

# Part Four – Greenways and Open Space Vision

## Somerset County Project Corridors

Somerset County features the following regional project corridors:

- C. Laurel Hill Greenway;
- D. Quemahoning Greenway;
- E. Allegheny Front Wildlife Corridor;
- K. The Allegheny Crossing; and
- L. Great Allegheny Passage.

County project corridors within Somerset County are described below.

### S-1. Allwine Creek BDA

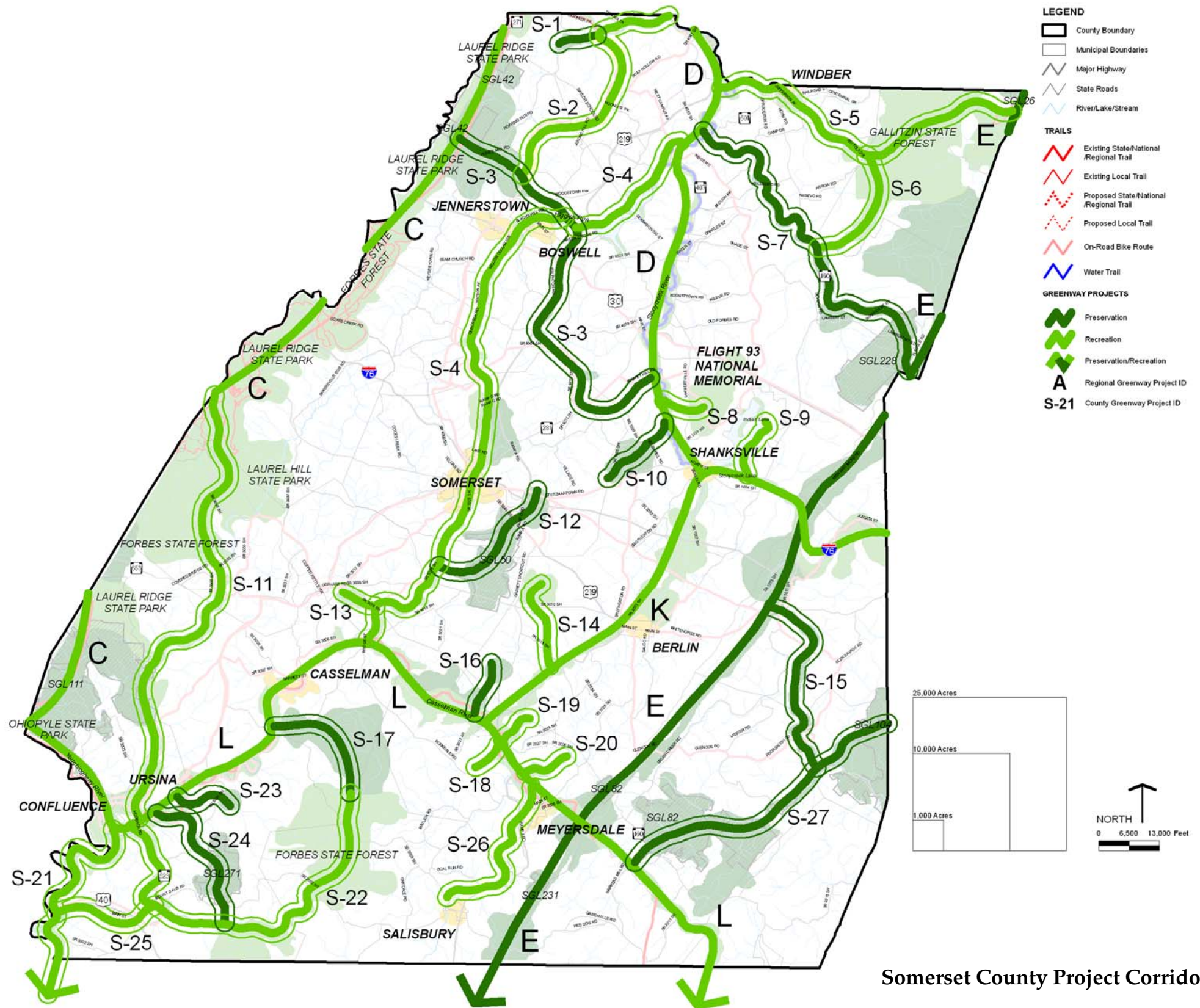
This approximately 1 mile open space corridor is situated in the northeastern portion of the County. The corridor is intended to link the South Fork Trail to the Allwine Creek BDA.

