

OKOTOKS BIBLE
CAMP LANDS
REVITALIZATION

LANDSCAPE
DESIGN
CONCEPTS

Client:

Consultants:



GEORGE HARRIS
COLLABORATIVE INC.

Project Goals

Promote the Sheep river valley's natural biodiversity by allocating space for ecological functions, while intertwining low impact human use. Existing areas where healthy ecosystems are intact will be respected, and opportunities for habitat restoration will be considered.

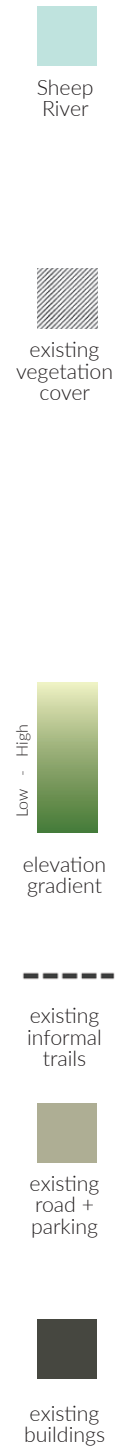
Design interventions that work with natural flood cycles instead of fighting against them. Durable, submersible materials will be used.

Reflect the values and history of the Okotoks Community through the site programming and details.

Consider input from the local First Nations.



Site Analysis



Flooding + Drainage

- Parts of the site are within the Okotoks flood hazard zone, the whole site should be treated to be fully submersed.
- Advised to treat the full site as within the flood plain.

Vegetation Cover

- Mix of sunny + shaded areas existing on site. Open grassland vs. deciduous forest
- Opportunity to use shaded areas to hold ice longer for skating loop in winter.
- Opportunity in open grassland to provide sunny, warmer area for walking, biking + cross-country skiing in winter, and picnics + recreation in summer.

Topography + Drainage

- Risk of erosion along slopes where informal pathways and road approach riverbank,
- Opportunity for slope stabilization through rip-rap or bioengineering.

Circulation

- Lack of Connection within the site and also to the rest of the River Valley trail network, trails informal.
- Opportunity to link trails to existing network to draw people into the site through multi-use trails for walking, biking, snowshoeing, and possibly cross country skiing.

Winter Conditions

- Need to encourage people to spend time on site in winter.
- Opportunity for warming areas, shelterbelts, fire-pits, existing buildings etc.



Site Analysis

Programming zones - based on existing site features



01



driveway looking west



north open space

02



existing building



driveway loop

03



open space facing west



open space by river facing south

04



edge of forest facing south



trail through forest

05



edge of forest facing south



trail through forest

Site Analysis

Programming
Zone locations

01

Existing condition: Un-manicured open grass meadow

Proposed program: Open space for gathering such as Pow Wows/ Arbor, Tipi sites and other town events. Memory points include 2 areas set within the open space and a river viewing area.

02

Existing condition: Existing buildings, parking lot, semi-manicured lawn.

Proposed program: Welcome area, signage, existing building for pop-up restaurants, washrooms, pick up / drop off, group camping, low impact disc golf

03

Existing condition: Grass meadow, mixed with shrubs, sparse trees, and debris, informal trails

Proposed program: Day use area with BBQ pits, picnic tables, and some informal grass areas for tenting, iconic natural playground + climbing wall area, formalized trails, low impact disc golf.

