

Illinois 30x30 Coalition

Chicago Wilderness Cafe



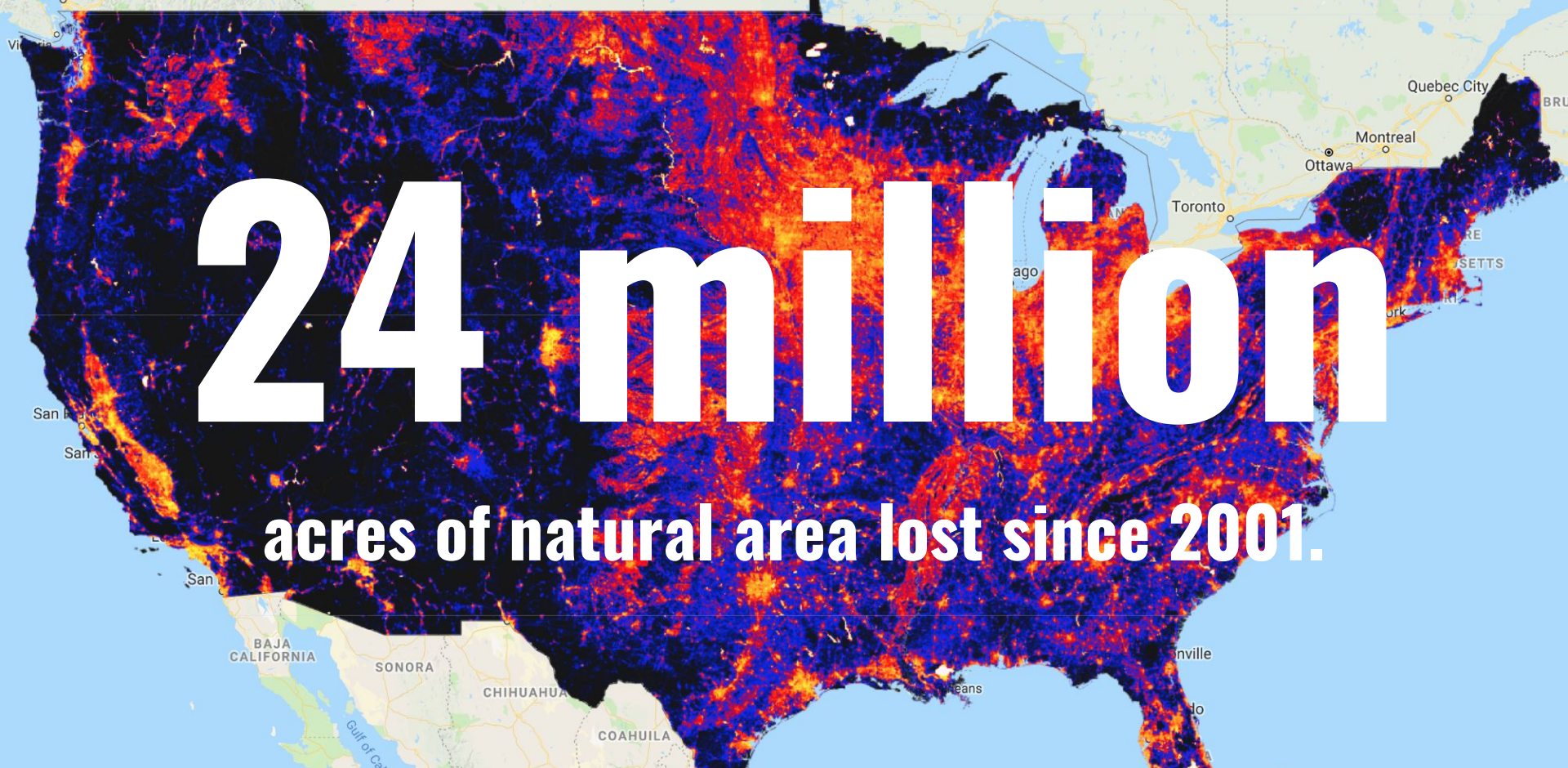
Goals for today's Community Listening Session

- Our theory of change is community-oriented policy development. We want to create solutions for the community, by the community.
- Illinois' success is a direct result of community collaboration.





Polls!!!



24 million

acres of natural area lost since 2001.

An area bigger than Indiana.

A conversation
about Nature-Based
Climate Solutions
in Illinois

Protecting 30% of U.S.
Land & Water by 2030

What is 30x30?



EXPERT BLOG > ALISON CHASE & HELEN O'SHEA & KATE POOLE & ZAK SMITH

Biden's Historic Action on 30x30

January 27, 2021

Alison Chase & Helen O'Shea & Kate Poole & Zak Smith

The president's executive order puts America on the path of protecting 30 percent of its land and 30 percent of its ocean areas by 2030.



