

# *Indiana State Trails Plan Progress Report*

## November 2018

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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. Hoosiers on the Move was succeeded by the Indiana Trails Plan published as a Chapter in the 2016-2020 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. Because the goal of a trail within 7.5 miles of all Hoosier residents had been virtually achieved at 98.5% by 2016, the new goal going forward is to have a trail within 5 miles of all Hoosier residents. Following is a summary of trails plan progress made since 2006.

According to the state trail inventory, there were 1542 miles of trail open to the public in 2006. It should be noted that the state trail inventory only includes land based trails and does not currently include boating/water trails. As of November 2018, the trails inventory was showing 3996 miles of trail open to the public. This reflects an increase of 2454 miles of open trail. However, almost half of the trails added to the trail inventory during the past eleven years were actually in existence before 2006, so it is estimated that approximately 1487 miles of new trail have been added since 2006. An additional 113 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 2018 on the following pages.

### **Ultimate Goal: A trail within 5 miles of all Hoosier residents**

As of November 2018, Indiana now has a trail within 5 miles of 96% of all Hoosier residents. This means that the goal of 95% of Hoosiers being within 5 miles of a trail has been achieved. These results indicate a 37% increase over the 70% of residents being within 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 3.

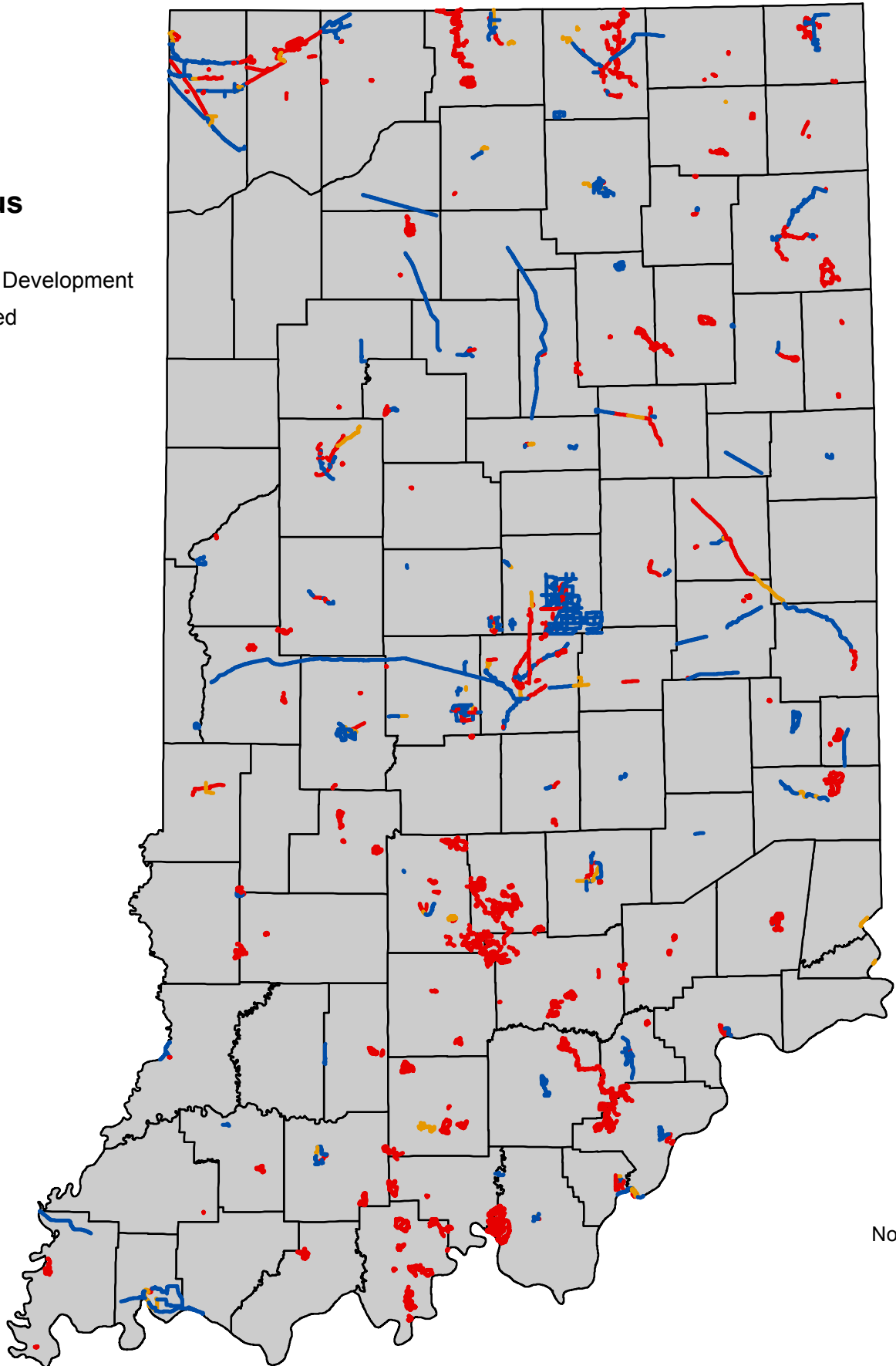
#### HOOSIERS SERVED BY TRAILS (within 5 miles)

