

# MOUNT WASHINGTON STATE PARK

Summit Assessment and Recommendations for Improvements



Presentation to the Mount Washington Commission

October 18, 2024

**Tighe & Bond**

# AGENDA

## 1. INTRODUCTIONS

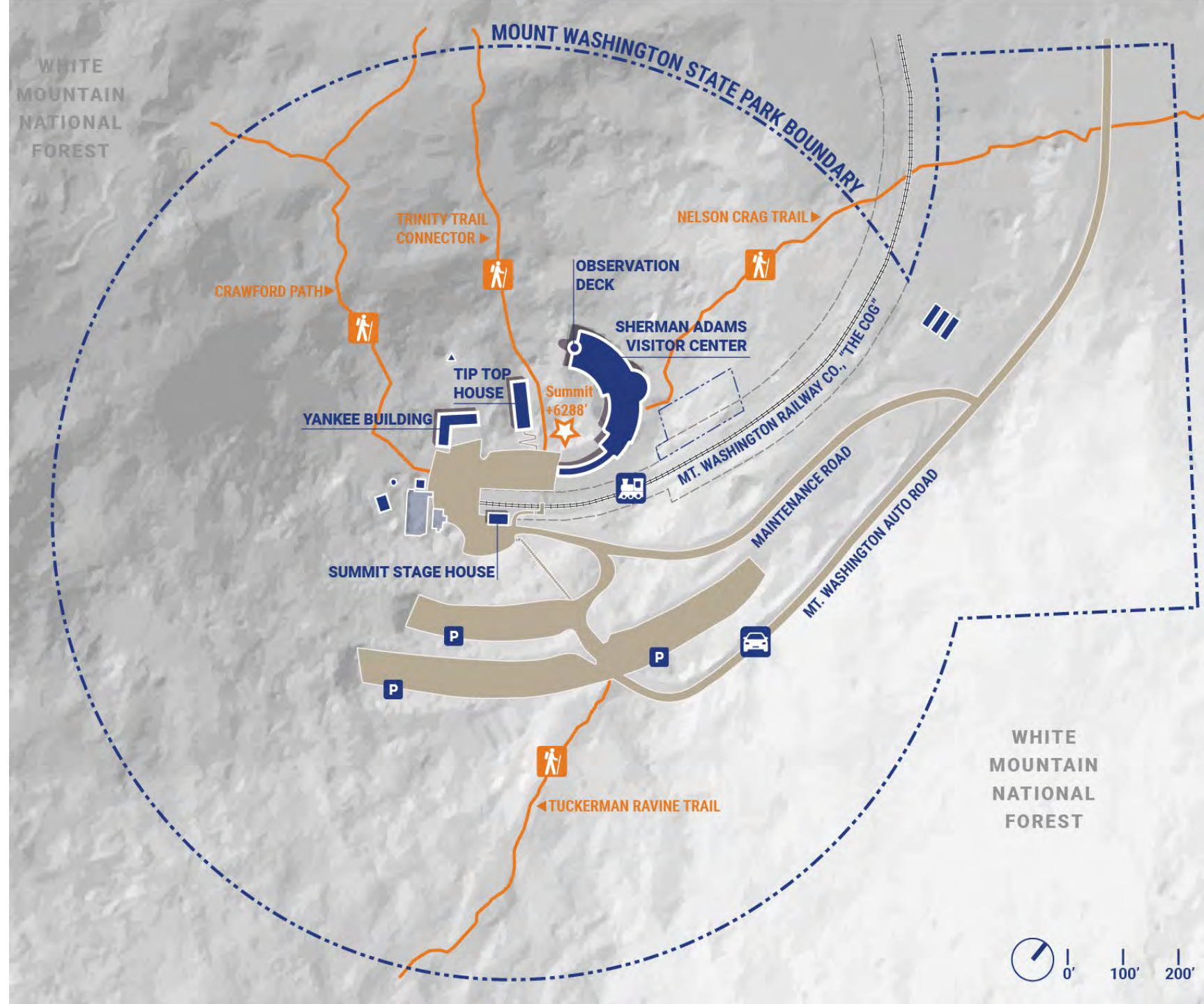
## 2. SCOPE OF WORK

- Environmental Assessment
- Facilities Assessment
- Visitor Survey

## 3. PROJECT TIMELINE

## 4. COMPLETED TO DATE

## 5. DISCUSSION



# INTRODUCTIONS

The Project Team



# THE PROJECT TEAM

## Prime Consultant

**Tighe&Bond**

- Project Management
- Environmental Assessment
- Building Infrastructure Assessment
- Visitor Experience Assessment

