

RELICENSING STUDY 3.6.2

RECREATION FACILITIES INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT ADDENDUM

**Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (No. 2485)
and Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (No. 1889)**

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



JUNE 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FirstLight Hydro Generating Company (FirstLight) is the current licensee of the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (Northfield Mountain Project, FERC No. 2485) and the Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (Turners Falls Project, FERC No. 1889). FirstLight has initiated with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC, the Commission) the process of relicensing the two Projects using FERC's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP). The current licenses for the Northfield Mountain Project and Turners Falls Project (Projects) were issued on May 14, 1968 and May 5, 1980, respectively, and both licenses expire on April 30, 2018. On September 13, 2013, FERC issued a study plan determination for the Projects which, among other studies, requires FirstLight to conduct Study No. 3.6.2 Recreation Facilities Inventory and Assessment. The Recreation Facilities Inventory and Assessment report (Report) was included in the Initial Study Report (ISR) filed with FERC on September 15, 2014. The Report included the results of field work conducted between October 2011 and February 2013 primarily to gather baseline information on existing recreation sites and facilities within the Turners Falls and Northfield Mountain Project boundaries for development of the Preliminary Application Document (PAD).

The Report identified 19 formal recreation sites located partially or wholly within the FERC Project boundary for one or both of the Projects. Of these formal sites, ten (10) are recreation sites owned and managed by FirstLight as Project Recreation Sites. Five (5) of the formal recreation sites that provide access to the Projects are operated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The remaining sites included in the Report are either formal recreation sites, operated by others and open to the public, a portion of which lies within the Project boundaries, or informal recreation sites that receive significant use and that provide access to the Projects.

On January 22, 2015, FERC issued its Determination on Requests for Study Modifications and New Studies (ISR Determination Letter). FERC required that FirstLight file an Addendum to the Report within five months (i.e., by June 22, 2015) that includes:

1. A full inventory and assessment of all climbing areas within the Project boundaries, including Rose Ledge;
2. A full inventory and assessment of the put-in site downstream of Turners Falls Dam;
3. Separate descriptions of the Poplar Street Access Site and the Portage Route including take-out and put-in locations, the process to call for portage assistance, and the route(s) used for the portage (including distance);
4. A description of how visitors access the bypassed reach from Cabot Woods and the condition of the route;
5. Address discrepancies between the text of the assessment report and the inventory sheet for Cabot Woods and provide a legible site drawing or map that show and label all pertinent features, such as parking lots, gates, and river access routes;
6. A condition assessment of Poplar Street Access Site and the Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area with legible site drawings or maps that show and label all pertinent features such as parking lots, gates, and river access routes;

7. Inclusion of all information from FirstLight's response to comments;¹
8. Legible site maps that show and label all pertinent features (e.g. river access routes, parking lots, and structures); and
9. Recreation Facilities and Recreation Amenities tables that list all sites and include basic facility information.

To prepare the Addendum, field work was conducted in April 2015. All of the recreation sites previously surveyed were revisited to prepare new fully legible field site maps, in which all features and amenities were clearly labeled.

Several previously inventoried sites were revisited and two new sites were also visited. These sites were:

- The Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area;
- The Cabot Woods Fishing Access;
- The Turners Falls Canoe Portage;
- The Poplar Street Access Site;
- The informal put-in site downstream of Turners Falls Dam;
- The two informal climbing areas within the Projects' boundary - Rose Ledge Climbing and Farley Ledge Climbing areas.

Finally, as part of this Addendum, FirstLight has included all information from FirstLight's response to comments and prepared Recreation Facilities and Recreation Amenities tables following the format outlined in the Commission's *Project Recreation Facilities Tables and As-Built Site Plan Drawings Guidance*.

¹ These responses are the responses that FirstLight provided in its filing dated December 15, 2014, in which it responded to comments on the ISR.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
cfs	cubic feet per second
CT	Connecticut
ft	feet
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FirstLight	FirstLight Hydro Generating Company
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GPS	Global Positioning System
ILP	Integrated Licensing Process
ISR	Initial Study Report
ISR Determination Letter	Determination of Requests for Study Modifications and New Studies
MA	Massachusetts
NH	New Hampshire
NOI	Notice of Intent
NMTTC	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center
Northfield Mountain	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Project
PAD	Pre-Application Document
PSP	Proposed Study Plan
RSP	Revised Study Plan
Report	Recreation Facilities Inventory and Assessment report filed as part of ISR
RM	River Mile
SD1	Scoping Document 1
SD2	Scoping Document 2
SPDL	Study Plan Determination Letter
TFI	Turners Falls Impoundment
the Commission	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
the Project	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage and Turners Falls Hydroelectric Projects
Turners Falls	Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project
USGS	United States Geological Survey
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
Vernon	Vernon Hydroelectric Project
VT	Vermont
WMA	Wildlife Management Area

1 INTRODUCTION

FirstLight Hydro Generating Company (FirstLight) is the current licensee of the Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (Northfield Mountain Project, FERC No. 2485) and the Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (Turners Falls Project, FERC No. 1889). FirstLight has initiated with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC, the Commission) the process of relicensing the Northfield Mountain Project and Turners Falls Project using FERC's Integrated Licensing Process (ILP). The current licenses for the Northfield Mountain Project and Turners Falls Project were issued on May 14, 1968 and May 5, 1980, respectively, with both set to expire on April 30, 2018.

As part of the ILP, FERC conducted a public scoping process during which various resource issues were identified. On October 31, 2012, FirstLight filed its Pre-Application Document (PAD) and Notice of Intent (NOI) with FERC. The PAD included FirstLight's preliminary list of proposed studies. On December 21, 2012, FERC issued Scoping Document 1 (SD1) and preliminarily identified resource issues and concerns. On January 30 and 31, 2013, FERC held scoping meetings for the two Projects. FERC issued Scoping Document 2 (SD2) on April 15, 2013.

FirstLight filed its Proposed Study Plan (PSP) on April 15, 2013 and, per the Commission regulations, held a PSP meeting at the Northfield Visitor Center on May 14, 2013. Thereafter, FirstLight held ten resource-specific study plan meetings to allow for more detailed discussions on each PSP and on studies not being proposed.² On June 28, 2013, FirstLight filed with the Commission an Updated PSP to reflect further changes to the PSP based on comments received at the meetings. On or before July 15, 2013, stakeholders filed written comments on the Updated PSP. FirstLight filed a Revised Study Plan (RSP) on August 14, 2013 with FERC addressing stakeholder comments. Included in the RSP was Study No. 3.6.2 *Recreation Facilities Inventory and Assessment*. The purpose of the inventory was to identify the existing recreation sites and facilities within the Turners Falls and Northfield Mountain Project boundaries.

The Recreation Facilities Inventory and Assessment for FirstLight's Northfield Mountain and Turners Falls Projects was based on field work and site visits conducted between October 2011 and February 2013. An initial summary of the results of the inventory was included in the PAD ([FirstLight, 2012](#)).

On September 15, 2014 FirstLight filed its Initial Study Report (ISR) which included the report for Study No. 3.6.2 *Recreation Facilities Inventory and Assessment* (Report). The Report was the culmination of the initial field work conducted during October 2011 and February 2013. Stakeholders provided comments on the ISR during the ISR Meetings held on September 30, 2014 and October 1, 2014 and in writing. On December 15, 2014, FirstLight filed its responses to stakeholder comments on the ISR.

On January 22, 2015 FERC issued its Determination on Requests for Study Modifications and New Studies (ISR Determination Letter). FERC required that FirstLight file an Addendum to the Report within five (5) months (i.e., by June 22, 2015) that includes:

- A full inventory and assessment of all climbing areas within the Project boundaries, including Rose Ledge;
1. A full inventory and assessment of the put-in site downstream of Turners Falls Dam;
 2. Separate descriptions of the Poplar Street Access Site and the Portage Route including take-out and put-in locations, the process to call for portage assistance, and the route(s) used for the portage (including distance);

² The ten meetings were held on May 14, 15, 21, and 22, and June 4, 5, 11, 12, and 14 and August 8.

3. A description of how visitors access the bypassed reach from Cabot Woods and the condition of the route;
4. Address discrepancies between the text of the assessment report and the inventory sheet for Cabot Woods and provide a legible site drawing or map that show and label all pertinent features, such as parking lots, gates, and river access routes;
5. A condition assessment³ of Poplar Street Access Site and the Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area with legible site drawings or maps that show and label all pertinent features such as parking lots, gates, and river access routes;
6. Inclusion of all information from FirstLight's response to comments;⁴
7. Legible site maps that show and label all pertinent features (e.g. river access routes, parking lots, and structures); and
8. Recreation Facilities and Recreation Amenities tables that list all sites and include basic facility information.

³ A condition assessment consists of rating the condition of the facilities provided at a site. In accordance with FERC's ISR Determination Letter, a condition assessment was conducted for the Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area and the Poplar Street Access site. A condition assessment of the Cabot Woods Fishing Access was previously conducted and the rating is included in the Report that was filed as part of the ISR. In accordance with FERC's ISR Determination Letter, an assessment, which resulted in the preparation of field site maps, was conducted for the informal put-in downstream of Turners Falls Dam, and the two informal climbing areas located wholly or partially within the Projects' boundary. There are no facilities at these areas on which to rate their condition.

⁴ These responses are the responses that FirstLight provided in its filing dated December 15, 2014, in which it responded to comments on the ISR.

2 STUDY AREA

The formal recreation sites that are located partially or wholly within the FERC Project boundary for one or both of the Projects, whether owned and operated by FirstLight or others, and informal recreation sites that receive significant use and that provide access to the Projects were the focus of this study. The FERC Project boundary for the Northfield Mountain and Turners Falls Projects extends from the base of Vernon Dam to just downstream of Cabot Station, a distance of approximately 23 river miles.

The Northfield Mountain and Turners Falls Projects are located on the Connecticut River in the states of Massachusetts (MA), New Hampshire (NH) and Vermont (VT). The greater portion of the Northfield Mountain and Turners Falls Projects, including developed facilities and most of the lands within the Project boundaries, are located in Franklin County, MA; specifically, in the towns of Erving, Gill, Greenfield, Montague, and Northfield. The northern reaches of the Northfield Mountain and Turners Falls Project boundaries extend into the town of Hinsdale, in Cheshire County, NH, and the town of Vernon, in Windham County, VT ([FirstLight, 2012](#)).

The Turners Falls Dam is located at approximately river mile 122 (above Long Island Sound) on the Connecticut River, at coordinates 42°36'38.77" north and 72°33'05.76" west, in the towns of Gill and Montague, MA. The tailrace of the Northfield Mountain Project is located approximately 5.2 miles upstream of Turners Falls Dam, in the town of Northfield, MA. The Upper Reservoir of the Northfield Mountain Project is located atop Northfield Mountain in Erving, MA ([FirstLight, 2012](#)).

The Turners Falls Impoundment (TFI), created by the Turners Falls Dam (which also serves as the lower reservoir for the Northfield Mountain Project), is approximately 20 miles long, extending upstream through the Connecticut River valley to the base of Vernon Dam, located in Vernon, VT. Most of the TFI lies in MA; however, approximately 5.7 miles of the northern portion of the TFI are located in NH and VT. At the southwest end of the Turners Falls Dam is the gatehouse. Below the dam, originating at the gatehouse, is the Turners Falls power canal. Paralleling the power canal is a bypass reach of the Connecticut River. The power canal is approximately 2.1 miles long and has a design capacity of approximately 18,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). Paralleling the power canal is a 2.7 mile long bypass reach of the Connecticut River.

3 METHODOLOGY

The methodology for the Addendum consisted of two primary tasks: conducting new or updated facility inventories and assessments for the specific sites identified in FERC's ISR Determination Letter, and developing field site maps and recreation facilities and recreation amenities tables.

Field work associated with the additional inventory work and Report addendum was conducted April 17-19, 2015. Site visits were made to the following sites to acquire new or updated inventory information and assessments:⁵

- The two informal climbing areas within the Project boundary – Rose Ledge and Farley Ledge;
- The informal put-in downstream of Turners Falls Dam;
- The Poplar Street Access site;
- The Canoe Portage route;
- The Cabot Woods Fishing Access site; and
- The Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area.

Field conditions during the inventory were mostly sunny to partly cloudy with highs in the low 50s to low 60s. Ground conditions were mostly dry, with no remaining snow cover. Flows as measured at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) gage on the Connecticut River in Montague, MA on April 17, 18 and 19 were between 50,000 and 60,000 cfs.

Field equipment used for the additional inventory work included a Trimble Juno GPS unit to locate the various recreation sites and associated facilities, and a GPS capable camera.

Inventory site visits were conducted by vehicle and on foot. Site inventories and assessments were documented in the field using the same standardized inventory form utilized in the original inventory assessment ([Figure 3.0-1](#)), with attention paid to legibility of the data collection form and field site maps. Each site was inventoried with respect to the facilities and amenities provided at that site and all site facilities were evaluated to determine general condition. A GPS capable camera was used to photograph various recreation sites and facilities.

Information from the field work conducted in April 2015 was used to develop legible field site maps that show and label all pertinent features (e.g., river access routes, parking lots, structures) and to develop Recreation Facilities and Recreation Amenities tables that list all Commission approved recreation sites and include basic facility information.

In addition, the condition assessments of the Poplar Street Access Site and the Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area consisted of the following: 1) the general condition of the site was observed and the need for major repairs to existing amenities and whether any potential safety concerns were noted; 2) the identification of

⁵ In accordance with FERC's Determination on Request for Study Modifications and New Studies, *condition* assessments were conducted at the Cabot Woods Fishing Access Site and the Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area, which are Commission-approved recreation facilities.

existing erosion, if any, along the Project shoreline associated with the existing sites; and 3) assigning a numeric rating scale of the condition of the facilities, as follows:

- Category 1 needs replacement, the items are non-functional such as missing pieces or are beyond repair;
- Category 2 needs repair, the items are damaged or are in a state of disrepair but can be restored to working order;
- Category 3 needs maintenance, the items are functional but may be more frequently used if they receive maintenance (this may include cleaning or repainting); and
- Category 4 good condition, these items are in good repair and are functioning as intended.

[Figure 3.0-2](#) shows the location of the recreation sites within the Northfield Mountain and Turners Falls Project boundaries that were evaluated as part of the initial inventory. [Table 3.0-1](#) provides a list of the recreation sites that were evaluated or re-mapped as part of this Addendum and the information that was collected for each site. Sites evaluated for the first time, as well as sites reevaluated as part of this addendum, are highlighted. Field site maps for all of the originally inventoried sites were revised to ensure each map was legible, with all pertinent features identified and labeled.

FirstLight **Site Visit/Inventory Forms**

Inspector: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____ Photo No: _____
 Project: _____ Site Name/Code: _____ Weather: _____
 Owner: _____ Telephone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Facility Type:

Campground _____ Picnic Area _____ Day Use/Overlook _____ Informal _____ Launch _____ Marina _____
 Hiking _____ Ski Area _____

Access:

_____ Water access	
_____ Paved access	_____ # of lanes
_____ Unpaved access (conventional motor vehicle)	_____ # of lanes
_____ Unpaved access (4WD vehicle)	_____ # of lanes
_____ ORV access (ATV)	_____ width
_____ Foot access	_____ width

Ownership/Management

	Licensee	Federal	State	County	Local	Private	Other
Ownership	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Management	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Operations:

Staffed _____ Private _____ Seasonal _____ Commercial _____ Fee _____ Open/Closed _____

General Area:

Is the area associated with other facilities or activities? _____
 Potential/need for expansion/enhancement? _____
 Topography: _____ Ground cover: _____
 Erosion/Soils: _____ Compaction: _____
 Approximate Shoreline Footage: _____ Bank Fishing (Yes/No): _____
 ADA compliant? Obstacles? _____ Rentals? _____

Sanitation Facilities: (Yes/No)

Type:	Unisex	# of Units Women	# of Units Men	Notes (ADA, etc)
Flush	_____	_____	_____	_____
Composting	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vault	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Portable	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wilderness	_____	_____	_____	_____

Site Facilities:

#	Type	Repairs	Material Code	Other Info
_____	Picnic Tables	_____	_____	_____
_____	Grills	_____	_____	_____
_____	Firepit/ring	_____	_____	_____
_____	Trails (specify use)	_____	_____	Length? _____
_____	Shelter	_____	_____	_____
_____	Potable Water	_____	_____	_____
_____	Dumping Station	_____	_____	_____
_____	Boat Ramp	_____	_____	_____
_____	Launching Lanes	_____	_____	_____
_____	Playground	_____	_____	_____
_____	Showers	_____	_____	_____
_____	Benches	_____	_____	_____
_____	Interpretive. Displays:	_____	_____	_____
_____	Other: _____	_____	_____	_____

Material codes; (A) asphalt, (B) Brick, (C) concrete, (CG) compacted gravel, (CRS) crushed gravel, (FE) metal, (G) grass, (GTF) geo-tech fabric, (NS) native soil, (O) other/specify, (P/F) plastic/fiberglass, (RC) rock crib, (S) sand, (W) wood.

Activities occurring:	# of Adults	# of Minors	Total # of users
Picnicking	_____	_____	_____
Camping	_____	_____	_____
Walking/hiking	_____	_____	_____
Swimming	_____	_____	_____
Beach Activities	_____	_____	_____
Launching boats	_____	_____	_____
Fishing	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Parking Lots:	Surface Code	Dimensions
# ADA spaces _____	_____	_____
# regular spaces _____	_____	_____
# Vehicle & trailer spaces _____	_____	_____
# of vehicles in lot _____	Space delineated _____	Curbs _____

Beach/Swim Area: (Yes/No)

	Number	Dimensions	Material	ADA Compliant
Dock/Pier:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Float :	_____	_____	_____	_____
Beach Area Substrate:	_____	_____	_____	Swim Area Substrate: _____
Dimensions of beach:	_____	Lifeguards _____	_____	Buoyed swim area _____

Campground/Campsite:

	RV sites	Cabin sites	Tent sites	Wilderness sites
Group Sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
Access (foot, orv, car, boat)	_____	_____	_____	_____
# of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
On site parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
Water front	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Utilities	_____	_____	_____	_____

* (E) Electric, (S) Sanitation, (W) Water, (O) other (specify)

Boat Launch Facilities:

Hard surface _____ Gravel _____ Unimproved _____ Carry In _____ Launch/Load prep area: _____

Docks/Piers/Floats	Total Docks	Total Slips				
Material code:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____	
Dimensions:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____	
# of slips:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____	
ADA compliant:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____	

Fishing Piers:Number: _____
Surface code: _____Combined Length of Piers _____
ADA compliant: _____**Site Aesthetics:**

Viewshed from site: _____

Viewshed from shoreline: _____

1 – No noticeable development

4 – Six (6) to ten (10) buildings in view

2 – Very limited primitive development

5 – Ten (10) or more buildings in view

3 – Five (5) or less buildings in view

6 – Highly developed

Nature of abutting development/land use: _____

Audio perceptions from site: _____

Audio perceptions from shoreline: _____

Evidence of use at site: _____

*(C) Compaction, (E) Erosion, (G) Garbage, (GD) Ground disturbance, (HW) Human waste, (UI) Unauthorized improvements, (V) Vandalism, (VR) Vegetation removal, (O) Other (Specify)

Evidence of Overcrowding: _____

*(A) Anecdotal information, (FA) facility/amenity @ capacity, (I) Improper parking, (S) Signage, (SD) site degradation, (U) Unauthorized sites, (W) Waiting lines, (O) Other (Specify)

Notes: _____

FirstLight

Sketch:

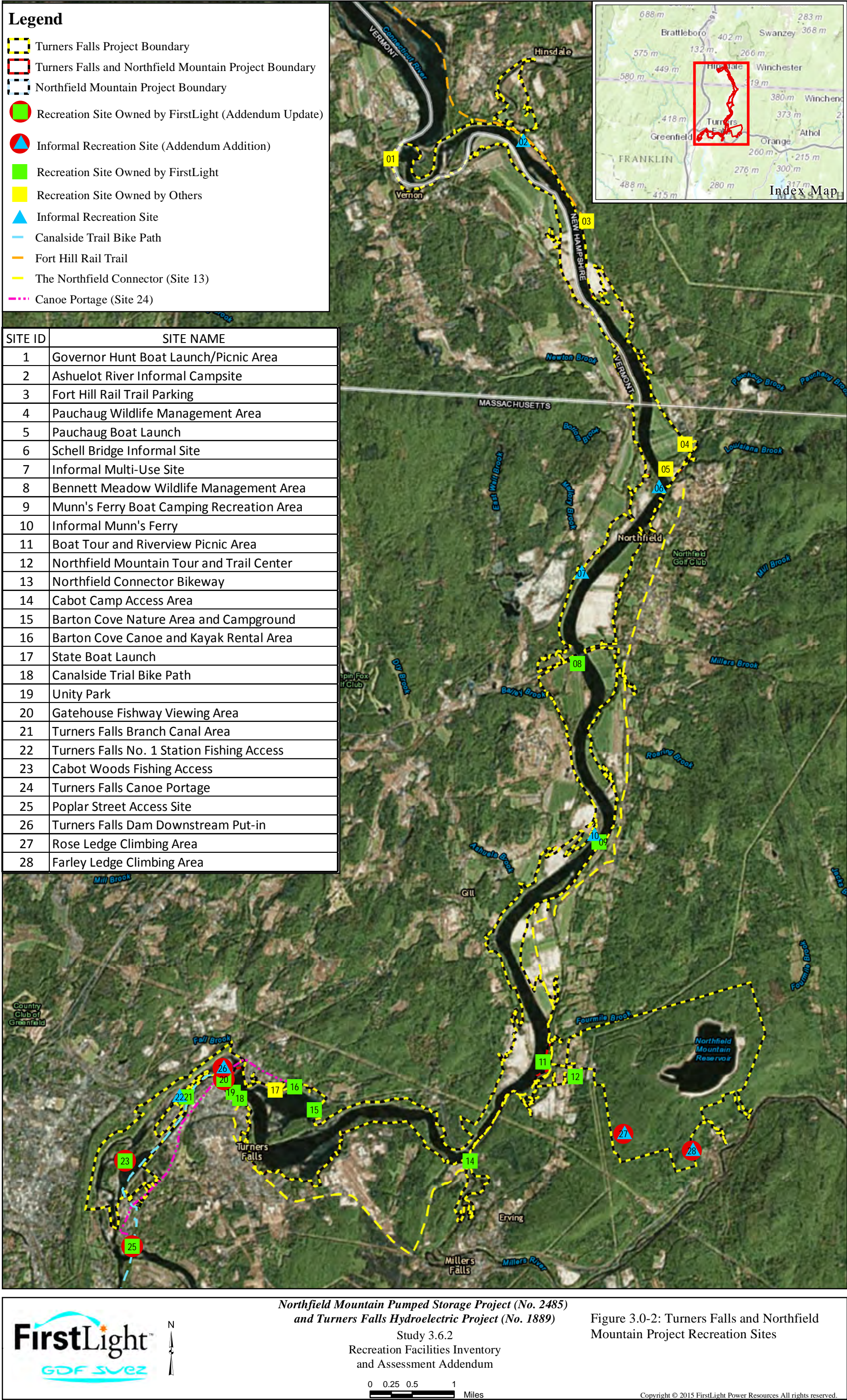


Table 3.0-1: Data Collected as Part of the Inventory Addendum⁶

Site ID	Recreation Site Name	Data Collected as Part of the Recreation Inventory Assessment Addendum
1	Governor Hunt Boat Launch/Picnic Area	New field site map of the portion of the site located within the Project boundaries.
3	Fort Hill Rail Trail	New field site map.
4	Pauchaug Wildlife Management Area	New field site map.
5	Pauchaug Boat Launch	New field site map.
6	Schell Bridge Informal Site	New field site map.
8	Bennett Meadow Wildlife Management Area	New field site map.
9	Munn's Ferry Boat Camping Recreation Area	New field site map.
10	Informal Munn's Ferry Access Site	New field site map.
11	Boat Tour and Riverview Picnic Area	New field site map.
12	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center ⁷ (Northfield Mountain Visitors Center)	New field site map.
14	Cabot Camp Access Area	New field site map.
15	Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground	New field site map.
16	Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area	New field site map.
17	State Boat Launch	New field site map.
19	Unity Park	New field site map.
20	Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area	New field site map, updated inventory, and condition assessment.
21	Turners Falls Branch Canal Area	New field site map.
22	Turners Falls No. 1 Station Fishing Access	New field site map.
23	Cabot Woods Fishing Access	New field site map, updated inventory and, description of how the bypass can be accessed from this site.
24	Turners Falls Canoe Portage	Review of portage operations and updated portage description.
25	Poplar Street Access Site	New field site map, updated inventory, and condition assessment.
26	Turners Falls Dam Downstream Put-in	Completed inventory data form, and assessed to prepare field site map.
27	Rose Ledge Climbing Area	Completed inventory data form, and assessed to prepare field site map.
28	Farley Ledge Climbing Area	Completed inventory data form, and assessed to prepare field site map.

Sites in bold are those sites for which FERC's ISR Determination Letter specifically requested new or updated information.

⁶ The following informal sites are not included in Table 3.0-1: Site 2 Ashuelot River Informal Campsite, Site 7 Informal Multi-Use Site, Site 13 Northfield Connector Bikeway and Site 18 Canalside Trail Bike Path. There are no amenities located at these sites. Therefore there were no field site maps to update from the ISR.

⁷ Nomenclature for this site was revised to be consistent with the FERC approved recreation site name.

4 RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Recreation Sites, Facilities and Amenities Tables

FERC’s ISR Determination Letter specifically requested that FirstLight update the Recreation Facilities Inventory and Assessment with tables providing basic information for all Commission approved recreation sites, in the format outlined in the Commission’s Project Recreation and Facilities Tables and As-Built Site Plan Drawing Guidance. The requested information is provided in [Tables 4.1-1](#) and [4.1-2](#).

