

Water Trail System Master Plans

A water trail is a stretch of river, a shoreline, or an ocean that has been mapped out with the intent to create an educational, scenic, and challenging experience for recreational canoeing and kayaking.

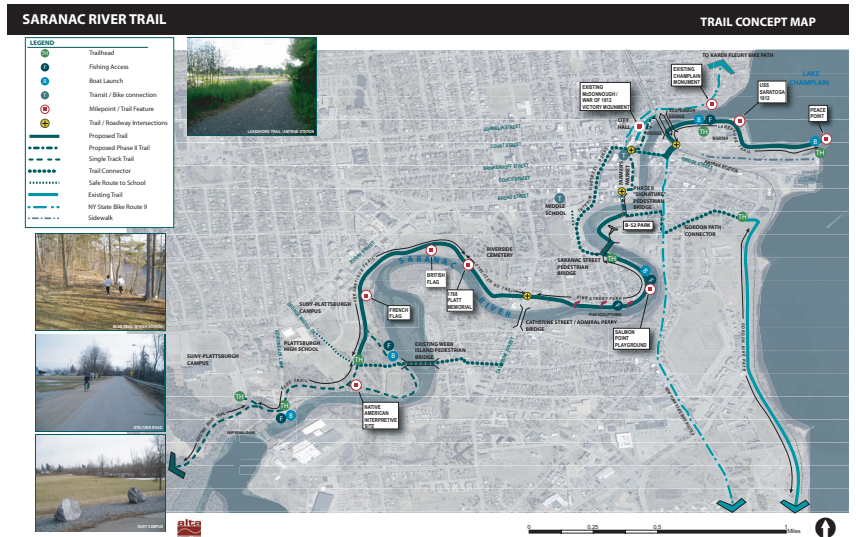
A water trail plan connects water and land based trail systems, ultimately forming a network of transportation, recreation, interpretive/education and resource conservation/restoration opportunities. By providing these connections, the water trail becomes a value-added recreation and natural resource experience that will be rooted in the community for years to come.

Planning a water trail requires maintaining a careful balance between protecting the resource and responding to the needs of landowners and water trail users. Most importantly, water trail planning requires a coordinated vision between the community, affected jurisdictions, and agency representatives.

Alta Planning + Design provides complete water trail master planning services, including design, alternatives analysis, environmental documentation, property acquisition strategies, cost estimation, user conflict analysis, maintenance and management plans, and funding strategies.



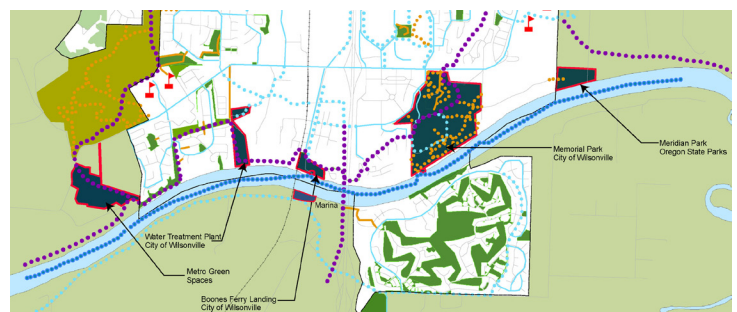
Waterbury Department of Public Works Director John Lawlor and Alta Principal Jeff Olson paddle the Naugatuck River in Waterbury, Connecticut during a 'site' visit.



Alta prepared the Saranac River Trail Feasibility Study for the City of Plattsburgh, New York, which is currently under construction. The study explored connections between the riverside trail and water trail access for non-motorized watercraft.



Alta Principal George Hudson managed the design and construction of the Eastbank Esplanade in Portland, Oregon. It includes a floating trail section on the Willamette River, ramps to the Burnside Bridge, and a connection to the Steel Bridge bicycle/pedestrian cantilevered path and the Willamette River Water Trail.



Alta created maps as part of the Wilsonville, Oregon, Water Trail plan that highlight potential water trail site locations.