

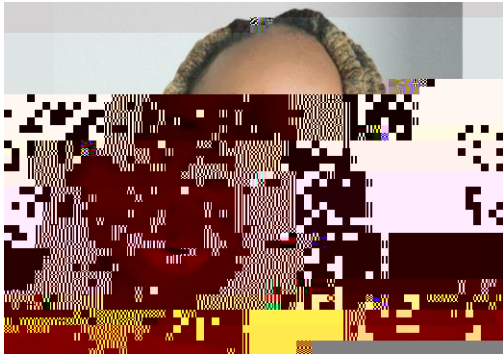
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# BULL'S NATURE TRAIL: USF FOREST PRESERVE BOARDWALK INITIATIVE

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# TEAM

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Project Lead Intern



Programs Assistant-  
ECORE System



Director of  
Conservation and  
Greenspaces-  
ECORE System



Associate Director-  
USF Outdoor REC

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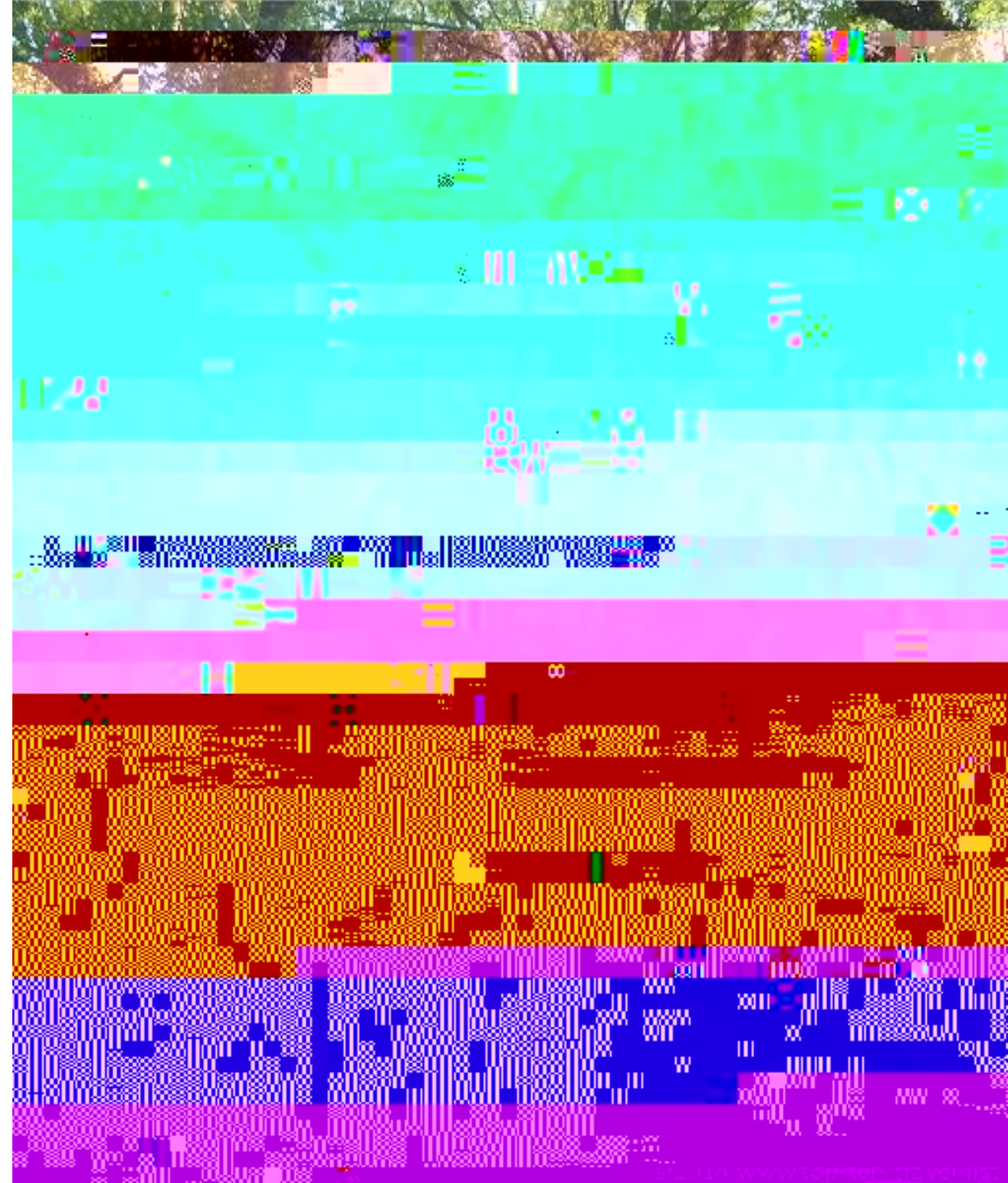
# PROJECT OVERVIEW

