

**Maine Appalachian Trail Club  
Corridor Monitoring Report  
Calendar Year 2017  
David B. Field, Overseer of Lands**

Summary Statistics for MATC Corridor Monitoring Responsibilities	
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 (22.35 miles of un-surveyed line)	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	72
Monitoring assignments filled as of 1/1/18	60
Number of miles of ECB paint blazes renewed in 2017**	25
Number of miles of ECB cleared during 2017***	35
Number of monuments positively identified in 2017	452
Number of monuments positively identified to date (89%)	1823
Number of monuments digitally photographed in 2017 for first time	71
Number of monuments digitally photographed to date (83%)	1686
Miles of boundary walked by all workers in 2017 (22%)	68
Hours spent in field by corridor monitors****	675
Hours of travel by corridor monitors****	335
*Includes 1,404 acres for which NPS owns underlying fee. **Including 13.5 miles painted by ATC Boundary Technicians and 5.7 miles done by the AHS and MATC volunteers working with the Techs. in September. *** Including 13.5 miles cleared by ATC Boundary Technicians and 5.7 miles done by the AHS and MATC volunteers working with the Techs. in September.****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.) 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 72 corridor 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 MATC Corridor Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 2017- Page 1

April 1992. 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.

### **Revision of Monitoring Sections, 2017**

Back in 1987, when I designed the corridor monitoring system for Maine, I thought that it was likely that many Trail maintainers would volunteer to look after the corridor lands that surrounded their Trail maintenance assignments. Accordingly, I divided the corridor into 70 monitoring assignments that roughly matched up with maintenance sections.

Well, a few things have happened. Trail maintenance assignments have been shortened and rearranged, and often no longer match up with the CM sections. We have many corridor monitors who are not also Trail maintainers. Finally, a corridor monitoring effort—primarily inspecting and reporting on the condition of monuments, witness trees, and blazed lines-- has a lot more to do with the length of the corridor boundary lines in each assignment than the length of the A.T. footpath contained in the corridor section. These boundary mileages are shown in this report.

So, 2017 saw a revision of the corridor monitoring sections. Most of the sections are the same as in the past, but I have divided up several long (10 miles +) sections and have combined a few short sections. There are now 72 sections. Currently, 11 are unassigned. I have written descriptions of those sections and had them posted on our web site.

I have generally left existing assignments as they have been before. A number of monitors already cover multiple sections. In some cases, consolidation has led to a smaller assignment. In some cases I have divided up a long assignment and given the incumbent monitor one of the new sections.

The boundary line (ECB) mileages are for National Park Service (APPA) land only. No corridor boundary lines have been established within State-owned lands. Monitors of sections on those lands need not walk boundary lines, but are encouraged to keep an eye on how lands near the Trail are being managed by the State agencies.

### **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 2017, 1,664 of the 1,805 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 enlisted Americorps workers to maintain corridor boundary lines. In 2017, MATC volunteers worked with A.T.C.'s Maine Conservation Resources Manager Claire Polfus and AHS volunteers in the Gulf Hags and Chairback Mt. area. 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. (now Weyerhaeuser), 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 and the Appalachian Mountain Club 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.

## **2017 Corridor Monitoring and Boundary Maintenance**

## **Katahdin District: Monitoring Sections 1-11**

There are 56.0 miles of the Appalachian Trail in the Katahdin District. About 6.8 miles of surveyed and marked boundary exists in the Katahdin District. This marked corridor begins on the JoMary Road and runs north for about 3 miles to the T1 R10 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 JoMary Road to Murphy Brook. About 15.2 miles of the A.T. is on land owned by The Nature Conservancy from Murphy Brook to the Golden Road. About 1 mile of the A.T. is a road walk on the Golden Road, crossing Abol Bridge, on land owned by the Katahdin Forest Management Company. The balance of the A.T., about 14.4 miles, is in Baxter State Park, from the Baxter State Park boundary at 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 5/19/17, 7/15/17, and 9/5/17. 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, which is 0.9 of a mile long, 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 5/7/17, 5/20/17, 6/3/17, and 9/5/17. 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 Forest Management Company on an old road that connects with the 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 Campground, (now owned by a rafting company) a privately owned facility open to the public, 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 leanto 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 5/13/17 and 9/30/17. 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 checked this section on 9/30/17. 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 fire rings are broken up. There were 2 metal diamond A.T. markers on trees near the eastern end of Rainbow Lake. They are now gone. 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. There is 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.

