

## First Working Group Meeting Summary

TOURISM & OUTDOOR RECREATION

May 27, 2010

### **Discussion on vulnerabilities/risks: What are the key focus areas for vulnerability and risk caused by climate change?**

Kim Hoover, DEP, provided an overview of adaptation to climate change. Tim Schaeffer, Chair, noted there are positive benefits for some and drawbacks for others to adapt to climate change, such as warmer temperatures, increased precipitation and increased intensity of storm events. So-called "winners and losers" can be identified.

#### **Discussion on vulnerabilities:**

- Ice fishing
- Cold water fisheries, e.g. trout
- Increase in boating uses w/warming temperatures
  1. negative/huge variation in high and low water flows
  2. droughts and flashier storm events
- Bird watching
- Fish hatcheries
- Deer and elk
- Invasive species and pests, e.g. more ticks
- Aquatic weeds
- Spawning migration patterns
- Ducks and waterfowl
- Activity of black bear
- Golf
- Hiking, cycling, motorcycling
- Skiing and snowmobiling
- Pleasure driving

#### **Discussion on resources and literature:**

- 2009 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)
- Other states' adaptation reports

**Thoughts on priorities:** demonstrate economics and use as a tool for priorities.

**Trends:** shift to indoor recreation; shift to other activities not in winter (Ski Roundtop has changed its name – to what? - to reflect year-round activities). We can look to southern states to see future replacements for outdoor recreation.

**Next steps** – send resources and data to Tim Schaeffer to compile.  
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**Future Meetings are confirmed for July 20, Sept 21, Nov 16 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Fish & Boat Commission, Delaware Room (first room on the left), 1601 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, PA**