

Relative to urban proximity, the greatest concentration of facilities such as swimming pools, bicycling, golf courses, drive-in movies, playfields, and sports stadiums, was reported in "primary county in a metro area."⁸ However, the majority of the facilities were located in "nonmetro counties contiguous to a metro area" or in "counties with one county separation from a metro area." This was particularly noticeable for activities generally located in rural areas such as swimming beaches, boating, fishing, horseback riding, camping, picnicking, hunting, and hiking.

Resident organized youth camps and adult camps tended to be located in "nonmetro counties contiguous to a metro area," although the second most frequent locations were within the "primary counties in a metro area." Cabins, cottages, motels, hotels and other lodgings used as recreation enterprises tended to be located further away from the metro areas. Vacation farms are definitely of rural character.

(c) *Recreational Facilities of Nonprofit Groups and Individuals.*—Civic, church, and youth groups commonly provide recreation facilities at or below cost. Membership in or affiliation with such groups afford opportunities for many people to participate in recreation activities. These groups usually sponsor programs of an educational nature which encourage appreciation of the natural environment, stress the need for conservation, and emphasize the importance of sound resource management.

Individuals and private nonprofit organizations have long been engaged in acquiring and maintaining land to preserve and conserve natural areas and recreation resources. Substantial amounts of land have been donated by individuals to government and private nonprofit conservation organizations. Approximately 15 percent of the acreage in our national park system was donated by individuals.⁹ Donations of individuals and organizations represent contributions in excess of \$50 million.

The efforts of conservation groups and foundations and nonprofit recreation programs of numerous industries should also be considered in this framework. Well-known groups such as the Nature Conservancy, the Izaak Walton League, the National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, and others directly or indirectly affect the conservation and development of recreation resources.

Most of the major commercial forest-owning corporations allow free use of their forests and waters for suitable recreation purposes. Arrangements are sometimes made for public agencies to regulate and supervise recreation use of these lands. Some timber owners welcome recreation uses, such as hunting, which help to control destruction caused by wild game. These positive values are weighed by the owners against the constant dangers of recreationist-caused fires, damage to facilities, vandalism, and other possible risks from allowing free recreational use of their properties.

⁸ Derived from the Chilton report. Table 78. Pp. 92-97.

⁹ Recreation Advisory Council Study Group No. 3. The Role of the Private Sector in Outdoor Recreation. December 1964. P. 61.