**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 7/9/17 and 7/10/17. 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 sign on an old fishermen's trail to Donut Pond. There is also an unmarked side trail to Rainbow Lake Camps north of the Donut Pond trail. At this point there is an MATC sign "A.T. North →". The official MATC side trails in this section are: Beaver Pond side trail 0.4 mile long, Rainbow Mt side trail 0.75 mile long, and Rainbow Dam side trail 0.25 mile long. There is also a side trail from the southern Rainbow Deadwater to Bear Pond used by fishermen. Some fishermen fly to Rainbow Lake Camps to camp and fish. Some also hike from Nahmakanta Lake Camps to access the Rainbow Deadwaters. On 7/9/17 there was 1 canoe near the junction of the A.T. and the Bear Pond Trail. Also there was 1 canoe on the far shore of the 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 checked this section on 7/10/17 and 7/11/17. 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. On 7/10/17 there were 3 boats and 3 canoes on Crescent Pond. There is a blue blazed side trail north of Crescent Pond that leads to Pollywog Stream, this trail was built by the State of Maine and approved by MATC. There are several bootleg campsites on the beaches of Nahmakanta Lake. On a huge glacial erratic between sand beach and Prentiss Brook someone has painted the words PUSH ME with red paint. The trail maintainer and I have scraped and wire brushed off this paint for 3 years in a row. It was first seen there in June 2014. It was not repainted in 2017. Pelletier Brothers from Millinocket are harvesting wood on State of Maine land about 1 mile south of the A.t. near Nesuntabunt Mt. area.

**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 7/12/17. This section of the A.T. 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 7/9/17. There were two boats and one canoe at Rainbow Lake Dam.

**Section 9.** Nahmakanta Lake Camps. 0 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Dave Field. Dave did not visit the camps section in 2017.

**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 section on 7/13/17. 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). On 7/11/16 I removed a business card at the junction of the A.T. and the Mahar Landing side trail. On 7/13/17, I removed 2 business cards at the junction of the A.T. and the Mahar Landing side trail. This side trail, 0.25 mile long, leads to a Maine Forest campsite on Pemadumcook Lake near the outlet of Nahmakanta Stream. This campsite does not appear to be used very much.

**Section 11.** Antlers' Campsite to JoMary Road. 4.2 trail miles; 6.80 Exterior Corridor Boundary (ECB) miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Rick reports that the section is good. He checked this section on 7/13/17/ This section of the A.T. is on land owned by the National Park Service. On July11, 2016, Rick checked the 2 posts on the north side of the JoMary Road along the boundary on each side of the corridor. The posts were in good shape and the yellow paint boundary blazes were in fair shape. The boundary line does need clipping and blowdown removal. Also on 7/11/16 I saw 2 U.S. government pickups parked at the Cooper Brook crossing of the A.T. I did not see any but they were possibly doing corridor work.

Dave Field: On 14 June 2015, I walked about two miles of the northerly boundary from the Jo Mary Road to Mud Pond, locating and photographing 14 monuments. Prentice & Carlisle had cleared and re-blazed (in red) the boundary prior to their ongoing logging operation, which made the boundary walk easy except for the beaver flowages. In late August I worked with an ALDHA volunteer crew from the logging bridge over Cooper Brook to the outlet of Mud Pond, but the line is in terrible condition. Another ALDHA crew worked north from the Jo Mary Road on the southerly side, but ran into flowages not far in so did not renew much of the line. Dave visited the section on 11 July 2016 and documented monument 103-ME-8A, noting that the boundary line had been renewed by the abutter to beyond 103-ME-8. On 8 July, ATC Boundary Technicians Joe Plesic and Zachariah Williams renewed the boundary from 103-ME-2A to 4, documenting 2A, 3, and 4.

