
Summerland Key Cove	Summerland Key	NA	Lower Keys	Boat Ramp, BBQ, Picnic Tables, Restrooms	Resource	NA
<i>Subtotals</i>					0.00	0.00
<b>RV/ Camping Areas</b>						
Point Laura Marina and Campground	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	29 RV/Trailer Sites, 14 Tent sites, 2 Tables Shelter, Beach, Boardwalk, Boat Ramp, Marina	NA	Activity

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
Twin Harbor Motel and Campground	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	60 RV/Trailer Sites, 5 Cabins/ Shelters, 72 Tables, 2 Beaches, Boat Ramp, 2 Marinas, 2 Basketball Goals, Shuffleboard Court, Multi-purpose Building	NA	Activity
Key Largo Campground and Marina	Key Largo	101.5	Upper Keys	33 Tent Sites, 43 Tables, 2 Beaches, Boat Ramp, Marina, Swimming Pool, 4 Shuffle Board Courts, Multipurpose Building, Equipped Play Area, Recreational Center	NA	Activity
Blue Fin Rock Harbor Marina	Key Largo	100	Upper Keys	RV/Trailer Sites, Picnic Tables, Boat Ramp Benches, Swimming, Fishing, Marina	NA	Activity
American Outdoors	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Interpretive/Nature Trail, Beach, Boat Ramp Marina, 2 Shuffleboard Courts, Multipurpose Court, Recreation Center	NA	Activity
Calusa Camp Resort	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	300 R.W./Trailer Sites, 300 Tables, Boardwalk, Boat Ramp, Marina, Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts, Basketball Goal, 2 Shuffleboard Courts, Equipped Play Area, Recreation Center	NA	Activity
Happy Vagabond Campground	Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	75 R.V./Trailer Sites, 75 Tables, Swimming Pool Shuffleboard Court, Equipped Play Area,	NA	Activity
Boy Scouts of Florida National High Adventure Sea Base	Lower Matecumbe	NA	Middle Keys	2 Cabins, Beach, 9 Boardwalks/catwalks, Boat Ramp, Marina, 2 Swimming Pools, Basketball Goal, Recreation Center	NA	Activity
Sea Oats Beach	Lower Matecumbe	NA	Middle Keys	Nature Preserve	Resource	NA
Topsider Resort	Lower Matecumbe	NA	Middle Keys	Boardwalk, Boat Ramp, Marina, Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts	NA	Activity

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
KOA Campground	Fiesta Key	70	Middle Keys	325 R.V./Trailer Sites, 150 Tent Sites, 20 Cabins, 375 Tables, 6 Shelters, Beach Boardwalk, Boat Ramp, Marina, Swimming Pools, 2 Shuffleboards, Handball/Racquetball Court, Multipurpose Court, Equipped Play Area, Recreation Center	NA	Activity
Outdoor Resorts	Long Key	NA	Middle Keys	20 R.V./Trailer Sites, 20 Tables, Boat Ramp, Swimming Pool, 4 Tennis Courts, Basketball Goal, 2 Shuffleboard Courts, Recreation Center	NA	Activity
Lions Travel Park	Grassy Key	NA	Middle Keys	58 R.V./Trailer Sites, 12 Tables, Beach Boardwalk, Boat Ramp, Marina, Recreation Center	NA	Activity
Jolly Roger Travel Park	Grassy Key	NA	Middle Keys	110 R.V./Trailer Sites, 25 Tent Sites, 4 Cabins, 125 Tables, Shelter, Beach, Boat Ramp, Marina, 2 Shuffleboard Courts	NA	Activity
Gulf Stream Travel Park and Marina	City of Marathon	NA	Middle Keys	83 R.V./Trailer Sites, 22 Tables, Marina, Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Key Trailer Courts	City of Marathon	NA	Middle Keys	140 R.V./Trailer Sites, 8 Tables, 4 Shelters, Boat Ramp, Marina, 2 Shuffleboard Courts	NA	Activity
Key Lime Resort and Marina	City of Marathon	NA	Middle Keys	Marina, Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, 2 Shuffleboard Courts	NA	Activity
Key Trailer Court	City of Marathon	NA	Middle Keys	100 R.V./Trailer Sites, 8 Tables, Shelter, Beach, Boat Ramp, 2 Shuffleboard Courts	Resource	NA
Knight's Key Park and Marina	City of Marathon	NA	Middle Keys	113 R.V./Trailer Sites, Boat Ramp, Marina	Resource	NA
Sunshine Key Camping Resort	Ohio Key	NA	Lower Keys	389 R.V./Trailer Sites, 450 Tables, Multipurpose Trail, Beach, Boat Ramp, Marina, Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts, Basketball Goal, 3 Shuffleboard Courts, Multipurpose Building, Equipped Play Area	NA	Activity
Des Camp Association	Big Pine Key	NA	Lower Keys	4 Cabins/Shelters, Boat Ramp, Marina, Multipurpose Building	Resource	NA

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
Breezy Pines Trailer Park	Big Pine Key	NA	Lower Keys	100 R.V./Trailer Sites, 100 Tables, Swimming Pool, 2 Shuffleboard Courts	Resource	Activity
Halcyon Beach Trailer Park	Big Pine Key	NA	Lower Keys	15 R.V./Trailer Sites, 10 Tables, Marina, Shuffleboard Court	Resource	Activity
Big Pine Key Fishing Lodge Camp Ground	Big Pine Key	NA	Lower Keys	100 R.V./Trailer Sites, 25 Tent Sites, 9 Cabins, Shelters, 20 Tables, Boat Ramp, Marina, 2 Shuffleboard Courts, Multipurpose Building	Resource	Activity
Mariner Resort and Marina	Big Pine Key	NA	Lower Keys	Beach, Boat Ramps, Marina, Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts, Multipurpose Building	Resource	Activity
Boy Scout Camp Sawyer	West Summerland Key	NA	Lower Keys	6 Tent Sites, 6 Tables, Beach, Boat Ramp	Resource	Activity
Girl Scout Camp Wesumkee	West Summerland Key	NA	Lower Keys	27 Cabins/Shelters, 20 Tables, 2 Recreation Centers	Resource	Activity
Venture Out	Cudjos Key	NA	Lower Keys	60 R.V./Trailer Sites, 60 Tables, Boat Ramp, swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Basketball Goal, 6 Shuffleboard Courts, Multipurpose Building, 2 Recreation Centers	Resource	Activity
KOA Campground	Upper Sugarloaf Key	NA	Lower Keys	150 R.V./Trailer Sites, 200 Tables, Beach, Boat Ramp, Marina	Resource	NA
Lazy Lakes Campground	Sugarloaf Key	NA	Lower Keys	100 R.V./Trailer Sites, 100 Tables, Basketball Goal, Recreation Center	Resource	Activity
Geiger Key Marina and Travel Park	Geiger Key	NA	Lower Keys	35 R.V./Trailer Sites, 2 Cabins, 35 Tables, 2 Boat Ramps, Marina, Recreation Center	NA	Activity
Boyd's Campground	Stock Island	NA	Lower Keys	100 R.V./Trailer Sites, 20 Tent Sites, 100 Tables, Shelter, Beach, Boat Ramp, Marina, Recreation Center	NA	Activity
Leos Campground	Stock Island	NA	Lower Keys	10 R.V./Trailer Sites, 12 Tent Sites, Boat Ramp, Marina	NA	Activity
<i>Subtotals</i>					0.00	0.00

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
<b>Private Resorts</b>						
Ocean Reef Club	North Key Largo	NA	Upper Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool, 16 Tennis Courts, Equipped Play Area	NA	Activity
Holiday Isle Resort and Marina	Windley Key	106.0	Upper Keys	Beach, Boat Ramps, Marina, Swimming Pool,	NA	Activity
Amy Slate's Amaray Dive Resort	Key Largo	104.5	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach, Dock, Marina, Picnic	NA	Activity
Marriott's Key Largo Bay Beach Resort	Key Largo	103.8	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, Tennis Court	NA	17.0
Jule's Undersea Lodge	Off Key Largo	103.2	Upper Keys	Unique underwater accommodations, Diving	NA	Activity
Tarpon Flats Inn	Key Largo	103	Upper Keys	Marina, Commercial Dock	NA	Activity
Key Largo Resort at Manatee Bay	Key Largo	102	Upper Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Largo Lodge	Key Largo	101.7	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage	NA	Activity
Marina Del Mar/ Holiday Inn/ Ramada Inn	Key Largo	99.7	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts, Commercial Dock, Marina, Play Equipment	NA	Activity
Sunset Cove Motel	Key Largo	99.3	Upper Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage, Beach, Fishing Pier	NA	Activity
Hungry Pelican Motel	Key Largo	99.3	Upper Keys	Beach, Boat Ramp, Dockage, Picnic, Fishing Pier	NA	Activity
Kona Kai Resort	Key Largo	97.8	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach, Dockage, Tennis Court, Picnic	NA	Activity
Seafarer Resort & Dive Center	Key Largo	97.6	Upper Keys	Beach, Picnic, Dockage	NA	Activity
Mariner's Resort Villa & Marina	Key Largo	97.5	Upper Keys	2 Swimming Pools, 2 Tennis Courts	NA	Activity
Key Largo Grande Resort/Hilton	Key Largo	97.0	Upper Keys	Beach, Trails, 2 Swimming Pools, Tennis Court, Dock	NA	12.5
Ocean Pointe Suite Resort	Key Largo	92.5	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach, Trails, 2 Tennis Courts, Picnic, Boat Ramp, Marina	NA	Activity
Atlantic Bay Resort	Key Largo	92.5	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, 2 Boat Ramps, Dockage, Beach	NA	3.0
Lookout Lodge Resort	Plantation Key	87.7	Upper Keys	Beach, Picnic, Dockage	NA	Activity
Pelican Cove Resort & Marina	Upper Matecumbe Key	84.5	Upper Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool, Play Equipment, Volleyball, Dockage	NA	Activity

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
Chesapeake Beach Resort	Upper Matecumbe Key	83.4	Upper Keys	Beach, Boat Ramp, Dockage, Play Equipment	NA	6.5
Ocean Dawn Suites	Upper Matecumbe Key	82.9	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Beach	NA	Activity
Casa Morada	Upper Matecumbe Key	82.2	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Play Equipment	NA	2.0
Cheeca Lodge	Village of Islamorada (Upper Matecumbe Key)	82	Upper Keys	Beach, Fishing Piers, 2 Swimming Pools, 6 Tennis Courts, Equipped Play Area, Golf Course, Dockage	NA	27.0
Whale Harbor Resort	Village of Islamorada (Upper Matecumbe Key)	82	Upper Keys	Beach, Marina, Swimming Pool, Shuffleboard Court	Resource	Activity
Plantation Yacht Harbor and Marina	Village of Islamorada (Upper Matecumbe Key)	82	Upper Keys	5 Tables, Boat Ramp, Marina, Swimming Pool, 4 Tennis Courts, Basketball, Recreation Building, 6 Shuffleboard Courts, Multipurpose Building,	NA	Activity
The Moorings Village Resort	Upper Matecumbe Key	81.5	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Dock	NA	18.0
Kon-Tiki Resort	Upper Matecumbe Key	81.2	Upper Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool, Pier, Dockage, Boat Ramp	NA	Activity
Hampton Inn & Suites	Upper Matecumbe Key	80.0	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, Dock	NA	Activity
Breezy Palms Resort	Upper Matecumbe Key	80.0	Upper Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool, Picnic, Volleyball, Dock	NA	Activity
Matecumbe Resort	Lower Matecumbe Key	76.5	Upper Keys	Beach, Boat Ramp, Dockage, Volleyball, Swimming Pool	NA	3.8
White Gate Court	Lower Matecumbe Key	76.0	Upper Keys	Beach, Dockage	NA	3.0
Tropic Aire Resort	Lower Matecumbe Key	75.8	Upper Keys	6 Tables, Shelter, Beach, 2 Boardwalk/Catwalks	NA	Activity
Coral Bay Resort	Lower Matecumbe Key	75.6	Upper Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool, Pier, Dockage, Boat Ramp	NA	4.0
Topsider Resort	Lower Matecumbe Key	75.5	Upper Keys	Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Play Equipment, Picnic, Pier, Dockage	NA	2.0
Caloosa Cove Resort & Marina	Lower Matecumbe	73.8	Upper Keys	Marina, Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Beach, Picnic, Play Equipment	NA	10.0
Zane Grey Inn	Long Key	68.5	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Dockage	NA	Activity

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
Conch Key Cottages	Walker's Island	62.3	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Boat Ramp, Marina	NA	Activity
Hawk's Cay	Duck Key	61.0	Middle Keys	Boat Ramp, Marina, Beach, Tennis Courts	NA	60.0
Tarpon Lodge	Vaca Key (Marathon)		Middle Keys	15 Tables, Boardwalk, Boat Ramp, Marina, Swimming Pool, Tennis Court	NA	Activity
Gulf View Waterfront Resort	Grassy Key	58.5	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Boat Ramp, Dockage, Beach	NA	Activity
Casa Del Sol Beach Resort	Grassy Key	58.2	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Bonefish Resort	Grassy Key	58.0	Middle Keys	Swimming pool, Beach, Picnic	NA	Activity
Rainbow Bend Resort	Grassy Key	58.0	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach, Pier, Dockage	NA	Activity
Yellowtail Inn	Grassy Key	58.0	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach, Pier, Picnic	NA	Activity
White Sands Inn	Grassy Key	57.6	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach, Picnic, Dock	NA	Activity
Cocoplum Beach and Tennis Club	Vaca Key (Marathon)	54.5	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Volleyball	NA	Activity
Sea Isles Condo	Key Colony Beach	54.0	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach, Picnic, Shuffleboard	NA	Activity
Continental Inn	Key Colony Beach	54.0	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach, Tennis Court	NA	Activity
Key Colony Beach Motel	Key Colony Beach	54.0	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach	NA	Activity
Coral Lagoon Resort and Marina	Vaca Key (Marathon)	53.5	Middle Keys	Marina, Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts	NA	6.0
Ocean Isles Fishing Village	Vaca Key (Marathon)	53.0	Middle Keys	Boat Ramp, Beach, Swimming Pool, Recreation Area, Boardwalk, Marina, Picnic	NA	Activity
Indigo Reef Marina Homes Resort	Vaca Key (Marathon)	53.0	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Dockage	NA	15.0
Tropical Cottages	Vaca Key (Marathon)	50.5	Middle Keys	Boat Ramp, Dockage	NA	Activity
The Reef Resort	Vaca Key (Marathon)	50.5	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Picnic, Marina, 2 Tennis Courts	NA	6.0
Sombrero Resort and Lighthouse Marina	Vaca Key (Marathon)	50.0	Middle Keys	4 Tennis Courts, 18 Hole Regulation Golf Course, Swimming Pool, Marina, Boat Ramp	NA	Activity
Banana Bay Resort & Marina	Vaca Key (Marathon)	49.5	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Play Equipment, Marina, Beach	NA	10.0

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
Marathon Key Beach Club	Vaca Key (Marathon)	49.5	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, Marina, Beach	NA	Activity
The Blackfin Resort	Vaca Key (Marathon)	49.5	Middle Keys	Beach, Picnic, Marina, Swimming Pool	NA	4.5
Crystal Bay Resort	Vaca Key (Marathon)	49.0	Middle Keys	Play Equipment, Picnic, Swimming Pool, Boat Ramp, Marina, Pier	NA	Activity
Buccaneer Lodge Resort	Vaca Key (Marathon)	48.5	Middle Keys	Beach, Boardwalk, Boat Ramp, Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts, Shuffleboard Courts, Equipped Play Area, 2 Volleyball Courts, Dockage	NA	10.0
Tranquility Bay Beach House Resort	Vaca Key (Marathon)	48.5	Middle Keys	2 Beaches, 2 Swimming Pools	NA	12.0
Blue Waters Resort Motel	Vaca Key (Marathon)	48.5	Middle Keys	Swimming Pool, Boat Basin	NA	Activity
Faro Blanco Marina Resort	Vaca Key (Marathon)	48.5	Middle Keys	2 Marinas, Swimming Pool, Boat Ramp, Picnic, Play Equipment	NA	Activity
The Hammocks at Marathon	Vaca Key (Marathon)	48.2	Middle Keys	Marina,	NA	Activity
Marathon Yacht Club	Vaca Key (Marathon)	48.0	Middle Keys	2 Tennis Courts, Basketball Court, Teen Club, Boat Ramp	NA	Activity
Big Pine Key Fishing Lodge	Big Pine Key	33.0	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool, Camping, Marina	NA	Activity
Little Palm Island	Little Torch Key	28.5	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	5.0
Parmer's Resort	Little Torch Key	28.5	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool, Dockage	NA	Activity
Dolphin Marina and Cottages	Little Torch Key	28.5	Lower Keys	Marina, Dockage, Boat Ramp	NA	Activity
Mariner Resort and Marina	Big Pine Key	NA	Lower Keys	Beach, Boat Ramp, Marina, Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts, Multipurpose Building	NA	Activity
Sugarloaf Lodge	Sugarloaf Key	15.0	Lower Keys	Beach, 2 Boat Ramps, Marina, Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts, Shuffleboard Court, Multipurpose Building	NA	Activity
Beachside Marriott	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool, Beach	NA	Activity
Casa Marina Resort & Beach Club	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Beach, 2 Swimming Pools, 2 Tennis Courts	NA	Activity

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
Doubletree Grande Key Resort	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Hyatt Key West Resort & Spa	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Ocean Key Resort & Spa	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool, Marina	NA	Activity
Orchid Key Inn	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Parrot Key Resort	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Beach, 4 Swimming Pools	NA	Activity
Pier House Resort & Caribbean Spa	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
The Reach Resort	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Sheraton Suites Key West	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Sunset Key Guest Cottages	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Beach, Swimming Pool, 2 Tennis Courts	NA	Activity
Truman Hotel	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
The Westin Key West Resort & Marina	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Marina, Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Curry Mansion Inn	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Island City House Hotel	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Heron House Court	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
The Gardens Hotel	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Lighthouse Court	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
The Marquesa Hotel	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	2 Swimming Pools	NA	Activity
The Mermaid & the Alligator	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
The Palms Hotel	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
The Paradise Inn	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Pilot House Guesthouse	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity

**Table 13.10 – Privately-Owned Recreation Lands and Facilities (continued)**

Name	Location/ Subdivision	Mile Marker	ROSPA	Facilities	Classification	
					Resource	Activity
Simenton Court Historic Inn and Cottages	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	4 Swimming Pools	NA	Activity
Travelers Palm Tropical Suites	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool, Picnic	NA	Activity
Weatherstation Inn	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Westwinds Inn	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Alexander's Guesthouse	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Big Ruby's	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Equator Resort	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Oasis Guesthouse & Coral Tree Inn	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	Swimming Pool	NA	Activity
Pearl's Rainbow	Key West Island, Key West	NA	Lower Keys	2 Swimming Pools	NA	Activity
<i>Subtotals</i>					0.00	237.30
<b>Golf Courses</b>						
Ocean Reef Golf Course	North Key Largo	SR 905	Upper Keys	3- 18 Hole Golf Courses, Club House, Cart Rentals	NA	Activity
Angler's Club	North Key Largo	100	Upper Keys	Par 3/Executive Golf Course	NA	Activity
Key Colony Beach Golf Club	Key Colony Beach	53	Upper Keys	Par 3/Executive Golf Course	NA	Activity
Cheeca Lodge	Village of Islamorada	82	Middle Keys	Par 3/Executive Golf Course	NA	Activity
Sombrero Beach	Sombrero Golf Course	55	Lower Keys	18 Holes, Club House, Cart Rentals	NA	Activity
Stock Island	Key West Golf Course	5	Lower Keys	18 Holes, Club House, Cart Rentals	NA	Activity
<i>Subtotals</i>					0.00	0.00
<i>Grand Totals</i>					0.00	237.30
Note: Acreages are given when they were able to be found, however these acreages are not used in any of the Element's update or LOS calculations.						
Sources: Monroe County Growth Management Division; <i>Insider's Guide to Florida Keys and Key West</i> by Nancy Toppino, 2010; <i>Fodor's In Focus Florida Keys</i> , 2009						

**Table 13.11 – State of Florida Recreation Guidelines (SCORP 2008) vs. Monroe County LOS**

Activity	Resource/Facility (measurement)	Population Served			Monroe Cty. LOS (Funct. Pop.)
		Maximum	Minimum	Median (2)	
Baseball/Softball Fields	per field	10,000	2,000	5,000	5,000
Basketball	per court	20,000	500	5,000	5,000
Football/Soccer/Rugby	per field	25,000	4,000	6,000	6,000
Tennis Courts	per court	10,000	1,067	2,000	2,000
Volleyball	per court	12,000	4,000	6,000	6,000
Racquetball/Handball	per court	20,000	2,500	10,000	10,000
Shuffleboard	per court	12,000	1,000	6,000	6,000
Equipped Play Areas	per play area	15,000	5,000	10,000	10,000
Multi-purpose Court	per court	4,000	3,000	3,500	3,500
Golf	per 9 hole course	50,000	8,000	25,000	25,000
	per 18 hole course	62,200	25,000	50,000	50,000
Swimming Pool (1)	per pool	50,000	1,000	25,000	25,000
Picnic Areas	per area	10,000	5,000	6,000	6,000
Camping (RV, trailer, tent)	per acre of camp area	25,000	5,600	6,750	6,750
Saltwater Fishing (non-boat)	per 800 feet of pier, catwalk, jetty	25,000	5,000	5,600	5,600
Boat Ramp	per ramp	12,500	1,500	5,000	5,000
Physical Exercise (jogging, parcourse)	per facility	50,000	10,000	15,000	15,000
Nature Study	per mile of trail	10,000	6,250	6,750	6,750
Hiking	per mile of trail	10,000	5,000	6,750	6,750
Bicycling	per mile of trail	10,000	1,500	5,000	5,000
Sandy Beach	per mile of beach	211,200	25,000	25,000	100,000
(1) Based on a standard pool of 4800 square feet.					
(2) Monroe County uses the median population of SCORP, except in beach area where the standard of 100,000 has been adopted. However, Monroe County's <i>Parks and Recreation Master Plan</i> (draft 2005) indicates that the adopted LOS in the 2010 Comprehensive Plan is 1 Baseball/Softball field per 7,000 functional population and that the LOS for Tennis Courts is 1 per 6,000 functional population. The MCPRMP 2005 has not been adopted as of March 2011.					
Source: (adapted from): <i>Outdoor Recreation in Florida, (final draft) SCORP 2008</i> , Appendix D					

**Table 13.12 - Summary of Existing Recreation and Open Space Areas Provided in Monroe County**

Facilities Ownership	Mainland ROSPA (Acres)	Upper Keys ROSPA (Acres)	Middle Keys ROSPA (Acres)	Lower Keys ROSPA (Acres)	Totals (Acres)
<b>Resource-Based</b>					
Monroe County-Owned (1)	0.0	18.2	10.6	74.9	103.7
Monroe County-Leased (2)	0.0	6.1	0.0	7.2	13.3
School Board-Owned (3)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
City-Owned (4)	0.0	0.0	49.1	16.0	65.1
Beaches (5)	0.0	2,318.2	351.2	8,019.5	10,688.9
Roadside and Bridge	1.5	4.5	9.7	13.6	29.3
Privately-Owned (6)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Totals</i>	1.5	2,347.0	420.6	8,131.2	10,900.3
<b>Activity-Based</b>					
Monroe County-Owned (1)	0.0	35.0	10.0	67.0	112.0
Monroe County-Leased (2)	0.0	6.0	0.0	6.1	12.1
School Board-Owned (3)	0.0	52.0	34.2	106.0	192.2
City-Owned (4)	0.0	0.0	91.4	24.6	116.0
Privately-Owned (6)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<i>Totals</i>	0.0	93.0	135.6	203.7	432.3
Note: This table is a summary of Tables 13.5, 13.6, 13.7, 13.8, 13.9, and 13.10. Included in this table are:					
(1) Lands owned by Monroe County but not the Monroe County Land Authority (MCLA)					
(2) Lands leased by Monroe County					
(3) Lands governed by an inter-local agreement between MC and the Monroe County School District (MCSD)					
(4) Lands owned by one of the 5 Incorporated within Monroe County but available to the MC population					
(5) Lands for this category exclude all activity-based uses for each site but include all other lands as resource-based, and also include Federal, State, County, and incorporated City lands at each site.					
(6) For this table, Privately-owned lands are not tabulated.					

### 13.3 Recreation Demands

The County, as the local government, under Florida’s SCORP is required to establish LOS standards for recreation lands and facilities, in order to ensure planning for adequate recreation and open space facilities that will be provided to support present and future development and population. For recreation lands and facilities, the LOS standard represents the minimum amount of recreation lands and facilities that should be provided by the County to meet the estimated demand for not only the land area but the various types of recreational activities (facilities).

Because recreational preferences vary based on such factors as age, sex, and income, it is extremely difficult to accurately estimate existing and future demand for recreation areas and facilities. For this reason, population based acreage and facility standards are commonly used as a guideline to determine general land area and location requirements for various types of park and recreation areas. These general requirements are later used in conjunction with research on specific local area population characteristics and preferences and the natural resource characteristics of potential recreation and open space sites to determine the appropriate size, location, and facility requirements of specific recreation areas.

The following sections discuss recreational opportunities desired by the County residents, State of Florida LOS guidelines, the LOS standards adopted by the Board of County Commissioners, and the ability of the County to provide adequate recreation lands and facilities based upon the adopted LOS standards.

#### 13.3.1 *General Recreation Demands*

The combination of climate, clean waters, coral reefs, abundant fish and wildlife and accessibility are the main attractions to both visitors and permanent residents of the Florida Keys. There are currently over 4.07 million acres of publicly-owned conservation lands and waters in the County (including the Mainland ROSPA), primarily providing both water-dependant and water-related recreational opportunities.

For this update, the Monroe County 2010-2030 Population Projections, March 15, 2011 by Fishkind & Associates and Keith and Schnars, PA (MCPD 2011) was used as a basis for both resident, seasonal and functional populations for years indicated.

Using the 2010 functional population of 138,803, this translates into approximately 29,490 acres of conservation and recreation lands and waters/1,000 functional population. Based upon this simple calculation of the demand for recreational land there seems to be more than enough for the permanent residents and visitors to the County. However, the majority of the 4.07 million acres are conservation lands and a calculation for recreation lands and facilities is extremely important to the recreation/tourism industry of the County. Equally as important is the provision for a variety of recreational opportunities to the County functional population. In general, residents have indicated that there is a shortage of activity-based

recreation areas in the County. Recreational facilities frequently cited as being in short supply included baseball/softball fields, football/soccer fields, equipped play areas, boat ramps, and physical exercise courses.

### 13.2.2 State of Florida Recreation Guidelines

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) *Outdoor Recreation in Florida 2008* (ORF 2008), classifies several types of community recreation areas and facilities which are typically considered in a County-wide Recreation and Open Space Element. These guidelines and descriptions provide a relative basis for review of the adequacy of recreational opportunities available for the County residents. However, the report indicates that these guidelines may not apply to all communities in Florida.

- "The guidelines presented in this plan are intended for broad, statewide application, and make no allowances for localized differences in communities or in specific outdoor recreation environments. As a result, these guidelines may not be wholly applicable in any given instance and should not generally be applied without some modification. Local jurisdictions particularly are encouraged to develop their own guidelines to more adequately reflect local conditions in determining recreation needs" (Florida DNR, 1989).

It should be noted also, the guidelines described in the ORF 2008 are typical of urban metropolitan areas, and therefore, due to the unique environment, geographic isolation, non-metropolitan character, and presence of extensive marine resources for recreation and environmental preservation in the County and the Florida Keys, these guidelines may not prove to be a realistic portrayal of recreational behavior, needs, and preferences for the permanent residents of and visitors to the County. Recreation and open space guidelines typically recommend a system of parklands and recreational facilities. A system typically ranges from small, densely developed mini parks serving a local population to large regional parks which include significant environmental and historic resources and attract visitors from a large service area. These guidelines are not always applicable to the County for the following reasons:

- Due to the natural resource characteristics of the County, both the permanent resident and seasonal population recreational preferences are for water-oriented recreational activities such as boating, fishing, and scuba-diving to which public access is readily available (See **Table 13.13**);
- The County's functional population has a very high proportion of seasonal visitors (Over 40 percent in 2010) whose recreation needs are often met by the private or resort facilities (see **Table 13.14**); and
- Recreation guidelines are typical of the recreational needs of urban metropolitan areas, and therefore may overstate the needs of less densely developed areas, such as the County. As stated in *Outdoor Recreation in Florida 1989*, the "need (for recreation opportunities) exists primarily in the urban areas, and increases in proportion to the degree of urbanization."

**Table 13.13 – Water-Oriented Public Access Recreational Facilities Summary**

Facilities	No. of Facilities				Totals
	Mainland	Upper Keys	Middle Keys	Lower Keys	
Marinas & Dockage	1	72	55	30	158
Boat Ramps	5	45	25	42	117
Fishing Piers & Boardwalks	1	23	15	11	50
Public & Commercial Docks	1	4	1	3	9
Beaches, Shorelines Waterfront Parks	1	22	6	15	27
Scenic Overlooks	1	1	1	2	5
Note: Facilities indicated above are publicly-owned facilities plus privately-owned facilities which allow public access with or without a fee paid. Included are sites in the unincorporated County and the incorporated cities as well as the federal and State-owned facilities, and private conservation owned facilities.					

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**Table 13.14 – Monroe County – Population Calculations (2010) Including Cities for ROSPA**

County Permanent Population	Unincorporated County Permanent Population	Cities Permanent Population (Difference)	Cities Permanent Population	Cities Seasonal Population	Unincorporated County Seasonal Population	County Seasonal Population
82601	35368	47233	NA	20762	35440	56202
		8002	Upper Keys- Vill. of Islamorada	-		
		202	Middle Keys- Layton	-		
		10496	Middle Keys- Marathon	5078		
		832	Middle Keys-Key Colony Beach	1768		
		27701	Lower Keys- Key West	13,916		

- The County’s significant tourist population and age demographics would point to recreation needs for more facilities in the areas of small groups or individuals rather than larger gathering type facilities such as team sports; football, soccer, baseball etc. These later types of recreation facilities are generally provided in the County at the school sites.
- The SCORP 2008 typical system of park lands and its applicability to the County is discussed below.

13.3.2.1 Mini Parks

Mini parks are typically small (less than 1 acre) recreation areas developed with specialized facilities, such as equipped play areas. The SCORP guidelines suggest that between 0.25 and 0.5 acres of mini parks per 1,000 population be provided for a service area of less than one-quarter of a mile. According to the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), mini parks are typically sited within densely developed neighborhoods in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouse development or housing for the elderly (NRPA, 1983). The purpose of mini parks is to provide relief from an urban setting at a local level and to provide public open space in densely developed areas in which there is very little private open space (i.e., front and back yards).

Mini parks are not considered to be a necessary component of a park system for the County. *The Monroe County Parks and Recreation Master Plan* (MCPRMP draft 2005) has not addressed mini parks. In general, the County has low population densities and there is a substantial amount of both public and private open space to provide relief to the County residents. The County largely consists of single-family residences, which provide a substantial amount of private open space approximately equal to that required by local

mini park. Although there are some townhouse and apartment complexes in the County, they are generally not situated in close proximity to each other or at a density sufficient to justify the establishment of a LOS standard for mini parks. The County's park system provides facilities, such as would be found in the Mini Park, in their other park lands and almost all the private tourist oriented businesses (hotels, camp grounds, resorts) provide recreation facilities such as swimming pools, play equipped areas, and picnic areas. Additionally there are numerous isolated mini park-type facilities within the County, such as boat ramps, fishing docks, scenic bridges, and historic landmarks, that fill the mini park need in the unique character of the Florida Keys.

#### 13.3.2.2 Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks generally range from 2 to 10 acres in size and provide areas for recreational activities such as court and field games. The SCORP guidelines suggest that between 1 and 2 acres per 1,000 population be provided within a ½ mile service area radius with a population of 5,000. According to the NRPA, neighborhood parks generally service a neighborhood population and are often associated with schools. In the County, the service population is spread out linearly and application of the ½ mile radius is not practical. Many of the bridged water gaps between the individual keys often exceed ½ mile.

However, neighborhood-type parks are an important element in the County's park system. Still the residents generally feel that there is a shortage of activity-based recreation areas which contain facilities such as ballfields. The typical concentration of population-based criteria may not apply in the County since "neighborhoods" are generally spread out due to the narrow configuration of the Keys and population densities do not approach 5,000 per 1/2 mile except in only 2 of the 5 the incorporated cities (Marathon and Key West).

In general, within the County the type of facility and the service population of the neighborhood park are incorporated into either a larger or smaller site or an associated school site than the NRPA guidelines indicate. For this reason also, the MCPRMP 2005 did not set up a hierarchy of parks. The LOS standard for neighborhood parks has been applied to all parks, regardless of size, to ensure recreation lands and facilities for the population.

#### 13.3.2.3 Community Parks

Community parks generally service a population between 5,000 and 25,000 people within a radius of between 3 and 12 miles; the SCORP guidelines suggest that approximately 2 acres of community parks per 1,000 population be provided. Community parks typically include areas of diverse environmental quality, such as forested areas for walking, viewing, and picnicking, as well as areas typically found in neighborhood parks that are suited for intense recreational facilities. As with neighborhood parks, the typical population-based criteria, generally does not apply in the County due to the low population densities and the linear configuration of the Keys.

Community parks are generally at least 20 acres in size based on NPRA standards. The County has very few contiguous tracts of land that meet this size requirement that are not already dedicated regional level facilities of the Federal or State government. Due to this large number of resource-based regional parks; the low population density of the County; and linear service area as a result of the Keys configuration, community parks within the County generally resemble the traditional definition of a neighborhood park in terms of size, location and programming.

#### 13.3.2.4 Regional Parks

Regional parks generally service several communities within a 30 minute to 1 hour drive. The SCORP guidelines suggest that approximately 20 acres/1,000 population be provided. Regional parks are generally larger than 200 acres and contain areas of natural quality for nature-oriented outdoor recreation. Generally, 80 percent of the land is reserved for conservation and natural resource management, with less than 20 percent used for recreation development. According to ORF 2008, the provision of resource-based recreation areas, such as regional parks, is largely considered the responsibility of state and local governments due to the broad natural resource implications, the extensive land requirements, and usually greater costs of the lands.

Numerous recreational areas within the County can be classified as regional parks by acreage (see **Tables 13.1, 13.2, and 13.3**). All of these recreation sites throughout the County including the Mainland, Upper, Middle and Lower Keys have both conservation lands and resource-based lands.

The following two calculations on Federal and State Regional Parks were based on one-half the functional population of the County (69,400) for 2010. The regional parks of the County are located within a 1 hour drive from the center of the County (geographically in the MKROSPA). These show the significant abundance of Regional Parks available to the functional population in the County.

The Everglades National Park located in the MROSPA, alone has over 800,000 acres of upland conservation lands and the Big Cypress Preserve adds another 127,000 acres of land. These two regional parks equate to over 6675 acres per 1,000 function population for the entire County for 2010. In addition, these two parks are within a two hour drive of all of the Upper Keys, and most of the Middle Keys ROSPA.

In the UKROSPA, the Crocodile Lake National Wildlife Refuge, the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, the Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park, the Windley Key Fossil Reef Geological State Park, the Cowpens Rookery Preserve, the North Key Largo Hammock, and the Port Bougainville State Park equals approximately 24,000 acres of regional park or 345 acres per 1,000 functional population. The Long Key State Park, the Curry Hammock State Park, the Lignumvitae Key Botanical State Park, and the Indian Key State Historic Site within the MKROSPA equal approximately 9,051 acres of regional park or 130 acres per 1,000 functional population. There is a total of 475 acres of Regional Park for 1,000 functional population in the upper one-half of the Keys.

