

**Maine Appalachian Trail Club
Corridor Monitoring Report
Calendar Year 2012
(Final Report 1/24/13)
David B. Field, Overseer of Lands**

Summary Statistics for MATC Corridor Monitoring Responsibilities	
Acres of ATPO fee lands in Maine	31,803
Acres under ATPO-held easement	492
Acres of State of Maine fee lands in nominal corridor	8,362
Acres under State-held easement*	4,353
Miles of exterior corridor boundary survey lines along ATPO fee lands	307
Acres of ATPO fee lands with no ECBS (22.35 miles of un-surveyed line)	3,452
ATPO monuments (including 35 rebar--rest are std. monuments and rock tablets)	2,037
Number of ATPO tracts	130
Number of ECBS map sheets for ATPO land surveys	164
Corridor monitoring sections	70
Monitoring assignments filled as of 1/1/13	58
Number of miles of ECB paint blazes renewed in 2012**	44
Number of miles of ECB cleared during 2012**	34
Number of monuments positively identified in 2012	253
Number of monuments positively identified to date	1,275
Number of monuments digitally photographed in 2012	158
Number of monuments digitally photographed to date	1,070
Miles of boundary walked in 2012	58.4
Hours spent in field by corridor monitors***	646
Hours of travel by corridor monitors***	306
*Includes 1,404 acres for which NPS owns underlying fee. **Including 18.62 miles cleared and painted by the AHS and MATC volunteers working with Alison Scheiderer in September and 8.96 miles cleared and blazed by Plum Creek Timber Company line crews. ***Incomplete. Most hours not reported for Katahdin District. Monitoring hours reported here were included in the District Overseer reports. (The numbers also do not include the many hours contributed in September by American Hiking Society volunteers working with ATC's Land Protection Associate Allison Scheiderer and her two assistants Michelle Wooten and Joel Baker.) Detailed conditions of monuments, witness trees, and lines are recorded on a spreadsheet maintained by the Overseer of Lands.	

Corridor Monitoring in Maine

The Maine Appalachian Trail Club, as a part of the delegation of responsibilities for the management of NPS-owned lands in Maine, has accepted the task of regularly inspecting these lands in accordance with procedures set forth in the Appalachian Trail Conference's *Corridor Stewardship Field Book*. The Corridor Monitor Coordinator for Maine is the MATC Overseer of Lands, whose duties are stated in the Club's Constitution and Bylaws.

Monitoring Sections

The 130 tracts of land that have been identified on NPS segment maps from Grafton Notch to Katahdin have been grouped or (in the case of larger tracts) subdivided into 70 corridor MATC Corridor Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 2012- Page 1

monitoring sections. A total of 177 tracts and sub-tracts are maintained in the Club's corridor monitoring database. Assignment of monitoring sections began at the MATC's annual meeting in April 1992. Most monitoring sections coincide with Trail maintenance sections, and some Trail maintainers have taken on monitoring duties for the lands along their maintenance assignments. The remaining sections are assigned to other MATC volunteers. Corridor monitors report directly to the Overseer of Lands but, through the federal fiscal year 2012 copied their reports to the Overseer of the Trail in whose district the corridor monitoring assignment lies. For fiscal year 2013, corridor monitors are reporting on line through the MATC web site, with the details of those reports collected by the Overseer of Lands. All but a few of the current monitors report via e-mail.

Monitoring Agreements

Each Corridor Monitor is required to sign a Corridor Monitoring Agreement, which spells out the respective responsibilities of the Club and the Monitor. The Overseer of Lands provides each monitor with basic instructions for monitoring, NPS segment and Exterior Corridor Boundary Survey (ECBS) maps of the assigned section, and summaries of deed information, reservations (remainder interests), known problems, and other special information for each tract or tract segment within his or her assignment.

A Corridor Monitor is expected to visit his or her assignment at least once a year. During that visit, the Monitor inspects the lands within each tract for evidence of trespass or other abuse. Exterior corridor boundaries (where they exist), including boundary line blazes, signs, and monuments should be inspected periodically. Tracts or portions of tracts that are found to be particularly vulnerable to abuse must be visited more frequently, according to a system of priorities established by the Monitor and the Overseer of Lands. The condition of corridor information signs and gates or other obstructions on roads that cross the corridor should be included in the inspection. Other problems that should be watched for include use by vehicles or riding/pack animals, the cutting of timber or other vegetation, vegetation damage from activities (such as burning or herbicide application) on adjacent lands, the dumping of garbage or litter, geocaching, planting of agricultural crops, violations of any special restrictions and terms of the deed, evidence of developments or activities on adjacent lands that could have an adverse impact on the Trail or that pose a potential threat to corridor lands, and evidence of damage to the property from natural causes, such as fire, insects, disease, or natural soil erosion.