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

**Section 12.** Jo Mary Road to Cooper Brook Lean-to. 6.16 ECB miles. Corridor Monitors Jean & Tom Giggey. Not visited in 2017. In August, ATC Boundary Technicians Mason and

Fondoules cleared and re-blazed the boundary lines from 103-ME-12QQ to 14A and from 103-ME-29H to 34A.

**Section 13.** Cooper Brook Lean-to to Crawford Pond; Chaples Camp. 8.87 ECB miles. Corridor Monitors Jean & Tom Giggey. Not visited in 2017. In August, ATC Boundary Technicians Mason and Fondoules cleared and re-blazed the boundary lines from 103-ME-14A to 14D and from 103-ME-29E to 29H.

**Section 14.** Crawford Pond to East Branch of Pleasant River. 7.57 ECB miles. Open section. This section is open for assignment, but Mark and Lily Doty volunteered to walk much of the boundary. On 4 September and 8 October they covered 1.9 miles and documented monuments 104-ME-32, 32A, 32B, 32C, 32D, 32E, 32F, 32G, 32H, 32I, and 43C.

**Section 15.** East Branch Pleasant River to West Branch Ponds Road. 3.13 ECB miles. Open section. In September, ATC Boundary Technicians Mason and Fondoules cleared and re-blazed the boundary lines from 104-ME-43C to 48.

**Section 16/17.** West Branch Ponds road to Summit of White Brook Trail. 5.95 ECB miles. Open section. This section is open for assignment, but Mark and Lily Doty volunteered to walk much of the boundary. On 21 and 29 October they covered 1.45 miles and documented monuments 104-ME-17, 16, 18A, 18B, 18C, 19., 26M, 26N, and 26P. ATC Boundary Technicians Mason and Fondoules cleared and re-blazed the boundary lines from 104-ME-26N to 26P on 22 September.

**Section 18.** White Brook Trail to Gulf Hahas Mountain. 4.25 ECB miles. This section is open.

**Section 19.** Gulf Hahas Mountain to Gulf Hahas Cutoff Trail. 7.73 ECB miles. Corridor monitors Sue Lussier, Kris Reid, and Betty Jamison. Kris and Betty visited this section on 3 and 4 October, driving and hiking in on parts of the old Champion road system. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> they walked and lightly cleared 0.86 of a mile of line and documented monuments 104-ME-3B, 3C, 4, 5, 5A (first time!), and 5B. They commented on the very difficult terrain on Gulf Hahas Mt. and many blowdowns. On the 4<sup>th</sup> they walked and lightly clipped 0.68 of a mile from 105-ME-43A to 105-ME-43E, failing to find 43C. Back in the woods on a cold 11 November, Kris and Betty tried to find the line beyond 104-ME-5 but without any luck.

**Section 20.** Gulf Hahas Preserve. 3.82 ECB miles. This section is still open. On 29 August I walked 1.1 miles of the southerly boundary and documented monuments 105-ME-35, 35A, 36, 36A, 36B, 37, 37A, and 38. On 18 and 21 September I led American Hiking Society volunteers to clear and re-blaze 1.7 miles of line from 105-ME-33 to 33D, and from 105-ME-36A to 38, adding documentation for 105-ME-33, 33A, 33B, 33C, and 33D. On 9/22 ATC Tech. Fondoules and AHS volunteers renewed the line from 105-ME-33D to 33E.

