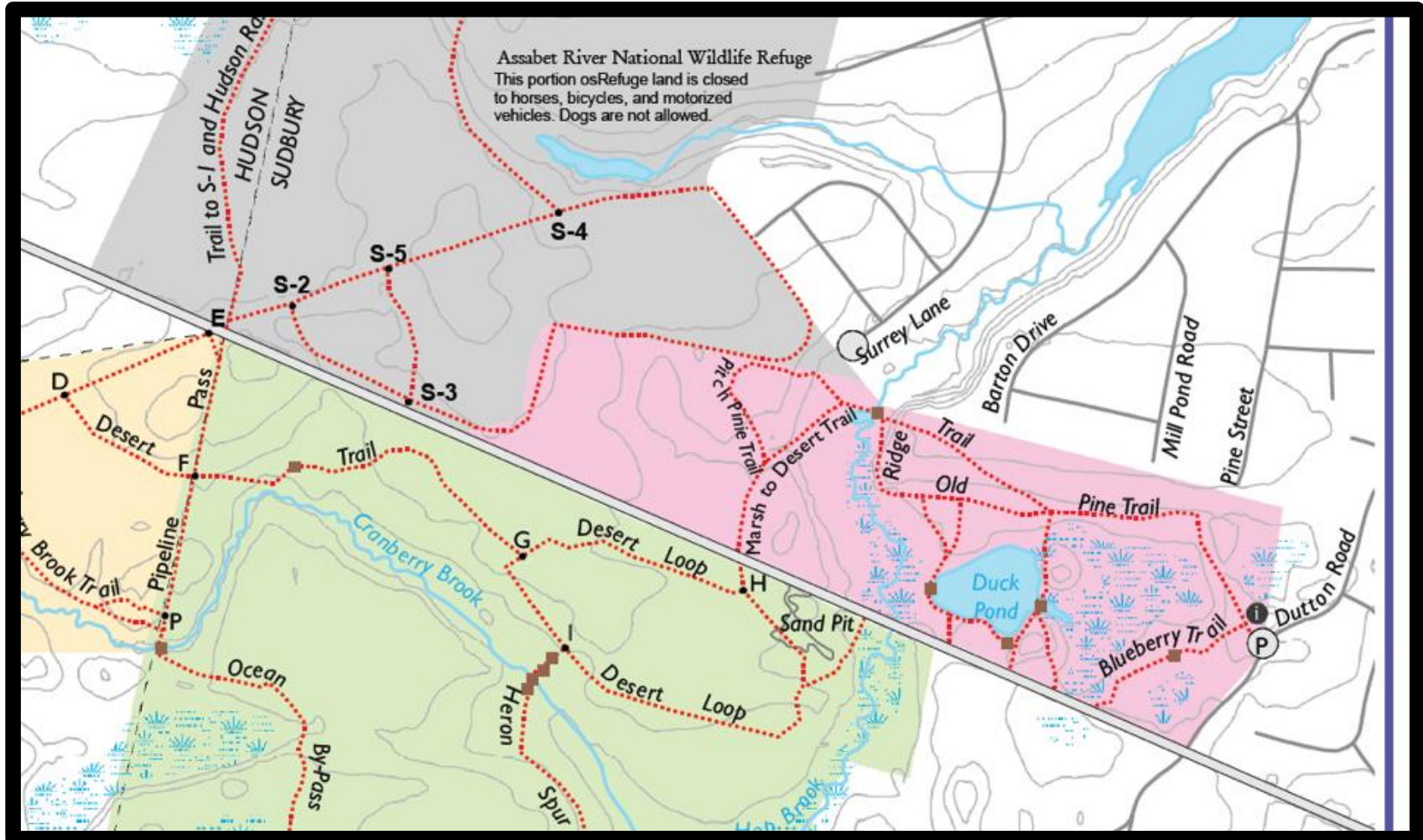


# Hop Brook Marsh and Memorial Forest – accessible connections to the Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT)

Sudbury Planning & Community Development Office  
and the Rail Trails Advisory Committee application