### S-2. South Fork Trail

The South Fork Trail is a 12 mile long recreation trail in the northwestern portion of the County. The corridor could someday be improved with a maintained dirt path. The Trail provides links to the Quemahoning Greenway, Allwine Creek BDA and Roaring Run/Beaverdam Wildlife Preserve.

### S-3. Roaring Run/Beaverdam Wildlife Preserve

This corridor connects the Quemahoning Greenway to the Laurel Hill Greenway while intersecting the South Fork Trail and Reservoir Trail. The 17 mile corridor,



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which terminates in Laurel Ridge State Park, is intended to be preserved open space with public access.

### **S-4. Reservoir Trail**

The approximately 27 mile long improved/maintained dirt path will link several population centers within the County including Somerset, Jennerstown and Boswell. The Trail links the Great Allegheny Passage to the Allegheny Crossing and intersects the Roaring Run/Beaverdam Wildlife Preserve, Dempsey Run Wildlife Corridor and the South Glade Creek Wetlands BDA.

### **S-5. Paint Creek Trail**

The Paint Creek Trail extends nearly 14 miles along Paint Creek in the northeastern portion of the County. Portions of the Trail are situated within Gallitzin State Forest and State Gameland #26. The Trail could be improved as a maintained dirt path that provides connectors with the Quemahoning Greenway and the Gallitzin Connector.

### **S-6. Gallitzin Connector**

This 5.5 mile long recreational corridor is situated in the northeastern portion of the County. The corridor could accommodate a maintained dirt trail, to link the Paint Creek Trail to the Shade Creek Wildlife Connector. The corridor generally passes through Gallitzin State Forest.

### **S-7. Shade Creek Wildlife Connector**

The Shade Creek Wildlife Connector is intended to be a passive open space corridor that stretches approximately 15.5 miles from the Quemahoning Greenway to

the Allegheny Front Wildlife Corridor and accesses State Gameland #228.

### **S-8. Memorial Trail**

This recreational corridor could be improved as a crushed aggregate or asphalt trail. Only 1.5 miles in length, the corridor is a significant economic opportunity because it connects the Quemahoning Greenway to the Flight 93 National Memorial.

### **S-9. Indian Lake Trail**

The approximately 2 mile long Indian Lake Trail runs along Indian Lake and provides a recreational connection with the Allegheny Crossing.

### **S-10. Buck Swamp BDA**

This 3 mile long preservation corridor connects the Allegheny Crossing with the Buck Swamp BDA.

### **S-11. Laurel Hill Creek Trail**

The Laurel Hill Creek Trail stretches nearly 20 miles along Laurel Hill Creek and connects Laurel Hill State Park with the Great Allegheny Passage. The recreational corridor passes through Ursina, Forbes State Forest and State Gameland #111.

### **S-12. Dempsey Run Wildlife Corridor**

The Dempsey Run Wildlife Corridor branches from the Reservoir Trail and runs 6 miles to the east. The wildlife corridor is situated southeast of Somerset with its majority within State Game Land #20.

### **S-13. South Glade Creek Wetlands BDA**

This corridor is approximately 1.5 miles long and connects the Reservoir Trail with the South

Glade Creek Wetlands BDA. The corridor is planned to remain as preserved open space.

### **S-14. Tubs Run Wetland BDA**

The 3 mile corridor extends from the Allegheny Crossing to Tubs Run Wetland BDA. The corridor is envisioned to consist of preserved open space.

### **S-15. Hillegas Run Wildlife Corridor**

The Hillegas Run Wildlife Corridor transverses nearly 8 miles in the southeastern portion of the County. The Corridor links the Allegheny Front Wildlife Corridor to the Wills Creek Wildlife Corridor and should remain as a passive open space area.