## Subconsultants

**LDA**  
ARCHITECTURE & INTERIORS

Building Assessment Consultant

 **Biohabitats**

Alpine Flora Consultant

 **University of New Hampshire**  
The Survey Center

Visitor Survey Consultant

 **The Green Engineer**  
Sustainable Design Consulting

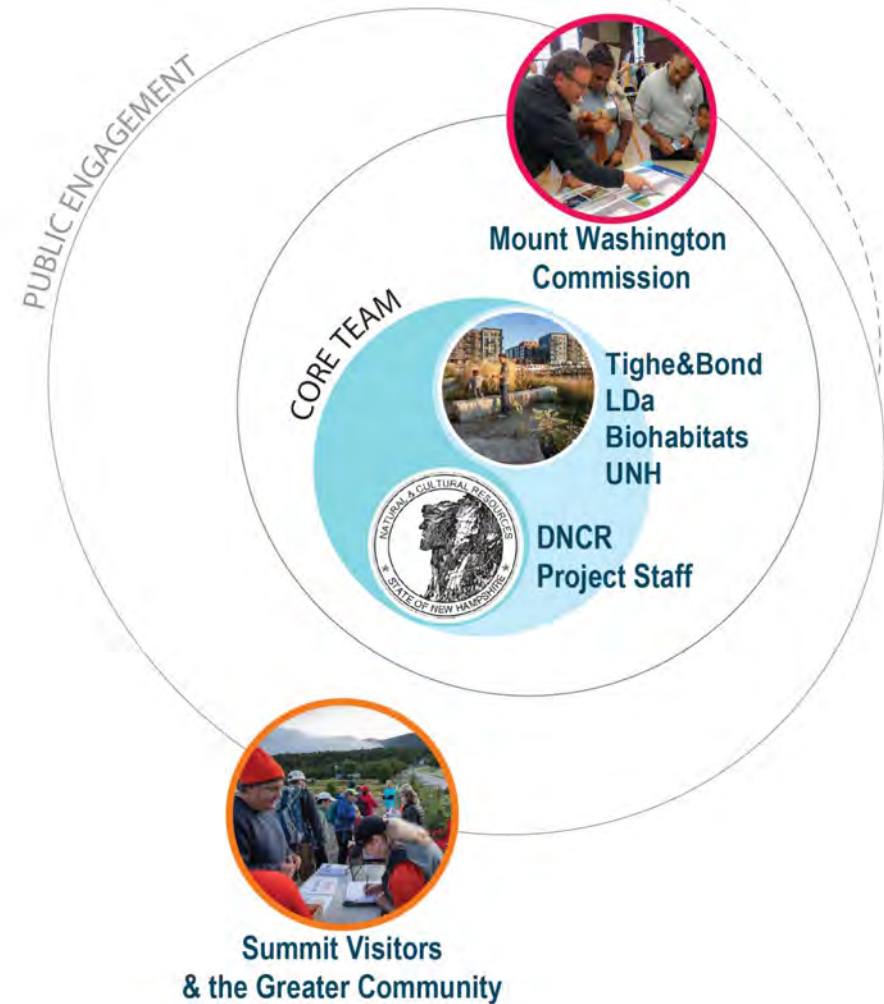
Sustainability Consultant

State of New Hampshire

NH F&G  
NH NHB  
NH DES



ADDITIONAL INPUT



# PROJECT FOUNDATION

## The Mount Washington Master Plan

### Master Plan Goals:

- Maintaining a high-quality mountain experience that respects the Summit's unique qualities
- Active stewardship of the State Park's ecology, facilities, and history
- Consciously aligning the capacities of the Summit's environment and infrastructure with the number of visitors.