Table 4.1-1: Commission Approved Recreation Facilities at the Turners Falls Project (FERC No. 1889) and Northfield Mountain Project (FERC No. 2485)

Site ID	Recreation Site Name	Recreation Facilities
8	Bennett Meadow Wildlife Management Area	Hunting area
9	Munn’s Ferry Boat Camping Recreation Area	5 Water Access only campsites (4 Tent platform sites and 1 shelter site), pedestrian foot bridge, restroom, picnic area (1 table)
11	Boat Tour and Riverview Picnic Area	56 vehicle parking spaces (2 ADA + 54 single vehicle spaces), restroom (ADA), , picnic area (12 tables + 2 benches), pedestrian foot bridge, picnic pavilion (8 tables), interpretive boat tour
12	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center	53 vehicle parking spaces (3 ADA + 50 single vehicle spaces), restroom (ADA), picnic area (7 tables), overlook, visitor center, interpretive sign (11 displays), hunting area, winter area, 22 trails
15	Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground	26 vehicle parking spaces at the Nature Area and 28 vehicle parking spaces at the Campground, shower house, 2 restroom facilities (ADA), picnic area (15 tables), overlook, interpretive sign (display), walk-in campground with 2 group sites and 29 campsites, nature trail
16	Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area	28 vehicle parking spaces, picnic area (6 tables), canoe and kayak rentals, canoe portage take-out
20	Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area	29 vehicle parking spaces (2 ADA + 27 single vehicle spaces), picnic area (6 tables + 5 grills), bike rack, trail, visitor center (ADA accessible), interpretive sign (display)
21	Turners Falls Branch Canal Area	Overlook with 4 benches
23	Cabot Woods Fishing Access	19 vehicle parking spaces (2 ADA + 17 single vehicle spaces), informal trails to shoreline, picnic area (3 tables)
24	Turners Falls Canoe Portage	Trail, canoe portage take-out and put-in, portage procedure

Table 4.1-2: Commission Approved Recreation Amenities for the Turners Falls Project (FERC No. 1889) and Northfield Mountain Project (FERC No. 2485)

Project No.	Development Name	Recreation Amenity Name	Recreation Amenity Type	Amenity Status	Latitude	Longitude	FERC Citation & Date	Notes
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Bennett Meadow Wildlife Management Area	Hunting Area	Constructed	42.6818	72.4727	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Munn's Ferry Boat Camping Recreation Area	Campground	Constructed	42.6512	72.4666	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	Water access only, 4 tent sites, 1 shelter site
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Munn's Ferry Boat Camping Recreation Area	Picnic Area	Constructed	42.6512	72.4666	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	1 table
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Boat Tour and Riverview Picnic Area	Picnic Area	Constructed	42.6133	72.4792	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	12 tables and 2 benches
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Boat Tour and Riverview Picnic Area	Picnic Pavilion	Constructed	42.61405	72.4788	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	8 tables
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Boat Tour and Riverview Picnic Area	Other Use (Interpretive Boat Tour)	Constructed	42.6130	72.4797	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	Quinnetukut II Dock
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center	Picnic Area	Constructed	42.6104	72.4713	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	7 tables
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center	Overlook	Constructed	42.6095	72.4495	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	Platform overlooking upper reservoir
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center	Trails	Constructed	N/A	N/A	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	22 trails

STUDY REPORT ADDENDUM – RELICENSING STUDY 3.6.2

Project No.	Development Name	Recreation Amenity Name	Recreation Amenity Type	Amenity Status	Latitude	Longitude	FERC Citation & Date	Notes
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center	Visitor Center	Constructed	42.6108	72.4716	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	Environmental and Educational programs, rentals, video displays
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center	Interpretive Display	Constructed	42.6108	72.4716	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center	Winter Area	Constructed	42.6108	72.4716	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	Skiing, cross country skiing, snowshoeing
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center	Hunting Area	Constructed	42.6108	72.4716	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground	Picnic Area	Constructed	42.6040	72.5332	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	15 tables
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground	Overlook	Constructed	42.6031	72.5336	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	Platform overlooking Barton Cove
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground	Campground	Constructed	42.5999	72.5440	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	2 Group sites, 26 tent sites, 2 pop up camper sites, 1 ADA site
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground	Interpretive Display	Constructed	42.6042	72.5328	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground	Trail	Constructed	N/A	N/A	59 FPC 126 July 5, 1977	Approx. 4,250 feet long nature trail

Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Project (No. 2485) and Turners Falls Hydroelectric Project (No. 1889)

STUDY REPORT ADDENDUM – RELICENSING STUDY 3.6.2

Project No.	Development Name	Recreation Amenity Name	Recreation Amenity Type	Amenity Status	Latitude	Longitude	FERC Citation & Date	Notes
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area	Picnic Area	Constructed	42.6082	72.5377	103 FERC 62,189 06/30/2003	6 tables
P-1889 P-2485	Turners Falls, Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area	Take-out	Constructed	42.6082	72.5375	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	Put-in and take-out counted as 1 canoe portage on Form 80
P-2485	Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage	Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area	Other Use (canoe and kayak rentals)	Constructed	42.6082	72.5377	103 FERC 62,189 06/30/2003	Approx. 30 kayaks and approx. 30 canoes for rent
P-1889	Turners Falls	Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area	Visitor Center	Constructed	42.6097	72.5542	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	3 levels of fishway viewing
P-1889	Turners Falls	Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area	Picnic Area	Constructed	42.6088	72.5532	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	6 tables
P-1889	Turners Falls	Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area	Trail Beginning	Constructed	42.6088	72.5532	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	Start of Canalside Trail Bike Path within Project boundary
P-1889	Turners Falls	Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area	Trail End	Constructed	42.5894	72.5769	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	End of Canalside Trail Bike Path within Project boundary
P-1889	Turners Falls	Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area	Interpretive Sign	Constructed	42.6092	72.5536	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	Fish species traveling through fish ladder system

STUDY REPORT ADDENDUM – RELICENSING STUDY 3.6.2

Project No.	Development Name	Recreation Amenity Name	Recreation Amenity Type	Amenity Status	Latitude	Longitude	FERC Citation & Date	Notes
P-1889	Turners Falls	Turners Falls Branch Canal Area	Overlook	Constructed	42.6062	72.5629	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	4 benches
P-1889	Turners Falls	Cabot Woods Fishing Access	Picnic Area	Constructed	42.5948	72.5788	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	3 tables
P-1889	Turners Falls	Cabot Woods Fishing Access	Access Point	Constructed	42.5950	72.5772	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	Angler access
P-1889	Turners Falls	Turners Falls Canoe Portage	Put-in	Constructed	42.5802	72.5752	18 FERC 62,467 04/17/1982	Approx. 3.5 miles portage trail

4.2 Recreation Field Site Maps

In accordance with the ISR Determination Letter, FirstLight prepared new field site maps for each of the recreation sites included in the original inventory report, as well as for additional sites for which FERC requested inventory information as part of this addendum. Consistent with the original inventory assessment, maps were prepared for all of the recreation sites and are provided in [Appendix A](#). In preparing these maps in the field, every effort was made to ensure that all pertinent site features were labeled, and that the maps were legible. The following is a summary of the mapping effort for each site.

Site 1: Governor Hunt Boat Launch/Picnic Area

While the majority of this recreation site is within the Project boundary for TransCanada's Vernon Project (FERC No. 1904), a portion of the site, along the shoreline is also located within the Turners Falls and Northfield Mountain Project boundaries. Only those facilities and amenities located within the Turners Falls and Northfield Mountain Project boundaries are included on the revised field site map ([Appendix A](#), Site 1). The boat launch was under water during the April 2015 field visit due to high water. Information from the earlier field site map was used to show the location of the launch.

Site 3: Fort Hill Rail Trail

The Fort Hill Rail Trail is a multiple use trail, located in Hinsdale, New Hampshire. A new field site map was drawn of the parking area and its association with the trail ([Appendix A](#), Site 3).

Site 4: Pauchaug Wildlife Management Area (WMA)

The Pauchaug WMA is located on the eastern side of the Connecticut River in Northfield, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of the WMA ([Appendix A](#), Site 4).

Site 5: Pauchaug Boat Launch

This site is located downstream of the Pauchaug WMA. A new field site map was drawn of the boat launch site. ([Appendix A](#), Site 5). As shown, at the time of the April 2015 field visit, a portion of the site was flooded, including the boat ramp and some of the turnaround area. However, information from the earlier field site map was used to show the location of those amenities.

Site 6: Schell Bridge Informal Site

The Schell Bridge Informal Site is located on the western shore of the Connecticut River just south of the Pauchaug Boat Launch in Northfield, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of the informal site ([Appendix A](#), Site 6).

Site 8: Bennett Meadow Wildlife Management Area (WMA)

The Bennett Meadow WMA is located on the western shore of the Connecticut River just south of the Route 10 Bridge in Northfield, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of the WMA ([Appendix A](#), Site 8).

Site 9: Munn's Ferry Boat Camping Recreation Area

This water access only site is located on the east side of the river in Northfield, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 9).

Site 10: Informal Munn's Ferry Access Site

This informal access site is located on the west side of the river in Gill, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 10).

Site 11: Boat Tour and Riverview Picnic Area

This recreation site is located off Pine Meadow Road in Northfield, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 11).

Site 12: Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center (NMTTC)

This site is located within the Northfield Mountain Project boundary, off Millers Falls Road (Rt. 63) in Northfield, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 12)

Site 14: Cabot Camp Access Area

The Cabot Camp Access Area is located in Montague, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 14).

Site 15: Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground

The Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground is located in Gill, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 15).

Site 16: Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area

This site is located on the northern shore of the Connecticut River in Gill, Massachusetts. The canoe portage take-out is located at this site as shown on the new field site map ([Appendix A](#), Site 16).

Site 17: State Boat Launch

This launch is located upstream of the Turners Falls Dam in Gill, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn for this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 17).

Site 19: Unity Park

This park is located off from 1st Street in Turners Falls, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn for this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 19).

Site 20 Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area

This site is located off of 1st Street in Montague, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn for this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 20).

Site 21: Turners Falls Branch Canal Area

The Branch Canal Area is located in Montague, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 21).

Site 22: Turners Falls Station No. 1 Fishing Access

Station No. 1 is located in Montague, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 22).

Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access

The Cabot Woods Fishing Access is located in Montague, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 23 Lower and Upper Parking Areas).

Site 25: Poplar Street Access Site

The Poplar Street Access Site is an informal put-in site at the end of the canoe portage route located outside the Turners Falls Project boundary on Poplar Street in Montague, Massachusetts. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 25).

Site 26: Turners Falls Dam Downstream Put-in

The put-in downstream of Turners Falls Dam is an informal site located within the Turners Falls Project boundary in Turners Falls, Massachusetts between the power canal and the bypass reach. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 26).

Site 27: Rose Ledge Climbing Area

The Rose Ledge Climbing area is an informal climbing site located within the Northfield Mountain Trail System, and therefore within the Northfield Mountain Project boundary. A new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 27)

Site 28: Farley Ledge Climbing Area

The Farley Ledge Climbing area is an informal climbing site located partially within the Northfield Mountain Project boundary. A new field site map was drawn of the portion of this site located within the Project boundary. ([Appendix A](#), Site 28).

4.3 Site Inventory and Assessments

In its Study Report Determination Letter FERC recommended that FirstLight revisit certain recreation sites that were included in the original inventory, and in some cases to conduct an inventory and assessment of sites that were not originally inventoried. As outlined previously in [Table 3.0-1](#), FirstLight provided an updated inventory and condition assessment for Site 20 – Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area. Also, two previously inventoried sites were revisited as part of this addendum effort: Site 23 - Cabot Woods Fishing Access, and Site 24 - Turners Falls Canoe Portage. In addition, FirstLight conducted and prepared a separate inventory and condition assessment for the Poplar Street Access Site (Site 25), which was previously evaluated as part of the Turners Falls Canoe Portage. Finally, FirstLight conducted site inventories and assessment of two climbing areas and an informal put-in site that are located within or partially located within the Project boundary or accessed via Project lands.

Results for each of the sites evaluated for the addendum are provided in the following sections. All inventory forms for the recreation sites described below can be found in [Appendix B](#).

Site 20 Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area

This site is located within the Project boundaries of both the Turners Falls and Northfield Mountain Projects, off of 1st Street in Montague, Massachusetts. The fishway is owned and managed by FirstLight. As noted previously, a new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 20).

Site Inventory

The Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area (see [Figure 4.3-1](#)) including its visitor center provides the public an opportunity to view fish when the Gatehouse fishway is operating. There are three floors to the facility. On the upper level there are heated and ADA accessible restrooms. The upper level also has a viewing platform that is ADA accessible and contains interpretive displays and a closed circuit TV feed from the fishway counting room. The second level provides a landing with views of the fishway. The bottom level contains the fishway viewing area, additional interpretive displays, and also contains the counting room, which is not open to the public. This site also contains the FirstLight owned portion of the picnic area on the north side of 1st Street. The picnic area contains six (6) picnic tables, five (5) grills, a bike rack, and parking. The parking area can accommodate 27 vehicles and an additional two (2) ADA vehicles. The picnic area remains open during the summer and is located outside of the fence to the fishway. The Canalside Trail Bike Path starts at the picnic area within this site and continues along the Turners Falls Power Canal.

Availability to the Public

The fishway viewing facility is open to the public during upstream fish migration season, typically late-May to mid-June. Timing may vary depending on weather and river conditions. Hours of operation are Wednesday through Sunday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The picnic area is open year-round from dawn until dusk, unless there is a scheduled event. The parking lot is not typically plowed in the winter.

Site Condition Assessment

The fishway viewing facility was observed to be functioning as intended and the amenities within the facility, including the restrooms, were in good condition. The fishway viewing facility therefore receives a Category rating of 4. At the time of the April 2015 field visit, the picnic tables were functional but it was noted that they would be more appealing and possibly used more frequently if the tops were replaced. At the time of the field visit, plans, however, were already underway to replace the table tops and bench tops during the spring of 2015. As of June 2015, upgrades to the picnic tables are in progress. Therefore, upon completion of the upgrades, they would receive a Category rating of 4.



Figure 4.3-1 Fishway Viewing Facility Entrance

Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access

The Cabot Woods Fishing Access ([Figures 4.3-2](#) through [4.3-5](#)) is located within the Turners Falls Project boundary on Migratory Way in Montague, Massachusetts between the power canal and the bypass reach. The lower parking lot is located near the USGS Conte Anadromous Fish Laboratory (Conte Lab). The upper parking lot is located outside of the gate on Migratory Way. This site is owned and managed by FirstLight and it is open to the public for day use activities such as fishing, hiking, and picnicking. Since there are two separate parking areas, two inventory forms were filled out for this site (see [Appendix B](#)).

Site Inventory

Recreation amenities provided at this site include three (3) picnic tables, two (2) parking lots, and numerous informal angler access trails. The two parking lots provide 17 parking spaces, and three (3) ADA parking spaces. There are no restroom facilities at the site. Individuals can access the power canal from the parking lot located outside of the gate at the northerly terminus of Migratory Way where it joins G Street. The area between this parking lot and the power canal is flat and grassy. The picnic tables and informal access trails are located along the bypass reach. The trail to this site is accessed from the Migratory Way roadside parking area. The trail to the picnic area and picnic area itself are not ADA accessible due to the steep slope of the trail.

Migratory Way is open to the public and is used for numerous recreation activities including but not limited to walking, sightseeing, dog walking, and bike riding. As noted previously, new field site maps were drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 23 Lower and Upper Parking Areas). Site 23 Lower Parking Area shows the roadside parking area along Migratory Way, the trail to the site, several informal access trails, the approximate locations of the picnic tables and the fence for the Conte Lab. Site 23 Upper Parking Area shows the parking lot located outside of the gate at the northerly terminus of Migratory Way where it joins G Street.

It appears that anglers and others that desire to access the shoreline are utilizing several informal angler access trails that traverse the steep bank to the bypass reach. The location of the most frequently used informal access trails are shown on the field site map ([Appendix A](#), Site 23 Lower Parking Area). At the time of the April 2015 site visit, approximately eight (8) informal access trails were noted. The access to the shoreline along these trails is steep, making it difficult to launch hand carry boats in this area. Swimming is discouraged at this site. There are “No Swimming” signs posted along the top of the bank of the bypass reach indicating that water flows change rapidly; there are dangerous currents, and there are underwater hazards.

Availability to Public

The fishing access is open year-round from dawn to dusk. The site abuts a fence belonging to the Conte Lab. The gate at the northerly terminus of Migratory Way where it joins G Street into the fishing access and the Conte Lab typically closes at 5:00 pm daily. Individuals may choose to park roadside along Migratory Way which is inside the gated area, however they will need to leave prior to 5:00 pm or move their vehicle to the other lot. The lot which is located just outside of the Conte Lab gate can be used to access the site when the gate is locked.

Site Assessment

There was compaction of the soils in the vicinity of informal trails to the shoreline of the bypass reach and small pockets of minor erosion were noted on some of the informal trails at the time of the April 2015 site

visit. As noted above, the informal trails are located on a steep bank. The picnic table tops on two of the tables and two bench tops showed signs of wear.



Figure 4.3-2 Cabot Woods Fishing Access Parking Area Outside of Conte Gate



Figure 4.3-3 Cabot Woods Fishing Access Picnic Area



Figure 4.3-4 Cabot Woods Fishing Access Informal Trail



Figure 4.3-5 Cabot Woods Fishing Access Informal Trail

Site 24: Turners Falls Canoe Portage

The Turners Falls canoe portage operation provides boaters with a means of circumventing the Turners Falls Dam. Boaters wishing to proceed downriver of Barton Cove call FirstLight for vehicular portage. They are then picked up and driven downstream of the Turners Falls Dam to the Poplar Street Access Site in Montague City, where they can continue their trip. Signs explaining the Canoe Portage Operation procedures and providing the portage request call-in number are located at the following recreation sites: Munn's Ferry Boat Camping Recreation Area, Boat Tour and Riverview Picnic Area, Barton Cove Nature Area, Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area, and at the Poplar Street Access Site. Instructions are to paddle to the Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area, unload gear, and then call (413) 659-3761 to request a pick up. Typically a vehicle for the portage will arrive within 15 to 90 minutes of the telephone call. Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area has a phone that boaters can use from Memorial Day through Labor Day. During the off-season boaters need to use their own phones to make the portage request phone call.

Site Inventory

The canoe portage operation utilizes the Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area (Site 16) as the upstream take-out location. The Poplar Street Access Site (Site 25), serves as the put-in location for the canoe portage. The portage route most typically utilized is approximately 3.5 miles long, but the actual route can vary depending on the roads the driver selects. The typical route from Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area is as follows: west on Route 2, turn south onto Main Road in Gill, continue south on Avenue A in Turners Falls, continue south on Montague City Road in Montague, turn east onto Greenfield Road, and then turn south onto Poplar Street.

Availability to Public

Portage around the Turners Falls Dam for paddle craft is available to the public at no charge seven (7) days a week during daylight hours. The portage is operated during paddling season which is typically mid-May through mid-November, but may vary depending on weather and river conditions. Portages are performed on an as needed, on-call basis for groups with four (4) or fewer boats. However, FirstLight asks larger groups of more than four (4) boats to call a month in advance to plan and schedule portage dates and times.

Site Assessment

The ISR Determination Letter requested that a description of the canoe portage operation be included in the Addendum. The canoe portage operation contains no facilities or amenities solely associated with the portage to be assessed. A condition assessment of the canoe portage take-out site (Site 16 Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area) was included in the Report filed in September 2014. The Canoe Portage put-in location at Poplar Street Access was assessed as provided in this addendum as part of Site 25. An alternative to the canoe portage operation - a hand-carry canoe portage was assessed in conjunction with the *Assessment of Day Use and Overnight Facilities Associated with Non-Motorized Boats* (Study No. 3.6.4).

Site 25 Poplar Street Access Site

The Poplar Street Access Site ([Figure 4.3-6](#) and [4.3-7](#)) is an informal site located outside the Turners Falls Project boundary, downstream of Cabot Station, on Poplar Street in Montague, Massachusetts. This site is owned by FirstLight and is utilized for carry-in boat access, fishing and as the downstream put-in location for the Canoe Portage. The shoreline is accessible by a steep informal trail, which is not ADA accessible. Some erosion along the informal trail leading to the put-in was observed. As noted previously, a new field site map was drawn of this site ([Appendix A](#), Site 25). This site was assessed as a potential access point for recreational boaters in Study No. 3.6.3 *Whitewater Boating Evaluation*.

Site Inventory

There is a parking area that can hold approximately 16 vehicles, a FERC Part 8 sign,⁸ and a trash can at the site. The informal access trail to the water is an unimproved dirt trail, approximately 42.5 feet in length. The trail to the water's edge is steep for a short stretch of about 19 feet.

Availability to Public

This site is open from dawn until dusk, year-round. The parking area is not plowed in the winter.

Site Condition Assessment

The parking area is currently functioning as a parking area for general public access, but there are noticeable ruts near the entrance. The parking lot could be better utilized if the ruts near the entrance were filled and smoothed. The informal access trail has a steep, eroding slope and is compacted. The shoreline near the surrounding bridge abutment is also compacted from use. Improving the informal access trail to the water, would ease access to the shoreline and improve the safety of the site. The Poplar Street Access site is given a rating of Category 3.

⁸ A FERC Part 8 sign is a conspicuous sign giving the name of the Project and the owner of the project, a statement that it is licensed by the Commission and the project number, directions to the areas of the project which are available for public recreation use, permissible times and activities, and other regulations regarding such use, and advising that further information may be obtained at local offices of the licensee in the vicinity of the Project. 18 C.F.R. § 8.2.



Figure 4.3-6 Poplar Street Access Site Parking Area



Figure 4.3-7 Poplar Street Informal Access Trail to Shoreline

Site 26 Turners Falls Dam Downstream Put-in

The put-in ([Figure 4.3-8](#) and [4.3-9](#)) downstream of Turners Falls Dam is an informal site located within the Turners Falls Project boundary in Turners Falls, Massachusetts between the power canal and the bypass reach. This site is located immediately downstream of the Turners Falls Fishway on river left. This site is owned by FirstLight and is used informally for angling and launching of carry-in boats. Individuals access the site on foot or by bicycle along a grassy abandoned roadway. The slope is too steep for ADA access. As noted previously, a field site map for this area was drawn ([Appendix A](#), Site 26). This site, also known as the fishway put-in site, was assessed as a potential put-in for recreational boaters in Study No. 3.6.3 *Whitewater Boating Evaluation*.

Site Inventory

There are no facilities, amenities or improvements associated with this site.

Availability to Public

There are no formal hours for this informal site.

Site Assessment

Evidence of use at the site included minor amounts of garbage, graffiti and minor soil compaction near the shoreline. An unauthorized, informal fire ring was noted during the April 2015 site visit.



Figure 4.3-8 Downstream Put-in Abandoned Roadway Access



Figure 4.3-9 Downstream Put-in Informal Shoreline Access

Site 27 Rose Ledge Climbing Area

The Rose Ledge Climbing Area ([Figure 4.3-10](#)) is an informal climbing area located within the Northfield Mountain Project boundary. The climbing area is on land owned by FirstLight and is accessed by an informal foot path stemming from the NMTTC trail system's Lower Ledge Trail. As noted previously, a field site map for this site was drawn ([Appendix A](#), Site 27).

Site Inventory

There are no formal amenities associated with the Rose Ledge Climbing area. Access to the area is via the NMTTC trail system, and parking for the area is located at the NMTTC (Site 12). Additional parking for the climbing area is located outside of the Project boundary on private property.

Availability to Public

Consistent with the NMTTC trail system hours, access to this site via the NMTTC trail system is available from dawn until dusk during the spring, summer and fall. In the winter, trails are open Wednesday through Sunday from 9:00 AM until 4:30 PM when conditions permit. Trails are generally closed to all uses from March through early April or until they are dry enough for walking.

Site Assessment

The parking area associated with the NMTTC (Site 12) was assessed as part of the ISR submitted in September 2014. The NMTTC, including the trails that might be used to access the Rose Ledge Climbing Area, are assessed in Study 3.6.7 *Recreation Study at Northfield Mountain, Including Assessment of Sufficiency of Trails for Shared Use*. Evidence of site use and condition observed during the April 2015 site visit included compaction at the base of the rock face and unauthorized improvements such as anchors for safety ropes at the top of the ledge.



Figure 4.3-10 Rose Ledge Climbing Area

Site 28 Farley Ledge Climbing Area

The Farley Ledge Climbing Area ([Figure 4.3-11](#)) is an informal climbing area located partially within the Northfield Mountain Project boundary. A portion of the area is owned by FirstLight. Individuals access the site via an informal foot trail located on private property. As noted previously, a field site map for this site was drawn ([Appendix A](#), Site 28).

Site Inventory

There are no formal amenities associated with the portion of the climbing area that is within the Project boundary. There are three parking areas associated with the climbing area, all of which are located outside of the Project boundary on private property.

Availability to Public

The Farley Ledge Climbing Area is only partially located within the Project boundary and is accessed by climbers via an informal foot trail located on property not owned by FirstLight.

Site Assessment

The parking areas associated with the climbing area were not assessed because they are located outside the Project boundary and not owned by FirstLight. Evidence of use of the climbing area included compaction at the base of the rock face and unauthorized improvements such as anchors for safety ropes at the top of the ledge.



Figure 4.3-11 Farley Ledge Climbing Area

4.4 Response to Comments

In its ISR Determination Letter, FERC required that the Addendum include all information from FirstLight's responses to comments on the original 3.6.2 inventory Report included in the ISR. A table summarizing comments received on the initial Report, and FirstLight's responses to those comments is provided in [Appendix C](#).

