# Trinity River National Water Trail Task Force

August 18, 2021





## Welcome and Introductions

- Thanks for attending!
- Please introduce yourself in the chat box.
- Please mute your line.
- Unmute your line when you would like to speak during question and discussion time.
  - We will also watch the chat box for questions





## Meeting Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Meeting Purpose
- Community Showcase: Lewisville Lake Paddling Trail – Monica Martin, City of Denton Parks and Recreation
- 3. State of the Trail: Launch Site Updates
  - Mikel Wilkins, Trinity Coalition
  - Michael Salcedo, Salcedo Group, Inc.
- 4. Trail Usage & Promotion Strategies Teresa Patterson, Dale Harris, & Steve Smith, Trinity Coalition
- 5. Task Force Roundtable
- 6. Upcoming Opportunities





- Regional nonprofit dedicated to improving the Trinity River and its parks and forests
- Formerly the Trinity Nature Conservancy
- Advocate for increased recreational access and improved water quality along the river

The mission of the Trinity Coalition is to transform the Trinity River Corridor into a nationally-recognized conservation and recreation area.

## Trinity Coalition | Trinity River Paddling Trail

- 130 river miles of paddling trail along the Upper Trinity River
  - Spans nine cities and three counties
  - 21 official launch sites for boats. canoes, and kayaks
- Historical, cultural, and recreational significance to the region
- Integrated into a single paddling trail by the Trinity Coalition, the nine bordering cities, and Dallas County in 2018







<u>Trinity River Paddling Trail – TxN 2019 Conservation Wrangler</u>







## National Water Trail Designation

- In 2018, the <u>Trinity Coalition</u> began working with NCTCOG and communities along the Trinity River and its branches to achieve National Recreation Trail designation from the National Park Service (NPS).
  - 27 letters of support sent in from all the communities along the trail and several state and regional agencies
- In October 2020, the Secretary of the Interior <u>announced</u> 30 new national recreation trails, including the Trinity River National Recreation Trail
  - Listed as a National Water Trail, a subset of the NPS-designated National Recreation Trails established to protect and restore America's waterways







## LEWISVILLE LAKE PADDLING TRAIL PROJECT

























## **HOW DID THIS PROJECT GET STARTED?**

Over the last year, the City of Denton Parks & Rec dept. has been assessing its trail system to find ways to connect any point of the city to and from Lewisville Lake.

Paddling Trails were identified as a need, as there are currently 0 miles of official trails in Denton.



Fall of 2020, Denton Parks & Rec, had the idea of establishing a 100-mile paddling challenge around Lewisville Lake.

Denton staff led the way in contacting lakefront communities with an interest of collaborating to this mission and creating paddling trails for their community.



Staff was able to gain support from various municipalities, non-profit organizations, and state/federal organizations.

Staff started having established group meetings in January 2021.

### **COLLABORATION TEAM**

**City of Denton** 

City of Highland Village

City of Lewisville

**City of The Colony** 

**Town of Cross Roads** 

**Town of Hickory Creek** 

Town of Little Elm

**Greenbelt Alliance** 

**North Central Texas Council of Governments** 

Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.

**Trinity Coalition** 

**US Army Corps of Engineers** 

**US Coast Guard Auxiliary** 

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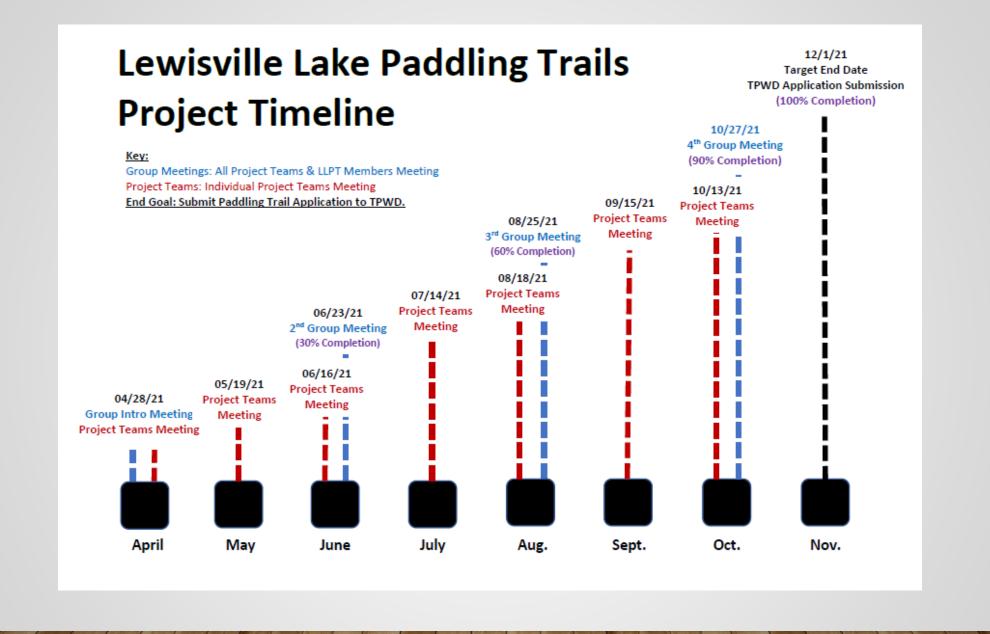
## **PROJECT VISION & MISSION STATEMENT**

#### **Vision**

To collaborate with municipalities and organizations to establish state & nationally recognized paddling trails along Lewisville Lake, its tributaries and corridors.

#### Mission

To create trail systems that interconnect around Lewisville Lake that promotes safe recreational usage by paddlers and identify routes to connect the Trinity River Elm Fork to Lake Ray Roberts through the Greenbelt.



