

Highlands Trail Boardwalk Eagle Project

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General Scope of Project

My proposal is to remove and replace a series of rickety, dilapidated boardwalks through a swampy section of the Highlands trail, in Cape Elizabeth. The section is approximately 250 feet long, and made up of extremely spongy and wet ground. This project will benefit the Cape Elizabeth Conservation Commission, and the citizens and visitors of Cape Elizabeth, who use the trail every day.

Location of Trail

The highlands trail is a part of the "Greenbelt" trail system in Cape Elizabeth, maintained by CECC. The entrance on the side that I will be working on is on Two Lights road, directly across from Maxwell's strawberry fields. The boardwalks will span a very swampy piece of trail. The current boardwalks are thin, rickety, old pieces of decking, which are unstable, and difficult to walk across, even for an able-bodied person.

Construction Method

The boardwalk will consist of twenty interconnected twelve-foot by three-foot sections. Each section will have a framework consisting of three 4x4 supports, crossed by two 4x4 rails, then covered with 2x6 decking. (refer to illustration)

Materials list

- 130 12 foot 2x6s (1,500 feet)
- 60 12 foot 4x4s (660 feet)
- approximately 2,500 decking nails
- approximately 300 large spikes (for connecting 4x4s)

Expenses

CECC will pay for all of the raw materials. Physical labor will be provided by troop 30 volunteers. I will provide organization and leadership.

Construction Plan/Timetable

I plan to have this project done before winter. After receiving approval, and ordering the materials, this project will take three full weekends to complete.

- one weekend to cut boards, and construct boardwalks
- two weekends to deliver, place, etc.

Exact dates will depend on volunteer availability, and when I receive approval from Pine Tree Council.