

**Maine Appalachian Trail Club  
Corridor Monitoring Report  
Calendar Year 2015  
David B. Field, Overseer of Lands**

<b>Summary Statistics for MATC Corridor Monitoring Responsibilities</b>	
Acres of APPA fee lands in Maine	31,803
Acres under APPA-held easement	492
Acres of State of Maine fee lands in nominal corridor	8,382
Acres under State-held easement*	4,353
Miles of exterior corridor boundary survey lines along APPA fee lands	307
Acres of APPA fee lands with no ECBS ( <b>22.35 miles of un-surveyed line</b> )	3,452
APPA monuments (including 35 rebar--rest are std. monuments and rock tablets)	2,041
Number of APPA tracts	126
Number of ECBS map sheets for APPA land surveys	164
Corridor monitoring sections	70
Monitoring assignments filled as of 1/1/15	59
Number of miles of ECB paint blazes renewed in 2015**	25.8
Number of miles of ECB cleared during 2015***	35.7
Number of monuments positively identified in 2015	319
Number of monuments positively identified to date	1,649
Number of monuments digitally photographed in 2015	181
Number of monuments digitally photographed to date	1,521
Miles of boundary walked in 2015	67
Hours spent in field by corridor monitors****	480
Hours of travel by corridor monitors****	243
*Includes 1,404 acres for which NPS owns underlying fee. **Including 13.6 miles painted by ATC Boundary Technicians, 3.8 miles done by the AHS and MATC volunteers working with the Techs. in September and 0.4 of a mile by ALDHA volunteers in August. *** Including 16.1 miles cleared by ATC Boundary Technicians, 3.8 miles done by the AHS and MATC volunteers working with the Techs. in September and 0.4 of a mile by ALDHA volunteers in August. ****Incomplete. Most hours not reported for Katahdin District. (The numbers also do not include the many hours contributed in September by the American Hiking Society volunteers and by ALDHA in August.) 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 126 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 2015- 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 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 the A.T.C.'s *Corridor Stewardship Field Book*, 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 deeds, land files and database information extracted from these files and from monitoring reports are maintained by the Overseer of Lands and the Assistant 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 APPA lands in Maine. The Overseer of Lands maintains a file of these photographs. From 2004 through 2015, 1,521 of the 1,649 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 and as volunteers with A.T.C.-organized efforts. For several years, 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 2015, MATC volunteers worked with A.T.C.'s Maine Conservation Resources Manager Claire Polfus and AHS volunteers in Blanchard. 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 few 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, with another 4.1 miles in 2014.

## **Watercraft Monitoring**

Private watercraft are commonly stored on private and public lands in Maine for fishing purposes. Most landowners have found it to be more trouble than it is worth to prosecute such trespass. Maine public landowning agencies use a permitting system to enable the identification and some control of such use and to make it easier to remove derelict watercraft. No system is in place for APPA lands. During 2014, in an effort to clarify the nature and extent of watercraft trespass on APPA lands, MATC corridor monitors inventoried watercraft along the shorelines of all APPA-owned lands. They counted and photographed 103 watercraft, primarily canoes and small aluminum boats.

## **2015 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 on 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. Rick checked this section on 5/15/15 and 7/18/15. This section is in Baxter State Park and the A.T. heads south from Katahdin, on the Hunt Trail, to Katahdin Stream Campground. The A.T. then crosses the Tote road and heads south on the Grassy Pond Trail to meet with the Daicey Pond Nature Trail at the eastern end of Daicey Pond and then crosses the Daicey Pond Road just outside of the campground. The A.T., now known as the A.T. from this point southward, follows Nesowadnehunk Stream to the T3R10 Town Line. There are 3 short side trails to Toll Dam, Little Niagara Falls and Big Niagara Falls about 1.2 miles south of Daicey Pond. The Highwater Trail diverges away from the A.T. to eliminate 2 fordings of the stream and then rejoins the A.T. just south of the T3R10 Town Line.

