

# Baldpate District-End of Year Report

October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016

There are a total of 31 dedicated maintainers with sections or campsites within the District who, along with other volunteers who helped them, spent over 1760 hours this season working on the trail. The MMC crews spent an additional 2640 hours for a total of 4400 hours plus an additional 1210 hours of travel time. Accepting assignments as new maintainers this year were Jonathan Cohen, maintaining from the Little Swift River to approximately 3.5 miles south, and Kevin Pederson who put in a lot of work on the lower half of the Bemis Stream Trail. A retiring maintainer whom we want to thank for his years of hard work and dedication is Don Miskill. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Mac Smith who maintains from Route 4 south to the Little Swift River campsite who just completed his 37<sup>th</sup> year as a maintainer, the longest serving maintainer in the District and who put in nearly 200 hours on his section this year! He is shooting for 40!

All of our maintainer positions are currently filled but if you would like to lend a hand or be considered for the next opening please let Mike or me know.

***Summary of Projects Completed:*** In addition to all the work the maintainers do to maintain the trail, several special projects were worked on this year including the following:

- The Maine Conservation Corps crew completed a project begun last year approximately 2.5 miles south of Route 4 toward the Little Swift River campsite. This was a badly eroded section of the trail which they repaired by re-constructing several hundred feet of trail and drainage. The MMC also completed some stairs starting up Bemis from the Bemis Road and reconstructed a section of trail from Route 17 at the Height of Land north several hundred feet.
- Construction of a new campsite adjacent to Black Brook-- This new site was constructed just south of Black Brook and included three campsites and a moldering privy. Thanks to the many volunteers who worked on the effort and special thanks to Dirigo High School who helped construct the tent pads and worked on the privy crib. This is their sixth year volunteering for projects on the trail (they also did a clearing trip on Baldpate this year). Their teacher Karolyn Boutte puts in countless hours arranging for the trip. Also special thanks to Dana Humphrey who is a great foreman, and to Laura Flight and Richard Gower and the campsite committee who did all the work leading up to the construction.
- Re-opening of the Bemis Stream Trail-- This trail was closed in 2015 due to logging. Wagner completed their logging project and granted us permission to re-open the trail. A group from Camp Tekakwitha worked on the clearing and several more work trips by Kevin Pederson allowed it to be opened.
- Relocation of a portion of the Grafton Loop Trail to accommodate planned logging. Eight volunteers made for a short day. Thanks to Dan Emity, the landowner, for considering the trail prior to his logging effort.
- Clearing of Hazard Trees at the Sabbathday and Frye Brook campsites.

Thank you to all who volunteered in the District this year and we are looking forward to seeing you in 2016. Please don't hesitate to contact me or Mike if you notice something along the trail that needs attention.