In the LKROSPA, the Bahia Honda State Recreational Area (Park), the Key West National Wildlife Refuge, Coupon Bight State Aquatic Preserve, Florida Keys National Marine

Sanctuary, the Looe Key National Marine Sanctuary, the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge, the National Key Deer Wildlife Refuge, the Ft. Jefferson National Monument & Dry Tortugas National Park, and the Ft. Zachary Taylor Historic State Park equals approximately 98,210 acres of regional park or 1415 acres per functional population in the lower Keys.

Even excluding the totals for Everglades National Park and the Big Cypress Preserve on the Mainland, the total regional park acreage equals over 131,000 acres for a LOS of 943 acres per 1,000 of functional population and 1.59 acres per permanent resident population for 2010. These regional lands, inventoried in **Table 13.1** and **Table 13.2**, provide, in addition to conservation lands, recreational facilities such as hiking, camping, boating, scenic views, biking, exercise, fishing and related activities.

Since the County has such as a large amount of both regional parks and large conservation areas which provide a substantial amount of resource-based recreation opportunities for the County residents, there is no need to establish a local LOS standard for regional parks because it has been determined that no additional facilities are required through the planning period.

#### 13.3.2.5 Recreation Facilities

Recreation facilities are usually found within a park site, although the type, quantity, and location of recreational facilities depend on the activity and the demand generated by the users. Recreational facilities may include such activities as bike paths, tennis courts, shuffleboard, swimming pools, playing fields, marinas, boat ramps, or any special facility needed to support a specific recreational activity. In the case of the County, many of these special facilities are sited independently of a park facility. SCORP guidelines for recreational facilities of interest to the County are listed in **Table 13.11**.

For the purposes of the County, the 20 types of recreation facilities surveyed in ORF 2008 have been reduced to 17 (**Table 13.15**) “Shuffleboard” and “Multi-purpose Courts” have not been reported and “Hiking and Nature Study” have been combined. The population ranges in the table are published in ORF 2008 and are based on a survey of existing facilities in counties and cities throughout Florida. The table indicates the acceptable maximum and minimum numbers of people that should be served by one facility LOS. These guidelines have been provided for a broad range of minimum and maximum recreation facility standards that reflect the State of Florida in general. However, to reflect natural resource constraints and the need to tailor the provision of recreation facilities to the needs of County, different guidelines within these ranges may be chosen.

The County has adopted the median LOS standards for its facilities for all 17 reported, as recommended by the SCORP guidelines, except for “Beaches” facility category. In the beach category, because of the wide range between the maximum and minimum, (211,000 and 25,000 population) and LOS standards that the SCORP guidelines chose as a “median” (which is not in the middle of the range), another LOS standard seemed more appropriate. Therefore the County the LOS adopted is 1 mile per 100,000 population as its facility guideline, which is approximately in the middle of the 211,000 to 25,000 population range.

**Table 13.15 – Existing Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service by ROSPA 2010**

2010 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 36982 (funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 20559 (funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 81262 (funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 138803(funct. Pop.)		
	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist	LOS	Surp./ Defic	Exist	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields- 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	12	7.4	4.6	7	4.1	2.9	13	16.3	<b>(-3.3)</b>	32	27.8	4.2
<b>Football/Rugby/ Soccer Fields- 1 Field/6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	1	6.2	<b>(-5.2)</b>	4	3.4	.6	7	13.5	<b>(-6.5)</b>	12	23.1	
<b>Tennis Courts 1 Court/ 2,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	63	18.5	44.5	68	10.3	57.7	50	40.6	9.4	181	69.4	111.6
<b>Equipped Play Areas- 1 Area /10,000 pop.</b>	3	0	3	17	3.7	13.3	14	2.1	11.9	18	8.1	9.9	52	13.9	38.1
<b>Picnic Areas- 1 Area /6,000 pop.</b>	6	0	6	16	6.2	9.8	25	3.4	21.6	27	13.5	13.5	74	23.1	50.9
<b>Sandy Beaches- 1 mi. /100,000 pop.</b>	3 mi 1*	0	3 mi	3 mi 29*	.4 mi	2.6 mi	1 mi 20*	.2 mi	.8 mi	5 mi 30*	.8 mi	4.2 mi	12 mi 80*	1.4 mi	10.6 mi
<b>Basketball Courts- 1 Court /5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	13	7.4	5.6	19	4.1	14.9	23	16.3	6.7	55	27.8	27.2
<b>Volleyball Courts- 1 Court /6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	7	6.2	.8	5	3.4	1.6	7	13.5	<b>(-6.5)</b>	19	23.1	<b>(-4.1)</b>
<b>Racquetball/ Handball Courts- 1 Court/10,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	4	3.7	.3	2	2.1	.1	3	8.1	<b>(-5.1)</b>	9	13.9	<b>(-4.9)</b>
<b>Golf- 9 hole/25,000 pop. &amp; 18 hole/50,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	5- 18 hole 10	1.5	8.5	1- 9 hole 1	.8	.2	2- 18 hole 4	3.2	.8	15	5.6	9.4
<b>Swimming Pools- 1 Pool /25,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	43	15	41.5	33	.8	32.2	18	3.3	14.7	94	5.6	88.4

**Table 13.15 – Existing Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service by ROSPA 2010 (continued)**

2010 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 36982 (funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 20559 (funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 81262 (funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 138803(funct. Pop.)		
	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist	LOS	Surp./ Defic	Exist	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic
<b>Boat Ramps-</b> 1 Ramp /5,000 pop.	5	0	5	72	7.4	64.6	55	4.1	50.9	30	13.7	11.7	158	13.2	78.2
<b>Bicycling-</b> 1 mi. /5,000 pop.	6 mi 2*	0	6 mi	25 mi 2*	7.4 mi	17.6 mi	40 mi 1*	4.1 mi	35.9 mi	40 mi 1*	16.3 mi	23.7 mi	111 mi. 6*	27.8 mi.	83.2 mi.
<b>Camping Areas-</b> 1 ac./6,750 pop.	2	0	2	10	5.5	4.5	12	3.0	9.0	16	12	4.0	40	25.6	14.4
<b>Fishing (non-boat)-</b> 800 l.f. /5,650 pop.	4000 5*	0	4000	1100 0 62*	5240	5760	850 0 61*	2904	5596	1370 0 21*	115 04	2196	3720 0 l.f.	1965 6l.f.	12544 l.f.
<b>Physical Exercise-</b> 1 Course /15,000 pop.	0	0	0	2	2.5	<b>(-.5)</b>	1	1.4	<b>(-.4)</b>	4	5.4	<b>(-1.4)</b>	7	9.3	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Hiking/ Nature Trails-</b> 1 mi. /6,750 pop.	3.3 mi 8*	0	3.3 mi	16 mi 9*	5.5 mi	10.5 mi	3.2 mi 7*	3.0 mi	.2 mi	15.5 mi 9*	12.0	3.5 mi	38.0 mi.	20.6 mi.	17.4 mi.
* represents the number of facilities, not the length, deficits are noted in <b>(-bold)</b> .															
Note: Bicycling, fishing (non-boat), and hiking are estimated miles based on the total miles reported.															
MROSPA = Mainland Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
UKROSPA = Upper Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
MKROSPA = Middle Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
LKROSPA = Lower Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															

### 13.3.3 *Monroe County Level of Service Standards*

As of this writing, the County has yet to adopt the neighborhood and community park and recreation facility LOS standards described in this section as reflective of the recreational needs of permanent residents of and seasonal visitors to the County. In its 1986 Comprehensive Plan, the County did adopt a LOS of 3 acres of neighborhood and community parks per 1,000 permanent resident population only. At that time, the County also did not have a Parks Master Plan and the Comprehensive Plan did not address LOS surplus or deficits for individual recreation facilities. Further, privately-owned tourist-oriented businesses and their recreation facilities were not included at that time in the calculations. The LOS standard for the County that was established in the 1990 update was:

- .82 acres per 1,000 permanent resident population for passive, resource-based neighborhood and community parks and;
- .82 acres per 1,000 permanent resident population for activity-based neighborhood and community parks.

The activity-based parks LOS standard was to be applied to each of the three subareas; Upper, Middle, and Lower Keys as well as the overall County. The LOS standard for the resource-based parks was applied to only the overall County. In 1990 there were 52,032 permanent residents and 43,110 seasonal residents and tourists, for a functional population of 95,142. The 3.0 acres per 1,000 population divided equally between resource-based and activity-based parks yielded 1.5 acres per 1000 functional population; however, since the requirement of Rule 9J-5, F.A.C., at that time was for permanent resident population only, the 1.5 acres was pro-rated to .82 acres per 1,000 permanent resident population (52,032 is 54.7 percent of the 95,142 functional population x 1.5 acres of each park type equaled .82 acres). As of this writing, the County has not adopted the recommended LOS standards as described in this update. However, for the balance of this update the LOS standards of 1.5 acres per 1000 functional population for each of the resource-based and activity-based recreational lands will be used.

The following factors now require a new LOS standard be adopted for the 2010-2030 update.

- The requirements of Rule 9J-5, FA.C. now require the LOS standards to be calculated on the functional population which is the permanent population plus the seasonal population;
- The actual recreational needs of the County must now address both the resource-based and the activity-based areas whereas before they were combined; and
- Individual park facilities (activities), whether oriented to resource-based or activity-based parks must be addressed to the new LOS standards established by the SCORP 2008.

For comparison to the 1990 population figures, in 2010 there are 82,601 permanent residents and 56,202 seasonal residents and tourists, for a functional total population of 138,803.

### 13.3.3.1 Mini Park Level of Service Standards

Since the categories of “mini parks” are provided by the large quantity of such uses as historical sites, boat ramps, bridges, old highways, marinas, piers, and even portions of privately-owned businesses, these were not considered in the LOS calculations. The facilities normally contained in a mini park are found in the County on portions of sites of larger size. Therefore a separate LOS calculation for mini parks will not be included in this update.

### 13.3.3.2 Neighborhood and Community Park Level of Service Standards

Although recreation guidelines typically recommend separate standards for neighborhood and community parks, it is more reasonable for the County to establish a single LOS standard for all local recreation areas whether they are Neighborhood or Community Parks due to the following factors:

- It is extremely difficult to provide traditional neighborhood parks in the County since "neighborhoods" are generally spread out due to the narrow configuration of the Keys and population densities are generally too low to support neighborhood parks at the local level;
- To compensate for the larger service area travel radii, caused by the configuration of the Keys, several relatively small (less than 10 acres) Neighborhood and Community Parks which provide activity-based recreation facilities rather than one large Community Park are provided throughout the County; and
- To avoid duplicating the provision of resource-based recreation areas that is already amply provided by State and Federal agencies.

In order to provide an adequate amount of the active-recreation areas, new LOS standards have been developed (but not adopted) for the County which:

- Recognize that the County is a popular place to live and visit because of the extensive amount of existing resource-based conservation and recreation open space areas which provide unique opportunities for popular activities;
- Specifically address the provision of activity-based recreation areas; and,
- Are applicable to the permanent resident and seasonal and tourist populations of the County.

The first step is to establish a LOS standard of 3 acres of parks (of all categories)/1,000 functional population. Since the permanent population and the seasonal population are nearly identical, there is no need to establish separate LOS for each population type. In order to ensure a balance between the provisions of resource and activity-based recreation areas

by the County, the second step is to divide the LOS standard of 3.0 acres/1,000 functional population equally between resource- and activity-based recreation areas. This will ensure that an appropriate balance of both resource and activity-based recreation areas will be provided in the County. Therefore, the LOS standards are as follows:

- 1.5 acres of resource-based recreation areas/1,000 functional population; and
- 1.5 acres of activity-based recreation areas/1,000 functional population.

The final step is to apply the population-based recreation area LOS standards to geographic service areas to ensure that residents have equal access to recreation areas in close proximity to their homes. The application of service areas to LOS standards is especially important in the case of activity-based recreation areas, since activity-based recreation areas can be provided anywhere for the convenience of the user. Activity-based recreation areas do not require an existing significant natural resource for location. Many of these facilities require only a certain amount of relatively flat land for construction of the facility such as a field. Although the application of service areas to the activity-based recreation area LOS standard in the County should be considered in planning future recreation areas, the application of service areas to the resource-based recreation area LOS standard is not necessarily as important for planning in the County for the following reasons:

- The application of service areas to LOS standards is most important in densely developed urban areas in which there is a relative shortage of privately-owned open space. However, the County predominantly consists of low density development and access to open space and resource-based recreation areas is not considered to be a problem;
- The acquisition of resource-based recreation areas is to protect the natural resources and takes precedence over the application of service areas to the proximity of population concentrations. The County is already well-serve by resource-based recreation lands (see **Table 13.16**); and
- The analysis of the application of service areas to resource-based recreation areas shows that the County functional population is generally within a 15 – 30 minute drive of these parks. Access to Florida Bay and the Atlantic Ocean as the largest and most unique natural resource-based publicly-owned recreation land and water in the United States is available to the resident and seasonal population within a few hundred yards on either side of US 1.

In addition to the activity-based and resource-based lands described above, the County also has a tremendous amount of unique open space in the form of open waters and "undevelopable" vacant land of the MCLA.

13.3.3.2.1 Resource-Based Recreation Area LOS Standard

As discussed above, the County functional population is provided with an abundance of resource-based recreation areas and with adequate open space access to all of these areas. Due to the abundance of recreational lands and waters, the LOS standard for resource-based recreation areas of 1.5 acres/1,000 functional population should appropriately be viewed from the County as a whole. Most of the larger resource-based parcels of lands actually service a population well outside of any particular Recreation and Open Space Planning Area; therefore **Table 13.16** does not breakdown the LOS requirements for each ROSPA.

13.3.3.2.2 Activity-Based Recreation Area LOS Standard

Locations for activity-based parks (mini, neighborhood or community) within the County, can be provided almost anywhere, but the population service areas associated with these parks are linear in nature rather than the traditional circular radius. The considerable distance between land areas, population groupings, presence of incorporated cities, and physical narrow land configurations allows for appropriate division of the cities and the unincorporated County lands into Recreation and Open Space Planning Areas (ROSPA). These ROSPA do not totally correspond to the service areas of these recreational lands but do give a better picture of the surpluses and deficiencies in each as shown in **Table 13.17**.

**Table 13.16 – Resource Based Lands and Facilities Analysis County-Wide**

Year	Monroe County Functional Population (1)	LOS (2) ac./ population	Demand Assessment (acres)	Existing Facilities (acres) (3)	Surplus or (Deficit) (acres) (4)
2010	138,803	1.5 ac./1000	208.35	10,900.30	10,691.95
2015	140,325	1.5 ac./1000	210.45	10,900.30	10,689.85
2020	143,979	1.5 ac./1000	215.85	10,900.30	10,684.45
2025	144,737	1.5 ac./1000	217.05	10,900.30	10,683.25
2030	145,507	1.5 ac./1000	218.25	10,900.30	10,682.05
(1) Includes functional population of the incorporated cities (Villages of Islamorada, Layton, Marathon, Key Colony Beach, and Key West).					
(2) The resource-based recreation land LOS of 1.5/1,000 population (functional) demand is applied to the entire County.					
(3) Includes owned or leased lands of Monroe County, Monroe County School Board, the Incorporated Cities, and Roadside and Bridge Table 13.12. Additionally, from Table 13.2 the resource lands of John Pennekamp State Park, Curry Hammock State Park, Bahia Honda State Park, Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge, Ft. Zachary Taylor State Park, and Ft. Jefferson National Monument.					
(4) Acreage Surplus or (- Deficit) equals Demand Assessment less Existing Acreage. This column shows that there is a surplus resource-based acreage Monroe County over the LOS (1.5 ac./1,000 func. Pop.).					

The LOS standard for the activity-based lands of 1.5 acres per 1,000 functional population should be applied to each of the ROSPA and the County as a whole. Surpluses in land LOS

requirements should not be applied to make up deficits from one ROSPA to another. However, in relation to recreation facilities, surpluses of one type of facility in one ROSPA could be used to compensate for deficits in facilities in an adjacent ROSPA depending on the facility and the proximity to the next ROSPA. For example, a deficit in the Upper Keys in camping facilities could be compensated for by the camping areas on the Mainland or on the Middle Keys, since the service population for camping is 6,750 population and the Mainland has 0 population, and the Middle Keys has a functional population (2010) of 20,559.

### 13.3.3.3 Recreation Facilities Level of Service (LOS) Standards

The recreational facilities LOS standards have been adopted by the County based on the 2008 SCORP median standards with one exception (Beaches) which are shown in **Table 13.15** for the year 2010. Using the same standards, tables have been developed for each of the years 2015, 2020, 2025, and 2030. Without a County Master Park Plan wherein project facilities are shown for these years, each of these subsequent tables have been prepared as if no new facilities are planned and that each year's existing facilities are the same as the year 2010.

#### 13.3.3.3.1 Keys Planning Areas

The County's Keys Planning Areas, which are for the unincorporated areas of the County needed to be modified for this updated element, as they did not include the 5 incorporated cities of the County. The cities were included in the closest Keys Planning Area for the purposes of calculations for population and LOS for the Recreation and Open Space areas and facilities. As described in the Introduction to this element, Recreation and Open Space Planning Areas, called ROSPA, were created which incorporate the city lands and facilities with specific Mile Marker delineations.

As shown in **Table 13.18**, separate LOS standards are set for each of the four ROSPA's for the existing conditions for the year 2010. **Table 13.18** indicates how the permanent and seasonal populations for the inclusion of the incorporated cities and the County populations were combined. The population within each ROSPA were then calculated for the population projections for years 2015, 2020, 2025, and 2030. . It should be noted that these projected LOS through year 2030 for the selected recreational activities in the County are not to be used for concurrency purposes.