**Section 2.** T3 R10 Town Line to Abol Bridge. 4.9 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix Section is good. Rick checked this section on 5/16/15, 7/18/15 and 9/18/15. The A.T. follows along Nesowadnehunk Stream and the West Branch of the Penobscot River for most of the 4.9 miles. The trail 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. The Baxter State Park boundary is at a bridge crossing of Abol Stream. The A.T. now is on land owned by the Katahdin Paper Company on an old road that connects with the MATC Corridor Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 2015- Page 3

Golden Road near Abol Bridge over the West Branch of the Penobscot River. On the eastern end of Abol Bridge are located the Abol Bridge Family Campground, a privately owned facility on the north side of the road. On the south side of the road is the Abol Pines Campsite, managed by the State of Maine, Department of Conservation, where a lean-to and several tentsites are available for a fee.

**Section 3.** Abol Bridge to Rainbow Ledges. 6.1 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. Rick checked this section on 9/18/15. This section of the A.T. is on land owned by The Nature Conservancy, known as the Debsconeag Wilderness. The A.T. is subject to a conservation easement for recreation management that is held by the State of Maine, Maine Bureau of Parks and Land. TNC bought this land from Great Northern Paper Company in September 2002. Wood harvesting ended on 12/31/05 on this land. Access to the Hurd Brook Campsite area of the A.T. continues via the North Hurd Pond Road and a 1.6 mile unofficial maintainer trail to the A.T. 0.1 mile north of Hurd Brook Campsite.

**Section 4.** Rainbow Ledges to Rainbow Mt. side trail. 3.3 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. Rick did not check this section in 2015. This section of the A.T. is on land owned by The Nature Conservancy, known as the Debsconeag Wilderness. There are 4 bootleg campsites at the eastern end of Rainbow Lake where trash is cleaned up and illegal firerings are broken up. There are still 2 metal diamond A.T. markers on trees near the eastern end of Rainbow Lake. These markers are rusted and the trees are 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 near the shore of the lake in the winter of 2012 for sleds to access the lake. A small plastic sign on a tree facing the lake for sledders to get back to the trail on their return from sledding on Rainbow Lake. The trail maintainer, Cliff Young, reported “there is a campsite at the eastern end of Rainbow Lake which has apparently had a fire. An area about 6 feet by 8 feet has been damaged by fire and the soil has been dug up to about 12 inches deep. The exposed roots are blackened by fire.”

**Section 5.** Rainbow Mt. side trail to Pollywog Stream. 7.9 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. Rick checked this section on 7/6/15. This section of the A.T., north of Murphy Brook, is part of the Debsconeag Wilderness owned by The Nature Conservancy. The land south of Murphy Brook is owned by the National Park Service. At Rainbow Lake Dam there is a campsite managed by TNC. There are also some unofficial fishermen’s campsites on Rainbow Lake that predate ownership by TNC. The Rainbow Lake Camps have put up their own trail signs on side trails of the A.T. These side trails are: Little Beaver Pond (new trail), Rainbow Mt side trail (A.T. side trail), Donut Pond trail (old trail), and Rainbow Dam (former A.T.) There is also a side trail from the southern Rainbow Deadwater to Bear Pond. Some fishermen fly to Rainbow Lake to camp and fish. Some also hike from Nahmakanta Lake Camps to access the Rainbow Deadwaters.

**Section 6.** Pollywog Stream to the South End of Nahmakanta Lake. 8.3 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. Rick checked this section on 7/5/15. This section of the A.T. is on land owned by the National Park Service. The trail crosses a road bridge over Pollywog Stream. This road is part of the logging road system from Route 11 and leads to Nahmakanta Lake Camps. There are a few bootleg campsites along Pollywog Stream and near Crescent Pond. There are 3 unofficial side trails that lead to the A.T. in this section. One trail meets the A.T. at Rainbow Stream from Nahmakanta Lake Camps. The second meets the A.T. at Crescent Pond from the road. The third meets the A.T. about 0.4 miles north of Nesuntabunt Mt. from the shore of Nahmakanta Lake (it appears that this trail is no longer maintained as of summer 2015). These 3 trails are maintained by the owner of Nahmakanta Lake Camps for their clients use. There are several bootleg campsites on the beaches of Nahmakanta Lake.

