



hikAR: A Hiker's Best Friend



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What's the Problem?

- Hikers of all experience levels worry about navigating while on their hikes
- People who hike for the purpose of enjoying nature want a way to learn about wildlife while hiking

Design Research

- Goals
 - Understand what exactly hikers need and how we can optimize solutions and the hiking experience for them
- The Plan
 - Contextual Inquiries on 3 different skill-leveled hikers

Intermediate Hiker

A hiker who takes trips regularly into the wild



Advanced Hiker/Identification Expert

A caretaker for the Hopkins Memorial Forest

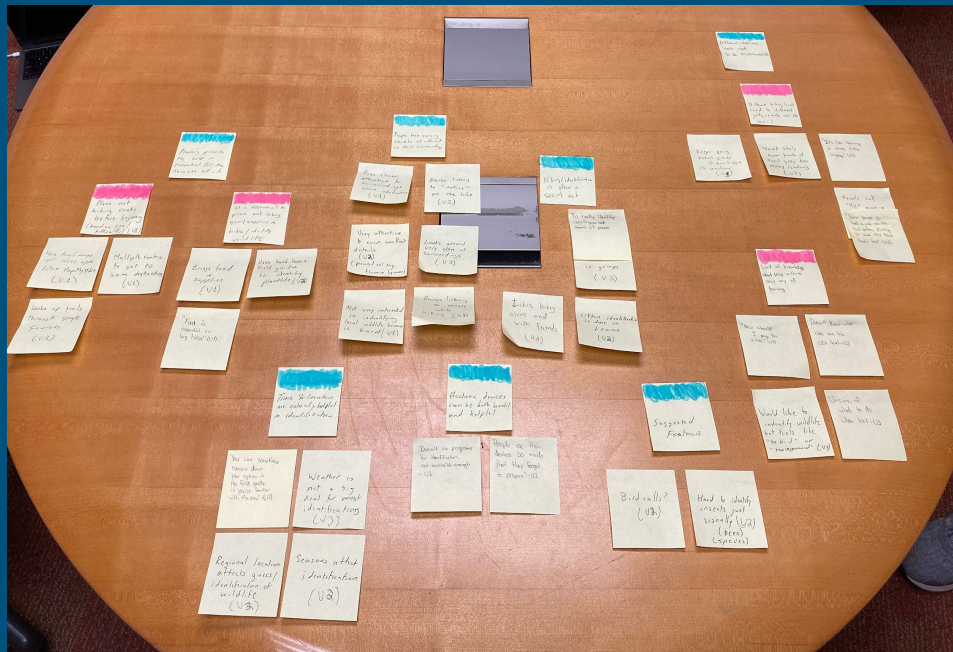


Beginner Hiker

Inexperienced, but would love to hike
given the right tools/information



Our Results



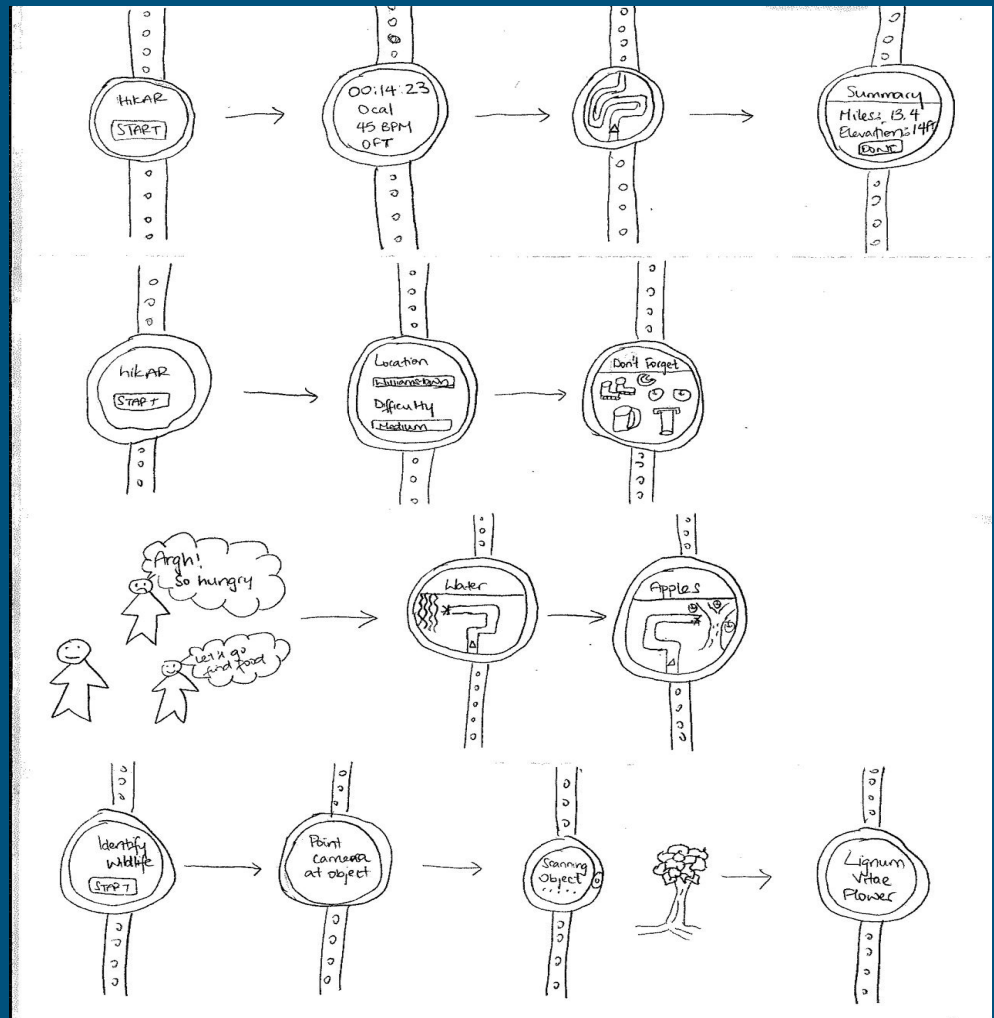
- Navigation
 - Hard to distinguish trail/trail markers/maps
- Preparation
 - Difficulty in finding and preparing for hikes
- Wildlife Identification
 - Hard to identify wildlife

