



New Hampshire Department of Resources and
Economic Development
Division of Parks and Recreation

Profile Lake Trail

The Division of Parks and Recreation proposes the construction of a universally accessible trail between the Old Man Plaza and the Cannon Cliff Trailhead. The trail will be constructed along the shore adjacent to Franconia Notch Parkway.

Where there is not enough space between the parkway and the lake a boardwalk will be constructed by placing granite blocks in the water that will support the decking.

This project is funded by the Old Man of the Mountain Legacy Fund and is proposed in partnership with the Division of Parks and Recreation.

The Division is interested in constructing this project for the following purposes:

1. Revitalize existing recreational infrastructure;
2. Expand recreational opportunity in the park by creating a universally accessible short hike;
3. Encourage tourism in Franconia Notch; and,
4. Provide a unique view of Cannon Cliff and Eagle Cliff that is not available from the Franconia Notch bike path.

Proposed Design

- 6' wide ledge pack accessible trail from Old Man Plaza, 420 linear feet, to the boardwalk,
- Boardwalk design;
 - 44 granite blocks installed along the shore at the base of the slope from Route 93, centered 12' apart, 510 linear feet.
 - 8' length between block to be spanned with 6'x12' deck sections resting on shims
- 6' wide ledge pack accessible trail from the boardwalk which will intersect with recreational trail at the Cannon Cliff trailhead, 630 linear feet.

Public comment will be accepted until Friday April 21, 2017 and can be sent to Johanna Lyons at Johanna.Lyons@dred.nh.gov or DRED-Division of Parks and Recreation, 172 Pembroke Road, Concord NH 03301.

Project webpage:

<http://www.nhstateparks.org/news-and-events/projects/profile-lake-trail.aspx>

Summary of the Division of Parks and Recreation

There are 92 properties in the state park system. The first was Miller State Park acquired in 1881 and the newest park is Jericho Mountain acquired in 2007. The beginning of the Parks and Recreation division occurred in 1935 with the creation of the Forestry and Recreation Commission although the Forestry Commission had been created much earlier.

The parks system includes 38 day use areas, 21 campgrounds, 22 beaches, 7 waysides, 16 historic sites, 6 natural areas, 2 ski areas, 606 buildings, 1900 picnic tables, 7000 miles of snowmobile trails and 1,000 miles of ATV trails. Management is carried out with approximately 1000 employees, most part time seasonal.

The total operating budget for the parks system is over 25.2 million dollars. The Division of parks is operationally self-funded, raising all of its operational revenue from visitor and user fees. The fees collected at 37 of the 92 properties support the operation of the entire park system. Capital funding is provided from the legislature through general fund bonding and capital investment is also supported through operations revenue.

Estimates are that 6 million people visit our state parks each year. Visitation to NH parks contributes over \$500 million to the state's economy and directly supports 8,000 jobs. Snowmobiling, supported by our Trails Bureau and local clubs, delivers an additional economic impact of \$586 million to the state annually.

A million people visit parks where fees are charged. Fees are approved by the legislature and by statute are set to give parks *"the ability to maximize revenues and to adjust fees according to market conditions and trends as is the common practice in private industry."* Statutes further direct the operation of all enterprise functions within the park system, including ski lifts, food service, retail facilities, campgrounds, and other concession activities, to *"be as profitable as possible, within the purposes of the park system."*

Parks and Recreation is one of four divisions in the Department of Resources and Economic Development with Economic Development, Tourism, and the Division of Forests and Lands. Parks, as a part of the larger system of state reservations, are managed jointly with the Division of Forests and lands.

MISSION

The mission of the Division of Parks and Recreation is to provide New Hampshire's citizens and guests with outstanding recreational, educational, and inspirational experiences through the responsible management and cooperative stewardship of the state's natural, recreational and cultural resources.

Philip A. Bryce, Director
Division of Parks and Recreation
172 Pembroke Rd
Concord NH 03301
603.271.3556
Philip.Bryce@dred.nh.us