

2018 ANNUAL REPORT – KATAHDIN DISTRICT

October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018

Volunteers

The Katahdin District consists of 56.0 miles of the A.T. and 4.0 miles of side trails. A total of 45 individuals worked 639 hours on the trails and campsites this year. They traveled 406 hours to get to their respective work sites. This comes to a total of 1045 hours of volunteer work in the Katahdin District. There are 11 trail section assignments in the Katahdin District, the longest being 11.3 miles and the shortest 3.7 miles with the average being 5.1 miles. The maintainers made 36 work trips this year.

4 maintainers made 1 work trip
3 maintainers made 2 work trips
2 maintainers made 3 work trips
1 maintainer made 4 work trips
1 maintainer made 9 work trips

Trail Work

We had a long and snowy winter. Spring conditions were very wet to get trail maintenance done. Work trips were done in May and June to prepare the A.T. for the hiking season. Several maintainers also made work trips in July and August and September. The weather was generally wet during May and June then we had a nice hot, dry and humid summer and fall. The usual trail work of clearing blowdowns and clipping back brush and branches from the footpath was done. Painting white blazes on the A.T. and blue blazes on side trails was done where needed. Cleaning waterbars and drainage ditches was also done. Trail signs are in good shape. In Baxter State Park, the blue blazed Highwater Trail is a bypass to fording Nesowadnehunk Stream in 2 places. Beaver activity is occurring at both outlets of the northern and southern Rainbow Deadwaters, but the trail is not affected. The Maine Trail Crew worked 3 weeks in June on the Hunt Trail (A.T.) in Baxter State Park, the crew also worked 3 weeks near Donut Brook on Rainbow Lake in August. The SCA crew worked 4 weeks installing step stones near the Rainbow Deadwaters.

Campsites

All 7 campsites received regular maintenance by the maintainers this season. The leantos at Hurd Brook, Rainbow Stream, Wadleigh Stream, Nahmakanta Stream and Potaywadjo Spring are all in good shape. The tentsites at Rainbow Spring and Antlers' Campsites are also in good shape. Trash was picked up, firepits cleaned of ashes and unburnable trash. Abandoned clothes, gear, food and books left behind by inconsiderate hikers was carried out and disposed. All campsite signs showing directions to water sources,

privies and tent sites are in good shape. The moldering privy at Rainbow Stream Leanto, built in June, 2001, is doing well. The 2 pit privies at Rainbow Spring campsite and Antlers' campsite are in good shape. The accessible moldering privy at Wadleigh Stream Campsite, built in June, 2014 is doing well. The accessible moldering privy at Potaywadjo Spring Campsite built in September 2015 is doing well. The pit privy at Nahmakanta Stream campsite was replaced by a new accessible moldering privy in August, 2018. The old style moldering privy at Hurd Brook Campsite was replaced with a new accessible moldering privy in September, 2018. Various bootleg campsites continue to be used along the trail and the maintainers continue to clean up trash that is left behind and to break up illegal firerings. The Nature Conservancy has a campsite at Rainbow Lake Dam on a 0.25 mile side trail. The State of Maine has a couple of campsites at the southern end of Nahmakanta Lake near the A.T. and also has a campsite .25 mile from the A.T. near Mahar Landing where Nahmakanta Stream empties into Pemadumcook Lake. The blue paint blazes at all campsite side trails leading to water sources, privies and tentsites were all refreshed during the summer season.

A.T. Corridor

About 25.5 miles of the A.T. is on National Park Service land from the JoMary Road to Murphy Brook. About 15.1 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 road walk on the Golden Road, owned by Katahdin Forest Management Company. The balance of the A.T., about 14.4 miles, is in Baxter State Park, from Abol Stream to Baxter Peak, Katahdin. Boats and canoes continue to be stored in the corridor at the following sites: Big Beaver Pond, Rainbow Lake Dam, Rainbow Deadwaters and Crescent Pond. Some corridor maintenance work was done near the JoMary Road.

I would like to thank everyone that volunteered their time and effort in the Katahdin District in 2018. Your work is very important in maintaining and protecting the A.T. in Maine. Thank you.

Rick Ste.Croix
Overseer
Katahdin District
Maine A.T. Club