Uncovered Tasks

- Precise, accurate preparation for hikes
- Discover hikes appropriate for user's skill level
- Stay on route while hiking
- Identify local wildlife
- Keep track of progression while hiking
- Locate natural resources

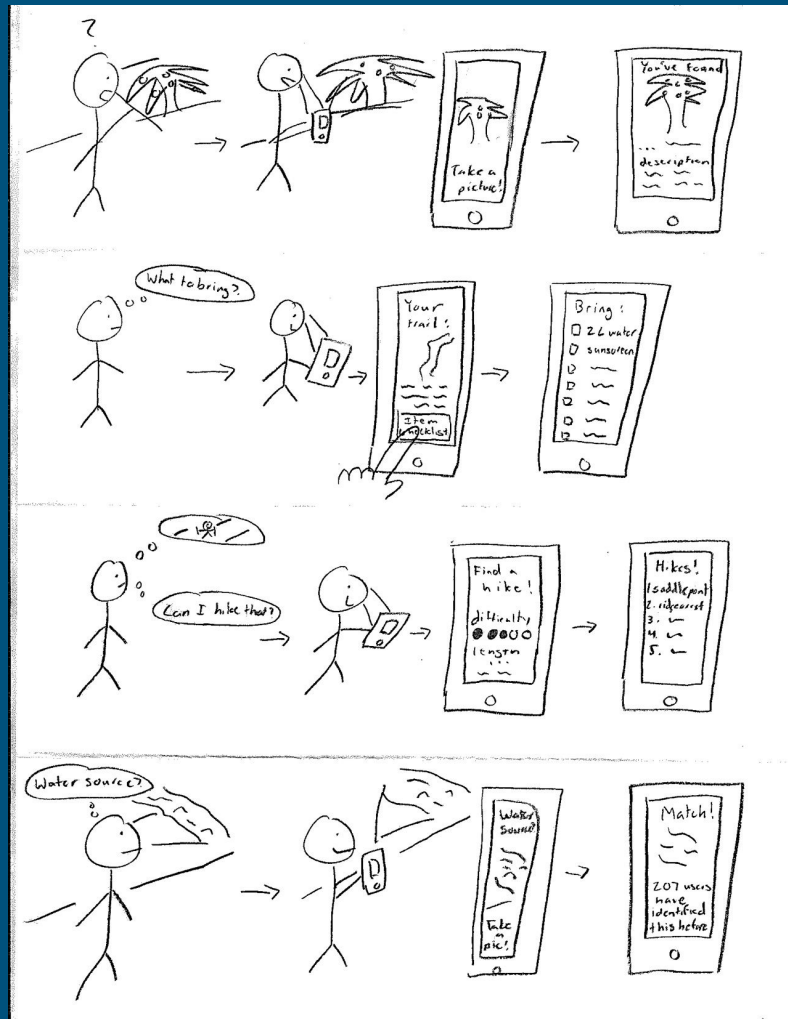
Smartwatch App?

