



Hoosiers on the Move, the Indiana State Trails, Greenways & Bikeways Plan – Progress Report July 2013

Hoosiers on the Move, The Indiana State Trails, Greenways & Bikeways Plan was released in 2006. The plan set a goal of having a trail within 7.5 miles or 15 minutes of all Hoosier residents by 2016. The plan also established a visionary system of statewide interconnected trail arterials. Following is a summary of the trails plan progress made over the past seven years.

Before getting into measures of the trail plan goals, it is important to understand how trail development is being tracked. In 2006, Hoosiers on the Move reported 2074 miles of trail open to the public. Post 2006, it was deemed more accurate to use trail miles calculated from actual geography as opposed to reported/estimated trail mileage. Also, boating/water trails have since been removed from the trails inventory to make the inventory more amenable to analysis and reporting. Using the current reporting methods, trail miles open to public in 2006 would have been 1542 miles. As of July 2013, the Indiana Trails Inventory was showing 3268 miles of trail open to the public. This reflects an increase of 1726 miles of open trail. However, more than half of the trails added to the trail inventory during the past six years were actually in existence before 2006, so it is estimated that approximately 700 miles of new trail have been added since 2006. An additional 84 miles of trail are in the process of acquisition and/or development. It should also be noted that a new category of trail, potential trails, is now being tracked within the trails inventory. See the trails inventory maps for 2006 and 2013 on the following pages.

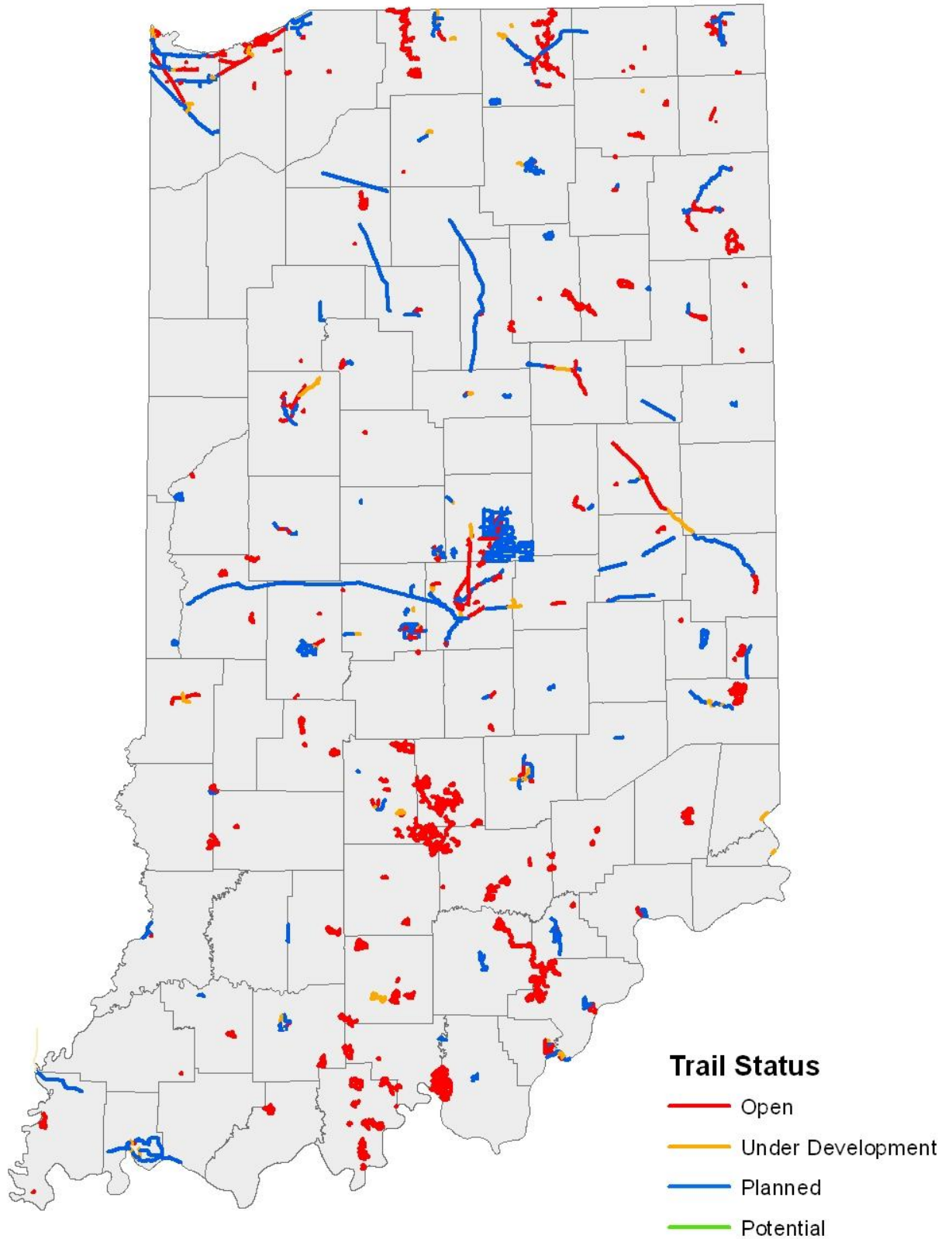
Ultimate Goal: A trail within 7.5 miles or 15 minutes of all Hoosiers