04

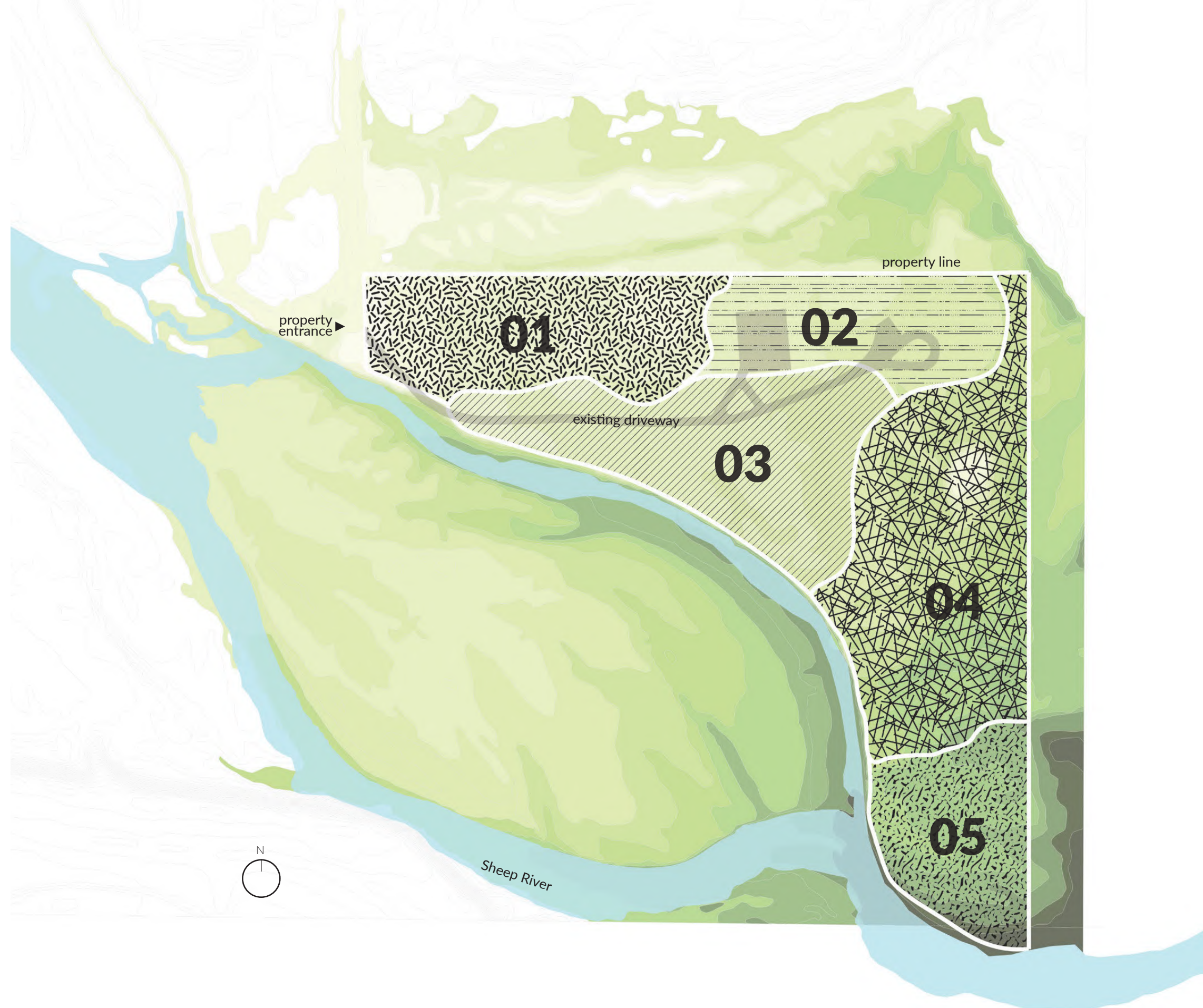
Existing condition: Deciduous forest, with long grasses + shrubs as understory, informal trails.