Corridor Records

All NPS-tract land files and database information extracted from these files and from monitoring reports are maintained by the Overseer of Lands. The database includes, for each of the 177 tracts and sub-tracts, a record of monitoring priority, remainder interests, date of last inspection, date of last exterior corridor boundary (ECB) inspection, year of last ECB renewal, and a file of special problem discovery, reporting, and resolution. In 2004, the Overseer of Lands and corridor monitors began to compile a digital photographic record of the more than 2000 ECBS monuments that exist on ATPO lands in Maine. The Overseer of Lands maintains a file of these photographs. From 2004 through 2012, 1,067 of the 1,272 monuments positively identified have been digitally photographed.

Boundary Line Maintenance

Although the Maine Appalachian Trail Club has never formally agreed to take responsibility for clearing and re-blazing National Park Service (APPA) corridor boundary lines in Maine, corridor monitors increasingly are doing such work as individuals. For several years, MATC Corridor Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 2012- Page 2

the Appalachian Trail Conservancy has allocated time in Maine for its boundary maintenance crew, currently under the leadership of Land Protection Associate Alison Scheiderer. Alison has come to Maine with two technicians and has also recruited volunteers from the American Hiking Society and other groups to maintain corridor boundary lines. In 2011, the Maine Appalachian Trail Club organized an August work trip to clear lines and, in 2012, MATC volunteers worked with Alison and AHS volunteers. A great deal of boundary maintenance work remains to be done and MATC volunteers are likely to contribute more to this program. One of our primary corridor neighbors, the Plum Creek Timber Co., has contributed greatly to maintenance of our common boundary lines during the past two years. In 2011, Plum Creek thoroughly cleared and re-blazed 18.84 miles of corridor boundary lines; in 2012 they cleared and re-blazed another 8.96 miles.

2012 Corridor Monitoring and Boundary Maintenance

Katahdin District: Monitoring Sections 1-11

About 3 miles of surveyed and marked boundary exist in the Katahdin District. This marked corridor begins on the Jo-Mary Road and runs north for about 3 miles to the T1 R 10 town line near Mud Brook. The balance of the 56 miles of the A.T. corridor is not surveyed or marked. About 25.5 miles of the A.T. is National Park Service land from the Jo-Mary Road to Murphy Brook. About 15.2 miles of the A.T. is on The Nature Conservancy land from Murphy Brook to the Golden Road. About 1 mile of the A.T. is a private road walk on the Golden Road on Katahdin Paper Company land. The balance of the A.T., about 14.4 miles, is in Baxter State Park, from Abol Stream to Baxter Peak, Katahdin.

Section 1. Baxter Peak, Katahdin to the T3 R10 Town Line. 10.2 trail miles Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix Section is good. A relocation of the A.T. in 2010, off the Park Tote Road to the Grassy Pond Trail, eliminates a .7 mile road walk. The A.T. crosses the Daicey Pond Campground Road which is in sight of the ranger cabin built in 2006. The blue-blazed "Highwater" Trail was opened in the spring of 2008, along Nesowadnehunk Stream as a bypass to the A.T. fording of the stream at 2 places.

Section 2. T3 R10 Town Line to Abol Bridge. 4.9 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix Section is good. No issues. The A.T. is along Nesowadnehunk Stream and the West Branch of the Penobscot River for most of the 4.9 miles. The trail also passes within sight of York's cabin on the West Branch of the Penobscot River. This cabin is on land owned by Baxter State Park.

Section 3. Abol Bridge to Rainbow Ledges. 6.1 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. This land is part of the Debsconeag Wilderness owned by The Nature Conservancy subject to a conservation easement for recreation management that is held by the Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands. Wood harvesting ended on 12/31/05 on this land. Access to the Hurd Brook Leanto area of the A.T. continues via the North Hurd Pond Road and a .6 mile bushwhack to the A.T. on old skidder trails.

Section 4. Rainbow Ledges to Rainbow Mt. side trail. 3.3 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. This land is part of the Debsconeag Wilderness owned by The Nature Conservancy subject to a conservation easement for recreation management that is held by the Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands. There are 4 bootleg campsites on the eastern end of Rainbow Lake where trash is cleaned up and illegal fire rings are broken up. There are still 2

metal diamond AT markers on trees near the east end of Rainbow Lake. These markers are rusted and the tree is slowly growing over them. A bootleg snowsled trail is still used to get to the eastern end of Rainbow Lake. Some small trees were cut during the winter of 2012 near the edge of the lake and there was a small sign on one tree facing the lake for the sledders to find the trail on their return from sledding on Rainbow Lake.