**Section 7.** South End of Nahmakanta Lake to Mahar Landing side trail. 4.9 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Section is good. Rick checked this section on 7/7/15. This section of the A.T. MATC Corridor Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 2015- Page 4

is on land owned by the National Park Service. The A.T. follows near Nahmakanta Stream for most of the 4.9 miles. The A.T. crosses a road that is also part of the logging road system from Route 11. Maine BPL has built a blue blazed side trail that connects to the A.T. about 1.3 miles south of Nahmakanta Stream Bridge. This trail was 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. Rick checked this section on 7/6/15. There were no boats or canoes at Rainbow Lake Dam.

**Section 9.** Nahmakanta Lake Camps. 0 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Dave Field. Dave did not visit the camps section in 2015.

**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. He checked the northern part of this section on 7/7/15. This section of the A.T. is on land owned by the National Park Service. For a number of years the owner of the 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. Ranger Remaley contacted Mr. Bill Ware several times by phone and in person in June 2007 to inform him of NPS and AT rules and regulations concerning the A.T. Every year since, the trail maintainers and myself, continue to remove business cards placed by the owner of Whitehouse Camps on trees at the junction of the A.T. and the Mahar Landing side trail. On June 22, 2013, I removed 2 business cards from trees on the A.T. On 7/7/15 there were no Whitehouse Camps business cards at the Mahar Landing side trail junction (I was told that they did not open for the summer season in 2014 and 2015).

**Section 11.** Antlers' Campsite to JoMary Road. 4.2 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Rick reports that the section is good. This section of the A.T. is on land owned by the National Park Service. On July 6, 2015, Rick checked the 2 posts on the north side of the JoMary Road as well as walked about 200 feet along the boundary on each side of the corridor. The posts are in good shape and the yellow paint boundary blazes are in fair shape. The boundary line does need clipping and blowdown removal. On 14 June Dave Field walked about two miles of the northern exterior corridor boundary line, from the Jo-Mary Road near the Cooper Brook Bridge to the first flowage near Mud Pond, and from the more northern logging road over Cooper Brook to monument 103-ME-04 on the southern line. Prentiss & Carlisle was logging along the northern boundary on Cassidy et al. estate land from the Jo-Mary Road to monument 103-ME-36E and appeared to intend to continue further. P&C had renewed the boundary (cleared and re-blazed, in orange) along all of the northern boundary that he walked and there had been no encroachments from the logging operation. He also installed backboards and laminated trailhead signs on both sides of the Jo-Mary Road. "U.S. Boundary" signs needed a few replacements but were generally OK. Dave located and photographed monuments 103-ME-34B, 34C, 35, 36, 36A, 36B, 36C, 36D, 36E, 36F, 36G, 37, and 38 on the northerly line and 103-ME-4 on the southerly line. On 27 August Dave and two ALDHA volunteers located and photographed 103-ME-3 but had great difficulty finding the ECB east of Cooper Brook. Ron Bungay and other ALDHA volunteers renewed the southerly line from the Jo Mary Road to monument 103-ME-7 and photographed 103-ME-7 and 7A, but did not locate 8 or 8A. The ATC Boundary Technicians worked with the ALDHA group 8/27-31 to renew the line from 103-ME-9 to 12 and documented 103-ME-9, 10, 11, 11A, and 12.

