

**Maine Appalachian Trail Club
Corridor Monitoring Report
Calendar Year 2018
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 1/1/19 | 66 |
| Number of miles of ECB paint blazes renewed in 2018** | 35 |
| Number of miles of ECB cleared during 2018*** | 37 |
| Number of monuments positively identified in 2018 | 552 |
| Number of monuments positively identified to date (95%) | 1931 |
| Number of monuments digitally photographed in 2018 for first time | 124 |
| Number of monuments digitally photographed to date (89%) | 1815 |
| Miles of boundary walked by all workers in 2018 (27%) | 83 |
| Hours spent in field by corridor monitors**** | 687 |
| Hours of travel by corridor monitors**** | 345 |
| *Includes 1,404 acres for which NPS owns underlying fee. **Including 31.8 miles painted by ATC Boundary Technicians and 1.2 miles done by the AHS and MATC volunteers working with the Techs. in September. *** Including 31.8 miles cleared by ATC Boundary Technicians and 1.2 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 April 1992. Corridor monitors report by e-mail and 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, six 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 2018, 1,815 of the 1,931 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, under the leadership of Land Protection Associate Alison Scheiderer. (Alison resigned her position in 2019 and a search for her replacement is under way.) In 2018, MATC volunteers worked with A.T.C.'s Maine Conservation Resources Manager Claire Polfus and AHS volunteers in the Gulf Hagas 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 recent years.

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 was 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. We have recently discovered that the APPA Compendium of Orders has been changed to include the following:

“Watercraft may be stored on backcountry Maine ponds, located at least 100 feet from, and out of sight of, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. Canoe racks that are unobtrusive and safe will be allowed, pending local club approval. Watercraft that do not meet the above conditions may be removed.”

2018 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 6.8 miles to near Antlers Campsite. 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 10/21/17 and 5/24/18. This section is in Baxter State Park. 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 miles long, diverges away from the A.T. to eliminate 2 fordings of Nesowadnehunk 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 4/28/18, 5/25/18 and 9/7/18. 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 foot bridge crossing of Abol Stream. The A.T. continues 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. From the end of Abol Bridge, it is a 0.2 mile road walk on the Golden Road, owned by the Katahdin Forest Management Co. The A.T. turns left off of the road and enters the woods. 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 Lands. 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 6/16/18. 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. These campsites were inspected on June 16, 2018 by members of MATC, ATC and TNC. There were 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. They are now gone as of 2016. 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. Rick did not check this section in 2018. 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 a 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 that is marked with red paint, 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 and 2 boats at Rainbow Lake Dam. At the south end of the Rainbow Deadwaters there was 1 boat and 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. Rick did not check this section in 2018. 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, harvested wood on State of Maine land about 1 mile south of the A.T. road crossing near the Nesuntabunt Mt. area during the summer of 2017.

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 9/5/18. 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. Rick did not check this section in 2018. There were two boats and one canoe at Rainbow Lake Dam in 2018.

Section 9. Nahmakanta Lake Camps. 0 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Dave Field. Dave did not visit the camps section in 2018.

Section 10. Mahar Landing side trail to Antlers' Campsite. 6.1 trail miles. Corridor Monitor: Rick Ste. Croix. Rick did not check this section in 2018. 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 did not check this section in 2018. This section of the A.T. is on land owned by the National Park Service. On September 5, 2018, Rick checked the 2 posts on the north side of the JoMary Road along the boundary on each side of the corridor as he drove by on my way to Nahmakanta Lake. The posts are in good shape.

Dave Field: On 8/21/18 I drove in to the Cooper Brook bridge on the Jo-Mary Road and hiked to the north town line of TAR10 (Waypoint 447), then ran a compass line over to monument 103-ME-40 because the town line is very hard to follow. I walked 0.6 of a mile of line down to the shore of Mud Pond, documenting monuments 104-ME-38B, 39, 39A, 39B and 40, then returned to the A.T., hiked to the Cooper Pond side trail, crossed at the outlet dam and went over to the site of 105-ME-5. All of the boundary line from 103-ME-40 to Mud Pond was renewed by the abutter in 2014 and blazed with red paint.

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 or 2018. In 2017, 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 or 2018. In 2017, 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 and was not visited in 2018.