Section 5. Rainbow Mt. side trail to Pollywog Stream. 7.9 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. The land north of Murphy Brook is owned by The Nature Conservancy subject to a conservation easement for recreation management that is held by the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands. The land south of Murphy Brook is owned by the National Park Service. At Rainbow Lake Dam and at a few other locations, fishermen have campsites with fire rings and some trash left behind. It seems that some fishermen fly in by float plane and others come in by boat from Rainbow Lake Camps. Some also hike in on the former path of the A.T. from nearby Nahmakanta Lake Camps. There were no boats stored at Rainbow Lake Dam, no boats at the northern Rainbow Deadwaters and 2 canoes at the southern Rainbow Deadwaters. Beavers have been active at both outlets of the northern and southern Deadwaters of Rainbow Stream but the trail is in good shape near these beaver dams. There is a fishermen's trail to Doughnut Pond from the A.T. for use by clients of Webber Camps on Rainbow Lake. There is another fishermen's trail that leads to Bear Pond from the A.T. at the southern Rainbow Deadwater.

Section 6. Pollywog Stream to the South End of Nahmakanta Lake. 8.3 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. Rick reported that there were 5 boats and 4 canoes stored at Crescent Pond, as well as some bootleg campsites near the pond. There were also 3 unofficial side trails that lead to the A.T. in this section. One from Rainbow Stream that leads to Nahmakanta Lake Camps, one from Crescent Pond that leads to a road and a third from about .4 miles north of Nesuntabundt Mt. to the shore of Nahmakanta Lake. These trails are maintained by the owner of Nahmakanta Lake Camps for their clients use. The Maine BPL is in the process of building a side trail that will connect to the A.T. just north of Crescent Pond. This trail has been approved by the MATC. There are several bootleg campsites on the beaches of Nahmakanta Lake. Several new roads were built by BPL to harvest wood on the north side of the road to Nahmakanta Stream Bridge. These roads are about a mile from the A.T.

Section 7. South End of Nahmakanta Lake to Mahar Landing side trail. 4.9 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. Maine BPL has built a blue-blazed side trail that connects to the A.T. about 1.3 miles south of the Nahmakanta Stream Bridge. This trail has been approved by MATC.

Section 8. Northern Shoreline of the West End of Rainbow Lake. 0 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good

Section 9. Nahmakanta Lake Camps. 0 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Dave Field. Dave did not visit the camps section in 2012.

Section 10. Mahar Landing side trail to Antlers' Campsite. 6.1 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Rick reports that the section is in good shape. For a number of years the owner of Whitehouse Camps on Pemadumcook Lake has been placing signs, business cards and painted arrows on the A.T. to direct hikers to his business. This situation was referred to National Park Service Ranger Todd Remaley in February, 2007 by the MATC Executive Committee. Todd

contacted Mr. Bill Ware several times by phone and in person in June 2007 to inform him of NPS and A.T. rules and regulations concerning the A.T. In 2010 the trail maintainers, L.L.Bean Trail Crew, reported finding signs and business cards again on the A.T. This matter has again been forwarded to the MATC and NPS. On July 24, 2011 Rick found and removed two Whitehouse Camps business cards on trees at the junction of the A.T. and the Mahar Landing side trail. On 26 July, 2012, he removed two more.

Section 11. Antlers' Campsite to JoMary Road. 4.2 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Rick reports that the section is good. On July 28, 2012 he checked the 2 posts on the north side of JoMary Road and walked about 200 feet along the boundary lines on both sides of the road. The posts are in good shape and the yellow paint blazes are in fair shape. The boundary line does need clipping and blowdown removal.

White Cap District: Monitoring Sections 12-28

Section 12. Jo Mary Road to Cooper Brook Lean-to. Corridor Monitor Jean & Tom Giggey. New monitors Jean and Tom got a great start on their assignment—both sections 12 and 13! On 23 September they found 103-ME-30 and 34A, but noted an empty hole where 103-ME-33A should have been. Monument 34A was in good condition but 30 was slightly loose. No encroachments seen. The boundary was in poor condition. They returned on 13 October accompanied by Nicole and Thomas Giggey and volunteer students and staff from the Maine School of Science and Math. of Limestone, Maine: Patrick Blackstone, Lil Costello, Luke Peterson, Peter Eming, Laura Blackstone, Sadie Hood, Roger Vanpeski, Mallory Zingone, Gregg Hamlin, Andrew Schade, and Ian Hathaway. (Mallory organized the School's participation and teacher Gregg Hamlin enjoyed the experience so much that he has now taken over Section 16.) They located and photographed monuments 103-ME-29F, 29G, and 29H and cleared 0.57 of a mile of line. Blazes were found to be in fair to good condition. No encroachments found. This crew also worked on Section 13.