# SCOPE OF WORK

## Project Organization



# SCOPE OF WORK

## Project Organization:

1. **Visitor Survey**
2. **Environmental Assessment**
3. **Facilities Assessment**



# VISITOR SURVEY

- **Visitor Experience Questionnaire**
  - For distribution at the Summit
- **Statewide Public Opinion Survey**
  - Survey of Granite State Panel members





# ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- **Environmental Contamination**
  - Review of NHDES OneStop database, EDR reports, and historical records
  - Visual Reconnaissance
  - Initial Findings Letter with recommendations for additional investigations



# ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

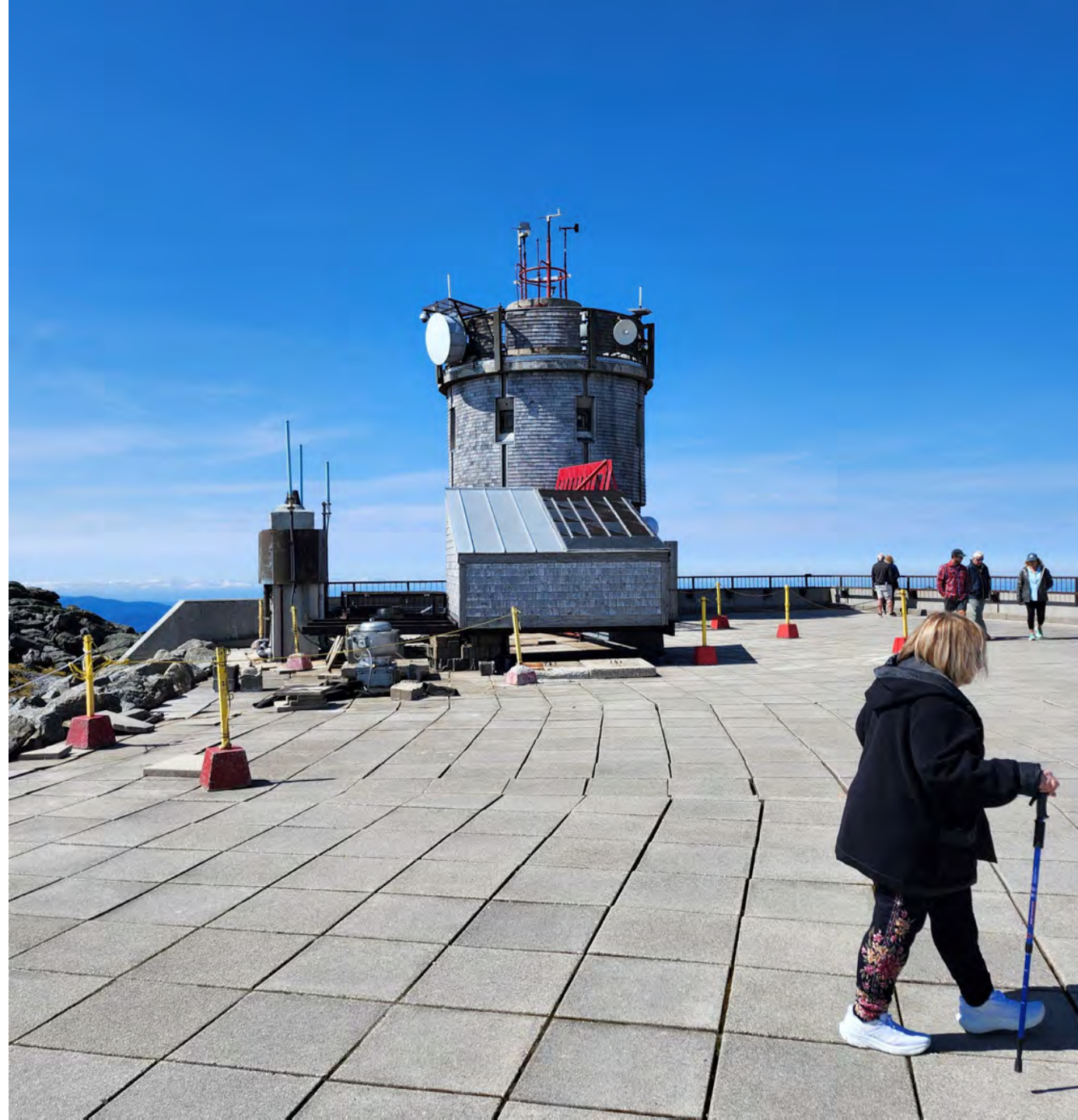
- **Natural Resources Assessment**
  - Topography, Geology, and Soils
  - Vegetative Communities
    - *Native and non-native populations*
  - Wildlife and Habitat
    - *Direct observation, game cameras*
  - Ecological Integrity Assessment
    - *Level 2 Rapid Field Assessment*
    - *Floristic quality, Edge impacts, Stressors*



