

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Friends of Capitol Forest

Email: friendsofcapitolforest@gmail.com

Website: <https://friendsofcapitolforest.org>





TABLE OF CONTENTS

TO OUR MEMBERS _____	3
Strategic Highlights _____	3
Financial Highlights _____	3
Operating Highlights _____	3
Looking Ahead _____	4
FINANCIAL SUMMARY _____	5
VOLUNTEER HOURS _____	6
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS _____	7
CONCLUSION _____	8

TO OUR MEMBERS

Strategic Highlights

What we accomplished in 2023:

- Sanctioned new trail at North Slope, called Slick Jimmy
- Purchase new work party trailer for North Slope
- First annual bike swap meet
- We have 280 current members as of 12/31/2023. An increase of 32% since December 2022!
- We are increasing our trail mileage every year and our volunteers maintain over 60 miles of trails, ensuring our trail systems are in tip top shape for our trail users. BIG THANKS TO OUR TRAIL VOLUNTEERS!!!!

Financial Highlights

Friends of Capitol Forest was not cash-flow positive for 2023 due to a major unforeseen expense. Yet we still carry a healthy cash reserve of approximately \$50k.

Operating Highlights

2023 marked the fourth year that Friends of Capitol Forest moved to a membership model rather than a purely donations-based organization. There are now four streams of revenue: membership dues, donations, events, and grant funding. This decision was made to build community among the many recreational users of Capitol Forest and to create a sustainable revenue stream for future projects.

“Friends of Capitol Forest has moved to a membership model to build community among recreational users and volunteers”

Looking Ahead

What we have planned for 2024:

- Continue development of a Master Trail Plan for trail development and maintenance in Capitol Forest. This will include proposing new trails and implement better planning and advocacy with DNR to minimize the impact of future timber sales in Capitol Forest
 - **See attached Master Trail Plan**
- Build a new green-level trail next to Little Larch at the Fall Creek trail system
- Build an extension to Living The Dream at the North Slope
- Sanction the lower section of Low Key with re-route and bridge crossing
- Further partnership with DNR in developing a parking lot for the North Slope trail system
- Continue our partnership with the City of Olympia P&R in developing the Kaiser Woods Bike Park
- Continue advocating with the City of Olympia P&R in developing an asphalt pumptrack at Yelm Highway Community Park



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Friends of Capitol Forest relies on the support of its members, volunteers, and grant funding to do the work that we do. Below is a breakdown of this year's financial activity:

- 2023 Revenue Total = \$37,347
 - Membership = \$10,660
 - Donations = \$3,633
 - FOCF Events = \$11,849
 - Fundraisers = \$0
 - Grants = \$0
 - Event Support = \$11,205
- Revenue categories
 - Membership - this includes individual, family, and business memberships
 - Donations - this includes all in-kind donations received throughout the year
 - Events by FOCF - Shuttle events, swap meet, races
 - Fundraisers - fundraising campaigns for specific projects
 - Grants - revenue from grant applications
 - Event Support - revenue from support of other organizations' cycling events
- 2023 Expenses Total = \$55,245
 - Trail Construction/Maintenance = \$29,508
 - Administration = \$8,986
 - Events = \$6,012
 - Membership/Volunteer Swag = \$9,945
 - Marketing/Social Media/Promotion = \$794
- Expense categories
 - Trail Maintenance - this category includes: fuel, tool maintenance, tool purchases, food & beverage for work parties, includes one-time charge for new work trailer
 - Trail Construction - this category included development of new or repair of existing trails, including excavator rental and other large equipment rentals
 - Administration - advertising, banking fees, liability insurance, mailbox rental, licenses, software and website subscriptions
 - Events - expenditures for event start-up such as liability insurance, permits, support services, merchandise
 - Fall Creek Shelter - this is total expenditures for ongoing maintenance from 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023.
 - Membership/Volunteer Swag - purchase of membership and volunteer swag
 - Marketing/Social Media/Promotion - media development projects, promotion, and marketing

VOLUNTEER HOURS

- Hours - At least 4,500 hours of volunteer time, plus so many more unreported to FOCF. This beats the 2022 total by at least 10%. Thank you to all our VOLUNTEERS!!!
- Work Parties
 - Fall Creek Work Party - 1st Saturday of the month
 - North Slope Work Party - 3rd Saturday of the month
- Thank you to our volunteers and our work party leaders

To book a private work party for your group please email:

friendsofcapitolforest@gmail.com



MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Our marketing efforts are primarily through social media and press releases in an effort to keep advertising costs down. Events such as monthly work parties are posted on both Facebook and Instagram and listed on the calendar of the website as well.

Current Social Media Reach:

- Facebook followers = 4700, an increase of 3.5% from 2022
- Instagram followers (including North Slope) = 2,118 FOCF + 1652 North Slope, increases of 16% and 12% from 2022

CONCLUSION

Friends of Capitol Forest thanks you for your membership and continued support. We welcome your ideas, input, and contributions. To reach us, please email:

friendsofcapitolforest@gmail.com.