## PROJECT TEAMS & OBJECTIVES



#### Safety Team

- •Create safety plans & establish universal language for safety on the trail.
- Identify safety signs and additional needs such as buoys, emergency exit locations, etc...

#### Survey Team

- Establish various types of trails and propose routes. (Loop, Linear, Connection)
- •Review & evaluate proposed launch sites & routes
- •Collaborate with other project teams to provide necessary information.

#### Programming-Marketing Team

- •Create survey & collect responses
- Assess survey results and start brain-storming potential programs.
- ·Adopt logo and establish brand
- Establish a platform to communicate information

#### Finance/Grant Team

- •Identify costs for requirements such as signs, buoys, etc...
- Establish a Capital Maintenance Plan for established assets.
- •Establish sponsorship packages
- •Research potential grants or donors to assist in funding.

## WHERE ARE WE NOW?



Identified and created a list to track launch site amenities, coordinates, description and basic information.

Surveyed Lewisville Lake to assess existing sites and start mapping out trails.

Created and published survey to gather results.

Working on safety manual.

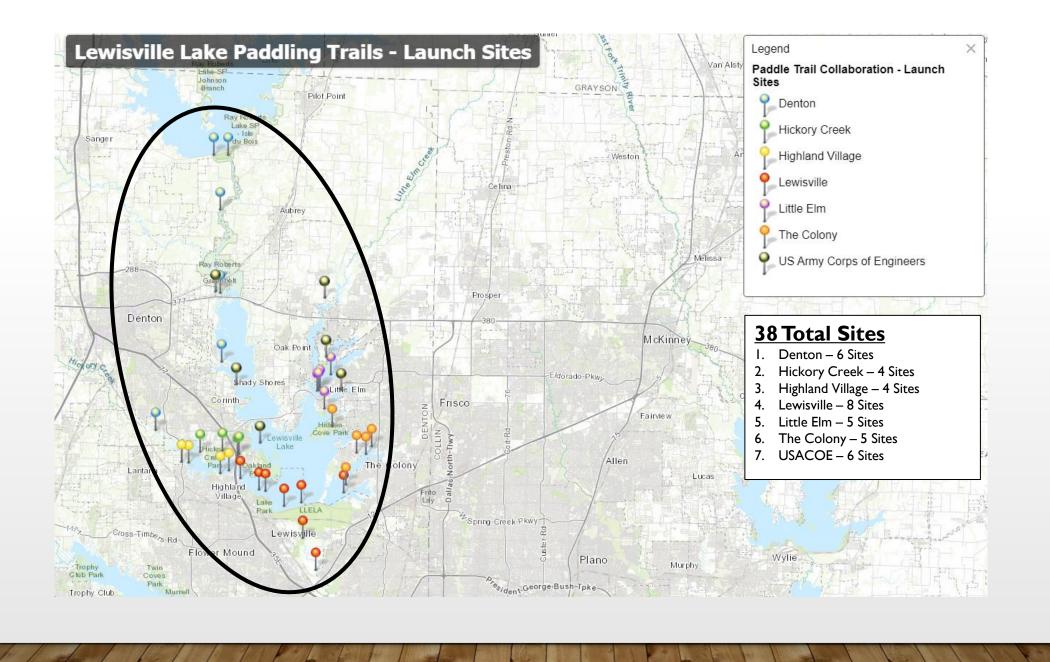
Drafting brand/logo design.

Identifying soft & hard costs to propose a budget for list of items needed.