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**Table 13.17 – Activity Based Lands and Facilities Analysis by Recreation and Open Space Planning Areas (ROSPA)**

Year	Planning Area	Functional Population	LOS ac./ population	Demand Assessment (acres)	Existing Land (acres)	Surplus or Deficit (acres)
<b>2010</b>	Monroe County	138,803	1.5 ac./1000	208.35	434.10	225.75
	Mainland ROSPA	0	1.5 ac./1000	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Upper Keys ROSPA	36,982	1.5 ac./1000	55.47	93.00	37.53
	Middle Keys ROSPA	20,559	1.5 ac./1000	30.83	135.20	104.37
	Lower Keys ROSPA	81,262	1.5 ac./1000	121.90	203.70	81.82
<b>2015</b>	Monroe County	140,325	1.5 ac./1000	210.40	434.10	223.61
	Mainland ROSPA	0	1.5 ac./1000	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Upper Keys ROSPA	37,522	1.5 ac./1000	56.28	93.00	36.72
	Middle Keys ROSPA	21,005	1.5 ac./1000	31.51	135.20	103.69
	Lower Keys ROSPA	81,798	1.5 ac./1000	122.70	203.70	81.00
<b>2020</b>	Monroe County	143,979	1.5 ac./1000	215.97	434.10	218.13
	Mainland ROSPA	0	1.5 ac./1000	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Upper Keys ROSPA	40,322	1.5 ac./1000	60.48	93.00	32.52
	Middle Keys ROSPA	21,448	1.5 ac./1000	32.17	135.20	103.03
	Lower Keys ROSPA	82,209	1.5 ac./1000	123.31	203.70	80.39
<b>2025</b>	Monroe County	144,242	1.5 ac./1000	216.36	434.10	217.74
	Mainland ROSPA	0	1.5 ac./1000	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Upper Keys ROSPA	40,620	1.5 ac./1000	60.93	93.00	32.10
	Middle Keys ROSPA	21,502	1.5 ac./1000	32.25	135.20	102.95
	Lower Keys ROSPA	82,620	1.5 ac./1000	123.93	203.70	79.77

**Table 13.17 – Activity Based Lands and Facilities Analysis by Recreation and Open Space Planning Areas (ROSPA) (Continued)**

Year	Planning Area	Functional Population	LOS ac./ population	Demand Assessment (acres)	Existing Land (acres)	Surplus or Deficit (acres)
2030	Monroe County	145,508	1.5 ac./1000	218.20	434.10	215.84
	Mainland ROSPA	0	1.5 ac./1000	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Upper Keys ROSPA	40,919	1.5 ac./1000	61.38	93.00	31.62
	Middle Keys ROSPA	21,558	1.5 ac./1000	32.34	135.20	102.86
	Lower Keys ROSPA	83,031	1.5 ac./1000	124.55	203.70	79.15
<p>(1) Includes functional population of the incorporated cities (Village of Islamorada, Layton, Marathon, Key Colony Beach, and Key West). Functional population projections are based on the Monroe County 2010-2030 Population Projections (MCP 2010) for the unincorporated County plus seasonal and residential population as most currently provided by the incorporated cities.</p> <p>(2) The activity-based recreation land LOS of 1.5 ac./1,000 population (functional) demand should be applied to the entire Monroe County and not by Planning Area, even though that breakdown is shown here</p> <p>(3) Acreage Surplus or Deficit equals Demand Assessment less Existing Acreage. This equals the amount of surplus acreage provided in the County. Differences between sums of ROSPA. Acreage surplus and overall County surplus</p>						

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**Table 13.18 – Monroe County – Population by ROSPA 2010-2030**

County Permanent Population	Unincorp County Perm Pop	Cities Perm Population	Cities Permanent Population	County Season Pop	Unincorp County Seasonal Population	Cities Seasonal Population
<b>Year 2010 County-wide</b>						
82,601	35,368	47,233	NA	56,202	35,440	20,762
<b>Year 2010 County-wide Population by ROSPA--82,601 Permanent Population; 79,437 Seasonal Population</b>						
			<b>Recreational &amp; Open Space P.A. (unincorporated &amp; cities)</b>			
22,432	14,430	8,002	Upper Keys Rec & Open Sp P. A.	14,550	14,550	-
12,591	1,061	11,530	Middle Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	7,968	1,122	6,846
47,578	19,877	27,701	Lower Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	33,684	19,768	13,916
<b>Year 2015 County-wide</b>						
83,303	35,696	47,607	NA	57,022	36,067	20,955
<b>Year 2015 County-wide Population by ROSPA--83,303 Permanent Population; 57,022 Seasonal Population</b>						
			<b>Recreational &amp; Open Space P.A. (unincorporated &amp; cities)</b>			
22,716	14,564	8,152	Upper Keys Rec & Open Sp P. A.	14,806	14,806	-
12,825	1,071	11,754	Middle Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	8,180	1,141	7,039
47,762	20,061	27,701	Lower Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	34,036	20,120	13,916

**Table 13.18 – Monroe County – Population by ROSPA 2010-2030 (Continued)**

County Permanent Population	Unincorp County Perm Pop	Cities Perm Population	Cities Permanent Population	County Season Pop	Unincorp County Seasonal Population	Cities Seasonal Population
<b>Year 2020 County-Wide</b>						
83,353	35,374	47,979	NA	60,626	37,120	23,506
<b>Year 2020 County-wide Population by ROSPA--83,353 Permanent Population; 60,626 Seasonal Population</b>						
			<b>Recreational &amp; Open Space P.A. (unincorporated &amp; cities)</b>			
22,735	14,433	8,302	Upper Keys Rec & Open Sp P. A.	17,587	15,235	2,352
13,037	1061	11,926	Middle Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	8411	1,173	7,238
47,581	19,880	27,201	Lower Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	34,628	20,712	13,916
<b>Year 2025 County-wide</b>						
83,018	35,052	47,966	NA	61,724	38,173	23,551
<b>Year 2025 County-wide Population by ROSPA--83,018 Permanent Population; 61,724 Seasonal Population</b>						
			<b>Recreational &amp; Open Space P.A. (unincorporated &amp; cities)</b>			
22,603	14,301	8,302	Upper Keys Rec & Open Sp P. A.	18,017	15,665	2,352
13,015	1,052	11,963	Middle Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	8,487	1,204	7,283
47,400	19,694	27,701	Lower Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	35,220	21,304	13,916
<b>Year 2030 County-wide</b>						
82,684	34,730	47,954	NA	62,724	39,227	23,497
<b>Year 2030 County-wide Population by ROSPA--82,684 Permanent Population; 62,724 Seasonal Population</b>						
			<b>Recreational &amp; Open Space P.A. (unincorporated &amp; cities)</b>			
22,472	14,170	8,302	Upper Keys Rec & Open Sp P. A.	18,447	16,095	2,352
12,993	1,042	11,951	Middle Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	8,465	1,236	7,229
47,219	19,518	27,701	Lower Keys Rec & Open Sp P.A.	35,812	21,896	13,916

## 13.4 Capacity Analysis

This section evaluates the County's present and future ability to meet the LOS standards for resource- and activity-based recreation lands and facilities. The capacity analysis is based on the functional population projections based on the hurricane capacity constraint. The projections for recreational lands and facilities for the year 2010 and subsequent years 2015 through 2030 generally show the recreation needs are adequately provided for, and with the planning suggested in **Section 13.5**, will meet future needs of the functional population of the County. However, it should be cautioned that any surpluses or deficits should not be used as the basis of concurrency planning.

### 13.4.1 Population Calculations 2010 through 2030

In order to analyze current and projected recreation lands and facilities, the reported permanent resident and tourist/seasonal populations for each ROSPA and for the entire County must be adjusted for inclusion of the five incorporated cities in their respective ROSPA. The Villages of Islamorada is in the UKROSPA. The cities of Layton, Marathon and Key Colony Beach are in the MKROSPA. The city of Key West is in the LKROSPA. The best reported or projected permanent residence populations and seasonal populations for each of these cities was added to each year's reported permanent and seasonal populations of the unincorporated County. This information on the cities was obtained, in general, from each city's comprehensive plans, but in 4 of the 5 cities these populations and projection were not complete. Only Key Colony Beach had projections for the years covered under the County's update years of 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025 and 2030. To fill in the missing years, the last reported populations were used to finish out the five reported year sequence. The following summarizes the population information available from the cities:

- Layton: Permanent Population years 2010, 2015 & 2020; Seasonal Population not reported. Permanent Population for 2025 & 2030 is the same as 2020; no seasonal population was used.
- Key Colony Beach: Permanent Population years 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030; Seasonal Population years 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030.
- Islamorada: Permanent Population years 2010, 2015, 2020; Seasonal Population years 2020, 2025, 2030. Both Permanent Population & Seasonal Population for years 2025 & 2030 is the same as 2020.
- Marathon: Permanent Population years 2010, 2015, 2020; Seasonal Population years 2010, 2015, 2020. Both Permanent population and Seasonal Population for years 2025 & 2030 is the same as 2020.
- Key West: Permanent Population years 2010; Seasonal Population years 2010. All years of 2015, 2020, 2025 & 2030 used the same Permanent and Seasonal Populations as 2010.

**Table 13.19 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service (LOS) by ROSPA 2015**

2015 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 37522 (funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 21005(funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 81798(funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 140325(funct. Pop.)		
	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields- 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	12	7.5	4.5	7	4.2	2.8	13	16.4	3.4	32	28.1	3.9
<b>Football/Rugby/ Soccer Fields- 1 Field/6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	1	6.3	<b>(-5.3)</b>	4	3.5	.5	7	13.6	6.6	12	23.4	11.4
<b>Tennis Courts 1 Court/ 2,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	63	18.8	44.2	68	10.5	57.5	50	40.9	9.1	181	70.2	110.8
<b>Equipped Play Areas- 1 Area /10,000 pop.</b>	3	0	3	17	3.8	13.2	14	2.1	11.9	18	8.2	9.8	52	14.0	38.0
<b>Picnic Areas- 1 Area /6,000 pop.</b>	6	0	6	16	6.3	9.7	25	3.5	21.5	27	13.6	13.4	74	23.4	50.6
<b>Sandy Beaches- 1 mi. /100,000 pop.</b>	3 mi 1*	0	3 mi	3 mi 29*	.4 mi	2.6 mi	1 mi 20*	.2 mi	.8 mi	5 mi 30*	.8 mi	4.2 mi	12 mi 80*	1.4 mi	10.6 mi
<b>Basketball Courts- 1 Court /5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	13	7.5	5.5	19	4.2	14.8	23	16.4	6.6	55	28.1	26.9
<b>Volleyball Courts- 1 Court /6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	7	6.3	.7	5	3.5	1.5	7	13.6	<b>6.6</b>	19	23.4	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Racquetball/ Handball Courts- 1 Court/10,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	4	3.8	.2	2	2.1	.1	3	8.2	<b>5.2</b>	9	14.0	<b>5.0</b>
<b>Golf- 9 hole/ 25,000 pop. &amp; 18 hole/50,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	5- 18 hole 10	1.5	8.5	1- 9 hole 1	.8	.2	2- 18 hole 4	3.3	.7	15	5.6	9.4
<b>Swimming Pools- 1 Pool /25,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	43	1.5	41.5	33	.8	32.2	18	3.3	14.7	94	5.6	88.4

**Table 13.19 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service (LOS) by ROSPA 2015 (continued)**

2015 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 37522(funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 21005 (funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 81798(funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 140,325 (funct. Pop.)		
	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.
<b>Boat Ramps- 1</b> Ramp /5,000 pop.	5	0	5	72	7.5	64.5	55	4.2	50.8	30	16.4	13.6	158	28.1	129.9
<b>Bicycling- 1 mi.</b> /5,000 pop.	6 mi 2*	0	6 mi	25 mi 2*	7.5 mi	17.5 mi	40 mi 1*	4.2 mi	35.8 mi	40 mi 1*	16.4 mi	23.6 mi	111 mi. 6*	28.1 mi.	82.9 mi.
<b>Camping Areas- 1</b> ac./6,750 pop.	2	0	2	10	5.6	4.4	12	3.1	8.9	16	12.1	3.9	40	20.8	19.2
<b>Fishing (non- boat)- 800 l.f.</b> /5,650 pop.	4000 5*	0	4000	11000 62*	5312	5688	8500 61*	2976	5524	13700 21*	11600	2100 l.f.	37200 l.f.	19840 l.f.	17360 l.f.
<b>Physical Exercise- 1</b> Course /15,000 pop.	0	0	0	2	2.5	<b>(-.5)</b>	1	1.4	<b>(-.4)</b>	4	5.5	<b>(-1.5)</b>	7	9.4	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Hiking/ Nature Trails- 1 mi.</b> /6,750 pop.	3.3 mi 8*	0	3.3 mi	16 mi 9*	7.5 mi	8.5 mi	3.2 mi 7*	4.2 mi	<b>(-1.0 mi)</b>	15.5 mi 9*	16.4 mi	<b>(-.9 mi)</b>	38.0 mi.	28.1 mi.	9.9 mi.
* represents the number of facilities, not the length deficits shown in <b>(-bold)</b>															
Note: Bicycling, fishing (non-boat), and hiking are estimated miles based on the total miles reported.															
MROSPA = Mainland Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
UKROSPA = Upper Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
MKROSPA = Middle Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
LKOSPA = Lower Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															

**Table 13.20 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service (LOS) by ROSPA 2020**

2020 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 40322(funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 21448(funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 82209(funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 140,979 (funct. Pop.)		
	Exist	LOS	Surp./ Defic	Exist	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist	LOS	Surp./ Defic	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields- 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	12	8.1	3.9	7	4.3	2.7	13	16.4	<b>(-3.4)</b>	32	28.8	3.2
<b>Football/Rugby / Soccer Fields- 1 Field/6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	1	6.7	<b>(-5.7)</b>	4	3.6	.4	7	13.7	<b>(-6.7)</b>	12	24.	<b>12</b>
<b>Tennis Courts 1 Court/ 2,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	63	20.2	42.8	68	10.7	57.3	50	41.1	8.9	181	72.0	109
<b>Equipped Play Areas- 1 Area /10,000 pop.</b>	3	0	3	17	4.	13	14	2.1	11.9	18	8.2	9.8	52	14.4	37.6
<b>Picnic Areas- 1 Area /6,000 pop.</b>	6	0	6	16	6.7	9.3	25	3.6	21.4	27	13.7	13.3	74	24	50
<b>Sandy Beaches- 1 mi. /100,000 pop.</b>	3 mi 1*	0	3 mi	3 mi 29*	.4 mi	2.6 mi	1 mi 20*	.2 mi	.8 mi	5 mi 30*	.8 mi	4.2 mi	12 mi 80*	1.4 mi	10.6 mi
<b>Basketball Courts- 1 Court /5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	13	8.1	4.9	19	4.3	14.7	23	16.4	6.6	55	28.8	26.2
<b>Volleyball Courts- 1 Court /6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	7	6.7	.3	5	3.6	1.4	7	13.7	<b>(-6.7)</b>	19	24	<b>5.0</b>
<b>Racquetball/ Handball Courts- 1 Court/10,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	4	4	0	2	2.1	.1	3	8.2	<b>(-5.2)</b>	9	14.4	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Golf- (9 hole/18 hole)- 1 Course/25,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	5- 18 hole 10	1.6	8.4	1- 9 hole 1	.9	.1	2- 18 hole 4	3.3	.7	15	5.8	9.2
<b>Swimming Pools- 1 Pool /25,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	43	1.6	41.4	33	.8	32.2	18	3.3	14.7	94	5.8	88.2
<b>Boat Ramps- 1 Ramp /5,000 pop.</b>	5	0	5	72	8.1	63.9	55	4.3	50.7	30	16.4	13.6	158	28.8	129.2

**Table 13.20 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service (LOS) by ROSPA 2020 (continued)**

2020 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 40322(funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 21448 (funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 82209(funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 149,979(funct. Pop.)		
	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.
<b>Bicycling-</b> 1 mi. /5,000 pop.	6 mi 2*	0	6 mi	25 mi 2*	8.1 mi	16.9 mi	40 mi 1*	4.3 mi	35.7 mi	40 mi 1*	16.4 mi	23.6 mi	111 mi. 6*	28.8 mi.	82.2 mi.
<b>Camping Areas-</b> 1 ac./6,750 pop.	2	0	2	10	6.	4.	12	3.2	8.8	16	12.2	3.8	40	21.3	18.7
<b>Fishing (non- boat)-</b> 800 l.f. /5,650 pop.	4000 5*	0	4000	11000 62*	5712	5288	8500 61*	3040	5460	13700 21*	11680	2020	37200 l.f.	20400 l.f.	16800 l.f.
<b>Physical Exercise-</b> 1 Course /15,000 pop.	0	0	0	2	2.7	.7	1	1.4	<b>(-.4)</b>	4	5.5	<b>1.5</b>	7	9.6	<b>(-2.6)</b>
<b>Hiking/ Nature Trails-</b> 1 mi. /6,750 pop.	3.3 mi 8*	0	3.3 mi	16 mi 9*	6 mi	10. mi	3.2 mi 7*	3.2 mi	0 mi	15.5 mi 9*	13.2	2.3 mi	38.0 mi.	21.3 mi.	16.7 mi.
* represents the number of facilities, not the length. Deficits shown in <b>(-bold)</b>															
Note: Bicycling, fishing (non-boat), and hiking are estimated miles based on the total miles reported.															
MROSPA = Mainland Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
UKROSPA = Upper Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
MKROSPA = Middle Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
LKOSPA = Lower Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															

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**Table 13.21 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service (LOS) by ROSPA 2025**