Proposed program: Low impact formalized trails, bridges if necessary, low impact disc golf course

05

Existing condition: Gravel Peninsula, mostly un-vegetated with some willow shrub covered areas

Proposed program: Low impact trails with river access point for fishing and entering / exiting river, seating, picnic tables, willow maze + preservation area





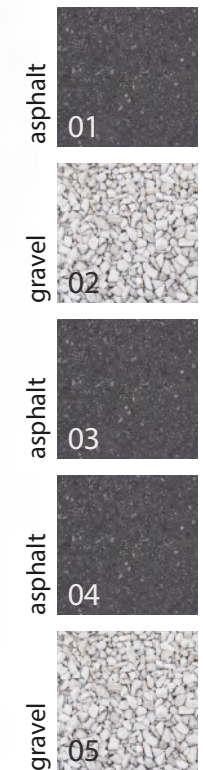
- A entrance gate
- B willow preservation path and demonstration area
- C space/pow-wow area
- D parking
- E existing building use to be determined
- F river viewpoint
- G day use area
- H play space
- I gate
- J tipi sites (potential)
- K ice skating loop
- L seating area
- M 9 hole disc golf course
- N outdoor classroom seating
- O existing path system
- P driftwood log area
- Q willow maze
- R boulder seating
- S river access
- T washrooms
- U wayfinding elements
- V natural area preserve
- W raingarden

- memory points
- disc golf shot paths
- disc golf baskets
- picnic shelters (potential)

Concept Masterplan



- 01 primary pedestrian paths
- 02 alternate pedestrian paths
- 03 ice skating loop
- 04 new vehicular circulation
- 05 existing circulation



Concept Circulation



Concept Memory Points

Programming Overall Site

Multi-use, all season pathways weave through the plan and connect all 5 zones, offering users a variety of routes to explore the site on. Wayfinding elements and interpretive signage will be provided throughout, highlighting the natural characteristics of the site. Both open and intimate spaces are provided on site to cater to different users needs and comfort.

Multi-use Pathways



Wayfinding Elements



Various Recreation Opportunities



Natural Planting Areas



Interpretive Signage



Winter Biking



Cross Country Skiing
+ Snowshoeing

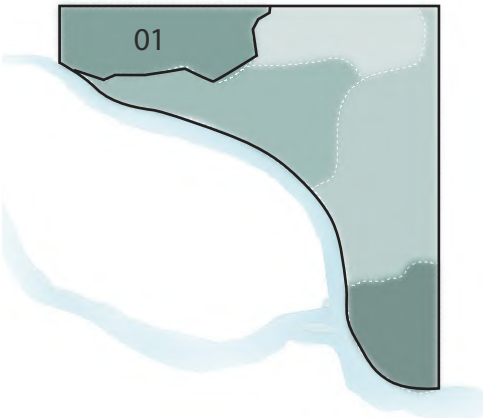


Flexible Open Space



Programming Zone 01

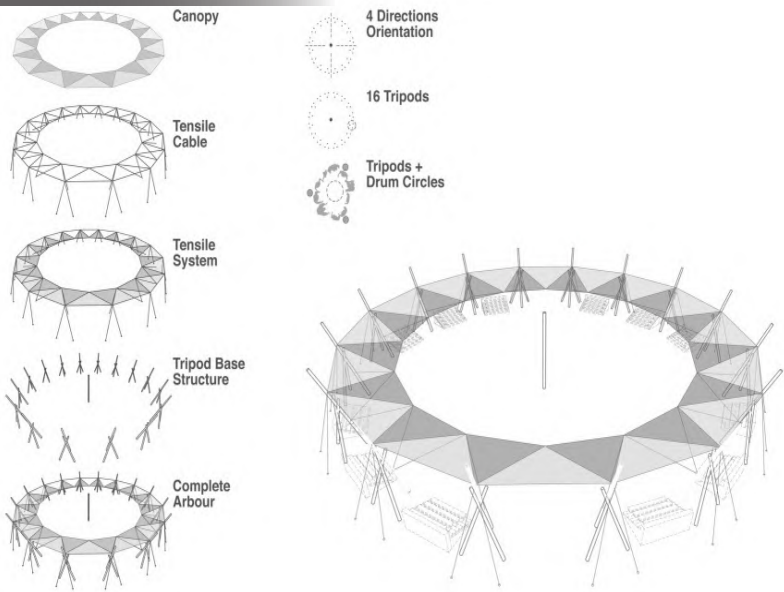
Open space for gathering such as Pow-wows/ arbour, tipi sites and other town events and 2 memory points are set within the open space area, making use of the existing open space. A primary sight line will cut through the area leading people to a viewpoint at the rivers edge.