Section 13. Cooper Brook Lean-to to Crawford Pond; Chaples Camp. Corridor Monitor Jean & Tom Giggey. New monitors Jean and Tom visited this section on the weekend of 23,24 June, walking 1.1 miles of line and locating/photographing six monuments: 103-ME-29, 29A, 29B, 29C, 29D, and 29E. They found the boundary lines to be in very poor condition. but the monuments found were in good shape and most witness trees were present. No encroachments noted. Their work was cut short by severe thunderstorms, which caused historic damage to nearby highways. They returned on 26-28 September, locating and photographing 14 monuments, cleared about 3,850 feet of boundary line, and replaced a number of "U.S. Boundary" signs. They found blazing to be only fair to poor throughout, especially along the western shore of Crawford Pond. Monuments located included 103-ME-25N, 25P, 25Q, 25R, 25S, 25T, 25U, 25V, 25W, 25X, 25Y, 25Z, 25AA, 25BB, 30, and 34A. They noted an apparent replacement monument for 103-ME-25O near the driveway to the Chaples camp, but identified it as "U.S. Forest Service monument #19", which is certainly a puzzle! They found no encroachments except for trash left in woods by hunters. All monuments found were in good condition. Witness trees varied from only one dead tree present to three, with most monuments witnessed by at least two trees. They returned on 13 October with the crew listed under Section 12, locating monuments 103-ME-14A, 14B, and 14C and clearing 0.5 of a mile of line. Blazes were found to be in poor condition. No encroachments found.

Section 14. Crawford Pond to East Branch of Pleasant River. Open section

Section 15. East Branch Pleasant River to West Branch Ponds Road. Corridor monitor Ron Jenkins. Ron visited his new assignment with Ray Ronan and Mike Davis from 21-25 October. They walked 3.8 miles of line, re-blazed all old blazes found, replaced 12 “U.S. Boundary” signs and located monuments 104-ME-30, 30A, 30B, 30C, 31, 31A, 31B, 31C, 43D, 43E, 43F, 44, 44A, 45, 45A, 46, 47, 47A, and 48. 104-ME-29 remains elusive, as in the past. Most of the westerly line is quite clear but the easterly line is brushy from 43F to 48. All monuments were in good shape except for 30C and 31C, which were slightly loose. All monuments had at least two good witness trees; most had three. No encroachments found.

Section 16. West Branch Ponds road to Summit of White Cap Mountain. Corridor monitor Greg Hamlin. This section was assigned late in the season and not monitored in 2012.

Section 17. Summit of White Cap Mountain to White Brook Trail. Corridor monitor Rebecca Clark. Not monitored in 2012.

Section 18. White Brook Trail to Gulf Hagas Mountain. This section is open.

Section 19. Gulf Hagas Mountain to Gulf Hagas Cutoff Trail. This section was not assigned in 2012 and not monitored, but has been assigned to Suzanne Lussier, Kris Reid, and Betty Jamison who look forward to beginning their work in 2013.

Section 20. Gulf Hagas Preserve. Monitor Jeff Goldknopf. No report in 2006 , 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, or 2012.

Section 21. Gulf Hagas Cutoff Trail to West Branch of the Pleasant River. Monitor Janice Clain. On 12 August Janice, Sue Lussier and Brant Miller walked half a mile of their assignment, clearing about 900 feet of corridor line and locating monuments 105-ME-45, 45A, and 46. Janice, Sue, Kris Reid and Betty Jamison returned on 29 October, cleared about half a mile of boundary line from 105-ME-45 to 104-ME-26P and located 105-ME-45 and 44 and 104-ME-N and P.

Section 22. West Branch of the Pleasant River to Summit of Columbus Mountain. Monitor Mark Doty. Mark did not visit this section in 2012.

Section 23. Columbus Mountain to Fourth Mountain. Monitor Mark Doty. Mark did not visit this section in 2012. A group of Appalachian Mountain Club teen volunteers cleared and re-blazed boundary line and replaced boundary signs from monuments 105-ME-20A to 22C, a distance of 1.26 miles. They found monuments 105-ME-20A, 21, 21A, 22, 22A, 22B, and 22C all to be in good condition, with 2-3 witness trees.

Section 24. Fourth Mountain to Long Pond Stream Road. Monitor Mark Doty to Elliotsville town line; remainder of section not assigned. Mark did not visit this section in 2012.

Section 25. Long Pond Stream Road to Big Wilson Stream. Monitors Michelle and Stan Moody. Stan and Michelle visited this section on 10 July, walked about 0.4 of a mile south from Long Pond Stream, and located monuments 105-ME-72A, 73A, and 74. Note: They report that “72A” is actually marked “73 Offset”, despite what it says on the monument diagram sheet. The also report that monument 73, subject to flooding from Vaughan Stream, which was loose the last time they checked it. It has washed out of the ground and they were unable to find it. Beavers have flooded several sections of the line. They checked perennial bootleg campsites

near Long Pond Stream and a deer stand that they had located inside the corridor in previous years.

About 100 yards of the A.T. footpath is out of the corridor on the easterly boundary of Tract 105-12 near monument 105-ME-71. The MATC plans to move the Trail back into the corridor pending ATC/NPS approval of the relocation.

Section 26. Big Wilson Stream to Little Wilson Falls. Monitor Don Stack. No report from Don for 2012.

