

Community Engagement Campaign: Summary
Informant interviews, Plans analysis, Phone survey



Sub-Regions	Plans analysis, informant interviews, phone survey: Sub-Region Observations	Plans analysis, informant interviews, phone survey: General Observations
New York Chenango, Tioga, Broome, Otsego	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial history does not appear to be a compelling story line for residents in the region. This contrasts with the findings from interviews in this region. The area is in need of boat launches. There may need to be some outreach done to change perceptions of the health of the river in this region. Flood mitigation through state funding would be heavily supported by residents. The road infrastructure along the Susquehanna in a few of the New York counties presents a limitation to usage of the river for recreation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a marked interest from residents in all regions for more information about the American Indian history and natural history of their regions. This presents an opportunity for land conservation centered on rare and exceptional locations, be they for historic or biological value. Residents are very interested in protecting habitat for wildlife. This was one of the more surprising and stark findings from the survey as it slightly contradicts the conclusions reached from the interviews. Even though respondents demonstrated an unusually high concern about the environment, they also expressed a low willingness to participate in public meetings. On average, one third of respondents expressed a willingness to attend a public meeting. Traditional public meetings may not be an effective strategy for highlighting the concerns and interests of the public.
North Branch Bradford, Wyoming, Luzerne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviewees stated that this region would be the most resistant to government interventions. Interestingly, survey respondents rate their trust in county government leaders lower than any other region. Might be an outcome of Marcellus development. This is the least recreationally active region and the region with the highest listing of recreation in their plans. This potentially demonstrates a pent-up demand and recognized need for infrastructure. A high level of trust in the PA game commission. This could be a strategy to mitigate the negative views held of county-level leadership. 	
West Branch Clearfield, Clinton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand recreation infrastructure, specifically related to active outdoor recreation like fishing and boating. Continue collaborations with Trout Unlimited and Ducks Unlimited. Support outreach efforts highlighting the impacts of AMD remediation throughout the region. Work to limit any potential impacts, be they real or perceived, from Marcellus development. There are a lot of opportunities, based upon interview and plan analysis, to support river accessing efforts being made in the population centers of Lycoming County. This county has a very high planning department capacity and could be a good partner. 	

<p>River Towns</p> <p>Lycoming, Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Union, Snyder, Perry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Greenways are most salient and present in this region. Continue to build on the strength of their work. • Flooding and flood insurance policy changes will have the largest impact on the communities and residents of this region. Proactively connecting flood mitigation with land conservation presents an opportunity in these towns. • Fishing appears to be an activity being undertaken by visitors to the region, more than it is an activity being undertaken by residents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality is very important to residents in all counties. In the ways that vegetative buffers and key lands for conservation connect to improving the quality of the water, or protecting the quality of the water, it may be anticipated that residents will support the action. Any conservation and restoration efforts with potential impacts for water quality should be pitched to individuals and communities with this interest in mind. • Finally, in almost every region, the most often-practiced recreation activity was simply sitting by the river. One reason for this is the age characteristics of the sample. Most of the activity taking place near or on the river is lower impact and is more oriented toward appreciating nature than it is centered on expertise-based recreation. Expanding and chronicling the park network in the river corridor, as well as the Greenway, presents a nice opportunity for supporting the interests of the survey population and residents of the corridor counties.
<p>Capital</p> <p>Dauphin, Cumberland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The county conservation districts and extension offices are the least well known in this region. Presents an opportunity for a new partnership. • Private businesses are trusted the least in this region. If there are public-private partnerships being developed for land conservation along dams, be thoughtful about how to present this plan. • Wildlife protection is very important to residents of this region. 	
<p>Lower Branch</p> <p>York, Lancaster</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents appear to be content with the amount of agriculture-based tourism efforts being made in these counties. It was the only county where residents stated that enough work has been done to highlight the agricultural history of the region. • This region contains the most present and centralized planning efforts in PA. One outcome of this is a lot of community inclusion in the planning process. • The conservation actors in this region are still opaque. The survey results demonstrated a lower degree of awareness of land conservation organizations in this region than in any other. The same was experienced during interviews—they might be land trust-oriented, more than environmental or conservation non-profit-oriented. 	
<p>Maryland</p> <p>Cecil, Harford</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chesapeake Bay focused on much more than any other region. • The river is the least important in this region than in any other region. • Residents participate in history based tourism efforts more in Maryland than anywhere else in the study region. This section might be an ideal location for a cultural landscapes approach to large landscape conservation and interpretation. 	