In 2006, when Hoosiers on the Move was released, 83% of Indiana residents had a hiking, biking, or equestrian trail available within 7.5 miles of their home. As of July 2013, Indiana now has a trail within 7.5 miles of 97.9% of all Hoosier residents. By 2014, we expect to get closer to the 98% mark toward this goal. These results indicate a 17% increase over the 82.9% of residents being within 7.5 miles of a trail in 2006. This analysis excludes boating/water trails and trails open for use by motorized vehicles. See chart below and map on page 4.

HOOSIERS SERVED BY TRAILS (within 7.5 miles)

POPULATION 2010	6,483,802	SERVED
2006	5,374,344	82.9%
2013	6,350,449	97.9%
2014	6,350,849	97.9%

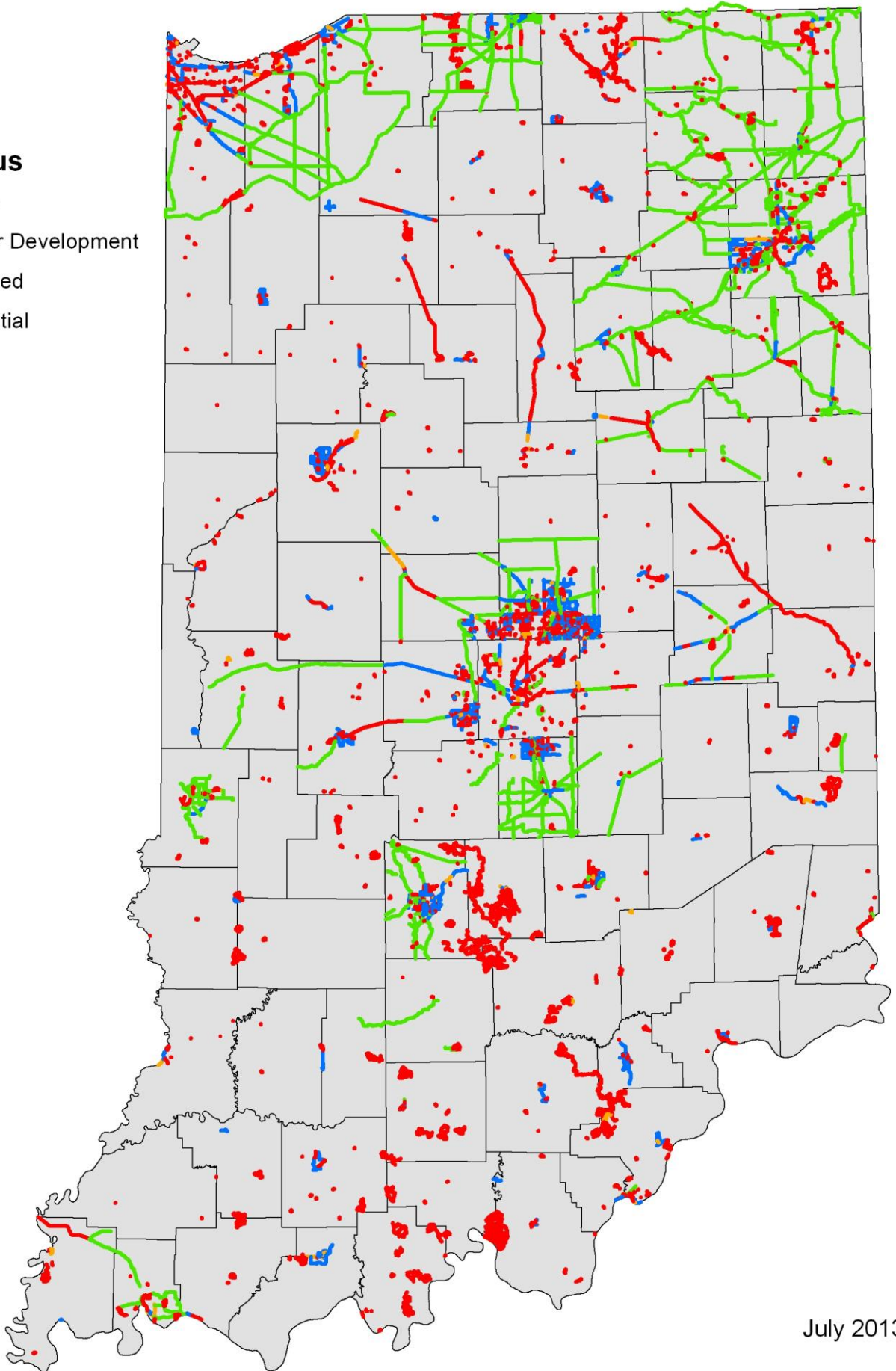
Indiana Trails 2006



Indiana Trails 2013

Trail Status

- Open
- Under Development
- Planned
- Potential



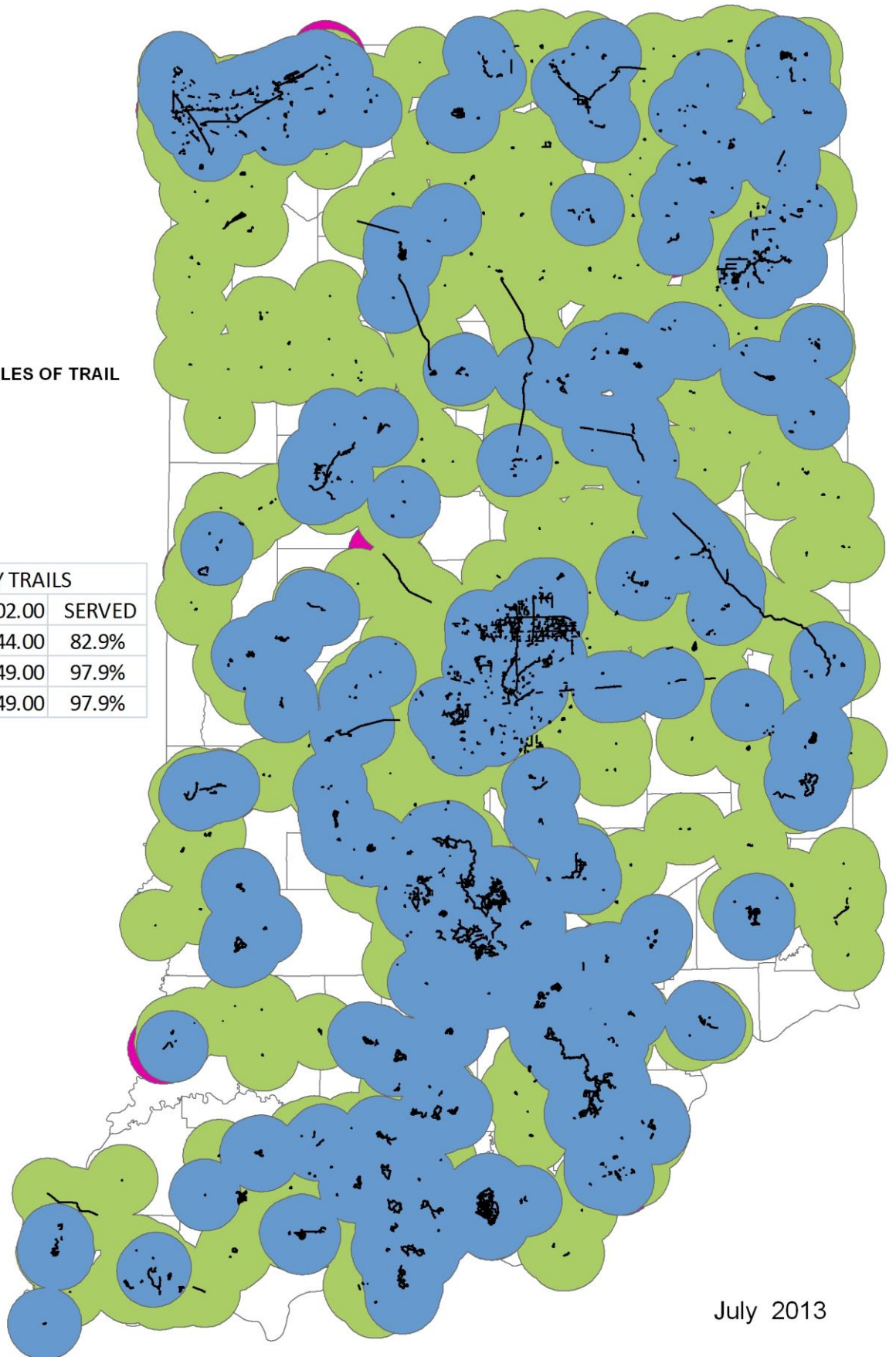
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Indiana Trails 2006-2013