U.S. Department of the Interior



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FACT SHEET: President Biden to Take Action to Uphold Commitment to Restore Balance on Public Lands and Waters, Invest in Clean Energy Future

1/27/2021

Last edited 2/11/2021

WH.GOV



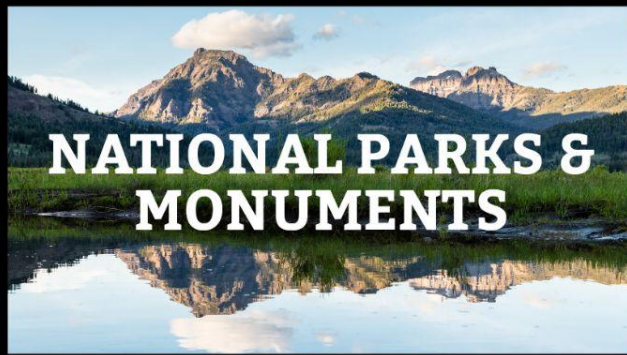
BRIEFING ROOM

Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

JANUARY 27, 2021 • PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS



WORKING LANDS



NATIONAL PARKS & MONUMENTS



URBAN OPEN SPACE



WILDERNESS AREAS



#30x30



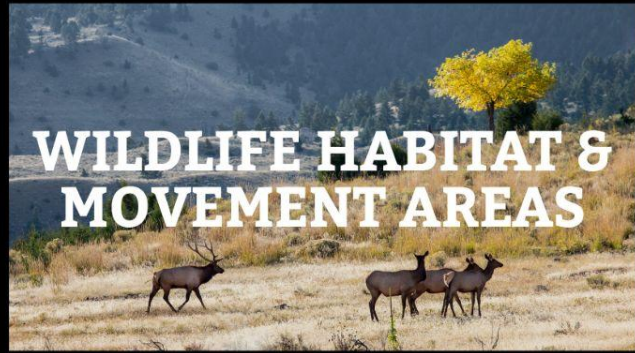
WILDLIFE REFUGES



MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



STATE PARKS



WILDLIFE HABITAT & MOVEMENT AREAS



8 million-acre ecoregion
7.2% is publicly & privately protected
30% is 2.4 million acres

Need: Protect another 1.8M acres

A photograph of three children in a forest. A girl in the foreground is holding a stick and looking up with an open mouth, while two boys stand behind her. The scene is lush with green foliage.

Outdoor Access

A photograph of a sandy beach at sunset. The ocean waves are breaking on the shore, and the sky is a mix of orange and blue. Tall grasses are visible on the left side of the beach.

Clean Water

A photograph of firefighters in full gear battling a fire. Thick black smoke is rising from the fire, and the scene is dark and smoky.

Jobs

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a variety of fresh vegetables, including red tomatoes, green peppers, purple eggplants, and yellow squash, in front of a green leafy background.

Local Food

A wide-angle photograph of a golden agricultural field, likely corn, under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds.

Sustainable Agriculture

A photograph of a public meeting or town hall. A microphone is in the foreground, and a blurred crowd of people is visible in the background, suggesting a community gathering.

Public Process

Urban Open Space

- The Chicago Park District owns nearly **9,000 acres** of green space.
- Chicago's tree canopy cover has decreased from **19% to 16% since 2010**.
- Hundreds of community gardens call Chicago home, but reforming vacant lots into urban agriculture is an arduous task.



Lincoln Park, Chicago

Outdoor Access

Goal: Every Illinois citizen should have access to green space, and that access should not be hindered by distance or feelings of unsafety.



LaBagh Woods, Chicago

Roughly 50,000 acres of the 1.5 million total acres of conserved land in Illinois are owned by non-governmental conservation groups, also known as conservation land trusts.

What do YOU think?

Currently, 4% of Illinois' land area is protected.
Do you believe this is enough in Illinois?

Please select:

_____ Yes _____ No _____ Unsure



Outdoor Access

- BIPOC and low-income communities are frequently deprived of nature, while also being disproportionately exposed to pollution.
- Alternatively, increase in green space can displace long-term residents due to increased property values.



What are the barriers to accessing nature for you?

Please select:

Transportation

Safety

Accessibility

Lack of
accommodating
infrastructure

Time

Lack of family/pet
friendly opportunities

Lack of knowledge
about opportunities

Financial

How do you recreate in nature? Select all that apply.

Hiking

Paddling

Biking

Fishing

Canoeing/Kayaking

Sports

Picnicking

Jobs

- The Illinois Department of Natural Resources supports **90,000 jobs** & directly employs ~1,200.
- Fixing **\$6.5B of deferred maintenance** at national parks will require a workforce.
- Nationally Black, Indigenous, People of Color represent **29%** of the conservation and science workforce.