Location: Western edge of the USF Forest Preserve, 1.5 miles east of the main campus.

Boardwalk length: Estimated 2,700 linear feet.

Connection to existing sidewalks and trails near Claw Golf Course and Riverfront Park.

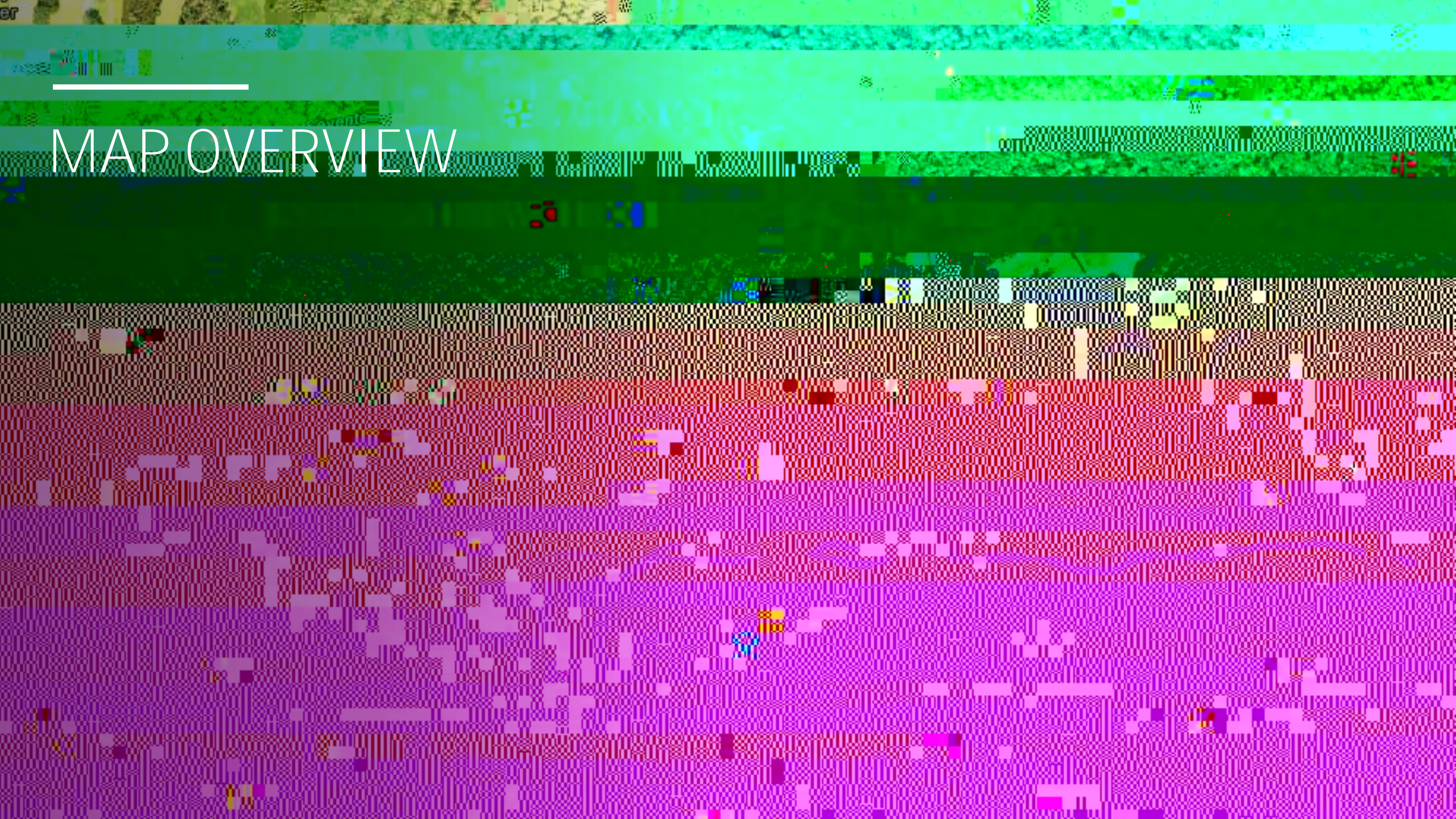
Phased 1 approach for completion, with long-term goal to establish a research class/lab and center.