**Section 21.** Gulf Hahas Cutoff Trail to West Branch of the Pleasant River. 2.0 ECB miles. Monitor Janice Clain. Janice. accompanied by Audrey Laffeley walked the boundary from Pugwash Pnd to the Cut-Off Trail on 29 October, finding all monuments and noting no encroachments. In September, ATC Techs. Mason and Fondoules led AHS volunteers to renew the lines from 105-ME-44 to 50, documenting 44, 44A, 45, 45A (damaged), 46, and 49 Offset (for the first time—it had been thought to have been washed out of the river bank). They were unable to locate APPA survey markers for 47 and 48, which apparently were never set to replace the old wooden corner posts, and 105-ME-50 was not found in the Gulf Hahas parking lot.

**Section 22 new.** West Branch of the Pleasant River to Dip South of E. Chairback Pond. 5.65 ECB miles. Monitor Mark Doty. Mark did not visit this section in 2017. On 18 September I led American Hiking Society volunteers along the line from the main haul road past 105-ME-32C to 33, where we began full maintenance along the Gulf Hagas Preserve boundary. The line that we monitored was in rather poor condition. On 18 and 19 September ATC Boundary Technician Mason led AHS volunteers to clear and re-blaze 1.45 miles of the lines from 105-ME-30 past 32B to the main haul road. On 18 and 19 Sept. ATC Boundary Tech. Fondoules led an AHS crew and MATC volunteers Welsh and Harding to renew 1.15 miles of the line from 105-ME-50 to 52B.

**Section 23 new.** Dip South of E. Chairback Pond to Third Mountain. 6.19 ECB miles. Monitor Mark Doty. Mark did not visit this section in 2017.

**Section 24 new.** Third Mountain to Elliotsville Town Line. 5.76 ECB miles Monitor Mark Doty Not visited in 2017.

Section 25a. Elliotsville Town Line to Long Pond Stream. About 7.9 ECB miles. (This is all State-owned land with no NPS corridor boundary lines.) Monitor Patty Harding. Patty and Dick Welsh walked the A.T. from Long Pond Stream to Barren Mt. in late May and noted no incursions so far as what could be seen from the Trail.

**Section 25b.** Long Pond Stream to Big Wilson Stream. 8.9 ECB miles. Monitors Michelle and Stan Moody. Stan and Michelle visited the area on 19 May and 21 October, documenting offset monuments 105-ME-55C and 56. On the 19<sup>th</sup> they noted activity to keep open the road east of Big Wilson Stream for illegal motorized entry. On the 21<sup>st</sup> they reported that the old bear bait site near 105-ME-37A appeared to be unused, that the persistent bootleg campsite and fire ring near 105-ME-74 offset has been used and the “no fires” sign had disappeared, and that the bear bait site adjacent to (but outside) the corridor near 105-ME-55C was in use this year.

**Section 26.** Big Wilson Stream to Little Wilson Falls. 4.51 ECB miles. Monitor Don Stack. No report for 2017.

**Section 27.** Little Wilson Falls to Leeman Brook Lean-to. 6.92 ECB miles. Monitor Richard Welsh. On 17 August Dick rough-cleared 0.6 of a mile from 106-ME-28 to 29 and documented 106-ME-27, 28, 28A, 28B, and 29. On 10 September he and Patty Harding cleared and re-blazed 0.4 of a mile from 106-ME-20 to 20B, documenting 20A as well. This was the first time that 20 had been found and documented. On 19 October he and Patty walked 0.6 of a mile of line, documenting 106-ME-25B, 26 (first time!), 26A, and 27.

**Section 28.** Leeman Brook Lean-to to Maine Highway 15. 3.11 ECB miles. Monitor Patty Harding. Patty and Dick Welsh went in on 12 September and clipped and re-painted the northerly line from 106-ME-17B to 19. They documented 106-ME-17B, 18, 18A, 18B, and 19, but a search for 19A was unsuccessful. Hiking along the AT near Bell Pond they found a still-smoldering bootleg campfire and took half an hour to dig it up and quench it.