# FACILITIES ASSESSMENT

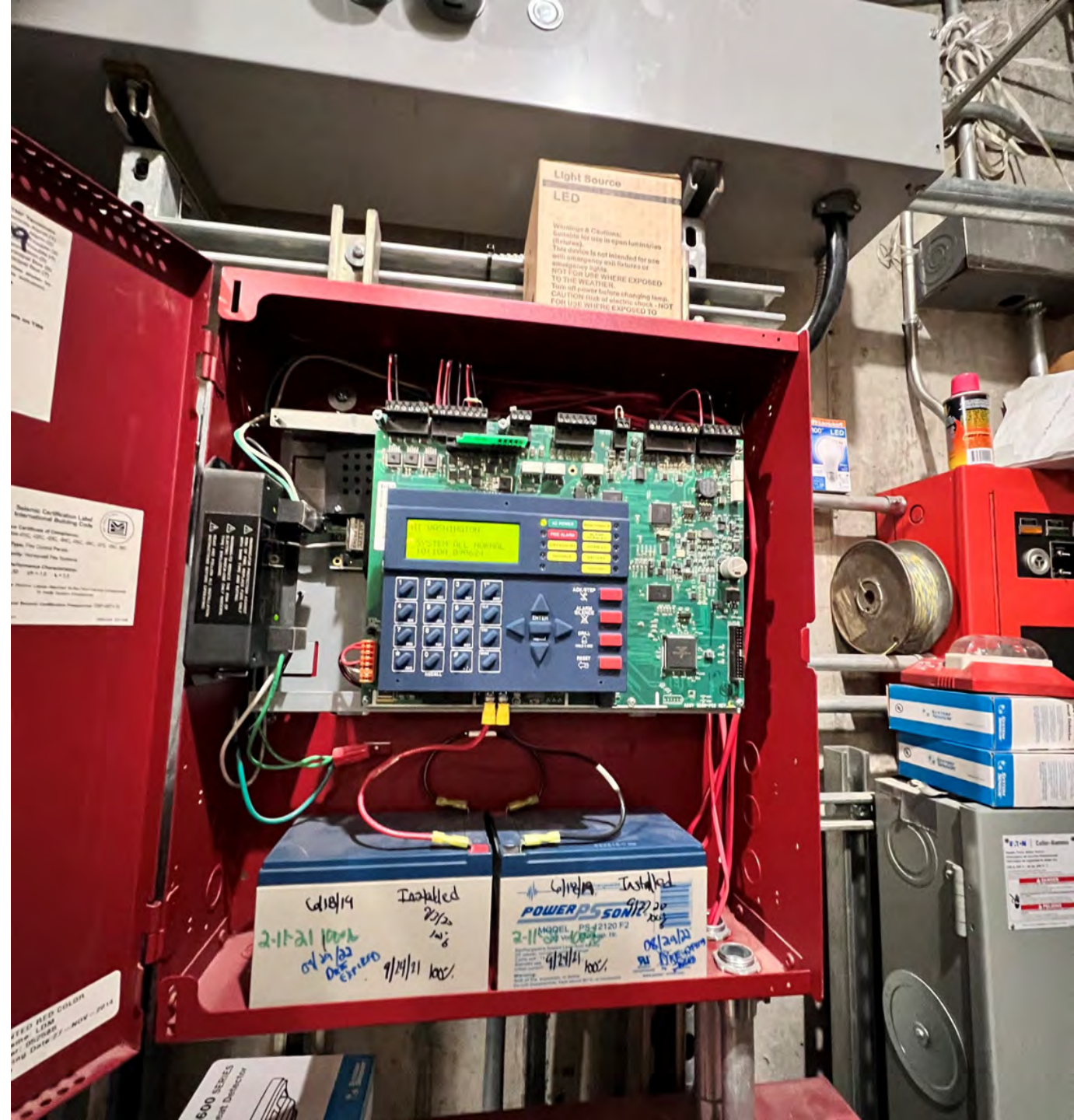
- **Buildings**

- Exterior Envelope
- Interior Finishes and Equipment
- Structural Conditions
- Code Compliance
- Visitor, staff, maintenance needs



# FACILITIES ASSESSMENT

- Building Infrastructure
  - HVAC
  - Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing
  - Emergency Power
- Fuel Tanks
- Site Stormwater Management