#### Paddle Trail Collaboration - Launch Site List

### smartsheet

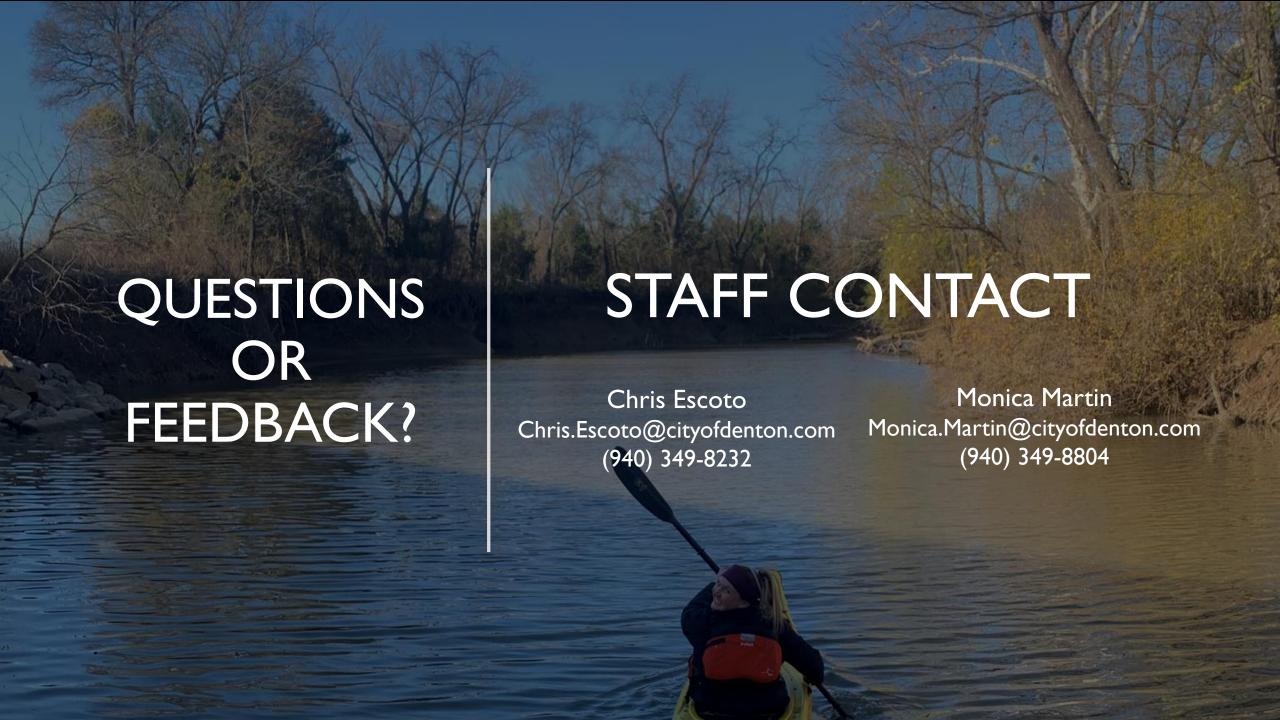
Ci	By	Launch Location	Admission/Gate Price	Private or Public Property	Body of Water	Coordinates	Access to Lake Lowisville	Amenities	Destination/Attractions	Status/Conditions
Т	Denton	Hwy 455 Em Fork West Canoe Launch	\$0.00	Public	Elm Fork Trinity River	33.35176283451157, -07.04821448274316	Yes	Hilding Trails Parking Lot Picnic Areas Restrooms	State Park	Existing/Closed (Flooding)
	Denton	Hwy 455 Em Fork East Canoe Launch	\$0.00	Public	Elm Fork Trinity River	33.351334806673364, -07.03440050714752	Yes	Equestrian Trails Hilding Trails Parking Lot Picnic Areas Restrooms	State Park	Existing/Closed (Flooding)
	Denton	Hwy 428 Greenbelt Park Boat Access	\$0.00	Public	Elm Fork Trinity River	33.30722474032342, -07.04193520985584	Yes	Equestrian Trails Hilding Trails Parking Lot Picnic Areas Restrooms		Existing/Closed (Flooding)
	Denton	Hwy 380 Greenbelt Park Boat Access	80.00	Public	Elm Fork Trinity River	33.240254872915195, -07.04205585796488	Yes	Hilding Trails Parking Lot Picnic Areas Restrooms	State Park	Existing/Closed (Flooding)
	Denton	Old Alton Launch Site	\$0.00	Public	Hickory Creek	33.129394385331906, -97.10403107696025	Yes	Hilding Trails Parking Lot	Local Restaurants	Potential Location
	Denton	Camp Copass Launch	N/A	Private	Lewisville Lake	33.18436693148163, -97.04093509352143	Yes		Private	Potential Location
	Hickory Creek	Sycamore Bend Park Boat Ramp	\$10/baller, \$5/vehicle, Annual Pass	Public	Hickory Creek Arm Bay	33.10787576694454, -97.06151610025175	Yes	Boat Dock Camping Hiding Trails Parking Lot Pavilions Pay Station Picnic Areas Playgrounds Restrooms	Local Community Park Overnight Camping	Existing/Open
	Hickory Creek	Point Vista Boat Ramp	\$10/baller, \$5/vehicle, Annual Pass	Public	Hickory Creek Arm Bay	33.10902615364292, -97.0401080279425	Yes	Boat Dock Fishing Hilding Trails Parking Lot Pay Station Picnic Areas Playgrounds Restrooms	Local Community Park	Existing/Open
	Hickory Creek	Arrowhead Park Boat Ramp 1	\$10/trailer, \$5/vehicle, Annual Pass	Public	Hickory Creek Arm Bay	33.1053931565757, -97.02563362156806	Yes	Boat Dock Hiking Trails Parking Lot Pay Station Picnic Areas Restrooms	Local Community Park	Existing/Open
	Hickory Creek	Arrowhead Park Boat Ramp 2	\$10/baller, \$5/vehicle, Annual Pass	Public	Hickory Creek Arm Bay	33.106431652735296, -97.02423053379809	Yes	Boat Dock Hilding Trails Parking Lot Payllons Pay Station Picnic Areas Playgrounds Restrooms	Local Community Park	Existing/Open
	Highland Village	Pflot Knoll Park Boat Ramp	\$10 Entry or Annual Pass	Public	Hickory Creek Arm Bay	33.103103671557796, -97.07279469587627	Yes	Boat Dock Camping Fishing Hiking Trails Kayak Rentals Paddle Board Rentals Parking Lot Pay Station Picnic Areas Restrooms	Local Community Park Overnight Camping	Edsting/Open
	Highland Village	Copperas Branch Park Boat Ramp	\$10 Entry or Annual Pass	Public	Hickory Creek Arm Bay	33.09635560657178, -97.03434969265501	Yes	Beach Boat Dock Hilding Trails Parking Lot Pay Station Picnic Areas Restrooms Swimming	Local Shopping	Existing/Open
	Highland Village	Lakeside Park Shoreline Access	\$0.00	Public	Hickory Creek Arm Bay	33.00307521843857, -07.04103368737222	Yes	Hilding Trails Perking Lot Pavillons Picnic Areas Playgrounds Restrooms	Local Community Park	Existing/Open
	Highland Village	Manauder Park Shoreline Access	\$0.00	Public	Hickory Creek Arm Bay	33.1035873093918, -97.07938489153432	Yes	Fishing Hilding Trails Parking Lot	Local Community Park	Existing/Open
	Lewisville	Tower Bay Park Boat Ramp	\$ 10 per car/ Annual Pass	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.08695797046645, -97.02310246230053	Yes	Boat Dock Parking Lot		Edsting/Open
	Lewisville	Lake Park Boat Ramp #1	\$3 res/ \$10 NR/ Annual Pass	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.07782490394045, -97.00511879505707	Yes	Beach Boat Dock Camping Fishing Parking Lot Pavillons Picnic Areas Restrooms Showers Swimming	Local Community Park Local Restaurants	Edsting/Open
	Lewisville	Lake Park Boat Ramp #2	\$3 res/ \$10 NR/ Annual Pass	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.07648363482257, -98.99890514341297	Yes	Beach Boat Dock Camping Fishing Parking Lot Payllions Pay Station Picnic Areas RV Campground Restrooms Showers Swimming	Local Community Park	Existing/Open