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

**Section 29/30.** Maine Highway 15 to Old Sturtevant Road. 6.08 ECB miles. Monitor Ray Ronan. On 15 June Ray went over portions of this section as he introduced Beverly Smith-



Peterson to corridor monitoring. They uncovered 107-ME-41 Offset for the first time and noted that the lines need a great deal of work. They also documented 107-ME-45 and noted that the abutting landowner in the vicinity had re-blazed the line (orange). They visited Section 31/32 briefly on 15 and 16 June.

**Section 31/32.** Old Sturtevant Road to Blanchard/Shirley Road. 5.00 ECB miles. Monitor Ray Ronan. (See report for 29/30.)

**Section 33.** Blanchard/Shirley Road to Horseshoe Canyon Lean-to. 7.12 ECB miles. Monitor Roger Merchant. No report from Roger. On 13, 14, and 15 June ATC Boundary Tech. Shane Mason cleared and re-blazed 2.15 miles of the lines from 107-ME-25NN to 26, documenting monuments 107-ME-25NN, 25OO, 25PP, 25QQ, 25RR, 25SS, 25TT, 25UU, 25VV, 25WW, 25XX, 25YY, 25ZZ, 25AAA, 25BBB, 25CCC, 25DDD, 25EEE, 25FFF, 25GGG, 25HHH, 25III, 25JJJ, 25LLL, and 26. Monument 25KKK remains missing.

**Section 34.** Horseshoe Canyon Lean-to to Marble Brook. 5.03 ECB miles. Newly assigned to Kathleen Cardin. Kathleen visited her section on 14 June, accompanied by Bruce Grant, primarily to learn how to access the area and become oriented. They documented monuments 107-ME-25LL and 25MM. They returned on 23 August and documented monuments 107-ME-10, 10A, 10B, 11, 12, 13, and 14.

**Section 35.** Marble Brook to Outlet of Bald Mountain Pond. 5.29 ECB miles. Newly assigned to Jeff Smith. No report from Jeff for 2017. On 12 June, ATC Boundary Tech. Shane Mason cleared and re-blazed 1.56 miles of the lines from 107-ME-17 to 20B, documenting 107-ME-17, 18, 18B, 18C, 18D, 19, 19A, 19B, 20, 20A, and 20B.

**Section 36a.** Outlet of Bald Mountain Pond to East of North Peaks Trail. 2.8 ECB miles. Newly assigned to Paul Fopeano. On 9 June, Paul scouted the area from the Bald Mt. Pond Road, paddling a canoe across to the Moxie Bald Lean-to and climbing to the summit of Moxie Bald Mt. He visited the area on 12 July to scout out access from a different direction. On 31 August he worked north of Bald Mt. Pond, documented monuments 108-ME-22B, 23, and 23A, and hand-cleared from 22 to 24. On 11 October he added monuments 108-ME-24 and 26 but was unable to locate 25, cleared from 24 to 26 and completed clearing from 27A to 27B. On 23 October he added 108-ME-22 and 22A. On 30 October he found 108-ME-27 (drill hole only—cap gone), 27A, 27B, 28, 28A, and 29.

**Section 36b.** East of North Peaks Trail to West of Bypass Trail. 5.3 ECB miles. Open section. No work in 2017.

**Section 36c.** West of Bypass Trail to Moxie Pond at Joe's Hole. 5.5 ECB miles. Open section. No work in 2017.

**Section 37 new.** Joe's Hole to Middle Mountain. 7.5 ECB miles. This section was newly assigned to Erik Brooks and Erik monitored nearly the entire section during 2017. On 9 July Erik with friends Farley and Gabo walked much of the southerly line, documenting monuments 108-ME-46A and 47 (but failing to locate 46 and 46B), 48, 49, 50, 50A, 51A, 51B, 51C, 51D, 52A, 53, 54, 56, and 56A, but failing to see 51, 52, 55, and 57 (found later). Erik and his Dad, David, visited the area on 16 September, locating 108-ME-1 and then proceeding along the northerly line, documenting monuments 86A, 87, 88, 88A, 89, 89B, 89C, 89D, 90, 91, 92, and 93. 108-ME-89A remains elusive and has yet to be found. On the 17<sup>th</sup>, Erik hiked up the AT and

continued along the northerly line, documenting 81, 82, 82A, 83, 84, 85, and 86. He was unable to find 80C, which I also failed to find in 2013. The witness information for this monument is confusing. Erik bushwhacked over to the southerly line and worked easterly from 108-ME-59B, which is within sight of 60 but mislabeled “58B”, a monument that does not even exist. He continued on to document 59A, 59, 58A, 58, and 57.