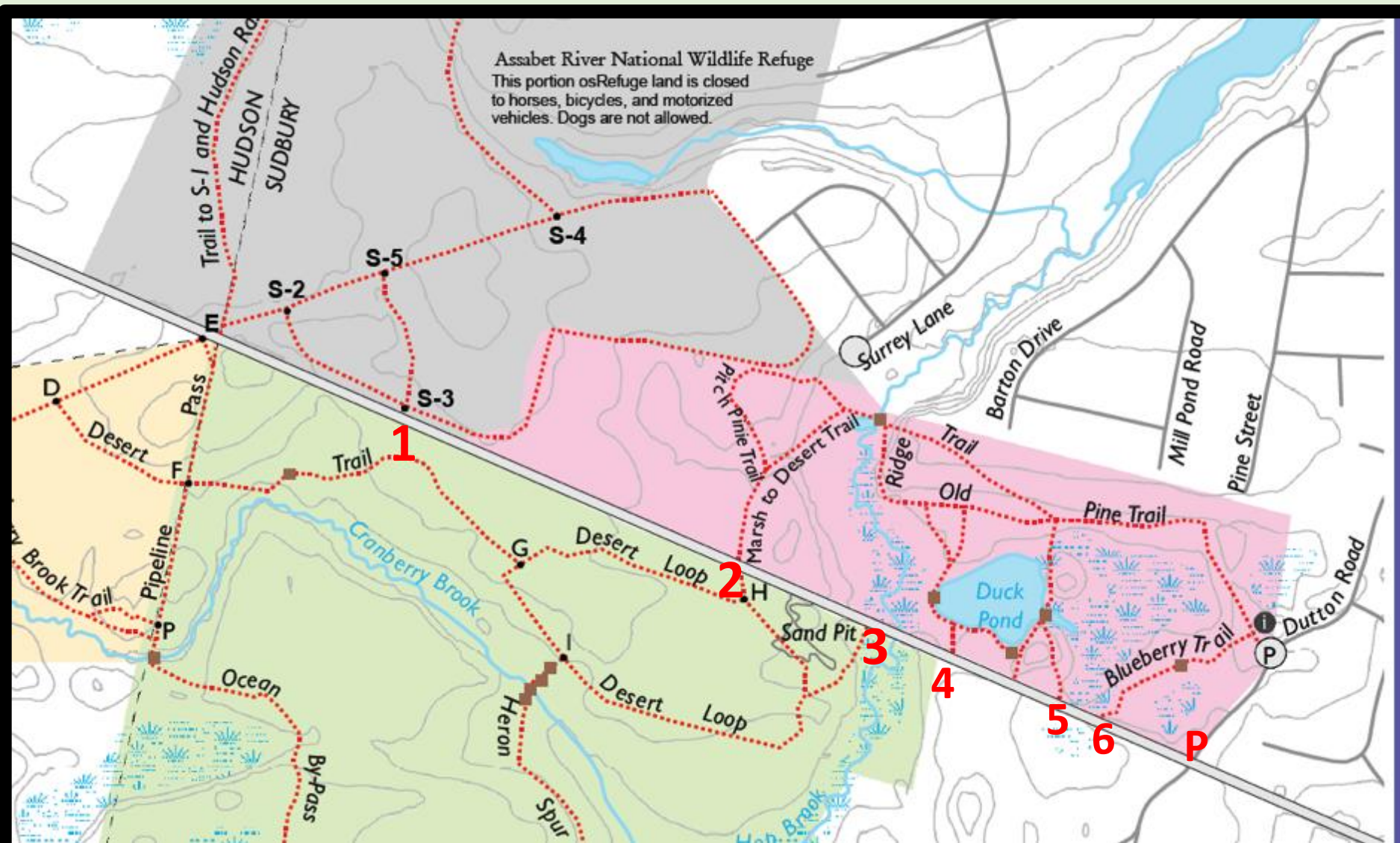
For the Community Preservation Committee meeting  
December 10, 2025

# Conservation areas west of Dutton Rd – a unique resource in the community



# Areas are currently inaccessible to persons with mobility limitations

- Closest accessible parking for the MCRT is 2 miles east at Union Ave. (the Diamond Intersection)
- Main trails in this area are challenging for access due to sandy soils, tree roots, and elevation changes
- The MCRT provides a new accessible connection from Dutton Rd. to existing main trails on public and private land via half-mile of 10 ft. wide paved trail
- This project builds upon this amenity to provide access to open space and recreation on public land for all Sudbury residents and visitors



- 1 – SVT maintenance access gate
- 2 – Design accessible path from MCRT to Desert area, continuing to 3 (0.3 miles)
- 4- Design and build accessible path from MCRT to Duck Pond (250 ft)
- 5 + 6 – trailheads (signage).      P – accessible parking (2-3 spaces) + connection to MCRT