2025 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 40620(funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 21502 (funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 82620 (funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 144,242 (funct. Pop.)		
	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields- 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	12	8.1	3.9	7	4.3	2.7	13	16.5	<b>(-3.5)</b>	32	28.8	3.2
<b>Football/Rugby/ Soccer Fields- 1 Field/6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	1	6.8	<b>5.8</b>	4	3.6	.4	7	13.8	<b>(-6.8)</b>	12	24.	<b>12</b>
<b>Tennis Courts 1 Court/ 2,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	63	20.3	42.7	68	10.8	57.2	50	41.3	8.7	181	72.1	108.9
<b>Equipped Play Areas- 1 Area /10,000 pop.</b>	3	0	3	17	4.1	12.9	14	2.2	11.8	18	8.3	9.7	52	14.4	37.6
<b>Picnic Areas- 1 Area /6,000 pop.</b>	6	0	6	16	6.8	9.2	25	3.6	21.4	27	13.8	13.2	74	24	50.
<b>Sandy Beaches- 1 mi. /100,000 pop.</b>	3 mi 1*	0	3 mi	3 mi 29*	.4 mi	2.6 mi	1 mi 20*	.2 mi	.8 mi	5 mi 30*	.8 mi	4.2 mi	12 mi 80*	1.4 mi	10.6mi
<b>Basketball Courts- 1 Court /5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	13	8.1	4.9	19	4.3	14.7	23	16.5	6.5	55	28.8	26.2
<b>Volleyball Courts- 1 Court /6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	7	6.8	.4	5	3.6	<b>(-1.4)</b>	7	13.8	<b>(-6.8)</b>	19	24	<b>5</b>
<b>Racquetball/ Handball Courts- 1 Court/10,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	4	4.1	.1	2	2.2	.2	3	8.3	<b>(-5.3)</b>	9	14.4	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Golf- 9 hole/25,000 pop. &amp; 18 hole/50,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	5- 18 hole 10	1.6	8.4	1- 9 hole 1	.9	.1	2- 18 hole 4	3.3	.7	15	5.8	9.2
<b>Swimming Pools- 1 Pool /25,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	43	1.6	41.4	33	.9	32.1	18	3.3	14.7	94	5.8	88.2
<b>Boat Ramps- 1 Ramp /5,000 pop.</b>	5	0	5	24	8.1	63.9	55	4.3	50.7	30	16.5	13.5	158	28.8	124.2

**Table 13.21 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service (LOS) by ROSPA 2025 (continued)**

2025 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 40620 (funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 21502 (funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 82620 (funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 144,242 (funct. Pop.)			
	Exist	LOS	Surp./ Defic	Exist	LOS	Surp./ Defic	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	
<b>Bicycling- 1</b> mi. /5,000 pop.	6 mi 2*	0	6 mi	25 mi 2*	8.1 mi	16.9 mi	40 mi 1*	4.3 mi	35.7 mi	40 mi 1*	16.5 mi	23.5 mi	111 mi. 6*	28.8 mi.	82.2 mi.	
<b>Camping Areas- 1</b> ac./6,750 pop.	2	0	2	10	6	4	12	3.2	8.8	16	12.2	3.8	40	21.4	18.6	
<b>Fishing (non-boat)-</b> 800 l.f. /5,650 pop.	4000 5*	0	4000	11000 62*	5760	5240	8500 61*	3040	5460	13700 21*	11680	2020	37200 l.f.	20400 l.f.	16800 l.f.	
<b>Physical Exercise- 1</b> Course /15,000 pop.	0	0	0	2	2.7	<b>(-.7)</b>	1	1.4	<b>(-.4)</b>	4	5.5	<b>(-1.5)</b>	7	9.6	<b>2.6</b>	
<b>Hiking/ Nature Trails- 1 mi.</b> /6,750 pop.	3.3 mi 8*	0	3.3 mi	16 mi 9*	6 mi	10 mi	3.2 mi 7*	3.2 mi	0 mi	15.5 mi 9*	12.2	3.3 mi	38.0 mi.	21.4 mi.	16.6 mi.	
* represents the number of facilities, not the length. Deficits shown in <b>(-bold)</b>																
Note: Bicycling, fishing (non-boat), and hiking are estimated miles based on the total miles reported.																
MROSPA = Mainland Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.																
UKROSPA = Upper Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.																
MKROSPA = Middle Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.																
LKOSPA = Lower Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.																

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**Table 13.22 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service (LOS) by ROSPA 2030**

2030 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 60,168 (funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 4,878 (funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 97,571 (funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 162,618 (funct. Pop.)		
	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields- 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	12	8.2	3.8	7	4.3	2.7	13	16.6	<b>(-3.6)</b>	32	29.1	2.9
<b>Football/Rugby/ Soccer Fields- 1 Field/6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	1	6.8	<b>(-5.8)</b>	4	3.6	.4	7	13.8	<b>(-6.8)</b>	12	24.3	<b>12.3</b>
<b>Tennis Courts 1 Court/ 2,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	63	20.5	42.5	68	10.8	57.2	50	41.5	8.5	181	72.8	108.2
<b>Equipped Play Areas- 1 Area /10,000 pop.</b>	3	0	3	17	4.1	12.9	14	2.2	11.8	18	8.3	9.7	52	14.6	37.4
<b>Picnic Areas- 1 Area /6,000 pop.</b>	6	0	6	16	6.8	9.2	25	3.6	21.4	27	13.8	13.2	74	24.3	49.7
<b>Sandy Beaches- 1 mi. /100,000 pop.</b>	3 mi 1*	0	3 mi	3 mi 29*	.4 mi	2.6 mi	1 mi 20*	.2 mi	.8 mi	5 mi 30*	.83 mi	4.2 mi	12 mi 80*	4.2 mi	7.8 mi
<b>Basketball Courts- 1 Court /5,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	13	8.2	4.8	19	4.3	14.7	23	16.6	6.4	55	29.1	25.9
<b>Volleyball Courts- 1 Court /6,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	7	6.8	.2	5	3.6	1.4	7	13.8	<b>(-6.8)</b>	19	24.3	<b>5.3</b>
<b>Racquetball/ Handball Courts- 1 Court/10,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	4	4.1	.1	2	2.2	.2	3	8.3	<b>(-5.3)</b>	9	14.6	<b>5.6</b>
<b>Golf- 9 hole/25,000 pop. &amp; 18 hole/50,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	5- 18 hole 10	1.6	8.4	1- 9 hole 1	.86	<b>(-.1)</b>	2- 18 hole 4	3.3	.7	15	5.8	9.2
<b>Swimming Pools- 1 Pool /25,000 pop.</b>	0	0	0	43	1.6	41.4	33	.9	32.1	18	3.3	14.7	94	5.8	88.2
<b>Boat Ramps- 1 Ramp /5,000 pop.</b>	5	0	5	72	8.2	63.8	55	4.3	50.7	30	16.6	13.4	158	29.1	128.9

**Table 13.22 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of service (LOS) by ROSPA 2030 (continued)**

2030 Facilities & Level of Service	MROSPA 0 (funct. Pop)			UKROSPA 40919 (funct. Pop.)			MKROSPA 21558 (funct. Pop.)			LKROSPA 83031 (funct. Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 145,508 (funct. Pop.)		
	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./ Defic.
<b>Bicycling-</b> 1 mi. /5,000 pop.	6 mi 2*	0	6 mi	25 mi 2*	8.2	16.8 mi	40 mi 1*	4.3 mi	35.7 mi	40 mi 1*	16.6 mi	23.4 mi	111 mi. 6*	29.1 mi.	81.9 mi.
<b>Camping Areas-</b> 1 ac./6,750 pop.	2	0	2	10	6.1	3.9	12	3.7	8.8	16	12.3	3.7	40	21.6	18.4
<b>Fishing (non-boat)-</b> 800 l.f. /5,650 pop.	4000 5*	0	4000	11000 62*	5792	5208	8500 61*	3040	5460	13700 21*	11760	1940	37200 l.f.	20640 l.f.	16560 l.f.
<b>Physical Exercise-</b> 1 Course /15,000 pop.	0	0	0	2	2.7	<b>(-.7)</b>	1	1.4	<b>(-.4)</b>	4	5.5	<b>(-1.5)</b>	7	9.7	<b>2.7</b>
<b>Hiking/ Nature Trails-</b> 1 mi. /6,750 pop.	3.3 mi 8*	0	3.3 mi	16 mi 9*	6.1mi	9.9 mi	3.2 mi 7*	3.2 mi	0 mi	15.5 mi 9*	12.3 mi	3.2 mi	38.0 mi.	21.6 mi.	16.4 mi.
* represents the number of facilities, not the length. Deficits shown in <b>(-bold)</b>															
Note: Bicycling, fishing (non-boat), and hiking are estimated miles based on the total miles reported.															
MROSPA = Mainland Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
UKROSPA = Upper Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
MKROSPA = Middle Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															
LKROSPA = Lower Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.															

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**Table 13.23 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service (LOS) by ROSPA 2010 - 2030 (Permanent Resident Population Only)**

2010	MROSPA 0 (resident Pop)			UKROSPA 22,432 (resident Pop.)			MKROSPA 12,591 (resident Pop.)			LKROSPA 47,578 (resident Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 82,601(resident Pop.)		
	Facilities & Level of Service	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields-</b> 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.	0	0	0	12	4.5	7.5	7	2.5	4.5	13	9.5	3.5	32	16.5	15.5
<b>Football/Rugby/Soccer Fields-</b> 1 Field /6,000 pop.	3	0	3	1	3.7	<b>(-2.7)</b>	4	2.1	1.9	7	7.9	<b>(-9)</b>	12	13.8	<b>(-1.8)</b>

2015	MROSPA 0 (resident Pop)			UKROSPA 22,716 (resident Pop.)			MKROSPA 12,610 (resident Pop.)			LKROSPA 47,762 (resident Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 83,088 (resident Pop.)		
	Facilities & Level of Service	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields-</b> 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.	0	0	0	12	4.5	7.5	7	2.5	4.5	13	9.6	3.4	32	16.6	15.4
<b>Football/Rugby/Soccer Fields-</b> 1 Field /6,000 pop.	3	0	3	1	3.8	<b>(-2.2)</b>	4	2.1	1.9	7	8.0	<b>(-1)</b>	12	13.8	<b>(-1.8)</b>

2020	MROSPA 0 (resident Pop)			UKROSPA 22,735 (resident Pop.)			MKROSPA 13,037 (resident Pop.)			LKROSPA 47,581 (resident Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 83,353 (resident Pop.)		
	Facilities & Level of Service	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields-</b> 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.	0	0	0	12	4.5	7.5	7	2.6	4.4	13	9.5	3.5	32	17.7	14.3
<b>Football/Rugby/Soccer Fields-</b> 1 Field /6,000 pop.	3	0	3	1	3.8	<b>(-2.8)</b>	4	2.2	1.8	7	7.9	<b>(-9)</b>	12	14.7	<b>(-2.7)</b>

**Table 13.23 – Recreation Facilities (activity-based) and Level of Service (LOS) by ROSPA 2010 - 2030 (Permanent Resident Population Only) (continued)**

2025	MROSPA 0 (resident Pop)			UKROSPA 28,956 (resident Pop.)			MKROSPA 2,286 (resident Pop.)			LKROSPA 44,958 (resident Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 76,200 (resident Pop.)		
	Facilities & Level of Service	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields-</b> 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.	0	0	0	12	4.5	7.5	7	2.6	4.4	13	9.5	3.5	32	16.6	15.4
<b>Football/Rugby/Soccer Fields-</b> 1 Field /6,000 pop.	3	0	3	1	3.8	<b>(-2.8)</b>	4	2.2	1.8	7	7.9	<b>(-9)</b>	12	13.8	<b>(-1.8)</b>

2030	MROSPA 0 (resident Pop)			UKROSPA 27,935 (resident Pop.)			MKROSPA 2,265 (resident Pop.)			LKROSPA 45,300 (resident Pop.)			MONROE CTY. 75,500 (resident Pop.)		
	Facilities & Level of Service	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS	Surp./Defic.	Exist.	LOS
<b>Baseball/Softball Fields-</b> 1 Field/ 5,000 pop.	0	0	0	12	4.5	7.5	7	2.6	4.4	13	9.4	3.6	32	16.5	15.5
<b>Football/Rugby/Soccer Fields-</b> 1 Field /6,000 pop.	3	0	3	1	3.7	<b>(-2.7)</b>	4	2.2	1.8	7	7.9	<b>(-9)</b>	12	13.8	<b>(-1.8)</b>

MROSPA = Mainland Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.

UKROSPA = Upper Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.

MKROSPA = Middle Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.

LKROSPA = Lower Keys Recreation and Open Space Planning Area.

### 13.4.2 Resource-Based Recreation Lands and Projections

There are approximately 10,900 acres of resource-based recreation lands currently available in the County for public use. Using the 2010 functional population of 138,803 (which includes the five incorporated cities) and the LOS standard of 1.5 acres/1,000 functional population, the current demand for resource-based recreation lands would be approximately 208.2 acres. This is the adopted LOS standard of the County which is ½ of the 3.0 acres/1,000 functional population allocated, combined for resource-based and activity-based recreation lands. Since the total existing acres of resource-based recreation lands provided in the County is 10,900, there is currently an extreme surplus of resource-based recreation lands of over 10,690 acres.

The current and projected ability to meet the proposed LOS standard for resource-based recreation lands are shown in **Table 13.16**. This surplus only drops to 10,682 acres by the year 2030, if no new acres are added to the totals. Based on population projections, the functional population of the County is expected to increase to 145,508 by 2030. Even assuming no additional acquisitions of resource-based recreation lands, there is sufficient resource-based recreation lands in the County through the year 2030. It should be noted that due to the extensive amount of federal- and state-owned conservation lands in the County which offer resource-based recreation opportunities, the provision of additional resource-based recreation lands is not considered to be of concern. Stated another way, there are approximately 78.5 acres of resource-based recreation lands per 1,000 population in the County in 2010.

### 13.4.3 *Activity-Based Recreation Lands and Projections*

There are currently approximately 434 acres of activity-based recreation lands in the County available to the public. Based upon the 2010 functional population of 138,803 and the LOS standard of 1.5 acres/1,000 functional population, the current demand for activity-based recreation lands is 208.26 acres county-wide and approximately 93 acres in the Upper Keys, 135 acres in the Middle Keys, and 203 acres in the Lower Keys. **Table 13.17** lists the LOS demands by ROSPA and county-wide for the year 2010 and the subsequent years of 2015, 2020, 2025, and 2030.

Since there is a total of 434 acres of activity-based neighborhood, community and all other recreation park lands currently provided in the County, this results in a surplus of approximately 225 acres for the year 2010. With the functional population expanding to 145,508 by the year 2030, the surplus of activity-based recreation lands is maintained and only drops to 215 acres in the year 2030. **Table 13.17** shows that there is a surplus in all ROSPA'S from 2010 thru 2030.

The projected future ability to meet the LOS standards for activity-based recreation lands as shown in **Table 13.17** indicates that even if no new lands were acquired by the County through 2030, activity-based LOS is met.

### 13.4.4 *Recreation Facilities Projections*

The existing and future LOS standards for specific recreation facilities are shown in **Tables 13.15, 13.19, 13.20, 13.21, and 13.22**. **Table 13.15** shows the activity-based recreation facilities inventoried current for the year 2010. All of the tables show surpluses in all 17 facilities, except for five specific cases which are noted in the discussions below. The numbers for these facilities (and lengths as appropriate) represent the actual facilities and lengths. No proposed facilities were included.

Each of the 17 recreation facilities are discussed below along with specific problems and criteria used in the inventory of those facilities. All the calculations were based on functional population projections which included the incorporated cities. Since these

facilities may be found on either public or private land, the inventory includes all such facilities that could be accurately located. Additionally, the facilities may occur on conservation or recreation lands and on either resource-based or activity-based lands also, and therefore were included.

Some facilities such as swimming pools, picnic areas, and play equipment areas are very difficult to inventory for the entire County, therefore the list is not all inclusive. Other facilities inventoried such as golf courses, tennis courts, and ball fields are complete. Facilities such as hiking/nature trails, fishing (non-boat), and sandy beaches are difficult to measure because the LOS is in length of the facility. Therefore, these latter facilities are a conservative measurement.

Finally, the few deficits that do occur (shaded cells) are discussed with each facility section from a practical and County-specific point of view. In the cases of the baseball/softball fields and football/rugby, soccer fields, an additional table has been added based upon LOS for permanent resident population only (see **Table 13.23**).

#### 13.4.4.1 Baseball and Softball Fields

Baseball and softball fields, as activity-based recreation facilities, take up a larger land area than any of the other 17 reported facilities with the exceptions of golf courses, football, rugby, and soccer fields. These fields draw from a larger service area population than many of the other 14 reported recreation facilities. In 2010 there is a deficit of 3.3 fields in the LKROSPA which increases to 3.6 fields in 2030. From the same period of 2010 to 2030 the MDROSPA has a surplus of 2.9 to 2.7 fields; almost the equivalent. Since baseball and softball are facilities that are used by populations outside of the immediate areas, these deficits might be considered to be mitigated as travel from the Middle Keys to the Lower Keys is within reasonable driving distances.

The deficits shown in the LKROSPA is not significant in that these types of facilities, as team and spectator sports, draw from a larger population and geographic area than just the ROSPA in which they are located. Additionally, these recreation facilities cater more to permanent resident populations than the seasonal population, (largely tourists), which represent approximately 40% of the functional population. Tourists and seasonal visitors are less likely to attend or participate in these team-oriented sports; therefore, the true need for this deficit facilities would be reduced. **Table 13.23** shows the LOS standards applied by ROSPA and county-wide for baseball/softball fields if only the permanent resident population is used as the basis for calculations. A surplus of fields occurs in all ROSPA and county-wide in 2010 and through 2030.