Section 15. East Branch Pleasant River to West Branch Ponds Road. 3.13 ECB miles. This section was open in 2018 and not visited. In 2017, ATC Boundary Technicians Mason and Fondoules cleared and re-blazed the boundary lines from 104-ME-43C to 48. Section assigned to Irene Syphers in January, 2019.

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 13 October they covered 0.58 of a mile and documented monuments 104-ME-12B, 12C, 13, 14, 15, and 16. ATC Boundary Technicians Mason and Fondoules cleared and re-blazed the boundary lines from 104-ME-26N to 26P in 2017. In 2018, ATC Boundary Technicians Parker and Abelo renewed 5.3 miles of line from 104-ME-5A to 18, documenting those monuments and 104-ME-5B, 6, 7, 8, 8A, 8B, 9, 9A, 9B, 10, 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D, 11, 11A, 11B, 11C, 11D, 11E, 12, 12A, 12B, 12C, 13, 14, 15, 16, 16A, and 17. They were unable to locate

6A. On 17, 18 September Techs. Parker and Smith renewed 1.2 miles of line from 104-ME-50C to 52, documenting those monuments and 104-ME-50D, 51, 51A, 51B, and 51C.

Section 18. White Brook Trail to Gulf Hags Mountain. 4.25 ECB miles. This section is open, but Mark and Lily Doty volunteered to walk much of the boundary. On 10 and 30 June they walked 2.84 miles of line and documented monuments 104-ME-19A, 19B, 19C, 19D, 20, 20A, 20B, 20C, 20D, 21, 21A, 21B, 21C, 22, 22A, 23, and 24.

Section 19. Gulf Hags Mountain to Gulf Hags Cutoff Trail. 7.73 ECB miles. Corridor monitors Sue Lussier, Kris Reid, and Betty Jamison. Sue, Betty and Kris visited the section on 12 July and walked .57 of a mile of the line, doing some clipping and documenting monuments 105-ME-41, 42, 42A, 43, and 43A. The next day, with the help of forester John Bryant, they did more light trimming along two miles of line and documented 104-ME-1A, 1B, 2, 2A, 3, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4, 5, 5A and 5B. ATC Boundary Technicians Parker and Abelo renewed four miles of line from 104-ME-24 to 26P, documenting those monuments and also 24A, 24B, 24C, 24D, 24E, 25, 26, 26A, 26B, 26C, 26E, 26G, 26H, 26I, 26J, 26K, 26L, 26M, and 26N. They were unable to find 26D, 26F, and 24G1. They also renewed the line from 27 to 27A.

Section 20. Gulf Hags Preserve. 3.82 ECB miles. This section is now assigned to Joe Phillips. I met Joe on 16 August for a training session and we walked in to the Head of the Gulf Trail, then down to the West Branch of the Pleasant River. From there we went east and documented monuments 105-ME-38A, 39, 39A, 39B, and 40. The ATC Boundary Technicians had renewed the line in 2017 from half-way between 38A and 39 to 39B. I went in on 17 September with two American Hiking Society volunteers and we renewed the line from 38A to where the Techs. had worked and then from 39A to about 500 feet east of 39B. On 18 September Parker and American Hiking Society volunteers renewed 0.64 of a mile of the northerly line from 105-ME-39B to 41, documenting those monuments and 40, 40A, and 40B. On 19 September Dick Welsh, Patty Harding and I renewed 0.8 of a mile of the south line from monument 105-ME-33E to 36, documenting 105-ME-33E, 34A, 35, 35A, and 36, but were unable to find 34 even though I had photographed it in 2015.

Section 21. Gulf Hags Cutoff Trail to West Branch of the Pleasant River. 2.0 ECB miles. Monitor Janice Clain. No report from Janice for 2018.

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 or 2018. Much of the line was renewed by ATC Boundary Techs., AHS volunteers, and MATC volunteers in 2017. On 21 September 2018, ATC Boundary Technicians Parker and Abelo renewed the 1,045 ft. from monuments 105-ME-1 to 2 and also the 615 feet from 105-ME-52C to 53.

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 or 2018. In 2018, ATC Boundary Technicians Parker and Abelo renewed 0.67 of a mile from 105-ME-12 to 13A on 20 September, documenting also 12A and 13 and, on 18 September, Arbelo with American Hiking Society volunteers renewed 1.2 miles from 22A to 23A, documenting those monuments and also 22B, 22C, 22E, and 23.

