

# NFCT-Waterway Work Trip Nulhegan Hut And Trails (VT) July 21st-23rd 2016

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## Introduction:

The Northern Forest Canoe Trail follows the Nulhegan River as it descends down to the Connecticut River in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. The Nulhegan is one of state's most wild rivers; no dams impeding its flows, and its headwaters are conserved as part of the Silvio Conte Fish and Wildlife and through conservation easements on working forestlands. Below the "stone dam" the Nulhegan drops through its Gorge – a series of Class III rapids that most choose to portage by walking along Route 105 and then lining their boat along the East Branch to rejoin the waterway.

This is a partnership project with the Vermont River Conservancy, which recently conserved a 70 acre parcel at the confluence of the East Branch and its main stem. The property serves as a take-out for whitewater paddlers seeking to explore the gorge, as well as a put-in for paddlers portaging it. The property is also home to a hut, built by the Yestermorrow Design-Build School and community volunteers, a short walking trail, and a camping area.

## Driving Directions and Meeting Location:

We will be meeting at the project location off Route 105, approx. 2.6 miles west of Bloomfield, Vermont, and 13.5 miles east of Island Pond. See map below. It is approximately a 0.15 mile walk to the campsite. There is no cell service at the location.

- **Coming from the west:** Take Rt 105 through Island Pond. You will pass the Nulhegan Basin Visitor Center. The road will descend a hill and cross the river, and then descend another hill. The project site is an overgrown field on the right after the last house. If you cross over the bridge over the East Branch, you've come to far.
- **Coming from the east:** From Bloomfield, take Route 105 east for 2.6 miles. Park on the left after passing over the East Branch of the Nulhegan River.

For an interactive google map, go to <https://goo.gl/OAJJZa>

## Camping and Facilities:

We'll be camping at the worksite. We will establish a group kitchen area. You will need to bring all **personal camping gear** with you. There is a mouldering privy at the site. We will provide soap and toilet paper, please bring all other sanitary items you may need.

## Food:

WWT registration fees goes towards purchasing food for the NFCT interns and volunteers for the week. NFCT interns will prepare meals. Meals will range from burritos to apple-walnut pancakes. We will have drinking water, tea and coffee available. **Please notify us of any food preferences/allergies.**

## What to Bring:

- Camping gear (including, rain gear, a tent, eating utensils, dishes, cup, flashlight, etc.)
- Work gloves
- Water bottle
- Paddling gear
- Personal carpentry tools, if you have your own favorites

## We will provide:

- Tools
- Food
- Group cooking gear

## Paddling:

Paddling opportunities abound in the region! Potential trips include the meandering headwaters to the Nulhegan, the quickwater below the gorge, and the nearby Connecticut River (quickwater). There will be time for paddling Saturday afternoon, evening and Sunday morning.

## Work Projects:

We have a diversity of projects we will be working on, including:

- Installing a loft floor and ladder
- Adding trim to window and doors
- Finishing up sheathing
- Building tables and benches
- Building stairs to the porch and deck
- Constructing a spur trail to the East Branch of the Nulhegan

## Trip Schedule

### Friday July 3, 2015

- **5:00 pm:** Rendezvous with NFCT at the site.
- **5:00-6:00:** Walk to campsite, set up camp
- **6:00:** Campsite orientation
- **6:30** Dinner and group introduction