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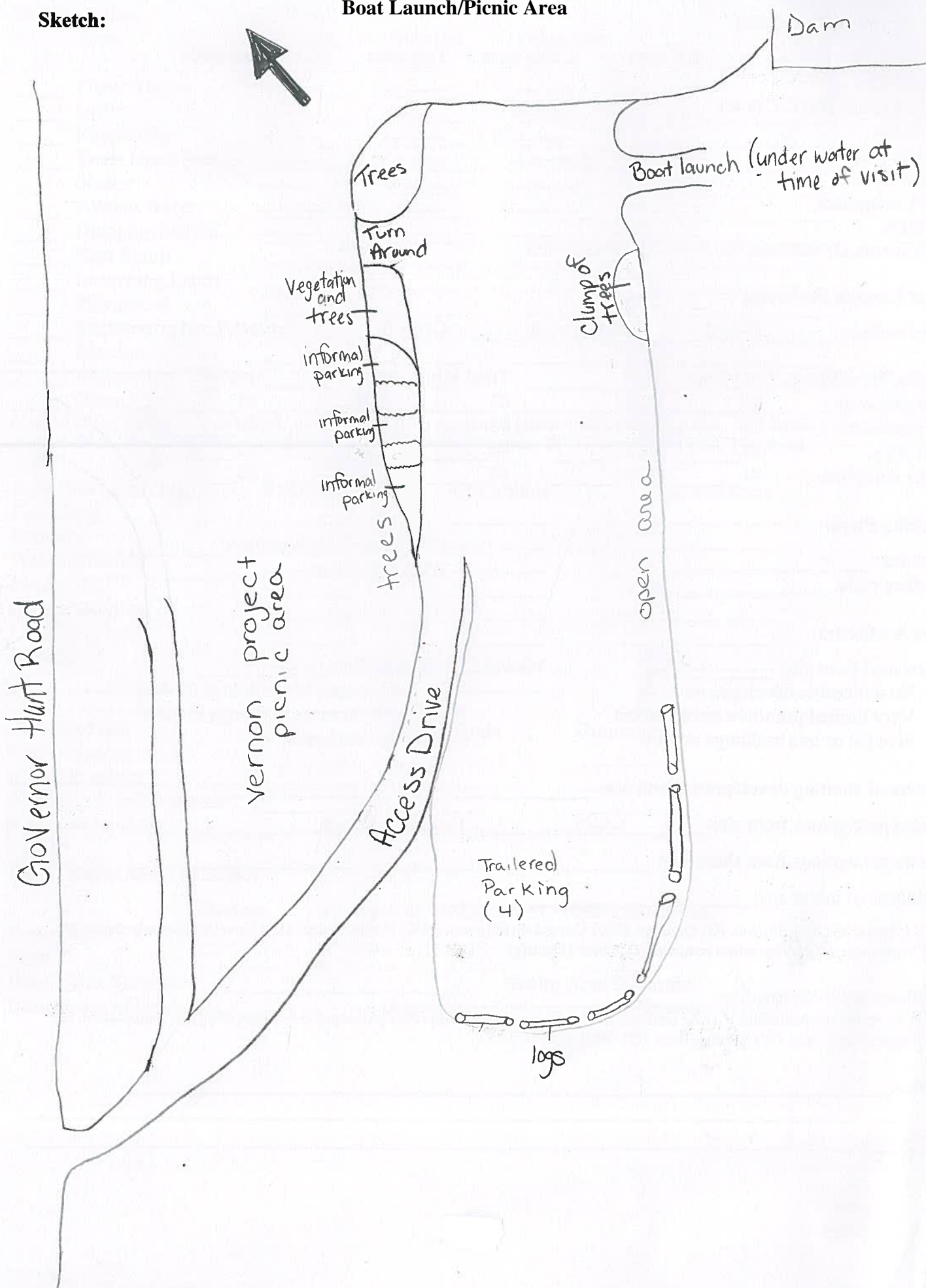
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APPENDIX A – RECREATION FIELD SITE MAPS

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Site 9: Munn's Ferry Boat Camping Recreation Area
Site 10: Informal Munn's Ferry Access Site
Site 11: Boat Tour and Riverview Picnic Area
Site 12: Northfield Mountain Tour and Trail Center (NMTTC)
Site 14: Cabot Camp Access Area
Site 15: Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground
Site 16: Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area
Site 17: State Boat Launch
Site 19: Unity Park
Site 20: Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area
Site 21: Turners Falls Branch Canal Area
Site 22: Turners Falls Station No. 1 Fishing Access
Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access (Lower Parking Area)
Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access (Upper Parking Area)
Site 25: Poplar Street Access Site
Site 26: Turners Falls Dam Downstream Put-in
Site 27: Rose Ledge Climbing Area
Site 28: Farley Ledge Climbing Area

Site 1: Governor Hunt
Boat Launch/Picnic Area



Site 3: Fort Hill Rail Trail



Route 63

Access to Fort Hill Rail Trail

trees

Metal Post

Gate

Fort Hill Rail Trail

Large
Dirt mixed with gravel
parking lot

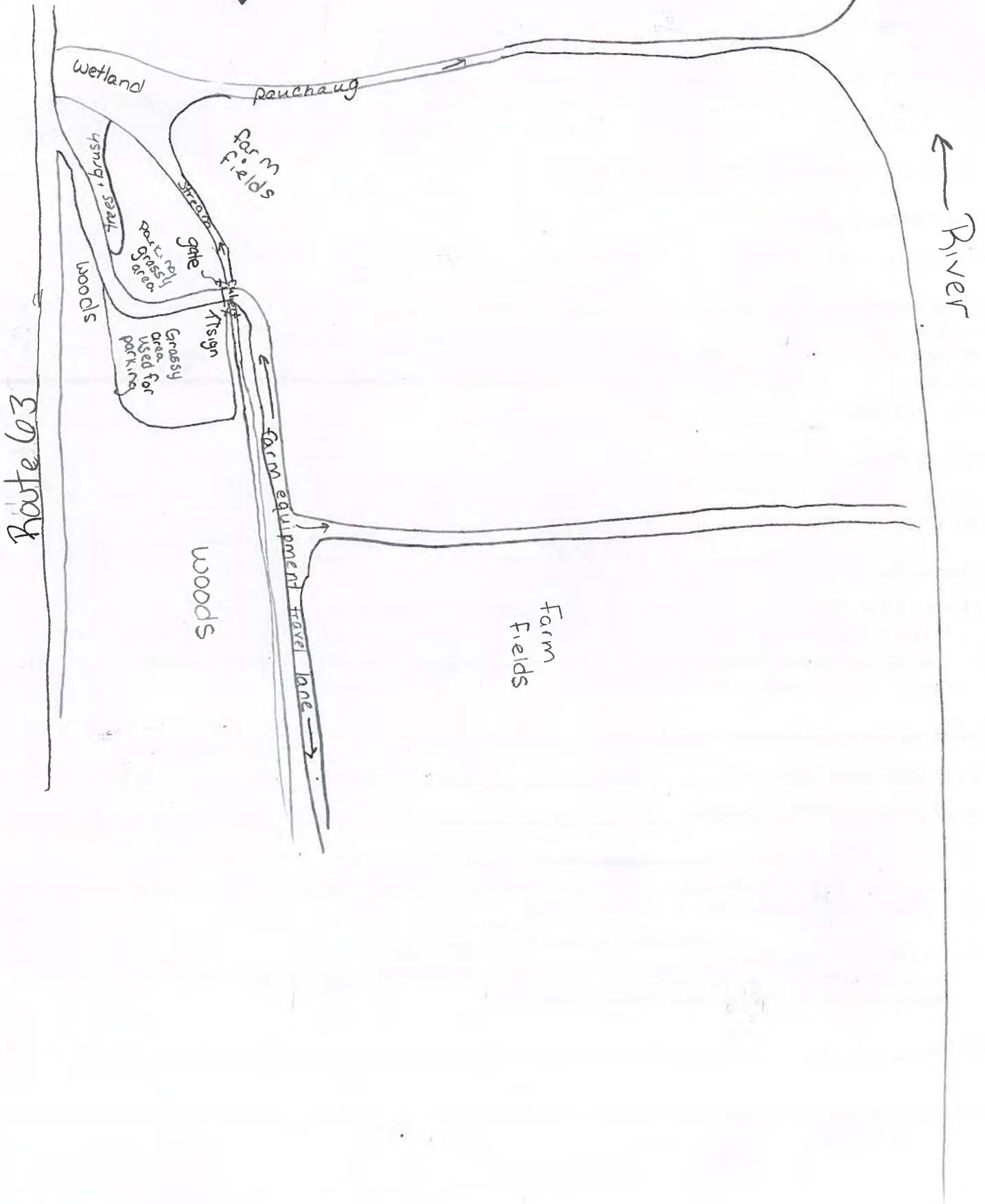
70'

190'

FirstLight

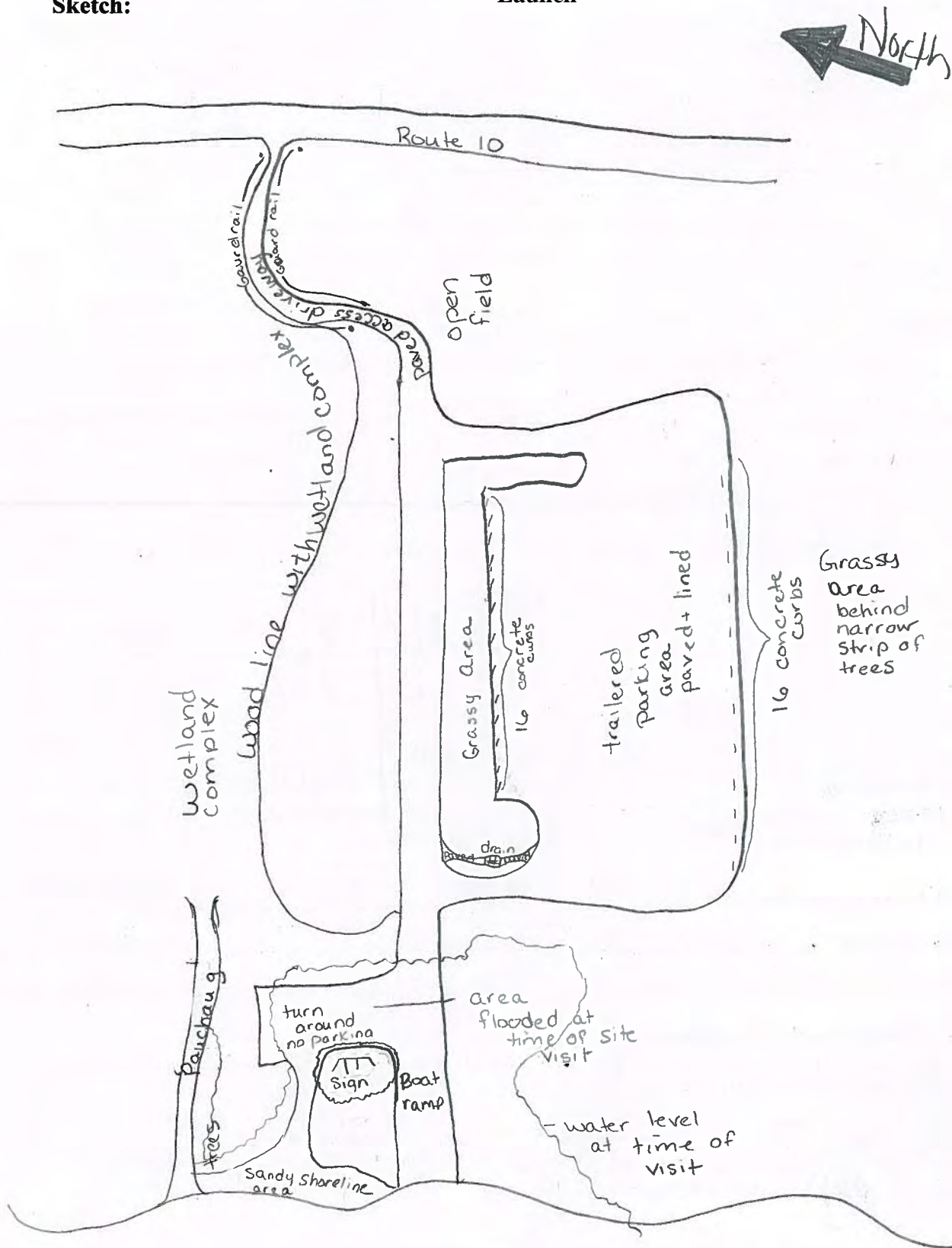
Sketch:

Site 4: Pauchaug Wildlife Management Area (WMA)



Site 5: Pauchaug Boat Launch

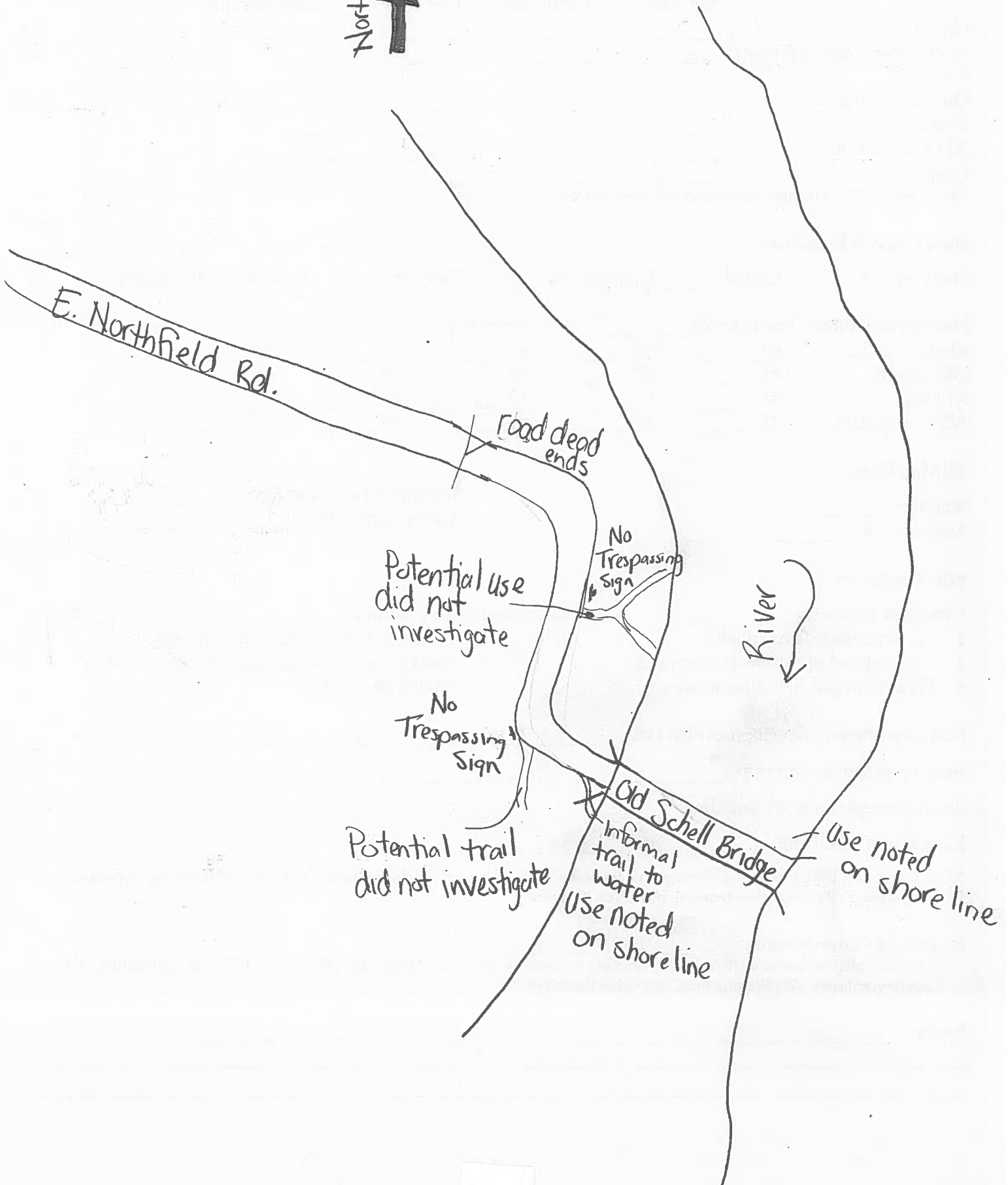
Sketch:



FirstLight

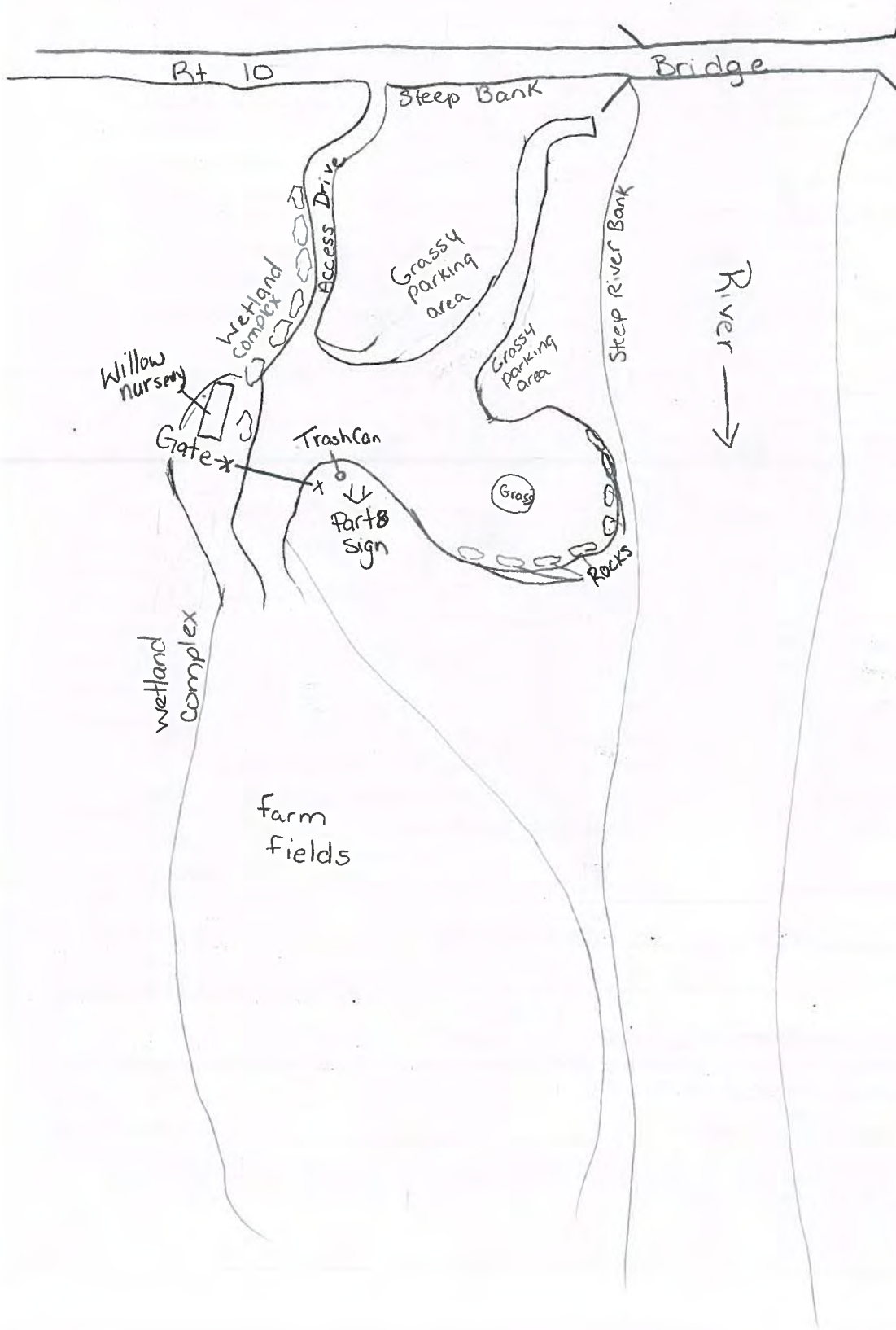
Sketch:

Site 6: Schell Bridge
Informal Site



FirstLight
Sketch:

Site 8: Bennett Meadow Wildlife
Management Area (WMA)

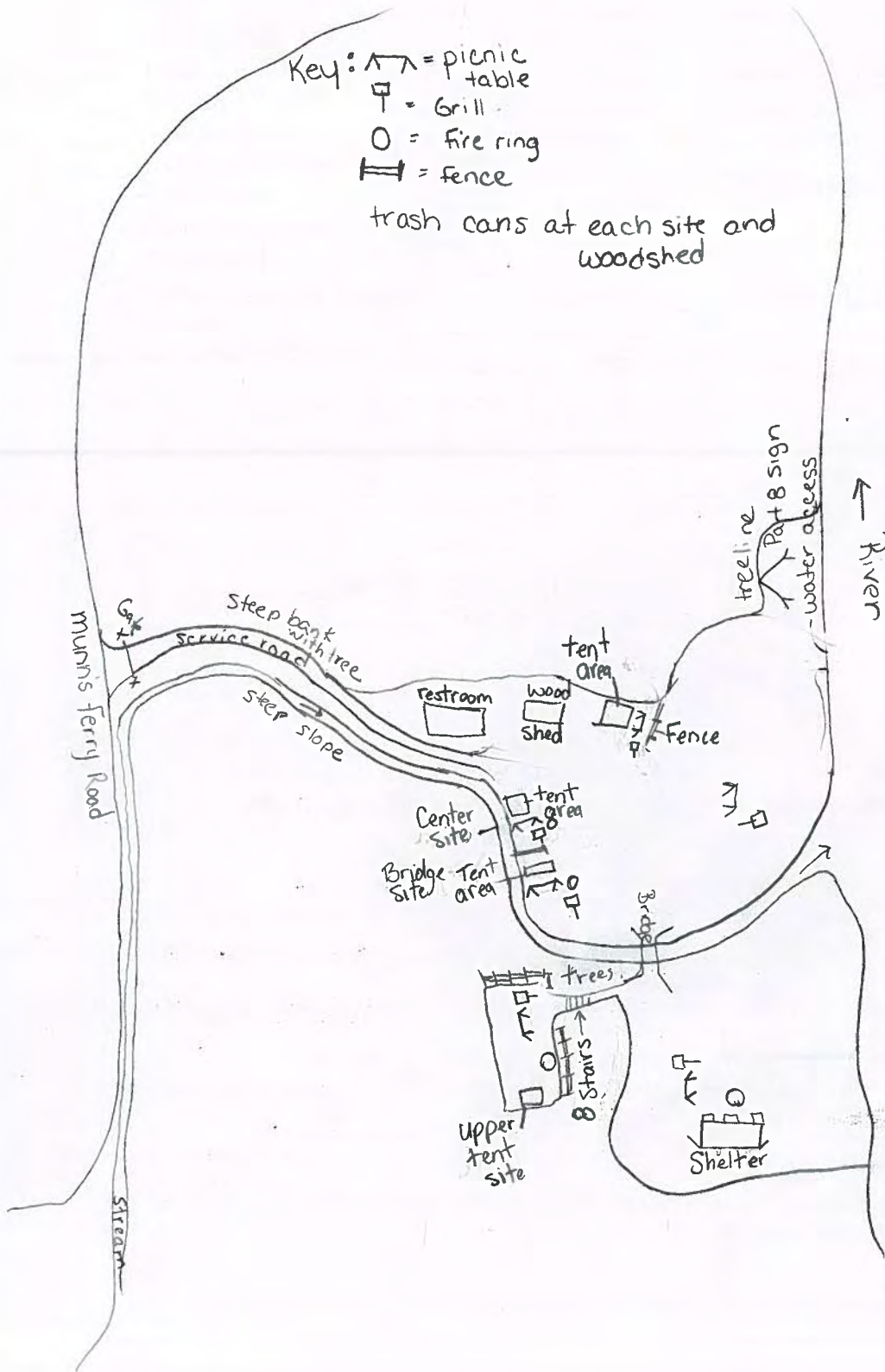


Site 9: Munn's Ferry Boat
Camping Recreation Area



Key:
 ^ = picnic table
 □ = Grill
 ○ = Fire ring
 || = fence

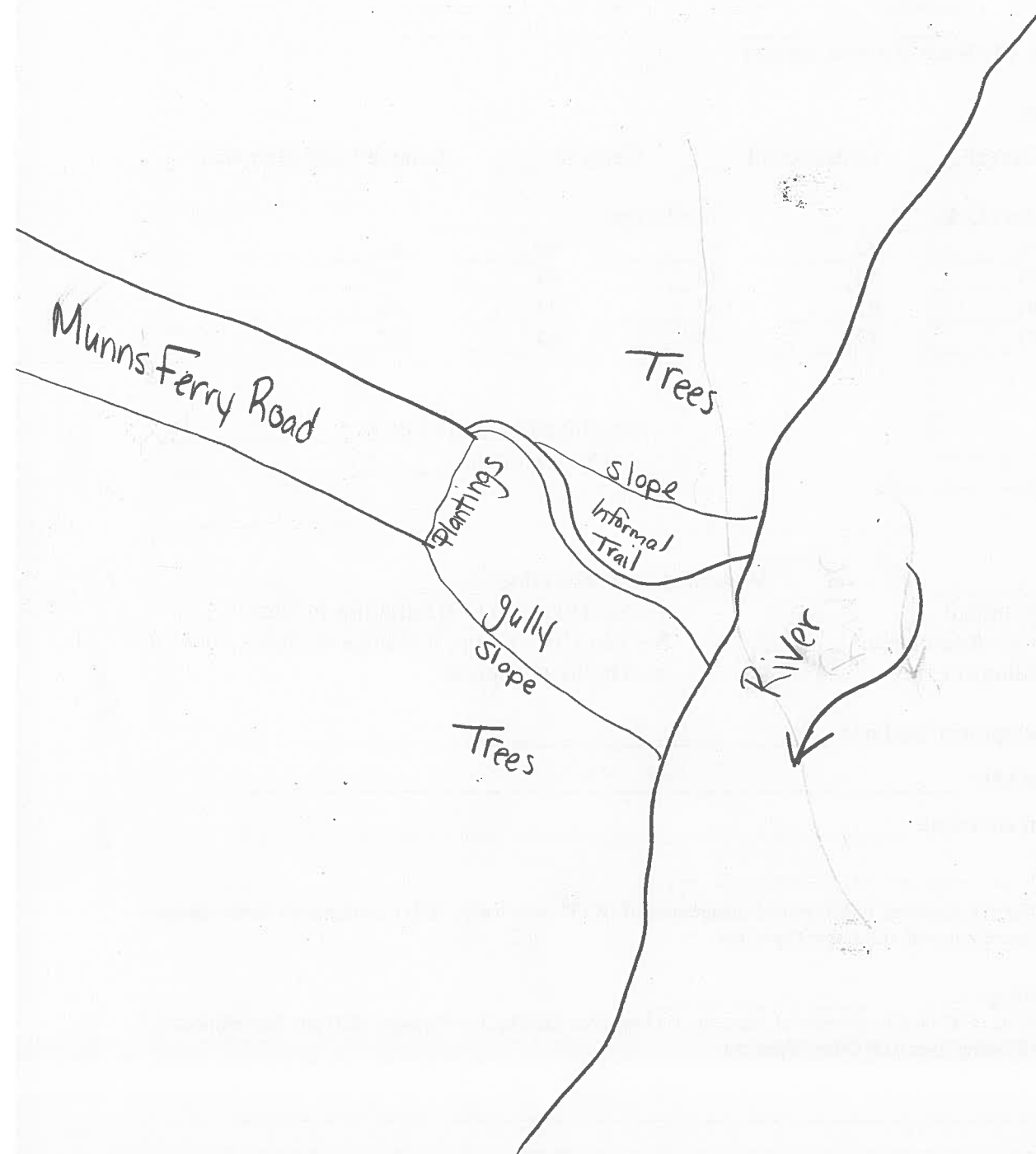
trash cans at each site and
woodshed



FirstLight

Site 10: Informal Munn's Ferry Access Site

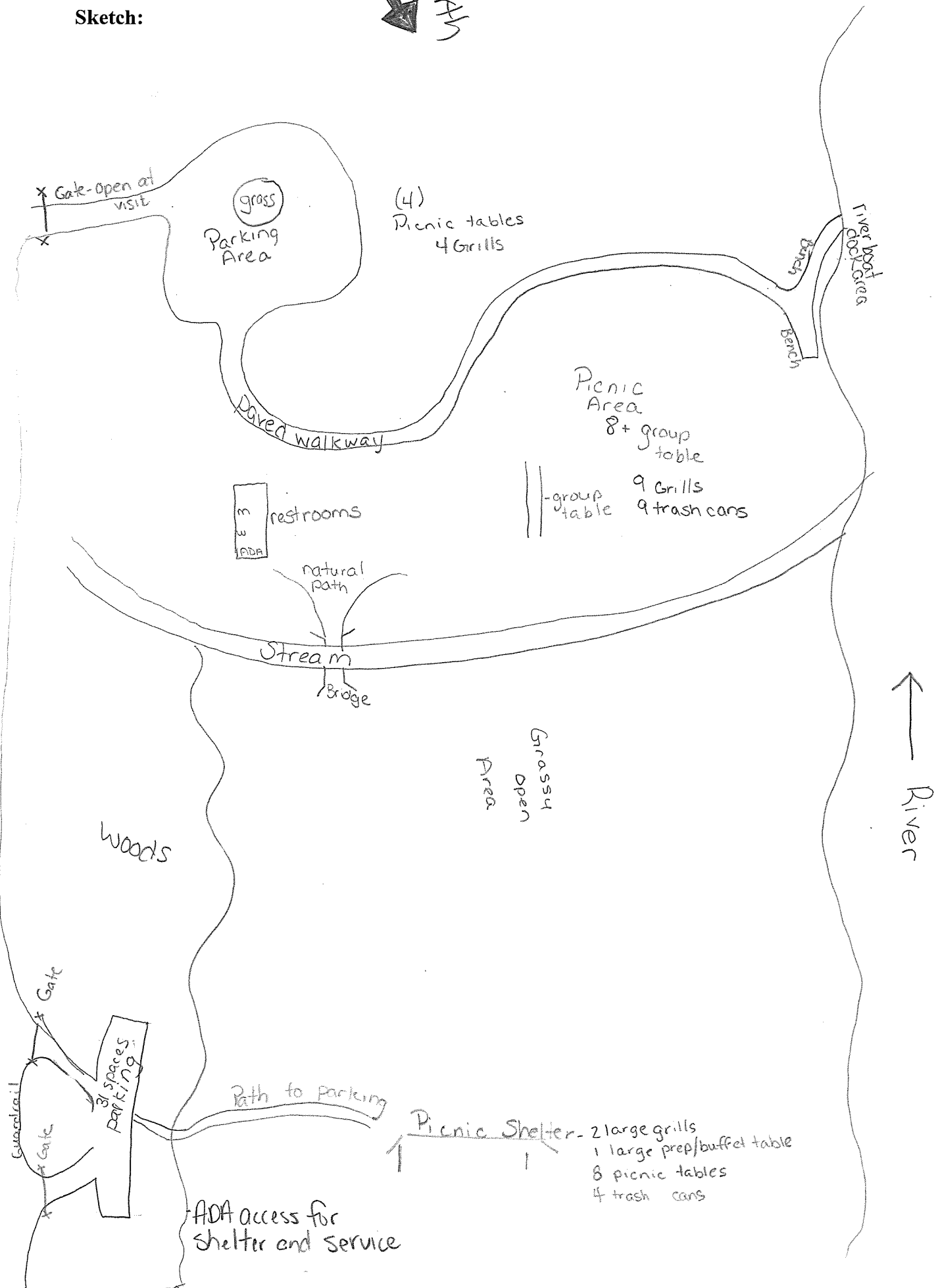
Sketch:



FirstLight

Sketch:

Site 11: Boat Tour and
Riverview Picnic Area






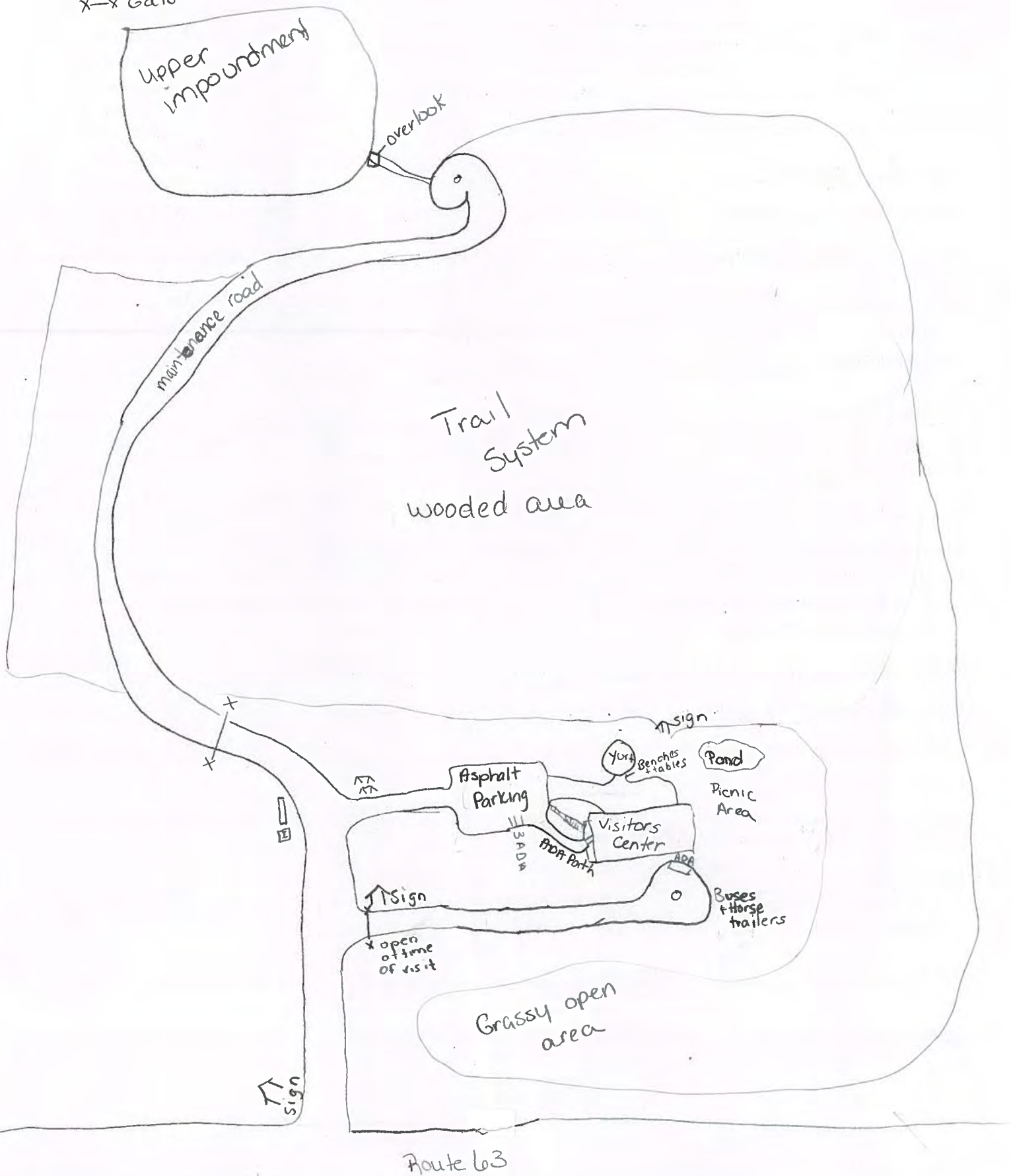
FirstLight

Sketch:

**Site 12: Northfield
Mountain Tour and Trail
Center (NMTTC)**

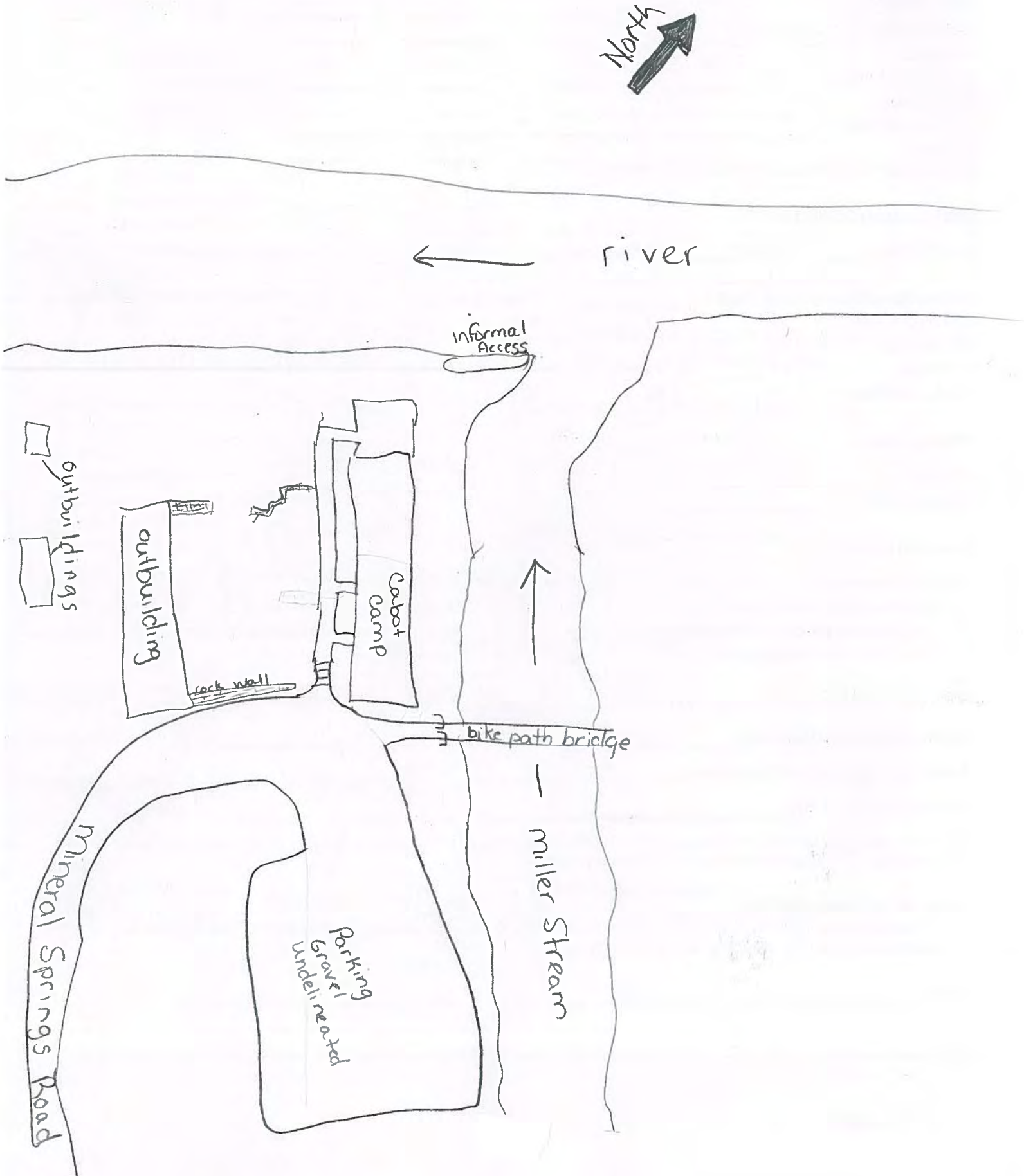


Key:  Bench
 Picnic table
 Interpretive Display
X-X Gate



Site 14: Cabot Camp
Access Area

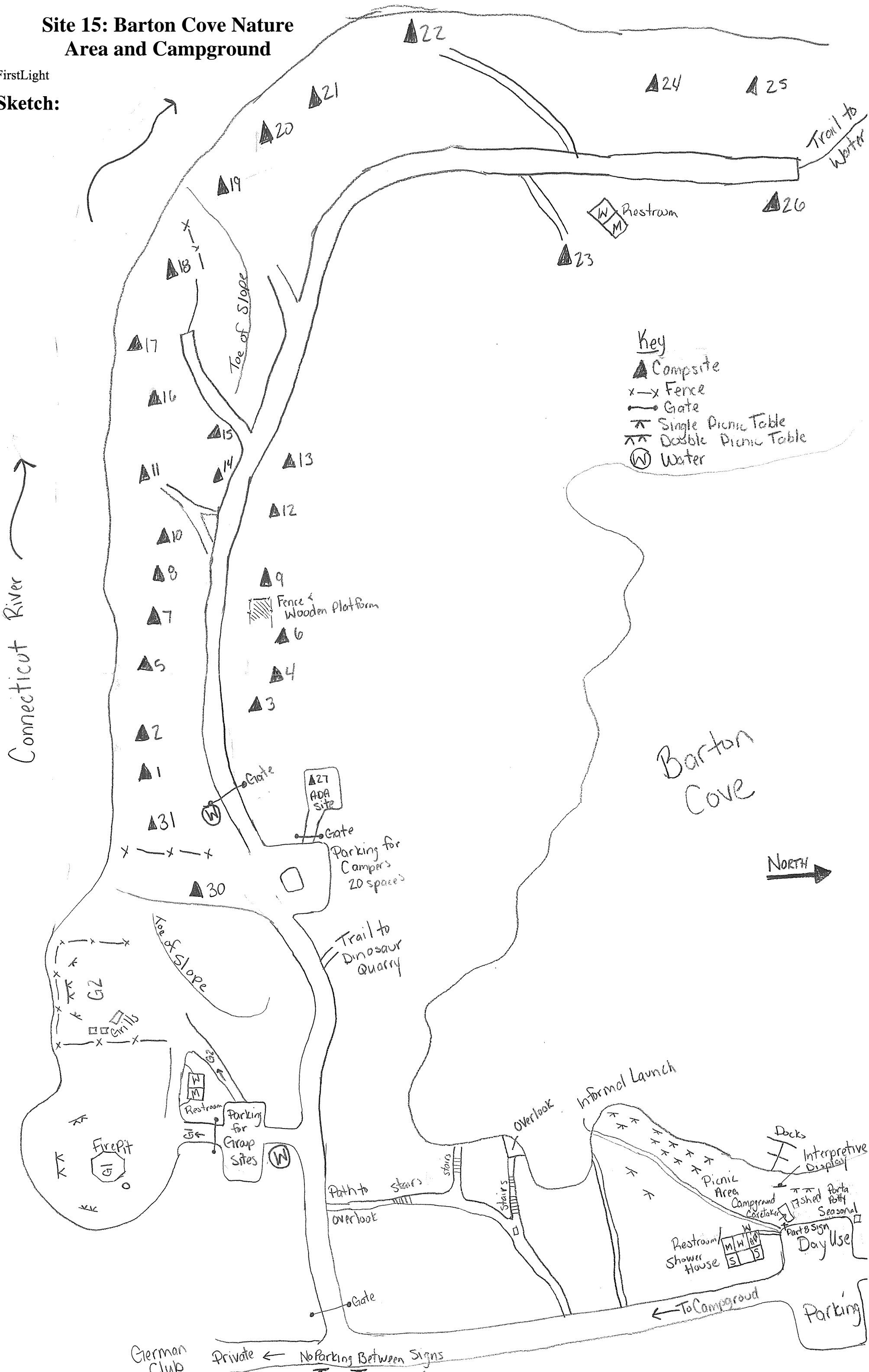
Sketch:



Site 15: Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground

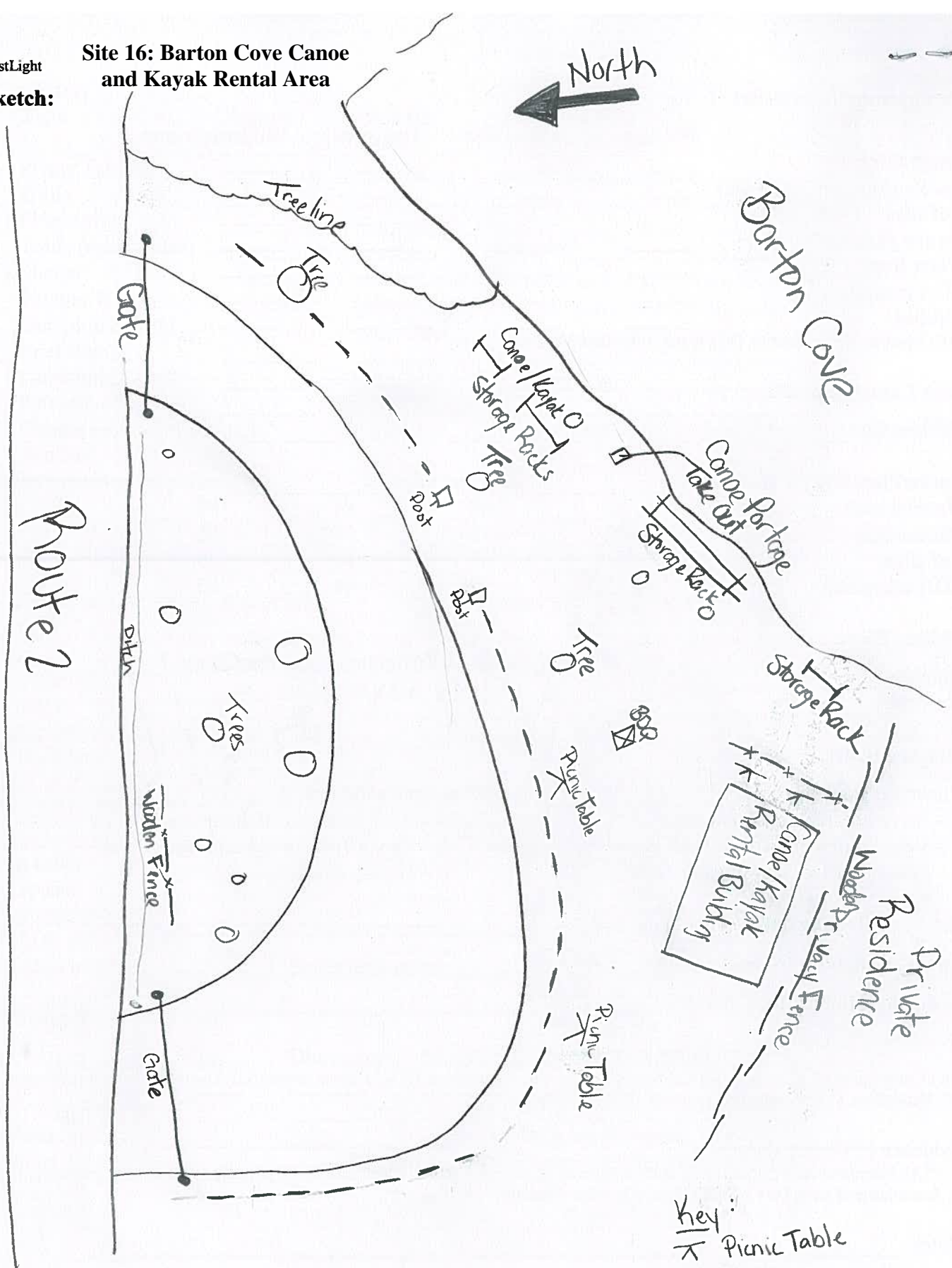
FirstLight

Sketch:



Site 16: Barton Cove Canoe and Kayak Rental Area

Sketch:



- Key:
- Picnic Table
 - BBQ
 - Fence
 - Tree



Route 2

gate closed in
winter and daily
21:00 hours to
06:00 hours

Woods

Car top boat
parking only
Boat trailers - 21

Parking

22 spaces

Grassy area no parking

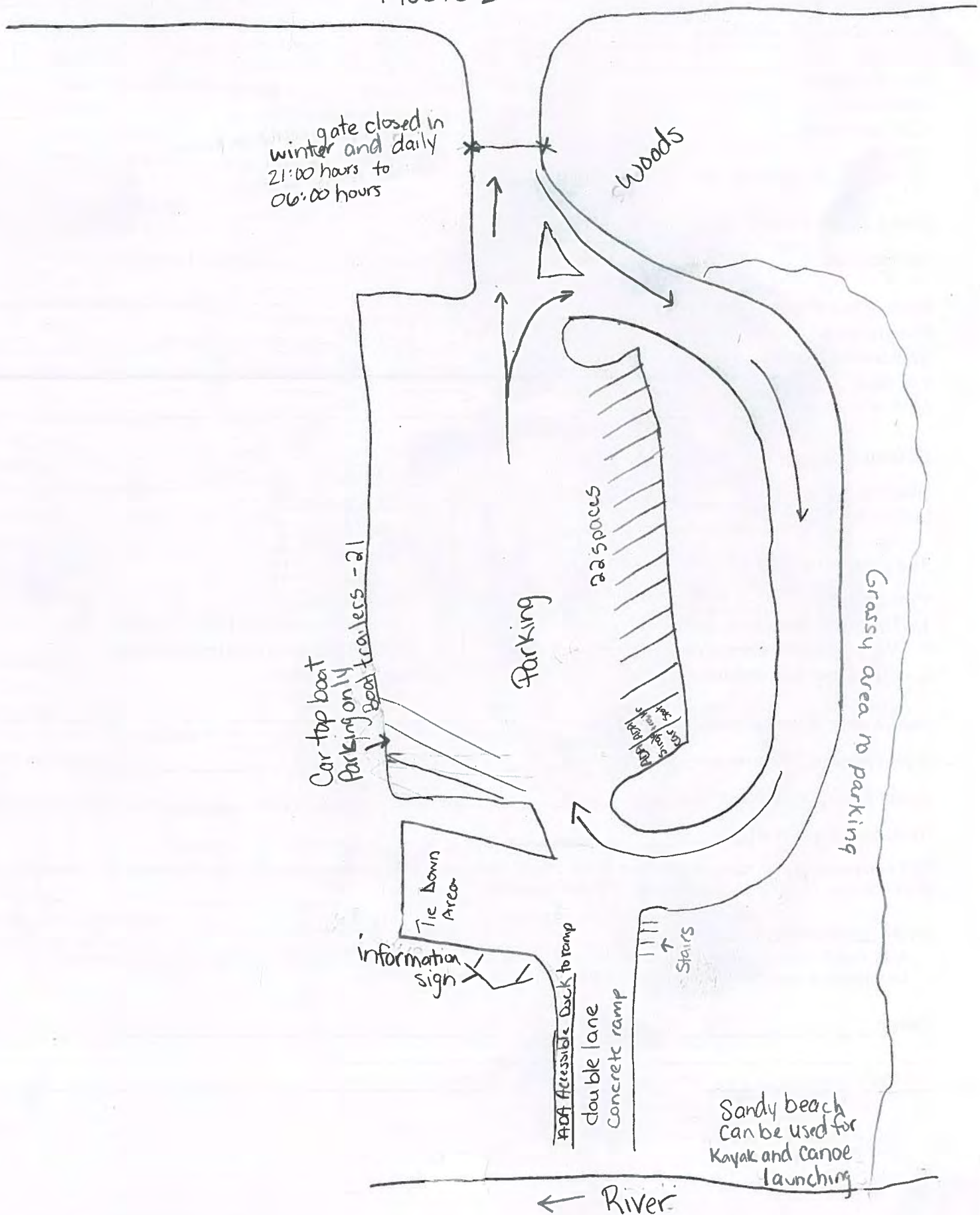
Tie Down
Area
information
sign

ADA Accessible Dock to ramp
double lane
concrete ramp

Stairs

Sandy beach
can be used for
kayak and canoe
launching

← River

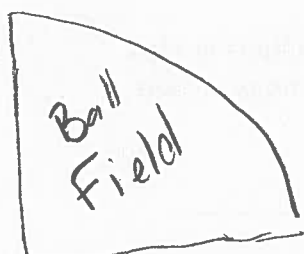
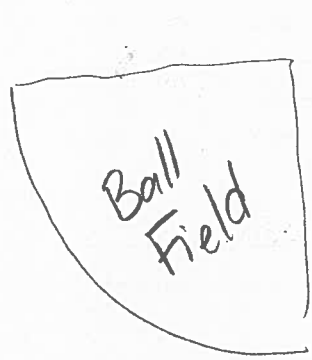


FirstLight

Sketch:



Site 19: Unity Park



Rec Dept Bldg.

Playground

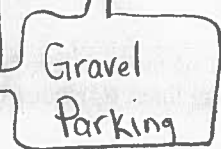
Basketball Court



1st Street



Canalside Trail Bike Path



Fishway Viewing Area
Turners Falls Dam

Gate

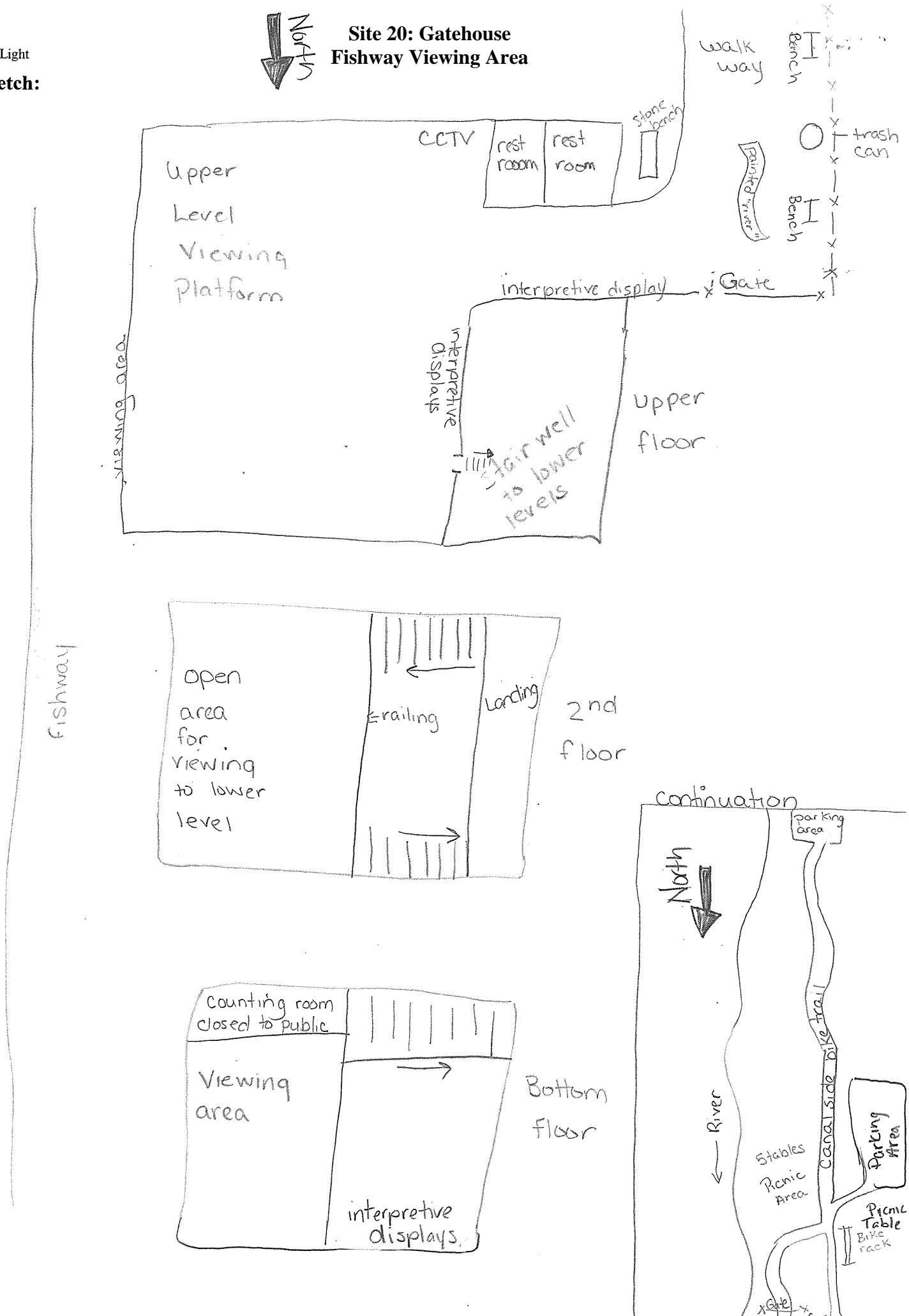
River



Sketch:

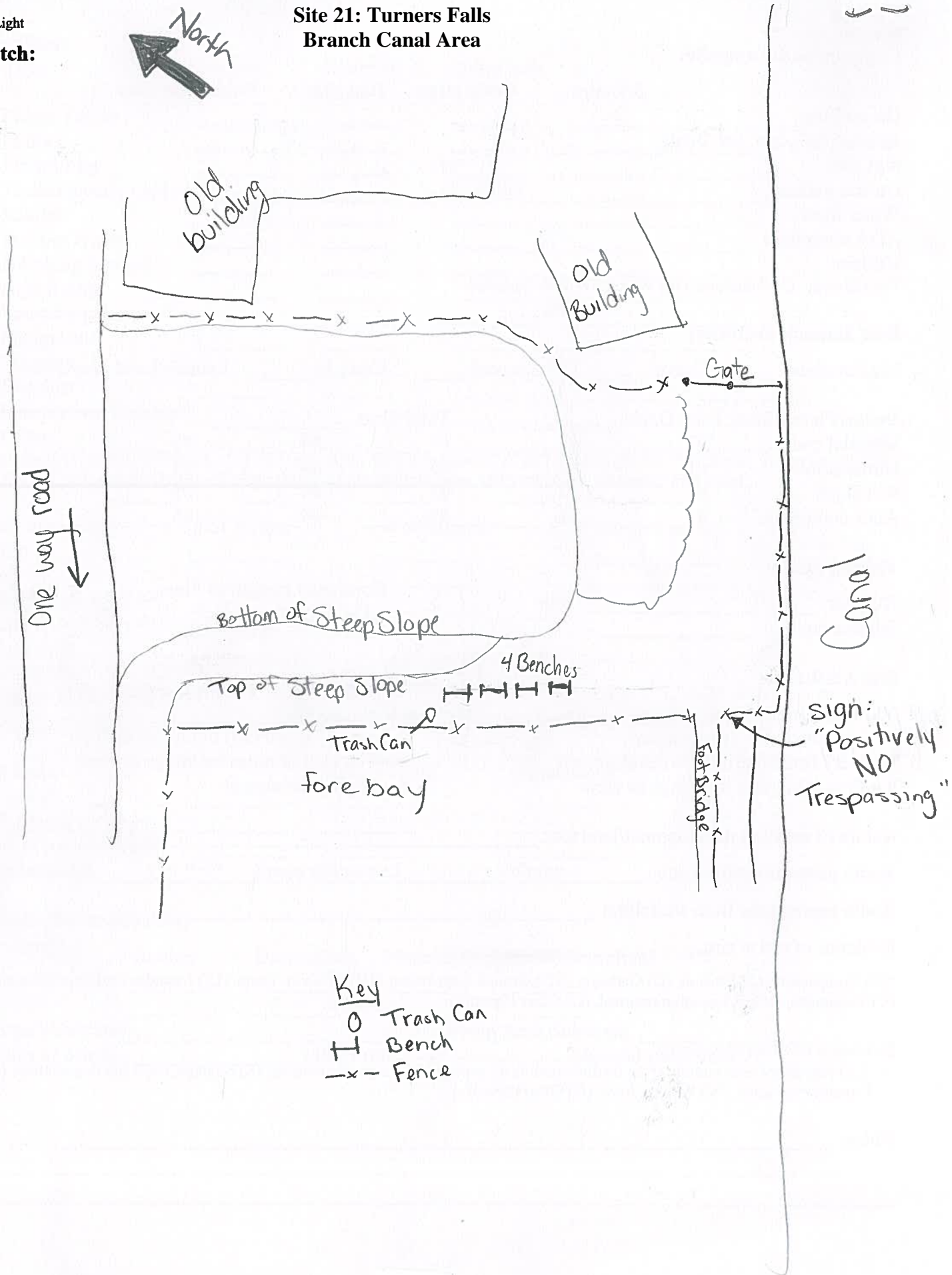


Site 20: Gatehouse
Fishway Viewing Area



FirstLight
Sketch:


Site 21: Turners Falls
Branch Canal Area

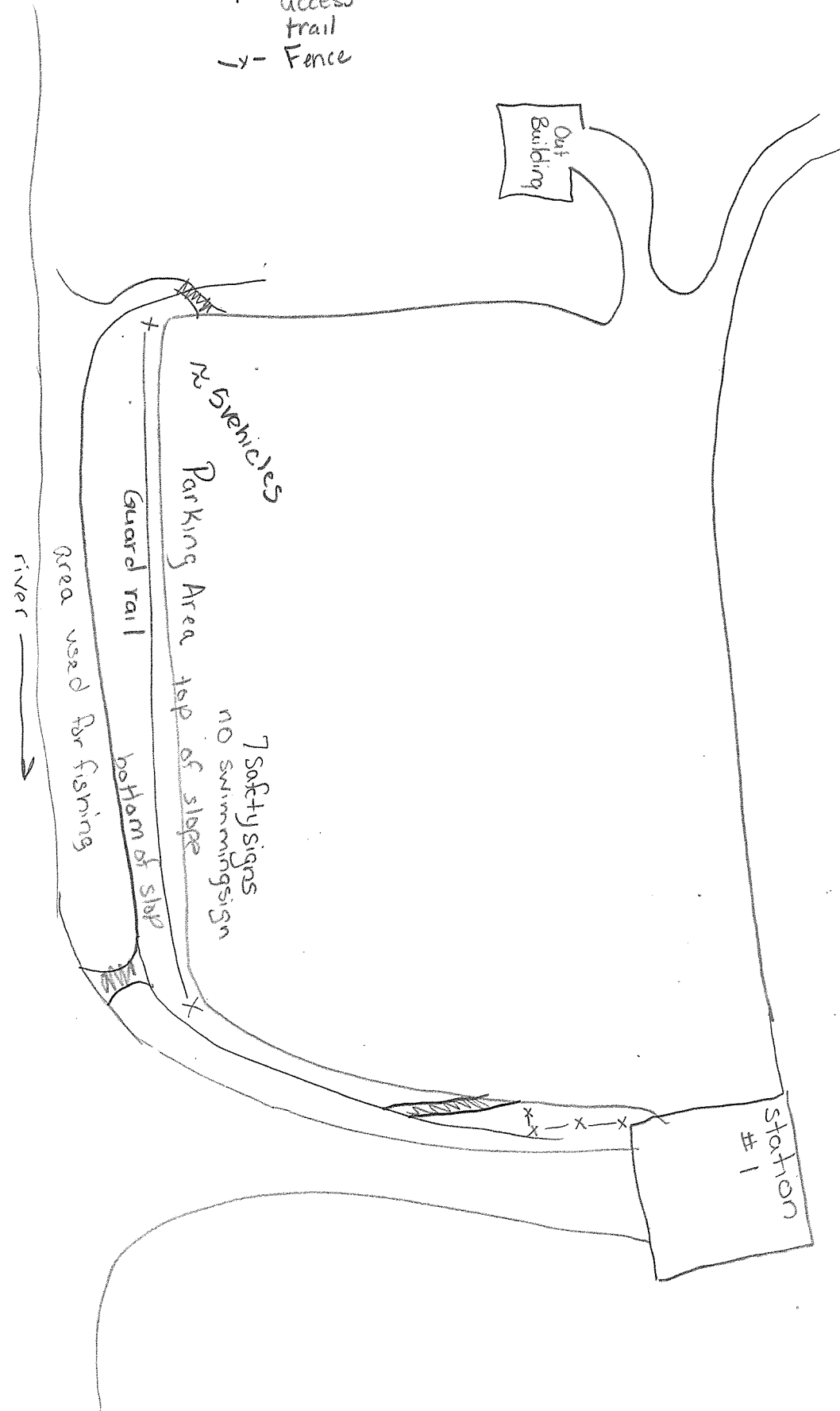
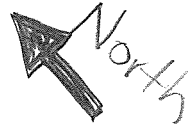


Site 22: Turners Falls Station
No. 1 Fishing Access

FirstLight

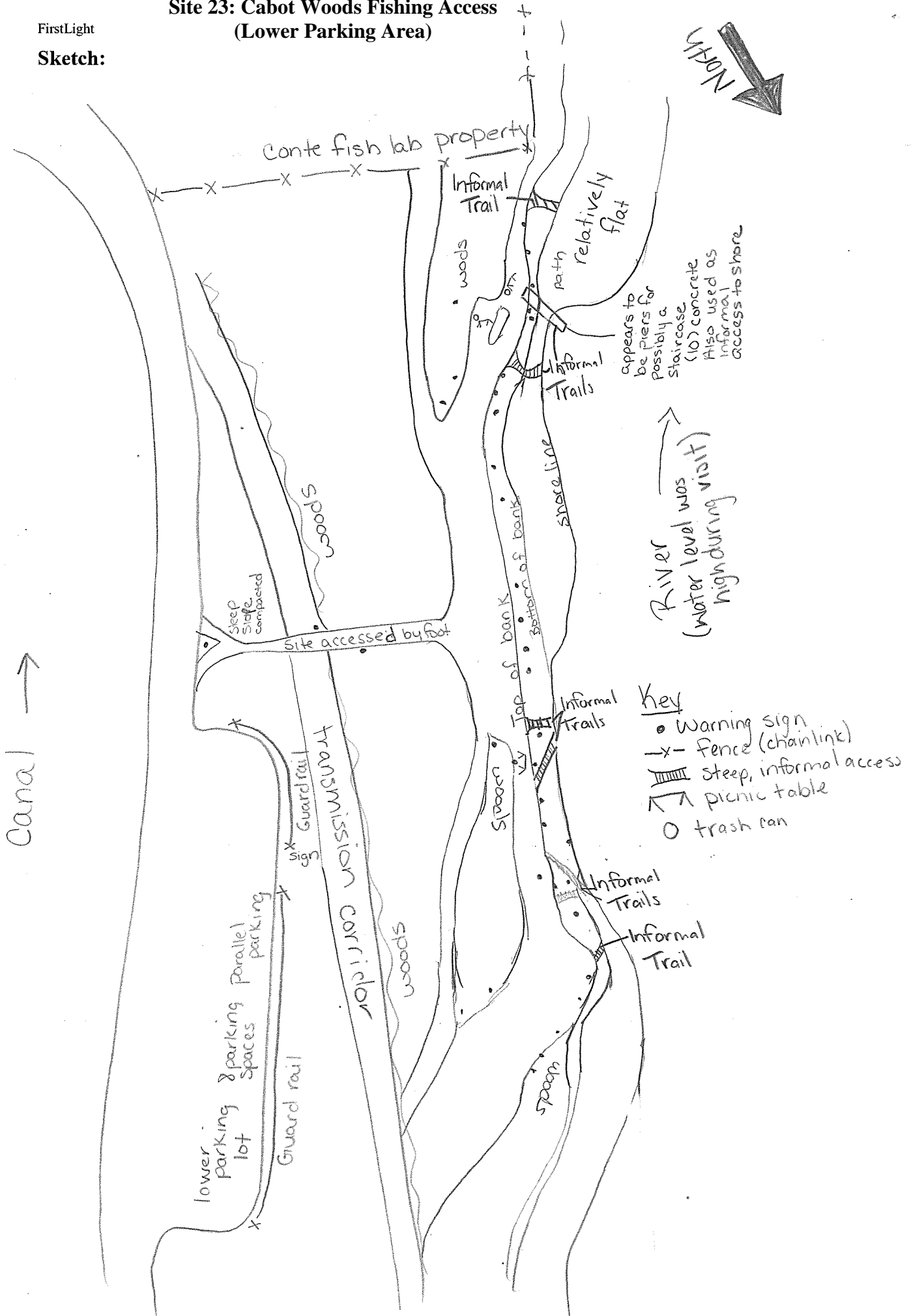
Sketch:

Key:  steep informal access trail
x - Fence



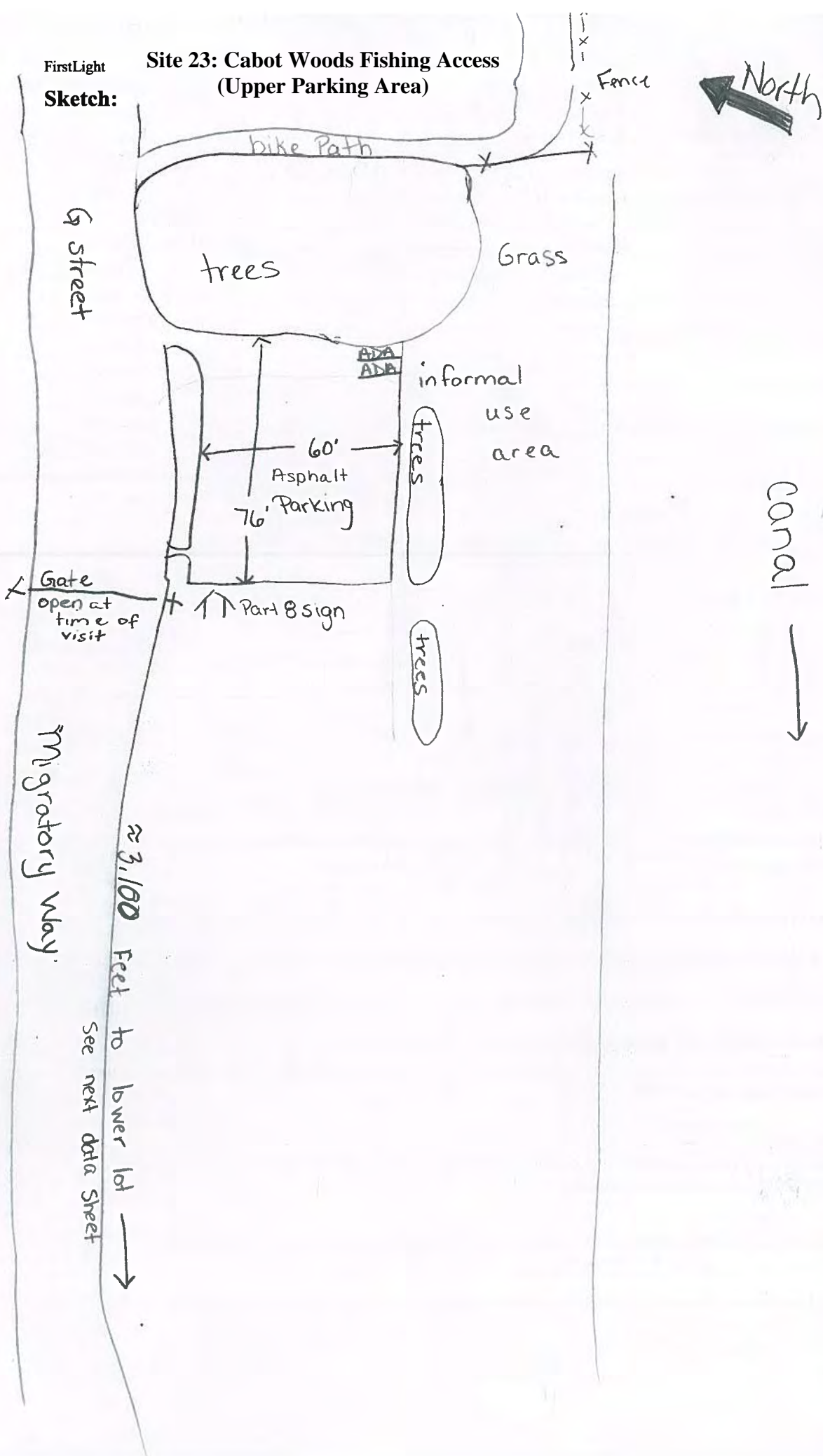
Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access (Lower Parking Area)

Sketch:

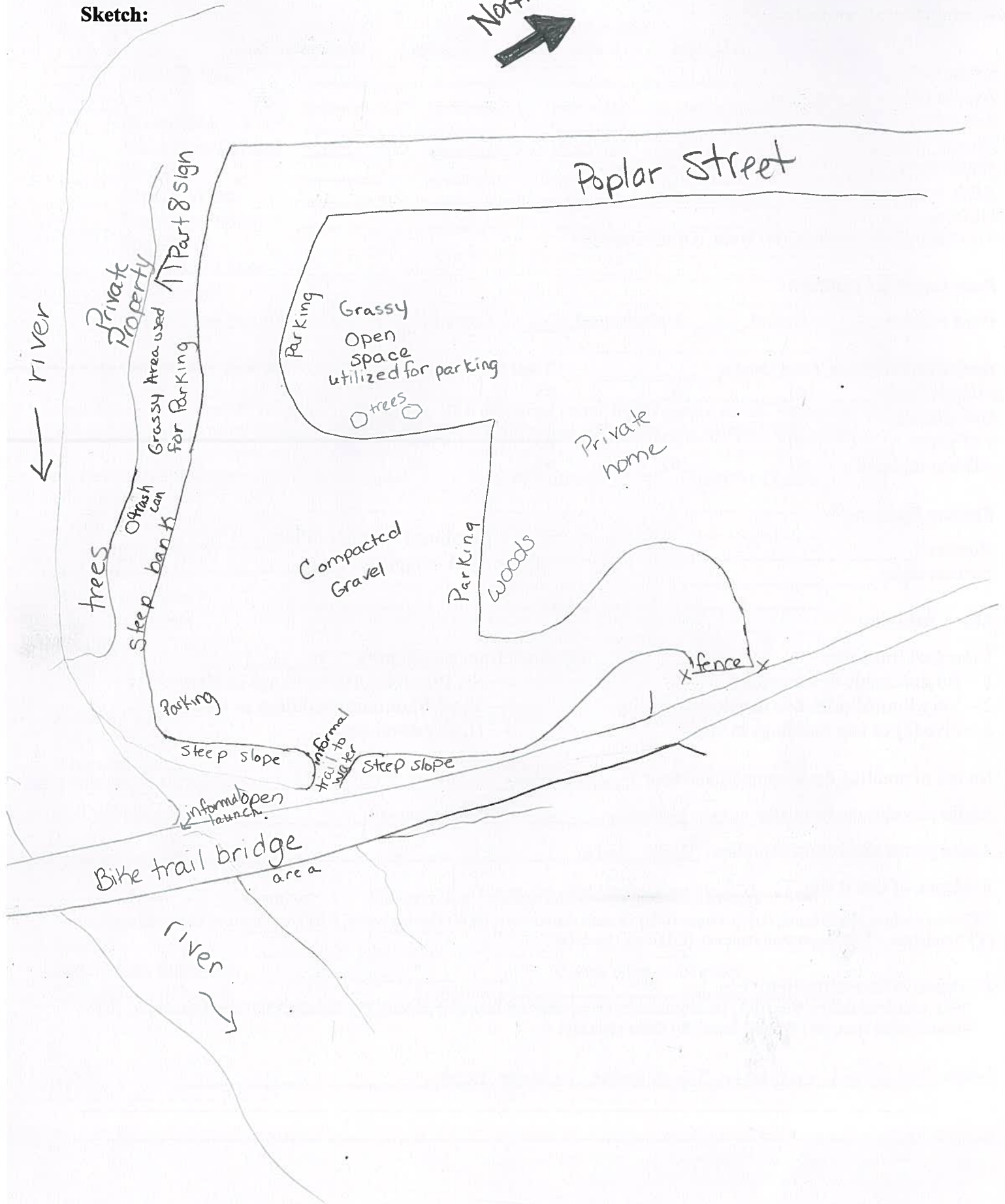


FirstLight
Sketch:

Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access
(Upper Parking Area)



Sketch:

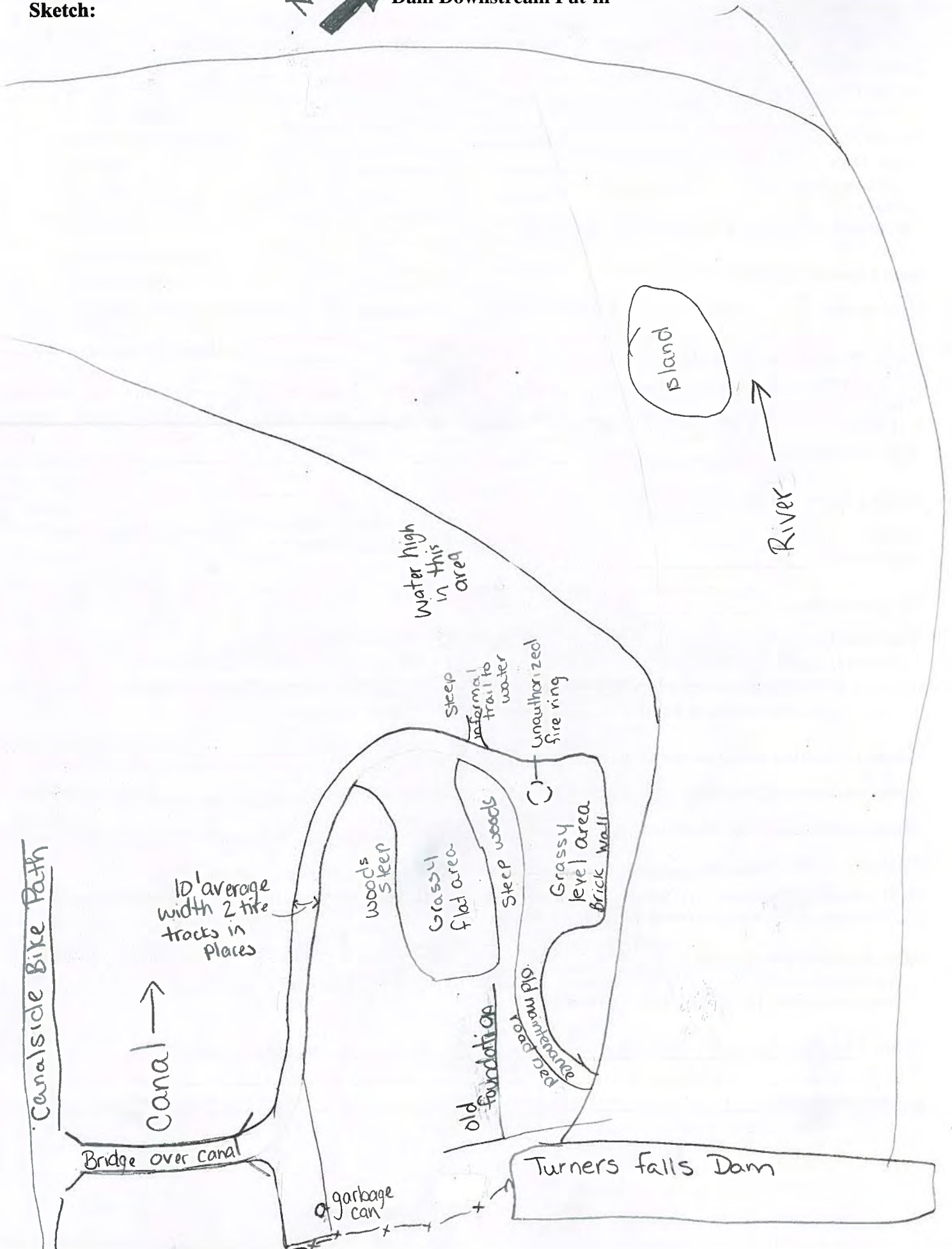


FirstLight

Sketch:

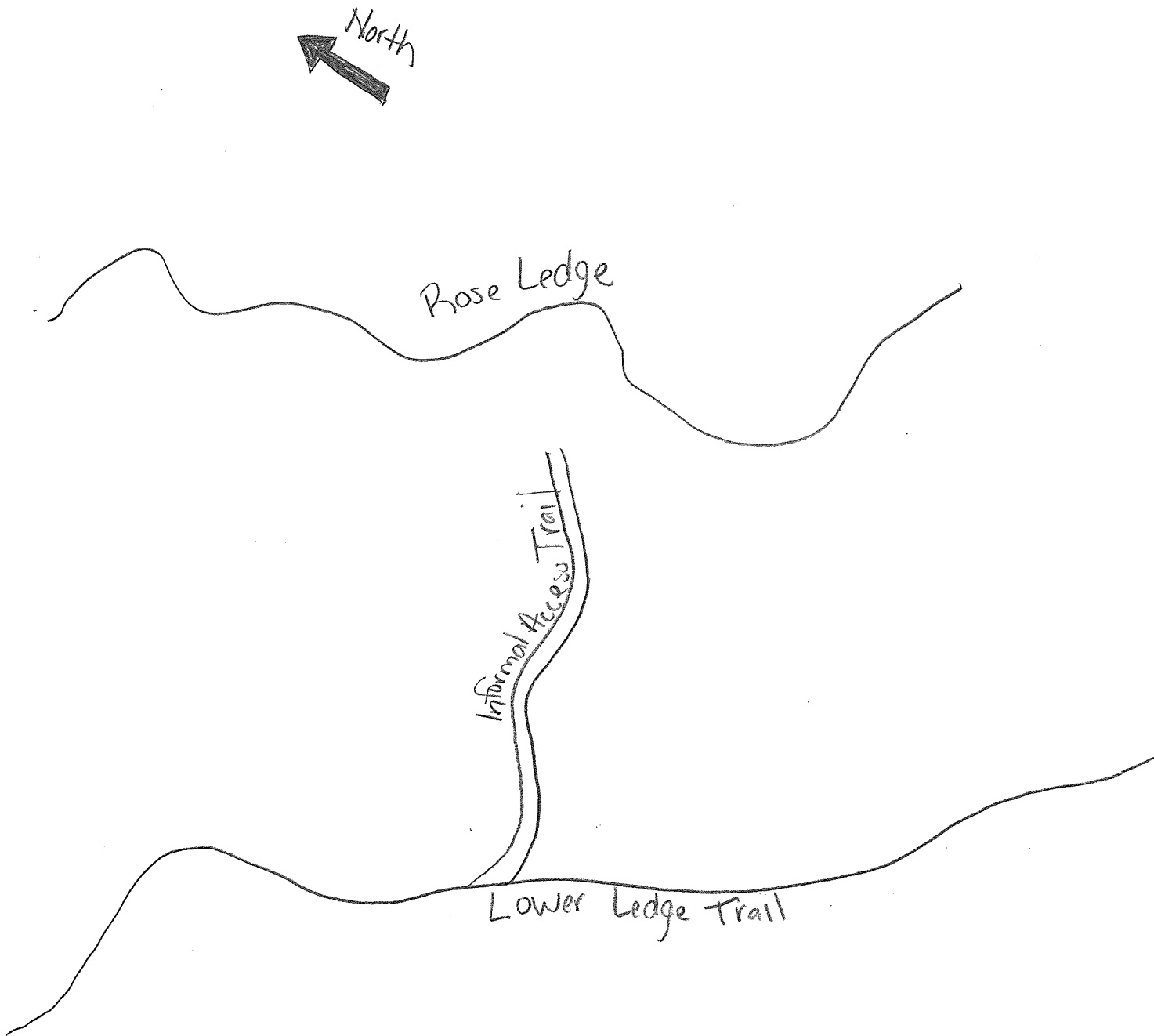


Site 26: Turners Falls
Dam Downstream Put-in

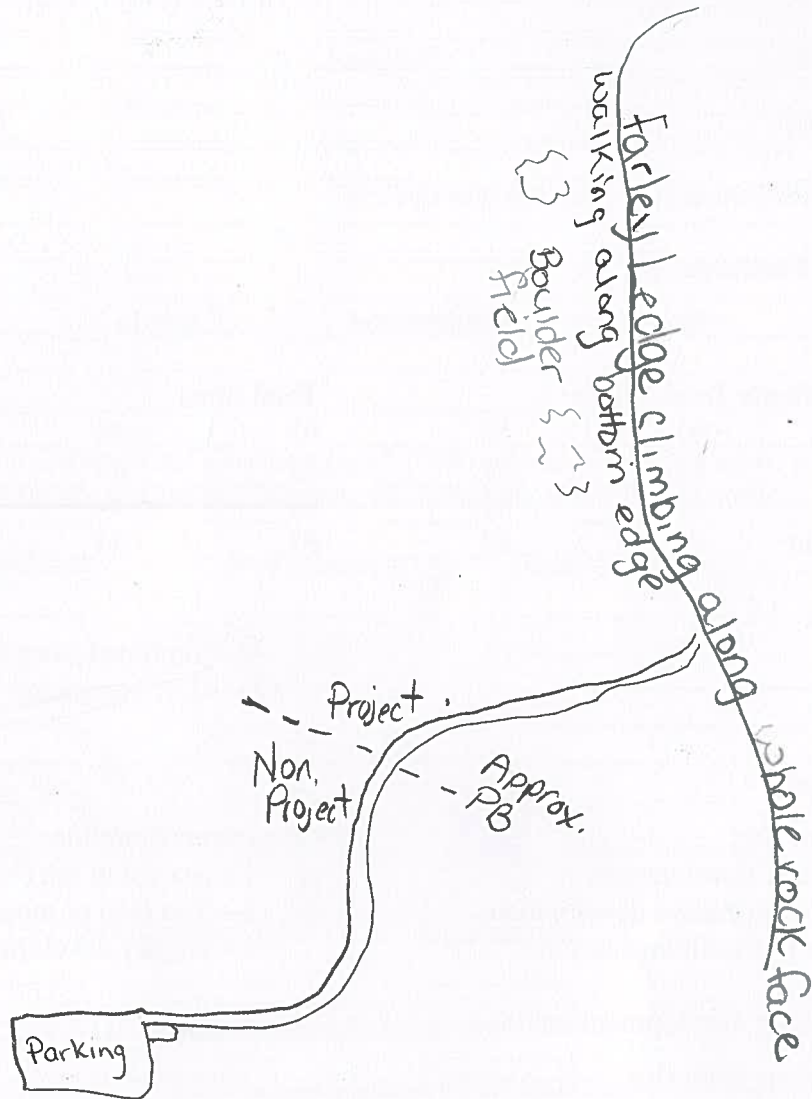


Site 27: Rose Ledge
Climbing Area

Sketch:



Site 28: Farley Ledge
Climbing Area



APPENDIX B – INVENTORY FORMS

INDEX

- Site 20: Gatehouse Fishway Viewing Area
- Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access (Lower Parking Area)
- Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access (Upper Parking Area)
- Site 24: Turners Falls Canoe Portage
- Site 25: Poplar Street Access Site
- Site 26: Turners Falls Dam Downstream Put-in
- Site 27: Rose Ledge Climbing Area
- Site 28: Farley Ledge Climbing Area

Site 20
FirstLight
Site Visit/Inventory Forms

Inspector: HAS, AMW Date: 4-17-15 Time: 10:30 Photo No: _____

Project: Turners Falls Site Name/Code: Fishway Viewing Weather: Cloudy

Owner: Licensee Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Facility Type:

Campground _____ Picnic Area _____ Day Use/Overlook ☒ Informal _____ Launch _____ Marina _____
 Hiking _____ Ski Area _____

Access:

_____ Water access	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paved access	_____ # of lanes
_____ Unpaved access (conventional motor vehicle)	_____ # of lanes
_____ Unpaved access (4WD vehicle)	_____ # of lanes
_____ ORV access (ATV)	_____ width
_____ Foot access	_____ width

Ownership/Management

	Licensee	Federal	State	County	Local	Private	Other
Ownership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Operations: wed - Sun 9-5

Staffed ☒ Private _____ Seasonal ☒ Commercial _____ Fee No Open/Closed Closed

General Area:

Is the area associated with other facilities or activities? dam + fishway

Potential/need for expansion/enhancement? _____

Topography: Flat

Ground cover: Grass

Erosion/Soils: No

Compaction: No, heavy around picnic tables

Approximate Shoreline Footage: _____

Bank Fishing (Yes/No): _____

ADA compliant? Obstacles? Path + upper level - yes

Rentals? No

lower levels are not accessible. Picnic tables not ADA.