### **White Cap District: Monitoring Sections 12-28**

**Section 12.** Jo Mary Road to Cooper Brook Lean-to. Corridor Monitors Jean & Tom Giggey.  
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During the summer, the ATC Boundary Technicians renewed 2.46 miles of the southerly boundary line from the Jo Mary Road to monument 103-ME-12PP. Tom Giggey re-cleared some of the line between 103-ME-9 and 10 in June and then, in September, walked 2.7 miles of the southerly line from 103-ME-10 to 13A, documenting 10, 11, 11A, 12, 12A, 12B, 12C, 12D, 12E, 12F, 12G, 12H, 12I, 12J, 12K, 12L, 12M, 12N, 12O, 12P, 12Q, 12R, 12S, 12T, 12U, 12V, 12W, 12X, 12Y, 12Z, 12AA, 12BB, 12CC, 12DD, 12EE, 12FF, 12GG, 21HH, 12II, 12JJ, 12KK, 12LL, 12MM, 12NN, 12OO, 12PP, 12QQ, 12RR, 13, and 13A. He noted a small incursion between 103-ME-12EE and 12FF where a logging turn-around/parking area pushed across the line.

**Section 13.** Cooper Brook Lean-to to Crawford Pond; Chaples Camp. Corridor Monitors Jean & Tom Giggey. Tom walked the A.T. through the section in the spring and the fall and noted no incursions, but found boats at the main beach on Crawford Pond similar to those seen in 2014.

**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. No report for 2015.

**Section 16.** West Branch Ponds road to Summit of White Cap Mountain. Corridor monitor Greg Hamlin. No report for 2015.

**Section 17.** Summit of White Cap Mountain to White Brook Trail. Open section.

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

**Section 19.** Gulf Hagas Mountain to Gulf Hagas Cutoff Trail. Corridor monitors Sue Lussier, Kris Reid, and Betty Jamison. Sue, Kris, and Betty visited this section on 24 October, driving in the old Champion Road just before the beaver flowage. They walked, cleared (through heavy softwood from 3 on), and re-painted blazes 1.2 miles from 104-ME-1 to just south of 104-ME-3B, locating 1, 2A, 3, and 3A and noting a whole moose skeleton in a beautiful softwood glen.

**Section 20.** Gulf Hagas Preserve. This section is open. On 6 June Dave Field, Dick Welsh, and ATC Boundary Technicians Justin and Seth walked 1.6 miles of the southerly Gulf Hagas Preserve boundary line, from monument 105-ME-32C to 105-ME-35, documenting 10 monuments and photographing all found. Except for about the first 600 feet of line north of the main haul road, which was renewed in October, 2005, the yellow blazes along the entire section were in very poor condition and badly need renewing. The line conditions vary from nice open woods to thick brush in about equal proportions. A number of the "U.S. Boundary" signs need replacing. This was supposed to be a corridor monitoring workshop, but no one new showed up. Dick's knee trouble caused him to leave before we reached the first corner, but he documented the first monument (32C) on the way out, which we had missed. We documented monuments 105-32C, 33, 33A, 33B, 33C, 33D, 33E, 34, 34A, and 35. On 24 June Dave Field walked 1.7 miles of the northern exterior corridor boundary line of the Gulf Hagas Preserve, from the West Branch of the Pleasant River to the end of the old Champion logging road. The ECB was followable (just barely, in some spots) but the blazes were badly faded. Line conditions varied from very good to poor through softwood, mixedwood, and hardwood. Most of the "U. S. Boundary" signs were OK, but a few need replacement including several on downed witness trees. He documented monuments 105-ME-38A, 39, 39A, 39B, 40, 40A, 40B, 41, 42, 42A, and 43.

**Section 21.** Gulf Hugas Cutoff Trail to West Branch of the Pleasant River. Monitor Janice Clain. Janice with Ed Langlais visited the section on 5 August and finished clipping and painting to 104-ME-26P, completing renewal of the line for its length.

**Section 22.** West Branch of the Pleasant River to Summit of Columbus Mountain. Monitor Mark Doty. On 16 August Mark and Lilly Doty walked from 105-ME-32 to 33, checking the 2014 harvest adjacent to the corridor, finding no encroachment. They found 32, 32A, 32B, 32C, and 33 in good condition with fresh yellow paint all along.