	Lewisville	Easthill Park Ramp	\$0.00	Private	Lewisville Lake	33.07507561724805, -96.92412087624793	Yes	Parking Lot Picnic Areas Playgrounds	Local Restaurants Marina Private	Existing/Open
	Lewisville	Lewisville Lake Dam Kayak Access	\$5 per vehicle/ annual pass	Public	Elm Fork Trinity River	33.067102963829004, -96.96470700774567	No	Bird Watching Hiking Trails Kayak Rentals Parking Lot	N/A	Existing/Open
	Lewisville	Beaver Pond	\$5 per vehicle/ annual pass	Public	Beaver Pond-LLELA	33.06457156371168, -96.98115707437121	No	Bird Watching Hiking Trails Paylions Pay Station Picnic Areas Restrooms	NA	Existing/Open
	Lewisville	Hebron Plwy Launch	80.00	Public	Elm Fork Trinity River	33.01260447350472, -96.95069349408921	No	ADA Launch Dock Parking Lot	Local Community Park	In Construction
	Lewisville	Elm Fork Secondary Launch/Exit Access	\$0.00	Public	Elm Fork Trinity River	33.038476433967254, -96.96316274275217	No		Local Community Park	Future Location
	Little Elm	Little Elm Park Boat Ramp	\$10 per vehicle or Annual pass	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.157258706593296, -96.94955983550557	Yes	Beach Boat Dock Camping Hiting Trails Parking Lot Payllions Picnic Areas Playgrounds Restrooms Swimming	Local Community Park: Local Restaurants: Local Shopping	Existing/Open
	Utfe Elm	Cottonwood Park Marina	7	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.142885191799838, -98.9427270489380	Yes	Beach Camping Fishing Paddle Board Rentals Parking Lot Picnic Areas Restrooms Swimming	Marina	Existing/Open
	Little Elm	Lakefront Park Beach Access	\$10 per vehicle or Annual pass	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.15799593100452, -98.94788903752193	Yes	Beach Hilding Trails Kayak Rentals Paddle Board Rentals Parking Lot Pilcnic Areas Playgrounds Restrooms Swimming	Local Community Park: Local Restaurants: Local Shopping	Existing/Open
	Little Elm	Lakeshore Dr Fishing Area Access	\$0.00	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.1707335678702, -96.93688581042274	Yes	Fishing Parking Lot	N/A	Existing/Open
	Little Elm	DFW Surf Launch Area	80.00	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.16026298585774, -96.94668838446086	Yes	Kayak Rentals Paddle Board Rentals Parking Lot	Local Community Park Local Restaurants Local Shopping	Edsting/Open
	The Colony	Hidden Cove Park Boat Ramp	\$15 per vehicle/ Annual Pass	Public	Lewtoville Lake	33,12959758607464, -06,9316143752153	Yes	Beach Boat Dock Cabins Camping Flatning Hiding Trails Kayak Rentals Paddle Board Flantals Parking Lot Pavillons Pay Station Picnic Areas Playgrounds RV Campground Restrooms Showers Swimming	Local Restaurants Local Shopping Marina Overnight Campling	Existing/Open
	The Colony	Stewart Creek Park Kayak Launch	\$10 resident/\$15 NR/ Annual	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.08145211460772, -06.02237461440602	Yes	Beach Camping Fishing Hiking Trails Parking Lot Pavilions Pay Station Playgrounds RV Campground Restrooms Showers Swimming		Existing/Open
	The Colony	Milibank Kayak Launch	\$0.00	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.1073975704628, -96.91171684760634	Yes	Pavillons Picnic Areas	N/A	Potential Location
	The Colony	Westshore Park Kayak Launch	\$0.00	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.10848224708247, -98.90258584521945	Yes		N/A	Potential Location
	The Colony	Eastvale Park Kayak Launch	\$0.00	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.11240480033984, -96.89732067234438	Yes	Boat Dock Parking Lot Pay Station	Local Community Park	Edsting/Open
	US Army Corp of Engineers	Doe Branch Boat Ramp - Little Elm	\$0.00	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.1840197278374, -06.94080634298064	Yes	Boat Dock Fishing Parking Lot		Existing/Open
	US Army Corp of Engineers	Big Sandy Park Boat Ramp - Shady Shores	\$0.00	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.162551418433324, -07.02678016088634	Yes	Boat Dock: Fishing Parking Lot Pay Station Picnic Areas Playgrounds Restrooms Swimming		Existing/Open
	US Army Corp of Engineers	Westlake Park Boat Ramp - Hickory Creek	\$0.00	Public	Lewisville Lake	33.11570488729027, -97.0039415198175	Yes	Beach Boat Dock Fishing Parking Lot Paylions Pay Station Picnic Areas Restrooms Swimming		Existing/Open



### WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK?

The Programming/Marketing team has created a survey and is seeking feedback from all paddling enthusiasts!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LewisvilleLakePaddlingTrails



## Site Update: Viridian Kayak Launch

Mikel Wilkins, TBG Partners









Viridian

Kayak Launch Site

## TRINITY RIVER PADDLING TRAIL BELTLINE ROAD @ TRINITY RIVER

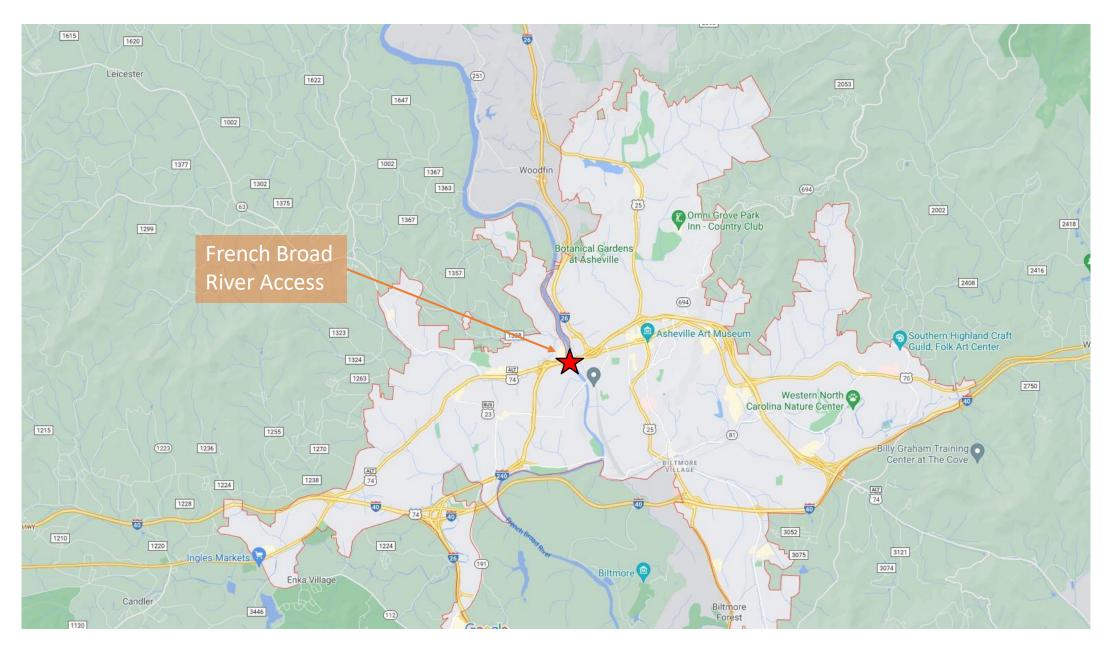
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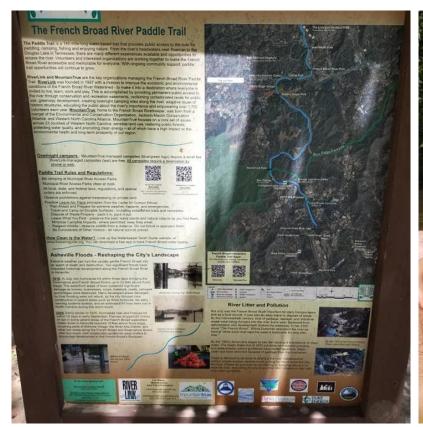
PRESENTED BY: SALCEDO GROUP, INC. 08/17/21

## **Presentation Outline**

- Background History
- Trinity Coalition Initiative
- National Park Service Best Practices
- Beltline Canoe Launch

## Asheville, NC – French Broad River









French Broad River – Recreational Facility

## Craven Street Bridge – River Access

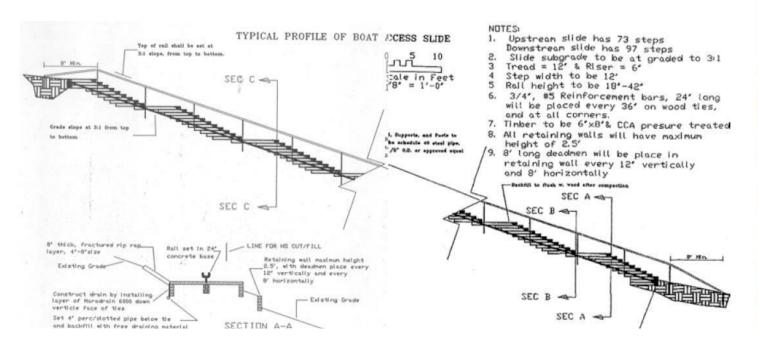






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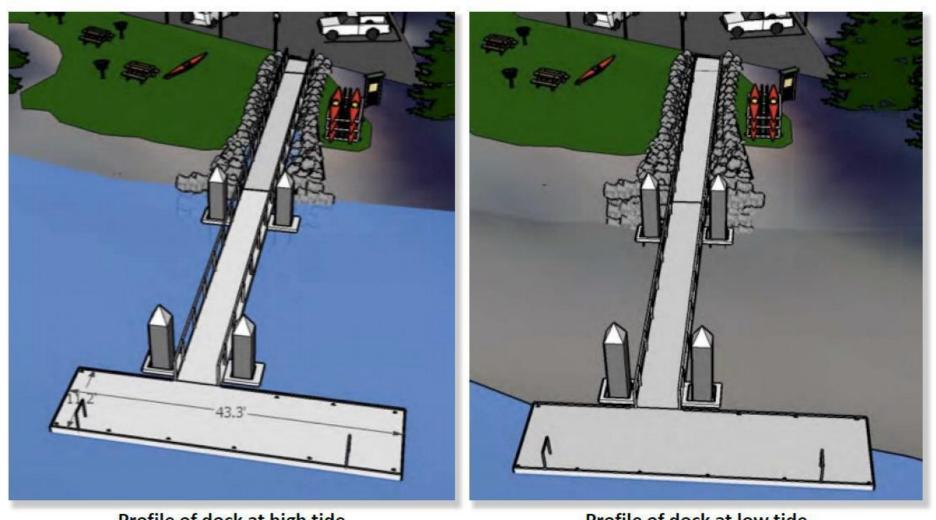






Design for Fluctuating Waters

## Design for Fluctuating Waters



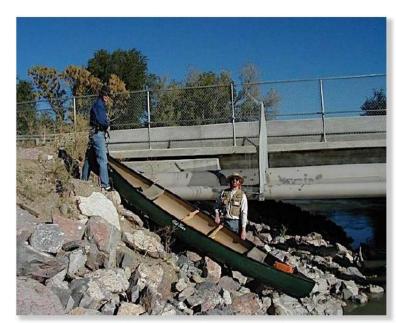
Profile of dock at high tide

Profile of dock at low tide

## Design for Ease of Access



Example of a launch that is too high!