Sanitation Facilities: (Yes/No)

Type:	Unisex	# of Units Women	# of Units Men	Notes (ADA, etc)
Flush	<u>2</u>	_____	_____	<u>Both ADA - 1 toilet + sink per bath room</u>
Composting	_____	_____	_____	<u>condition - excellent</u>
Vault	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Portable	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wilderness	_____	_____	_____	_____

Site Facilities:

#	Type	Repairs	Material Code	Other Info
<u>6</u>	Picnic Tables	<u>Y - tops + ben</u>	<u>wood tops</u>	<u>tops + bench tops to be replaced this spring</u>
<u>5</u>	Grills	<u>N</u>	<u>concrete base</u>	
	Firepit/ring		<u>metal</u>	
<u>1</u>	Trails (specify use)	<u>N</u>	<u>pavement</u>	<u>Length? Part of Canalside Bike path</u>
	Shelter			
	Potable Water			
	Dumping Station			
	Boat Ramp			
	Launching Lanes			
	Playground			
	Showers			
<u>4</u>	Benches	<u>N</u>	<u>wood</u>	<u>Good condition</u>
<u>10</u>	Interpretive. Displays:	<u>N</u>	<u>rock</u>	<u>Good condition</u>
<u>2</u>	Other: <u>floor planters</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>wood</u>	<u>to control bikers + traffic flow</u>

Material codes; (A) asphalt, (B) Brick, (C) concrete, (CG) compacted gravel, (CRS) crushed gravel, (FE) metal, (G) grass, (GTF) geo-tech fabric, (NS) native soil, (O) other/specify, (P/F) plastic/fiberglass, (RC) rock crib, (S) sand, (W) wood.

1	Bike rack	N	metal	
Activities occurring:		# of Adults	# of Minors	Total # of users
Picnicking				
Camping				
Walking/hiking		4		
Swimming				
Beach Activities				
Launching boats				
Fishing				

Parking Lots:

# ADA spaces	Surface Code	Dimensions
<u>2</u>	<u>compacted gravel</u>	
<u>27</u>	<u>"</u>	
<u># Vehicle & trailer spaces</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
<u># of vehicles in lot</u> <u>3</u>	Space delineated <u>N</u>	Curbs <u>Y</u>

Beach/Swim Area: (Yes/No)

	Number	Dimensions	Material	ADA Compliant
Dock/Pier:				
Float :				
Beach Area Substrate:				Swim Area Substrate:
Dimensions of beach:		Lifeguards		Buoyed swim area

Campground/Campsite: N/A

	RV sites	Cabin sites	Tent sites	Wilderness sites
Group Sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
Access (foot, orv, car, boat)	_____	_____	_____	_____
# of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
On site parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
Water front	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Utilities	_____	_____	_____	_____

* (E) Electric, (S) Sanitation, (W) Water, (O) other (specify)

Boat Launch Facilities: N/A

Hard surface _____ Gravel _____ Unimproved _____ Carry In _____ Launch/Load prep area: _____

Docks/Piers/Floats	Total Docks	Total Slips	<u>N/A</u>	
Material code:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____	#5 _____	
Dimensions:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____	#5 _____	
# of slips:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____	#5 _____	
ADA compliant:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____	#5 _____	

Fishing Piers: N/ANumber: _____
Surface code: _____Combined Length of Piers _____
ADA compliant: _____**Site Aesthetics:**Viewshed from site: 6Viewshed from shoreline: 6

1 – No noticeable development

4 – Six (6) to ten (10) buildings in view

2 – Very limited primitive development

5 – Ten (10) or more buildings in view

3 – Five (5) or less buildings in view

6 – Highly developed

Nature of abutting development/land use: homes + storageAudio perceptions from site: vehiclesAudio perceptions from shoreline: vehicles

Evidence of use at site: _____

*(C) Compaction, (E) Erosion, (G) Garbage, (GD) Ground disturbance, (HW) Human waste, (UI) Unauthorized improvements, (V) Vandalism, (VR) Vegetation removal, (O) Other (Specify)

Evidence of Overcrowding: _____

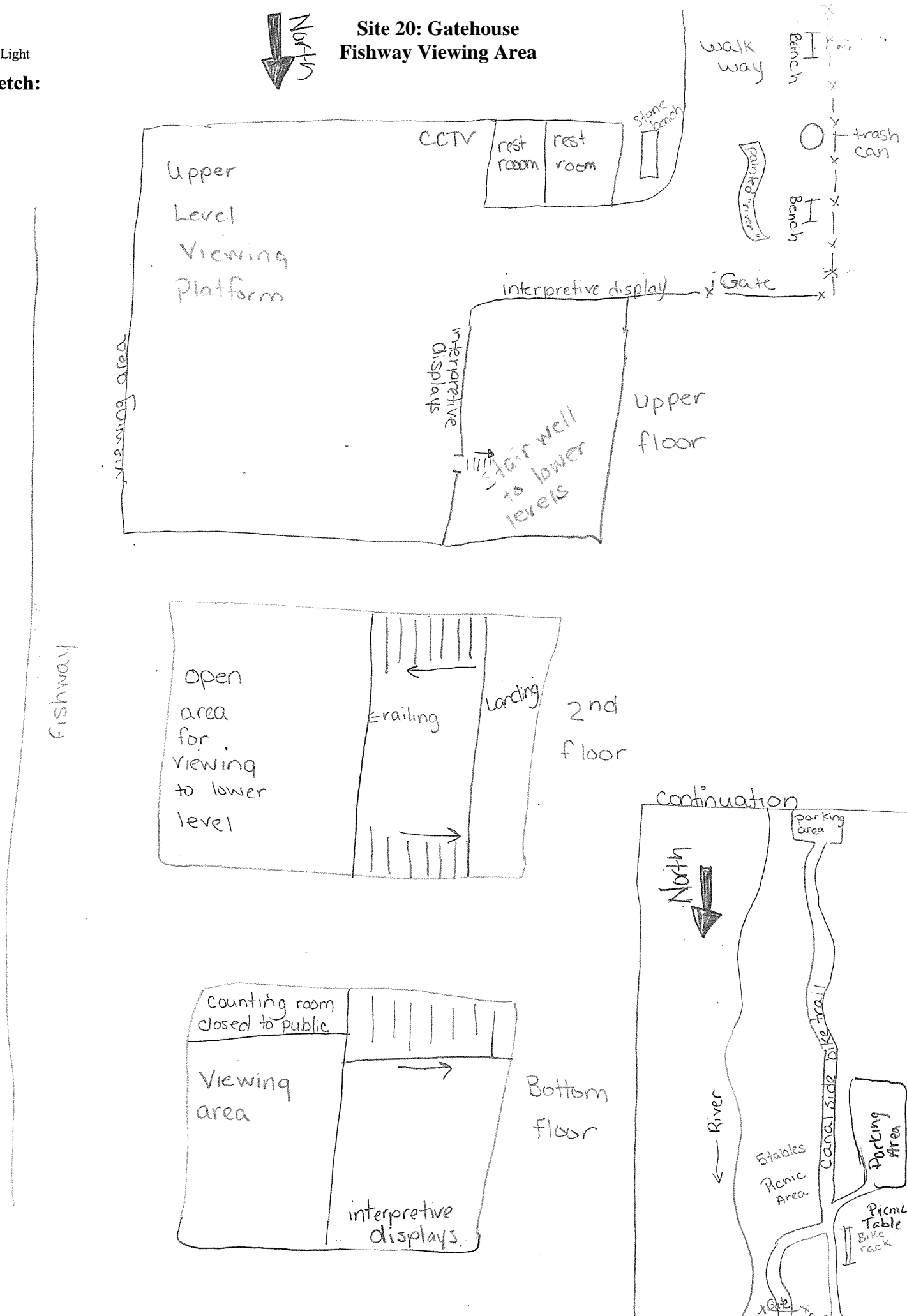
*(A) Anecdotal information, (FA) facility/amenity @ capacity, (I) Improper parking, (S) Signage, (SD) site degradation, (U) Unauthorized sites, (W) Waiting lines, (O) Other (Specify)

Notes: Fishway viewing area consists of three floors connected by concrete stairs. Upper level is ADA accessible. A closed circuit TV system is used to provide views from the remaining two landings. Facility open around Memorial Day weekend and is open into June as fish are running. Timing may vary depending on weather and river conditions, since the viewing area is open during fish passage.

Sketch:



Site 20: Gatehouse
Fishway Viewing Area



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Site 23
FirstLight
Site Visit/Inventory Forms

Inspector: AMW, HAS Date: 4-18-15 Time: 14:30 Photo No: _____
 Project: _____ Site Name/Code: Cabot Woods Fishing Access Weather: _____
 Owner: _____ Telephone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Facility Type:

Campground _____ Picnic Area _____ Day Use/Overlook X Informal _____ Launch _____ Marina _____
 Hiking _____ Ski Area _____

Access:

_____ Water access
X Paved access 2 # of lanes
 _____ Unpaved access (conventional motor vehicle) _____ # of lanes
 _____ Unpaved access (4WD vehicle) _____ # of lanes
 _____ ORV access (ATV) _____ width
X Foot access _____ width

Ownership/Management

	Licensee	Federal	State	County	Local	Private	Other
Ownership	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Management	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Operations:

Staffed No Private No Seasonal Yes - road plowed but not foot access Commercial No Fee No Open/Closed Open

General Area:

Is the area associated with other facilities or activities? _____
 Potential/need for expansion/enhancement? _____
 Topography: flat with steep banks to shore Ground cover: Pine needles
 Erosion/Soils: _____ Compaction: _____
 Approximate Shoreline Footage: _____ Bank Fishing (Yes/No): informal access trails
 ADA compliant? Obstacles? No steep slope to site Rentals? No

Sanitation Facilities: (Yes/No)

Type:	Unisex	# of Units Women	# of Units Men	Notes (ADA, etc)
Flush	_____	_____	_____	_____
Composting	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vault	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Portable	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wilderness	_____	_____	_____	_____

Site Facilities:

#	Type	Repairs	Material Code	Other Info
<u>3</u>	Picnic Tables	<u>• •</u>	<u>Concrete/wood</u>	<u>taps need replacing on 2 tables + benches</u>
	Grills			
	Firepit/ring			
	Trails (specify use)			Length? <u> </u>
	Shelter			
	Potable Water			
	Dumping Station			
	Boat Ramp			
	Launching Lanes			
	Playground			
	Showers			
	Benches			
	Interpretive. Displays:			
<u>2</u>	Other: <u>trash cans</u>			

Material codes; (A) asphalt, (B) Brick, (C) concrete, (CG) compacted gravel, (CRS) crushed gravel, (FE) metal, (G) grass, (GTF) geo-tech fabric, (NS) native soil, (O) other/specify, (P/F) plastic/fiberglass, (RC) rock crib, (S) sand, (W) wood.

Activities occurring:	# of Adults	# of Minors	Total # of users
Picnicking	<u>1</u>		
Camping			
Walking/hiking	<u>2</u>		
Swimming			
Beach Activities			
Launching boats			
Fishing			
<u>Birding</u>	<u>2</u>		

Parking Lots:	Surface Code	Dimensions
# ADA spaces		
# regular spaces	<u>8</u>	<u>Asphalt</u>
# Vehicle & trailer spaces	<u>3</u>	<u>10 x 18</u>
# of vehicles in lot	Space delineated <u>yes</u>	Curbs <u>no</u>

Beach/Swim Area: (Yes/No) No swimming signs

	Number	Dimensions	Material	ADA Compliant
Dock/Pier:				
Float :				
Beach Area Substrate:			Swim Area Substrate:	
Dimensions of beach:		Lifeguards	Buoyed swim area	

Campground/Campsite:

	RV sites	Cabin sites	Tent sites	Wilderness sites
Group Sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
Access (foot, orv, car, boat)	_____	_____	_____	_____
# of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
On site parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
Water front	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Utilities	_____	_____	_____	_____

* (E) Electric, (S) Sanitation, (W) Water, (O) other (specify)

Boat Launch Facilities:

Hard surface _____ Gravel _____ Unimproved _____ Carry In _____ Launch/Load prep area: _____

Docks/Piers/Floats	Total Docks	Total Slips				
Material code:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____	
Dimensions:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____	
# of slips:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____	
ADA compliant:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____	

Fishing Piers:

Number: _____ Combined Length of Piers _____
 Surface code: _____ ADA compliant: _____

Site Aesthetics:

Viewshed from site: _____	Viewshed from shoreline: _____
1 – No noticeable development	4 – Six (6) to ten (10) buildings in view
2 – Very limited primitive development	5 – Ten (10) or more buildings in view
3 – Five (5) or less buildings in view	6 – Highly developed

Nature of abutting development/land use: _____

Audio perceptions from site: _____

Audio perceptions from shoreline: _____

Evidence of use at site: _____

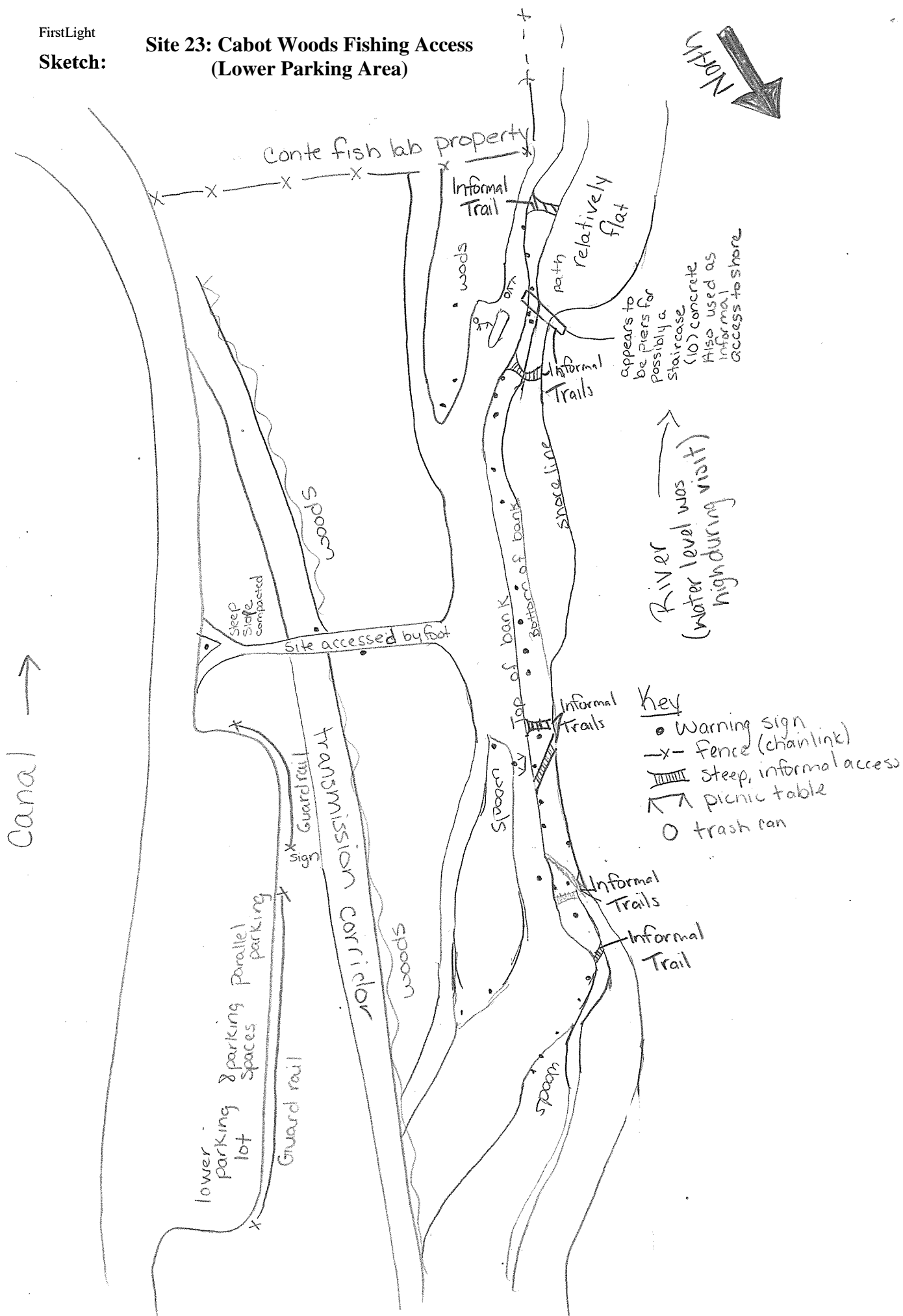
*(C) Compaction, (E) Erosion, (G) Garbage, (GD) Ground disturbance, (HW) Human waste, (UI) Unauthorized improvements, (V) Vandalism, (VR) Vegetation removal, (O) Other (Specify)

Evidence of Overcrowding: _____

*(A) Anecdotal information, (FA) facility/amenity @ capacity, (I) Improper parking, (S) Signage, (SD) site degradation, (U) Unauthorized sites, (W) Waiting lines, (O) Other (Specify)

Notes: Site closes at sunset

North



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Site 23
FirstLight
Site Visit/Inventory Forms

Inspector: AMW, HAS Date: 4-18-15 Time: 13:45 Photo No: _____

Project: _____ Site Name/Code: Cabot Woods Fishing Access - Weather: _____

Owner: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Facility Type:

Campground _____ Picnic Area _____ Day Use/Overlook X Informal _____ Launch _____ Marina _____
 Hiking _____ Ski Area _____

Access:

_____ Water access	_____ # of lanes
<u>X</u> Paved access	_____ # of lanes
_____ Unpaved access (conventional motor vehicle)	_____ # of lanes
_____ Unpaved access (4WD vehicle)	_____ width
_____ ORV access (ATV)	_____ width
_____ Foot access	_____ width

Ownership/Management

	Licensee	Federal	State	County	Local	Private	Other
Ownership	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Management	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Operations:

Staffed No Private No Seasonal _____ Commercial No Fee No Open/Closed Open

General Area:

Is the area associated with other facilities or activities? Cabot Woods Fishing Access

Potential/need for expansion/enhancement? _____

Topography: Flat, level

Ground cover: Some grass

Erosion/Soils: _____

Compaction: yes along parking lot edge

Approximate Shoreline Footage: _____

Bank Fishing (Yes/No): _____

ADA compliant? Obstacles? Yes

Rentals? No

Sanitation Facilities: (Yes/No)

Type:	Unisex	# of Units Women	# of Units Men	Notes (ADA, etc)
Flush	_____	_____	_____	_____
Composting	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vault	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Portable	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wilderness	_____	_____	_____	_____

Site Facilities: *just parking*

#	Type	Repairs	Material Code	Other Info
_____	Picnic Tables	_____	_____	_____
_____	Grills	_____	_____	_____
_____	Firepit/ring	_____	_____	_____
_____	Trails (specify use)	_____	_____	Length? _____
_____	Shelter	_____	_____	_____
_____	Potable Water	_____	_____	_____
_____	Dumping Station	_____	_____	_____
_____	Boat Ramp	_____	_____	_____
_____	Launching Lanes	_____	_____	_____
_____	Playground	_____	_____	_____
_____	Showers	_____	_____	_____
_____	Benches	_____	_____	_____
_____	Interpretive. Displays:	_____	_____	_____
_____	Other:	_____	_____	_____

Material codes; (A) asphalt, (B) Brick, (C) concrete, (CG) compacted gravel, (CRS) crushed gravel, (FE) metal, (G) grass, (GTF) geo-tech fabric, (NS) native soil, (O) other/specify, (P/F) plastic/fiberglass, (RC) rock crib, (S) sand, (W) wood.

Activities occurring:	# of Adults	# of Minors	Total # of users
Picnicking	_____	_____	_____
Camping	_____	_____	_____
Walking/hiking	_____	_____	_____
Swimming	_____	_____	_____
Beach Activities	_____	_____	_____
Launching boats	_____	_____	_____
Fishing	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Parking Lots:

	Surface Code	Dimensions
# ADA spaces <u>2</u>	<u>Asphalt</u>	<u>9' x 20' and 10' x 20'</u>
# regular spaces _____	_____	_____
# Vehicle & trailer spaces _____	_____	<u>lot is 76' x 60'</u>
# of vehicles in lot <u>1</u>	Space delineated <u>only ADA</u>	Curbs <u>No</u>

Beach/Swim Area: (Yes/No)

	Number	Dimensions	Material	ADA Compliant
Dock/Pier:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Float :	_____	_____	_____	_____
Beach Area Substrate:	_____	_____	_____	Swim Area Substrate: _____
Dimensions of beach:	_____	Lifeguards _____	_____	Buoyed swim area _____

Campground/Campsite: N/A

	RV sites	Cabin sites	Tent sites	Wilderness sites
Group Sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
Access (foot, orv, car, boat)	_____	_____	_____	_____
# of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
On site parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
Water front	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Utilities	_____	_____	_____	_____

* (E) Electric, (S) Sanitation, (W) Water, (O) other (specify)

Boat Launch Facilities: N/A

Hard surface _____ Gravel _____ Unimproved _____ Carry In _____ Launch/Load prep area: _____

Docks/Piers/Floats N/A Total Docks _____

Total Slips _____

Material code:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____
Dimensions:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____
# of slips:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____
ADA compliant:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____

Fishing Piers: N/ANumber: _____
Surface code: _____Combined Length of Piers _____
ADA compliant: _____**Site Aesthetics:**

Viewshed from site: _____

Viewshed from shoreline: _____

1 – No noticeable development

4 – Six (6) to ten (10) buildings in view

2 – Very limited primitive development

5 – Ten (10) or more buildings in view

3 – Five (5) or less buildings in view

6 – Highly developed

Nature of abutting development/land use: homesAudio perceptions from site: vehicles, peopleAudio perceptions from shoreline: Same as aboveEvidence of use at site: garbage, compaction

*(C) Compaction, (E) Erosion, (G) Garbage, (GD) Ground disturbance, (HW) Human waste, (UI) Unauthorized improvements, (V) Vandalism, (VR) Vegetation removal, (O) Other (Specify)

Evidence of Overcrowding: _____

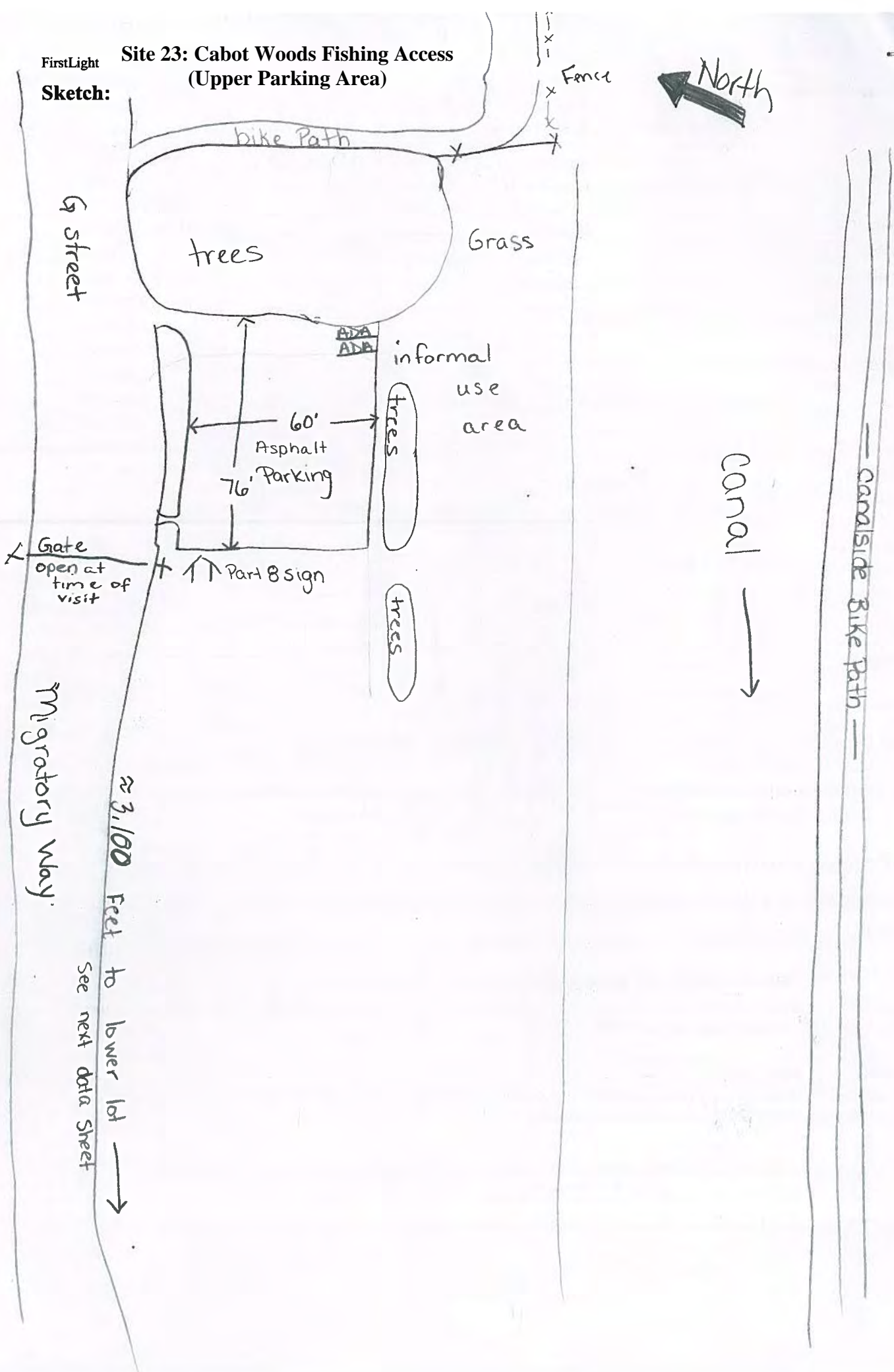
*(A) Anecdotal information, (FA) facility/amenity @ capacity, (I) Improper parking, (S) Signage, (SD) site degradation, (U) Unauthorized sites, (W) Waiting lines, (O) Other (Specify)

Notes: This parking lot serves as an parking area for the cabot woods fishing
Access when the road is gated. The road is typically gated at 5pm.