### **S-16. Garrett Mud Flats BDA**

This corridor extends from the Great Allegheny Passage to the Garrett Mud Flats BDA. The approximately 2 mile corridor is envisioned to consist of preserved open space.

### **S-17. Isers Run Wildlife Corridor**

The 5.5 mile open space corridor is envisioned to extend from the Great Allegheny Passage to Whites Creek Valley Trail. The Corridor provides access to Forbes State Forest from Casselman.

### **S-18. Bigby Creek Trail**

This Trail extends 1 mile from the Great Allegheny Passage along Bigby Creek.

### **S-19. Buffalo Creek Trail**

The Trail runs 1 mile from the Great Allegheny Passage along Buffalo Creek.

### **S-20. Blue Lick Creek Trail**

This Trail transverses 1.5 miles from the Great Allegheny Passage along Blue Lock Creek.

### **S-21. Youghiogheny River Lake Trail**

The Youghiogheny River Lake Trail extends approximately 8 miles from the Great Allegheny Passage (near Confluence, PA) to the County's southern border. An improved/maintained dirt trail is envisioned to someday be connected with the corridor.



Figure 28: Youghiogheny River Lake

### **S-22. Whites Creek Valley Trail**

The corridor is intended to include a future dirt trail and stretches from the Great Allegheny Passage to Isers Run Wildlife Corridor. The Trail intersects the Cucumber Run Trail and Braddock's Run Trail along its approximately 16.5 mile long journey. The Trail will also provide access to Forbes State Forest.

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### **S-23. McClintock Run BDA**

This corridor extends from the Great Allegheny Passage to the McClintock Run BDA. The nearly 2 mile long corridor is envisioned to consist of preserved open space.

### **S-24. Cucumber Run Trail**

The Cucumber Run Trail could be improved in the future as a maintained dirt trail for recreational purposes. The 5 mile long corridor links the Great Allegheny Passage with the Whites Creek Valley Trail. Most of the length of the corridor is situated within State Gameland #27.



Figure 29: Great Allegheny Passage trail in Somerset County

### **S-25. Braddock's Run Trail**

Braddock's Run Trail is approximately 4.5 miles long that is intended to consist of a maintained dirt trail. This corridor, situated in the southwestern portion of the County, links the Youghiogheny River Lake Trail with the Whites Creek Valley Trail.

### **S-26. Casselman River Trail**

The Casselman River Trail is envisioned to consist of both a maintained dirt trail and a

river trail. The nearly 6.5 mile long corridor connects Salisbury to the Great Allegheny Passage.



Figure 30: View of the Casselman River in Somerset County

### **S-27. Wills Creek Wildlife Corridor**

The Wills Creek Wildlife Corridor stretches 12 miles from the Great Allegheny Passage to the County's eastern border. The Corridor, located in the southeastern portion of the County should remain as an open space with public access. Much of the corridor is situated within State Gamelands #82 and 104.

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**Table 8: Somerset County Projects Summary**