POPULATION 2010	6,483,802	SERVED
2006	4,536,361	70.0%
2016	6,114,409	94.3%
2017	6,117,780	94.4%
2018	6,222,636	96.0%

# Indiana Trails 2006

## Trail Status

- Open
- Under Development
- Planned

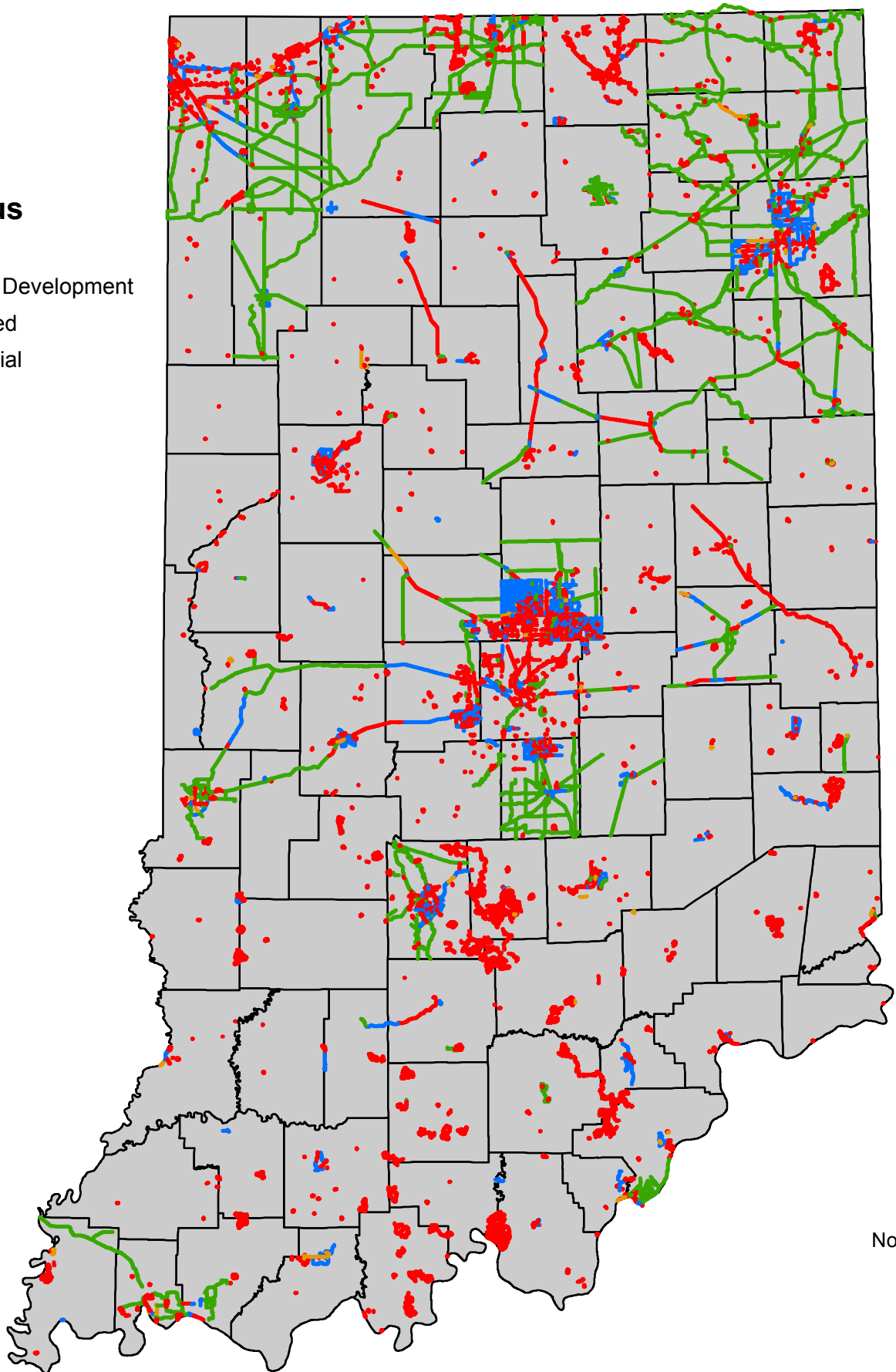


November 2018

# Indiana Trails 2018

## Trail Status

- Open
- Under Development
- Planned