Section 24 new. Third Mountain to Elliotsville Town Line. 5.76 ECB miles Monitor Mark Doty. Mark did not visit this section in 2017 or 2018. On 11 July I walked .42 of a mile of the northerly line from just west of monument 105-ME-21 to 105-ME-20A, documenting 19C and 20A but not seeing 20. This work was to check on the location of a proposed relocation of the Trail over Fourth Mountain.

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. Not visited in 2018.

Section 25b. Long Pond Stream to Big Wilson Stream. 8.9 ECB miles. Monitors Michelle and Stan Moody. Stan and Michelle visited the section on 26 August, noted that the old campsite on Long Pond Stream near 105-ME-74 appeared not to have been used and also found that the bear stand near 73A remained abandoned. Another bear stand on the westerly boundary is just outside the NPS land.

Section 26. Big Wilson Stream to Little Wilson Falls. 4.51 ECB miles. Monitor Don Stack. The northerly boundary of this section was the venue for the 2018 corridor monitoring workshop. Don Stack, David Vachon, Deanna Burtchell, John Hodges and I hiked in to the western end of Big Wilson Ledges on 30 June and walked 0.8 of a mile east from monument 106-ME-31 (nearly submerged in a growing beaver pond), documenting that monument and 106-ME-31A, 31B, 32, 32A, and 33. Most of the line is through open forest and easy to walk but the blazes are badly faded. Don returned on 5 October and walked 1.1 miles of line, documenting 106-ME-34, 35, 35A, 35B, 36, 37, 38, and 38XA. Don found the line recently renewed, perhaps by the abutter.

Section 27. Little Wilson Falls to Leeman Brook Lean-to. 6.92 ECB miles. Monitor Richard Welsh. On 22 August, Dick, Patty Harding, and 11 Bowdoin College students worked in the rain to clean up a lot of the debris left from the Mudge camp at North Pond, removing beds, a double kitchen sink, many beer cans, four 55-gallon drums, etc. and hauled it off in Patty's pickup truck. They also cleaned up misc. metal items along the shore of the pond.

Section 28. Leeman Brook Lean-to to Maine Highway 15. 3.11 ECB miles. Monitor Patty Harding. Patty, Dick Welsh and Roger Smith visited the section on 4 October and, after much digging, located monument 106-ME-16D for the first time, measuring from a nail in the only remaining witness tree (a rotted stump).

Kennebec District: Monitoring Sections 29-45

Section 29/30. Maine Highway 15 to Old Sturtevant Road. 6.08 ECB miles. Monitor Ray Ronan. Ray went in on 5 June and trimmed, painted, and renewed signs from the Wyman Road to 106-ME-61. On 24 September Ray and Mike Davis renewed 0.6 of a mile of the westerly line, documenting 106-ME-40A, 41, 41A, 42, 42A, and 43. They also searched for 106-ME-76 without success. (I also failed to find it.) On 31 August I walked 1.2 miles of the westerly line and 0.5 of a mile of the easterly line, beginning at Doughty Pond. I documented 106-ME-53 Offset, 54, 55, 56, 59, 59A, 59B, 60, 60A, and 61 on the west side, and 77, 77A, 78, and 78A on

the east side. The westerly line has been renewed by the abutter from 59 to 60 and is in excellent shape. The rest of the west side that I covered is through open forest but the blazes are badly faded up to 61. The easterly line is in terrible condition and almost lost. Easy walking through open forest but the blazes are infrequent and nearly gone.

Section 31/32. Old Sturtevant Road to Blanchard/Shirley Road. 5.00 ECB miles. Monitor Ray Ronan. Ray and Mike Davis visited the section on 24 September, beginning on the west line at the Jackson Brook Road. The abutter has renewed the line, but they filled in a few blazes that had been missed. They documented monuments 107-ME-43, 44A, and 45. On 25 September they clipped and painted along the easterly line and documented 107-ME-49A and 50.

Section 33. Blanchard/Shirley Road to Horseshoe Canyon Lean-to. 7.12 ECB miles. Monitor Roger Merchant. No report from Roger for 2017 or 2018.