**Section 23.** Columbus Mountain to Fourth Mountain. Monitor Mark Doty. Mark did not visit this section in 2014.

**Section 24.** Fourth Mountain to Long Pond Stream Road. Monitor Mark Doty to Elliotsville town line; remainder of section not assigned. On 15 August, Mark and Lilly walked from 105-ME-17 to 19 to check on active CTL timber harvesting on AMC land, noting no encroachment.

**Section 25.** Long Pond Stream Road to Big Wilson Stream. Monitors Michelle and Stan Moody. No report for 2015.

*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. Dave Field flagged a 0.2-mile relocation on 11 September 2013 to eliminate this problem. The relocation has been approved by the MATC, ATC and NPS and will be cleared in 2016.*

**Section 26.** Big Wilson Stream to Little Wilson Falls. Monitor Don Stack. No report for 2015

**Section 27.** Little Wilson Falls to Leeman Brook Lean-to. Monitor Richard Welsh. On 10 September, Dick and Patty Harding hiked from the intersection of North Pond Road and the Elliotsville Road up North Pond Road to the northern corridor between 106-ME-24 and 106-ME-23A. They then went to 106-ME-23A and started painting and trimming along the northern side of North Pond, continuing up to 106-ME-22. They could not find many blazes between 106-ME-22 and 106-ME-21A, but did locate the elusive monument at 106-ME-21A. They documented monuments 106-ME-21A, 22A, 23, and 23A, but did not find 22. Dick and Kathleen Cardin visited the section on 21 September and cleared from 106-ME-11 to 12 and from 25 to 25A, documenting 106-ME-25 and 25A. Dick and Patty returned on 28 Sept. and walked from 106-ME-12 to 11, then went in to 21A and continued painting and trimming to 25B, finishing the day painting and trimming from 9 to 9A. They documented 106-ME-9 and 25B but were unable to locate 9A.

**Section 28.** Leeman Brook Lean-to to Maine Highway 15. Monitor Patty Harding. Patty and Dick Welsh visited this section on 6 October and re-painted the line from 106-ME-15B to 16D, documenting 15B, 16, 16A, 16B, and 16C but were unable to locate 16D.

### **Kennebec District: Monitoring Sections 29-45**

**Section 29.** Maine Highway 15 to Doughty Pond Side Trail. Monitor Ray Ronan. Ray and Mike Davis did light clipping along the west boundary southbound from Route 15 on 13 and 14 June. Ray returned on 19 and 27 June and continued clipping on the section. He finished clipping the west boundary on 16 July and worked at clipping on the east boundary from Route 15 to near MATC Corridor Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 2015- Page 7

Doughty Pond on 3 October.

**Section 30.** Doughty Pond Side Trail to Old Sturtevant Road. Monitor Ray Ronan. Ray worked at clipping the east boundary from near Doughty Pond to the Lake Road on 3 October.

**Section 31.** Old Sturtevant Road to Jackson Brook Road. Monitor Ray Ronan. New assignment. No report.

**Section 32.** Jackson Brook Road to Blanchard/Shirley Road. Monitor Ray Ronan. Ray and Mike Davis visited the section on 13 June and located the elusive monument 107-ME-49A with a metal detector.

**Section 33.** Blanchard/Shirley Road to Horseshoe Canyon Lean-to. Monitor Roger Merchant. This section was a focus of the September American Hiking Society volunteer work week 9/14-18. The abutting landowner had recently renewed the northerly line with yellow blazes from the Piscataquis River to the West Branch of the Piscataquis (107-ME-5 to 14, 3.87 miles). During the work week, Dave Field and Dick Welsh led AHS volunteers to renew the northerly boundary in sections 33, 34, and 35 from 103-ME-14 to 16 (2.68 miles) and documented monuments from 103-ME-10 to 14 along the line previously renewed by the abutter. They documented (including photographs) monuments 107-ME-10, 10A, 10B, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 15E, 15F, 15G, 15H, 15I, 15J, 15K, 15L, 15M, 15N, 15O, 15P, 15Q, 15R, 15S, 15T, 15U, 15V, 15W, 15X, 15Y, 15Z, 15AA, 15BB, 15CC, 15DD, 15EE, 15FF, 15GG, 15HH, 15II, 15JJ, 15KK, 15LL, 15MM, 15NN, 15OO, 15PP, 15QQ and 16. The southerly line was probably renewed by the ATC Boundary Techs. and AHS volunteers but this was not reported.