Ranger Miguel Marquez, Photo: US DOI, Latino Conservation Week

Which of these do you think is important to consider when hiring people to work at farms and conservation areas in your community? *Rank from 1-6*

Hire local people

Hire from economically disadvantaged communities

Hire from environmental justice communities

Hire racially diverse employees

Other:

Living wage



What are barriers to your community applying for conservation and/or farming jobs? *Please select:*

Lack of
awareness

Discrimination

Pay

Transportation
to job

Other:

Local food



- Over 70% of our state is composed of farmland, yet we import over 95% of the food we consumer on an annual basis.

Goal: Every Illinois resident has access to healthy, environmentally sustainable, and ethically sourced food including but not limited to the right to grow their own food.

Sustainable Agriculture

Goal: Illinois-based farm operators adopt holistic farming practices that improve soil and water quality, increase/promote carbon capture and maintain the economic well-being of the farm community.



Do you make choices to seek out food that is grown in ways that prevent pollution? *Please select:*

Yes

No

Unsure

How much more would you pay to purchase food that you know is grown in a way that protects soil and water and prevents pollution? *Please select:*

I wouldn't pay
more

10%

20%

30%

50%

On a scale from 1-10, how easy is it for you to find local food, produced in your community?
Please select (1= very easy, 10= very difficult)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

How close is your access to fresh produce in your community using the mode of transportation that you use most frequently? *Please select:*

0-10 minutes

10-30 minutes

30 minutes-
1 hour

Over an hour

Other:

Car

Public
Transportation

Walking/
biking

Rideshare
Services

Public Process



- When communities are not able to participate in the planning process of their government it can lead to environmental and public health impacts.

What prevents you from more actively participating in land use decisions in your community?

Please select:

Little knowledge
of opportunities
to participate

Lack of
understan
ding the
civics
process

Unsure why
I would
engage in
these
discussions

I am fully engaged
in land use
decisions in my
community

Belief that
my voice
won't be
heard
anyway

Opportunities
to engage are
inconvenient
to my
schedule or
inaccessible
(ie. lack of
computer)

Clean Water

30x30 Coalition Goal: All communities are resilient to the flood impacts of climate change through utilizing multi-benefit projects that improve public safety, social equity, biodiversity, water quality, water security, and quality of life.

34,700

linear miles of
streams

126

miles of Lake
Michigan Coastline

169,000

inland lakes and
marshes

Green Vision: Aquatic Resources

Goal: regionalized index that establishes a baseline to measure improvements to watershed health.

Principles:

- Connectivity
- Physical integrity
- Health (humans and aquatic life)
- Source protection (protecting water supply)
- Restored absorption
- Resilience to climate change (e.g. flooding)

How often is your life impacted by flooding? *Please select:*

< 1 time/ year
times/year

2-5 times/year

5-10 times/year

> 10





Do you trust the water from your tap? *Please select:*

Yes

No

I'm not sure

Breakout Rooms!

THANK YOU!

If you have any questions or want to get involved, please contact Tonyisha at tharris@ilenviro.org.

APPENDIX SLIDES

30x30 in Illinois: Where do we fit?



- How does Illinois contribute to the national campaign?
- How does Illinois leverage federal funding and opportunities to become a conservation leader?
- What does 30x30 (America the Beautiful) look like in a state that is 75% agriculture?

Illinois 30x30 Coalition



We are composed of organizations including but not limited to environmental organizations, outdoor recreation advocates, land trusts, water and land stewards, community-based organizations and the agricultural community collaborating on a shared goal of supporting biodiversity and mitigating climate change.

What is 30x30?

- The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity estimates that the conservation of 30% of the land and water in the world by 2030 in order to achieve mitigation goals established under the Paris Climate Agreement
- In 2019 Senator Udall introduces a resolution affirming that the United States should establish policies putting us on the path towards achieving this goal in the United States
- On January 27th President Biden signs an Executive Order (14008) directing federal agencies to begin assessing how the United States can achieve the 30x30 goals as part of broader climate change initiatives, including the reintroduction of the US into the PARis Climate Accord
- In May 2021, the Biden Administration released the America The Beautiful Report, outlining locally led and voluntary nationwide conservation and sustainability goals that align with executive order 14008

Illinois Goals

- I. Equity goal: Communities will be thoroughly resourced to lead decision-making in their community.
- II. Water Goal: All Illinois communities are resilient to climate-change fueled flood impacts through reliance on multi-benefit projects that improve public safety, social equity, biodiversity, water quality, water security, and quality of life.
- III. Local food: Every Illinois resident has access to healthy, environmentally sustainable, and ethically sourced food and their rights to produce their own food remain intact.
- IV. Sustainable Ag: Illinois-based farm operators have the information and resources to deploy holistic farming practices that improve soil and water quality, increase/promote carbon capture and maintain the economic well-being of the rural farm community.

The State of Conservation in Illinois



- Less than **4%** land protected in Illinois.
- **75%** of Illinois land is in agriculture.
- Illinois only grows **4%** of the food consumed in the state despite having some of the most fertile soil in the nation!
- Illinois **ranks 44th** in public land ownership.