Section 34. Horseshoe Canyon Lean-to to Marble Brook. 5.03 ECB miles. Monitor Kathleen Cardin. Kathleen, accompanied by Bruce Grant, visited the section on 3 September. They walked 0.8 of a mile of line and documented 107-ME-8 Offset, 8A, 8B, 9, 9A, and 9B. The line was renewed by the abutter in 2015.

Section 35. Marble Brook to Outlet of Bald Mountain Pond. 5.29 ECB miles. Monitor Jeff Smith. Jeff, accompanied by Joe Lebrun, visited the section on 24, 25 May. They walked 1.53 miles of the northerly line and documented monuments 107-ME-15O, 15P, 15Q, 15R, 15S, 15T, 15U, 15V, 15W, 15X, 15Y, 15Z, 15AA, 15BB, 15CC, 15DD, 15EE, 15FF, 15GG, 15II, 15JJ, 15KK, 15LL, 15MM, 15NN, and 15OO. They were unable to locate 15HH and concluded that it is probably under a beaver flowage.

Section 36a. Outlet of Bald Mountain Pond to East of North Peaks Trail. 2.8 ECB miles. Monitor Paul Fopeano. Paul visited the section on 1 July, bushwhacking in from the logging road west of Bald Mt. Pond. He documented monuments 108-ME-28, 29A, 29B and 30 for the first time. He returned on 11 August and searched unsuccessfully for 108-ME-21, 21A, and 21B along a very brushy line. Back on 9 September, he documented 21A and partially cleared from 21A toward 21B but was unable to find the latter. On 22 October he documented 21 and 21B.

Section 36b. East of North Peaks Trail to West of Bypass Trail. 5.3 ECB miles. Newly assigned to Deanna Burtchell, who was unable to visit the section in 2018.

Section 36c. West of Bypass Trail to Moxie Pond at Joe's Hole. 5.5 ECB miles. Newly assigned to David Vachon. David made his first visit on 11 August and documented monuments 108-ME-1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. On 25 August he continued on the northerly line, documenting 6, 7, 7A, 8, 8A, and 9, but 7B proved elusive. On 1 September he started back at 9 but bypassed 9A and 10 due to a mass of blowdowns and confusing witness trees. He did find 11. On 8 September David picked up 7B. On 15 September he and Eric Longchamps found 108-ME-12, 13, 13A, 14, and 15. On 22 September, David went in from the "A.T. Road" and documented monuments 108-ME-34, 33, 32A, and 32. Monument 32B was hidden in a blowdown tangle and he did not find it, so I sent him a photo of it that I took in 2012.

Section 37 new. Joe's Hole to Middle Mountain. 7.5 ECB miles. Monitor Erik Brooks. Erik walked his entire assignment on 22 and 23 June, locating all of the 56 monuments except 108-ME-43A and 108-ME-89A. I visited the section on 2 August and replaced monument 108-ME-2, which had been damaged by campers. I also looked for 43A without success, despite locating three witness trees and uncovering a lot of ledge.

Section 38 new. Middle Mountain to Boise Cascade Road. 3.9 ECB miles. Monitor Glen Dubuc. No report for 2018.

Section 39. Boise Cascade Road to turn away from Holly Brook. 5.74 ECB miles. Monitor Tim Fortune. Tim walked the section on 25 August.

Section 40. Holly Brook to the Kennebec River. 3.44 ECB miles. Monitor Tim Fortune. Tim walked all of the boundary lines on 25 August, flagging some sections that were not well blazed and noting that the line along the Maine Public Lot had recently been re-blazed in red. On 5 October, Craig Dickstein, Claire Pofus and I hiked in to check out a proposed cell tower installation near the southern boundary of the corridor. We also took the time (with a spade) to locate for the first time monuments 109-ME-71, 72, 73, and 74, which are buried along 0.7 of a mile in an old logging road.

Section 41. Kennebec River to Outlet of Pierce Pond. 5.82 ECB miles. Monitor William Geller. No report for 2018.

Section 42. Outlet of Pierce Pond to N. Branch of Carrying Place Stream. 7.94 ECB miles. Monitor William Geller. No report for 2018.

Section 43. North Branch of Carrying Place Stream to Sandy Stream. 6.85 ECB miles. Open section. I visited the section on 19 July and walked a mile of the easterly line, documenting monuments 109-ME-10, 11, 11A, 12, 12A, 12B, 12C, 12D, and 13. The abutter had renewed much of the line in 2012 but the blazes are now in only fair condition, and the line is badly overgrown. Also, many of the original line trees were on the abutter's land and were removed in a timber harvest. Monument 13 is at the edge of a heavily developed camp lot but there was no encroachment except for some trees cleared to improve the view of East Carry Pond.