LOVE THESE TRAILS?



Friends of Capitol Forest is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to making Capitol Forest and the South Puget Sound a premier mountain biking destination. We are 100% grassroots and volunteer run and depend on recreation user support to maintain trails and build new ones! Find out more:

[HTTPS://FRIENDSOFCAPITOLFOREST.ORG](https://friendsofcapitolforest.org)

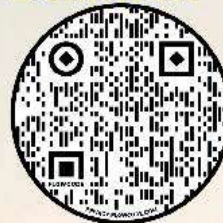
Photo Credit: Christopher Peters @dirt.coast

3 WAYS TO SUPPORT FOCF:

1. BECOME A MEMBER



2. MAKE A DONATION



3. VOLUNTEER

- ◆ Come to a work party
- ◆ Help with events
- ◆ Contribute your skills
- ◆ Join the Board

BENEFITING

- ◆ Mountain Bikers
- ◆ Trail Runners
- ◆ Equestrians
- ◆ Moto Enthusiasts





2024 Master Trail Plan

- **Current FOCF Project Priorities – 2024 & 2025**
 - **Year Round trail maintenance and improvement** via regular work parties – leveraging volunteer power to directly improve the trail use experience.
 - **Recreation Experience**, Signage Install, user group communications and coordination. Enhancing user experience through active communication and project management.
 - **Adopt a Trail** – FOCF, around Fall Creek -
 - **Fall Creek Projects:**
 - Little Larch Alternate - 2024 will focus on the creation of a new trail which will be a green/flow style trail parallel to existing LLMT trail.
 - Squatchit – **New Connector** – Green Line to Level Up – The final new trail included in 2017 DNR SEPA plan. Two bridge or culvert creek crossing are involved which require additional planning, funding, and DNR support to construct. This project is on hold based on future logging in area. Future plan for trail includes routing all the way towards capital peak and the C-Line.
 - **Dedicated skills area** with green to blue progressive features – We have identified a suitable zone immediately adjacent to the Fall Creek Parking area for skill development trails and features.
 - Rebuild logged sections of trails. Our working forest.
 - **North Slope Projects:**
 - **Livin the Dream Extension** – This new trail is in construction extending off LTD to cross A Line further down the mountain. Machine built in the clear cut and hand build below A line to connect to the bottom of Stormy/Bowfinger exit.
 - **Blue Technical Skills area** at Scoby Top adjacent to A line road
 - This is proposed blue trail and skills area. There are 3 blue trails at North Slope versus 5 black trails. This aims to create a better balance for all skill levels.
 - **Upper Scoby Re-route** – Create a re-route for Scoby to keep the upper section rideable during upcoming Chai Timber harvest. Referenced as the double black/technical trail on map adjacent to LTD start point.
 - **Parking Area Development:** DNR Design/Build – FOCF will support and coordinate with this DNR project to construct a suitable staging and parking area at A-Line entrance right past the ORV park. This project is currently in design and development at DNR. Logging should occur during 2024 followed by DNR parking area development.
 - Rebuild logged sections of trails. Our working forest.
 - Kaiser Woods Park – FOCF is supporting the development of a brand new City of Olympia park. Located on the west side of Olympia, it will include the development of mountain bike specific trails for a wide variety of skills. Visit the engage Olympia website for more information:
 - <https://engage.olympiawa.gov/kaiser-woods-bike-park>

