#### **Great Falls Recreation Trails**

Water Strategy & Hydro Licensing Presentation for the Carolina Thread Trail Forum– December 5, 2023 Christy Churchill, RLA – Brian Couture, PE





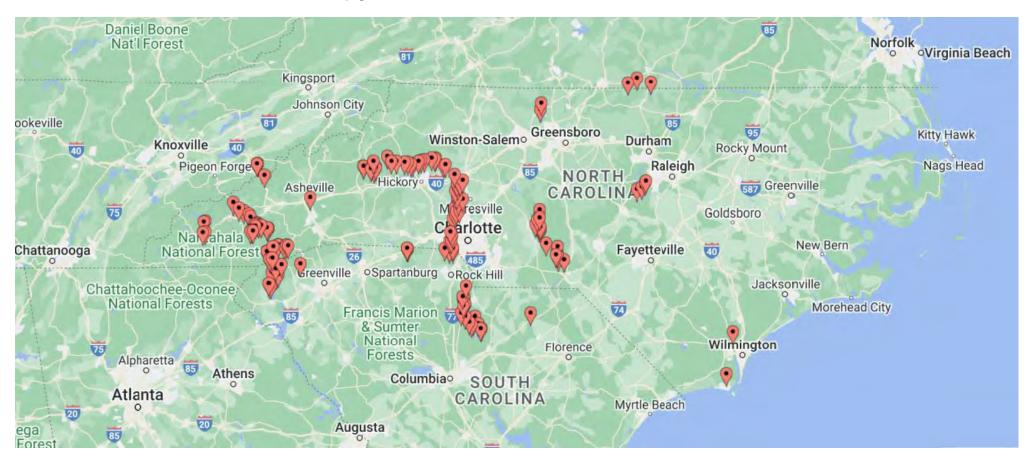


#### FERC and Hydroelectric Project Recreational Development

- 1935 Section 10(a) of the Federal Power Act was amended to require the consideration of public recreational use into project licensing
- 1963 Order issued requiring the filing of a recreation resource plan for all major license applications filed after June 1, 1963
- I965 Order No. 313 issued ensuring license related recreational development is consistent with area needs

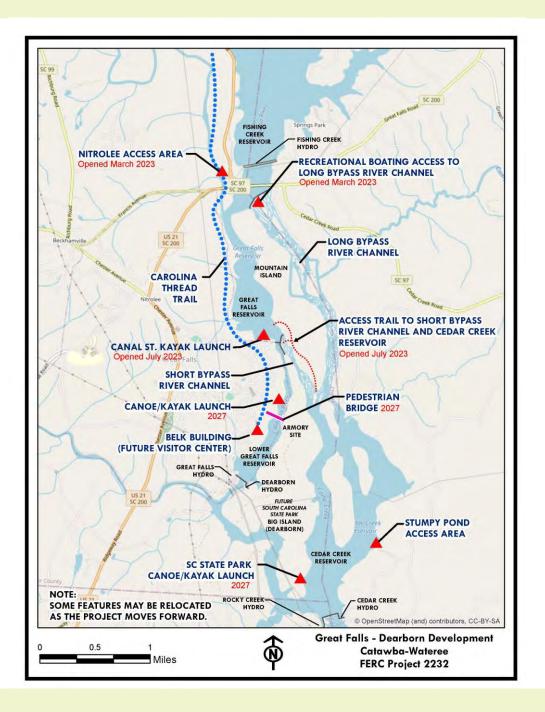


## Duke Energy's Public Recreation Territories



- 12 Hydroelectric Licenses
- 29 Hydro Stations
- 140 Sites 123 FERC License Required, 17 Non-FERC





### Overview of Great Falls Recreation Enhancement Projects

- Nitrolee Access Area- Primary Canoe/Kayak Launch Site and Historic Interpretive Center
- Long Bypass River Channel Class II-III Rapids
- Canal St Kayak Access for Short Bypass River Channel
- Mountain Island Portage and Access Trails
- Short Bypass River Channel- Class III-IV Rapids
- Dearborn Island State Park
- Lower Great Falls Canoe/Kayak Access and Pedestrian Bridge to State Park
- Stumpy Pond Access Area existing site to be used for primary take out
- All amenities connected by the Carolina Thread Trail





