## Vermont Town Forest Recreation Planning

## **Water Access**

Key Attribute #:

22

Need #:

**Estimated Cost:** 

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Timing: Medium-Term

The Huntington River and its tributaries provide many water-based recreation opportunities for Huntington. However, the current Huntington River access points are difficult to reach and not well established. The community identified improving the access points as a top priority. Given that interest, the town should work to improve access through any of the following approaches:

- 1) Receive access from the state on their land and work with FPR to create a formalized access point. Cobb Brook is a popular swimming hole and the community was interested in securing access.
- 2) Buy a private parcel and develop a river access area with some amenities.
- 3) Work with a private landowner for access through their property, making sure parking is still close by.

In fact, the town may want to pursue all these approaches, as having multiple access points disperses users to create a more pleasant experience. For example, one spot may be for swimming, while another may be a boat put-in. For a boat put-in, the parking area should be very close by with an easy walking path to the river. The parking area should have room for trailers to park and turn around. At the swimming access, the parking can be a little further away but the site should have more amenities for people looking to spend an afternoon swimming in the river (i.e., picnic tables, shade structures, and other facilities). All river access points should minimize adverse impacts to adjacent landowners and the natural area.

## Responsibility:

Town, Conservation Commission, and/or a committee of local volunteers

Partners Involved: Recreation committee, FPR

<u>Planning Required:</u> Open Space Master Plan

**Funding** Opportunities: LWCF, RD, RFG



## **Toolkit Resources**

Natural Resource **Guidance Toolkit** 

Sustainable Facility Standards