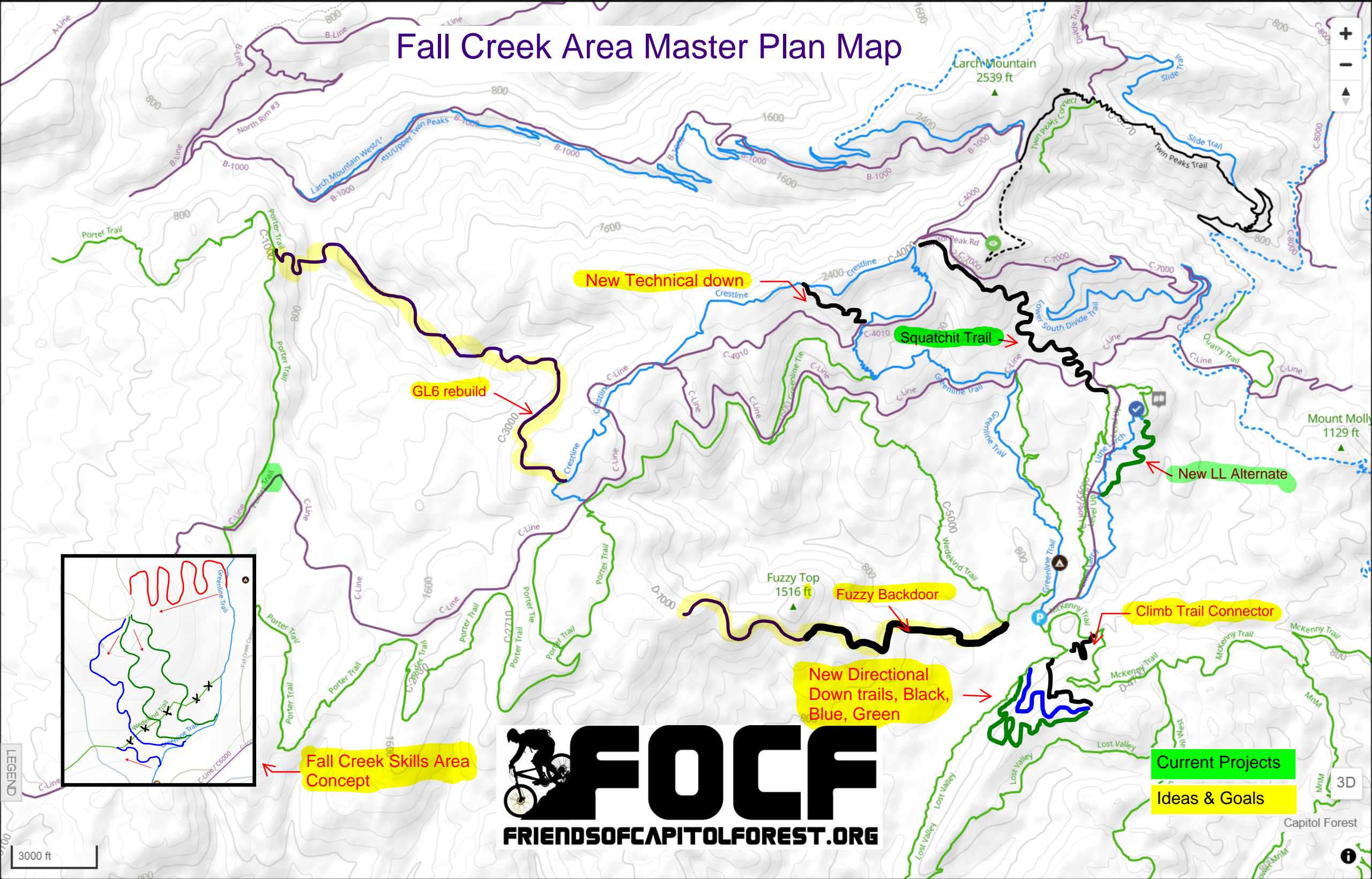


- Yelm Highway Community park – FOCF is supporting the development of another brand new City of Olympia park. Currently in the design phase, FOCF has suggested the inclusion of an asphalt pump track at this location. Learn more about this park at the City of Olympia Parks and Recreation website.
 - https://www.olympiawa.gov/services/parks_recreation/parks_trails/yelm_highway_community_park.php



- **Long Term: Master Plan, IDEAS & GOALS -**
 - **Trails:**
 - NS - Lower Low Key – extend the current top section of this trail to the bottom of the grade. Will require a bridge/creek crossing. 2024 update, SEPA and bridge project being coordinated with DNR.
 - NS - This is a lower connector which would tie the two sides of North slope together much like Loki does for the top. This would also provide infrastructure for future downhill direction trails.
 - FC – Lost Valley new directional Down trails with green, blue, black progression. These trails with the addition of a climbing connector will create more recreational harmony with trail users interacting in this zone. Multidirectional up route with dedicated down trails to minimize speed differential between bike/run/horse recreation.
 - FC – New black alternate down/technical trail from Crestline to intersection of Greenline trail after road crossing.
 - FC - “Fuzzy Back Door” - From Fall Creek to Fuzzy Top – Abandoned Road to Trail Conversion
 - FC - “GL6” - Rebuild & Reroute previously abandoned old Green Line#6 from above Wedakind Camp down to Porter. This will create a loop route from the Porter camp parking area which supports Grays Harbor access.
 - Reroutes
 - Directional separations in high use trails with mixed users.
 - Road to trail separations
 - **Infrastructure:**
 - Parking turnouts
 - Bridges
 - Shelters, kiosks, signage, education
 - Water sources
 - **Forest Management:**
 - Sustainability – year round trail use, erosion control and mitigations.
 - Leave tree corridors – Prioritize and create within constraints of overall forest management goals.
 - Support Critical habitats/diversity of Forest
 - Wildlife restoration projects