**Section 38 new.** Middle Mountain to Boise Cascade Road. 3.9 ECB miles. Monitor Glen Dubuc. Glen walked lines and cleared blowdowns on 23 and 29 September.

**Section 39.** Boise Cascade Road to turn away from Holly Brook. 5.74 ECB miles. Monitor Tim Fortune. Tim walked all of the boundary lines on 21 July.

**Section 40.** Holly Brook to the Kennebec River. 3.44 ECB miles. Monitor Tim Fortune. Tim walked all of the boundary lines on 21 July, inspecting the logging road crossing and noting that the road still does not have the “suitable barrier” called for in the deed with the NPS. I walked the boundary from 109-ME-59 to 70 in order to obtain monument photos. I documented 59, 60, 60A, 61, 62, 62A, 63, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70 Offset, and 82, but was unable to locate 64, 71, 72, 73, or 74. The last four are set below grade in the center line of an old logging road

**Section 41.** Kennebec River to Outlet of Pierce Pond. 5.82 ECB miles. Monitor William Geller. Bill visited this section on 2 and 13 October, brushed all of the line and documented monuments 109-ME-52, 52A, 53, 54, 54A, 54B, 54C, 54E, 55, 56, 56A, 57, 57A, 57B, 57C, 57D, 57E, 57F, 57G, but was unable to locate 54D or 58. On 22 September he clipped the line from 109-ME-95-100A, documenting 95, 95A, 95B, 97, 97A, 97B, 97C, 97D, 97E, 98, 98A, 98B, 98C, 98D, 98E, 100, and 100A, but 96 was not located.

**Section 42.** Outlet of Pierce Pond to N. Branch of Carrying Place Stream. 7.94 ECB miles. Monitor William Geller. On 9 October, Bill and Bob Pederson brushed the line from 109-ME-48 to 52, documenting 48 (missing cap), 49, 49A, 50, the four rebar between 50 and 51, 51, and 5 of the seven rebar between 51 and 52.

**Section 43.** North Branch of Carrying Place Stream to Sandy Stream. 6.85 ECB miles. Monitor Mike Davis visited the section on 1 September and located monument 109-ME-34 but the going was tough and Mike has shifted his assignment to Section 46. This assignment is now open.

**Section 44.** Sandy Stream to SW inlet of West Carry Pond. 4.75 ECB miles. Monitor William Geller. Bill performed full maintenance (clearing and re-blazing) on 18 October from 109-ME-19A to 22 and on 17 September from 27 to 30B and re-blazed where he had previously cleared from 22A to 22E and from 31 to 31B. He documented 109-ME-19A, 20A, 20B, 20C, 21, 21A, 21B, 22, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 27, 28, 28A, 29, 29A, 30, 30A, 30B, 31, 31, 31B, and 31E, but did not find 22A.

**Section 45.** SW inlet West Carry Pond to Long Falls Dam Road. 4.32 ECB miles. Section 45 is now open for reassignment.

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

**Section 46.** Long Falls Dam Road to Bog Brook Road. 1.79 ECB miles. This section was just reassigned to Mike Davis and was not covered in 2017.

**Section 47.** Bog Brook Road to summit of Little Bigelow. 0.29 ECB miles. This section is now open. On 17 August ATC Boundary Technicians Shane Mason and Garrett Fondoules cleared and re-blazed all of the 0.29 of a mile of ECB line on the section, documenting 110-ME-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18. They were unable to locate 10, 11, 12, and 13 along the edge of the camp road followed by the boundary. They noted previously reported encroachments by some camp owners.