Section 44. Sandy Stream to SW inlet of West Carry Pond. 4.75 ECB miles. Monitor William Geller. No report for 2018

Section 45. SW inlet West Carry Pond to Long Falls Dam Road. 4.32 ECB miles. Section 45 was newly assigned to John Hodges in 2018. John went in on 12 July, did some clipping, and documented monuments 110-ME-22B and 22C. Returning on 7/18, he found 24C and 24D and did more clipping. On 10 and 11 August he added 24I and 25 and clipped some more. On 8/20 he added 22 and 22A. On 14 September John documented 110-ME-25A. On 5 October he documented 110-ME-25B and did some more clipping. On 7 October, accompanied by Justin Ziemeks, he did more clipping and documented monument 110-ME-26.

Bigelow District: Monitoring Sections 46-59

Section 46. Long Falls Dam Road to Bog Brook Road. 1.79 ECB miles. Monitor Mike Davis. Mike went in with Ray Ronan on 14 July and located most of the 17 monuments in the camp lot area around the Bog Brook Road, notably 110-ME-10 which had not previously been located. (This area is actually part of Section 47.) They were not able to find 11, 12, and 13, which are buried along the gravel camp road, even with the help of a metal detector. On 2 September Mike, Ray Ronan, and Bill Garren renewed line on the southerly side of the corridor westward from the Long Falls Dam Road and documented 110-ME-22D and 22E.

Section 47. Bog Brook Road to summit of Little Bigelow. 0.29 ECB miles. This section is now open. See Section 46 report. I also visited this section on 19 July, looked for the missing monuments, and talked with local 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. Monitor Robert Haemmerle. He walked the A.T. through his assignment area on 17 October, noting no problems and expressing appreciation for the Trail maintainers who cleaned up after the October 2017 wind storm.

Section 52. Bigelow Range Trail to Maine Highway 27. 1.32 ECB miles. Monitor Sam Lowry. Sam, accompanied by Dylan Ney and dogs Roka and Riley walked the assignment on 29 June, documenting 111-ME-1, 1A, 1B, 1C, 48B, 48C, and 49. Lines and monuments were all in good condition.

Section 53a. Maine Highway 27 to Half-way to Summit of North Crocker. 4.05 ECB miles. Monitor Bill Vaughan. Bill walked a little of the area on 25 May then returned on 2 September and documented monuments 111-ME-2, 3, 3A, 46C, 48, and 48A. He did not find 47.

Section 53b. Half-way to Summit of North Crocker to Summit. 5.30 ECB miles. Monitor Erik Brooks. Erik hiked up to “landmark rock”, halfway up North Crocker on 10 June, bushwhacked in to the line and documented 111-ME-5, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 6, 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 6E, 7, and 8. He then crossed to the other side of the corridor and documented 111-ME-42D, 42E, 43, 43A, 43B, 43C, 43D, 43E, 44, 44A, 44B, 44C, 44D, and 45.

Section 54. Summit of North Crocker to Caribou Valley Road. 5.32 ECB miles. Monitor Carrington Rhodes. No report for 2018.

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 14 October and walked the southerly line, documenting 111-ME-37, 37A, 37B, 37C, 37D, 37E, 38, 38A, and 39. They then crossed to the northerly line and returned to the Caribou Valley Road, documenting 111-ME-11, 12, 13, 13A, 13B, 13C, 14A, 14B, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 23A. They were unable to find 111-ME-14, noting that the area had been visibly torn apart by the ATC Boundary Tech. crew in their unsuccessful search. They also did not locate 24, 25, and 26, which are on very steep, hazardous terrain without a visible blaze line.