### Saturday July 4, 2015

- **7am -8am:** Breakfast

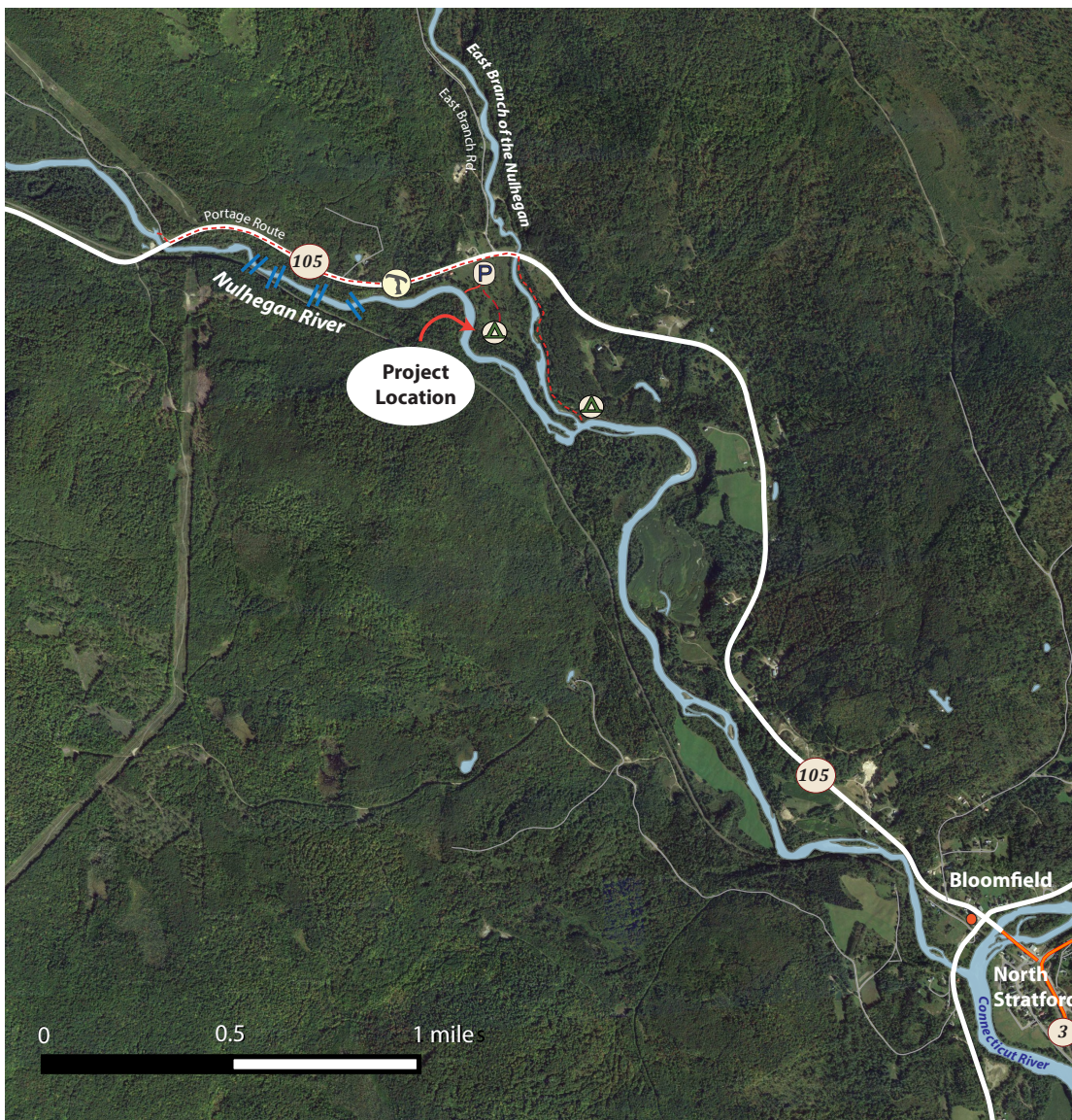
**\*\*Schedule and project descriptions may change. You will be notified as we get closer to the WWT if this happens\*\***

- **8:30 am -12pm:** Worksite Projects
- **12 pm -1 pm:** Lunch
- **1 pm – 3:30 pm:** Worksite Projects
- **3:30 pm -6:00 pm:** Break! Relax, go for a paddle, etc.
- **6:00 pm:** Dinner
- **8:00 pm:** Evening paddle or campfire

**Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

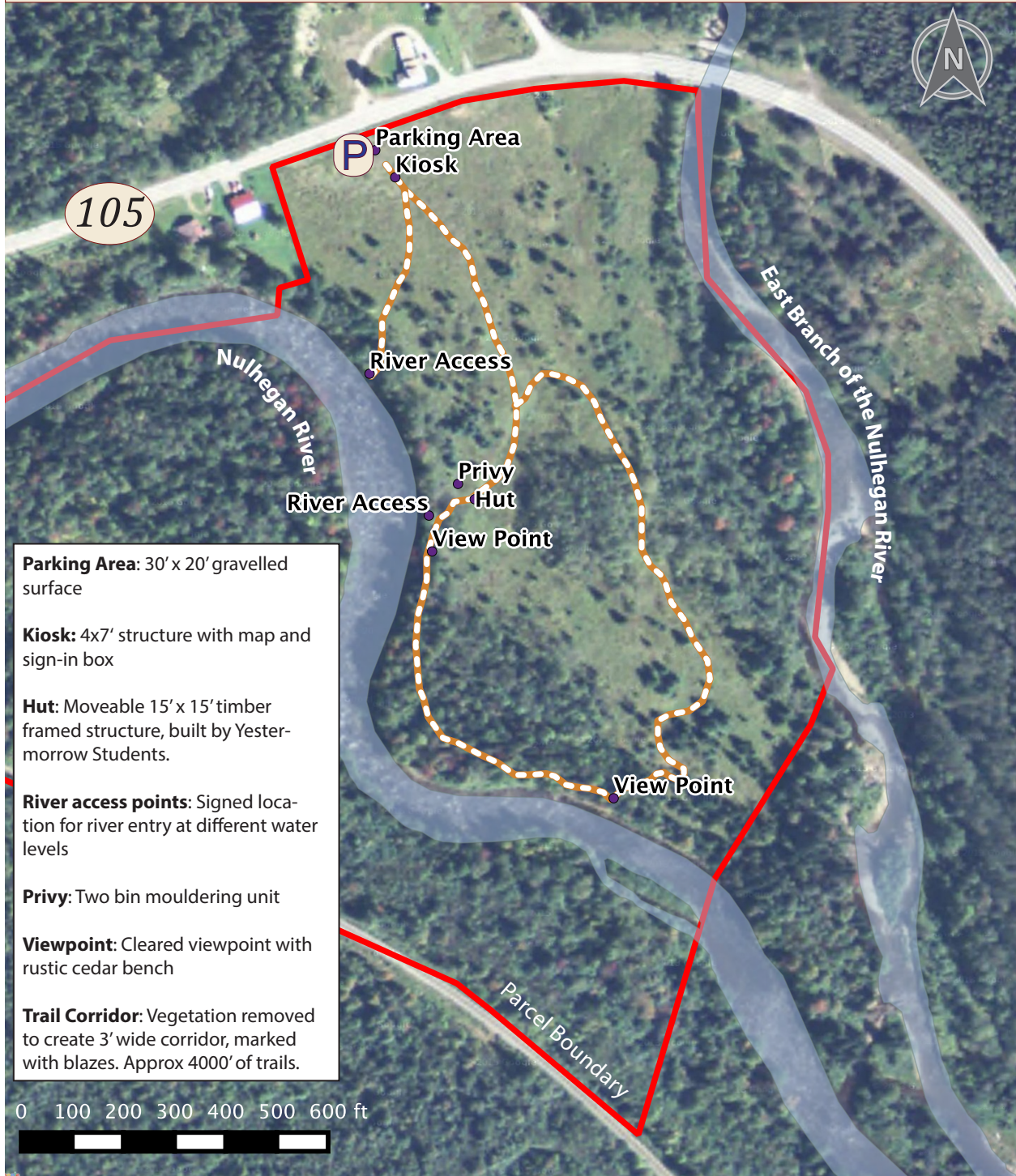
- **7am -8am:** Breakfast
- **8:30am-12:00am:** Finish projects.
- **12:00am -1:00pm:** Break camp, lunch
- **1 pm – 3 pm:** Nulhegan or CT River paddle (optional)

## Project Location Map





# MERCK PARCEL RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN







**Figure 1. Nulhegan Hut**



**Figure 2. East Branch of the Nulhegan**