**Section 34.** Horseshoe Canyon Lean-to to Marble Brook. Open section. See Section 33 for work done on the northerly line. The southerly line was probably renewed by the ATC Boundary Techs. and AHS volunteers but this was not reported.

**Section 35.** Marble Brook to Outlet of Bald Mountain Pond. Open section. During the AHS work week (8/14-18) ATC Boundary Techs. Justin and Seth worked with AHS volunteers to renew the southerly line from 107-ME-20B to 24, documenting 103-ME-20B, 21, 21A, 21B, 22, 23, 23A, and 24. See Section 33 for work done on the northerly line. The southerly line was probably renewed by the ATC Boundary Techs. and AHS volunteers but this was not reported.

**Section 36.** Outlet of Bald Mountain Pond to Joe's Hole. Open section. On 23 September, Dave Field documented monuments along the northerly line from 108-ME-11 through 108-ME-18, covering 2.8 miles and documenting 13 monuments. All of the line walked was renewed by abutter Plum Creek in 2014. At 108-ME-18, the renewal turns west along the town line, rather than east along the town line and AT corridor boundary line. Timber harvesting was conducted, mostly in 2014, all along the line from 108-ME-11 to just beyond 108-ME-16. He saw no encroachments. Almost every monument witness tree group included one tree located on the abutter's land, and a number of those have been cut. Monuments found and documented included 108-ME-11, 12, 13, 13A, 14, 15, 15A, 15D, 16, 16A, 17, 17A, and 18. He was unable to find 108-ME 15B and 15C or any of the witness trees for them.

**Section 37.** Joe's Hole to Summit of Pleasant Pond Mountain. Open section. No coverage in 2015.

**Section 38.** Summit of Pleasant Pond Mt. to Boise Cascade Road. Monitor Glen Dubuc. Glen walked his section on 20 May, covering 2.8 miles and documenting monuments 108-ME-61, MATC Corridor Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 2015- Page 8



61A, 62, 62A, 62B, 62C, 63, 64, 64A on the southerly boundary and 103-ME-76, 7, 78, 78A, 78B, 78C, 79, 79A, and 80 on the northerly line. Line renewal during 2014 made the going easy except for the many broken tops from the rough 2014/2015 winter. Glen noted no encroachments.

**Section 39.** Boise Cascade Road to turn away from Holly Brook. Monitor Tim Fortune. Tim walked the boundary on 4 September and found no problems, but added photographs of monuments 108-ME-67B and 68A to the collection.

**Section 40.** Holly Brook to the Kennebec River. Monitor Tim Fortune. Tim walked the boundary from 109-ME-74 to 82 on 14 August. He noted that the road in tract 109-28 has no "suitable barrier" (called for in the deed) before the corridor. Ten big logs 12'+ piled on NPS land at monument 109-75. Brush, wood and rocks placed on NPS land at monument 109-80. New digging taking place behind 'Church Building' adjacent to corridor at monument 109-80 - 81. On 4 September he replaced some boundary signs and photographed monuments 109-ME-75 through 82.

**Section 41.** Kennebec River to Outlet of Pierce Pond. Monitor William Geller. Not monitored in 2015.

**Section 42.** Outlet of Pierce Pond to N. Branch of Carrying Place Stream. Monitor William Geller. Not monitored in 2015.

**Section 43.** North Branch of Carrying Place Stream to Sandy Stream. Monitor Mike Davis. Mike Walked a line on July 25 from Middle Road to E Carry road. 4 monuments found. Nothing changed since 2011. Walked a line from Middle road to the end of his section, 3 monuments. Started each way at 109-32 post near the gate on Middle Road. Did much flagging to attempt to gain line sight. Line very bad.

