

# Oyster River Forest Trails Initiative

*A project of the Oyster River Trails Working Group, an ad-hoc group of volunteers working to fund trail improvements at the Oyster River Forest in Durham, New Hampshire.*

**Vision** To improve recreational trails at the Oyster River Forest conservation area through comprehensive trail upgrades, to be implemented in 2016.

**The Plan** Working from a trails plan developed by Ibis Consulting for the Durham Conservation Commission and the Durham Land Stewardship Committee, the town has solicited a proposal from the Appalachian Mountain Club for a comprehensive trails upgrade plan which will:

- ✚ Upgrade surfaces of 1.8 miles of trail through the Oyster River Forest, connecting Packer's Falls Road and UNH's College Woods for hiking, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing.
- ✚ Construct .8 miles of handicapped-accessible (ADA) trail connecting Packer's Falls Road, Emeritis neighborhood, and Spruce Hole Bog.
- ✚ Improve a 1-mile circuit trail around Spruce Hole Bog (hiking only).
- ✚ Construct of a wood bridge over Oyster River tributary providing access for mowing equipment and for mountain bikes, pedestrians, and skiers during all seasons.
- ✚ Protect water quality in the Oyster River through improved stream crossings along all trails.
- ✚ Improve signage, trail blazing, and maps of entire trail system and at kiosks.
- ✚ Create a new connection between the Oyster River Forest and UNH trails at College Woods, creating a connected, off-road corridor from downtown Durham to Packer's Falls Road.

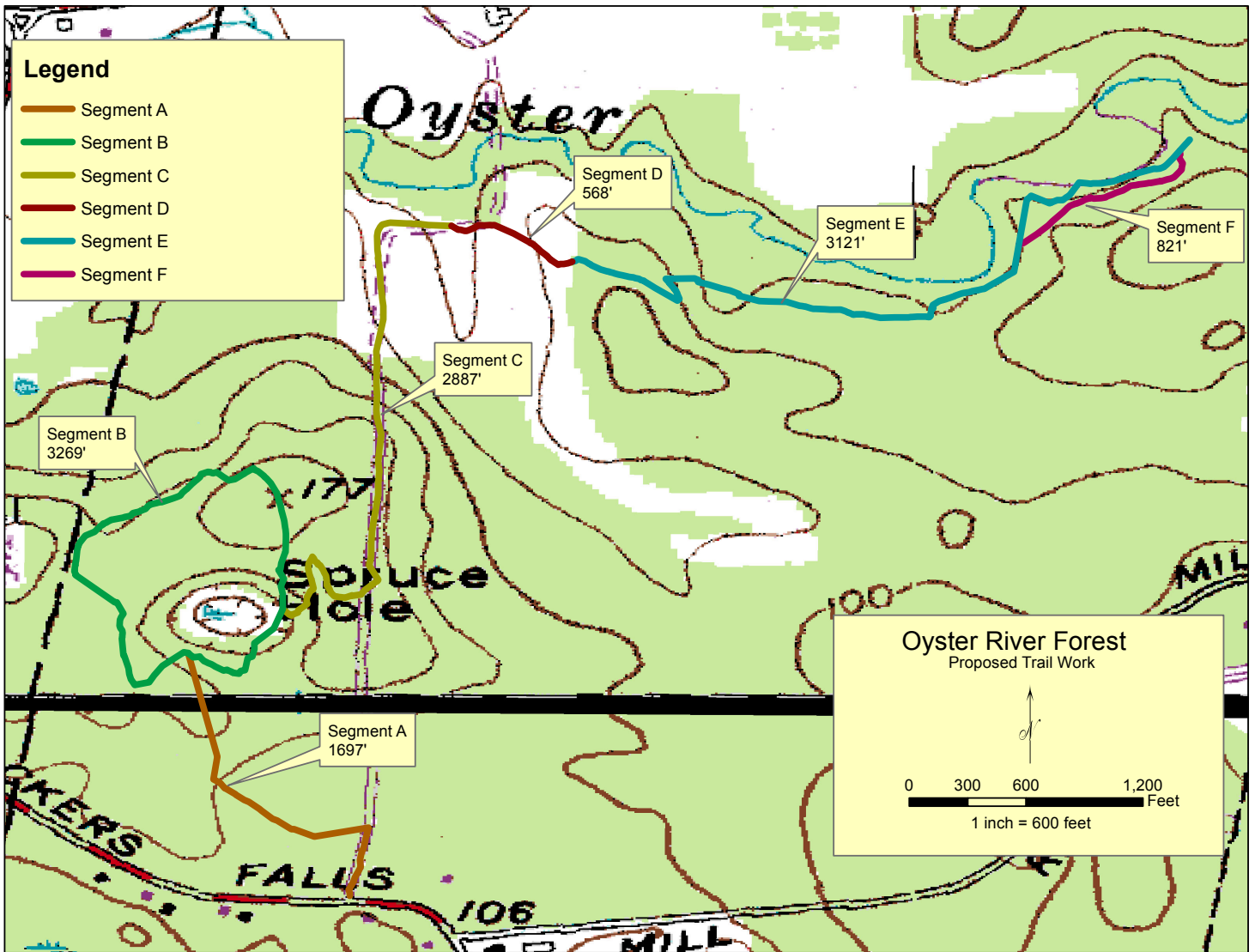
## Project Budget: \$38,000

ADA Spruce Bog Trail	\$16,000	
Spruce Hole Circuit Trail	\$3,000	
Tributary Bridge	\$5,000	
Trail Resurfacing	\$8,000	
Forest Trail Re-routing and Stream Crossings	\$5,000	

Additional labor, design work, and permitting contributed by volunteers, UNH Office of Woodlands & Natural Areas, and town of Durham staff.

## Get Involved!

- ✚ As of February 2016, we already have \$10,000 in pledges! Contribute now to get construction started in 2016! Pledge your tax-deductible support for this project by donating to the Town of Durham Conservation Fund. All funds collected will support the Oyster River Trail construction. Pledge forms available from Working Group members and from the Durham Town Office.
- ✚ Join our team of volunteers making this trail happen! Contact a member of the Oyster River Trails Working Group: Malin Clyde, Chair: [malinelyclyde@gmail.com](mailto:malinelyclyde@gmail.com), Ann Welsh: [annwelsh@mac.com](mailto:annwelsh@mac.com), Rachel Gasowski: [rachelgasowski@gmail.com](mailto:rachelgasowski@gmail.com) Kenny Rotner: [Tlsinnh@aol.com](mailto:Tlsinnh@aol.com)



- Segment A – ADA Handicapped-accessible trail
- Segment B – Spruce Hole Circuit trail (hiking)
- Segment C – Surface improvements for hiking and biking
- Segment D – New bridge and surface improvements (hike and bike)
- Segment E – Forest trail sections, new trail crossings
- Segment F – Forest trail re-routing area