# NITROLEE ACCESS AREA





## NITROLEE ACCESS AREA

- FERC required public access area
- Primary Canoe/Kayak Launch Site for the LBR recreation flows
- 100+ parking spaces
- Restroom facilities
- Historic Nitrolee Arc Building interpretive site
- Site of early Duke Energy nitrogen production experiment



#### Great Falls – Dearborn Diversion Project Long Bypass Reach – Orientation



- Nitrolee Access Area
- Fishing Creek Hydroelectric Station and Dam
- Highway 21
- SC 200 Bridge Over Catawba River
- LBR Project Site





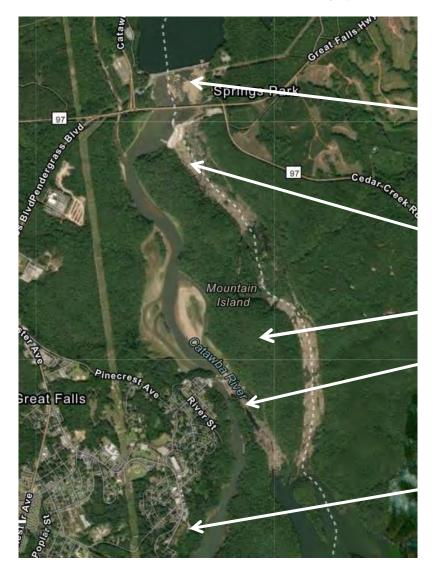


#### Great Falls - Dearborn Diversion Project Long Bypass Reach - Dam Modifications





#### Great Falls - Dearborn Diversion Project Short Bypass Reach - Orientation



- Fishing Creek Hydroelectric Station
- Long Bypass Reach Project
  Site 2 mile paddle II-III
- Mountain Island
- Short Bypass Reach Project
  Site .75 mile paddle III-IV
- Town of Great Falls



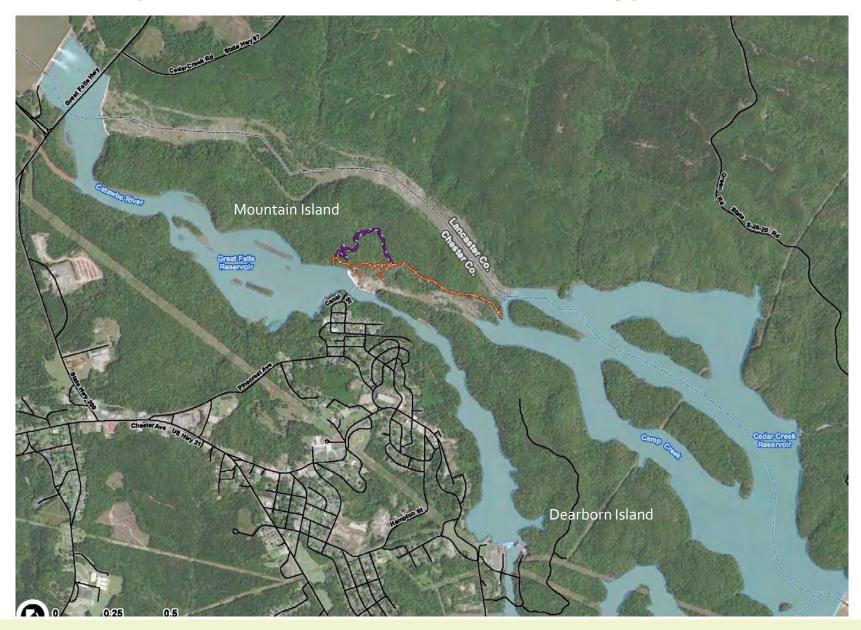




#### Great Falls - Dearborn Diversion Project Short Bypass Reach - Dam Modifications



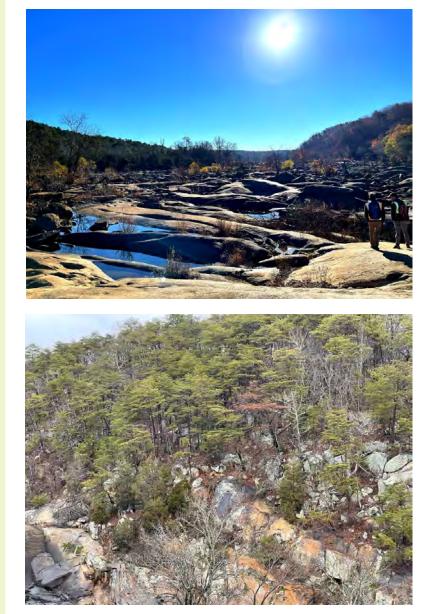
### Portage and Access Trails for Short Bypass Access

