

# FLY LINKS—AN UNIQUE ECOSYSTEM SPORT

PART FISHING. PART GOLF. ALL THE ADVENTURE. ADVOCACY OF THE SMALL BUT MIGHTY.  
“A NEW EXPERIENCE IN THE WONDERMENT OF FISHING”

**RiverSHARED.org**, Hartman Center, Horn Creek, Rochester University, City of Rogers, Hawkeye Ranch, COR Expeditions, River Master, Flow State, 3DX, Green Watershed Restoration, GEI, 5SSR

Curt Richardson, Max Linder, Brad Fairley, Matt Kondratieff, Ashley Ficke, Mike Geenen, Greg Taillacq, Ken Lai, Basith Weerasundara, Cliff Sunda, Greg Jennings, Chris Freiburger, John Chapman, John Curry, Shane Trotter, Matt Stahman, Rich Berkey, Abigail Bidelspach, Dave Geenen, Bruce Hankee, George Kelly and Many Others

Presenting Today:

David Bidelspach

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# Fly Links Sustainability

**Fly Links** can be molded onto any property that has been restored using the practices we are all familiar with.

This Idea was a gift from “God” that was shared from a friend of RiverSHARED in 2019 on a ranch in CO/WY. The landowner had a dream for a missional relationships created through fishing for various species as a sport (“Fly Fishing Golf”)

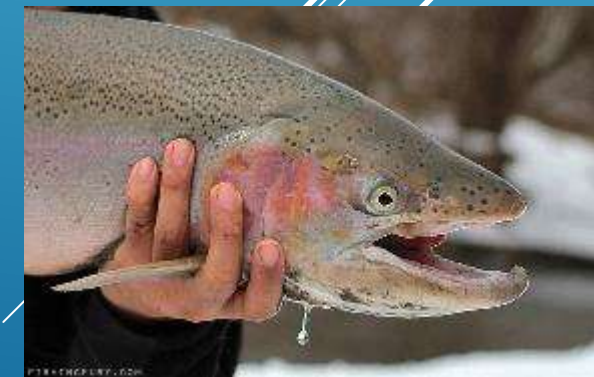
We believe that un-like a traditional Golf Course **Fly Links** courses could be designed to have no negative impact on the sustainability of restored areas.

- ▶ Happy Ecosystem, No Footprint!

If you take the **Fly Links** out, you still have a natural native fishery with a health Ecosystem.

- ▶ Happy Fish

Our Focus is on restoring wonderment in fishing while promoting native ecosystems and being an advocate for native small bodies species. The course will also enjoy wonderment of large bodied fish that are traditional considered trophy fish



Do you like fishing?

Do you like catching fish?

What is a Trophy caliber fish?





# Do you remember the wonderment?





# FISH SPECIES OF INTEREST

THERE ARE A LOT OF NATIVE FISH



▶ Gasterostidae (Stickleback):

- ▶ **Brooke Stickleback**

▶ Cyprinidae (minnow):

- ▶ **Stoneroller**
- ▶ **Southern Redbelly Dace**
- ▶ **Longnose Dace**
- ▶ **Flathead Chub**
- ▶ **Suckermouth Minnow**
- ▶ **Plains Minnow**
- ▶ **Red Shiner**
- ▶ **Bigmouth Shiner**
- ▶ **Sand Shiner**
- ▶ **Golden Shiner**
- ▶ **Grass Carp**
- ▶ **Arkansas River Shiner**

• Clupeidae (Herring):

- **Gizzard Shad**

• Catostomidae (Suckers):

- **White Sucker**
- **Longnose Sucker**

• Cottidae (sculpin):

- **Mottled Sculpin**

• Percidae (Darters):

- **Arkansas Darter**

• Salmonidae (Trout):

- **Greenback Cutthroat – Upper Large Pond Management**
- **Brown Trout – Horn Creek Lower Restoration and Management**
- **Brooke Trout – Horn Creek Restoration**





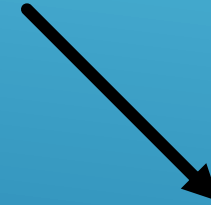
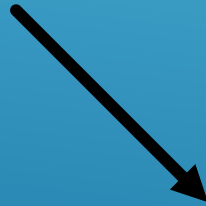
Imagine... all this caught in 4 hours or less!