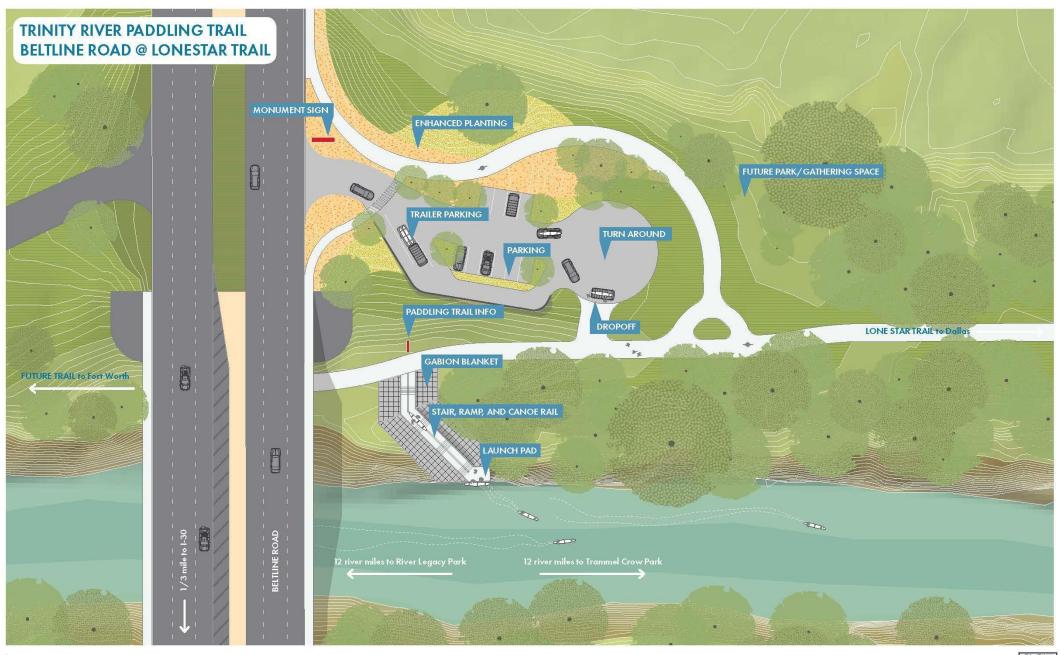
Poor Design: Steep slope, rugged terrain



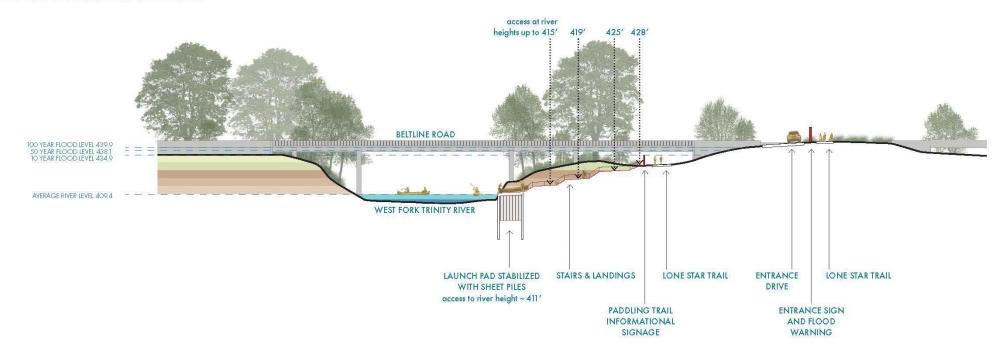
Good Design: Wide, sturdy staircase







### TRINITY RIVER PADDLING TRAIL BELTLINE ROAD @ LONESTAR TRAIL







# Trinity River National Water Trail

- One of 33 in the nation
- <u>https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationaltrailssystem/national-water-trails-system.htm</u>
- Select "Find Your National Water Trail" up pops 33 lcons



Trinity River Paddling Trail

☆☆☆☆☆

130.00 mi
State: TX

Select Trinity River Paddling Trail



TFX/

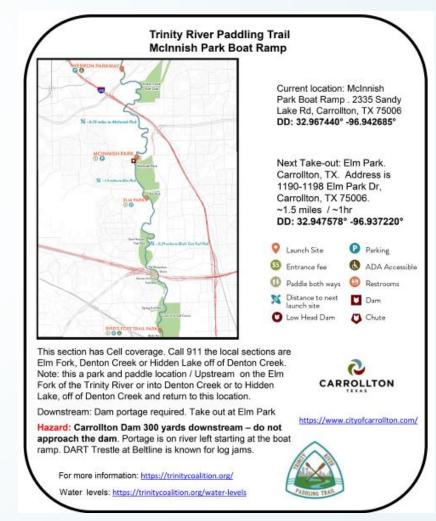
## Trinity River Paddling Trail



The Trinity River Paddling Trail consists of 130 miles of river accessed by 21 official launch sites. The paddling trail traverses 9 municipalities including Dallas and Ft. Worth, and is located in the middle of America's 4th largest metro area with a population of 7.5 million people. Over 5 million people live within 30 minute drive of the trail.

