

Haw River State Trail Plan: 2023-2028

Alamance County

- Planned Length: 80 miles each (land and water)
- Miles Designated:
- Complete the Trails Funds:
- Capacity Funds: \$49,500

Capacity Building Funds:

Tasks:

Deliverables:

Trail Development

Segment 1: Rockingham and Guilford Counties

Planning

- Assess the paddle trail connection from High Rock Ford to Brooks Bridge
 - There is a small dam just above the Brooks Bridge put-in that needs to be studied further to determine a safe portage
- Evaluate properties north of High Rock Ford Access to add a paddle access
- Study opportunities for land trail connections from:
 - High Rock Ford to Brooks Bridge
 - There are 8 parcels on river left from the Guilford County line to Brooks Bridge
 - Brooks Bridge to Altamahaw
 - There are only 3 parcels from Brooks Bridge south to the Alamance County line
- Evaluate land and paddle trails that can feed onto the Haw River Trail

Acquisition

- Expand land trail at High Rock Ford Trail

Trail development

Designation

- Designate the Brooks Bridge Access as an official part of the Haw River State Trail (City of Greensboro owned/Guilford County managed)

Segment 2: Alamance and Orange Counties

Acquisition

- Acquire trail easements/property to connect Swepsonville River Park to Saxapahaw

- \$200,000
- Purchase easements to complete Longmeadow to Red Slide section
 - \$10,000
- Purchase easements to connect Longmeadow to Hwy 54
 - \$80,000
- Purchase easements to connect Hwy 54 to Swepsonville
 - \$100,000
- Acquire Carolina Mill property for preservation and easement purposes
 - Donation?
- Acquire land for paddle access in Orange County

Trail development

- Construct a Pedestrian Bridge at Hwy 70 (\$1.5-2 million) or installation of jersey barriers (\$40,000)
- Steps at Carolina Mill Rd. crossing
 - \$2,000
- Land Trail south of Saxapahaw connecting to Orange County
 - \$75,000
- Formalize trails on City of Graham property south of Hwy 54 access with bridge over tributary and installation of fencing
 - \$50,000
- Connect trail from AO Paddle Access to the Valley Golf Course
 - \$150,000
- Trail connecting Town and Country Park to Three Governors Bridge
 - \$2,000 with easement
- Addition of trails at Virginia Mills site in Swepsonville
 - \$20,000-\$50,000
- Develop paddle accesses on Great Alamance Creek to feed into the Haw River
 - \$40,000
- Develop land trail in Orange County

Segment 3: Chatham County

Acquisition:

- 5-10 miles of private land owner trail easements
 - (need to convert this to acres and estimate cost based on \$15,000 per acre? a 25' wide corridor x 10 acres = 30.3 acres x \$15,000 = \$454,545.
- Fee simple purchase of riverfront parcel(s) with connectivity to Chicken Bridge Forest
- Complete trail gaps between US 15-501 and Bynum to create a continuous, publicly accessible corridor
 - (East side, river left :approx. 1,100 ft x 25' easement = .63 acres = \$9,450)
- Provide public access to tract on river right north of US 15-501 and create trail on Stevens tract
- Land or easements for new paddle access between Union Bridge and Chicken Bridge
- Land or easements for new paddle access at Chicken Bridge

- Land or easements for new paddle access between Chicken Bridge and Bynum Bridge

Trail Construction:

- Create trail connection between Bynum Mill and Earl Thompson Park
 - (2600 ft natural surface trail @ \$8 lf = \$20,800, based on my initial design, given the slope it needs to be a long gradual decent down to SNA.)
- Create an ADA-accessible unpaved path (such as crushed limestone) in the area between the two Bynum Mill parking lots
 - (650 ft long 6 ft wide crusher run gravel trail @ \$3/square ft plus 30% is \$15,210)
- History walk loop trail with interpretative signage around Bynum Mill meadow
 - (450 ft loop natural surface trail @ \$8/linear ft plus 30% is \$4,680 and estimated \$500 for signs)
- Develop 1.5 mile natural surface loop trail on Pegg tract
 - (7,920 feet @ \$8/linear ft plus 30% is \$82,368)
- Boardwalk through wetlands on Pegg tract of Lower Haw River State Natural Area
 - (500 feet @ \$200/linear ft plus 30% is \$130,000)
- Pedestrian trail bridge over Miles Branch on Pegg tract
 - (6 ft wide by 35 ft span @ \$200/sq ft plus 30% is \$54,600)
- Co-locate an unpaved trail along unpaved road bed on Chatham Park development adjacent to Lower Haw River State Natural
- Create natural surface loop trail between US 64 Haw River Canoe Access and Robeson Creek Canoe Access on river right
 - (3 mile natural surface loop trail along SNA and game land @ \$8/linear ft plus 30% is \$164,736)
- Pedestrian trail bridge over unnamed tributary at US 64 Haw River Canoe Access on river right
 - (6ft wide by 50 ft span @ \$200/sq ft plus 30% is \$78,000)
- Create natural surface trail with trail bridges between Bynum Beach Rd and US 64 on river right adjacent to Chatham Park development
 - (6 mile trail with two loops @ \$8/linear ft plus 30% is \$329,472 and 5 bridges that are 6 ft wide by 35 ft span @ \$200/sq ft plus 30% is \$273,000)
- Pedestrian trail bridge over unnamed tributary below US 64 on river left
 - (6ft wide by 100 ft span @ \$200/sq ft plus 30% is \$156,000)
- Natural surface loop trail with trail bridges in SNA and game land between US 64 and Jordan Lake State Recreation Area on river left
 - (3.5 miles @ \$8/linear ft plus 30% is \$192,192 and 4 bridges that are 6 ft wide by 35 ft span @ \$200/sq ft plus 30% is \$218,400)

Blueway Projects:

- New paddle launch on Pegg tract
 - (steel steps and installation plus 30% = \$9,700)
- Install wayfinding, navigational, and safety signage
- Additional parking for South Bynum River Access
- New paddle access at US 64 on river left with improved trail connection from parking lot
- Improvements to existing Chicken Bridge natural earth access to reduce erosion until new paddle access location can be acquired for Chicken Bridge.
- New paddle launch between Union Bridge and Chicken Bridge
 - (steel steps and installation plus 30% for estimated cost \$9,700)
- New paddle launch at Chicken Bridge

- (steel steps and installation plus 30% for estimated cost \$9,700)
- Improve portage around Bynum Dam
 - (steps and safety rails along headgate = \$11,000)
- Create land and paddle trail maps

Trail Amenities:

- Trailhead access road for Bynum Mill area of Lower Haw River State Natural Area that connects upper and lower parking lots to relocate main entrance
 - (20 feet wide by 650 feet long paved road at estimated cost of \$30 per square foot plus 30% is \$507,000)
- Install wayfinding signage from US 15-501 to Durham-Eubanks Road to Bynum Road entrance
- Vault toilet at US 15-501 Haw River access parking lot
 - (\$50,000 plus 30% is \$65,000)
- Outdoor education pavilion at Bynum Mill
 - (\$50,000)
- Riverbank restoration on Pegg tract
 - (200 ft @ \$300/linear ft is \$60,000)
- Vault toilet at US 64 Haw River Canoe Access parking lot
 - (\$50,000 plus 30% is \$65,000)
- Install Jordan Game Land education and safety signage at both US 64 sites to educate hunters, paddlers, hikers, and anglers about how to share the trails safely
- Install boundary markers that delineate game land, state park land, and private property
- New trailhead at end of service road next to US 64 on river right
- Add trailhead north of US 64 as the population increases and demand for trail access grows
- Pedestrian trail bridge over Pokeberry Creek
 - (6 ft wide by 60 ft span @ \$200/sq ft plus 30% is \$93,600)
- 1.25 mile natural surface loop trail between Bynum Mill and Pokeberry Creek
 - (1.25 mile @ \$8/linear ft plus 30% is \$68,640)

Partners:

- NC State Parks
- Friends of Lower Haw River State Natural Area
- Chatham County
- Triangle Land Conservancy
- The Conservation Fund
- Carolina Canoe Club
- NC Wildlife Resources Commission
- US Army Core of Engineers

Needed technical/other assistance from State Parks:

Sign off on planned projects on State Parks land
 Planning and design collaboration for trails and trail amenities
 Coordination of funding applications on their behalf