Section 56. Sugarloaf Mt. Side Trail to Mt. Abraham Side Trail. 6.60 ECB miles. Monitor John Towey. John visited the section on 29 September, walked 0.9 of a mile and documented monuments 111-ME-27, 29A, 30 New, 30A New, 31, 31A New, and 112-ME-1, 2, and 3. He found where 111-ME-28 and 29 New should be, but not the monuments. In July, ATC Tech. Jonathan Smith renewed 1.5 miles of line from 111-ME-26H to 31 A, documenting those monuments and 27, 29, 29A, 30, 30A and 31, but was unable to find 28. Monument 29 is just a loose cap sitting on the moss, attached to nothing. Smith also renewed 0.4 of a mile line from 11-ME-30 to 33, documenting those monuments and 31 and 32. Smith renewed 0.44 of a mile from monument 112-ME-1 to 3A, documenting those monuments and 2 and 3, and also 0.35 of a mile from 112-ME-20 to 21, documenting those and 20A and 20B.

Section 57. Mt. Abraham Side Trail to Orbeton Stream. 5.55 ECB miles. Monitor Tony Barrett. Tony visited the section on 1 October with Claire Polfus (ATC) and Shelby Perry (Northeast Wilderness Trust) to examine motorized access across the A.T. on the Barnjum Road. They also documented monuments 112-ME-11, 12, 13, and 14, enjoying the line renewal that had been done by the ATC Boundary Technicians in July. In July, ATC Tech. Jonathan Smith renewed 3.9 miles of line from 112-ME-3A to 19A, documenting those monuments and 3B, 4 4A, 4B, 4C, 6, 7A, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 118, 18A, 18B, and 19. He was unable to locate 105-ME-5 and 7. He returned in August and renewed 0.87 of a mile of line from 112-ME-22 to 23, documenting 22A, 22B, and 23, but not finding 22. On 13 August ATC Techs. Parker and Abelo renewed 0.62 of a mile from 112-ME-43 to 44, documenting 43, 43A and 43B, but failing to locate 44.

Section 58a. Orbeton Stream to Saddleback Jr. 8.30 ECB miles. Monitor John Robichaud. On 6 August, John worked on his Trail maintenance assignment and then flagged some of the southerly line east from Shelter Brook. On 30 August, John walked half a mile of line and documented monuments 112-ME-25, 25A, and 26. In August, 2018, ATC Tech. Jonathan Smith renewed 2.4 miles of line from 112-ME-23 to 27, documenting those monuments and 23A, 23B, 23C, 24, 24A, 24B, 25, 26, and 26B. On various dates in July and August ATC. Techs. Parker, Abelo, Schwatz and Smith renewed 3.5 miles of line from 112-ME-36C to 43, documenting those monuments and 36D, 37, 38, 38A, 39, 39A, 40, 40A, 40B, 40C, 40E, 41, 41A, 41B, 42, 42A, and 42B. They were unable to find 37A and 40D.

Section 58b. Saddleback Jr. to Saddleback Summit. 6.30 ECB miles. Tom Carr. No report for 2018. In late July ATC Techs. Parker and Abelo renewed 1.75 miles of line from monument 112-ME-34 to 36C, documenting those monuments and 34A, 34B, 35, 35B, 36, 36A, and 36B, but not finding 35A. On 14 August, ATC Techs. Smith and Schwarz renewed 0.13 of a mile of line from 113-ME-49A to 52, documenting those monuments and 50 and 51. In a major effort during July and August, ATC Techs. Parker, Smith, and Schwarz renewed 1.5 miles of the line north of the great saddle on Saddleback Mt., which had never been walked before. They documented monuments 113-ME-52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 74A, and 74B, but did not walk the line from 70 to 74, or document monuments 71, 72, and 73 because they were unable to find any line. They were unable to find monument 74, just a stone pile where it should be. In a really heroic effort, ATC Techs. Parker and Smith monitored monuments 113-ME-75, 75A, 75B, 75C, 75D, 75E, 75F, 76, 76A, and 76B. These monuments

mark the easement boundary north of the great saddle on Saddleback and no line between the monuments was ever surveyed.

Section 59a. Saddleback Summit to Eddy Pond Road. 3.20 ECB miles. Monitor Dan Simonds. No report for 2017 or 2018. In August, ATC Techs. Smith and Schwarz renewed 0.6 of a mile of line from 113-ME-44 to 49A, documenting those monuments and also 45, 46, 47, 48, and 49.