## #2 – trail into Sudbury Valley Trustees-owned Memorial Forest Desert area

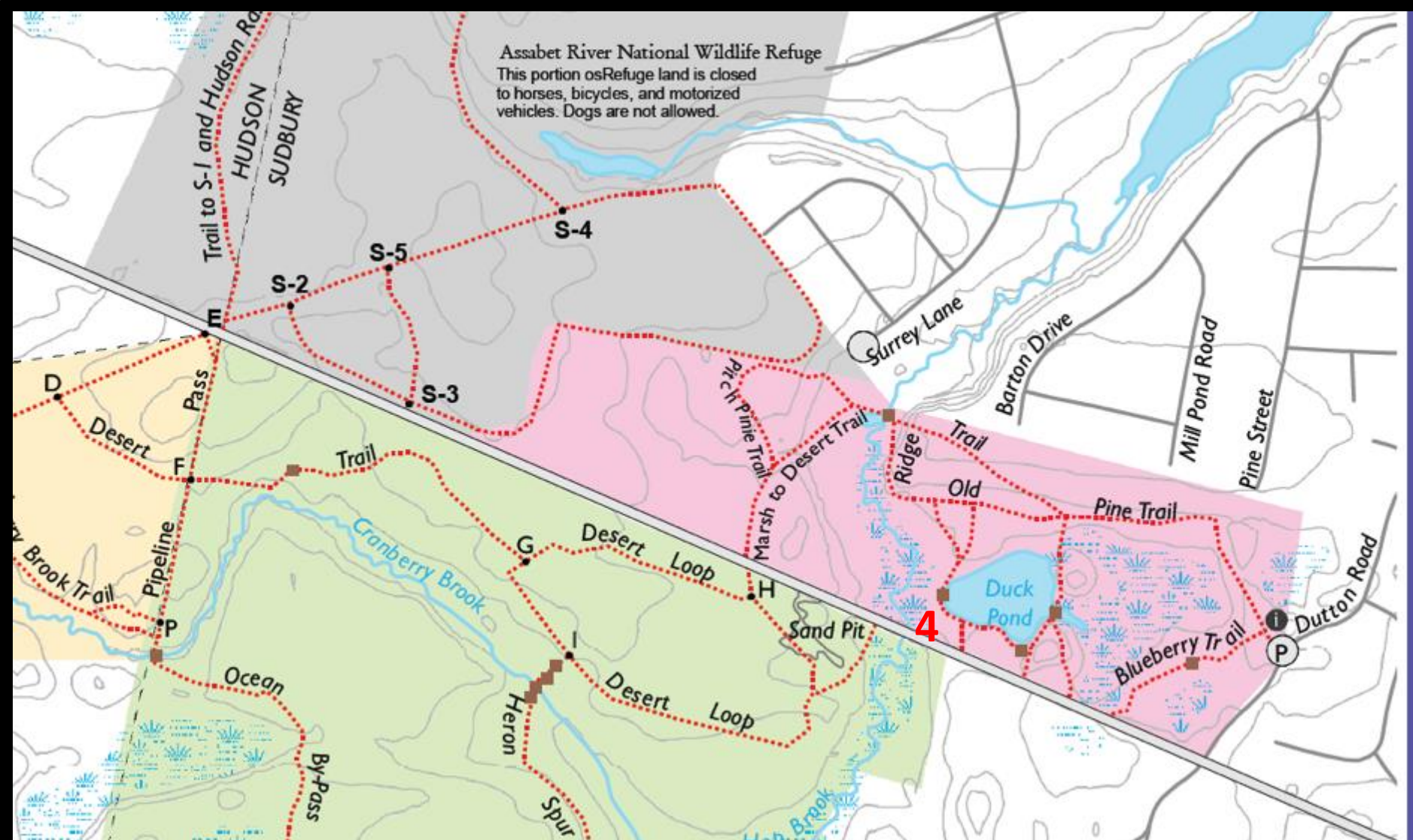




Accessible path at  
Wolbach Farm  
illustrates the type  
of walkway  
anticipated for the  
Memorial Forest.