POPULATION WITHIN 7.5 MILES OF TRAIL

- Trails
- 2006 Open Trails
- 2013 Open Trails
- 2013 Projected Trails

HOOSIERS SERVED BY TRAILS		
POPULATION 2010	6,483,802.00	SERVED
2006	5,374,344.00	82.9%
2013	6,350,449.00	97.9%
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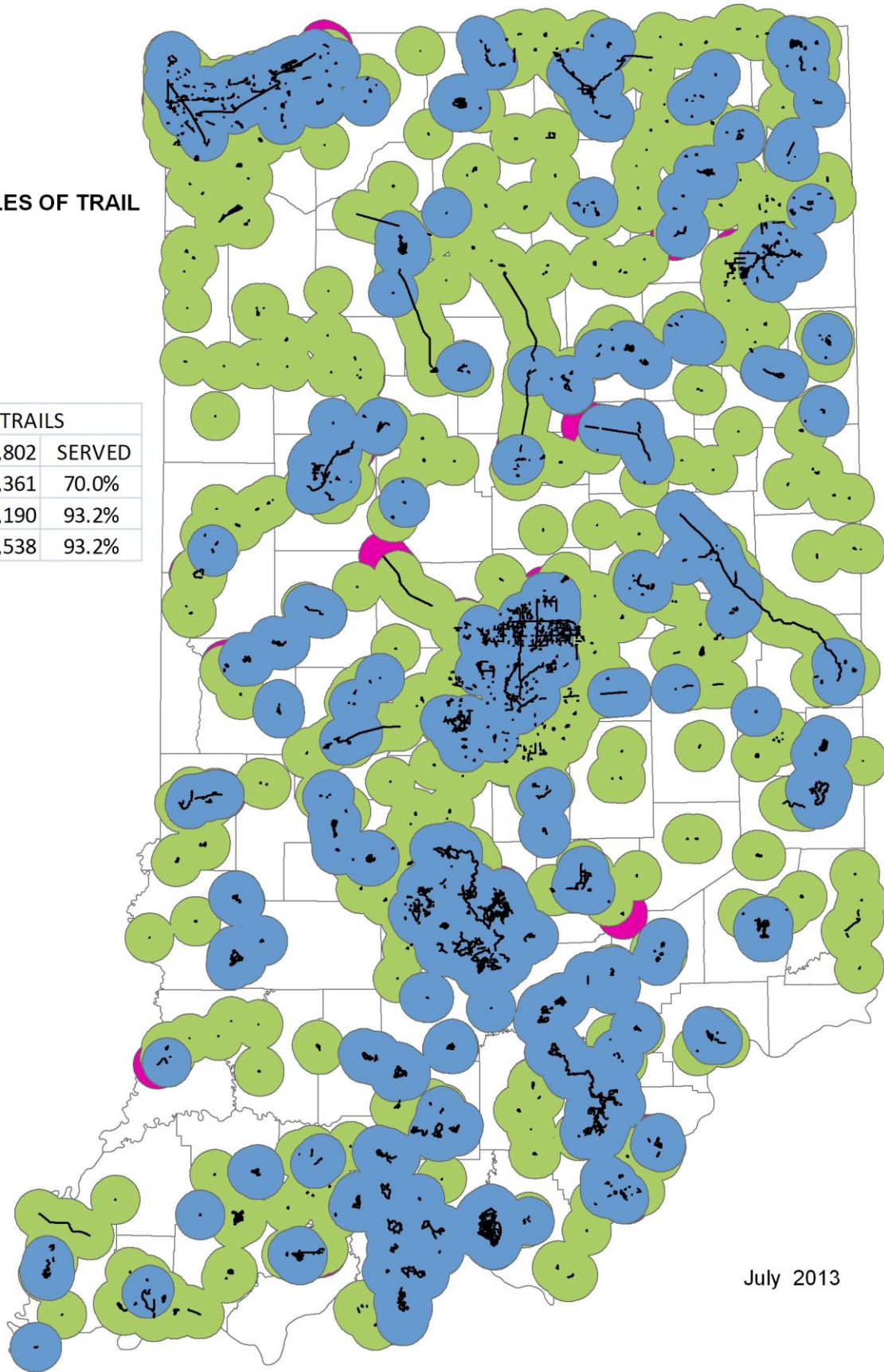
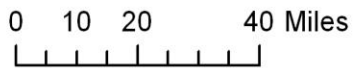
July 2013