**Section 48/49.** Summit of Little Bigelow to West Peak of Bigelow. Open section.

**Section 50/51.** West Peak of Bigelow to Bigelow Range Trail. No ECB miles. This section was assigned to Robert Haemmerle in 2017. He walked the A.T. through his assignment area on 24 May, noting no problems. He repeated the walk on 16 October and noted that hikers appear to be complying with requests to not trample sensitive vegetation areas.

**Section 52.** Bigelow Range Trail to Maine Highway 27. 1.32 ECB miles. Monitor Sam Lowry. Not monitored in 2017. This section includes the Jones Pond Tract, which lies entirely within the State-owned Bigelow Preserve but is owned by the National Park Service.

**Section 53a.** Maine Highway 27 to Half-way to Summit of North Crocker. 4.05 ECB miles. This section was newly assigned to Bill Vaughan in 2017. He visited the area for a short time on 23 September, checking and re-marking the first couple of hundred feet of both sides from Route 27.

**Section 53b.** Half-way to Summit of North Crocker to Summit. 5.30 ECB miles. Monitor Erik Brooks in 2017. Erik walked all of his section on 10 September, documenting 111-ME-5, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 6, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, and 7 on the easterly side and 111-ME-43, 43A, 43B, 43C, 43D, 43E, 44, 44A, 44B, 44C, 44D, and 45 on the westerly side., and noting that the boundary renewal last year by the ATC Techs. is holding up well.

**Section 54.** Summit of North Crocker to Caribou Valley Road. 5.32 ECB miles. Monitor Carrington Rhodes. Carrington walked the easterly boundary on 8 September, documenting 111-ME-8, 8A, 9, 9A, 9B, 9C, 10, 10A, 10B, 10C, and 11 and noting that the lines and blazes are in good shape. On 28 September he walked the westerly side, documenting 111-ME-39, 39A, 39B, 40, 40A, 41, 41A, 41B, 41C, 42, 42A, 42B, 42C, 42D, and 42E.

**Section 55.** Caribou Valley Road to Sugarloaf Side Trail. 3.67 ECB miles. Monitors Tim and Linda Healy. Tim and Linda visited their section on 21 September and walked the southerly line, documenting 111-ME-37, 37A, 37B, 37C, 37D, 37E, and 38. On 7 October they took the ski lift up Sugarloaf and walked the side trail down to find 111-ME-23A. They continued along the easterly line in search of further monuments but were unable to locate 24, 25, or 26 on a cloudy, foggy, rainy cold day. The line is on very steep sidehill terrain.

**Section 56.** Sugarloaf Mt. Side Trail to Mt. Abraham Side Trail. 6.60 ECB miles. Monitor John Towey. John visited the section on 9 August and documented 111-ME-30, 31, 32, 33, and 33A as well as 112-ME-20, 20A, 20B, and 21. All monuments were OK and he appreciated the recent line renewal by the ATC Techs. (ATC Boundary Technicians Steve Mason and Garrett Fondoules cleared and re-blazed the lines from 111-ME-33 to 36A on 7-11 July and added 36B to 36C and 26E to 26F on 23-25 July.) On 24 August he started clearing from 111-ME-33 to 34, continuing on from 33 to 32 on 21 September. On 5 October John documented 111-ME-36, 36A, 36B, 36C, and 36D, all in good shape.

**Section 57.** Mt. Abraham Side Trail to Orbeton Stream. 5.55 ECB miles. Monitor Tony Barrett. Tony, accompanied by Jeff Smith, visited the section on 29 November and documented 112-ME-8, 9, 10, and 11. He noted that the illegal ATV/snowmobile ford of Perham Stream showed signs of use and that there was a fire ring on the road next to the A.T. Working with a chainsaw, they cleared the line from the Barnjum Road to 11.

