Project Title: Little River Water Trail Boat Ramp Design

Sponsor: Archway and McDuffie County
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Georgia’s Little River Water Trail stretches 20 miles along the Warren, McDuffie, and Wilkes County lines. Through the UGA Archway partnership McDuffie County wanted to explore the possibility of developing a put-in and take-out location on Section 1 of the trail located at Hwy 80 Woodruff Bridge. The put-in and take-out location would include access from Hwy 80, parking to accommodate trailers, and a boat ramp large enough for small fishing boats. The Client’s goal is that developing this location at the start of the trail will provide a recreational resource to the County Residents and attract individuals from the surrounding region to McDuffie County.

Our team, MSF Solutions, moved forward with these goals to design a cost-effective location that would satisfy the Client’s needs and limit environmental impact. The team first conducted a hydrologic analysis to understand the rise of the river during different storm events. The analysis allowed for an informed decision to be made on the necessary elevation of the parking lot to limit flooding. MSF Solutions then developed tree removal, grading, and erosion control plans to outline the required procedures for development of the site. Details of the final design include access directly from Hwy 80 to the site, gravel parking lot with 50 spaces that accommodates trailers and adequate turn around space for large vehicles, and planning for small amenity areas that are featured in a phased economic plan. The phased economic plan was developed to allow the client flexibility in adding amenities overtime while understanding spatially how they connect to the main site design. The main feature of this design is the boat ramp accessible to small fishing boats and other small watercraft. The boat ramp has its own detail page within the drawing set to outline the connectivity to the river and parking area, and the required information for proper design.