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# MAP OVERVIEW

An aerial photograph of a city area, possibly a park or urban development site, with a prominent red overlay covering the lower two-thirds of the image. The red overlay is semi-transparent, revealing the underlying terrain and structures. A white horizontal bar at the top contains the text 'MAP OVERVIEW' in a large, white, sans-serif font. A thin white horizontal line is positioned above the text bar. The top edge of the image shows a dark, possibly black, border.

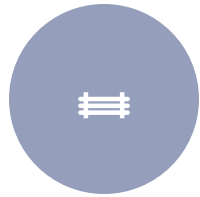


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# MAP OVERVIEW

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# PROBLEMS



: Difficult to access, despite their proximity to campus. Restricts student and community engagement with the natural environment.



: No pedestrian-friendly route, leading to over-reliance on





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# POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Preservation of sandhill uplands and wetland habitats.

Protection of biodiversity, including hundreds of protected plant species and wildlife.

Contribution to carbon sequestration efforts by maintaining forested areas.

Reduced reliance on motor vehicles by encouraging walking to the preserve.

Enhances environmental awareness and education through interactive, hands-on learning for students and the community.

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# GROWTH SUCCESS

Enhanced Educational Programs & Research Opportunities

Community Engagement

Carbon Footprint Reduction

Institutional Recognition and Reputation

# ESTIMATE BREAKDOWN

: 400 grams  
(0.4 kg) of CO2 per mile.