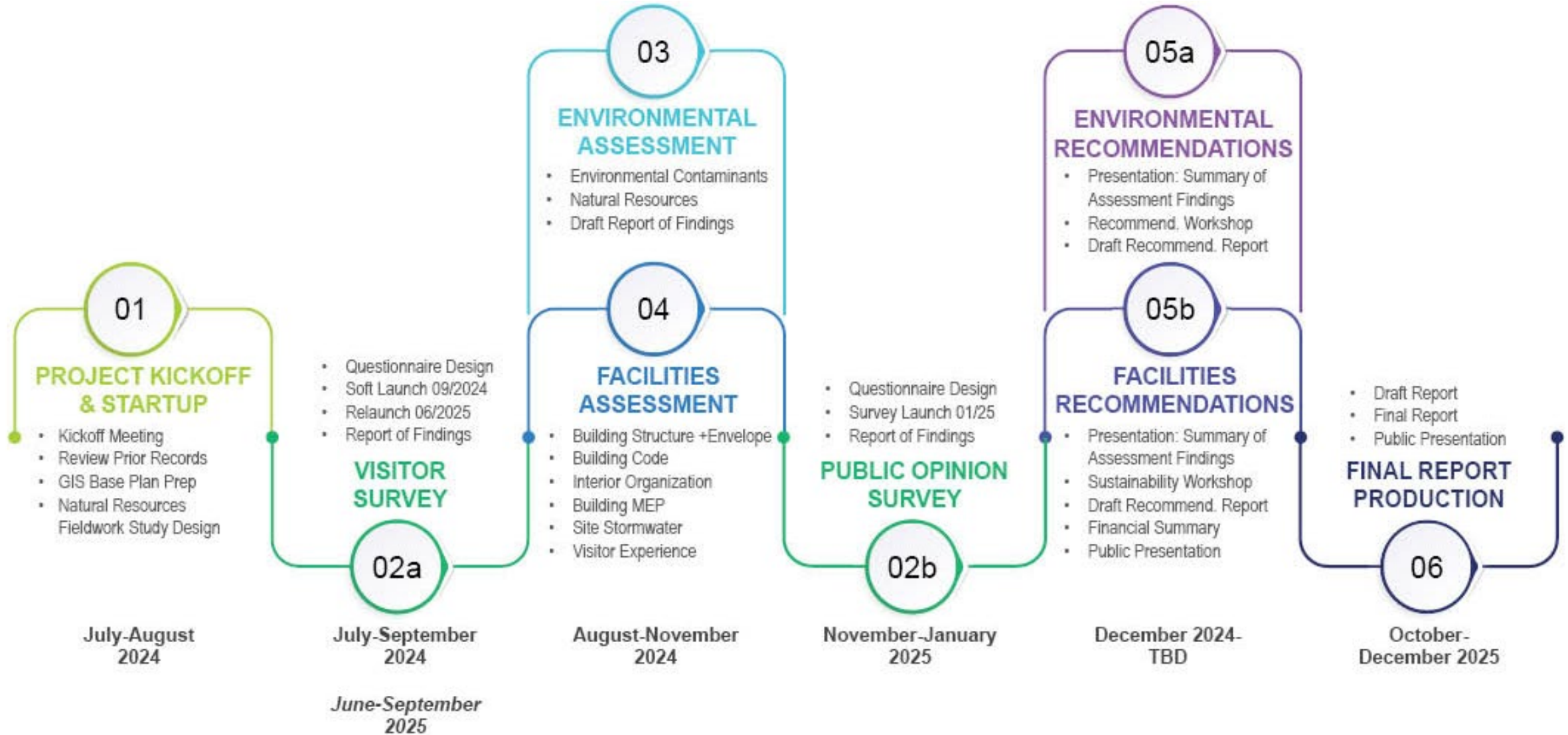


# FACILITIES ASSESSMENT

- **Visitor Experience**
  - Site Circulation and Accessibility
  - Scenic Experience / Views
  - Site Amenities
  - Wayfinding and Signage



