

**Kennebec District – 2016 Report
October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016**

**Overseer: Craig Dickstein
Assistant Overseer: Peter Roderick**

The Kennebec District runs from the Long Falls Dam Road north of North New Portland to Route 15 north of Monson. There is a total of 54.6 miles of AT with an additional 3.0 miles of side trail. Included in the district are 6 lean-tos, 1 campsite, and the only ferry service on the Appalachian Trail.

There are 21 trail section assignments in the District with the longest being 8.9 miles, the shortest 0.3 miles, and an average of 2.6 miles each.

There are 20 individual maintainers assigned in the Kennebec District plus two organizations, Pine Island Camps and the University of Maine Outing Club. While these individuals and organizations take responsibility, it should be noted that they are joined by a variety of family, friends, and volunteers to complete their annual work on the Trail. 58 work trips were reported via the MATC Volunteer Work Report Form, accounting for 750 work hours and 266 travel hours. Many thanks to the Kennebec team!

Highlights of the reporting period include:

- Trail section assignment changes:
- Louis Chartier took the Upper Holly Brook section in Caratunk. Louis has been a long time member of the Club; you may know him as our sign manufacturer. Welcome to the team!
- Craig Dickstein is new in the role of Kennebec Ferry Coordinator. New hours of operation were put into play and resulted in an improved experience for both the ferryman and the hikers.
- In his first year as Ferryman, Greg Caruso and his team of Registered Maine Guides provided a trouble free season of paddling hikers across the Kennebec.
- Efforts began to find a way to relocate the Trail off of the Pierce Pond dam.
- Arnold Bog saw the replacement of 20+ year old traditional bog bridging with 264 feet of elevated bog bridging. This significant effort by the Maine Trail Crew was done quickly and efficiently; providing a much safer experience for the Trail user.
- With extra time in their schedule the Maine Trail Crew installed 6 stone water bars and 4 step stones just north of Carrying Place Road.
- Pleasant Pond Lean-to benefited from the build of a new accessible moldering privy. The process continues to improve and timelines are getting shorter. Many thanks to the Campsite Committee and their intrepid crew of volunteer excavators, carpenters, and sherpas.
- 112 feet of bog bridging was installed on the Upper Holly Brook section. This completed a multi-year old plan and brings the section up to a much better standard.
- The Pierce Pond Lean-to privy benefited from a new set of stairs and handrail.

Projects Planned for the Upcoming Season:

- A new accessible moldering privy is scheduled to be erected at the West Carry Pond Lean-to.
- The Pierce Pond dam relocation effort will continue. Claire Polfus, ATC Maine Conservation Resources Manager, and Craig have done a preliminary reconnaissance and will be putting together a plan for Executive Committee approval.

Please keep an eye on the MATC Activity Calendar (www.matc.org/home/work-trip-schedule) for the dates and contact person if you would like to get involved in the above projects.

Peter and I would like to extend a genuine thanks to all that contributed to the continued success of Trail maintenance in the Kennebec District.