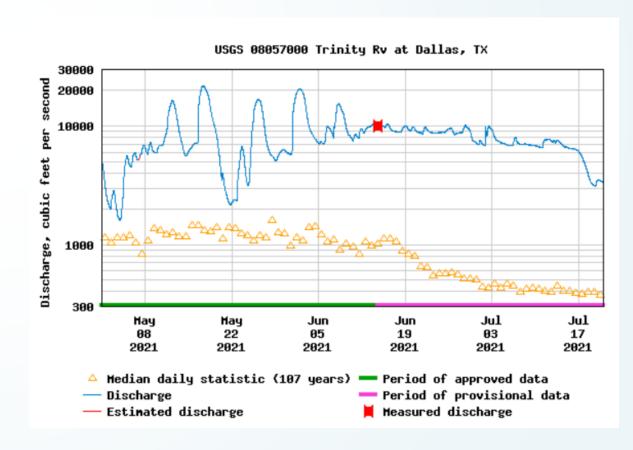


- All 21 launch sites are open. Area outfitters are providing access for those without boats.
  - One launch is getting difficult to use.
- All but 2 sections are 4-6 mile in length
  - One 12 mile section
  - One 24 mile section
- Plans are in the works for two new launch sites
  - This will breakup the 24 mile section
- Four launch sites need repair or replacement
  - Need a 3 to 5 year plan
- 18 Wayfinding signs are in place
  - Only 3 more to go

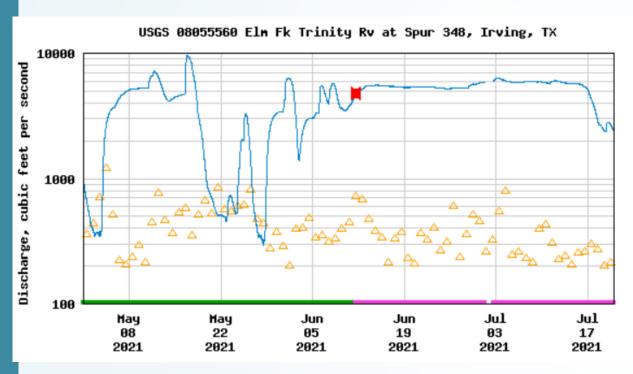


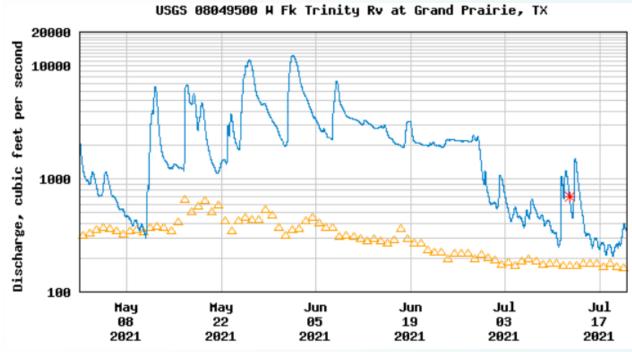


- Trinity River National Water Trail
  - The trail has been mostly closed this spring due to high water.
  - Total of 11 weeks early May to middle of July.
  - 10 area lakes drain down via the main branch of the Trinity River.
  - Typically it takes a few weeks to reopen everything.
    - Volunteer program is needed to help cleanup the launch sites.











#### TC Web Site Tools / Interactive Map



#### River Legacy Park

#### description

Trail Section Location: River Legacy Park, Arlington, TX. Collins Street entrance: 3020 N. Collins St., Arlington, TX 76006. Latitude / Longitude DD: 32.788243° -97.100328°

Directions to Trail:

River Gauge:

Take the Collins St exit off I-30.

Turn North on Collins St, Continue North on Collins St.

The entrance to the Park will be on your left after Green Oaks Blvd.

Launch Parking and ramp is on your left ~1000ft from the park entrance.

Launch Description: Long gentle slope to

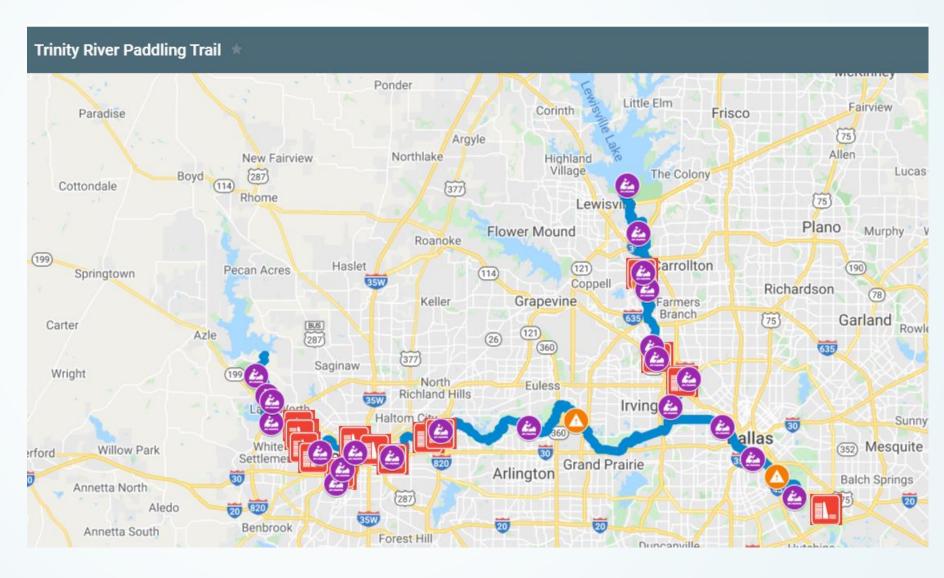
a concrete boat ramp.

Distance and Take-out: 24 miles, the take-out is Trammell Crow Park.