Wildlife Viewing



Arbour



Pow-Wow Area



Tipi Sites



Natural Planting Areas

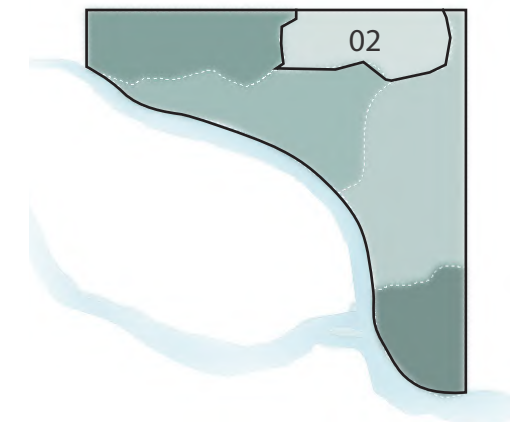


Viewing Points



Programming Zone 02

Welcome signage, existing building for pop-up restaurants, washrooms, pick up / drop off, group camping, and a raingarden will make zone 2 an welcome / gathering hub within the site.



Entry Signage



Low Impact Disc Golf



Washrooms



Rain Garden

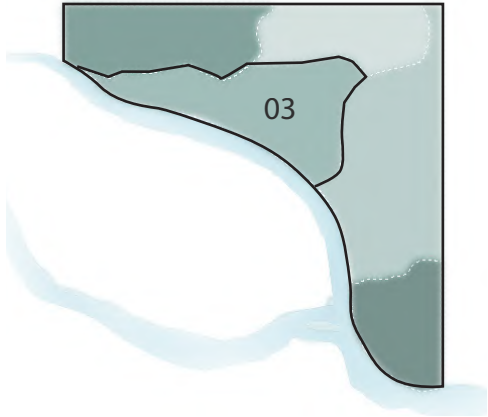


Firepit



Programming Zone 03

A day use area with BBQ pits, picnic tables, informal grass areas for tenting, natural playground + climbing wall area, a river view point, and formalized trails will fit into the existing mix of open space and vegetated areas in this zone.