**Section 44.** Sandy Stream to SW inlet of West Carry Pond. Monitor William Geller. Bill visited the section on 4 October. He cleared line from 109-ME-22 to 22B, documented 22 but did not locate 21B, 22A, and 22B. Line in poor condition and some question as to exactly which blazed line is correct. He returned to the section on 8 November with Bob Pederson and walked the line from 109-ME-19 to 22B, documenting 19, 20, 20A, 21A, 21B, 22, and 22B but 22A remained elusive despite a vigorous search.

**Section 45.** SW inlet West Carry Pond to Long Falls Dam Road. Monitor Dennis Andrews. Dennis and Paul Laskey visited the section on 2 and 16 August, 6 and 19 September and 24 October. They documented monuments 110-ME-20D, 22, 22A, 22D, 22E, 23, 24E, 25, 25A, and 26, noting no encroachments.

### **Bigelow District: Monitoring Sections 46-59**

**Section 46.** Long Falls Dam Road to Bog Brook Road. Monitor Dennis Andrews. No report for 2015.

**Section 47.** Bog Brook Road to summit of Little Bigelow. Monitors Clint and Helen Buzzell: Clint and Helen visited their assignment on 15 September and walked the 0.3 of a mile from 110-ME-1 to 110-ME-17, locating all 17 monuments or lot pins (many of the NPS monuments have not been seen for some time). They did not check on 118-ME-18. The abutting camp lot owner MATC Corridor Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 2015- Page 9

has dropped trees across the line between 110-ME-14 and 15 and abutters have covered 4 and 5 with brush. They spoke with camp owners Mr. & Mrs. Richardson who happened to be in the area.

**Section 48.** Summit of Little Bigelow to Safford Brook Side Trail. Monitors Sarah and Bill Brown. No report for 2015.

**Section 49.** Safford Brook Trail to West Peak of Bigelow. Monitor Martha Graff. No report.

**Section 50.** West Peak of Bigelow to the South Horn. Monitor Martha Graff. No report.

**Section 51.** South Horn to the Bigelow Range Trail. Monitor Martha Graff. No report.

**Section 52.** Bigelow Range Trail to Maine Highway 27. Monitor Sam Lowry. Sam visited this new assignment on 9 August and walked all of the NPS boundary from and back to Route 27, documenting monuments 111-ME-1, 1A, 1B, 1C, 48B, 48C, and 49. He hiked in to the Cranberry Stream Campsite in the Bigelow Preserve and observed no problems. The ATC Boundary Technicians renewed all of the lines between Route 27 and the Preserve in 2015.

**Section 53.** Maine Highway 27 to Summit of North Crocker. Open section. On 27 June, Dave Field and Sam Lowry walked the easterly boundary from 104-ME-3B to 5, documenting monuments 104-ME-3B, 3C, 4, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, and 5. During 2015, the ATC Boundary Technicians renewed the easterly line from 111-ME-2 to 4D and the westerly line from 45B to 48A, documenting monuments 111-ME-3B, 3C, 4, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 45B, 45D, 46, 46A, 46C, 47, 48, and 48A, but were unable to locate 46B.

**Section 54.** North Crocker to Caribou Valley Road. Monitor Carrington Rhodes. Carrington walked the southerly boundary from 111-ME-39 to 42 on 7 October and photographed monuments he was unable to locate in 2014. He returned on 15 October, walked between the south summit of Crocker and monument 111-ME-43 and cleared the line between 42D and 43. During 2015, the ATC Boundary Technicians renewed the easterly boundary from 111-ME-9B to 11 and from 39 to 42D, documenting monuments 103-ME-9B, 9C, 10, 10A, 10B, 10C, 11, 39, 39A, 39B, 40, 40A, 41, 41A, 41B, 41C, 42, 42A, 42B, 42C, and 42D.