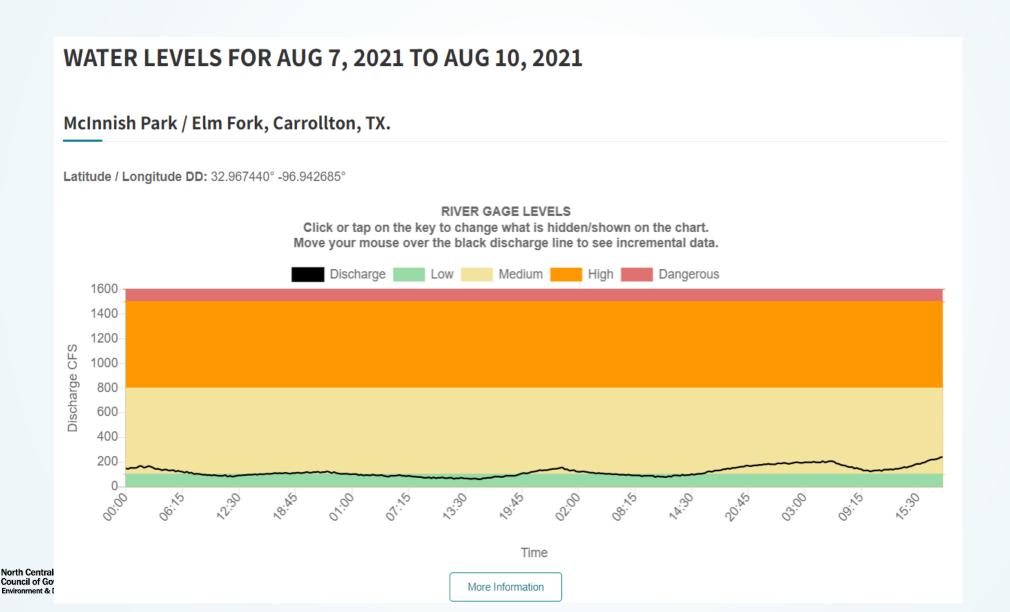
Trail Description: The put-in is boat ramp at River Legacy Park. This is a winding river with moving water – some small rapids & riffles. Mostly gravel bottom. The take out is a concrete boat ramp.

https://trinitycoalition.org/river-legacy-park-west-fork-arlington-tx





### TC Web Site Tools / Water Levels



- Trinity Coalition Facebook page
  - Event scheduling
  - Over 900 "likes" per day
- Trinity River Paddling Trail Association / 1,900+
  - Multiple paddling clubs follow us / 12,000+
  - Constant dialog about the paddling trail;
- Trinity Coalition Meetup page / 4,000 paddlers
  - Event scheduling and reservations
  - Communication and feedback

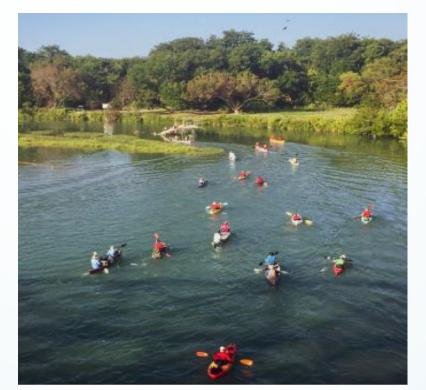




- The Texas Canoe and Kayak Racing Association is hosting a race on Sept 11<sup>th</sup> On the Elm Fork.
- Starting at Hebron Pkwy and ending at California Crossing Park.
- Distance of 15 miles with a portage around Carrollton Dam.
- TCKRA hosts canoe and kayak races all over the state.
- Future races on the TRNWT?



TCKRA Elm Fork Regatta







- TxN notified us of TPWD grant opportunity.
- TWPD Habitat and Angler Access Program
- Provides funding up to \$50,000.
- Trinity Coalition sent in two applications.
  - City of Arlington for an Engineering study for new launch in the River Legacy Park. Replacing the current launch.
  - City of Dallas for the replacement of the damaged McInnish Park boat ramp.
  - Two locations of the sites needing a 3-5 year improvement plan.
  - If awarded will have two improved launches that meet ADA.





#### Paddle Trail / Future Goals

- Add 3 or 4 new launch sites on the main trail
- Add 2 or 3 new launch sites on the West Fork.
- Create a multi-year improve program with each city.
- Create a volunteer beautification program with each city.
- Extend the trail to Lake Ray Roberts through Lake Lewisville and the Greenbelt Park
- Identify area creeks and tributaries launch points and safety data for each





#### Task Force Roundtable

Please raise your hand and unmute yourself to contribute to the roundtable discussion.

#### **Discussion Items:**

- Scheduling ribbon-cutting ceremonies for Water Trail communities.
- Determining ongoing Task Force representation from partner communities and organizations.







**NORTH TEXAS** 



# COMMUNITY CLEANUP CHALLENGE Four Easy Steps to Get Involved:

**Questions?** Contact Crysta Guzman at <u>cguzman@nctcog.org</u>

1

- Click <u>here</u> to create an account and sign-on.
- Don't forget to submit your logo for use on the challenge website!

2

- Organize and advertise your event(s) and participation in the NTCCC.
- Optional: Join the Mayor's Challenge by issuing a Proclamation (view a <u>template</u> in the Partners Resources Toolbox).

3

• Check out the <u>Partners Resources Toolbox</u> for items such as safety tips, general guidelines, a template press release and more.

4

- Hold your cleanup events between Sep. 1, 2021 and Oct. 31st, 2021 and log your cleanup data by Nov. 30th.
- Tag the NTCCC on social media using #NTXCleanupChallenge



To learn more about the program, visit: www.CommunityCleanupChallenge.com

### Contact | Connect

#### **Dale Harris**

Trinity River Paddling Trail Chair Trinity Coalition
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972.814.2633

#### **Breanne Johnson**

Environment & Development Planner North Central Texas Council of Governments bjohnson@nctcog.org

817.695.9148





www TrinityCoalition.org

www NCTCOG.org/Envir



