

# CENTRAL VERMONT PUBLIC SERVICE CORP.

## ARNOLD FALLS PROJECT

FERC NO. 2399

### RECREATION PLAN

#### INTRODUCTION

Article 411 of the license for the Arnold Falls Hydroelectric Project requires a recreation plan. The plan is detailed in Figure 1.

#### PLAN DETAILS

- 1) The canoe portage trail is shown on Figure 1.
- 2) An interpretive sign will be located as shown on Figure 1. Proposed layout of the interpretive sign is shown in Figure 2.
- 3) Directional and warning signs detailed in Figure 3 will be installed as shown in Figure 1.
- 4) A public access area for bank fishing and viewing has been proposed to the Town of St. Johnsbury across the Moose River from Fred Mold Park as shown on Figure 1. Details of the platform are shown in Figures 4 and 5.

#### PROPERTY RIGHTS

A legal review of CVPS' property rights along the east bank of the river below the dam determined that while CVPS possessed a right of way across the property, the right of way did not entitle CVPS to perform improvements for recreational access by the general public. Furthermore, after a site visit with the representative of Vermont Forests, Parks and Recreation (VFPR), it was determined that the site was not suitable for disabled access bank fishing. As an alternative, CVPS proposes to develop the bank fishing and viewing area across the Moose River from Fred Mold Park several hundred feet downstream of the dam, on land owned by the town. If the platform is constructed, the Beautification Committee of St. Johnsbury has offered to landscape the land around the platform making it an extension of the park. The platform has been approved by the Selectmen and is supported by the Planning Commission of the Town of St. Johnsbury.

In an agreement with VFPR, CVPS has agreed to work with the landowner to stabilize the trail over the bank utilized by fishermen at CVPS' original proposed location for bank fishing. At a meeting on May 31, 1995, the landowner agreed to let CVPS install concrete block stairs provided that the site is not advertised.

CVPS now owns in fee the island across which the portage passes.

#### ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BOARD COMPLIANCE

The recreational plan was developed using the guidelines of the Universal Access to Outdoor Recreation: A Design Guide, 1993 PLAE, Inc. Berkeley, California. The Design Guide was created with help from the USDA Forest Service and the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board to help designers of outdoor recreation areas comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and was given to CVPS by the Green Mountain National Forest for use in designing recreation areas at licensed hydroelectric facilities.

The bank fishing and viewing platform was designed using the dimensions and features suggested by the Design Guide.

#### EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

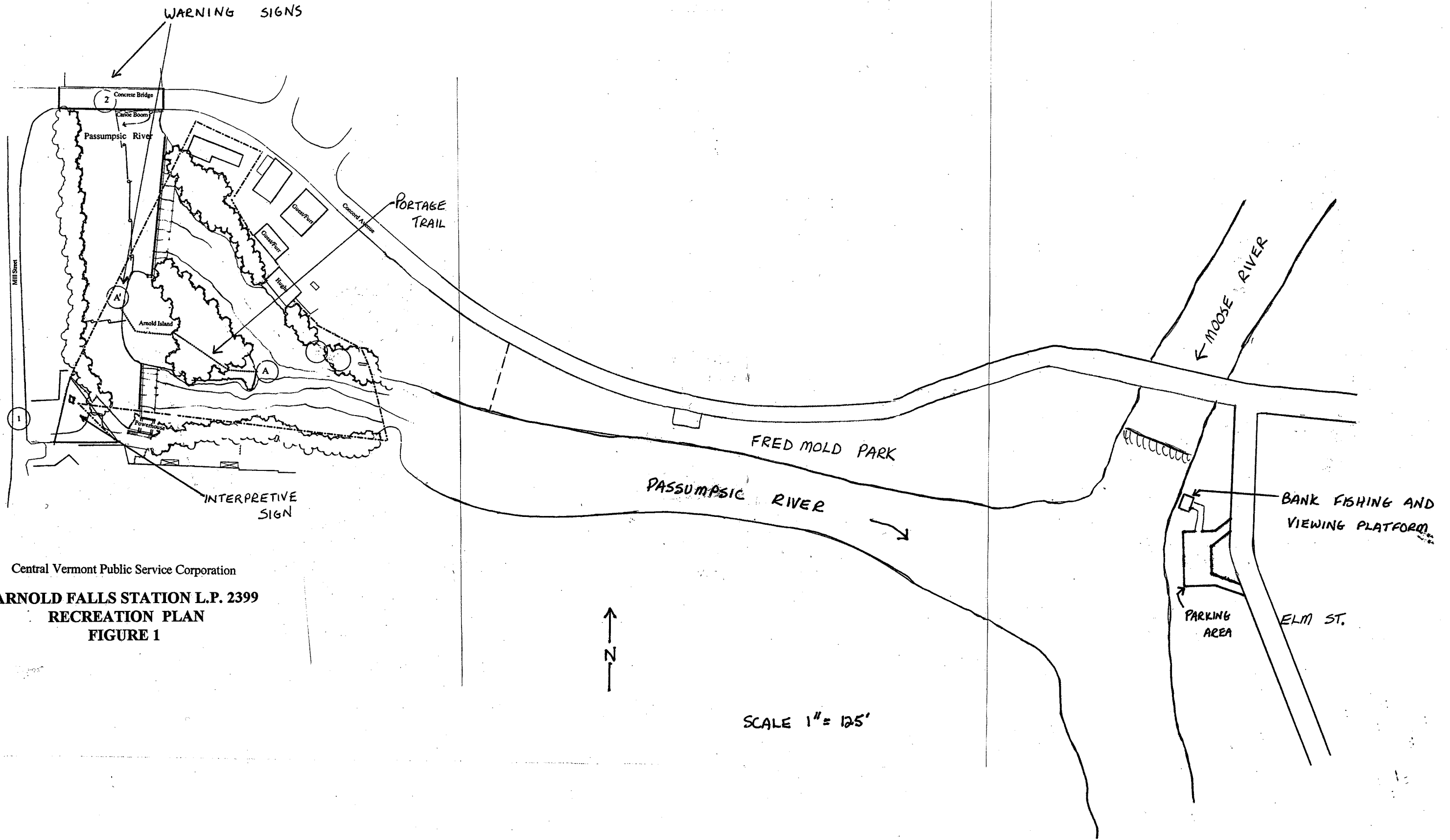
The canoe portage utilizes an existing trail that is not subject to erosion. The only activity requiring ground disturbance is the bank fishing platform. In this case gravel will be brought in to build the item and large stone will be used to protect the bank. Excavation of existing topsoil is not contemplated, thus erosion and sediment transport should not be a concern. The gravel will be packed and contoured to prevent any erosion. CVPS is proposing to not submit a detailed erosion control plan per Article 401 for recreational facilities.

#### ENTITY RESPONSIBLE FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The CVPS operating personnel that take of the hydroelectric station operation will see to the operation and maintenance of the canoe portage facilities. CVPS has proposed to the Town that the entity that takes care of the park should take care of the bank fishing platform. CVPS will take responsibility for major repairs to the facility however.

#### IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

The portage trail requires no further work. Installation of the signs will be within 90 days of the receipt of the plan's approval. Construction of the bank fishing and viewing platform is dependent on approval of the plans by the Town of St. Johnsbury and the FERC and therefore is scheduled for the summer of 1996.



Central Vermont Public Service Corporation  
**ARNOLD FALLS STATION L.P. 2399**  
**RECREATION PLAN**  
**FIGURE 1**

SCALE 1" = 125'

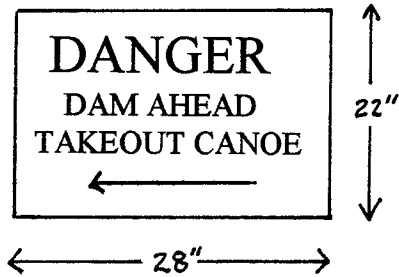
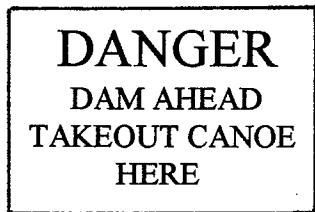
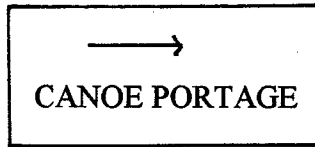
**ARNOLD FALLS STATION L.P. 2399  
RECREATION PLAN  
FIGURE 2  
INTERPRETIVE SIGN**