#### 13.4.4.2 Football, Rugby, and Soccer Fields

These three field-type recreation facilities are usually designed to overlap the same play areas as they are approximately the same size and shapes. As with baseball and softball, these facilities take larger portions of recreation lands, and require, as team and spectator sports, more land for parking and associated uses such as concessions. On a county-wide

basis, there is a deficit for these facilities of over 12 fields in 2010. Here again, the deficits by the ROSPA is in the Upper Keys with 5.8 and the Lower Keys with 6.8. The tourist and seasonal populations of each of these ROSPA will also not be the primary users of these facilities, and as in the above review of baseball/softball fields, they are less-likely to attend or participate in these types of team-oriented sports. Here the deficit will only partially be mitigated by this fact due to the overall larger deficit shown. **Table 13.23** has also shown these fields with a LOS standard based on only the permanent resident population and again the deficits are change to 2.7, .9, and 1.8 for overall County for the year 2010 and through 2030. The deficit of between 2 and 3 fields in the UKROSPA can be somewhat compensated by the almost 2 field surplus in the MKROSPA. Because of the regional character in the resident population attending these field events, it might be expected that 2 of the fields in the UKROSPA could be compensated by the almost 2 surplus fields in the MKROSPA. In like manner the 1 field deficit in the LKROSPA could be compensated by the surplus in the MKROSPA, but not both deficits; UKROSPA and LKROSPA.

#### 13.4.4.3 Tennis Courts

Tennis courts, as presented in this update, show an extreme surplus in 2010 for the entire County and in each of the ROSPA. The majority of the inventoried courts county-wide are owned by private businesses such as camp grounds, resorts and hotels. All of the surplus facilities will remain through the year 2030. The accuracy of the count of courts was obtained through aerial review and may not be all inclusive, however with the surpluses as shown the guidelines are well-met. SCORP 2008 guidelines do not allow for the counting of racquetball/handball courts as tennis facilities and these courts were not double counted.

#### 13.4.4.4 Equipped Play Areas

The SCORP 2008 guidelines do not define the size or amount of equipment needed for these facilities. For this update, any play area with any amount of children's play equipment was counted in the inventory. The majority of the play areas are actually on private camping areas, resorts, and hotels, but these are limited in the size and the children's age groups covered by the equipment. The play areas in the public parks usually have a more extensive area for this play equipment and have been designed for all ages of children's play. There is a surplus of these facilities in each of the ROSPA for 2010 and that surplus continues through 2030.

#### 13.4.4.5 Picnic Areas

As in the equipped play areas, SCORP 2008 guidelines do not define how large a picnic area, number of tables, or quantity of any other furnishings (such as barbeques, trash receptacles, etc.) are needed to qualify under this facility type. Therefore, for this update, any facility that has a picnic table and is called out as such in advertising or on-site designation was counted in the inventory. A surplus of these facilities was noted for 2010 and that surplus remains through 2030.

13.4.4.6 Sandy Beaches

The State of Florida SCORP 2008 uses the term “Sandy Beaches” as the category for this recreation facility. In the County, beaches are physically of two different types. The natural beaches are generally not “sandy” but are composed of crushed shell ground by the wave action of Atlantic and the Gulf. The second type is a natural beach which has been enhanced and maintained with sand for the enjoyment of the permanent residents and seasonal populations. Both of these types are included in this facility category as existing and for LOS calculations. Of the 28 beaches reported in **Table 13.13** and **Table 13.5**, 14 are the enhanced sand beaches. Additionally, although 28 beaches are reported in this update, many of the beach sites actually have multiple beaches and some sites, such as John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park have both natural and enhanced beaches at the same location.

13.4.4.7 Basketball Courts

**Table 13.15** indicates that there is an overall county-wide surplus of basketball courts. The SCORP 2008 guidelines do not say whether indoor courts should be counted; therefore, the few indoor courts (mostly in the schools) have not been counted in the 2010 existing inventory. To a certain extent, these indoor courts provide the same recreation facilities, at least for the permanent resident population, as the outdoor courts and consequently, the surplus for basketball courts is slightly higher in all ROSPA.

13.4.4.8 Volleyball Courts

There is an overall county-wide deficit of a little over 4 volleyball courts for 2010. The LKROSPA shows a deficit of 6.5 courts. The split in deficits between the LKROSPA and the overall County remains relatively the same through 2030. Volleyball is a unique recreation facility in that it can be played on grass or sand and that it does not have to have a defined permanent court upon which to be played. It is also different in that many players bring their own net and ball and can set up in any sized open area of at least 60 feet by 100 feet. The inventory of volleyball for 2010 only counted advertised or site delineated areas; therefore, the number of facilities inventoried is estimated to be under the actual total sites. The inventory also does not include indoor facilities for volleyball; both of these factors would mitigate this deficit in volleyball facilities.

13.4.4.9 Racquetball and Handball Courts

There is a deficit in the racquetball/handball court facilities of almost 5 courts County-wide for 2010. This also includes paddleball as a compatible sport which uses the same court layout. There is a deficit of 5-6 courts county-wide countywide through 2030 primarily deficit in the LKROSPA. These walled courts are often used as practice courts for one or two tennis players when tennis courts are not available (see Section 13.4.4.3 above). By the year 2030, the deficit in racquetball/handball/paddleball courts shows slight deficits in UKROSPA, MKROSPA and an increase to the 6 courts in the LKROSPA.

13.4.4.10 Golf Courses

A golf course services a population of 25,000 (9 hole) or 50,000 (18 hole). This population is truly split between permanent residents, tourists, and seasonal patrons. A golf course generally is either a 9 hole course or an 18 hole course, although there are some courses of a lesser number of holes (Cheeca Lodge for example). There also may be some single holes on private or public property as well as some stand-alone putting greens. The latter were not inventoried nor were the “miniature golf” courses in the County. For this update, the LOS of 25,000 population was used for the 9 hole courses and the 18 hole courses were counted as 2 courses at the LOS of 25,000. Using this method of converting the two courses to the LOS standard of the one 9 hole, the inventory of the existing facilities for 2010 shows a surplus for all ROSPA through the 2030 year. County-wide there is also shown a surplus using this calculation through the year 2030. All of the golf courses in the County are owned-privately, but both permanent residents and tourist and seasonal populations have access to these courses through guest privileges and greens fees.

13.4.4.11 Swimming Pools

An inventory of all swimming pools in the County would require extensive field work, aerial interpretation and searches of the tax roles. There are many private residences that have swimming pools as well as camping, resort and hotel sites and a few of the public parks. If a resort advertised “swimming” in a portion of the Bay or Ocean, it was not counted in this inventory. The 2010 inventory shows surpluses in each of the ROSPA and the overall County. This inventory surplus is maintained through the year 2030. It should also be noted that all of the functional population of the County has direct access to swimming in the numerous waters of the Gulf and Atlantic, many sounds, bights, canals and estuaries.

13.4.4.12 Boat Ramps

Per the SCORP 2008 guidelines, there is a large surplus of boat ramps for the overall County and for each of the ROSPA, especially in the Middle Keys. However, the residents of the County feel that there are not enough boat ramps as witnessed by the long lines to use these facilities at times. The majority of the boat ramps in the County are stand-alone, single ramps. Excluding the area needed for accessory facilities to the boat ramp, such as parking and dock space, to double or triple the ramps at any one site would only require a few thousand square feet of land area.

13.4.4.13 Bicycling

The existing inventory of miles of bicycle trails in the County for 2010 shows a surplus in all ROSPA. The existing and planned bicycle trails for the Keys, including the Overseas Heritage Trail, accounts for well over 100 miles of trails. All plans by FDOT, both current and future, for the major US 1 highway includes bike lanes. Additionally, all of the larger parks and Federal and State conservation areas have bike trails within their sites. Although the actual miles inventoried for each ROSPA may be a professional estimate, the large surplus shown, indicates that these facilities LOS are met through 2030.

#### 13.4.4.14 Camping

For the 2010 update the camping facilities show a surplus for the overall County. After 2010, through 2030 there is a surplus in camping facilities. However, the SCORP 2008 does not define camping or camping areas as to the size (the number of sites that represent a “camp area” for LOS calculations). In the UPROSPA there are large conservation areas where one reported camp area may have three to four times as many sites as smaller areas of a few sites in another ROSPA or compared to state-wide averages. Additionally, SCORP 2008 does not define camping as to many of the types of “travel trailer” businesses in the Keys. For this inventory, these latter businesses which were often advertised as “resorts”, were not counted towards meeting the LOS standard, unless they are specifically advertised as “camping” facilities.

#### 13.4.4.15 Fishing (non-boat)

This recreational facility type could include many categories of physical facilities, especially as it relates to the unique geography and resources of the Keys. For example, for the 2010 inventory, marinas were not included in this facility type unless it was advertised as having fishing. But in general, fishing could be accomplished from any dockage, seawall or jetty that was used for the marina. Any site that advertised fishing, a dock, a pier, or other type of physical structure to fish from was included in this facility type and then an attempt to measure the length was made. In some of the natural areas, there are boardwalks over the water, but they were excluded unless advertised as fishing places. In like manner, beaches offer the opportunity for fishing, but were excluded from the count unless advertised as “fishing permitted”. Private docks and fishing piers were excluded from the inventory due to the difficulty to measure without extensive field work. The overall County does show a surplus in length of fishing non-boat facilities through 2030.

#### 13.4.4.16 Physical Exercise Courses

In this facility type, the 2010 inventory indicates a deficit of over 2 courses for the County overall and additional deficits in all the ROSPA through 2030. In the SCORP 2008 guidelines, these courses are not defined as to physical facilities contained in the courses, but are generally shown by example as being a path or trail with exercise stations along the path or trail. These are the types of facilities that were inventoried; however, the County has an abundance of hiking and nature trails, boardwalks, fishing piers, and even bike trails that offer physical exercise without the actual stations for exercise. In urban areas, where the possibility for having these four latter type facilities are limited, then exercise courses supplied with stations allow for the needed exercise recreational activity. However as in the County, where these other hiking and nature trails, fishing, bike trails, and boardwalks exist, the deficit shown in these courses would be mitigated.

#### 13.4.4.17 Hiking and Nature Trails

In the SCORP 2008 guidelines, these two facilities are separate but have the same LOS per functional population. For the County, they have been combined as the sites within the County lend themselves to both classifications. The SCORP 2008 does not define either trail type as to a minimum length, surface material, or as to the kinds of experiences the user has on the trail to differentiate between the two. Only a few of the actual trails in the County are over one mile long, and many are only a few hundred feet in length due to the narrow geographic land areas along the Keys. Reported boardwalks were not included in this facility inventory as a separate facility. Boardwalks in the County usually are located in natural areas or on the edges of the natural water bodies and as such could be counted as either a nature trail type facility or as a fishing (non-boat) facility. The Overseas Heritage Trail is both a hiking trail and a bike trail and there are many converted old bridges and catwalks that are used for hiking, water and wildlife observation, and, of course, fishing (see **Table 13.6**). Both the individual ROSPA and the overall County show surpluses in miles of trails for 2010 and through 2030.

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## 13.5 Recreation and Open Space Planning

Recreation and open space planning in the County is currently undertaken by the Division of Growth Management and by the Division of Public Works. The 1986 Comprehensive Plan recommended creation of a Parks and Recreation Department; this recommendation was echoed in the 1990 update to the Comprehensive Plan. This department was created in 1990, but funding and staffing for this department was never provided. The County currently has a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board which reports to the County Commission and works with both Growth Management and Public Works Divisions.

The 1990 update recommended preparation of a *Monroe County Parks and Recreation Master Plan* along with a *Parks and Recreation Management and Maintenance Master Plan*. These two plans were never created or implemented after the 1990 update. However, in 2005 the County did create a *Draft 2005 Monroe County Parks and Recreation Master Plan* (MCPRMP). The draft 2005 document was updated in March of 2010 and still remains in draft form. The initial surveys conducted with the residents of the County were not part of the update and the responses are five years out-of-date. This “final draft” of the document was submitted to the County for review and adoption, but has not been adopted as of March 2011.

Additionally, as of March 2011, there is no funded and/or staffed Parks and Recreation Department, and without a final adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan or a Parks and Recreation Management and Maintenance Master Plan, there are no documents to aid or guide in recreation and open space planning efforts.

### 13.5.1 *Development of Recreation Lands and Facilities*

As identified in **Section 13.3**, there is currently no shortage of lands in the County for either conservation or recreation uses. This will hold through the year 2030, providing the functional population projections remain approximately as shown in the tables provided herein. As noted earlier, projecting acquisitions based upon the specific categories of park lands (mini, neighborhood, community, and regional), do not work well with the geographic configuration of the County, nor does it accurately reflect the demographics of the County. Slight deficits do appear however within individual ROSPAs in the LOS projection of certain recreation facilities such as football, rugby, soccer, baseball, softball fields, volleyball courts, racquetball, handball courts, and physical exercise courses. These deficits are shown in bold in **Tables 13.19, 13.20, 13.21, 13.22 and 13.23** and are discussed in detail in **Section 13.4.4**.

The draft 2005 MCPRMP specifies that the existing facilities in the County are in need of improvements and in some cases renovation, in order to provide the best opportunities to the County’s functional population thorough 2030. Since Rule 9J-5 F.A.C. (the “Rule”) only addresses recreation lands by general definition such as Community Park and Neighborhood Park, the ORF 2008 guidelines are appropriate for comparison for acreage LOS. The Rule does address facilities but only those requiring public access such as beaches, boat ramps and marinas, but again without establishing LOS standards. **Tables**

**13.19, 13.20, 13.21, and 13.22** clearly show the County has a surplus of those types of facilities.

Section 163.3177 F.S. requires each jurisdiction in the State to prepare "...a recreation and open space element indicating a comprehensive system of public and private sites for recreation, including, but not limited to, natural reservations, parks and playgrounds, parkways, beaches and public access to beaches, open spaces, waterways, and other recreation facilities." Here also there is no established LOS standard; therefore, the ORF 2008 seems appropriate as a measurement. . The County has currently met all recreational and open space land criteria and, due to the population projections through 2030, will continue to meet those LOS standards.

Since there is a county-wide surplus in the categories of recreation lands, at this time, it does not seem appropriate to provide an extensive plan for increased county-wide resource-based land acquisitions. Therefore, in order to provide adequate recreation opportunities for the County's functional population through 2030, the County should focus upon the deficiencies identified in facilities and provide for a program continuing improvements to existing lands and facilities. To accomplish this, a complete program for addressing recreation lands and facilities should be implemented through the following mechanisms:

- Development of additional facilities on land which is already owned by the County, but is not currently being used for park and recreation purposes;
- Acquisition of new recreation sites should be on a very limited basis, with a focus upon the Upper Keys ROSPA;
- Provide inter-local agreements with the MCSD for use and development of existing school-based recreation facilities by the County functional population;
- Provide inter-local agreements with incorporated cities within the County for use of existing city-owned park facilities by the County functional population;
- Provide inter-local agreements with agencies of the State and Federal governments for adding County financed recreational facilities (specifically activity-based) on those lands. This will expand the activity-based facilities in the County without the County having to acquire additional lands;
- Provide long-term lease arrangements or joint use agreements with private entities for use of private recreation facilities by the County functional population;
- Adopt the draft 2005 MCPRMP and fully update the information so it can be used as a guide for the County lands and facilities planning;
- Create and implement a Monroe County Parks and Recreation Management and Maintenance Master Plan for recreation lands and facilities;
- Coordinate between the Growth Management Department, the Publix works Division and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to implement the two master plans; and
- Complete a current County-wide user survey to determine the functional population's wishes for recreational lands and facilities. This should include or be accompanied with a public information program to allow the population to understand the quantity and status of the recreation lands and facilities within the County.

The County does have two inter-local agreements with two of the school sites and others for park facilities with the incorporated cities. Completing these agreements with the cities and the MCSD should be an important component of the County's Parks and Recreation programs. Also, without implementing all of the above steps, any acquisitions or construction of facilities might be incorrectly allocating public funds.

### 13.5.1.1 Planning for Recreation and Open Space Lands and Facilities

The first step, before any acquisition or development of land to address the County's land or facility needs, is to identify potential sites for land acquisitions and for facilities construction within the County for all types of recreation uses. Activity-based and resource-based recreation lands have different size and location criteria due to the different programming and management requirements. As previously shown in **Tables 13.12 and 13.17**, there are no deficits in either activity-based lands or resource-based lands. The County still has the responsibility for land acquisition and for providing facilities for the 2 unincorporated cities of Key Largo and Tavernier and the large development of Ocean Reef. But by comparison, in the Middle and Lower Keys ROSPA, the five incorporated cities contribute approximately 65 percent of the activity-based land area but represent only 56 percent of the functional population. For the overall County, no new activity-based lands or resource-based lands are needed except as to meet the physical site requirements of specific recreational facilities deficits.

#### 13.5.1.1.1 Activity-based Lands and Facilities

In the categories of activity-based lands and facilities, the following criteria should be used to identify potential recreation lands to accommodate the deficits for these facilities:

- Priority should be given to areas that are not currently well served in either resource-based or activity-based lands;
- Priority should be given to lands that contain facilities that are at the end of their "life-cycle", or facilities that currently show a deficit in the activity-based facilities;
- Priority should be given to large land areas when available. However, due to the limited amount of available land, land costs, limited County budgets for facility development and the dispersed nature of the County population, several smaller parks of between 1 and 6 acres are more likely probable than large parks of over 10 acres in size; and
- Priority should be given to land which is already disturbed or has scarified vegetation in order to avoid disturbing environmentally sensitive lands or habitats.

#### 13.5.1.1.2 Resource-based Lands

A comparison of **Tables 13.12 and 13.16** for resource-based lands indicates a large surplus of land in all the ROSPAs. This is somewhat misleading in that almost of these surplus lands are in the category of "beaches" and those beaches are primarily Federal and State owned. In removing the Federal and State owned beaches from the resource-based lands in **Table 13.16**, approximately 250 acres of resource-based lands remain. Although this would still result in a slight surplus in resource-based lands, it does show

some areas of the County that are not currently well-served by resource-based recreation lands. However, when deciding upon future resource-based land acquisitions, the County should consider the following:

- Priority should be given to lands containing naturally occurring and native habitats;
- Priority should be given to lands which enhance public access to the shoreline and water-dependent uses, such as beaches, marinas, docks and lands containing habitat critical to, or providing significant protection for, species designated as threatened or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the State of Florida;
- Priority should be given to lands containing unique geologic features;
- Priority should be given to lands whose conservation would enhance or protect water quality or would protect fish, wildlife or vegetative habitat; especially those which cannot be adequately protected through State and Federal regulatory programs; and
- Priority should be given to lands which offer the opportunity for preservation of significant archaeological or historical sites.