Imagine a place that provides the opportunity to fish it all!

Warm → Cold → Warm → Cold



HOW COULD YOU PROVIDE SOMEONE THAT EXPERIENCE?

IN WHAT MEANS CAN YOU GUIDE A FISHERMAN IN A  
WAY THAT PROVIDES MULTIPLE FISHING  
OPPORTUNITIES OVER MULTIPLE PONDS AND  
SECTIONS OF RIVER? ... AND IN 4 HOURS OR LESS?

A golf course layout presents a perfectly unique opportunity to guide a fisherman through a property with multiple fishing options.



# Why a golf course layout works well with a multi-species fish ranch

Fishing is different based on target species



Each hole in golf is a new challenge

Fishing is a journey through nature



Golf is a journey surrounded by nature

Creating your own adventure!

Fishing can be a whole day's event.



Creating your own adventure!

Golf is a structured scheduled event.

# PARALLELS SHOW HOW A GOLF COURSE LAYOUT IS PERFECT FOR A MULTI-SPECIES CONCEPT

Incorporating ideas from one or both sides of these parallels can create some wonderment and maybe even magic!

- ▶ Holes can now be based on type of fishing
- ▶ A journey through nature allows for wonderment and awe of its beauty
- ▶ Provides structure and control for and of its participants...

No longer a whole day's event.

...And a concept is born



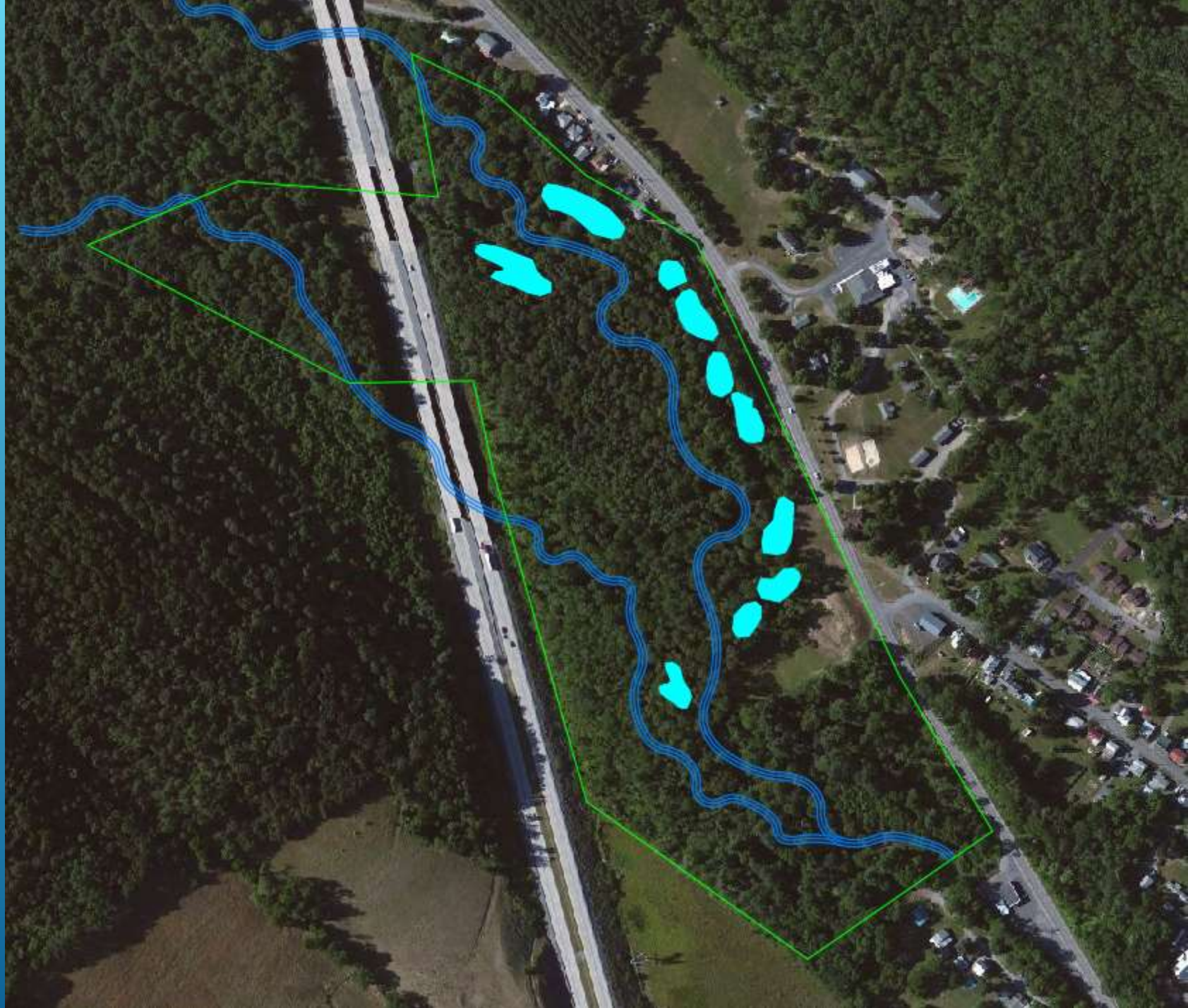
## The Concept Explained:

Hartman Center Property  
Central PA. Former Kids  
Summer Camp

A newly restored stream  
whose water can support a  
trophy cold-water fishery and  
whose new oxbow ponds can  
support trophy warm-water  
fisheries.

Fish from both water types are  
present on the same property  
and ready to be caught!

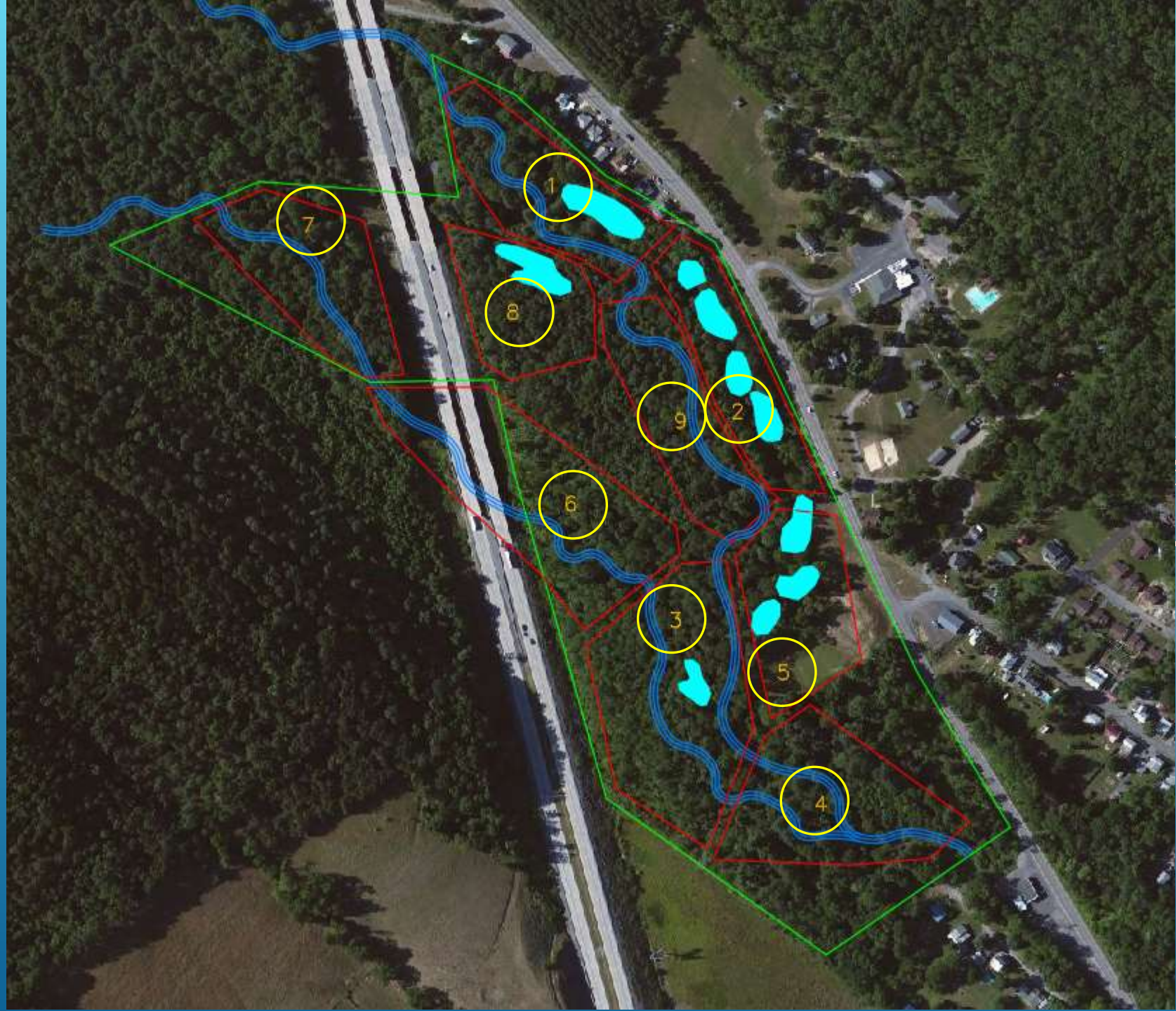
How can we ensure a  
fisherman gets a chance at  
every hole?