**The Arnold Falls hydroelectric station was built in 1928 by the Twin State Gas & Electric Company following the 1927 flood which did extensive damage to a "small and old station" on the north bank of the river. The facility, together with the Pierce Mills and Passumpsic hydroelectric stations meet the National Register of Historic Places definition of a historic district because they are united historically by design and by physical development. Each station is compact, barely (but sufficiently) large enough to accommodate a single generating unit, with brick exterior walls, flat roof, and large, round-arched wall openings typical of utility designs in the 1920s.**

**The facility which is owned and operated by Central Vermont Public Service Company still generates in excess of 1.5 million kilowatt hours of electricity per year, enough to supply approximately 125 homes. Up to 262 cubic feet per second of water powers one vertical shaft propeller unit, rated at approximately 350 kilowatts.**

**The project is operated under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and was issued a new forty year license in 1994.**

ARNOLD FALLS STATION L.P. 2397  
RECREATION PLAN  
FIGURE 3 - SIGNS

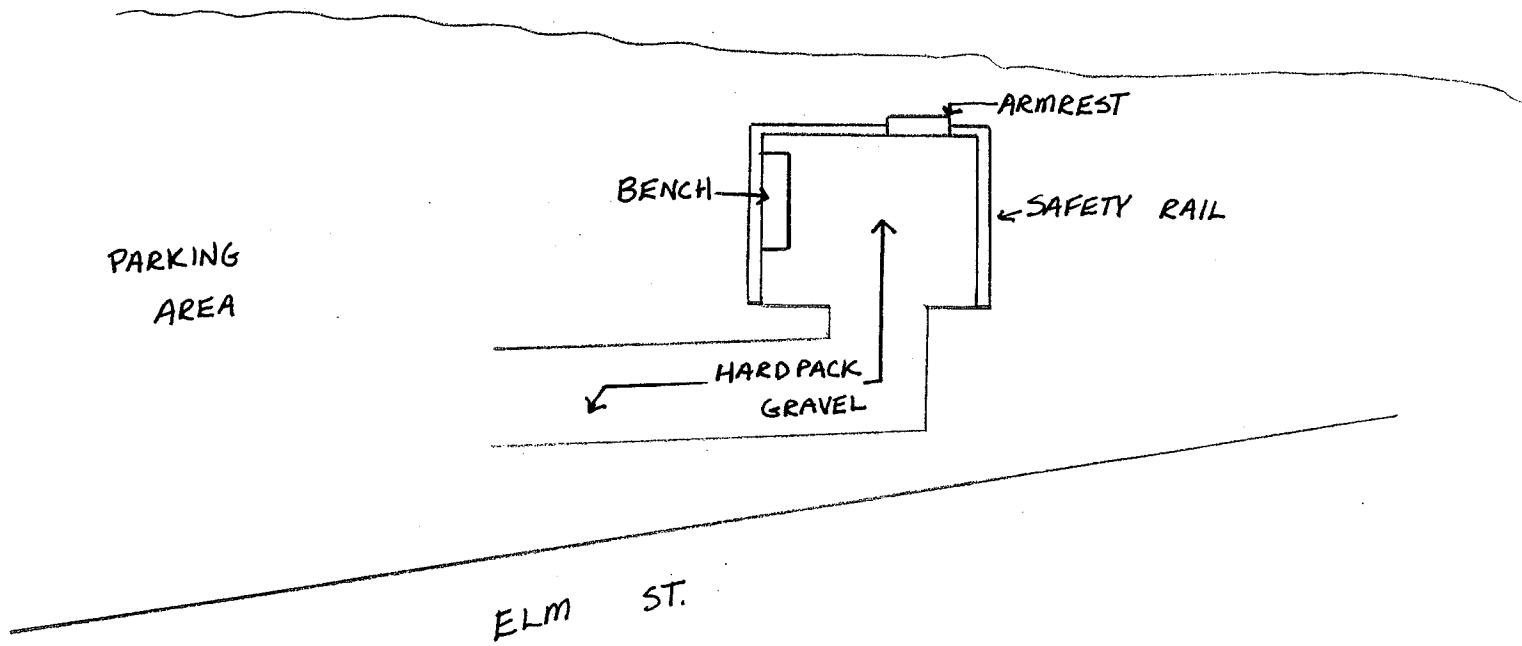


ARNOLD FALLS STATION L.P. 2399  
RECREATION PLAN  
FIGURE 4

BANK VIEWING AND FISHING  
PLATFORM

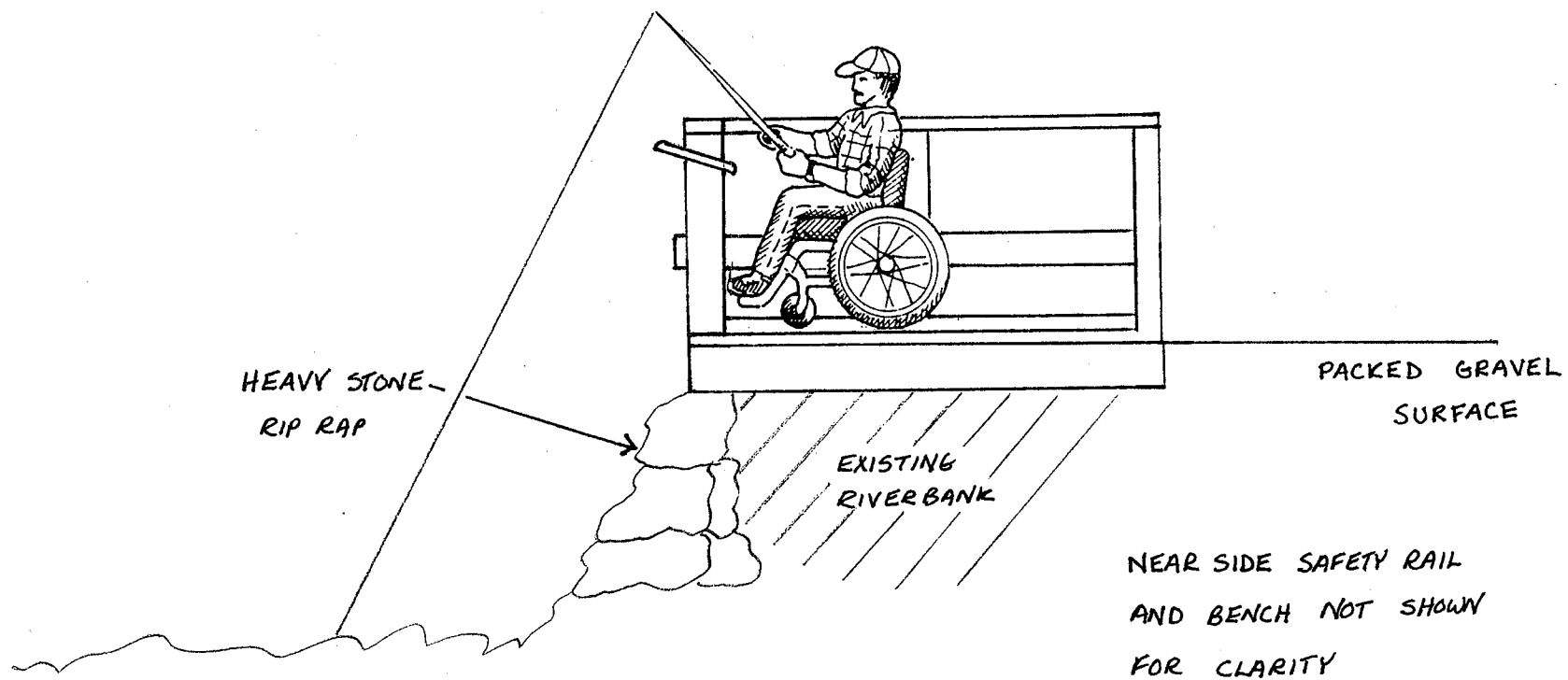


MOOSE RIVER  
← FLOW



SCALE 1" = 8'

ARNOLD FALLS STATION L.P. 2399  
RECREATION PLAN  
FIGURE 5



APPROX. SCALE 1"=3'