The identification of potential lands and sites in either resource-based or activity-based categories should be undertaken as a internal project of the Parks and Recreation Department of the County, if that department has been created, staffed and funded. If this is not a possibility, then an outside consulting firm could be contracted for this work. This first step should be undertaken and continually updated as part of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan programs even if funding for acquisitions of new lands is not contemplated under any budgetary period.

### *13.5.2 Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Park Management Plan*

Although the County currently owns many recreation sites, as previously noted, the County does not currently have an adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan (only a draft 2005 plan that did include some updates in 2010, but still remains in draft form) or a Parks and Recreation Management and Maintenance Master Plan for these recreation lands. The County does provide for facility planning within existing parks and for park maintenance and management as the need arises through the Division of Public Works. However, the adoption of both the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and creation of a Parks and Recreation Management and Maintenance Master Plan would best serve the County in the future with respect to all recreational and open space sites.

#### 13.5.2.1 Monroe County Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2005 (draft)

The draft 2005 Parks and Recreation Master Plan (MCPRMP), with some updates in March of 2010, still remains in draft form. This draft document addresses much of the recreation lands and facilities issues previous discussed in this element. As of December 2010, the draft MCPRMP has not been adopted by the County BOCC and the draft copy contains information that is three to five years out-of-date. Also, the plan was prepared with the input from 3 workshops with the residents and a mailed survey throughout the County in 2004. The workshops and would of course not be valid for the current update. The draft MCPRMP was well prepared and comprehensive and is a key factor in any of the County's

plans for recreation acquisitions, development, and planning. Therefore, it is critical that the County update instigate a new survey and workshops for the MCPRMP update as necessary and adopt the plan in final form with the upgrades to the database and the findings in that plan.

### 13.5.2.2 Monroe County Parks and Recreation Master Maintenance and Management Plan

Maintenance and management is currently handled at a County staff level and only for specific parks and recreation facilities sites. The County should undertake the development of a Parks and Recreation Management and Maintenance Master Plan. When completed, this plan should evaluate and incorporate, among other factors, the following:

- Proper management techniques consistent with the updated elements of Future Land Use, Recreation and Open Space, Historic Sites, and Conservation and Coastal Management;
- Restoration of disturbed wetland areas;
- The removal of exotic species;
- Regular evaluation of recreation sites and facilities including equipment, planting and maintenance of native species; and
- General maintenance requirements and costs.

As noted above, the County's maintenance and management duties for the recreation lands and facilities are currently being handled under the Division of Public Works. If a separate Parks and Recreation Department is created, it would be advantageous to have maintenance and management handled through that department.

### *13.5.3 Recreation Capital Improvements and Acquisitions*

#### 13.5.3.1 Acquisitions and Capital Improvement Costs and Schedules

As identified in **Table 13.17**, there is currently (2010) a surplus of activity-based recreation lands for all the ROSPA. This is based on the FDNR, ORF 2008 LOS guidelines. For the overall County, there is no deficit and actually there is a 225 acre surplus. All the County's ROSPA show surpluses in activity-based recreation lands through the year 2030. Activity-based facilities and activity-based recreation lands are not subject to the concurrency requirements mandated in the Rule for park lands; thus the County is not required to address any deficits that occur. However, if desired, priority for any land acquisition should be given to the Upper Keys ROSPA as the surpluses based on current population projections indicate only an approximate 30 acre surplus through the year 2030.

However, for FY 2010, a deficit occurs in some of the recreation activity-based facilities across the County; specifically in the categories of baseball/softball fields, football/rugby/soccer fields, volleyball courts, racquetball/handball courts, and physical exercise courses. These deficits are comparable to those enumerated in the draft MCRPMP, which uses the same LOS population standards and the slight differences occur because the draft MCRPMP is calculated on the County's unincorporated population only.

These deficits are shown in **(-bold)** in **Table 13.15**, and are listed below for clarity:

- Baseball/Softball fields: 3.3 fields in the Lower Keys; no deficit in the overall County;
- Football/Rugby/Soccer fields: 5.2 fields in the Upper Keys and 6.5 fields in the Lower Keys; 11.1 overall County deficit;
- Volleyball Courts: 6.5 courts in the Lower Keys; 4.1 courts overall County deficit;
- Racquetball/Handball courts: courts in the Middle Keys and 5.1 courts in the Lower Keys; 4.9 court overall County deficit; and
- Physical Exercise courses: .5 courses in the Upper Keys, .4 courses in the Middle Keys and 1.4 courses in the Lower Keys; 2.3 courses overall County deficit.

In **Sections 13.4.4.1 and 13.4.4.2**, the deficits shown for baseball/softball and football/rugby/soccer respectively are discussed in terms of the County's population make-up. When considering that the County has such a high seasonal population, using the permanent population only is more realistic for these types of facilities. **Table 13.23** illustrates that these deficits for these two categories disappear when these recreation facilities are calculated on resident population only.

The other three recreation facilities categories deficits in 2010 are volleyball courts, racquetball/handball courts, and physical exercise courses. The draft MCRPMP indicates that the deficits for these facilities are considerably less, however when noting that those calculations are based on the unincorporated functional population only, it indicates that the majority of the deficit lies in the incorporated cities recreational facilities. These deficits are however a fairly inexpensive to build, and are also small in land area coverage. Therefore, the County could easily reduce or eliminate these deficits by adding these facilities to existing recreational lands.

For example, the County has a surplus of bike trails, nature trails, hiking trails, school tracks, and boardwalks. Exercise courses could be added to those existing facilities to make up the deficits. Another example is that the County has many miles of beaches. Volleyball Courts are sand facilities that uses only about 60' x 100' of that beach sand. These facilities could be added to almost all of the County's and cities beaches to eliminate the deficits. Finally, racquetball/handball courts are each about 25' x 60' and usually built in pairs or in squares of four. Although they require pavement and walls, there is no requirement for orientation and they can be built in unused portions of existing recreation lands. Usually these courts are associated with tennis, as they are often used by tennis players for practice. Acquisition costs would be eliminated for development of these facilities on existing County-owned land or on land leased by agreement.

The deficits shown in these three recreation facilities types for the FY 2015, 2020, 2025, and 2030, decrease through 2030. They are also in the Upper Keys ROSPA and the Lower Keys ROSPA only. The deficit decrease is primarily due to the population projections. The projections are based on no new facilities being built as there is no recreation master plan to indicate any future facilities. All other recreation facilities, except as noted above, show surpluses through 2030 and do not need to project funding except as “life-cycle” replacements for existing facilities.

### 13.5.3.2 Funding Sources

Funding for both the acquisition and development of County recreation lands and facilities has been available through a number of sources. These sources have been utilized by the County in the past but should now be expanded and under regular update and monitoring in order to provide funds for the goals, objectives and policies established for recreation. The key to this is to have the MCPRMP adopted and update the information contained within the document to the current date. The MVPRMP discusses funding sources as well as costs associated with the recreational facilities needs and the recreational lands available within the unincorporated County.

The following is an additional list of possible sources for funding, but is not intended to be comprehensive. This funding source list is marked with (A) for acquisition funding and (D) for developmental funding for facility financing.

- (A & D) Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program
- (A & D) Florida Forever (formerly Preservation 2000 Trust Fund)
- (A) Florida Forever (formerly Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL) Program)
- (A & D) Land and Water Conservation Fund;
- (D) Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) Grant
- (A) Florida Greenways and Trails Acquisition Program
- (A) Florida Communities Trust
- (A & D) Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program
- (D) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) National Scenic Byways Program
- (D) Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Highway Beautification Program
- (A & D) National Park Service (NPS) Outdoor Recreation-Acquisition, Development and Planning
- (D) Florida Boating Improvement Program
- (D) Transportation Enhancement Program
- (D) Florida State Historic Preservation Grants-in-Aid Program

In addition, acquisition of recreation lands could be funded, in part, through the Monroe County Natural Heritage and Park Program or through the Monroe County Land Authority (MCLA). Further funding for capital improvements and operational expenses to recreation lands, can and are being made available through:

- Unincorporated Parks and Beach Fund
- Park and Recreation Impact Fee Fund
- One cent Infrastructure Sales Tax Fund
- Fair Share Park User and Impact Fees
- Park Bonds
- Special Appropriation Funds by the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners

### **13.6 Summary and Findings**

The analysis of the existing conservation and recreation lands and facilities contained in this Update shows that the County meets or exceeds the acceptable level of service (LOS) standards set by the State, with only minor exceptions. This update also revises those LOS standards from the previously used LOS in the 1986 Plan and the 1992 Update as well as using the now required functional population and projections. The County has an abundance of conservation and conservation open space lands and hundreds of thousands of acres of conservation waters which form the basis of its tourist/seasonal population attraction. Additionally the County has been diligent in providing recreation lands, both resource-based and activity-based for the use and enjoyment of its residents and the same tourist and seasonal population.

From the overall County perspective, all the conservation and recreation land requirements standards are met and will continue to be met through FY 2030. The analysis shows that baseball/softball and football/rugby/soccer recreation facilities are shown to be adequately served for all the resident population in the County and at least 50 percent of the seasonal population. Therefore of the total 17 recreation type facilities analyzed in this update, only the three categories of Volleyball Courts, Racquetball/Handball Courts, and Physical Exercise Courses, show deficits. These facilities are some of the least expensive facilities to build and the County already has more than adequate activity-based lands on which to place these facilities. Through proper planning and funding, these facility deficits could be easily eliminated.

The County already has an outstanding and diverse base of recreational opportunities for its populations and recognizes that the key to providing superior quality for those lands and facilities is through recreational planning. Recreational planning in the following major areas should be implemented:

- Preparation, update and adoption of a County Parks and Recreation Master Plan;
- “Life-cycle” analysis of all recreation lands and facilities under the County jurisdiction;
- Preparation of a County Parks and Recreation Maintenance and Management Master Plan;
- A short and long term facilities improvement and operational cost program;
- A formal survey on recreational needs and facilities with both the residents and the tourist/seasonal populations;
- A program to pursue and execute inter-local agreements with MCSB, other agencies, and the private sector for expansion of recreation lands and facilities and;

- Assigning a department to be responsible for plan implementation and recommendation to the County staff, Recreation Advisory Board, and the Board of County Commissioners.

The unique geography and population of the County has been more than adequately addressed in the provisions of the recreation lands, waters, and facilities. It is of the utmost importance to the County to preserve the existing recreational lands and facilities; maintain the high quality of these facilities; initiate replacement programs for some of these facilities; explore new partnerships for recreational development; and plan for better utilization of its current facilities.

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## CHAPTER 13.0 – RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE – COMMENT RESPONSES

<b>Commenter: Richard Jones, Director Marine Resources Office</b> <b>Date Received: August 2010</b>		
Location	Comment	K&S Response
General 1	It will help when there is a Table of Contents.	Agree: Table of contents was not completed at time of 1 <sup>st</sup> . submission. Next submission will have T. of C. for those sections completed.
General 2	We need to straighten out what a water related use is. I like to separate 'water dependent' from 'water related' from 'water enhanced'.	Agree: References to 'water related' and 'water dependent' uses will only be mentioned in Element 13. The issues will be discussed and defined in Element 2; Conservation
General 3	The 2005 Waterways Act requires amending this Element to include 'waterway' in the comprehensive system of public and private sites for recreation. I don't believe its mentioned anywhere in the Element.	Agree: Additional written documentation and tables on public access facilities to "waterways" have been added and references to the 2005 Waterway and Waterfront Improvement Act of the Florida Statutes has also been added.
General 4	I'm seeing a continued theme of calling sites water dependent", when I think the point trying to be made is that the sites are "water access". Lets re-think the point we are trying to make.	Agree: See comments on "General 1" above.
p. 1 Sec 13.0	What is a 'normal' oriented recreational facility? Third par- mentions that water related uses are 'enhanced' by the water. Not according to the definition you cite on p 227 of the Conservation and Coastal Element. Water enhanced uses are just that: water enhanced. That is different from water dependent or water related. You need to go by the def in 9J-5.003 as it mentions that water-related uses are 'associated' with the water. Like a fish market. Also it says "Water-related uses and lands are those..." Somebody threw the word land in there. Land is either on the water or its not. I think it's a stretch to say land can be water related. Also I don't know how you tie water related uses to contributing to the efficient activity of water dependent uses.	Agree: The word 'normal' was a typo-it is fixed. The rest of the water related etc. uses and comments are no longer in the Element 13 and are now in Element 2 the Conservation Element which has been clarified-see item 1 above.

Location	Comment	K&S Response
p. 3 Sec 13.1.1 Par. 2	Here it describes the recreational facilities as water dependent. Don't use that term- you should say 'water access or water-front' because that's what its about. It's providing public water access. Nobody cares if its water dependent.	Agree: Has been correct in both Element 13 and Element 2.
p. 12 Table 13.4	Sunset Pt park shows nothing under facilities. Why? There is a boat ramp facility there.	Agree: The information on this park has been corrected.
p. 15	Under Roadside and Bridge Rec. Lands and Facilities it mentions 'bridges have been modified used along US 1'. Bad sentence structure- maybe you mean 'modified for use along US 1'.	Agree: have revised the paragraph
p. 25 Table 13.9	Indicates that Sunset Pt is privately owned. Is that a different place that Sunset Pt Park, which is owned by the County? Where are all the mm numbers? Also the paragraph at the top of the page mentions water-dependent uses again. I think the point here is that they are 'water-access' sites, not water-dependent.	Agree: Sunset Pt Park was removed from the privately-owned table but was retained on the table for the County-owned parks. MM numbers have been added to all tables except the one on privately-owned facilities. The only use of the table on the privately-owned facilities for this update is for the facilities themselves and therefore the locations are too difficult to pinpoint and would not be needed. Paragraph has been changed.
General 4	Do the Rec & Open space Element and the Future Land Use Element both mention the need to amend according to the 2005 Waterway Act? It's required to be in all three elements.	Disagree: The Recreation and Open Space Element mentions the Waterways Act 2005 but does not indicate that the Act needs to be updated.
General 7	Be prepared for an argument from the public concerning the LOS for boat ramps. See 3.24.3 says there are enough boat ramps, but we often have members of the public say we haven't created a new one in over 15 years.	Agree: However, this element update is just stating the fact that per state standards there exists over 3 times the required facilities. The SCORP guidelines do not differentiate between private and public boat ramps. If this is the issue that the public really is concerned with, then it should be addressed in the Parks Master Plans
	Note: The last two comments were from the Conservation and Coastal Element Remarks	

**Commenter: Kathy Grasser, Comprehensive Planner**  
**Date Received: 2/10/11**

Location	Comment	K&S Response
Page 3, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Paragraph	Under Conservation Lands, clarify 1 <sup>st</sup> sent. Or separate out terrestrial and submerged lands. Somehow add the word "site" to this sentence.	Agree:
Page 4, 13.2.1.1.3 Monroe Cty. Conservation Lands	Replace this paragraph with the attachment (on MCLA). Also check Conservation Element and if it is there replace it too. Mark Rosch and Beth Leto need to add this statement.	Agree: Paragraph has been substituted in Element 13.
Page 6, Table 13.1 Inventory	Under US Fish and Wildlife Service: North Key Largo, replace the "e" with an "o"	Agree:
Page 6,	Under Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary; should not be bold (type)	Agree:
Page 28	Table 13.9 Matecumbe Beach/ Anne's Beach is now leased to Islamorada	Agree: Moved from Table 13.9 to Table 13.4 with notes.
Pages 6-16 (Tables 13.1 & 13.2)	In Table 13.2 eliminate Ft. Jefferson National Monument	Disagree: Changed the name to Ft. Jefferson National Preservation but did not eliminate it because a search indicated that the State is leased this additional acres. This acreage is above that reported in Table 13.1
Pages 6-16 Tables 13.3	Ask The Nature Conservancy (TNC) & The Florida Keys Land & Sea Trust (FKL&ST) to verify acreages in Table 13.3	Disagree: The County has sent this Element to each organization for review and no response as yet. K&S attempted to contact these same agencies and could not get a response.
Pages 6-16 (Tables 13.1 & 13.2)	Please review the data in the tables for correctness.	Agree: These tables represent the best updates on acreages available through various sources. Contacts were made by phone and internet searches. Almost all of the major conservation areas I contacted were not able to give specific acreages, just round nos. such as included in the tables. It would be too time consuming to try to separate submerged waters from upland acreages. 9J-5 & FS 161 do not make the distinction between the two for the LOS calculations. Additionally, a few acres added or subtracted would not make any difference in meeting LOS standards. Even if only the Upland acreages for the Conservation lands were counted, the LOS is over 6,630 acres per 1000 functional population.

**Commenter: Kathy Grasser, Comprehensive Planner**  
**Date Received: Email, 10/12/10**

Location	Comment	K&S Response
General 1	Italicized Text	Agree: This has been corrected with the word processing updates for the next submission document
General 2	Did not review the tables	Agree: All tables have changed along with new tables added for the new updated document
General 3	Shaded comments in yellow or purple	Agree: Have addressed all shaded areas. Corrections are shown in the new updated document. Some of those are also addressed at the end of this response form.
General 4	P. 71 (old) "maximum and minimum population". Population is high for the County	Agree: The State, in the 2008 Outdoor Recreation in Florida (draft) included results of the statewide survey on recreation facilities with the population numbers served by each type of facility. This was included in the Appendix D of this document. See the attached supplement for a more detailed answer.
General 5	P. 12 Conservation lands vs. the acres per 1,000 functional population.	Agree: This paragraph has been re-written for the updated document. The actual Conservation "lands and waters" is 4.07 million acres and the acres per 1,000 population is 25,824. The new document has been updated for more current acreage figures. No, this does not include Recreation lands.
General 6	P. 46 (old) Conflict with numbers in General 5	Agree: The new document page is 44 and that paragraph has been re-written slightly and reflects different numbers based on a different calculation.
General 7	Reference to Monroe County Parks and Recreation Master Plan dated March 2005 by Wade and Trim	Agree: Yes, this is a draft document which we will add the word "draft" in the new document. In the spring of 2010 Wade and Trim indicated to me that they had just re-submitted this document back to the County as the "final draft". Whether it has been implemented by Monroe County is unknown at this time.