We divvy up the fishing spots into groups which can be thought of as “holes”.

If we label each hole numerically, we can create a path for fishermen to follow around the property... enabling them every opportunity for a hook-up while they create their own adventure along the way.



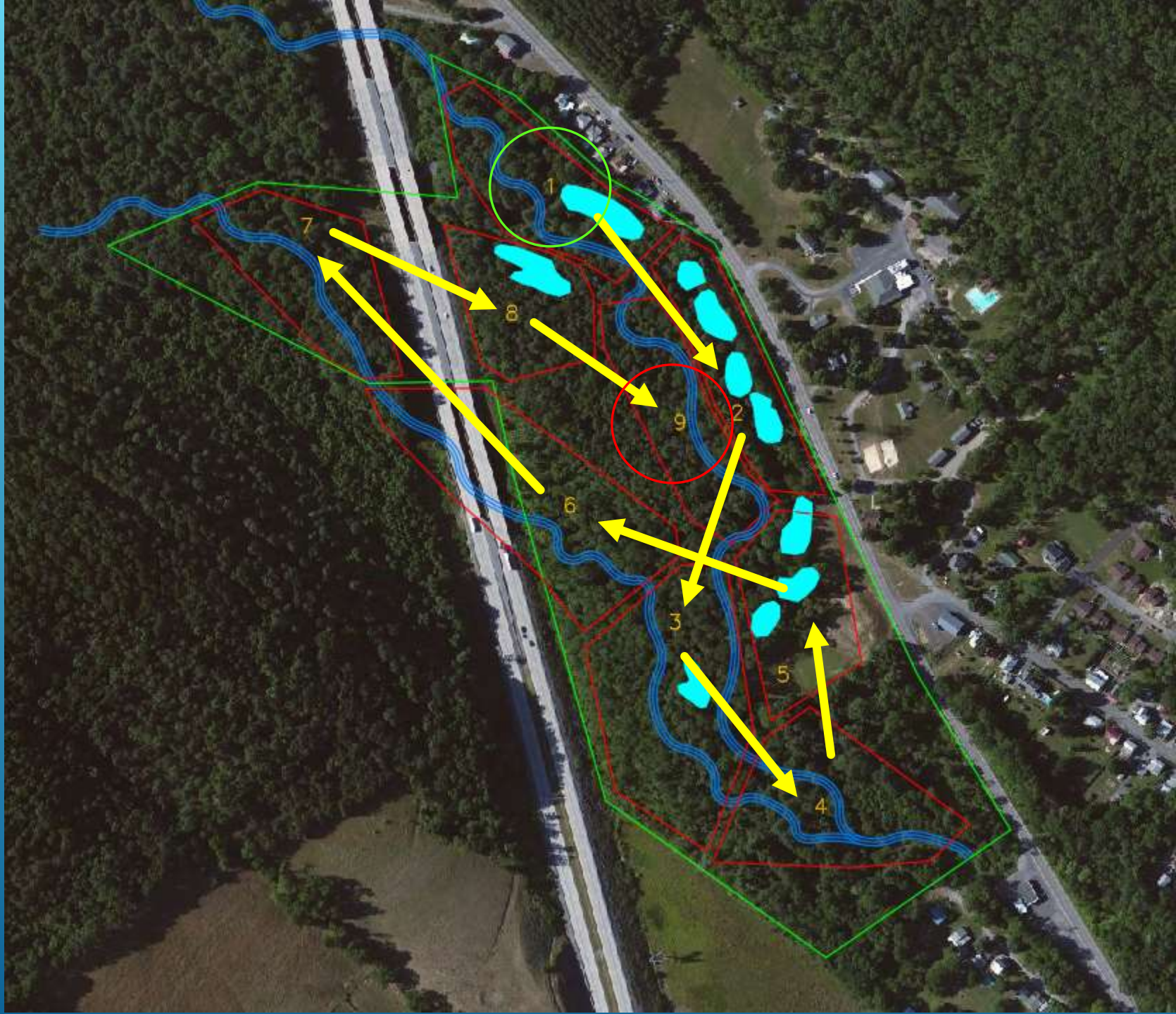


The path to tight lines, bent rods,  
and fish landed!

A path that provides an  
incredible fishing adventure in  
less than a day!

Holes **1 (Start)** – **9 (End)**

What are you left with?