- Keeps track of user's heart rate, pace, calories lost
- Reminds user of important items to take before the hike



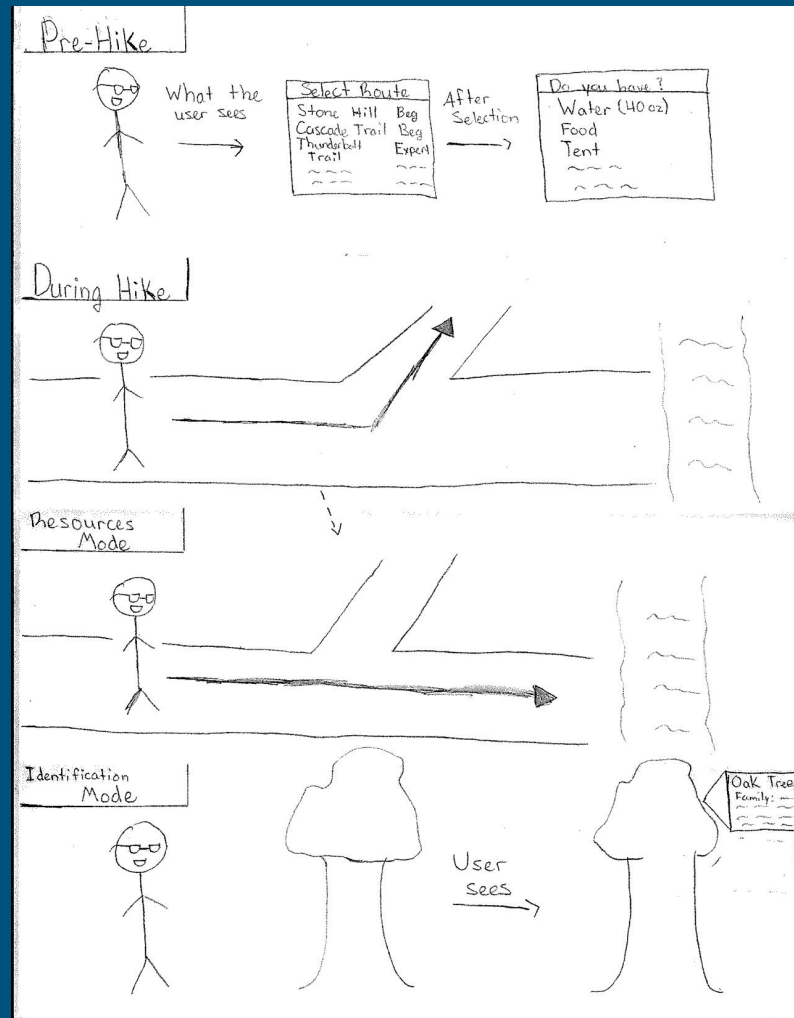
Mobile App?

- Hike Planner + Navigator
- Identification Mode can be either automatic or questionnaire style like a field guide