Section 27. Little Wilson Falls to Leeman Brook Lean-to. Monitor Richard Welsh. Dick visited his section on 8 July, walking 0.6 of a mile and locating monuments 106-ME-12A, 13, 14A, and 14B. He was unable to locate monument 14, which a number of us have been unable to find in the past. It is buried and there are no witness trees. The monuments found were in good condition but only 12A had more than one witness tree. He re-painted blazes where he could find them but the line is in poor condition. Dick returned on 25 July with Patty Harding. They walked about 0.5 of a mile and located monuments 106-ME-10A, 11, 12, and 12A, all in good condition. They re-painted all witness trees found, did some line clearing and painting and replaced boundary signs. Dick and Patty were back on 27 August to explore access that would avoid the North Pond Road that has been blocked by a landowner. An alternate route looks good.

Section 28. Leeman Brook Lean-to to Maine Highway 15. Monitor Patty Harding. Patty accepted this section after her experiences monitoring Section 27 with Dick Welsh. On 8 July, Michelle and Stan Moody took a break from bog bridging further south and walked in on the Old Stage Road, former route of the A.T. They located and photographed monument 106-ME-17A. Patty made an exploratory visit on 27 September to get oriented but was discouraged by some ugly weather. She returned on 9 October and walked about a mile of line, locating monuments 106-ME-17B, 18, 18A, 18B, and 19, all in good condition with 2-3 witness trees. The line was fair to poor and she did a little clipping; the blazes are badly faded. She was unable to locate 106-ME-19A despite an hour's search in thick fir growth and a good GPS reading to go by. Neither the maple witness tree nor either of the two nails in ledge witness marks were found.

Kennebec District: Monitoring Sections 29-45

Section 29. Maine Highway 15 to Doughty Pond Side Trail. Monitors Ray and Janice Ronan. Ray visited his section on 15 June with Ron Jenkins. They walked about a mile of the westerly boundary, locating and re-photographing monuments 106-ME-44, 45, 45A, "46", 46A, 47, 51, 51A, and 52. The monument located where 46 should be is actually stamped "106-ME-45 Offset", exactly the same as the monument located where 45 should be! All monuments were found to be in good condition. Two to four witness trees were found for each monument. As in the past, 106-ME-44A remains elusive. It has not been seen since 2006. Ray was back on 16 June and 5 July. He walked 0.9 of a mile, locating and re-photographing 106-ME-79C, 80, 80A, 81, 82, 83, and 84 and repainted all blazes along the way. All monuments were in good condition and most had three witness trees. He photographed a new real estate sign, posted along the road that crosses the corridor to advertise property west of the corridor.

Section 30. Doughty Pond Side Trail to Old Sturtevant Road. Monitor David Makynen. No report

Section 31. Old Sturtevant Road to I.P. Main Haul Road. Monitor David Makynen. No report

Section 32. I. P. Main Haul Road to Blanchard/Shirley Road. Monitors Ray and Janice Ronan. No report on this section for 2012.

Section 33. Blanchard/Shirley Road to Horseshoe Canyon Lean-to. Monitor Roger Merchant. No report

Section 34. Horseshoe Canyon Lean-to to Marble Brook. Open section.

Section 35. Marble Brook to Outlet of Bald Mountain Pond. Monitor Bob Lodato. Bob did not visit this new assignment in 2012, but Dave Field joined Tom and Jean Giggey (and Truman) for a corridor monitoring workshop on the section on 2 June. They walked 1.46 miles of line along the southerly boundary from near Marble Brook west, locating and photographing monuments 107-ME-20, 20A, 20B, 21, 21A, 21B, 22, 23, 23A, and 24. Monuments 23A and 24 were slightly loose, but all others were in good condition. Most monuments had three good witness trees, but some had only one or two. Line conditions varied from very brushy to open—generally good shape. Blazes were numerous but badly faded and boundary signs were adequate.

Section 36. Outlet of Bald Mountain Pond to Joe's Hole. Open section. I visited the section on 13 and 31 August, walking 5.2 miles and locating monuments 108-ME-30, 30A, 30B, 30C, 30D, 30E, 30F, 31, 31A, 31B, 31C, 31D, 31E, 32, 32A, 32B, 33, 34, 35, 36, 36A, 37, 37A, 38, 39, 40, 41, 41A, and 43. I failed to find 42, which is a buried rock tablet. I did not have the witness tree diagram for this monument and found only one witness tree. All monuments were in good condition except for 40 (slightly loose pipe monument). Witness trees/marks varied from one to three. All of this boundary line was re-cleared and re-blazed (in red) by abutting landowner Plum Creek during the past couple of years and is in excellent condition, but the “U.S. Boundary” signs are in fair to poor shape and very sparse.

Section 37. Joe's Hole to Summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain. Monitor Dana Hall: No report

Section 38. Summit of Pleasant Pond Mt. to Boise Cascade Road. Open section.