Fall Creek Area Master Plan Map



New Technical down

GL6 rebuild

Squatchit Trail

New LL Alternate

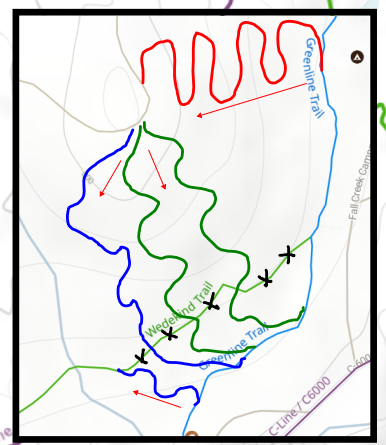
Fuzzy Backdoor

Climb Trail Connector

New Directional Down trails, Black, Blue, Green

Fall Creek Skills Area Concept

Current Projects
Ideas & Goals

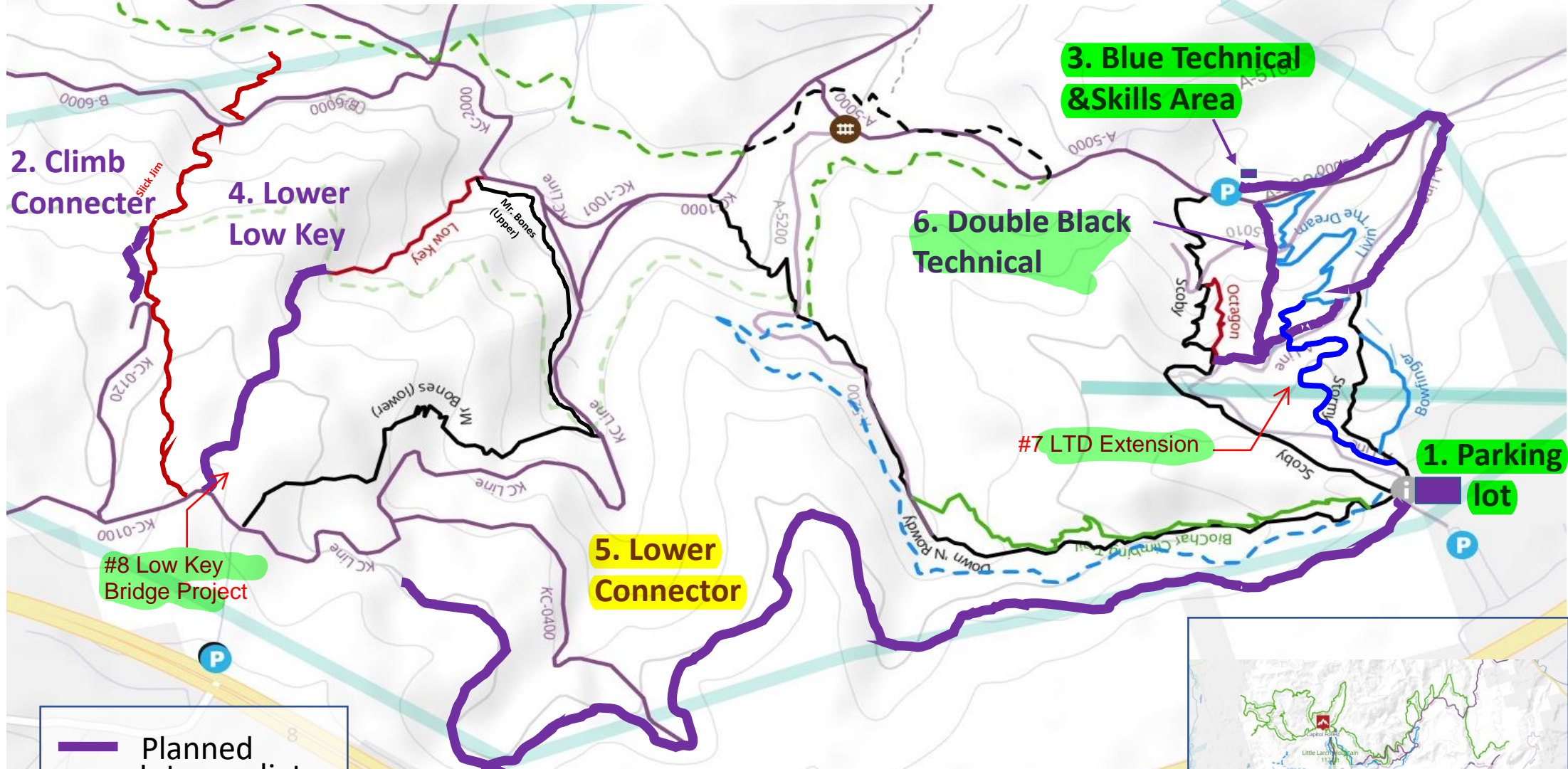


3000 ft

Capitol Forest

3D

North Slope Area Master Plan Map



— Planned
— Intermediate
— Advanced
— Expert
 Solid=MTB specific
 Dashed = multi use



Inset Area

Current Projects
Ideas & Goals