- Potential



November 2018

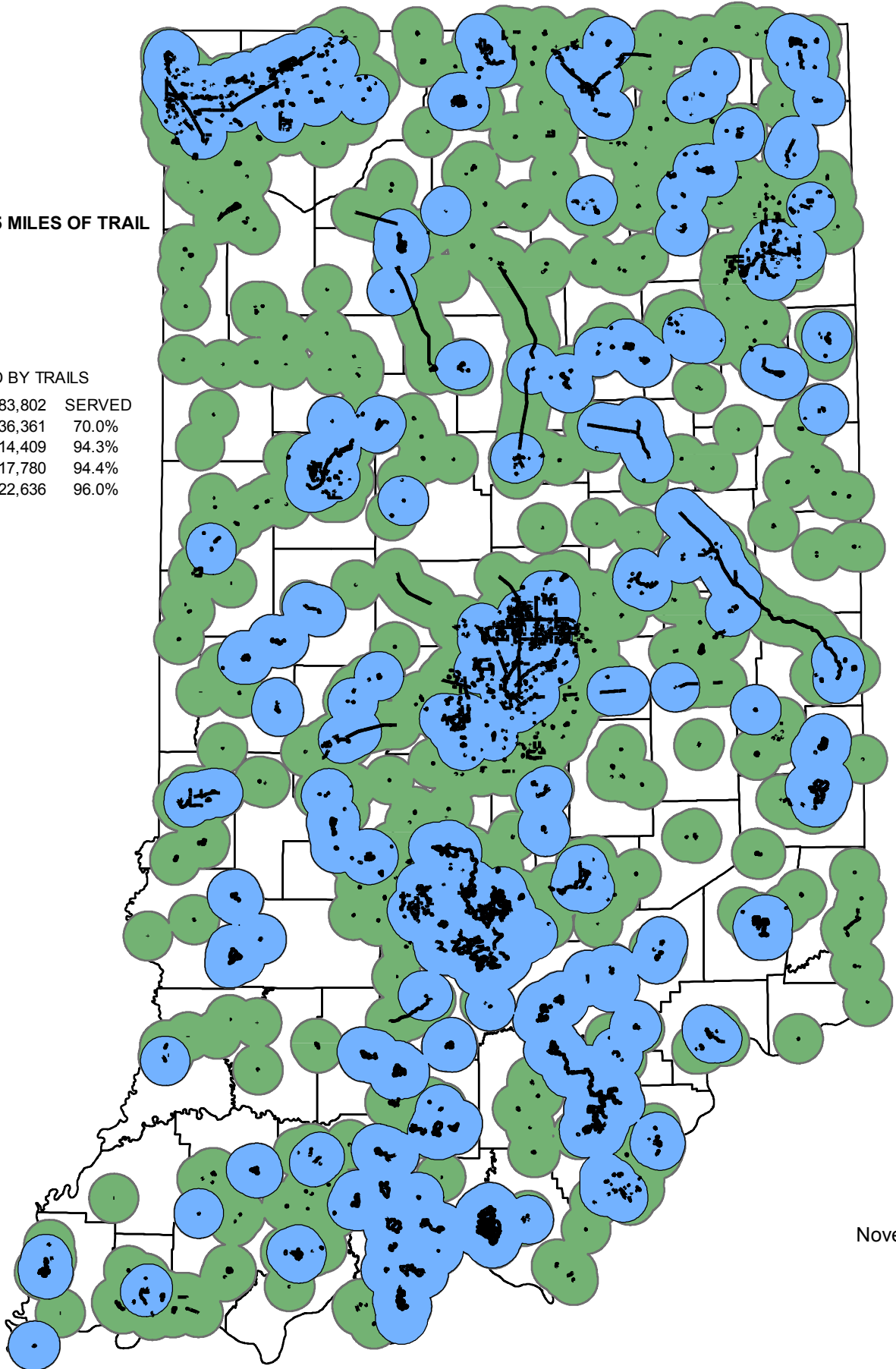
# Indiana Trails 2006-2018

## POPULATION WITHIN 5 MILES OF TRAIL

- Trails
- 2006 Open Trails
- 2018 Open Trails
- Counties

## HOOSIERS SERVED BY TRAILS

POPULATION 2010	6,483,802	SERVED
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# Visionary Trails Progress