Section 59b. Eddy Pond Road to Maine Highway 4. 6.40 ECB miles. Monitor Dan Simonds. No report for 2017 or 2018. On 26 June I documented monuments 113-ME-31, 78, and 77I (which is now interior to NPS ownership). Tract 113-19, the triangular area south of Saddleback Mt., had never been surveyed by NPS contractors, but retained the blue blazing of the prior landowner on the southerly line and yellow blazing on the easterly line. On 26 June I flagged the crossing of the ATV/Snowmobile trail and the easterly line and on the 27th flagged the southerly line. During the next few days, the ATC boundary technicians and Alison Scheiderer renewed the southerly line, replacing the blue blazes with yellow, and renewed some of the easterly line.

Baldpate District: Monitoring Sections 60-70

Section 60. Maine Highway 4 to Little Swift River Pond. 7.53 ECB miles. Monitor Jonathan Ellis. Jonathan made a brief visit on 8 July, intending to refresh some blazes, but had difficulty following the line between 8 and 10. He visited the section again, accompanied by Laura Flight, on 14 July. They walked 2.47 miles of line and documented monuments 113-ME-10, 11, 12, 12A, 13, 13A, 13B, 14, 14A, 14B, 14C, 14D, 15, 15A, and 16. The lines that had been renewed in 2012 and 2013 need renewal again and have suffered a good deal of blowdown damage from the October 2017 storm. Jonathan and Laura returned on 7 October, did some clearing from 113-ME-10 to 12A and fully renewed the line from there to 14.

Section 61. Little Swift River Pond to Sabbath Day Pond Lean-to. (No ECB) Monitor Rand Lite. Randi. Randi visited the section on 17 August and found all in order except for some curious flagging about half a mile north of Little Swift River Pond.

Section 62. Sabbath Day Pond Lean-to to Maine Highway 17. 2.78 ECB miles. Monitor Paul McGuire. No report from Paul in 2016, 2017, or 2018.

Section 63a. Maine Highway 17 to Middle of Bemis Ridge. 5.4 ECB miles. Monitor John Webster. No report for 2016, 2017, or 2018. During the summer, ATC Boundary Tech. Jonathan Smith monitored 0.5 of a mile of line from monument 114-ME-17 to 18, documenting those monuments and also 17A and 17B.

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. Ditto for 2018. During the summer, ATC Boundary Tech. Jonathan Smith renewed 1.13 miles of the westerly line from monument 114-ME-1M to 3A, documenting those monuments and 1N, 1P, 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, and 3. Techs. Parker, Smith, and Schwartz renewed 2.0 miles of line from monument 114-ME-20C to 22, documenting those monuments and also 20D, 20E, 20F, 20G, 20H, 21, 21A, 21B, 21C, 21D, and 22.

Section 64. Bemis Stream Trail to Former Clearwater Brook Trail. 4.2 ECB miles. Monitor Robert Anderson. No report for 2017 or 2018. Techs. Parker, Smith, and Schwartz renewed 0.58 of a mile of line from monument 114-ME-22 to 22C, documenting those monuments and 22A and 22B.

Section 65. Former Clearwater Brook Trail to South Arm Road. 6.5 ECB miles. Monitor Robert Anderson. No report for 2017 or 2018.

Section 66. South Arm Road to Hall Mt. Lean-to. 5.97 ECB miles. Monitor Dennis Pednault. No report for 2017 or 2018.

Section 67 new. Hall Mt. Lean-to to Wyman Mt. 4.20 ECB miles. Monitor Chris Fife. No report for 2018.

Section 68 new. Wyman Mountain to East B-Hill Road. 6.71 ECB miles. This section was open during 2018 but was assigned to Joe Phillips late in the year.

Section 69. East B Hill Road to East Peak of Baldpate Mt. 6.17 ECB miles. Monitor Bill Brooke. Bill walked the boundary of Tract 115-04 on 7 September and documented monuments 115-ME-26, 26A, 26B, and 27, but was unable to find 26C or any of its witness trees and also 28. He did find the old posts at the northeast and southeast corners of the tract. Although he found some newer paint between 26 and 27, most of the lines were in very poor condition. On 16 August ATC Tech. Jonathan Smith renewed 1.1 miles of line from monument 115-ME-25 to 28, documenting 26, 26A, 26B, and 27, but not finding 25, 26C, or 28.

Section 70. East Peak of Baldpate to Maine Highway 26. (No ECB miles) Twenty five year monitor Lynn Farnham: Lynn visited the section on 20 July and found no new encroachments.