**Section 55.** Caribou Valley Road to Sugarloaf Side Trail. Open section. During 2015, the ATC Boundary Technicians renewed the easterly boundary from 111-ME-11 to 24, documenting monuments 111-ME-12, 13, 13A, 13B, 13C, 14, 14A, 14B, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24. The Appalachian Trail wanders slightly across the boundary line near 111-ME-12, adjacent to the South Branch of the Carrabassett River. They also renewed the westerly boundary from 111-ME-37 to 39, documenting monuments 111-ME-37, 37A, 37B, 37C, 37D, 37E, 38, 38A, 39, and the rebars along the Caribou Pond Road.

**Section 56.** Sugarloaf Mt. Side Trail to Mt. Abraham Side Trail. Monitor John Towey. John visited the section on 12 September and cleared the lines from the Mt. Abraham Side Trail to 112-ME-1. On 14 October he cleared from 112-ME-1 to where 111-ME-29 should be and from 111-ME-28 half way to 31 New. During 2015, the ATC Boundary Technicians renewed the line from 111-ME-36D to 37, documenting monuments 111-ME-36D, 36E, 36 F, and 37.

**Section 57.** Mt. Abraham Side Trail to Orbeton Stream. Monitor Tony Barrett. Tony walked about half a mile of his northeasterly line in October and observed continued ATV trespass on the Barnjum Road.

**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.

**Section 59.** Saddleback Summit to Maine Highway 4. Monitor Dan Simonds. No report

### **Baldpate District: Monitoring Sections 60-70**

**Section 60.** Maine Highway 4 to Little Swift River Pond. Monitor Jonathan Ellis. Jonathan visited his section on 22 August, primarily to look for red blazes that mark the boundary between APPA lands and the State of Maine's Four Ponds Management Unit towards the southerly end of this section. He hiked in to Little Swift River Pond then, on the way out, flagged some of the State line over to 113-ME-1.

**Section 61.** Little Swift River Pond to Sabbath Day Pond Lean-to. Monitor Randy Lite. Randi reported that she had walked the section (all on State-owned land, with no corridor boundary) on 13 July and found no encroachments. She had praise for the Trail Maintainer who had cleared out the blowdown jungle earlier in the year.

**Section 62.** Sabbath Day Pond Lean-to to Maine Highway 17. Monitor Paul McGuire. Paul was unable to get to his section in 2015 but hopes to do better in 2016.

**Section 63.** Maine Highway 17 to Bemis Stream Trail. Monitor John Webster. No report

**Section 64.** Bemis Stream Trail to Former Clearwater Brook Trail. Monitor Robert Anderson. No report

**Section 65.** Former Clearwater Brook Trail to South Arm Road. Monitor Robert Anderson. No report.

**Section 66.** South Arm Road to Hall Mt. Lean-to. Monitor Dennis Pednault. No report.

**Section 67.** Hall Mt. Lean-to to Wyman Mt. Open section.

**Section 68.** Wyman Mountain to East B-Hill Road. Open section

**Section 69.** East B Hill Road to East Peak of Baldpate Mt. Monitor Bill Brooke. Bill was very active on his new assignment this year. On 30 October he surveyed the boundaries from East B-Hill Road to monument 115-ME-21, recording the GPS track of the boundary, taking photos of all located monuments and GPS co-ordinates of all monuments and boundary signs. In general blazes were found to be good excepting section 19-19B where the blazing was poor and non-existent near where 115-ME-19A should be located. He documented monuments 115-ME-17, 17A, 18, 19B, 20, 20A, and 21, but was unable to locate monuments 19 and 19A. No boundary infringement found. The next day he worked from 115-ME-31 to 32, documenting all monuments except 31B, which he was unable to locate. On 10 November he walked from 115-ME-22 to 24, documenting 22, 22A, 22B, 23, and 24 (23 appears to be a painted post; the witness tree diagram does not show a monument).

**Section 70.** East Peak of Baldpate to Maine Highway 26. Monitor Lynn Farnham: Lynn visited the section and reported a logging encroachment on State-owned land that was clearly visible from the Appalachian Trail. This had been noted earlier by a Trail crew and the BPL discovered that its GPS location for the A.T. was in error, causing the logger to come closer to the footpath than had been intended.