# PROJECT TIMELINE



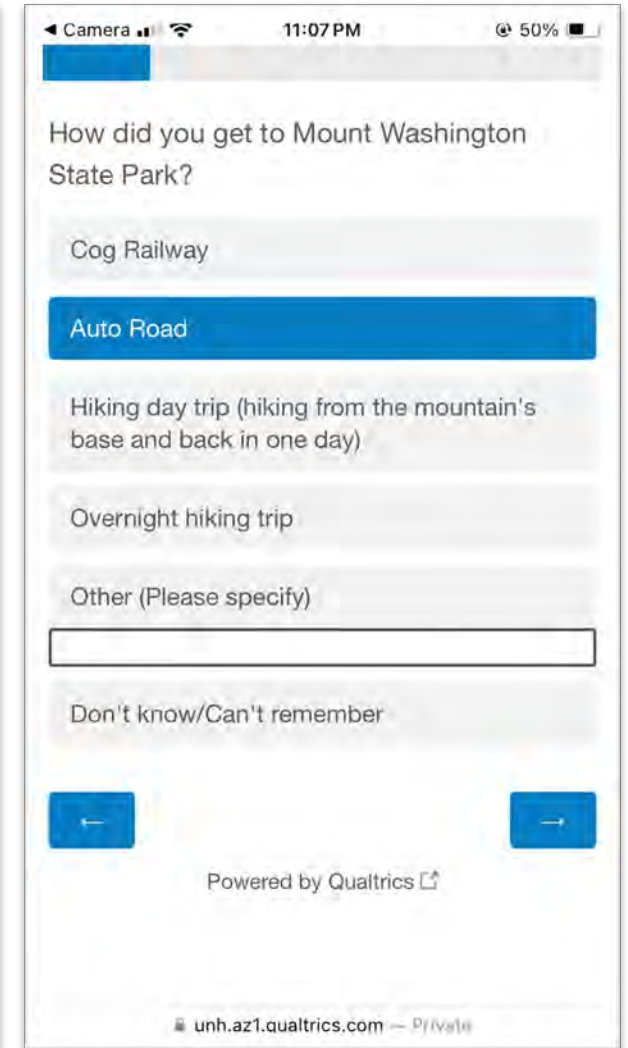
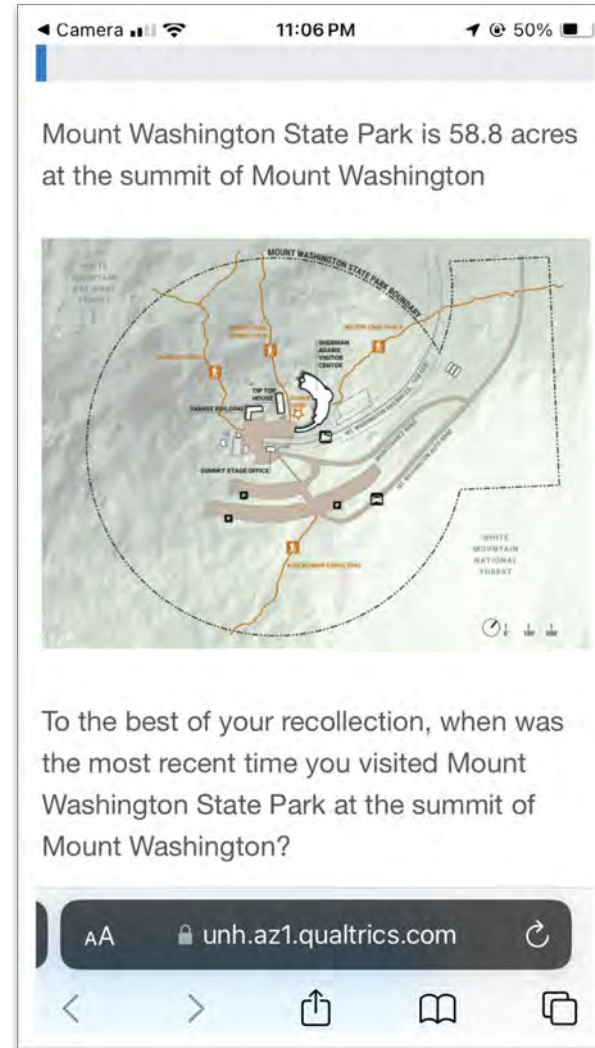
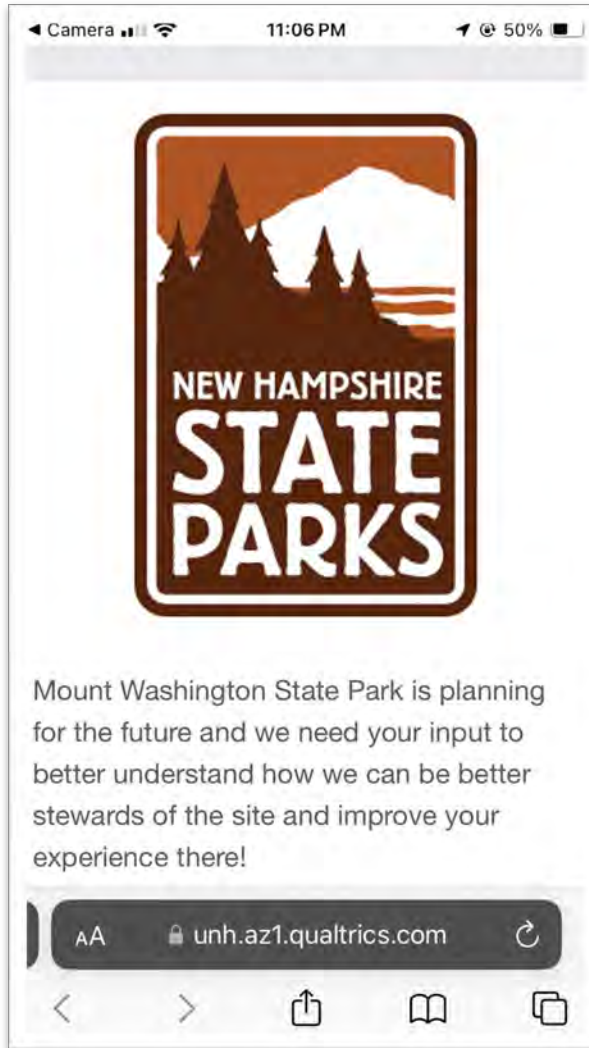
**COMPLETED TO DATE**