| #  | Project / Corridor                        |  | Type of Corridor | Total Project Length (mi) | Length of Trail Constructed (mi.) <sup>1</sup> | Length of Water Trail (mi.) | Unimproved/ Unsecured Project / Corridor Area (acres) | Low and High Corridor Acquisition Cost Estimates <sup>2</sup> |           | Low and High Land Trail Improvement Cost Estimates |                     | Water Trail Improvement Cost Estimate | Low and High Total Cost Estimates (Acquisition and Improvement) |                  |                     |           |                      |
|--|---|--|------------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|---|-----------|--|---------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------------------|
|  | Name                                      |  |                  |                           |  |                             |   |   |           |  |                     |                                       |   |                  |                     |           |                      |
| <b>Regional Project Corridors (within Somerset County)</b> |   |  |                  |                           |  |                             |   |   |           |  |                     |                                       |   |                  |                     |           |                      |
| C  | Laurel Hill Greenway                      |  | II               | 21.8                      | 21.8   |                             | -   | \$ -  | to        | \$ -   | \$ -                | to                                    | \$ -  | \$ -             | to                  | \$ -      |                      |
| D  | Quemahoning Greenway                      |  | III, V           | 23.7                      | 0.0  | 23.7                        | 4,696.1   | \$ 1,056,000  | to        | \$ 3,170,000                                       | \$ 237,000          | to                                    | \$ 355,000  | \$ 47,340        | \$ 1,340,340        | to        | \$ 3,572,340         |
| E  | Allegheny Front Wildlife Corridor         |  | I                | 34.1                      | 4.6  |                             | 10,202.1  | \$ 2,293,000  | to        | \$ 6,886,000                                       | \$ -                | to                                    | \$ -  | \$ -             | \$ 2,293,000        | to        | \$ 6,886,000         |
| K  | The Allegheny Crossing                    |  | IV, V            | 24.2                      | 0.0  |                             | 7,273.3   | \$ 1,635,000  | to        | \$ 4,910,000                                       | \$ 967,000          | to                                    | \$ 2,176,000  | \$ -             | \$ 2,602,000        | to        | \$ 7,086,000         |
| L  | Great Allegheny Passage                   |  | IV               | 39.6                      | 35.0   |                             | 1,383.7   | \$ 311,000  | to        | \$ 934,000   | \$ 184,000          | to                                    | \$ 414,000  | \$ -             | \$ 495,000          | to        | \$ 1,348,000         |
| <i>Regional Project Corridors Subtotal</i>                 |   |  |                  | <i>143.3</i>              | <i>61.4</i>                                    | <i>23.7</i>                 | <i>23,555.3</i>                                       | <i>\$ 5,295,000</i>   | <i>to</i> | <i>\$ 15,900,000</i>                               | <i>\$ 1,388,000</i> | <i>to</i>                             | <i>\$ 2,945,000</i>   | <i>\$ 47,340</i> | <i>\$ 6,730,340</i> | <i>to</i> | <i>\$ 18,892,340</i> |
| <b>County Project Corridors</b>                            |   |  |                  |                           |  |                             |   |   |           |  |                     |                                       |   |                  |                     |           |                      |
| S-1  | Allwine Creek BDA                         |  | I                | 1.2                       | -  |                             | 464.8   | \$ 105,000  | to        | \$ 314,000   | \$ -                | to                                    | \$ -  | \$ -             | \$ 105,000          | to        | \$ 314,000           |