FirstLight

Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access (Upper Parking Area)

Sketch:



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Site 24
FirstLight
Site Visit/Inventory Forms

Inspector: AMW, HAS Date: 4-17 and 4-18/15 Time: _____ Photo No: _____
 Project: _____ Site Name/Code: Canoe Portage Weather: _____
 Owner: _____ Telephone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Facility Type: Portage

Campground _____ Picnic Area _____ Day Use/Overlook _____ Informal _____ Launch _____ Marina _____
 Hiking _____ Ski Area _____

Access:

☒ Water access
☒ Paved access 2 # of lanes
 _____ Unpaved access (conventional motor vehicle) _____ # of lanes
 _____ Unpaved access (4WD vehicle) _____ # of lanes
 _____ ORV access (ATV) _____ width
 _____ Foot access _____ width

Ownership/Management

	Licensee	Federal	State	County	Local	Private	Other
Ownership	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Management	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Operations:

Staffed yes Private no Seasonal yes Commercial no Fee _____ Open/Closed not operating

General Area:

Is the area associated with other facilities or activities? Route is along public roads by truck at time of site visit
Put-in is associated with Poplar Street Access flows in river
take-out is associate with Barton Cove Canoe & Kayak Centre are high.
 Potential/need for expansion/enhancement? _____

Topography: varies Ground cover: varies
 Erosion/Soils: _____ Compaction: _____
 Approximate Shoreline Footage: _____ Bank Fishing (Yes/No): _____
 ADA compliant? Obstacles? _____ Rentals? _____

Sanitation Facilities: (Yes/No)

Type:	Unisex	# of Units Women	# of Units Men	Notes (ADA, etc)
Flush	_____	_____	_____	_____
Composting	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vault	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Portable	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wilderness	_____	_____	_____	_____

Site Facilities: N/A

#	Type	Repairs	Material Code	Other Info
_____	Picnic Tables	_____	_____	_____
_____	Grills	_____	_____	_____
_____	Firepit/ring	_____	_____	_____
_____	Trails (specify use)	_____	_____	Length? _____
_____	Shelter	_____	_____	_____
_____	Potable Water	_____	_____	_____
_____	Dumping Station	_____	_____	_____
_____	Boat Ramp	_____	_____	_____
_____	Launching Lanes	_____	_____	_____
_____	Playground	_____	_____	_____
_____	Showers	_____	_____	_____
_____	Benches	_____	_____	_____
_____	Interpretive. Displays:	_____	_____	_____
_____	Other: _____	_____	_____	_____

Material codes; (A) asphalt, (B) Brick, (C) concrete, (CG) compacted gravel, (CRS) crushed gravel, (FE) metal, (G) grass, (GTF) geo-tech fabric, (NS) native soil, (O) other/specify, (P/F) plastic/fiberglass, (RC) rock crib, (S) sand, (W) wood.

Activities occurring: N/A	# of Adults	# of Minors	Total # of users
Picnicking	_____	_____	_____
Camping	_____	_____	_____
Walking/hiking	_____	_____	_____
Swimming	_____	_____	_____
Beach Activities	_____	_____	_____
Launching boats	_____	_____	_____
Fishing	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Parking Lots: N/A	Surface Code	Dimensions
# ADA spaces	_____	_____
# regular spaces	_____	_____
# Vehicle & trailer spaces	_____	_____
# of vehicles in lot	Space delineated _____	Curbs _____

Beach/Swim Area: (Yes/No)

	Number	Dimensions	Material	ADA Compliant
Dock/Pier:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Float :	_____	_____	_____	_____
Beach Area Substrate:	_____	_____	Swim Area Substrate:	_____
Dimensions of beach:	_____	Lifeguards _____	Buoyed swim area	_____

Campground/Campsite: N/A

	RV sites	Cabin sites	Tent sites	Wilderness sites
Group Sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
Access (foot, orv, car, boat)	_____	_____	_____	_____
# of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
On site parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
Water front	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Utilities	_____	_____	_____	_____

* (E) Electric, (S) Sanitation, (W) Water, (O) other (specify)

Boat Launch Facilities: inventoried as part of Poplar Street Access and Barton Cove Canoe + Kayak Center

Hard surface _____ Gravel _____ Unimproved _____ Carry In _____ Launch/Load prep area: _____

N/A **Docks/Piers/Floats** Total Docks _____ Total Slips _____

Material code:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____
Dimensions:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____
# of slips:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____
ADA compliant:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____

Fishing Piers: N/ANumber: _____
Surface code: _____Combined Length of Piers _____
ADA compliant: _____**Site Aesthetics:**Viewshed from site: 6Viewshed from shoreline: 6

1 – No noticeable development

4 – Six (6) to ten (10) buildings in view

2 – Very limited primitive development

5 – Ten (10) or more buildings in view

3 – Five (5) or less buildings in view

6 – Highly developed

Nature of abutting development/land use: cityAudio perceptions from site: vehicle noiseAudio perceptions from shoreline: vehicle noiseEvidence of use at site: N/A

*(C) Compaction, (E) Erosion, (G) Garbage, (GD) Ground disturbance, (HW) Human waste, (UI) Unauthorized improvements,
(V) Vandalism, (VR) Vegetation removal, (O) Other (Specify)

Evidence of Overcrowding: N/A

*(A) Anecdotal information, (FA) facility/amenity @ capacity, (I) Improper parking, (S) Signage, (SD) site degradation, (U) Unauthorized sites, (W) Waiting lines, (O) Other (Specify)

Notes: The current portage is a vehicle shuttle from Barton Cove Canoe + Kayak Center to Poplar Street Access. The route may vary depending on the driver.
Take-out location has a gentle slope up to parking area. take-out is gravel based and shoreline is grassy.

Site 24: Turners Falls Canoe Portage

Sketch:

Not Applicable

Vehicular portage route may vary depending on the roads the driver selects.

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Site Facilities:

#	Type	Repairs	Material Code	Other Info
_____	Picnic Tables	_____	_____	_____
_____	Grills	_____	_____	_____
_____	Firepit/ring	_____	_____	_____
<u>1</u>	Trails (specify use)	<u>yes</u>	<u>sandy/silt</u>	<u>Length? 42.5' informal, steep access</u>
_____	Shelter	_____	_____	<u>no formal facility / Access, trail is eroding</u>
_____	Potable Water	_____	_____	_____
_____	Dumping Station	_____	_____	_____
_____	Boat Ramp	_____	_____	_____
_____	Launching Lanes	_____	_____	_____
_____	Playground	_____	_____	_____
_____	Showers	_____	_____	_____
_____	Benches	_____	_____	_____
<u>1</u>	Interpretive Displays: <u>Part 8 sign</u>	<u>wood</u>	_____	_____
<u>1</u>	Other: <u>trash can</u>	<u>metal</u>	_____	_____

Material codes; (A) asphalt, (B) Brick, (C) concrete, (CG) compacted gravel, (CRS) crushed gravel, (FE) metal, (G) grass, (GTF) geo-tech fabric, (NS) native soil, (O) other/specify, (P/F) plastic/fiberglass, (RC) rock crib, (S) sand, (W) wood.

Activities occurring:	# of Adults	# of Minors	Total # of users
Picnicking	<u>0</u>	_____	_____
Camping	<u>1</u>	_____	_____
Walking/hiking	<u>1</u>	_____	_____
Swimming	<u>1</u>	_____	_____
Beach Activities	<u>1</u>	_____	_____
Launching boats	<u>1</u>	_____	_____
Fishing	<u>1</u>	_____	_____

Parking Lots:

	Surface Code	Dimensions
# ADA spaces <u>0</u>	_____	_____
# regular spaces <u>16</u>	<u>dirt/grass/CG</u>	<u>9x15' field</u> <u>estimated condition 3 could be raked.</u>
# Vehicle & trailer spaces <u>0</u>	_____	_____
# of vehicles in lot <u>0</u>	Space delineated <u>No</u>	Curbs <u>No</u>

Beach/Swim Area: (Yes/No)

	Number	Dimensions	Material	ADA Compliant
Dock/Pier:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Float :	_____	_____	_____	_____
Beach Area Substrate:	_____	_____	_____	Swim Area Substrate: _____
Dimensions of beach:	_____	Lifeguards _____	_____	Buoyed swim area _____

Campground/Campsite:

N/A

	RV sites	Cabin sites	Tent sites	Wilderness sites
Group Sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
Access (foot, orv, car, boat)	_____	_____	_____	_____
# of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
On site parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
Water front	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Utilities	_____	_____	_____	_____

* (E) Electric, (S) Sanitation, (W) Water, (O) other (specify)

Boat Launch Facilities:

Hard surface _____ Gravel _____ Unimproved Yes Carry In Yes Launch/Load prep area: _____

N/A **Docks/Piers/Floats**

	Total Docks	Total Slips
Material code:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____
Dimensions:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____
# of slips:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____
ADA compliant:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____

Fishing Piers: N/A

Number: _____
Surface code: _____

Combined Length of Piers _____
ADA compliant: _____

Site Aesthetics:

Viewshed from site: 6

- 1 – No noticeable development
- 2 – Very limited primitive development
- 3 – Five (5) or less buildings in view

Viewshed from shoreline: 6 - bridge

- 4 – Six (6) to ten (10) buildings in view
- 5 – Ten (10) or more buildings in view
- 6 – Highly developed

Nature of abutting development/land use: homes, bike trail

Audio perceptions from site: birds, train

Audio perceptions from shoreline: birds, train

Evidence of use at site: C, (O) vehicle tracks in mud

*(C) Compaction, (E) Erosion, (G) Garbage, (GD) Ground disturbance, (HW) Human waste, (UI) Unauthorized improvements, (V) Vandalism, (VR) Vegetation removal, (O) Other (Specify)

Evidence of Overcrowding: No

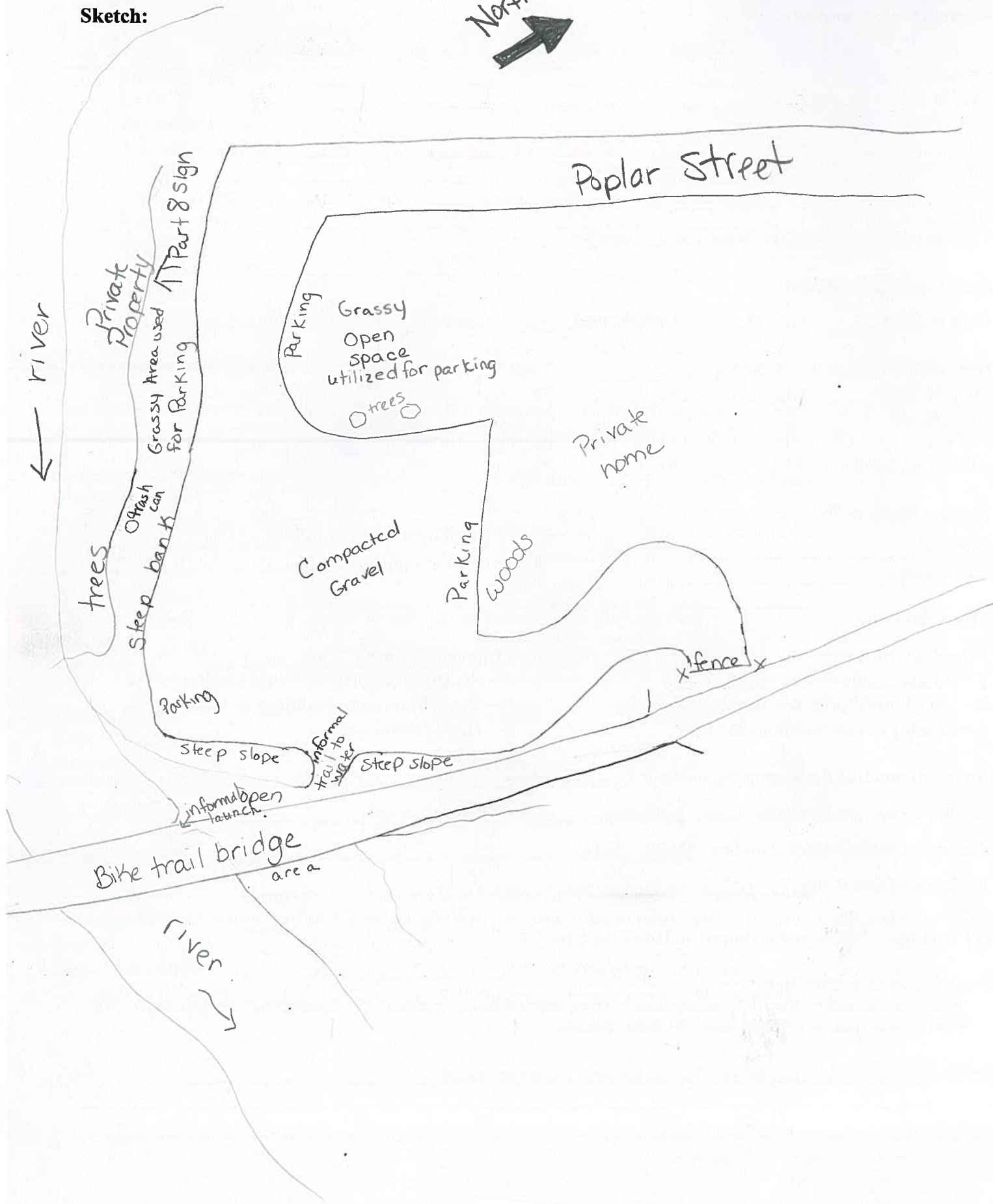
*(A) Anecdotal information, (FA) facility/amenity @ capacity, (I) Improper parking, (S) Signage, (SD) site degradation, (U) Unauthorized sites, (W) Waiting lines, (O) Other (Specify)

Notes: 42.5 feet run from Top of bank to lower bank.

Site 25: Poplar Street Access Site

FirstLight

Sketch:



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Site 26
FirstLight
Site Visit/Inventory Forms

Inspector: AMW, HAS Date: 4-18-15 Time: 16:05 Photo No: _____
 Project: _____ Site Name/Code: Put-in downstream of turners falls Dam Weather: _____
 Owner: _____ Telephone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Facility Type:

Campground _____ Picnic Area _____ Day Use/Overlook _____ Informal ☒ Launch _____ Marina _____
 Hiking _____ Ski Area _____

Access:

☒ Water access
 _____ Paved access _____ # of lanes
 _____ Unpaved access (conventional motor vehicle) _____ # of lanes
 _____ Unpaved access (4WD vehicle) _____ # of lanes
 _____ ORV access (ATV) _____ width
☒ Foot access _____ width

Ownership/Management

	Licensee	Federal	State	County	Local	Private	Other
Ownership	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Management	<u>N/A</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Operations:

Staffed No Private No Seasonal No Commercial No Fee No Open/Closed N/A

General Area:

Is the area associated with other facilities or activities? Turners Falls dam immediately upstream
 Potential/need for expansion/enhancement? _____

Topography: <u>flat to gentle slope at water</u>	Ground cover: <u>grass</u>
Erosion/Soils: <u>moderate slope along road bed</u>	Compaction: <u>minor near shore</u>
Approximate Shoreline Footage: _____	Bank Fishing (Yes/No): _____
ADA compliant? Obstacles? <u>No slope</u>	Rentals? <u>No</u>

Sanitation Facilities: (Yes/No)

Type:	Unisex	# of Units Women	# of Units Men	Notes (ADA, etc)
Flush	_____	_____	_____	_____
Composting	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vault	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Portable	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wilderness	_____	_____	_____	_____

N/A

Site Facilities:

#	Type	Repairs	Material Code	Other Info
_____	Picnic Tables	_____	_____	_____
_____	Grills	_____	_____	_____
_____	Firepit/ring	_____	_____	_____
_____	Trails (specify use)	_____	_____	Length? _____
_____	Shelter	_____	_____	_____
_____	Potable Water	_____	_____	_____
_____	Dumping Station	_____	_____	_____
_____	Boat Ramp	_____	_____	_____
_____	Launching Lanes	_____	_____	_____
_____	Playground	_____	_____	_____
_____	Showers	_____	_____	_____
_____	Benches	_____	_____	_____
_____	Interpretive. Displays:	_____	_____	_____
_____	Other: _____	_____	_____	_____

Material codes; (A) asphalt, (B) Brick, (C) concrete, (CG) compacted gravel, (CRS) crushed gravel, (FE) metal, (G) grass, (GTF) geo-tech fabric, (NS) native soil, (O) other/specify, (P/F) plastic/fiberglass, (RC) rock crib, (S) sand, (W) wood.

Activities occurring:	# of Adults	# of Minors	Total # of users
Picnicking	_____	_____	_____
Camping	_____	_____	_____
Walking/hiking	_____	_____	_____
Swimming	_____	_____	_____
Beach Activities	_____	_____	_____
Launching boats	_____	_____	_____
Fishing	1	_____	_____
sightseeing	60	2	_____

Parking Lots: N/A Parked at Discovery Center or Fishway

	Surface Code	Dimensions
# ADA spaces	_____	_____
# regular spaces	_____	_____
# Vehicle & trailer spaces	_____	_____
# of vehicles in lot	Space delineated _____	Curbs _____

Beach/Swim Area: (Yes/No)

	Number	Dimensions	Material	ADA Compliant
Dock/Pier:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Float :	_____	_____	_____	_____
Beach Area Substrate:	_____	_____	_____	Swim Area Substrate: _____
Dimensions of beach:	_____	Lifeguards _____	_____	Buoyed swim area _____

N/A **Campground/Campsite:**

	RV sites	Cabin sites	Tent sites	Wilderness sites
Group Sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
Access (foot, orv, car, boat)	_____	_____	_____	_____
# of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
On site parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
Water front	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Utilities	_____	_____	_____	_____

* (E) Electric, (S) Sanitation, (W) Water, (O) other (specify)

Boat Launch Facilities:

Hard surface _____ Gravel _____ Unimproved X Carry In X Launch/Load prep area: _____

N/A

Docks/Piers/Floats Total Docks _____ Total Slips _____

Material code:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____
Dimensions:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____
# of slips:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____
ADA compliant:	#1 _____	#2 _____	#3 _____	#4 _____	#5 _____

Fishing Piers: N/A

Number: _____
Surface code: _____

Combined Length of Piers _____
ADA compliant: _____

Site Aesthetics:

Viewshed from site: <u>6</u>	Viewshed from shoreline: <u>6</u>
1 – No noticeable development	4 – Six (6) to ten (10) buildings in view
2 – Very limited primitive development	5 – Ten (10) or more buildings in view
3 – Five (5) or less buildings in view	6 – Highly developed

Nature of abutting development/land use: Hydropower Station

Audio perceptions from site: Roar of water, birds

Audio perceptions from shoreline: Roar of water, birds

Evidence of use at site: G, Graffiti, minor compaction

*(C) Compaction, (E) Erosion, (G) Garbage, (GD) Ground disturbance, (HW) Human waste, (UI) Unauthorized improvements, (V) Vandalism, (VR) Vegetation removal, (O) Other (Specify)

Evidence of Overcrowding: _____

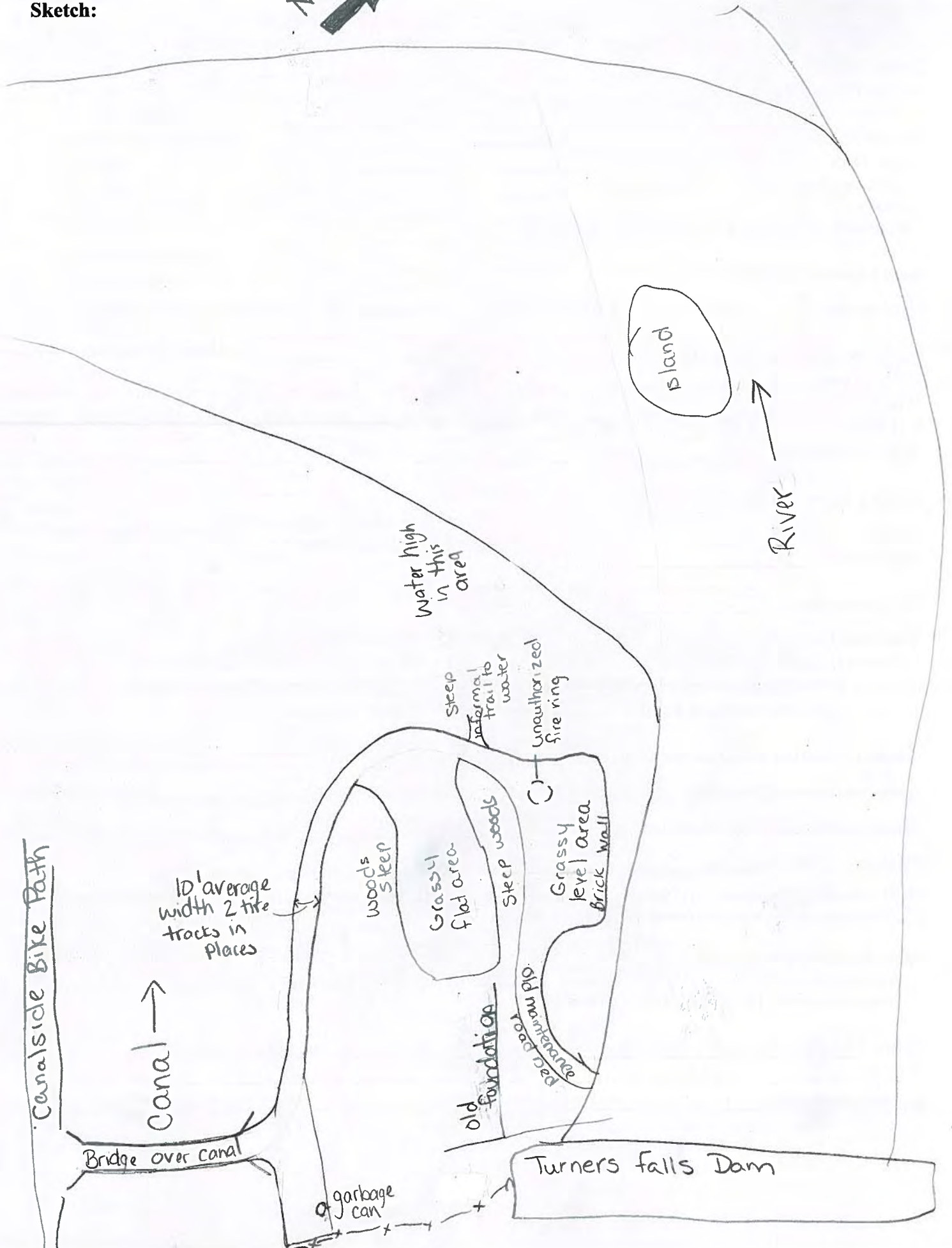
*(A) Anecdotal information, (FA) facility/amenity @ capacity, (I) Improper parking, (S) Signage, (SD) site degradation, (U) Unauthorized sites, (W) Waiting lines, (O) Other (Specify)

Notes: This informal location was used as a put-in for the ww study.
flows during inventory were high. Water was leaving the tainter gate +
Bascule gate.

FirstLight

Sketch:

Site 26: Turners Falls
Dam Downstream Put-in



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Site 27
FirstLight
Site Visit/Inventory Forms

Inspector: AMW, HAS Date: 4/19/15 Time: 10:47am Photo No: _____
 Project: _____ Site Name/Code: Rose Ledge Climbing Area Weather: Sunny, Warm
 Owner: _____ Telephone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Facility Type:

Campground _____ Picnic Area _____ Day Use/Overlook X Informal _____ Launch _____ Marina _____
 Hiking _____ Ski Area _____

Access:

_____ Water access
 _____ Paved access _____ # of lanes
 _____ Unpaved access (conventional motor vehicle) _____ # of lanes
 _____ Unpaved access (4WD vehicle) _____ # of lanes
 _____ ORV access (ATV) _____ width
X Foot access 2-6ft width

Ownership/Management

	Licensee	Federal	State	County	Local	Private	Other
Ownership	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Management	<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Operations:

Staffed N Private N Seasonal N Commercial N Fee N Open/Closed Open

General Area:

Is the area associated with other facilities or activities? Visitor Center
 Potential/need for expansion/enhancement? No
 Topography: Steep Slopes Mid-Difficult Trails Ground cover: Natural Earth Gravel
 Erosion/Soils: Minimal Compaction: Yes from hiking use
 Approximate Shoreline Footage: None Bank Fishing (Yes/No): N/A
 ADA compliant? Obstacles? No slopes Rentals? No

Sanitation Facilities: (Yes/No)

Type:	Unisex	# of Units Women	# of Units Men	Notes (ADA, etc)
Flush	_____	_____	_____	_____
Composting	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vault	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Portable	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wilderness	_____	_____	_____	_____

Site Facilities: *None*

#	Type	Repairs	Material Code	Other Info
_____	Picnic Tables	_____	_____	_____
_____	Grills	_____	_____	_____
_____	Firepit/ring	_____	_____	_____
_____	Trails (specify use)	_____	_____	Length? _____
_____	Shelter	_____	_____	_____
_____	Potable Water	_____	_____	_____
_____	Dumping Station	_____	_____	_____
_____	Boat Ramp	_____	_____	_____
_____	Launching Lanes	_____	_____	_____
_____	Playground	_____	_____	_____
_____	Showers	_____	_____	_____
_____	Benches	_____	_____	_____
_____	Interpretive. Displays:	_____	_____	_____
_____	Other: _____	_____	_____	_____

Material codes; (A) asphalt, (B) Brick, (C) concrete, (CG) compacted gravel, (CRS) crushed gravel, (FE) metal, (G) grass, (GTF) geo-tech fabric, (NS) native soil, (O) other/specify, (P/F) plastic/fiberglass, (RC) rock crib, (S) sand, (W) wood.