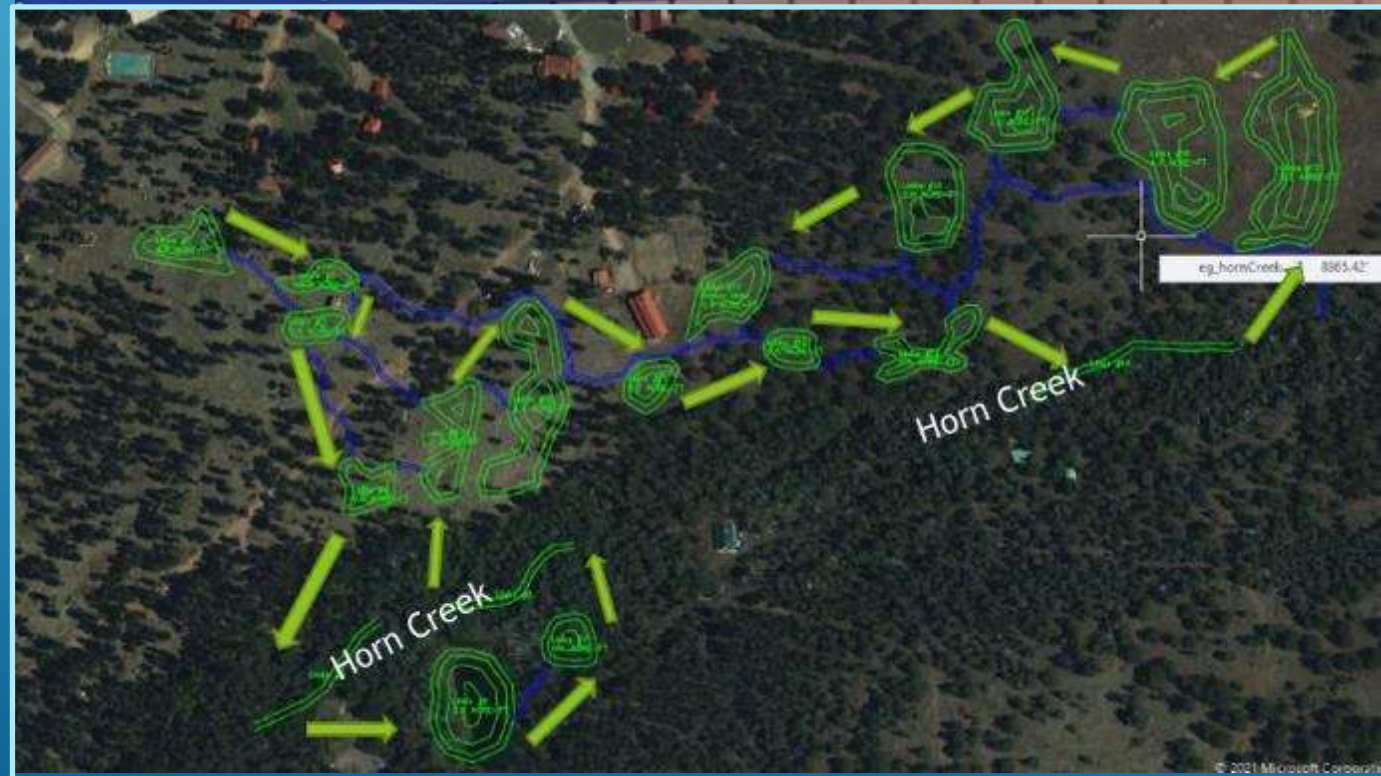
## The Concept Explained:

Horn Creek Property  
Central CO – Family Camp

Horn Creek Reservoir 20 acre-foot tank on an alluvial fan

Fly Links – Concept of 16 holes for 24.4 acre-feet combined water storage managed for many species including conservation species

How can we ensure a family experiences wonderment and gets a chance to experience every hole





## The Concept Explained:

Rochester University Property  
Eastern MI – University

Clinton River, Educational Center, Out  
reach and Trails

Fly Links – Concept of 9 holes potential  
for expansion into 18 holes. Managed  
for many species including conservation  
species

Creating a sport of **Fly Links** as a family  
and community experiences  
wonderment and gets a chance to  
experience every hole. 319 Grants

Fly Links Course – Municipal Course City  
of Rochester Hills

Create new fishing techniques including  
Trophy creation (Iphone 13)





The Concept Explained:

Hawkeye Ranch and COR Expeditions

South Fork Shoshone River

Fly Links – Concept of 9 holes potential for expansion into 18 holes. Managed for many species including conservation species

Creating a sport of **Fly Links** an adventure of wonderment experiences for college age students and retreats of all ages – This will take significant time





- ▶ RiverSHARED training course with Rochester University and Other locations
- ▶ Create new flying techniques and training
- ▶ Create Trophy and Scoring Technology (Maybe I-phone 13)
- ▶ Fly Links Courses with Public Partnerships verses privately owned and operated courses
- ▶ Mitigation areas for Streams and Wetlands repurposed into Fly Links
- ▶ 319 Education and Demonstration Opportunity
- ▶ RiverSHARED Networked training facilities (Colorado, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, Arkansas, Alabama, Texas and Where Else?)
- ▶ Other?

DREAM – NEXT STEPS

- ▶ Improvements
- ▶ Ideas
- ▶ Comments
- ▶ Would you be willing to help with the dream?
- ▶ Would you be willing to help with a similar dream in a different Region?

THOUGHTS COMMENTS

MORE INTEREST PLEASE CONTACT DAVID BIDELSPACH 919-218-0864 ( [DAVE@FIVESSR.COM](mailto:DAVE@FIVESSR.COM) )