Iconic Natural Playground



Picnic Tables



Family Picnic Area



Challenge Course For Kids



Iconic Natural Playground



BBQ Pits

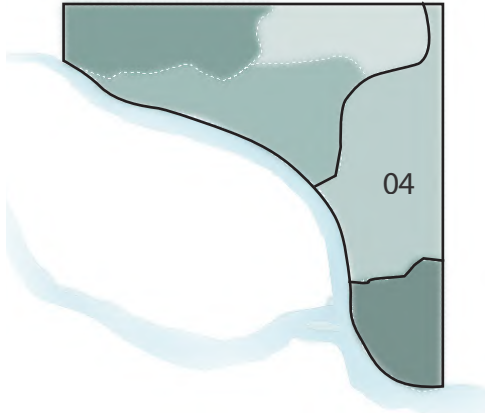


Disc Golf



Programming Zone 04

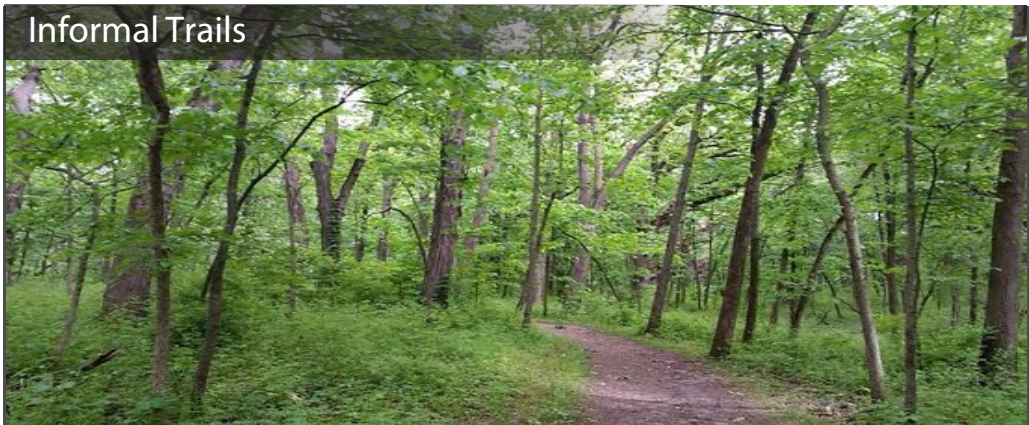
Low impact formalized trails, small bridges if necessary, a low impact disc golf course, an ice skating loop with seating areas, a firepit, an outdoor classroom area, and a river viewpoint will be fit into into the existing mix of open space and vegetated areas in this zone.



