



Going Coastal



CAMERON ENGINEERING & ASSOCIATES, LLP

Attachment 2

South Shore Blueway Site Selection Criteria

Strategy to identify and map resources

What is a launch site?

- Put-in / take-out
- Staging area
- Information/education station
- Gateway to upland attractions and activities

Prospective Launch Site Criteria

Criteria for assessing site viability through a feasibility study to identify needs, problems, and opportunities. The focus of efforts will to evaluate the current status of access and establish a pool of high opportunity hand launch sites based on an agreed formula for ranking site eligibility.

Site standards recommended by NPS “Logical Lasting Launches”

Height above high water: 9” to 2’

Put-in width: 5’ wide, preferably 6’ to 12’

Length: 25’, to allow dry access for entire boat length

Slope: ADA Accessibility Guidelines require that slopes not exceed 8.33% whenever possible; A slope exceeding 15% will make transition from land to water difficult for any paddler

Best suited:

- Safe access to the water
- Entry into safe and reliable water conditions in all tidal conditions, away from potential hazards, high traffic channels, etc.
- Nearby parking and short carry to water
- Minimal user conflicts
- Existing informal launches
- Facilities (e.g. restrooms)

Funding for the South Shore Blueway Trail has been made possible by the Village of Freeport, a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program grant from the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund, and the Nassau County Environmental Bond Act Program.

- Open to the public
- Parking capacity (can facilitate a large group)
- Minimum disturbances to the shore
- Few necessary improvements
- User demand
- Spacing to existing or proposed trailheads
- Support of site administrator (e.g. municipality, state parks)
- Presence of a grassroots constituency
- Possibility of point-to-point trips (e.g. day trips, overnite camps)
- Connection to upland recreation, natural and historic resources
- Serves community and nature-based tourism needs
- Spectrum of experience (novice to advanced paddlers)

Least suited:

- Lack of facilities
- Barriers to access
- User conflicts
- Wildlife disturbances
- Fragile habitat
- Subject to erosion
- Heavy motor boat traffic
- Health risks from poor water quality (e.g. CSO outfalls)
- Current permitting/fees
- Dangerous water conditions
- Hazards
- Undesirable to less-experienced boaters
- Security issues
- Challenges to site planning (e.g. slope, tidal range)