| S-2  | South Fork Trail                          |  | III              | 11.8                      | -  |                             | 4,474.2   | \$ 1,006,000  | to        | \$ 3,020,000                                       | \$ 118,000          | to                                    | \$ 178,000  | \$ -             | \$ 1,124,000        | to        | \$ 3,198,000         |
| S-3  | Roaring Run / Beaverdam Wildlife Preserve |  | I                | 17.2                      | 0.5  |                             | 6,333.6   | \$ 1,424,000  | to        | \$ 4,275,000                                       | \$ -                | to                                    | \$ -  | \$ -             | \$ 1,424,000        | to        | \$ 4,275,000         |
| S-4  | Reservoir Trail                           |  | III              | 26.8                      | -  |                             | 10,110.5  | \$ 2,273,000  | to        | \$ 6,825,000                                       | \$ 268,000          | to                                    | \$ 402,000  | \$ -             | \$ 2,541,000        | to        | \$ 7,227,000         |
| S-5  | Paint Creek Trail                         |  | III              | 13.8                      | 13.8   |                             | -   | \$ -  | to        | \$ -   | \$ -                | to                                    | \$ -  | \$ -             | \$ -                | to        | \$ -                 |
| S-6  | Gallitzin Connector                       |  | II               | 5.5                       | -  |                             | 2,091.8   | \$ 470,000  | to        | \$ 1,412,000                                       | \$ 8,000            | to                                    | \$ 8,000  | \$ -             | \$ 478,000          | to        | \$ 1,420,000         |
| S-7  | Shade Creek Wildlife Connector            |  | I                | 15.4                      | 2.2  |                             | 4,997.1   | \$ 1,123,000  | to        | \$ 3,373,000                                       | \$ -                | to                                    | \$ -  | \$ -             | \$ 1,123,000        | to        | \$ 3,373,000         |
| S-8  | Memorial Trail                            |  | IV               | 1.4                       | -  |                             | 523.0   | \$ 118,000  | to        | \$ 353,000   | \$ 55,000           | to                                    | \$ 125,000  | \$ -             | \$ 173,000          | to        | \$ 478,000           |
| S-9  | Indian Lake Trail                         |  | III              | 1.8                       | -  |                             | 697.3   | \$ 157,000  | to        | \$ 471,000   | \$ 18,000           | to                                    | \$ 28,000   | \$ -             | \$ 175,000          | to        | \$ 499,000           |
| S-10   | Buck Swamp BDA                            |  | I                | 2.8                       | -  |                             | 1,045.9   | \$ 235,000  | to        | \$ 706,000   | \$ -                | to                                    | \$ -  | \$ -             | \$ 235,000          | to        | \$ 706,000           |
| S-11   | Laurel Hill Creek Trail                   |  | II               | 19.7                      | 9.0  | 3.6                         | 4,020.9   | \$ 904,000  | to        | \$ 2,714,000                                       | \$ 16,000           | to                                    | \$ 16,000   | \$ 7,244         | \$ 927,244          | to        | \$ 2,737,244         |
| S-12   | Dempsey Run Wildlife Corridor             |  | I                | 5.8                       | 3.5  |                             | 871.6   | \$ 196,000  | to        | \$ 588,000   | \$ -                | to                                    | \$ -  | \$ -             | \$ 196,000          | to        | \$ 588,000           |
| S-13   | South Glade Creek Wetlands BDA            |  | I                | 1.4                       | -  |                             | 523.0   | \$ 118,000  | to        | \$ 353,000   | \$ -                | to                                    | \$ -  | \$ -             | \$ 118,000          | to        | \$ 353,000           |