**Section 58a.** Orbeton Stream to Saddleback Jr. 8.30 ECB miles. This section was newly assigned to John Robichaud. I met John on 28 June for his CM training session and we walked the easterly line from the old railroad grade to Orbeton Stream (noting 112-ME-23 on the way) where his section begins, and continued south, documenting 112-ME-23, 23A, 23B, 23C, 24 (first time found), and 24A. The line was mostly open, but the blazes are badly faded. John went in again on 28 September and documented 112-ME-41, but looked unsuccessfully for 40E. He tried for 40E again on 6 October and found it, also documenting 24B and 25.

**Section 58b.** Saddleback Jr. to Saddleback Summit. 6.30 ECB miles. Tom Carr

**Section 59a.** Saddleback Summit to Eddy Pond Road. 3.20 ECB miles. Monitor Dan Simonds. No report

**Section 59b.** Eddy Pond Road to Maine Highway 4. 6.40 ECB miles. Monitor Dan Simonds. No report.

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

**Section 60.** Maine Highway 4 to Little Swift River Pond. 7.53 ECB miles. Monitor Jonathan Ellis. Jonathan visited the section, accompanied by Laura Flight, on 27 August. They documented monuments 113-ME-9A, 9B, 9D, 9E, 9F, and 10 but were unable to find 9C. Although this section was renewed in 2012, blazes are badly faded and need attention. Jonathan returned on 2 September and worked between 14D and 17 without much luck finding monuments. Blazes badly faded in this area also.

**Section 61.** Little Swift River Pond to Sabbath Day Pond Lean-to. (No ECB) Monitor Randy Lite. Randi. No report for 2017.

**Section 62.** Sabbath Day Pond Lean-to to Maine Highway 17. 2.78 ECB miles. Monitor Paul McGuire. No report from Paul in 2016 or 2017. I led a corridor monitoring workshop along the easterly line on 20 May, accompanied by Kathleen Cardin, Paul Fopeano, Jeff Smith, Bill Vaughan, Stephen Brezinski and Irene Syphers. We walked 1.2 miles of line and documented monuments 114-ME-14A, 15, 15A, 15B, 15C, and 15D. The line was in fair to good condition but the blazes were badly faded.

**Section 63a.** Maine Highway 17 to Middle of Bemis Ridge. 5.4 ECB miles. Monitor John Webster. No report for 2016 or 2017.

**Section 63b.** Middle of Bemis Ridge to Bemis Stream Trail. 5.3 ECB miles. This section was newly assigned to Brad Cook in 2017 but Brad and I failed to connect for a training session and no monitoring was done. ATC Boundary Technicians Steve Mason and Garrett Fondoules

worked on the easterly line on 23-25 June, clearing and re-blazing from 114-ME-20 to 20E and documenting those monuments as well as 20A, 20B, 20C, and 20D.

**Section 64.** Bemis Stream Trail to Former Clearwater Brook Trail. 4.2 ECB miles. Monitor Robert Anderson. No report for 2017

**Section 65.** Former Clearwater Brook Trail to South Arm Road. 6.5 ECB miles. Monitor Robert Anderson. No report for 2017

**Section 66.** South Arm Road to Hall Mt. Lean-to. 5.97 ECB miles. Monitor Dennis Pednault. No report for 2017

**Section 67 new.** Hall Mt. Lean-to to Wyman Mt. 4.20 ECB miles. Monitor Chris Fife. Chris and Michele visited the section on 27 May and documented monuments 115-ME-39E, 39F, 40, 40A, 40B, 40C, 41, and 41A.

**Section 68 new.** Wyman Mountain to East B-Hill Road. 6.71 ECB miles. (Open section)

**Section 69.** East B Hill Road to East Peak of Baldpate Mt. 6.17 ECB miles. Monitor Bill Brooke. No report for 2017.

**Section 70.** East Peak of Baldpate to Maine Highway 26. (No ECB miles) Monitor Lynn Farnham: Lynn visited the section on 26 July and found no new encroachments.