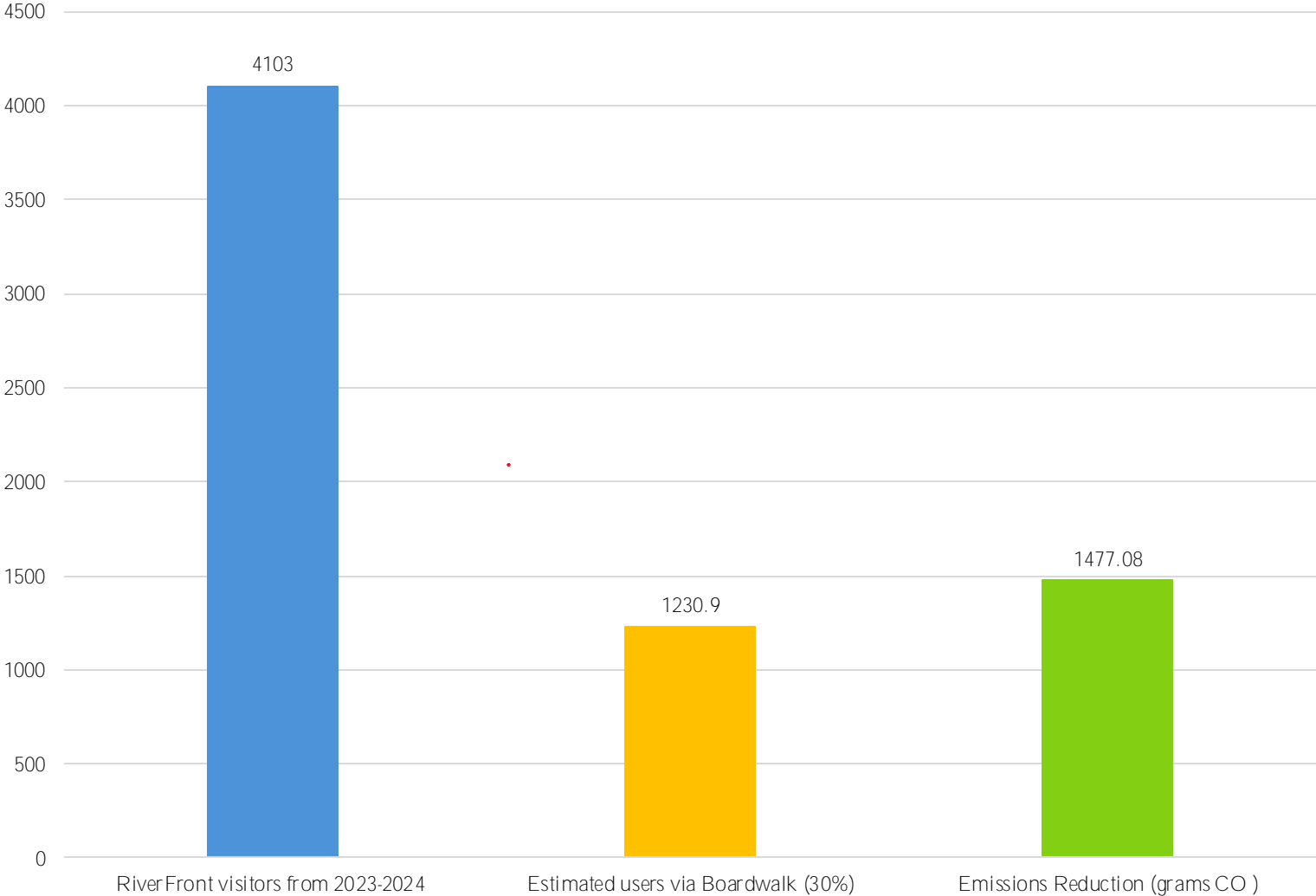
: 1.5 miles each way (3 miles round trip).

: 4,103 people  
attended Riverfront Park events (boating or special USF REC events) in the 2023-2024 academic year.

30% of the 4,103  
attendees (approximately 1,231 people)  
will walk using the boardwalk instead of  
driving.

annually.

Estimated CO2 Reduction



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# CLIMATE SMART FORESTRY

Climate Smart Forestry is a strategy that integrates forest management practices to enhance carbon sequestration, foster resilience against climate impacts, and improve ecosystem health.

[CSF source](#)

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# WEEDON ISLAND PRESERVE

: With 3,000 acres of managed natural space, this preserve balances public access with conservation, using boardwalks to guide visitors through diverse ecosystems.

Our boardwalk will also provide controlled access to U SF 's sandhill uplands and hardwood swamps, reducing foot traffic in sensitive areas, preventing soil compaction, and fostering a balance between public enjoyment and habitat protection.



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# METHODOLOGY

## **Sustainable Design:**

Use materials and construction techniques that minimize environmental impact, such as elevated structures to allow for natural water flow and wildlife movement.

Design the boardwalk to follow natural contours and high points to reduce soil disturbance and the need for extensive foundations.

## **Environmental Monitoring:**

Implement a monitoring program to track the impact of the boardwalk on local flora and fauna. Adjust management practices as needed to mitigate any negative effects.

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# PHASE 1 ANTICIPATED BUDGET

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Budget Estimate			
DRMP Preliminary Engineering Report:	47,954.80		
Student OPS	\$2,600		
Administrative Fees	\$3,033		

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