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**Table 8: Somerset County Projects Summary (Continued)**

| #  | Project / Corridor Name        | Type of Corridor | Total Project Length (mi) | Length of Trail Constructed (mi.) <sup>1</sup> | Length of Water Trail (mi.) | Unimproved/ Unsecured Project / Corridor Area (acres) | Low and High Corridor Acquisition Cost Estimates <sup>2</sup> |                         | Low and High Land Trail Improvement Cost Estimates |                        | Water Trail Improvement Cost Estimate | Low and High Total Cost Estimates (Acquisition and Improvement) |                         |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
|  |                                |                  |                           |  |                             |   | \$  | to \$                   | \$   | to \$                  |                                       | \$  | to \$                   |
| S-14   | Tubs Run Wetland BDA           | I                | 3.2                       | -  |                             | 1,220.2   | \$ 274,000  | to \$ 824,000           | \$ -   | to \$ -                | \$ -                                  | \$ 274,000  | to \$ 824,000           |
| S-15   | Hillegas Run Wildlife Corridor | I                | 8                         | -  |                             | 3,021.5   | \$ 679,000  | to \$ 2,040,000         | \$ -   | to \$ -                | \$ -                                  | \$ 679,000  | to \$ 2,040,000         |
| S-16   | Garrett Mud Flats BDA          | I                | 1.8                       | -  |                             | 697.3   | \$ 157,000  | to \$ 4,710,003         | \$ -   | to \$ -                | \$ -                                  | \$ 157,000  | to \$ 471,000           |
| S-17   | Isers Run Wildlife Corridor    | I                | 5.5                       | -  |                             | 2,091.8   | \$ 470,000  | to \$ 1,412,000         | \$ -   | to \$ -                | \$ -                                  | \$ 470,000  | to \$ 1,412,000         |
| S-18   | Bigby Creek Trail              | II               | 1.2                       | -  |                             | 464.8   | \$ 105,000  | to \$ 314,000           | \$ 2,000   | to \$ 2,000            | \$ -                                  | \$ 107,000  | to \$ 316,000           |
| S-19   | Buffalo Creek Trail            | II               | 1.2                       | -  |                             | 464.8   | \$ 105,000  | to \$ 314,000           | \$ 2,000   | to \$ 2,000            | \$ -                                  | \$ 107,000  | to \$ 316,000           |
| S-20   | Blue Lick Creek Trail          | II               | 1.4                       | -  |                             | 523.0   | \$ 118,000  | to \$ 353,000           | \$ 2,000   | to \$ 2,000            | \$ -                                  | \$ 120,000  | to \$ 355,000           |
| S-21   | Youghiogheny River Lake Trail  | III              | 7.7                       | -  |                             | 2,905.3   | \$ 653,000  | to \$ 1,961,000         | \$ 77,000  | to \$ 115,000          | \$ -                                  | \$ 730,000  | to \$ 2,076,000         |
| S-22   | Whites Creek Valley Trail      | II               | 16.6                      | -  |                             | 6,275.5   | \$ 1,411,000  | to \$ 4,236,000         | \$ 25,000  | to \$ 25,000           | \$ -                                  | \$ 1,436,000  | to \$ 4,261,000         |
| S-23   | McClintock Run BDA             | I                | 1.8                       | -  |                             | 697.3   | \$ 157,000  | to \$ 471,000           | \$ -   | to \$ -                | \$ -                                  | \$ 157,000  | to \$ 471,000           |
| S-24   | Cucumber Run Trail             | II               | 4.8                       | 2.3  |                             | 929.7   | \$ 209,000  | to \$ 628,000           | \$ 4,000   | to \$ 4,000            | \$ -                                  | \$ 213,000  | to \$ 632,000           |
| S-25   | Braddock's Run Trail           | II               | 4.6                       | -  |                             | 1,743.2   | \$ 392,000  | to \$ 1,177,000         | \$ 7,000   | to \$ 7,000            | \$ -                                  | \$ 399,000  | to \$ 1,184,000         |
| S-26   | Casselman River Trail          | II, V            | 6.6                       | -  | 6.6                         | 2,498.6   | \$ 562,000  | to \$ 1,687,000         | \$ 10,000  | to \$ 10,000           | \$ 13,234                             | \$ 585,234  | to \$ 1,710,234         |
| S-27   | Wills Creek Wildlife Corridor  | I                | 12.3                      | 8.5  |                             | 1,452.7   | \$ 327,000  | to \$ 981,000           | \$ -   | to \$ -                | \$ -                                  | \$ 327,000  | to \$ 981,000           |
| <i>County Project Corridors Subtotal</i>           |                                |                  | 201.6                     | 39.8   | 10.2                        | 61,139.2  | \$ 13,748,000   | to \$ 45,512,003        | \$ 612,000   | to \$ 924,000          | \$ 20,478                             | \$ 14,380,478   | to \$ 42,217,478        |
| <b>Project Corridors Total (Regional + County)</b> |                                |                  | <b>345.0</b>              | <b>101.2</b>                                   | <b>33.9</b>                 | <b>84,694.4</b>                                       | <b>\$ 19,043,000</b>  | <b>to \$ 61,412,003</b> | <b>\$ 2,000,000</b>                                | <b>to \$ 3,869,000</b> | <b>\$ 67,818</b>                      | <b>\$ 21,110,818</b>  | <b>to \$ 61,109,818</b> |

1: Also includes portions of project corridors that are under public control or have been committed to future trail improvements.

2: Acquisition costs estimated at \$900 per acre (low = 25% of full cost, high = 75% of full cost).

**Corridor Type:**

I: Open Space - unblazed / unmarked; public access permitted (price: n/a)

II: Maintained Dirt Trail - blazed / marked; pedestrian trail approximately 2' wide (price: \$1,500/mile)

III: Improved / Maintained Dirt Trail - blazed / marked; multipurpose trail approximately 6' wide (price: \$10,000-\$15,000/mile)

IV: Improved / Maintained Crushed Aggregate / Asphalt Trail - blazed / marked; multipurpose trail approximately 6'-10' wide (price: \$40,000-\$90,000/mile)

V: Water Trail - public access points (price: \$10,000 per access point approximately every 5 miles)