Section 39. Boise Cascade Road to turn away from Holly Brook. Monitor Tim Fortune. Tim walked all (3.4 miles) of the boundary on 17 June, from the Hangtown Road south to The Forks town line and back up the other side, including monuments 108-ME-67B through 73B. Much of the northern boundary line has been repainted, with timber harvesting on abutting lots, but the southern boundary needs paint. Both lines are brushy. The line along the Forks public lot, between monuments 70 and 71 is poorly marked and hard to follow.

Section 40. Holly Brook to the Kennebec River. Monitor Tim Fortune. Tim inspected this section from the Trail and road and found nothing unusual. **A realtor has been advertising land east of the corridor with signs at the junction of the access road and U.S. 201 and also where the A.T. crosses the road, but the signs were down in 2010 and there seemed to be no activity related to this. The "suitable barrier" that the deed calls for on the road, near its junction with 201, is nonexistent. I contacted the realtor via e-mail and informed them of the requirement, but have received no response.**

Section 41. Kennebec River to Outlet of Pierce Pond. Monitor William Geller. Bill visited the section on 1 September, brushed 6,817 feet of line, re-painted blazes along about 4,800 feet, and located monuments 109-ME-54A, 54B, 54C, 54E, 55, 56, 97A, 97B, 97C, and 97E. He was

unable to find 54D, 96, and 97D. Most monuments still had three witness trees. No encroachments found. Bill returned on 10 September. He re-painted blazes along 11,665 feet of line, brushed out a section of line, and located monument 109-ME-97D. Some logging had been done since he worked this area last year, but no encroachments were observed. On 11 October, he re-painted blazes along the lines south from 109-ME-48, from 100A towards the logging road, and on the north side from the road to near 109-ME-55, for a total of 15,227 feet. On 17 October, Bill cleared the line from the logging road just short of 109-ME-55 towards the Kennebec River to 109-ME-57E, then repainted blazes back along the line that he had cleared to just short of 56. He brushed out 6,423 feet of line, re-blazed 5,586 feet, and located monuments 109-ME-55, 56, 56A, 57, 57A, 57B, 57C, 57D, and 57E.

Section 42. Outlet of Pierce Pond to N. Branch of Carrying Place Stream. Monitor William Geller. Bill visited this section on 25 September. He re-painted blazes along the lines from 109-ME-43 to 46 and north from 109-ME-4, covering a total of 18,799 feet.

Section 43. North Branch of Carrying Place Stream to Sandy Stream. This section was reassigned to new monitor Mike Davis in 2011. No report for 2012. Trail maintainer Dana Thurston reported an illegal trail that had been cut across the boundary to West Carry Pond near the West Carry Pond Lean-to, apparently for snowmobile access to the Pond during the winter. A wide swath had been cut through regeneration in a clearcut near the corridor, but the perpetrators seem to have cut little within the short corridor crossing as the open hardwood allows travel. District Overseer Peter Roderick initiated reporting to Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands snowmobile coordinator Scott Ramsay. Scott replied that there is no official snowmobile trail in that area and asked for more information. Dana researched the access, finding a logging road connected to the Long Falls Dam Road, from which the bootleg trail runs about a half mile to the pond. Later, Peter's replacement as Overseer, Craig Dickstein, his wife Donna, and Norm Kalloch dropped a small tree across the presumed snowmobile trail at the corridor boundary and installed a couple of "U.S. Boundary" signs and a "Welcome to A.T. Lands" sign that includes the prohibition against motor vehicles. The situation will be monitored.

Section 44. Sandy Stream to SW inlet of West Carry Pond. Open section.

Section 45. SW inlet West Carry Pond to Long Falls Dam Road. Monitor Dennis Andrews. Dennis worked on this section on 8 September, accompanied by Paul Laskey. They walked about 0.6 of a mile on two sides of the corridor east of the Long Falls Dam Road, locating monuments 110-ME-22B, 22C, and 24D, all in good condition with good witness trees. The line from 22B to 22C is badly overgrown with spruce-fir regeneration. They returned on 21 October walking 1.3 miles of line and locating monuments 110-ME-26A, 26B, 26D, 26E, and 27, all in good condition with one to three witness trees. Dennis and Paul were back on 4 November, walking 1.6 miles of line and locating monuments 110-ME-20C, 20D, 21, 21A, 22, and 22A, all in good condition but with only one witness tree for several. Loss of witness trees is becoming an issue on Section 45. Logging on land abutting the line near 20C will need watching. They returned on 18 November to walk the line adjacent to the cutting reported on 4 November and added monument 110-ME-20B to their inventory. The logging had been completed up to the boundary but with no encroachment.

Bigelow District: Monitoring Sections 46-59

Section 46. Long Falls Dam Road to Bog Brook Road. Monitor Dennis Andrews. Dennis and Paul Laskey monitored all of this section on 8 September, noting no problems other than some litter on both APPA and State lands.