Activities occurring:	# of Adults	# of Minors	Total # of users
Picnicking	_____	_____	_____
Camping	_____	_____	_____
Walking/hiking/climbing	<i>8</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8</i>
Swimming	_____	_____	_____
Beach Activities	_____	_____	_____
Launching boats	_____	_____	_____
Fishing	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Parking Lots:

# ADA spaces	Surface Code	Dimensions
_____	_____	_____
# regular spaces	_____	_____
# Vehicle & trailer spaces	_____	_____
# of vehicles in lot	Space delineated _____	Curbs _____

*Northfield
Mountain
Visitors Center*

Beach/Swim Area: (Yes/No)

Number	Dimensions	Material	ADA Compliant
Dock/Pier: _____	_____	_____	_____
Float: _____	_____	_____	_____
Beach Area Substrate: _____	_____	Swim Area Substrate: _____	_____
Dimensions of beach: _____	Lifeguards _____	Buoyed swim area _____	_____

Campground/Campsite: N/A

	RV sites	Cabin sites	Tent sites	Wilderness sites
Group Sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
Access (foot, orv, car, boat)	_____	_____	_____	_____
# of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
On site parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
Water front	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Utilities	_____	_____	_____	_____

* (E) Electric, (S) Sanitation, (W) Water, (O) other (specify)

Boat Launch Facilities: N/A

Hard surface _____ Gravel _____ Unimproved _____ Carry In _____ Launch/Load prep area: _____

Docks/Piers/Floats	Total Docks	Total Slips
Material code:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____
Dimensions:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____
# of slips:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____
ADA compliant:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____

Fishing Piers: N/ANumber: _____
Surface code: _____Combined Length of Piers _____
ADA compliant: _____**Site Aesthetics:**Viewshed from site: 1Viewshed from shoreline: N/A

1 – No noticeable development

4 – Six (6) to ten (10) buildings in view

2 – Very limited primitive development

5 – Ten (10) or more buildings in view

3 – Five (5) or less buildings in view

6 – Highly developed

Nature of abutting development/land use: Undeveloped / ForestAudio perceptions from site: Birds, leaves, windAudio perceptions from shoreline: N/AEvidence of use at site: Compaction

*(C) Compaction, (E) Erosion, (G) Garbage, (GD) Ground disturbance, (HW) Human waste, (UI) Unauthorized improvements, (V) Vandalism, (VR) Vegetation removal, (O) Other (Specify)

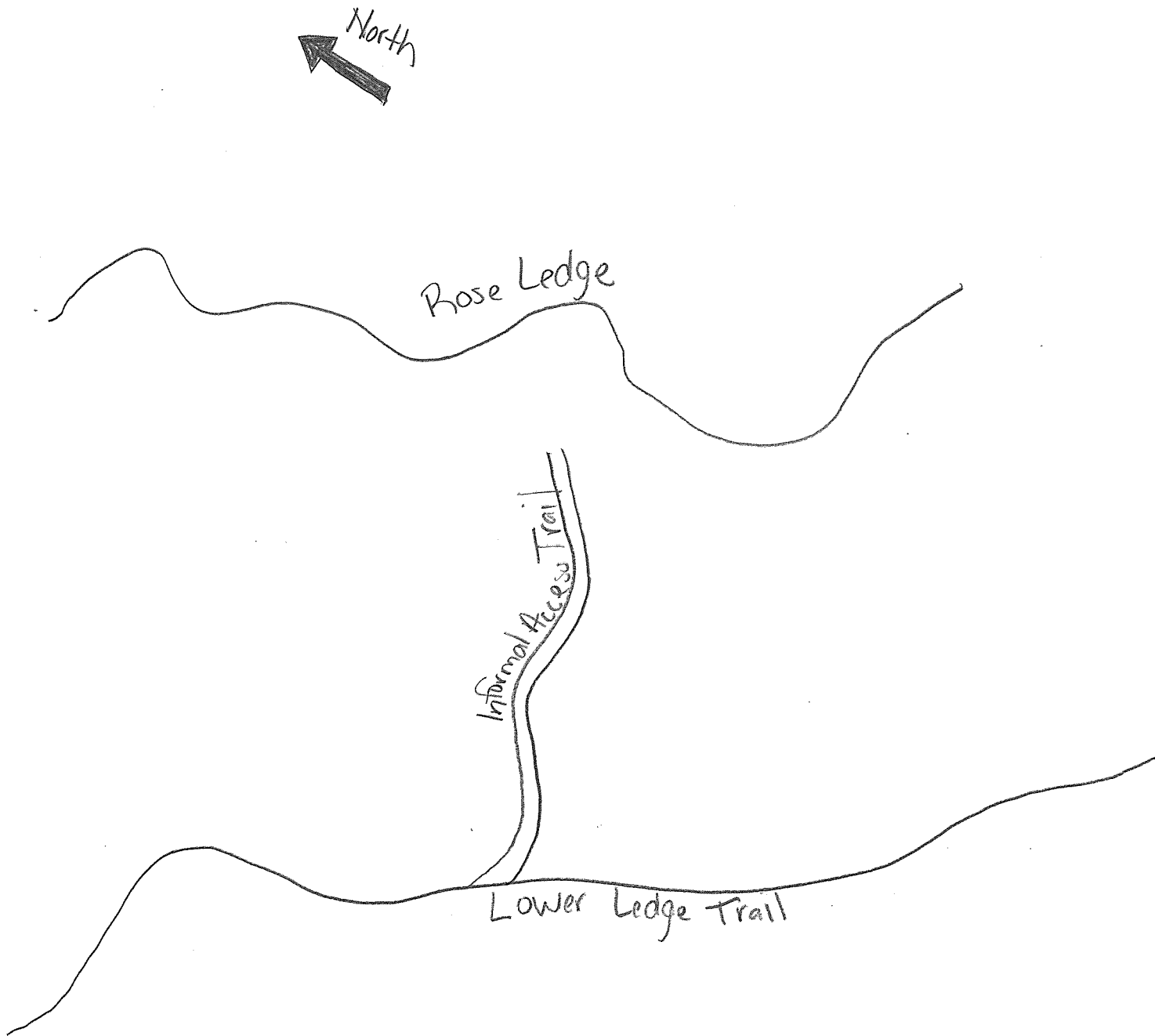
Evidence of Overcrowding: None

*(A) Anecdotal information, (FA) facility/amenity @ capacity, (I) Improper parking, (S) Signage, (SD) site degradation, (U) Unauthorized sites, (W) Waiting lines, (O) Other (Specify)

Notes: Private fee parking lot located outside of the project boundary.
Anchors for clips @ top of ledge (unauthorized improvements.)

Site 27: Rose Ledge
Climbing Area

Sketch:



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Site 28
FirstLight
Site Visit/Inventory Forms

Inspector: AMW, HAS Date: 4-19-15 Time: 1243 Photo No: _____

Project: _____ Site Name/Code: Farley Ledge Climbing Area Weather: _____

Owner: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Facility Type:

Campground _____ Picnic Area _____ Day Use/Overlook ☒ Informal ☒ Launch _____ Marina _____
 Hiking _____ Ski Area _____

Access:

_____ Water access	
_____ Paved access	_____ # of lanes
_____ Unpaved access (conventional motor vehicle)	_____ # of lanes
_____ Unpaved access (4WD vehicle)	_____ # of lanes
_____ ORV access (ATV)	_____ width
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foot access	<u>1-3'</u> width

Ownership/Management

	Licensee	Federal	State	County	Local	Private	Other
Ownership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Management	<u>N/A</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Operations:

Staffed No Private No Seasonal No Commercial No Fee No Open/Closed N/A

General Area:

Is the area associated with other facilities or activities? Farley Ledge - 3 parking areas on private property

Potential/need for expansion/enhancement? _____

Topography: moderate to steep slopes

Ground cover: leaves

Erosion/Soils: None noted

Compaction: along trail + rock face moderate

Approximate Shoreline Footage: N/A

Bank Fishing (Yes/No) No

ADA compliant? Obstacles? No slope + trail conditions

Rentals? No

Sanitation Facilities: (Yes/No)

Type:	Unisex	# of Units Women	# of Units Men	Notes (ADA, etc)
Flush	_____	_____	_____	_____
Composting	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vault	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pit	_____	_____	_____	_____
Portable	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wilderness	_____	_____	_____	_____

Site Facilities: N/A

#	Type	Repairs	Material Code	Other Info
_____	Picnic Tables	_____	_____	_____
_____	Grills	_____	_____	_____
_____	Firepit/ring	_____	_____	_____
_____	Trails (specify use)	_____	_____	Length? _____
_____	Shelter	_____	_____	_____
_____	Potable Water	_____	_____	_____
_____	Dumping Station	_____	_____	_____
_____	Boat Ramp	_____	_____	_____
_____	Launching Lanes	_____	_____	_____
_____	Playground	_____	_____	_____
_____	Showers	_____	_____	_____
_____	Benches	_____	_____	_____
_____	Interpretive. Displays:	_____	_____	_____
_____	Other: _____	_____	_____	_____

Material codes; (A) asphalt, (B) Brick, (C) concrete, (CG) compacted gravel, (CRS) crushed gravel, (FE) metal, (G) grass, (GTF) geo-tech fabric, (NS) native soil, (O) other/specify, (P/F) plastic/fiberglass, (RC) rock crib, (S) sand, (W) wood.

Activities occurring:	# of Adults	# of Minors	Total # of users
Picnicking	_____	_____	_____
Camping	_____	_____	_____
Walking/hiking	_____	_____	_____
Swimming	_____	_____	_____
Beach Activities	_____	_____	_____
Launching boats	_____	_____	_____
Fishing	_____	_____	_____
<u>Climbing</u>	<u>22</u>	_____	<u>22</u>

Parking Lots: outside pb on private property

# ADA spaces	Surface Code	Dimensions
_____	_____	_____
# regular spaces	_____	_____
# Vehicle & trailer spaces	_____	_____
# of vehicles in lot	Space delineated _____	Curbs _____

Beach/Swim Area: (Yes/No) (No)

Number	Dimensions	Material	ADA Compliant
Dock/Pier:	_____	_____	_____
Float :	_____	_____	_____
Beach Area Substrate:	_____	Swim Area Substrate:	_____
Dimensions of beach:	_____	Lifeguards	Buoyed swim area _____

Campground/Campsite: N/A

	RV sites	Cabin sites	Tent sites	Wilderness sites
Group Sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
Access (foot, orv, car, boat)	_____	_____	_____	_____
# of sites	_____	_____	_____	_____
On site parking	_____	_____	_____	_____
Water front	_____	_____	_____	_____
ADA compliant	_____	_____	_____	_____
Utilities	_____	_____	_____	_____

* (E) Electric, (S) Sanitation, (W) Water, (O) other (specify)

Boat Launch Facilities: N/A

Hard surface _____ Gravel _____ Unimproved _____ Carry In _____ Launch/Load prep area: _____

Docks/Piers/Floats	Total Docks	Total Slips
Material code:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____
Dimensions:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____
# of slips:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____
ADA compliant:	#1 _____ #2 _____	#3 _____ #4 _____ #5 _____

Fishing Piers: N/ANumber: _____
Surface code: _____Combined Length of Piers _____
ADA compliant: _____**Site Aesthetics:**Viewshed from site: 1Viewshed from shoreline: N/A

1 – No noticeable development

4 – Six (6) to ten (10) buildings in view

2 – Very limited primitive development

5 – Ten (10) or more buildings in view

3 – Five (5) or less buildings in view

6 – Highly developed

Nature of abutting development/land use: Northfield Mtn trailsAudio perceptions from site: PeopleAudio perceptions from shoreline: PeopleEvidence of use at site: C, UI (numerous clip locations for ropes)

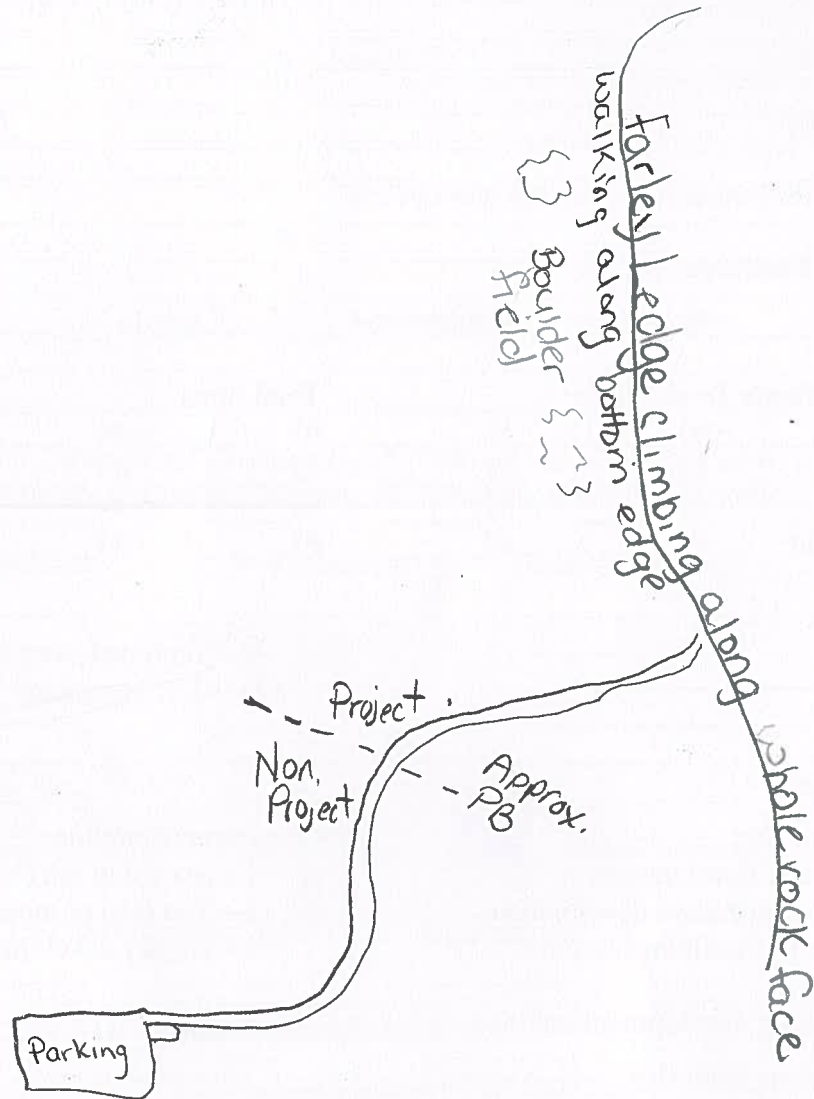
*(C) Compaction, (E) Erosion, (G) Garbage, (GD) Ground disturbance, (HW) Human waste, (UI) Unauthorized improvements, (V) Vandalism, (VR) Vegetation removal, (O) Other (Specify)

Evidence of Overcrowding: _____

*(A) Anecdotal information, (FA) facility/amenity @ capacity, (I) Improper parking, (S) Signage, (SD) site degradation, (U) Unauthorized sites, (W) Waiting lines, (O) Other (Specify)

Notes: _____

Site 28: Farley Ledge
Climbing Area



APPENDIX C – COMMENT AND RESPONSE SUMMARY

Appendix C: Summary of Information from FirstLight's Responses to Stakeholder Comments on 3.6.2 Study Report

FERC's ISR Determination Letter requires that this Addendum include all information from FirstLight's responses to comments. By letter dated December 15, 2014, FirstLight filed its Response to Stakeholder Comments on the ISR and Meeting Summary. In that filing, FirstLight provided information regarding certain recreation sites. The table below identifies (1) those stakeholder comments that resulted in providing specific information about a recreation site; (2) FirstLight's December 15, 2014 original response providing information on a recreation site; and (3) updated information, resulting from preparation of this Addendum as well as the Addendum section in which the updated information can be found.

Responsiveness Summary

Commenter	Comment	Original Response/Information	Updated Information
Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) AMC-5	Site 12 – The Northfield Mountain Visitor Center inventory does not include access/facilities at the rock climbing areas.	Once on the Licensee’s property, climbers access the climbing areas over the existing Northfield Mountain trail system. A trail assessment for Northfield Mountain is being conducted under Study Plan 3.6.7. The Licensee does not provide or promote any climbing routes or specific facilities, other than the trails for access, on their property for this activity. Parking areas and trailheads outside the Project, and therefore non-Project facilities, were not inventoried as part of Study 3.6.2. However, user counts were conducted and user surveys were administered at these sites in order to estimate level of climbing activity and climber perceptions.	Inventory and assessment information about two climbing sites, the Rose Ledge Climbing Area (Site 27) and Farley Ledge Climbing Area (Site 28) is provided in the 3.6.2 Study Addendum (see Section 5.3). Both the climbing areas are located within or partially within the Northfield Mountain Project boundary. The Rose Ledge climbing area can be accessed several ways including via the NMTTC trail system. Both climbing sites are informal sites, with no improvement or formal facilities or amenities. Both sites were inventoried and assessed, but as informal sites no formal condition assessment was made.
AMC-7	No phone number for transportation around the Turners Falls Dam was listed. The assessment sheet did not list the presence of a telephone at the site.	The phone number is listed on sign kiosks at Poplar St., Barton Cove Day Use parking lot, Riverview Picnic Area, Munn’s Ferry Campground, and the Barton Cove Canoe Rental office at the water front. Individuals may call from the canoe and kayak rental office when they are open	A clarified description of the Turners Falls Canoe Portage, including a detailed description of the portage process, the location of signs that describe the process, a description of the information on the signs (including the phone number), and the availability of a phone at Barton Cove is provided in the 3.6.2 Study Addendum (see Section 5.3).
AMC-9	The study did not evaluate the area where whitewater boaters launch to surf waves below the Turners Falls Dam and to run the bypass reach. This is the section of river evaluated in Study No. 3.6.3, Whitewater	This site was assessed as part of 3.6.4.	This addendum includes inventory and assessment information for the Put-In Site downstream of Turners Falls Dam, and the results are provided in Section 5.3. This site

Commenter	Comment	Original Response/Information	Updated Information
	<p>Boating Evaluation. The informal put-in used by virtually all whitewater boaters immediately below the Turners Falls Dam was not included in this inventory. It is entirely within Project boundaries and within the geographical scope of this study. This is a serious omission and should be inventoried as an informal site.</p>		<p>provides whitewater boaters with informal access to the upper bypassed reach. Whitewater boating access locations were also considered and discussed in the report for Study No. 3.6.3 <i>Whitewater Boating Evaluation</i>.</p>
AMC-10	<p>Site 23 – The Cabot Woods Fishing Access fails to evaluate the serious difficulties in getting down to Rock Dam for fishing, swimming, or boating. At one time, FirstLight built stairs to access Rock Dam—some footings still exist—but the Applicant has verbally indicated that they were vandalized and removed. (The inventory report in Appendix A noted “old staircase access” in this area.). No useful access alternatives to date have been provided since the stairway was removed. Whitewater boaters who want to portage a kayak or canoe to play at Rock Dam would have an extremely difficult time. This major omission should be part of the site inventory. The inventory in Appendix A listed a “flat gentle slope to H2O” in the evaluation (with “steep to water and trails” scribbled in the margin), but it is unclear where that flat, gentle slope might be. Getting down to the bypass reach is extremely steep as exemplified during an evaluation of this area -- FirstLight provided walking sticks to participants because of the difficulty in getting down to</p>	<p>See response to AMC-1. The evaluation of flat gentle slope to water is along the roadway to the canal and by the upper parking lot. Swimming is expressly prohibited at Rock Dam due to changes in volume and flow which makes this area unsafe for swimmers. In reference to AMC’s comment regarding the walking sticks, a tailgate safety briefing was held in the Conte Lab parking lot with stakeholders prior to conducting a site walk of the entire bypass reach as part of the IFIM study. Walking sticks were provided for the purpose of walking the bypass reach; not for ascending river banks</p>	<p>The Cabot Woods Fishing Access site was revisited as part of the 3.6.2 study Addendum (see Section 5.3). More details regarding the site, including the location of the informal trails used by anglers to access the River, including the Rock Dam area, are provided in a revised field site map and described in the site description. Also noted on the field site map and noted in the text is the existence and location of piers that were provided as a foundation for steps. The site description also describes the safety concerns associated with this site, including the steepness of the trails leading to the water’s edge, and the dangerous conditions the waters in the vicinity of Rock Dam pose for recreationists, particularly swimmers.</p>

Commenter	Comment	Original Response/Information	Updated Information
	the water. (See following photo taken at the Rock Dam sandy beach during that site-visit with participants holding a walking stick.)		
AMC-11	The site inventory in Appendix A lists “launching boats” as one function. It does not specify what kind of boats. In the field assessment, only portable toilets were listed as potential enhancements. AMC notes the sandy area in the eddy below Rock Dam could be an excellent launch site for canoes and kayaks, but proper access facilities are necessary to get there. Rock Dam is one of the most popular sites in this reach of the river. Tremendous opportunities for recreational enhancements exist and should be evaluated in this inventory.	Boat launching is not a noted activity at this site. Swimming is not allowed at Rock Dam due to unsafe conditions. See response to AMC-1.	See Response to AMC-10.
AMC-12	<p>Site 24 - The Turners Falls “Canoe Portage” inventory assessment is misleading. In standard English usage among boaters, a “portage” means a trail where one can individually carry a canoe or kayak around an obstacle in the river such as a waterfall or a dam. A portage is human powered, as is canoeing itself. On none of the other Connecticut River dams up for relicensing do motor vehicles substitute for human-powered portaging (even though some of TransCanada’s portage trails are severely deficient).</p> <p>The lack of an adequate portage at the Turners Falls Dam is often cited by paddlers as one of the major impediments to multiple-day trips on the Connecticut</p>	<p>Site 24 is the site that has been consistently utilized as the put-in for the canoe portage and therefore was the site that was inventoried as part of the FERC-approved study. Two objectives of Study 3.6.4 are to determine if alternate walkable canoe portages are feasible and the need for and possible locations for future carry-in boat facilities</p> <p>The portage phone number, which is provided on the signs reaches the Northfield Control Room which is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Though not the official portage for the Project, individuals can also take-out at Unity Park and utilize the bike path to reach the Poplar Street put-in.</p>	The 3.6.2 Study Addendum includes a clarified description of the Turners Falls Canoe Portage (Site 24), with a focus on the portage procedure and availability. The portage put-in location is an informal access area, the Poplar Street Access site, which is located downstream of Cabot Station and outside the Project boundary (see Section 5.3). As part of the 3.6.2 Study Addendum, the Poplar Street Access Site was revisited and inventoried/assessed as a separate recreation site (Site 25), and a condition assessment of the site was made. The assessment noted the steepness of the access trail and the difficulty this steep trail imposes on

Commenter	Comment	Original Response/Information	Updated Information
	<p>River. Paddlers typically designate the Turners Falls Dam as the end of the trip because a reasonable and functional portage trail does not exist. There is no designated portage trail around the Turners Falls Dam, yet the assessment concludes the current arrangement is a “portage.” This is analogous to designating a “trap and truck” operation as natural upstream migration for fish. If a paddler has a phone, and if he or she knows the number to call, and if anyone answers, and if a suitable vehicle is sent that won’t damage your canoe, then FirstLight sometimes provides motorized transportation around the dam. The site evaluation sheet for Barton Cove does not convey that a telephone exists at the site, nor does it mention the hours of operation for the truck. The logic in qualifying this site as having an adequate portage rating is unsupported.</p>		<p>boaters using the site as a put-in location (see Section 5.3).</p>
AMC-13	<p>When studies were being proposed, the put-in for boaters being trucked around the Turners Falls Dam was listed as the confluence with the Deerfield River. This is a very steep, problematic site, with private land issues, erosion, and mud. The site being evaluated in #24 was switched to the Popular Street site in Montague City, which was used as a take-out during the controlled flow whitewater study. No condition rating is listed for the put-in at Popular Street. It was described as “very steep” and “unimproved.” It is sufficiently steep and difficult as a take-out that during the</p>	<p>See Response to AMC-12.</p>	<p>See Response to AMC-12.</p>

Commenter	Comment	Original Response/Information	Updated Information
	<p>whitewater study FirstLight set up a mechanical winch and cable to haul boats up the slope to the parking lot, and FirstLight placed tarps on the ground to allow boats to slide over the rocks and roots. (See photo following of the lower pitch of the dirt trail from the parking area to the river at the Poplar Street site.) The inventory site visit form in Appendix A concludes there is a need for improvements to provide “stairs, canoe slide, portable toilet.”</p>		
AMC-14	<p>The current description of this dam having adequate portage facilities is erroneous and misleading as it is currently non-functional for the most part. If one were to use human power to portage around the Turners Falls Dam, the trip would be about a 4 1/2 mile carry down Route 2, a heavily-used state highway, across the Turners Falls Bridge, and down the main street of Turners Falls. ADA obstacles were noted in almost all of the site evaluations mentioned above, and the Poplar Street site was given a No for ADA compliance in the assessment sheet in Appendix A.</p>	See Response to AMC-12.	See Response to AMC-12.
<p>CT River Watershed Council (CRWC)</p> <p>CRWC-4</p>	<p>Site 15: Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground. The survey was done when the facility was closed. No information is filled in the field sheet for this site under “site facilities” – no mention of showers or the condition they were in, no mention of grills, picnic tables, or parking areas, or the condition of them.</p>	<p>Although the study was conducted in the off season, FirstLight staff accompanied the team to this location and unlocked the bathrooms for the inventory. The bathrooms were observed to be in good, functioning condition, with no issues noted. Showers were recorded on the Barton Cove Nature Area Inventory form, as well as some of the grills and</p>	<p>As part of the 3.6.2 Study Addendum, more detailed field site maps were created for the formal recreation sites, including the Barton Cove Nature Area and Campground. The revised field site map for this site shows the location of grills, picnic tables and parking areas (see Appendix A).</p>

Commenter	Comment	Original Response/Information	Updated Information
		picnic tables. Site facilities at the campground were recorded on the map along with the inventory form. There were no issues at the time of the inventory with the condition of these items.	
CRWC-7	Site 23: Cabot Woods Fishing Access. The site description states, "The access road along the canal is open to the public and is used for sightseeing." Note: this access road is used for fitness walking, dog walking, roller blading, bird watching, and bankside fishing in the canal. The field sheet indicates a flat gentle slope to the water. That may be true for the water in the canal, but not for the water in the bypass channel. The trails down to the water in the bypass channel are eroded and not maintained. The bypass channel is frequently used for informal swimming, something that would not have been determined during the October 17, 2011 site visit to fill out the form.	See response to AMC 10.	See response to AMC 10.
CRWC-8	Site 24: Turners Falls Canoe Portage. This site assessment would be better broken into site 16 for the take-out and site 24, which is the Poplar Street boat launch. The Poplar Street boat launch is also used as a put-in for paddling between Turners Falls and the Sunderland Bridge, the only section of river with speed limits for motor boats and a ban on personal watercraft. The field sheet says it has 4 spaces, but it has more than 4. Because parking spaces are not marked, it appears the person completing the survey	There were no improvements to assess the condition of the Poplar Street Site at the time of the site visit. Evidence of overcrowding at this site would have included compaction, erosion, refuse or other typical indicators in the parking area at the time of the visit. The erosion and compaction noted at the site were attributed to users traveling down the embankment and not to overuse. There was no other evidence of overuse. See response to AMC-1.	See responses to AMC-12.

Commenter	Comment	Original Response/Information	Updated Information
	<p>may have misinterpreted the location and configuration of parking. The site condition sections says, “The portage trail at the put-in site is currently functional, but as there have been no improvements to the put-in, no condition assessment was made of this area.” This statement is astounding. Why would no condition assessment be made if there have been no improvements? This put-in is steep, eroded, and in poor condition. The field form indicates severe compaction, moderate erosion. There would also likely be no evidence of overcrowding when the survey was completed on October 17, 2011.</p>		
<p>National Park Service (NPS) NPS-6</p>	<p>Site 23 known as the Cabot Woods Fishing Access does not include the fact that at present it is virtually impossible to safely access this location. Stairs down to the Rock Dam were built at one time, but have long since been vandalized and removed. Although this area is potentially popular for whitewater boating, no option or alternative has been identified. Access proved difficult during the evaluation where FirstLight gave participants walking sticks due to the challenges posed by getting to the river. While there is a sandy eddy location which would be an excellent location for launching boats, getting to it is problematic. The inventory should identify the problems associated with this “access” and identify measures that could be taken to allow safe and reasonable access. Simply stating that</p>	<p>See response to AMC-10.</p>	<p>See response to AMC-10.</p>

Commenter	Comment	Original Response/Information	Updated Information
	stairs were vandalized is not a justification for effectively eliminating this resource.		
NPS-7	Site 24 is identified as the Turners Falls Canoe Portage; however, it does not adequately function as one. In order to actually portage (without use of a vehicle), a paddler needs to traverse a 4 plus mile carry down Route 2, cross the Turners Falls Bridge, and continue down the main street of Turners Falls. This situation is often cited by paddlers as one of the major impediments to multiple-day trips on the Connecticut River. The Turners Falls Dam is normally identified as the end of the trip due to the lack of an actual portage trail. However, the assessment indicates that the area functions as a portage.	See response to AMC-12.	See Response to AMC-12.
NPS-8	In order to accurately be characterized and used as a portage, FirstLight must enhance/provide a realistic system where a paddler can arrange for a suitable vehicle. Through paddlers will need to make arrangements in advance which although somewhat limiting, would provide a potential solution. It should be noted that the evaluation sheet for Barton Cove did not state if such a telephone option exists at that site to traverse around the Turners Falls Dam. During the study proposals, the confluence with the Deerfield River was identified as a put-in location. However, that site is steep, erodes easily and is not controlled by the applicant. In fact, during the controlled whitewater study, the Poplar Street site was used as a take-out. That site	See responses to AMC-12.	See Response to AMC-12.

Commenter	Comment	Original Response/Information	Updated Information
	<p>was challenging as FirstLight had to set up a mechanical winch and cable to haul boats up to the parking lot. Tarps were placed on the ground to facilitate hauling over roots and rocks. Needed improvements include stairs, a canoe slide and a portable toilet.” Even as such, that location would not be considered feasible for ADA compliant access.</p>		
NPS-9	<p>As part of Study 3.6.3, the Whitewater Boating Evaluation utilized a put in area where whitewater boaters launch to surf waves below the Turners Falls Dam and run the bypass reach. The informal put-in used by the boaters immediately below the Turners Falls Dam was not included in this inventory under 3.6.2 although it is within project boundaries and should be listed as an informal site with potential for improvements.</p>	See response to AMC-9.	See Response to AMC-9.