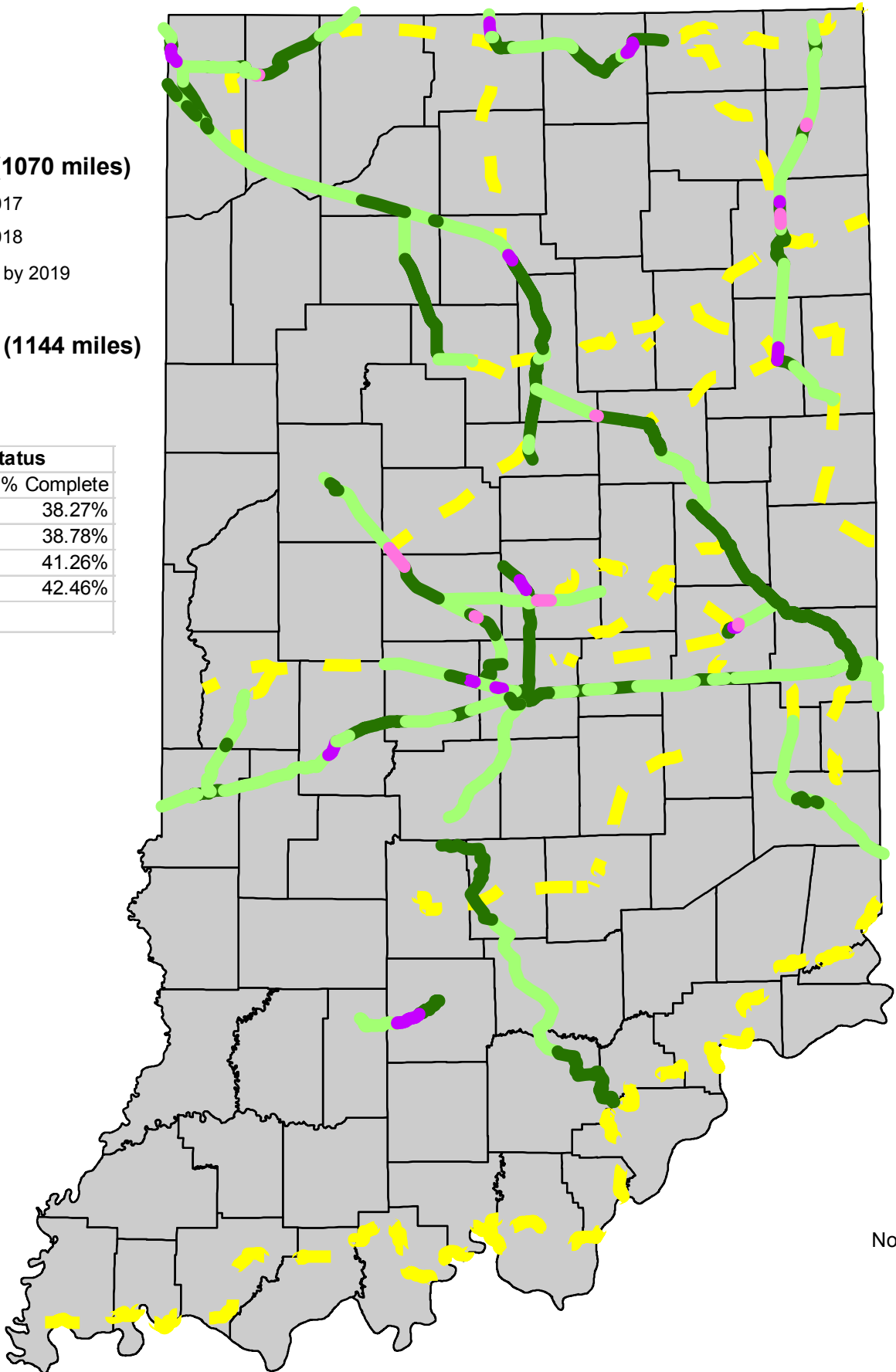
## Visionary Status (1070 miles)

- █ completed by 2017
- █ completed by 2018
- █ to be completed by 2019
- █ priority planned

## Potential System (1144 miles)



Visionary Status		
Year	Trail Miles	% Complete
2016	409.52	38.27%
2017	5.47	38.78%
2018	26.44	41.26%
2019	12.92	42.46%
<b>total</b>	<b>454.35</b>	



## **State Visionary Trails**

Hoosiers on the Move established a visionary statewide system of interconnected arterial trails. This visionary system was reviewed and revised for the current trail plan released in 2016. The priority visionary system of trails would be close to 1070 miles in distance when complete. In 2006, 132 miles of this visionary system were complete. As of November 2018, an additional 314 miles of this system has been completed, more than doubling the miles of completed visionary trails since 2006. At least another 12 miles are expected to be completed by the end of 2018, which would put the priority visionary trail system at over 42% complete. It should be noted that the state trail plan does not propose a timeline for completion of the state visionary trails. See map of visionary trails progress on page 4.

## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

There is a strong sense of accomplishment at having achieved the 95% mark of the goal of having a trail within 5 miles of all Hoosier residents. In addition, the build out of the nearly 1070 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.