Indiana Trails 2006-2013

POPULATION WITHIN 5 MILES OF TRAIL

-  Trails
-  2006 Open Trails
-  2013 Open Trails
-  2014 Projected Trails

HOOSIERS SERVED BY TRAILS		
POPULATION 2010	6,483,802	SERVED
2006	4,536,361	70.0%
2013	6,041,190	93.2%
2014	6,045,538	93.2%



July 2013

Visionary Trails Progress

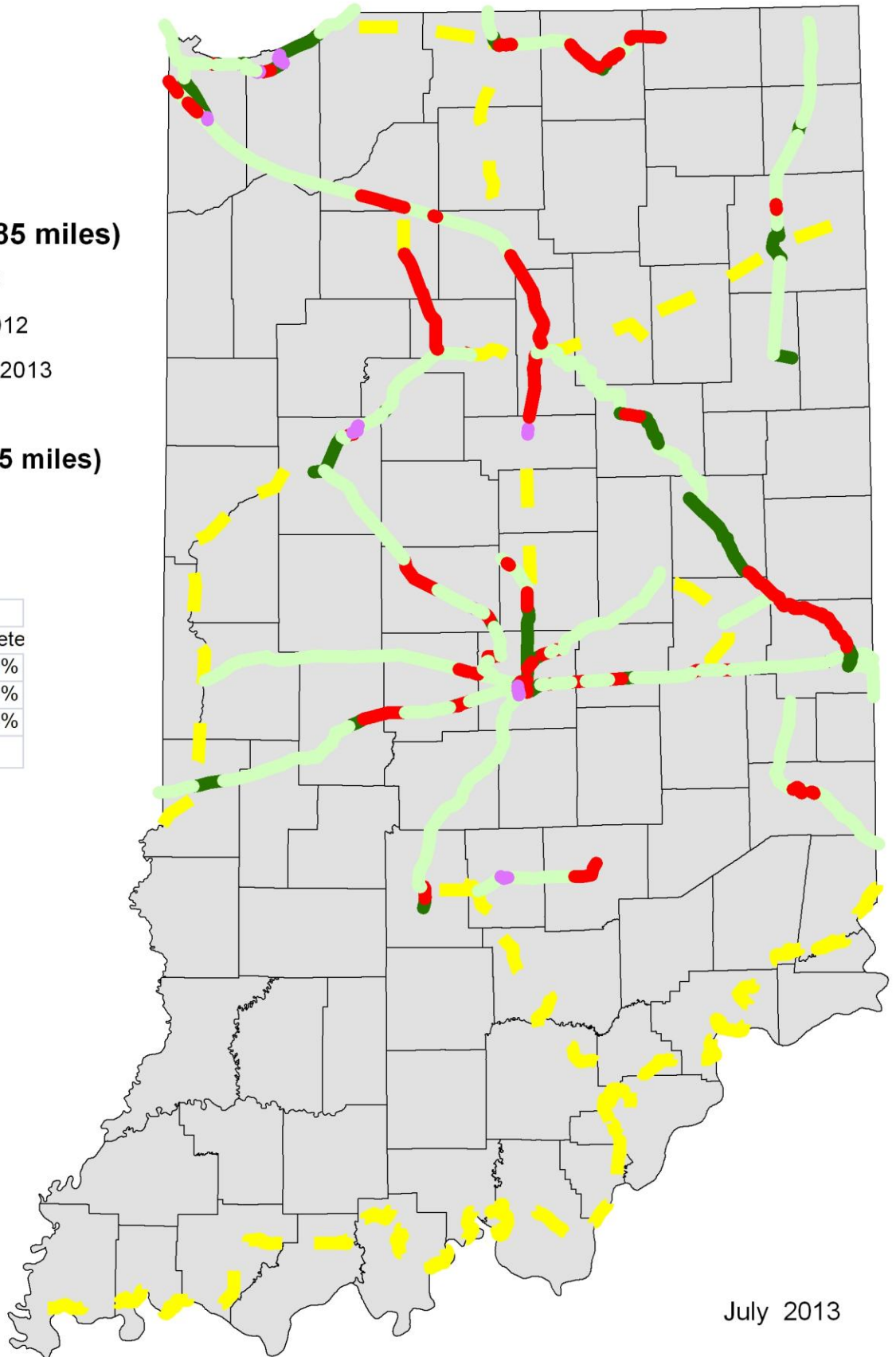
Visionary Status (985 miles)

