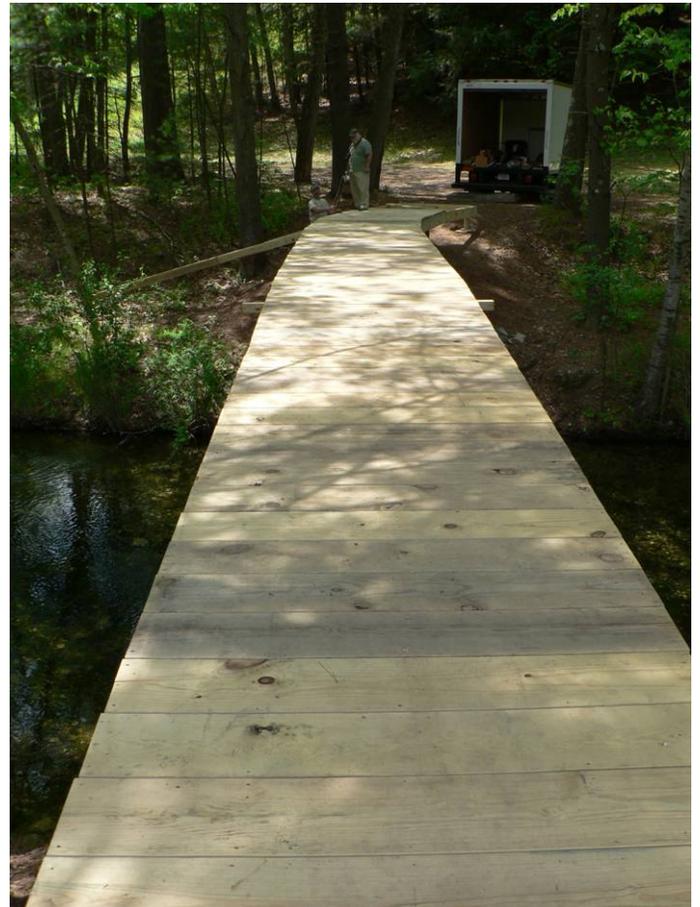


DCR Division of Water Supply Protection SWIFT RIVER BRIDGE MODIFICATION SUMMER, 2008



The original bridge was completed in the Summer of 2007 by members of the Student Conservation Crew (SCA) members, who assisted DCR/DWSP personnel with construction of the bridge across the Swift River Discharge Channel (above). The bridge linked hiking trails near Quabbin Reservoir severed by security zones instituted after 9/11, providing a crossing for hikers and fishermen. While the arch design provided a majestic look, it did not meet accessibility criteria. The original project and the subsequent modifications were funded through a grant by the DCR Recreation Trails Program.



With support from DCR Universal Access Landscape Architect Kathy Lowry, Quabbin Section Carpenter Al Detour (above) developed plans for redesigning the bridge to meet accessibility needs while maintaining the aesthetics of the structure. The retrofit project began in the Spring of 2008, as original planking was removed and then joists were added to maintain a level grade across the bridge before it was re-decked (right).



The original arch trusses were used to support the new joists. Posts for hand rails were added at intervals across the structure.



Top railings were added to meet code (above), and then finished off with balusters and caps (above right). Soil was added at either end to make the approach to the bridge level. Wood chips were also added for landscaping and to reduce erosion problems. The height of the bridge above the river allows unimpeded access for anglers who patrol this section of the river in search of trout (right).



DIVISION OF WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION

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