# #4 – trail to Duck Pond in the Town-owned Hop Brook Marsh





#4 – this is the current trail to Duck Pond from the MCRT



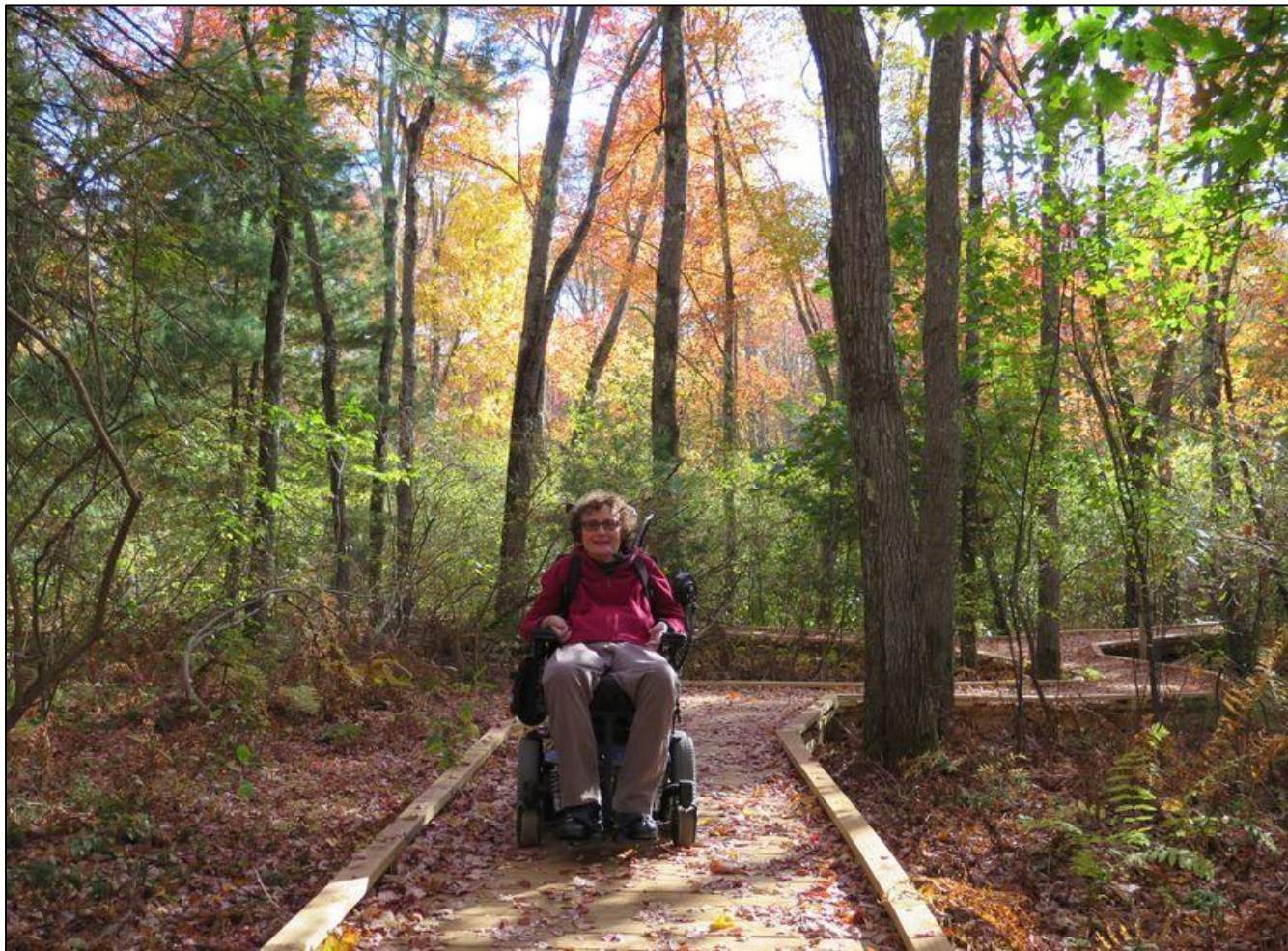


# Duck Pond in Hop Brook Marsh



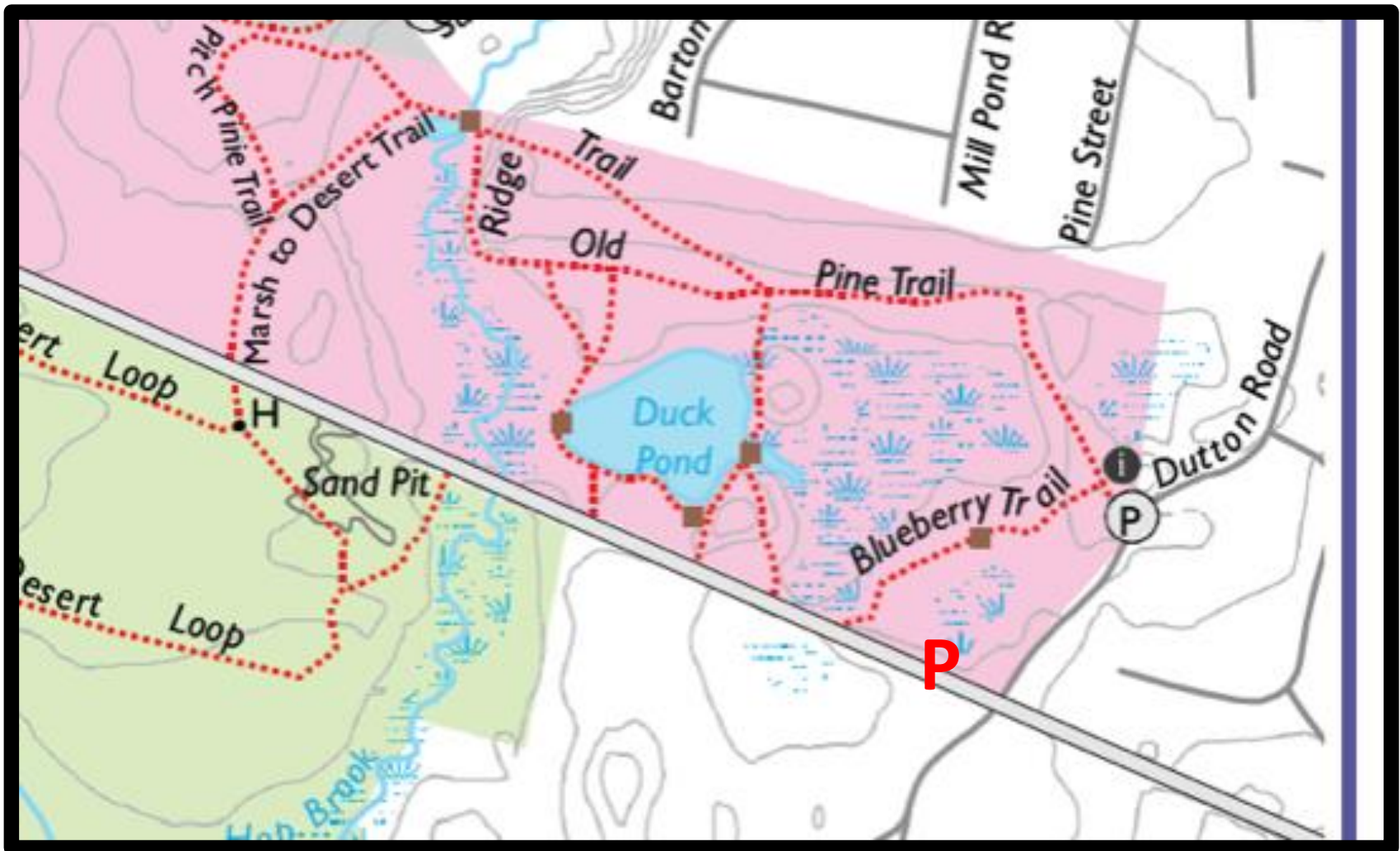


# Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge's Red Maple Trail accessible boardwalk illustrates design anticipated for Duck Pond





P - proposed parking lot and connecting trail at Dutton Rd.







MCRT

Dutton  
Rd



# Summary of CPA grant proposal:

- 1) Design, cost estimate, permitting for an accessible path to Memorial Forest and the Desert area, including an overlook at Hop Brook (SVT land) – 0.3 miles
- 2) Design and build an accessible path from the MCRT to Duck Pond (approximately 250 feet, proposed to be mostly boardwalk (Town land/Hop Brook Marsh).
- 3) Install signage for existing trails - MCRT to Hop Brook Marsh (locations 5 and 6)
- 4) Improve and pave an existing informal parking area and construct a short paved trail to connect accessible parking to the MCRT at Dutton Rd (2-3 spaces on Town and DCR land)

# Cost estimates are based on input from the Town (DPW and Conservation) and Sudbury Valley Trustees

- 1) Design, cost estimate, permitting for Memorial Forest accessible path – \$10,000
- 2) Design and build Duck Pond accessible boardwalk \$70,000
- 3) Signage for 2 existing trails in Hop Brook Marsh at MCRT - \$6000
- 4) Prepare and pave parking area and connecting trail at MCRT and Dutton Rd - \$190,000



# Why Community Preservation Act funds?

- Enhancement of open space and recreation opportunities for people of all abilities
- Consistent with prior CPA funding of rail trail construction and enhancements, and prior CPA funding of SVT land acquisition and management
- Consistent with priorities in Open Space and Recreation Plan, Land Use Priorities, and Town Master Plan
- Full support of DCR (holds lease for the MCRT ), Town Conservation Department (manages Hop Brook Reservation) and SVT
- We do intend to apply for outside funding – but Mass Trails grants and universal access grants have become uncertain in the current budget environment.