## Supplement for General Question 4.

The 2008 *Outdoor Recreation in Florida* (draft) may be adopted by DEP as of this writing but was not adopted when the Element 13 was begun in early 2010. The 2008 document differed from the 2000 document in that an apparent extensive survey was completed by the State of some 20 or so recreation type facilities (the document also called them “activity”) throughout the state to determine the population served by each of these facilities. This information was included in the Appendix “D” of the document. This data was reported as “Use Guidelines”. Associated with each of these facilities was a population served breakdown into 3 categories: “Minimum, Maximum, and Median”.

The first problem is that no explanation as to how these population figures were derived or any weighting of the figures for example for locality within the state. The only indication would be by the title since a median figure should be in the middle of any data collected and the median on some of the figures was extremely skewed from the center. For example the activity of “freshwater and saltwater beach activities” showed a maximum of 211,000 population, a minimum of 25,000 population, and median of 25,000 population. Therefore two questions are obvious. How can the minimum and the median be the same number? How can saltwater beaches in a state totally surrounded by ocean be lumped with freshwater beaches in a state with relatively few lakes which are not sandy by geological development?

The second problem encountered in adopting these standards to Monroe County is very little was included as to the description of each of these facilities except but what the name implied. For example, one of the facilities is “hiking” measured in “linear mile of trail” and another is “Nature Study” also measured in “linear mile of trail”. The question here is how does one hike on a trail measured in miles and not study nature?

From the above and other problems within the document’s data for Element 13 update, it was necessary to make some reasonable and professional assumptions, choices, and consolidations. Some of the names of the state’s guidelines were grouped or refined to suit Monroe County. Examples are the facilities called “Hiking/Nature Trails” and “Sandy Beaches”.

Also the median population served figures were used in all cases except Sandy Beaches in which 100,000 was chosen because of the extreme skewed reported median figure. Incidentally, the 100,000 population was also used in the Monroe County Parks and Recreation Master Plan by Wade and Trim.

Finally, why is this important to understand in relation to Monroe County and its 2010 Comp Plan Update? There are two reasons.

First, the State is just now recognizing that recreation planning should be done by population served per facility or activity type, not by land acreage. They are still giving guidelines for acreages on park types (Mini, Neighborhood, Community, and Regional). Most recreation planners have been converting in their planning from planning acreages to facility planning, since about the mid 1990’s. The reason for this is that the physical design of these facilities/activities can be done so that multiple activities can be accommodated in the same physical ground area, whereas this was not necessarily done by previous recreation planners. For example, Football, Soccer and Rugby can all be played on the same basic field (land area) with the only difficulty in scheduling for leagues etc. Another example is that a Nature Trail can be designed also for Hiking, Physical Exercise, and even fishing (non-boat) if the right environment is the site. In Monroe County, achieving multiple recreational uses for the same valuable land is the best planning practice.

Second, the traditional classifications of parks and the associated land required and population served does not fit with the physical or fiscal projections of Monroe County. Land acquisitions for recreation uses in the County would be extremely expensive as the cost to acquire land is high and developable land left is limited. The best approach is to add facilities to existing County recreation lands to create multiple activity uses in conjunction with existing

facilities. Examples of this approach would be to make sure all parks have picnic and volleyball facilities. These are very inexpensive activity uses. Also utilizing all trails, bicycling trails, and even school tracks, have areas for exercise stations.

<b>Commenter: Christine Hurley, Director Marine Resources Office</b> <b>Date Received: 2/12/11</b>		
Location	Comment	K&S Response
Bernstein Park Location	Bernstein park is indicated as being on Racoon Key on North Stock Island, but is on South Stock Island	Agree: This has been corrected in the tables.
<b>Commenter: Christine Hurley, Director Marine Resources Office</b> <b>Date Received: May 2010</b>		
Location	Comment	K&S Response
General 1	Shade cells where deficiencies exist.	Agree: Currently shown in BOLD but will consider shading.
General 2	Page one use bullets	Agree: Bullets have been added throughout the document.
General 3	Typo errors.	Agree: Have corrected typo errors throughout the document.
General 4	Need to add a separation of the conservation lands for the mainland and then a figure for the rest of the keys.	Agree: It will be in the body of the document by final submission.
General 5	Separation of "submerged" lands from "upland" lands for "conservation" lands.	Agree: The tables 13.1 & 13.2 for acreages. Note: this information is not always available nor accurate.
Federal-owned & Florida- owned	Correct numbers in text.	Agree: Have been correct to best possible available information in both document & tables.
MCLA parcels	Acreages & names of specific parcels	Disagree: MCLA parcels are very small (less than .5 ac usually) and change every few months, therefore it would be difficult to include and it was decided they would not have a bearing on the resource-based lands for the County. Will have to meet on whether to include a appendix list of MCLA lands.
Table 13.1, 13.2, 13.3	Use of the word "Partial" in title	Agree: have removed the word from the title of each table. The tables may not be 100% complete but are the best available information at the time of the document.
Reference Table 13.2	Is there a newer reference than 1991 for this table?	Agree: Will check for newer source but facilities are accurate.
Big Pine Ref.	Should Big Pine studies be included?	Agree: This will require a meeting to determine what specifically should or could have added data to this Element.
Private-Owned	Add abbreviations for FKLST & TNC	Agree:

Location	Comment	K&S Response
Planning Area Descriptions	General Question	Agree: It was determined that since the Cities were to be included in the Recreation & Open space Element, that a different planning area scheme needed to be created to roughly correspond to the Keys Planning Areas. This was done and the ROSPA are described early in the document and are used throughout this Element.
Monroe County-owned	General questions on numbers in this section.	Agree: This section has been re-written. Numbers are updated and are taken from Table 13.4
Table 13.4	Blanks in table & does County own all these lands	Agree: Table shows only the lands owned by the County. Blanks have now been filled in. Also the areas of the Recreation and Open Space Planning Areas (ROSPA) have been added.
City-owned Facilities Table 13.6	Show which City owns the parcels	Agree: City headings are now shown above each grouping of parcels. Also the Table is now 13.7
MC School Board	Acreages on the MCSB lands update?	Agree: Written document portion and the Table now 13.8 have been updated for the acreages and facilities finally received from the MCSB.
MC Leased Lands	Update to acreages.	Agree: The acreages in the document and in the Table (now 13.9) have been updated.
Privately-owned Lands	Quantify acreages (rather than %) for private facilities such as marinas, docks, fishing, boat ramps etc.	Disagree: Too difficult to get actual acreages on private facilities without extensive tax and aerial research. Number of facilities for marinas, docks, fishing, boat ramps are shown in Table 13.13. Also boat ramps and fishing reported in facilities LOS calculations.
Boat Ramps	Should we break-out Boat Ramps	Agree; Boat Ramps are broken out under the Facilities not by acreages, except in a few cases.
Summary of Recreation Lands & Facilities	Source for the .82 ac./1000 pop. Current functional population? Resource-based & activity-based? 2008 SCORP reported activities? Acres sources? Typos.	Agree; This section has been rewritten. The .82 ac. /1000 pop. Was used in the 1990 & 1992 update but was calculated wrong. New calculations based on 1.5 ac. /1000 functional pop. are presented in this Element now. Typos corrected, additional tables added, and specifics of deficits are discussed in later portions of the document.
Table 13.10	Using .82/1000 what are the deficits	Agree: This table has been updated and is now Table 13.12. There are no deficits on resource-based lands (Table 13.16) and only slight deficits on activity-based lands (Table 13.17)
Table 13.11	Should median of guidelines be used and what is the other source?	Agree; This table is described now in the document wherein the median is shown to be used except for "Beaches". The section on beaches describes why another standard is used.

Location	Comment	K&S Response
Table 13.13	Good question?	Agree: The table for which the comment was made has been eliminated and replaced with Table 13.17
Old Table 13.13	Round numbers. Deficiencies	Agree: This table has been eliminated and replaced with others to describe existing status on lands and facilities.
<b>Committer: Richard Jones, Director Marine Resources Office</b> <b>Date Received: November 2010</b>		
Location	Comment	K&S Response
General 1	P. 29 Sect. 13.2.4, font size	Agree: This has been corrected with the word processing updates for the next submission document
General 2	P. 38 Table 13.10, Correct spelling of Swimming and of Vaca Key (on all tables)	Agree: All spelling has been check on these items as well as others for the new updated document
General 3	P. 45 mentions DNR & DNR 1989, clarify-there is no longer any DNR	Agree: The references for the 1989 DNR quote is an important one and is from 1989 when there was a DNR. All other references to DNR should have been removed from the new updated document unless it references an earlier document when the Dept. existed.
General 4	P. 47 Table 13.13 Boat ramps of 107 conflicts with Table 3.21 in Conservation Element	Disagree: There was a discrepancy in the original Conservation Element since it had not been updated. Both tables now agree at 107 for the new updated document.
<b>Committer: from Ms. Kathy Grasser, Comprehensive Planner</b> <b>Comments received: May 13, 2011</b>		
Location	Comment	K&S Response
	Line spacing is uniform for total document to single space	Agree: Have revised.
	For all numbers in the tables showing deficits, please show as a negative number, not bold. Since this document is a 20 year document, the copying of the document over and over again might fade the bold.	Agree: Have incorporated three types to distinguish deficits. Have kept the <b>bold</b> but also added brackets and a negative sign. Example <b>(-3.5)</b>
<b>Page 43,</b>	Please cite source of functional population.	Agree: It is Monroe County 2010-2030Population Projections, March 15, 2011, Fishkind & Associates and Keith and Schnars, PA
<b>Page 52,</b>	Section 13.3.3 which standards are you referring to? If	Agree: Have changed the wording to indicate that the

	this is the new standards as stated in the May 2011 draft, then no, we have not adopted them yet . We are waiting for Phase III.	standards have not been adopted. However, the whole update calculations are based on the new standards. So the majority of the document references these standards as if they have been adopted.
<b>Page 56</b>	Our comp plan shows we still use the .82/1000 LOS standards. We have not adopted the 2008 SCORP median standards.	Agree: But here again the whole update is based on these standards. Also in a previous response it was noted that the .82/1000 LOS was arrived at in error and that it no longer applies since the requirements under the current update is for “functional population”. Note that the .82/1000 LOS is not the same as the 2008 SCORP median standard.
<b>Pages 61 -13.4 Capacity Analysis</b>	What does this mean- functional population projects based on the hurricane capacity constraints- it doesn’t seem to fit the other discussions of just functional population.	Agree: The “hurricane capacity” reference is a carryover from the previous document. This has been changed. Note new page # reference 65.
<b>Pages 72 - 13.4.4</b>	Please clarify the sentence “All of the tables show surpluses in all 17 facilities except in specific ROSPAs for the five of these facilities”.	Agree: Have re-worded the referenced sentences based on the recalculation of the required facilities based on the new functional population figures. Note new page # reference 79.
<b>Pages 82 -13.5.2.1</b>	Please clarify the sentence “also, the plan was prepared with limited input from the residents of the County and without the benefit of any user surveys”. Three public workshops were held in 2004 and a survey was mailed in the winter/spring of 2004 to 1000 residents.	Agree: Good catch. Our mistake. The paragraphs referencing this has been re-worded. Note new page # reference 90.
<b>Pages 84</b>	Change the volleyball court dimensions to match section 13.4.4.8	Agree: (60’ x 100’)
<b>Page 5- 13.2</b>	Confusion of ownership of the 4.07 million acres.	Agree: Changed the wording at this location and others where the 4.07 million acres are indicated.
<b>Page 6 - 13.2.1.1.1</b>	Federally-Owned Conservation Lands and Facilities	Agreed: See above. Note new page # referenced 4.
<b>Page 14 - 13.2.2</b>	Summary of Existing Conservation and Recreation Lands and Facilities. Other agencies listed here that are not under the other three section:	Agree: See above. Re-worded references
<b>Page 45 - 13.3.1</b>	General Recreation Demands	Agree: See above. Re-worded references
<b>Page 44</b>	Please make all footnote numbers superscript (inside the table)	Agree:
<b>Page 48</b>	The Everglades is 2 hours away from Marathon, Big Cypress is 3 hours away. It takes ½ to get to MM 73, the end of the MKROSPA.	Agree: This was just a general reference to driving time and not meant to be precise. However, a correction was made.
<b>Page 56, Table 13.16, footnote (3)</b>	Where does Dagny Johnson State Park go? Its an upper keys state park.	Agree: For this particular chart, not all state parks, etc. were used. It was felt that using only County lands was really too

		restrictive and that some of the state parks could be used to count towards the resource-based lands. Without using these state lands the County-owned lands alone would result in a deficit. At the same time it was felt that using all of the state parks would be “double-counting” as those parks fall under conservation lands.
<b>Page 81</b>	Delete line- this is not LOS related, but part of maintenance and upkeep.	Disagree: If existing facilities are not under a program of improvements, then the facilities deteriorate below the level of use and can no longer be counted towards meeting LOS standards.
<b>Page 82</b>	Not sure how feasible it is to fund a Parks and Recreation Department until the sewers are paid for and completed.	Agree: Have re-worded so that it reads without the Parks and Recreation Department. Note new page # reference 87.
<b>Page 85</b>	Where is the 4 acre deficit.	Agree: That line was a carryover from the previous calculations before the new functional population figures were available. There is no 4 acre deficit and it has been eliminated. Note new page # reference 88 & 90.
<b>Page 88</b>	Please re-write. “For the years....Exercise”.	Agree: Re-wrote this paragraph and other references to make clear.
	Where numbers are over one thousands, please use commas	Agree:
	Various highlighted sentences	Agree: Re-wrote to clarify
<p>Commenter: from Ms. Kathy Grasser, Comprehensive Planner  Comments received: June 21, 2011</p>		
<b>Location</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>K&amp;S Response</b>
<p>Page 4 – highlighted sentenced:</p> <p>Page 5: 13.2  There is 4.07 million acres of publicly-owned (<i>Federal</i>) conservation and recreation lands and waters provided in the County.</p> <p><u>13.2.1.1.1</u> <i>Federally-Owned Conservation Lands and Facilities</i></p> <p><b>Page 6:</b> There are approximately 4.07 million acres of lands or waters under <i>Federal</i> jurisdiction in the County (Table</p>		Agree, have made all revisions as suggested.

13.1).

**Other agencies listed here that are not under the other three section:**

**Page 14:**

13.2.2 *Summary of Existing Conservation and Recreation Lands and Facilities*

In summary, currently the County boasts approximately 4.07 million acres of Conservation lands and waters under the ownership and maintenance of the *Federal Government, the State of Florida, private Conservation organizations and the MCLA.*

**Page 45**

13.3.1 *General Recreation Demands*

The combination of climate, clean waters, coral reefs, abundant fish and wildlife and accessibility are the main attractions to both visitors and permanent residents of the Florida Keys. There are currently over 4.07 million acres of publicly-owned *Federal* conservation lands and waters in the County (including the Mainland ROSPA), primarily providing both water-dependent and water-related recreational opportunities.

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Page 44 – please make all footnote numbers superscript (inside the table)

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Page 48 – the Everglades is 2 hours away from Marathon, Big Cypress is 3 hours away. It takes ½ to get to MM 73, the end of the MKROSPA.

*“In addition, these two parks are within a 1 hour drive of all of the Upper Keys, and most of the Middle Keys ROSPA.”*

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Page 56, Table 13.16, footnote (3)

Where does Dagny Johnson State Park go? Its an upper keys state park.

<http://floridastateparks.org/keylargohammock/default.cfm>

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Page 81

Delete line – this is not LOS related, but part of maintenance and upkeep.

Therefore, in order to provide adequate recreation opportunities for the County’s functional population through 2030, the County should focus upon the deficiencies identified in facilities ~~and provide for a program continuing improvements to existing lands and facilities.~~

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Page 82

- Establish, staff and fund a Parks and Recreation Department to implement the two master plans; coordinate with Public Works and Growth Management Departments; and advise both the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the County Commission; and

Rewrite:

Coordinate between the Growth Management and Public Works Divisions and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to implement the two master plans.

I’m not sure how feasible it is to fund a Parks and Recreation Department until the sewers are paid for and completed.

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Page 85:

I don’t know where the four acre deficit comes from. I only find that in 2010, activity based land for the upper keys have a surplus of 37.53 acres.

*As identified in **Table 13.17**, there is currently (2010) a slight deficit of activity-based recreation lands in the Upper Keys ROSPA of four acres*

<p>Page 88 Please re-write: For the years 2010, 2020, 2025, and 2030, throughout Monroe County, there are four categories that show deficits. They are Football/Rugby/Soccer Fields, Volleyball Courts, Racquetball/Handball Courts and Physical Exercise. For the year 2015, throughout Monroe County, there are three categories that show deficits. They are Volleyball Courts, Racquetball/Handball Courts and Physical Exercise.</p> <p><i>Of the total 17 recreation type facilities analyzed in this update, only three categories show deficits.</i></p> <hr/> <p>GENERAL COMMENTS: Where numbers are over one thousands, please use commas (i.e. 1,000)</p> <hr/> <p>All tables with deficits: Please use this format with the negative numbers in (parentheses) and not bolded. It makes it an easier read. See part of your table from the sanitary sewer element.</p>		
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