# VISITOR SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE



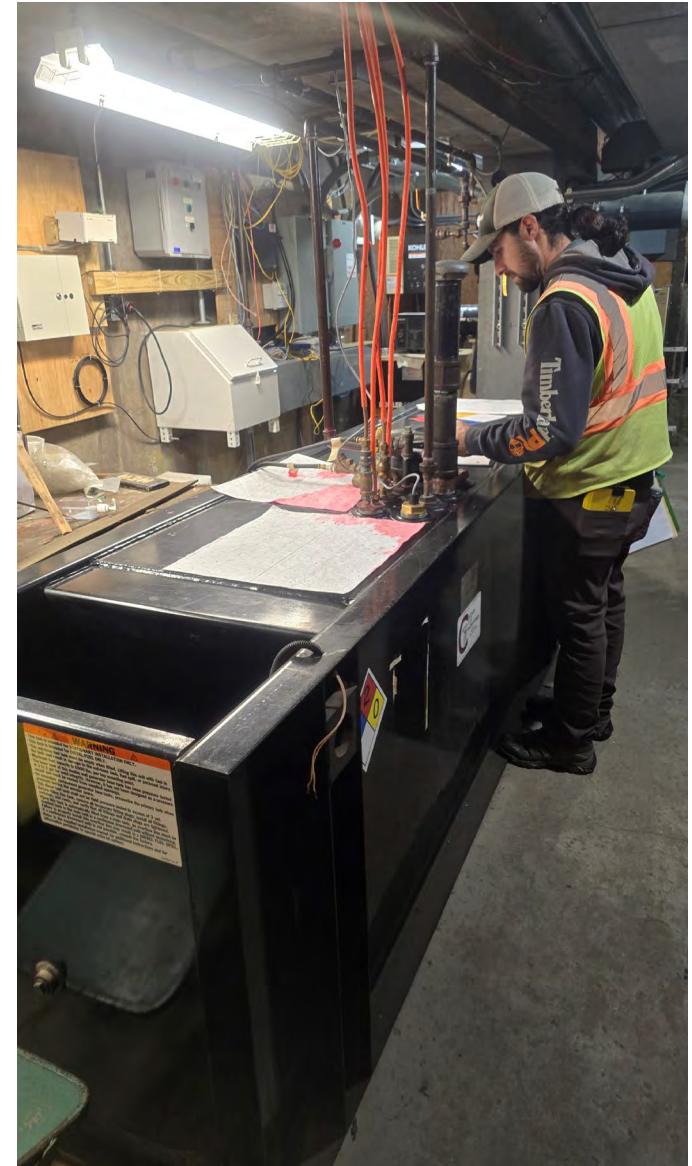
- Designed Visitor Survey Questionnaire
- Launched on Qualtrics 09/24
- Next Steps: Statewide Opinion Survey design





