

Assessment of an Unused Rail Corridor for Trail Purposes
Site survey and physical inventory

Assessment by: _____ Date: _____

1. Describe the corridor's location: including road or street intersections and (your) direction of travel, distance, weather condition and GPS, if available.

2a. Describe the conditions and nature of the rail bed: e.g. rails in place with rotting ties, compacted sand base with grass, width of existing bed.

b. Current Uses:

1) Zoning:

2) Existing utilities:

3) Planned future use:

3. Are there bridges (location, length, height, type of structure, type of abutments, condition) or is a bridge missing?

4. Describe the condition of the side drainage ditches and width.

5. Describe the surrounding terrain and its uses, e.g. woodland, farm, residence, etc.

6. Are there structures of historic significance? e.g. depots, schools, mills, plantations. Describe.

7. Describe any breaks or obstructions in the corridor, e.g. downed trees, building, drainage cuts or other encroachments. Give locations.

8. Note any potential areas of environmental concern, e.g. abandoned gas stations, trash dumps, pesticide storage sites.

9. Report evidence of use or maintenance, e.g. tractor tracks, hunters' path, etc.

10. Identify potential sites for access or trail heads. Give locations.

11. Report any existing public facilities, e.g. schools, restrooms, drink water, parks, camping, etc.

12. Report any exiting intersections of farm tracks, trails, roads, and estimate amount of traffic.

13. Report any existing commercial facilities, e.g. food service, lodging, restrooms, camping, etc.

14. Report any unusual natural habitats or scenic areas. Give locations.

15. Other observations related to the corridor's use as a trail, e.g. were you approached by adjoining property owners? Was there evidence of other user hazards, hunters, packs of dogs?

16. What was your general impression about being on (in) the corridor, e.g. standing on a path of history, a closer contact with nature, intruding in a private neighborhood, etc? Describe your feelings on the corridor.

17. Other observations, concerns or experiences related to being on (in) the corridor.

Corridor or Project Name _____ Form Number _____

18. Attach Maps and photos, if available, and identify location.

Use this space for large sketches.

Corridor or Project Name _____ Form Number _____