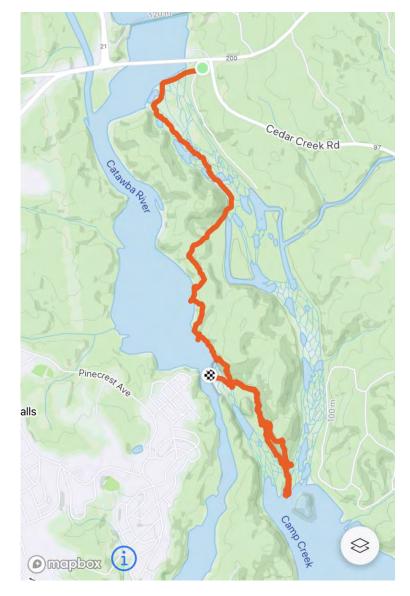




## DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

## **Trail Design and Layout**









## **Initial Construction Site Access**











## Initial Construction Site Access







## **Trail Construction**

















#### Before

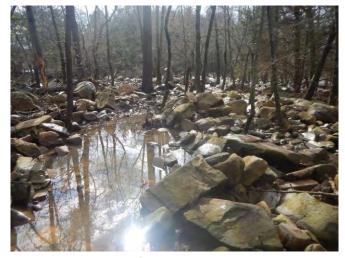


## Low Cobble Area



After





### w/Rec Flow







## Alternate Take Out & Trail Railing





















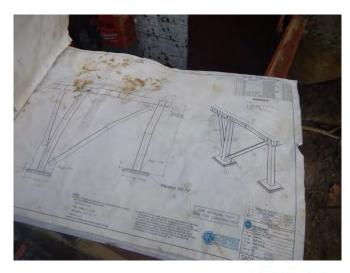












































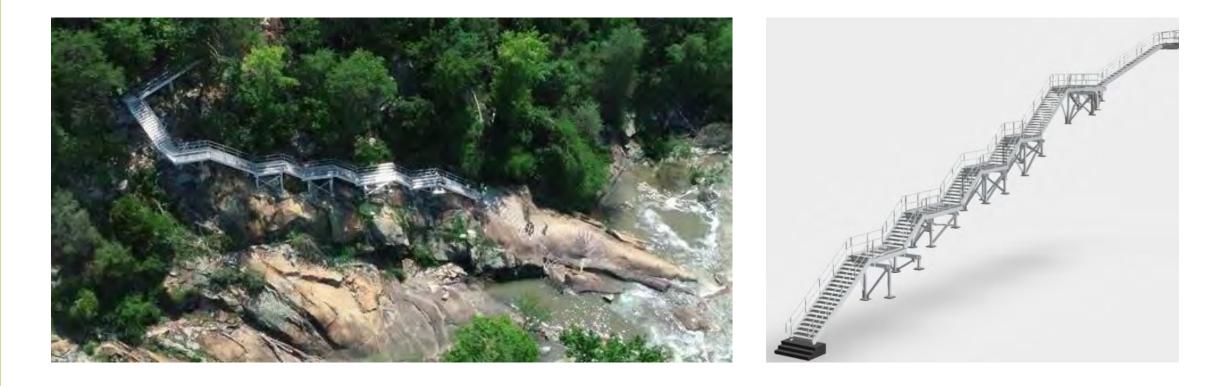
























## Short Bypass Canoe / Kayak Steps



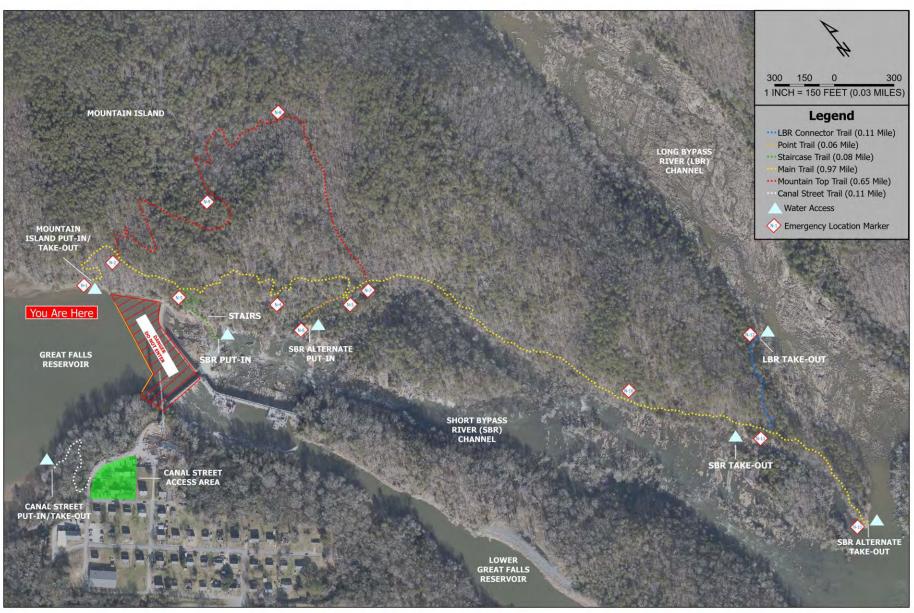






DUKE ENERGY.

## **Great Falls Recreation Trails Map**



#### Legend

- •••• LBR Connector Trail (0.11 Mile)
- Point Trail (0.06 Mile)
- Staircase Trail (0.08 Mile)
- Main Trail (0.97 Mile)
- •••• Mountain Top Trail (0.65 Mile)