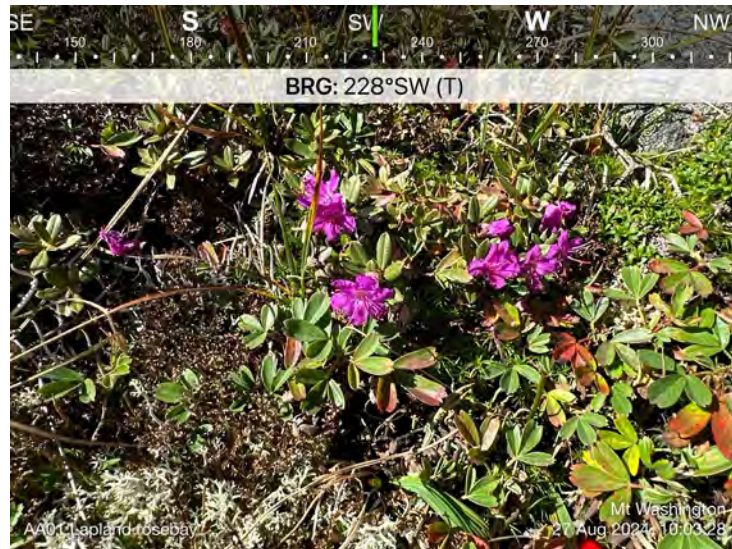
# COMPLETED: ENVIRONMENTAL SITE INVENTORY

- Reviewed existing records
- Completed Visual reconnaissance
- Next Steps: Initial Findings Letter



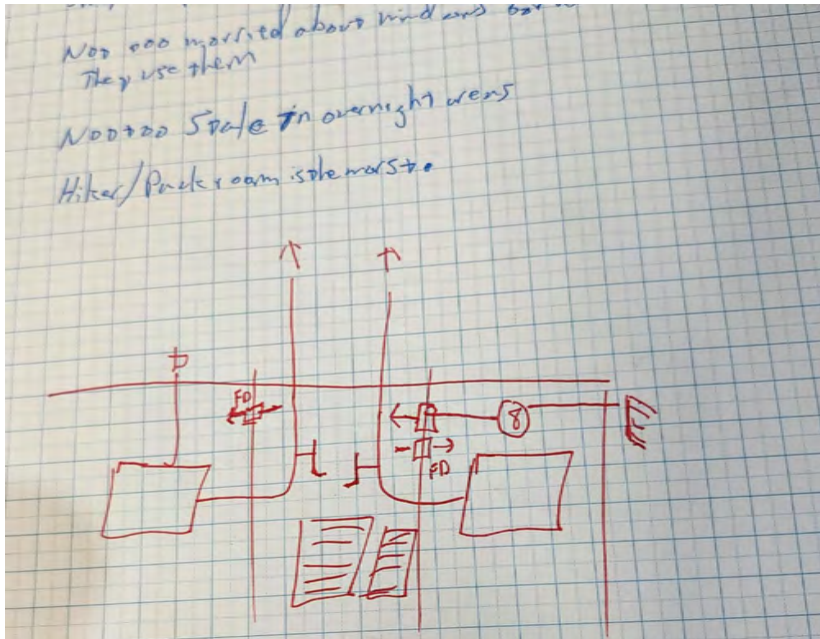
# NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

- Completed Fieldwork Study Design
- Performed Site Inventory
- Next Steps: Draft Report



# FACILITIES INVENTORY

- Reviewed existing records
- Completed visual inventory of Buildings, Building Infrastructure, and Visitor Experience
- Next Steps: Draft Report



# DISCUSSION



WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

MOUNT WASHINGTON STATE PARK BOUNDARY

CRAWFORD PATH

TRINITY TRAIL CONNECTOR

NELSON CRAG TRAIL

OBSERVATION DECK

SHERMAN ADAMS VISITOR CENTER

TIP TOP HOUSE

Summit +6288'

YANKEE BUILDING

MT. WASHINGTON RAILWAY CO. 'THE COG'

SUMMIT STAGE HOUSE

MAINTENANCE ROAD

MT. WASHINGTON AUTO ROAD

TUCKERMAN RAVINE TRAIL

WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

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