Section 47. Bog Brook Road to summit of Little Bigelow. Monitors Clint and Helen Buzzell: Clint and Helen visited the section on 17 Sept. and inspected all monuments and witness trees, positively identifying monuments 110-ME-1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (many trees cut or down at 3 and 4 and 5 was under blowdowns), 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17. They did not check on 18. They noted that, “because of the many camps in the area and some take better care of their property and the boundary than others, it’s hard to tell where the boundary is at times.” Line walked: 0.27 of a mile.

Section 48. Summit of Little Bigelow to Safford Brook Side Trail. Monitors Sarah and Bill Brown. Bill and Sarah with a couple of friends walked their section and noted no incursions, although a BPL logging road near the Flagstaff Road had seen recent use and should be monitored.

Section 49. Safford Brook Trail to West Peak of Bigelow. Section reassigned to Martha Graff 2007. No report for 2009, 2010, 2011, or 2012.

Section 50. West Peak of Bigelow to the South Horn. Section reassigned to Martha Graff in 2007. No report for 2009, 2010, 2011, or 2012.

Section 51. South Horn to the Bigelow Range Trail. Section assigned to Martha Graff in 2007. No report for 2009, 2010, 2011, or 2012. Tract 111-04 was not surveyed for the NPS and was long thought likely to be traded to the State, but that now seems unlikely so I visited the tract on 18 August for a few hours and walked the southerly boundary about 0.6 of a mile from the edge of Jones Pond towards the SW corner. The old blazes are in poor condition, but followable. I did not locate the SW corner.

Section 52. Bigelow Range Trail to Maine Highway 27. Monitor Martha Graff. No report.

Section 53. Maine Highway 27 to Summit of North Crocker. Open section

Section 54. North Crocker to Caribou Valley Road. Monitor Dan Simonds. No report.

Section 55. Caribou Valley Road to Sugarloaf Side Trail. Monitor Geoff Shadman. No report

Section 56. Sugarloaf Mt. Side Trail to Mt. Abraham Side Trail. Monitor John Towey. John visited the section on 15 August, walked 1.5 miles of line and located monuments 111-ME-27, 29, 29 (New), 30 (New), 30A (New), 31 (New), 31A (New), and 112-ME-1, 2, and 3. All were in good shape except that 29 is probably an abandoned monument left over after the re-survey of this parcel. John found it loose and just stuck it back in the ground, but the survey map does not call for it at all. Monument 111-ME-29 (New) is the old 28, re-marked. At the location where 28 (New) is supposed to be, John found only an orange stake stuck in the ground. Most monuments still had three witness trees. John found the usual mess of blowdowns and re-painting is needed.

Section 57. Mt. Abraham Side Trail to Orbeton Stream. Monitor Tony Barrett. Tony visited the section on 26, 27 May and walked half a mile of the southerly line south of the Mt. Abraham Side Trail. He was surprised that blazes he and Steve Innes had re-painted in 2008 were already fading but observed that the boundary was generally fine and no corridor issues were observed. He removed trash and flagging within the corridor along the Barnjum Road and recovered some misappropriated cedar planks (intended for Trail maintenance) that had been used by ATV users

to cover a gap in the Perham Stream bridge. ATV use here is illegal.

Section 58. Orbeton Stream to Saddleback Summit. Monitor Dave Field: I observed the corridor lands from vantage points along the A.T. footpath during the summer as I did maintenance work, observing no encroachments. I also checked a few monuments and walked a bit of line during work on the Pioneer Trail design.

Section 59. Saddleback Summit to Maine Highway 4. Monitor Dan Simonds. Dan visited his section on 13 October, walked 0.57 of a mile of rough ground along the line and located and photographed monuments 113-ME-29, 29A, and 29B. Despite finding three witness trees, he was unable to uncover 29C in a boulder field below a high cliff face. The lines along this section were in fair to good condition, with faded paint blazes.

Baldpate District: Monitoring Sections 60-70

Section 60. Maine Highway 4 to Little Swift River Pond. Monitor Jonathan Ellis. Jonathan visited his section on 4, 5 July and walked 1.73 miles of line, locating monuments 113-ME-5, 6, 13B, and 14B, and spent a lot of time looking for previously elusive monuments, without success. He noted much need for new paint blazes. That was taken care of on 20, 21 September as ATC's Land Protection Associate Alison Scheiderer, with her two technical assistants Michelle Wooten and Joel Baker organized four teams of American Hiking Society volunteers (Sara Burchard, Catherine McLaughlin, Ed Lawrence, and three others) and MATC volunteers (Dave Field, Ray Ronan, and Jonathan Ellis) to clear and re-blaze almost the entire section. Michelle and Joel returned later to complete the job. The work renewed the lines for 7.53 miles. Most monuments were located and found to be in good shape, but 113-ME-17 is damaged and loose and 1A, 4B, 4D, and 15A were not found. Monument 15A may have inadvertently been walked by, but 1A was not found despite a vigorous search (hindered by having no witness trees) and monitor Jonathan Ellis has been unable to find 4B and 4D for several years.