- Canal Street Trail (0.11 Mile)
  - Water Access

Emergency Location Marker





















## Opening Day March 18, 2023







#### Great Falls - Dearborn Diversion Project Long Bypass Reach - Recreation Use



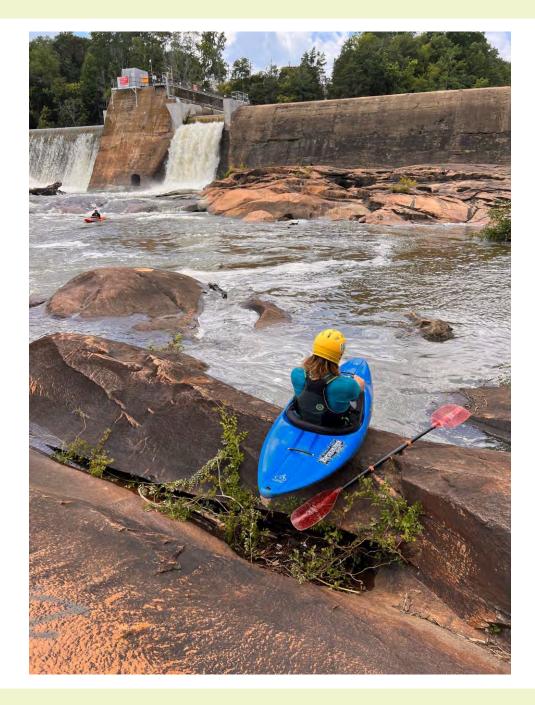


Opening Day March 18, 2023



# LONG BYPASS RECREATION FLOW





### Great Falls - Dearborn Diversion Project Short Bypass Reach - Recreation Use





## Portage Trail for Short Bypass Access







# SHORT BYPASS RECREATION FLOW



#### 2023 Recreation Flow Release Calendar for Great Falls

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#### Lake Levels, Access Alerts, and Flow Release Information

Duke Energy Lake Services Information Line 800-829-5253 <u>lakeservices@duke-energy.com</u> <u>publicrecreation@duke-energy.com</u>

Duke Energy Lakes and Recreation Website https://www.duke-energy.com/lakes