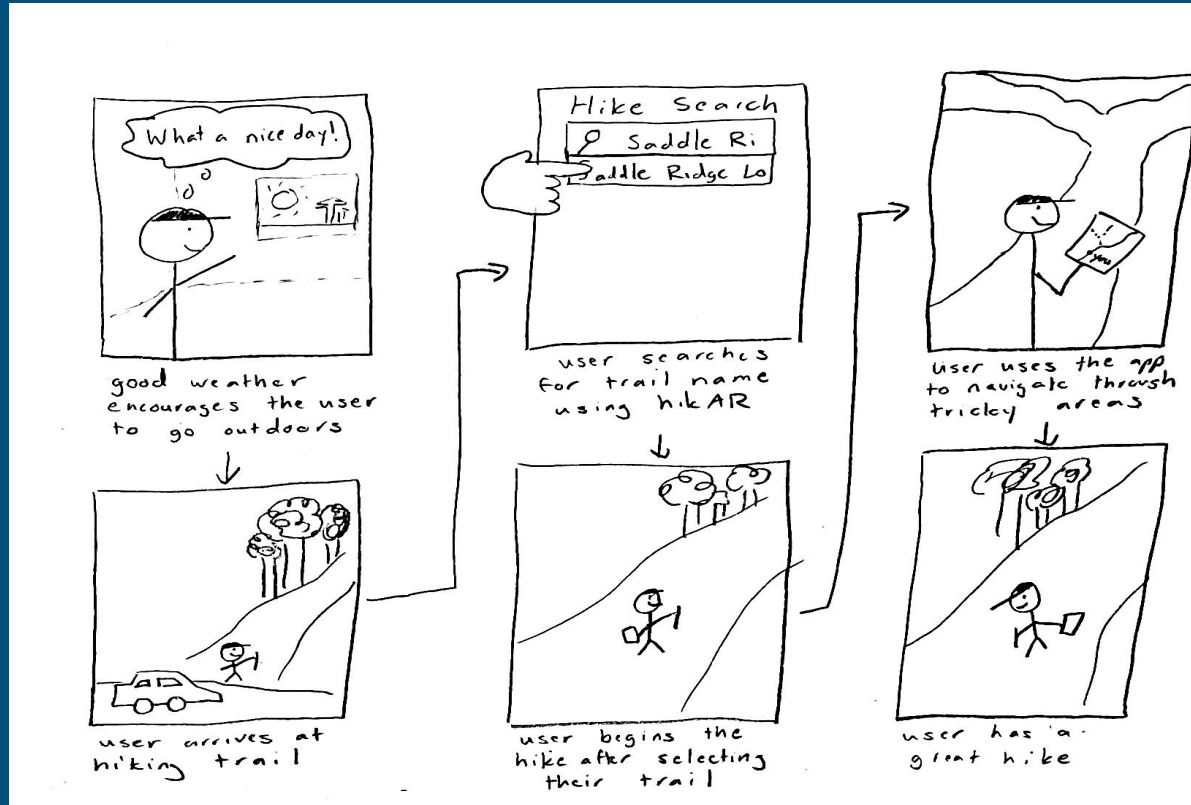


AR Glasses?

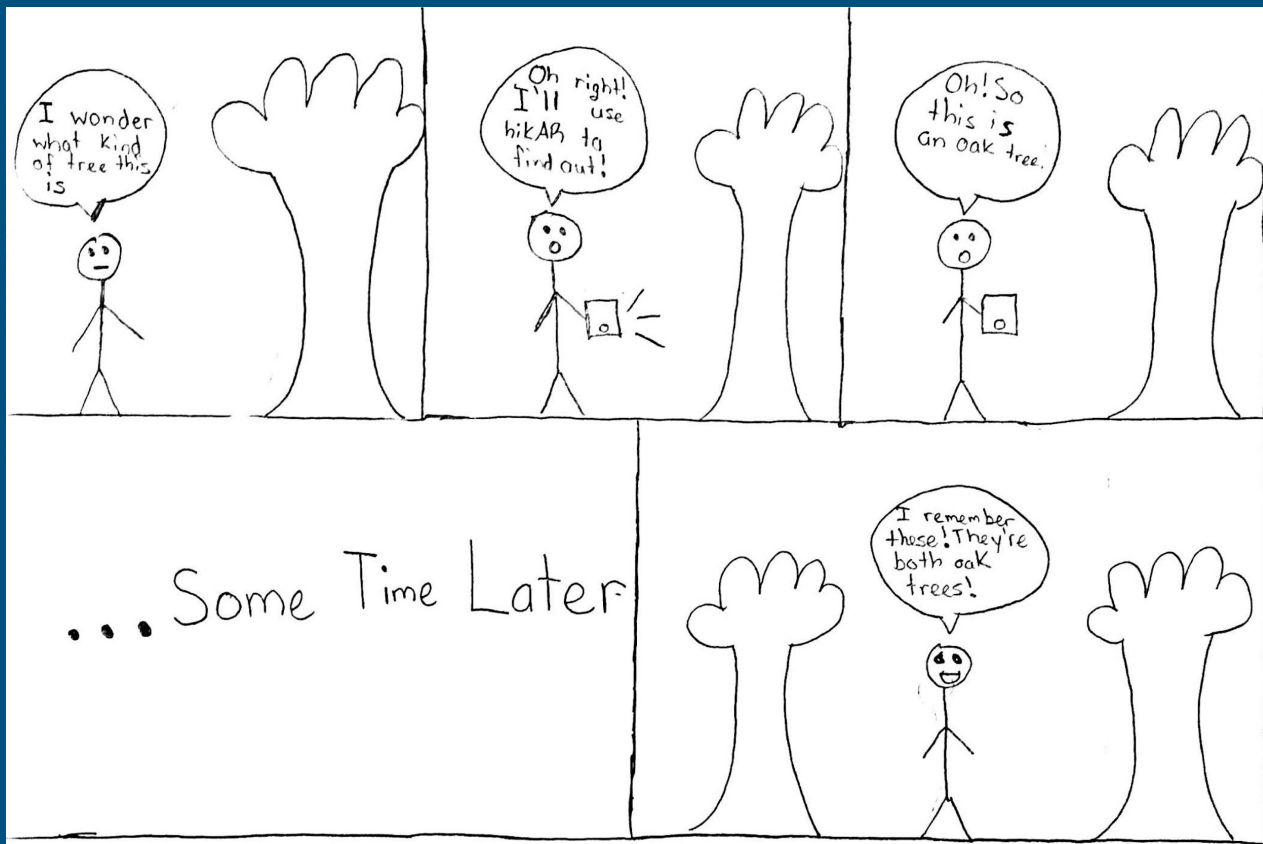
- Capable of keeping user on route no matter what
- Directly leads user to resources when there is a shortage of food or water



Storyboard #1



Storyboard #2



Conclusion

- Our design was narrowed down to cover the two tasks brought up most often in our CIs
 - Staying on the chosen route
 - Identifying wildlife
- Both tasks focus on improving people's experience in the wild
- Mobile App Implementation