

## L&WCF Grant Summary – From Bob Shafto

As part of a prior conversion agreement with the National Park Service, the Town purchased a 133-acre wooded parcel in October 2012 and incorporated it into its existing 104-acre North Falmouth Community Forest (NFCF). NFCF is the Town’s most remotely located open space parcel, entirely forested, and the least developed for recreational use (see map). There is only one hiking trail in the northwest corner of the property and it abuts the 307-acre Lowell Preserve in the town of Windham. The property in Windham has an extensive existing trail system. In addition, there is also an existing snowmobile trail that cuts across the parcel.

The intent of this project is to construct a more expansive trail system to provide greater recreational opportunities on the property, including hiking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, mountain biking, horseback riding, nature study, and access by hunters to the interior of the parcel. There is a need to construct a parking area on the eastern boundary and main entrance to the property off Blackstrap Road. The project may also include the construction and installation of an information kiosk, trail blazing and trail signage (“You Are Here” kiosks at key trail junctures to help people locate their position on the property).

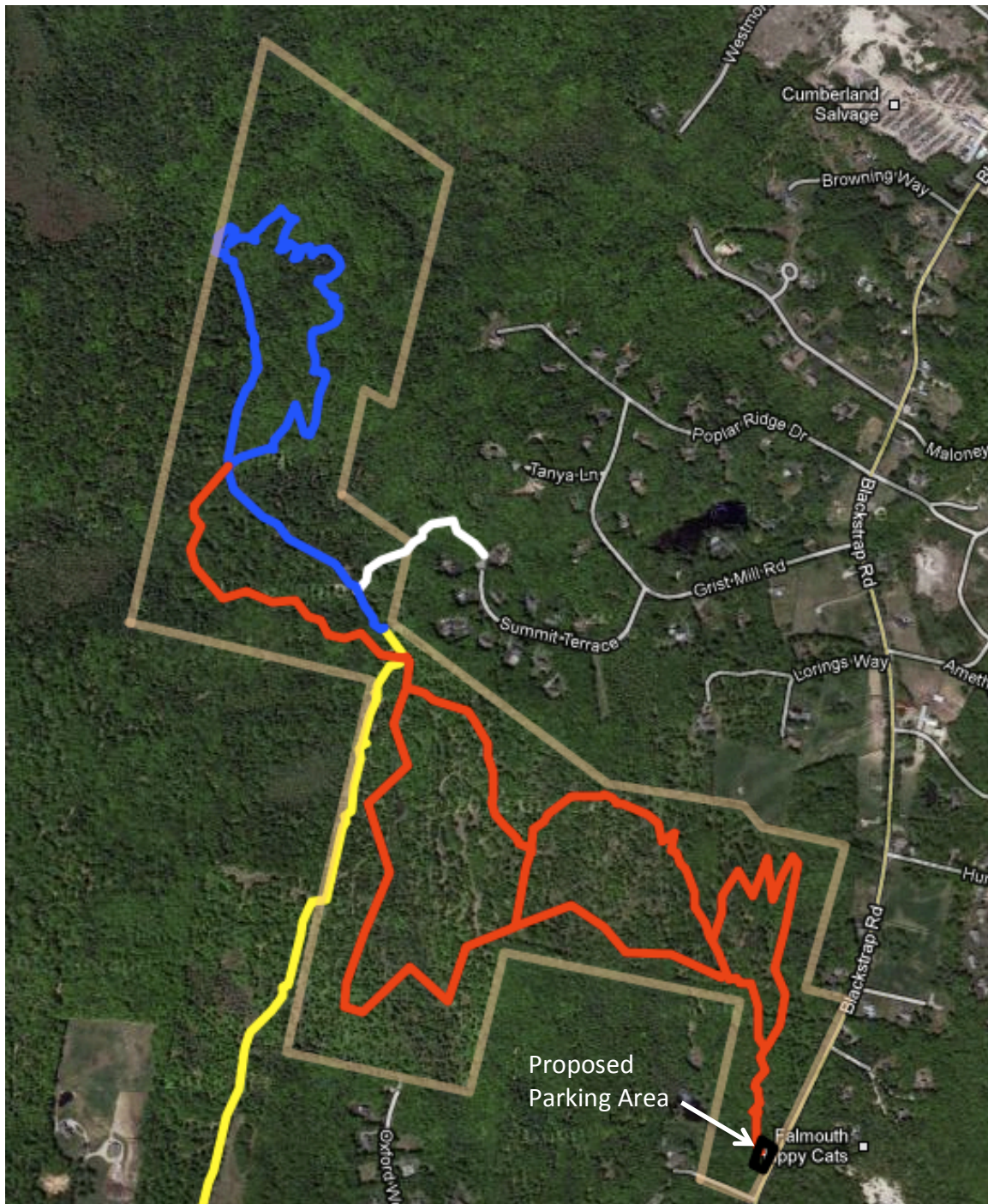
Importantly, the acquisition of this property has secured the last remaining section of land that extends our Cross Falmouth Trail from Falmouth Community Park to the Lowell Preserve in Windham (see map). This trail is ten miles in length and includes over 14.5 miles of side trails, including a side trail leading to over 250 acres of conservation land in the town of Cumberland.

Our volunteer Falmouth Conservation Corps members, who have already built the bulk of our existing ±40 miles of town trails, will do the trail building work. For this project, they will have help from the Cumberland County Jail community service team and the area mountain bike association. Our volunteers typically donate over 1,000 hours of time, each year, to conservation work in our community (mostly for trail building).

The anticipated budget for the grant is as follows. (All town contributions are in-kind or already programmed in the current budget.)

	Town (In-kind or already in current budget)	L&WCF
Engineering (Town Engineer)	\$3,000	
Project Management (Ombudsman)	\$1,650	
Parking lot construction		\$7,000
Materials (kiosk, bog bridging)		\$6,500
Signage		\$400
Labor (In kind)		
Falmouth Conservation Corp (volunteer work)	\$5,000	
Cumberland County Jail (no cost to Town)	\$3,200	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,850</b>	<b>\$12,850</b>

# North Falmouth Community Forest



**Blue, White, Yellow:** Existing Trails  
**Red:** Proposed Trails