Ice Skating loop



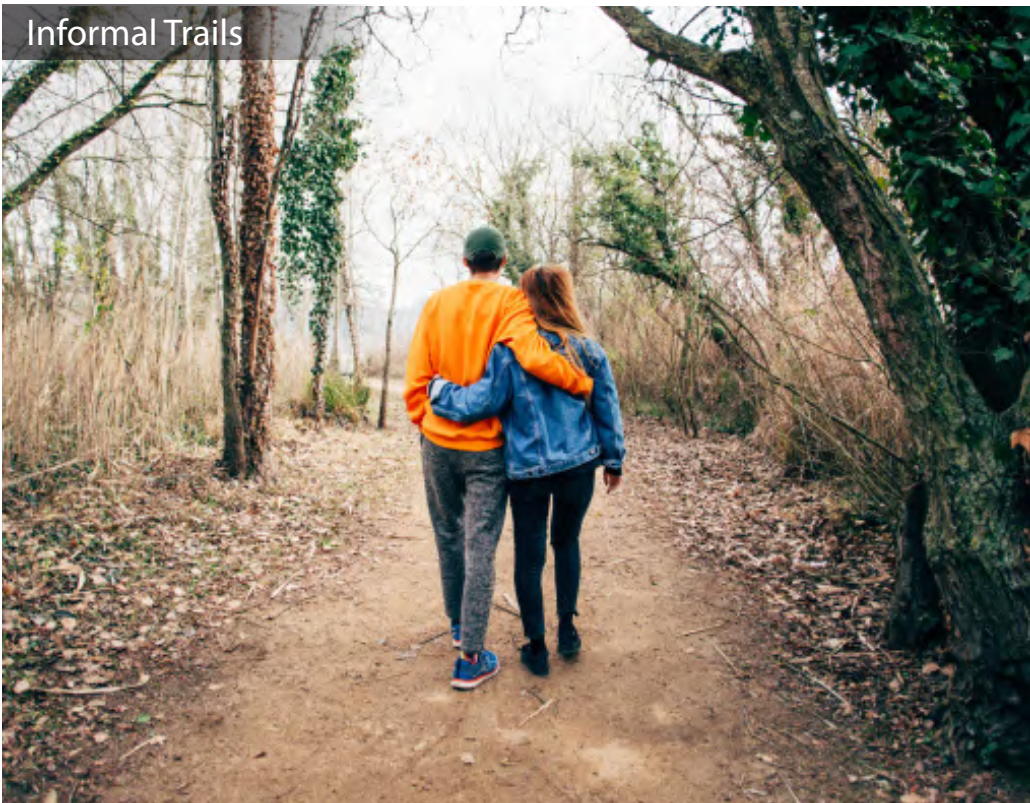
Informal Trails



Disc Golf Course



Informal Trails



Firepit / Warm Up Area

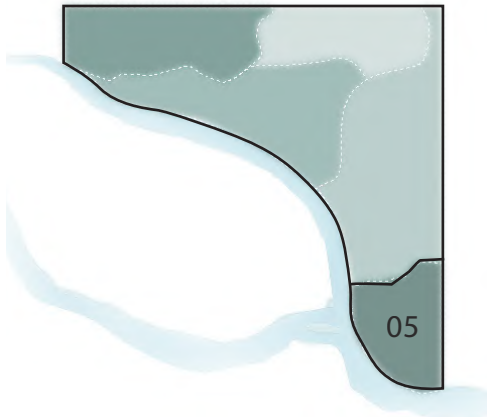


Small Bridges If Necessary



Programming Zone 05

Trails and entering / exiting river, low impact driftwood + stone seating areas, picnic table, and a willow maze area will bring low impact programming to the southern tip of the site. Durable materials are key in this frequent flooding zone.



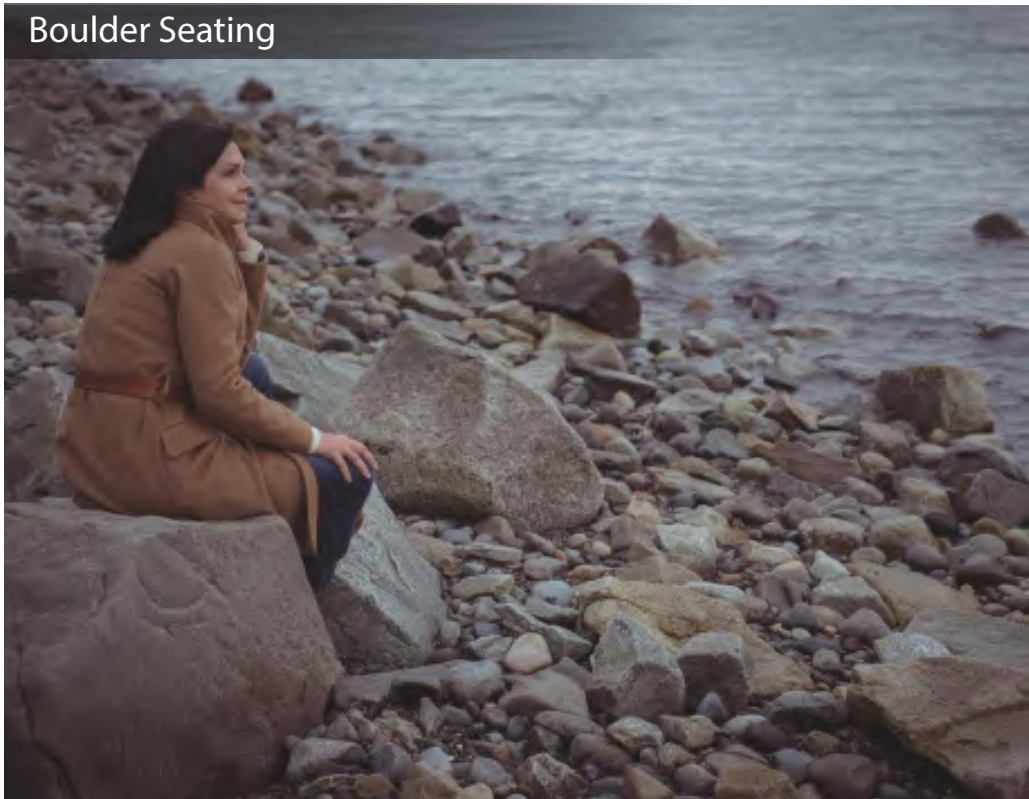
River Wading



Picnic Tables



Boulder Seating



Driftwood Seating



Fishing



Willow Maze



Nature Viewing



River Entry / Exit