- █ completed by 2006
- █ completed 2006-2012
- █ to be completed in 2013
- █ Priority planned

Potential System (795 miles)



Visionary Status		
Year	Trail Miles	% Complete
2006	130.02	13.20%
2013	196.62	33.16%
2014	12.72	34.45%
total	339.36	



July 2013

Good to Great Goal: A trail within 5 miles or 10 minutes of all Hoosiers

Toward the end of 2012, with the ultimate goal of the trail plan virtually achieved, and Governor Mike Pence’s vision of taking Indiana from good to great, it was suggested to raise the bar with regards to this goal. The 2013 strategic plan for Department of Natural Resources set a new goal of having a trail within 5 miles of all Hoosier residents. As of July 2013, Indiana now has a trail within 5 miles of 93.2% of all Hoosier residents. By 2014, we expect to get closer to the 94% mark toward this goal. These results indicate a 23% increase over the 70% of residents being within 5 miles of a trail in 2006. Again, this analysis excludes boating/water trails and trails open for use by motorized vehicles. See chart below and map on page 5.

HOOSIERS SERVED BY TRAILS (within 5 miles)		
POPULATION 2010	6,483,802	SERVED
2006	4,536,361	70.0%
2013	6,041,190	93.2%
2014	6,045,538	93.2%

State Visionary Trails

Hoosiers on the Move established a visionary statewide system of interconnected arterial trails. The priority visionary system of trails would be close to 1000 miles in distance when complete. In 2006, 130 miles of this visionary system were complete. As of July 2013, an additional 197 miles of this system has been completed, more than doubling the miles of completed visionary trails since 2006. At least another 13 miles is expected to be completed by the end of 2014. This would put the priority visionary trail system at over 34% complete by the end of 2014. It should be noted that Hoosiers on the Move did not propose a timeline for completion of the state visionary trails. See map of visionary trails progress on page 6.

Noteworthy State Visionary Trail projects that have been completed in recent years include:

- **Cardinal Greenway:** Addition of 20 miles of trail to the existing 30 miles of the section between Muncie and Richmond making this the longest contiguous rail-trail in the state.
- **Nickel Plate Trail:** Extended by 20 miles from Peru to Rochester
- **Panhandle Pathway:** 20 miles of trail built from near Logansport to Winamac
- **Farm Heritage Trail:** Acquired land for 15 miles of trail and built 10 miles of trail in Boone County.
- **Erie Trail:** 9 miles of trail built from North Judson to U.S. Hwy 35 in Starke County.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The ultimate goal of Hoosiers on the Move, a trail within 7.5 miles of all Hoosiers, has virtually been realized. In going from good to great, the bar has been raised and a new goal established of having a trail within 5 miles of all Hoosier residents. In addition, the build out of the nearly 1000 miles of the State Visionary Trails has progressed quickly by completing several extensive trail corridors that had already been acquired. Continued progress toward development of the State Visionary Trails will require a more strategic approach to fill in gaps and make connections between these trails. By completing several of the longest rail-trails in the state, Indiana can boast of having many more destination trails that will enhance tourism, promote healthy lifestyles, and help boost economic development along those corridors and in surrounding communities.