Section 61. Little Swift River Pond to Sabbath Day Pond Lean-to. Monitor Derek Moody & Randy Lite. Randi reported that she had walked the section (all on State-owned land, with no corridor boundary) on 16 August and found no encroachments.

Section 62. Sabbath Day Pond Lean-to to Maine Highway 17. Monitor Paul McGuire. On 4 November, Paul, with Robin Lee, walked 1.2 miles of this assignment from the Maine BPL Four Ponds Unit line to Route 17, locating monuments 114-ME-10A, 10B, 10C, 11, and 11A. The line, cleared and re-blazed in 2009, was in generally good shape except for many blowdowns from 11A to the BPL line. They put up six new "U.S. Boundary" signs and re-nailed others.

Section 63. Maine Highway 17 to Bemis Stream Trail. Monitor John Webster. John did not file a report for 2012. However, Alison Scheiderer's crew worked on this section also, on 17 and 18 September. In addition to the workers listed above for Section 60, work on 63 included AHS volunteer Dorothy Andrews and MATC volunteers Stan & Michelle Moody. During two days hampered by rough terrain and a half day of rain, four crews cleared and re-blazed 5.3 miles of line and located monuments 114-ME-6A through 10A, 15 through 16C, and 18C through 20A. All but 16B (damaged and loose) were in good condition.

Section 64. Bemis Stream Trail to Former Clearwater Brook Trail. Section open. No work during 2012.

Section 65. Former Clearwater Brook Trail to South Arm Road. Section open. I visited this section on 24 August to scout out an access route for corridor work. I walked south on the southerly corridor boundary from the point where the old A.T. crosses it, finding terrible conditions—heavy spruce-fir regeneration following the spruce budworm epidemic of 1976-1983, almost no blazes, especially on live trees. The abutting landowner had flagged the line prior to a precommercial thinning operation about a year ago. I located monument 114-ME-1D (loose, poor condition, no witness trees) and then gave up, crossing to the northerly boundary, where conditions were a little better. Alison Scheiderer and her technicians cleared and re-blazed the line from 114-ME-26 to 26B (2,087 feet) on 1 October and located 26, 26A, and 26B. Line walked 0.40 of a mile.

Section 66. South Arm Road to Hall Mt. Lean-to. Monitor Dennis Pednault. Dennis visited this section on 2 July, doing some boundary clearing where the 2011 crew left off between monuments 115-ME-6A and 7 and between 7 and 7A. He was back on 7 July, walking 0.92 of a mile south from the South Arm Road and locating monuments 115-ME-5, 5A, 5B, 6, and 6A. He was unable to find 7 or 7A. The blazes are also in poor condition. (The line from 5 to 6A was in excellent condition following the 2011 work.) On 19 October he walked 0.64 of a mile of line from 115-ME-7 to 8A, locating 7, 7A, and 8 but no luck with 8A. On 6 September, ATC Land Protection Associate Alison Scheiderer and her technicians cleared and re-blazed the line from 115-ME-41A to 42 (0.72 of a mile), locating monuments 115-ME-41A, 41B, 41C, 41D, and 42. All monuments were in good condition, with 2-3 witness trees.

Section 67. Hall Mt. Lean-to to Wyman Mt. Monitors Harold and Wendy Hutchins: No report for 2010, 2011, or 2012. On 8/30/12, ATC boundary maintenance technician Joel Baker cleared and re-blazed the line from 115-ME-40 to 40C (half a mile), locating 40A and 40B as well. All four monuments were in good shape, with 1-3 witness trees.

Section 68. Wyman Mountain to East B-Hill Road. Monitor Mike Ewing. Mike walked 2.85 miles of boundary on 8 October, locating all monuments from 115-ME-13 to 15F except 15E. A new clearcut along the southerly boundary line provides great views of the Baldpates! Mike wishes to relinquish this assignment, so it is now open. From 29 August – 1 September Alison Scheiderer and her technicians cleared and re-blazed the lines from monument 115-ME-13 to 15A (1.73 miles) and from 37A to 39F (1.92 miles), locating monuments 13, 13A, 13B, 13C, 13D, 13E, 14, 14A, 15, and 15A, and 37A, 37B, 37C, 37D, 38,39, 39A, 39B, 39C, 39D, 39E, and 39F. All monuments were in good shape with 0-3 witness trees.

Section 69. East B Hill Road to East Peak of Baldpate Mt. Monitors Harold and Wendy Hutchins. No report.

Section 70. East Peak of Baldpate to Maine Highway 26. Monitor Lynn Farnham: Lynn visited the section on 22 September, finding no problems. This section is all on State land and there are no surveyed corridor boundaries. Lynn remains “in awe” of the new rock step work on the A.T. footpath up Baldpate.