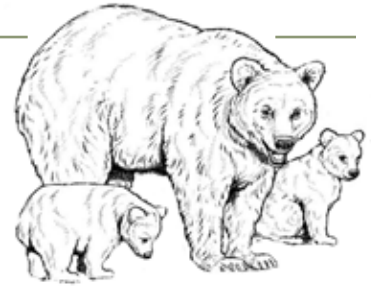


Anan Wildlife Observatory Replacement

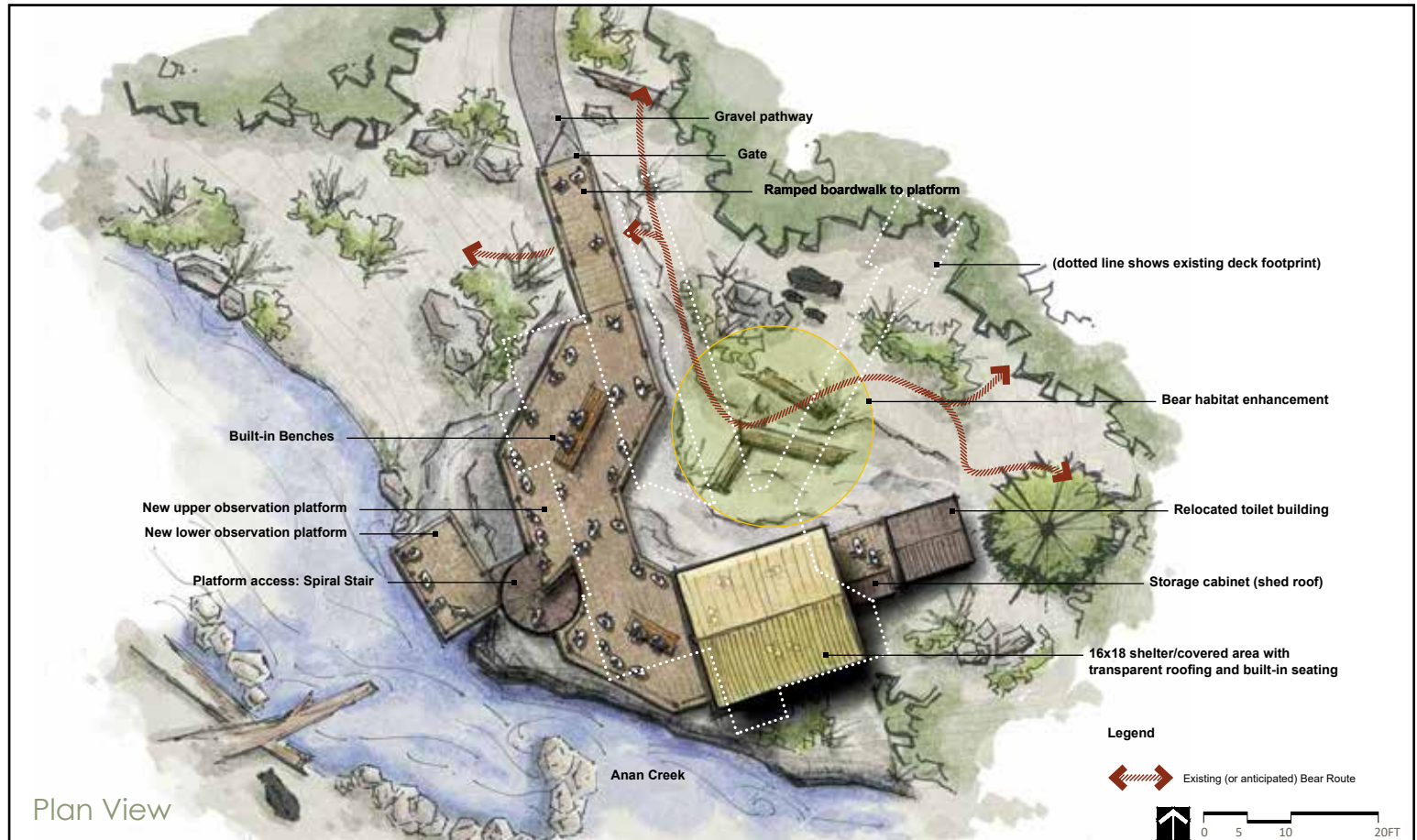


The Anan Wildlife Observatory provides a world renowned, high quality wildlife viewing experience. The earliest parts of the structure date back to the 1960's. The observatory has now reached the end of its structural lifetime and is in need of replacement. A structural evaluation indicated that it will need to be closed for safety reasons due to structural deterioration within the next 5 years unless it is reconstructed. This would have a major effect on the public and on local guide and transportation businesses in both Wrangell and Ketchikan.

The purpose of this project is to rebuild the observatory over the next 5 years to ensure the continued use and safety of the site. Due to the age and extent of decay to the structure, a rebuild rather than a renovation is the more cost-effective solution.

The proposed design is intended to accommodate up to 40 people. The existing toilet building will be relocated, and a new 16'x18' open shelter will be installed with seating and transparent roofing. Access to the lower deck will be via a spiral staircase. The design focuses on optimizing bear viewing, providing for public safety, and minimizing future maintenance.

Project Schedule



Anan Wildlife Observatory Replacement

The new structure will use western red cedar for decking and top rails. The infill within the guardrails will be chosen to minimize visual impact, with a material such as stainless steel mesh being a possible option. Seating will be wide western red cedar benches that will allow for placement of backpacks and camera equipment, in addition to seating. The shelter is placed back from the main view of bears on the creek, but will allow views up the creek. The shelter will have transparent roofing to minimize shady areas.



Existing toilet to be relocated



Timber decking



Cable mesh guardrail panels



Bird's Eye View



Photos of existing conditions