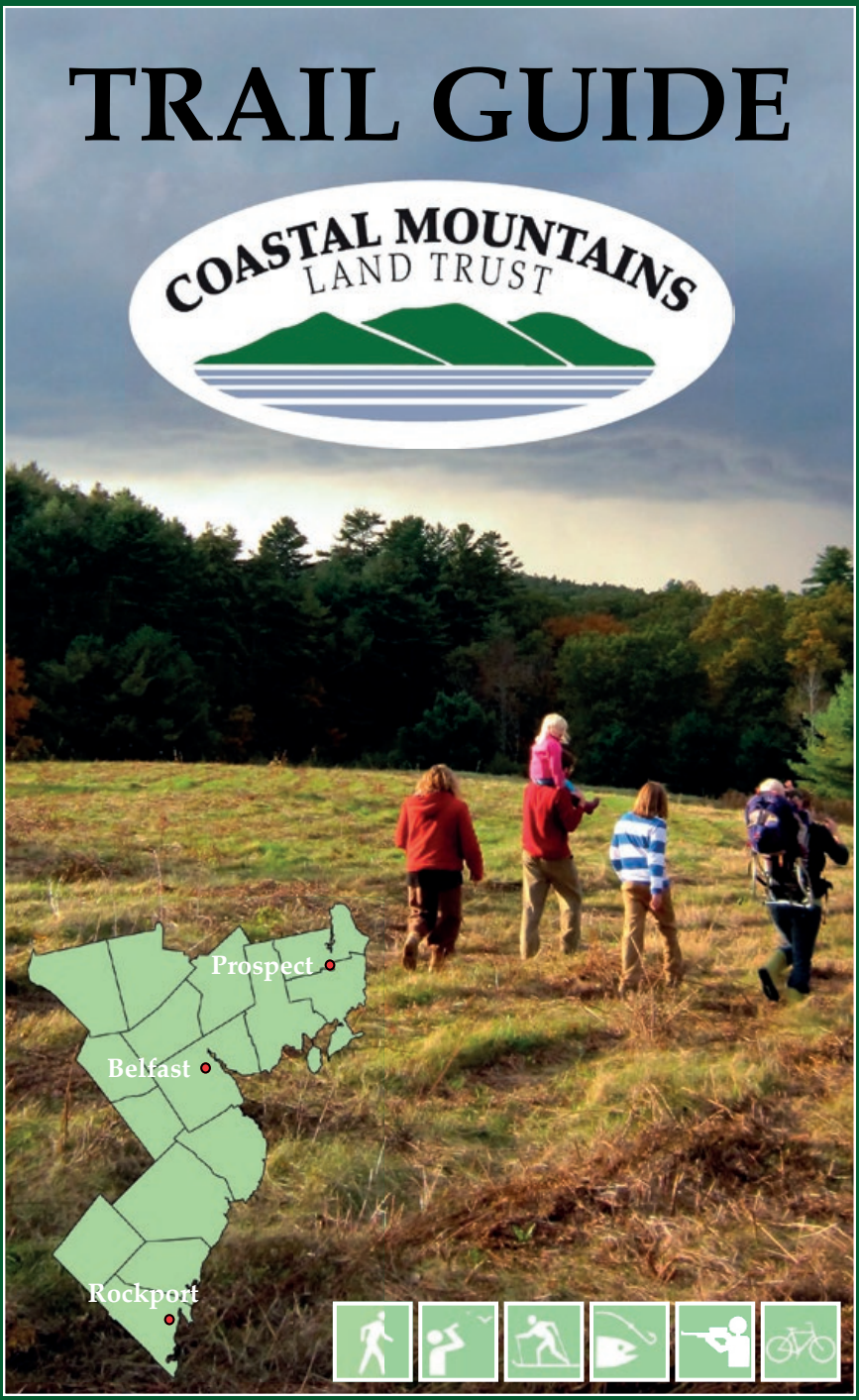
# TRAIL GUIDE

COASTAL MOUNTAINS
LAND TRUST



# Welcome to our Trail Guide

In 1986, Coastal Mountains Land Trust was founded for the purpose of permanently conserving Beech Hill, a beautiful coastal hilltop that offers views of Penobscot Bay, acres of blueberry barrens, habitat for birds and other wildlife, and a historic landscape. For decades it has been one of the most cherished family walks in the entirety of midcoast Maine.

Since the beginning, our organization has permanently conserved over 10,000 acres, from Rockport to Prospect, along the western side of Penobscot Bay, providing public access to many of the most significant natural areas in this region.

We offer this guide to you as an invitation to explore the beauty of this place, to experience the natural landscape that surrounds us, and to reconnect with yourself, your friends, and family as you take the time to explore.

As you Hike-the-Guide (see last page), I invite you to get more involved with the Land Trust and help us keep protecting these beautiful lands.

Please note the local community members and businesses listed under the Adopt-A-Trail Sponsor heading. Let us know if you want to offer your support and add your name to a special trail.

Happy Trails!

Ian Stewart, Executive Director

# Preserve Guidelines

- All preserves are open to the public for low-impact recreation during daylight hours
- Removal of native vegetation is strictly prohibited
- Fires and camping are not allowed
- Vehicles, motorized or non-motorized, including bicycles, and horses are not allowed, except on designated trails
- We request that groups larger than 12 obtain permission before using a preserve

**DOGS:** Leashed dogs are permitted on most trails. Voice-controlled dogs are allowed off-leash at Hatchet Mountain, Mount Percival and Long Cove Preserves between sunrise and noon.
**Dogs are NOT** allowed at Hodson and Fernalds Neck Preserves.

**HUNTING:** Unless a preserve has a symbol, we generally allow legal hunting of all game species, with the exception of predator species (coyote, bobcat, fox, bear). We recommend that hikers wear

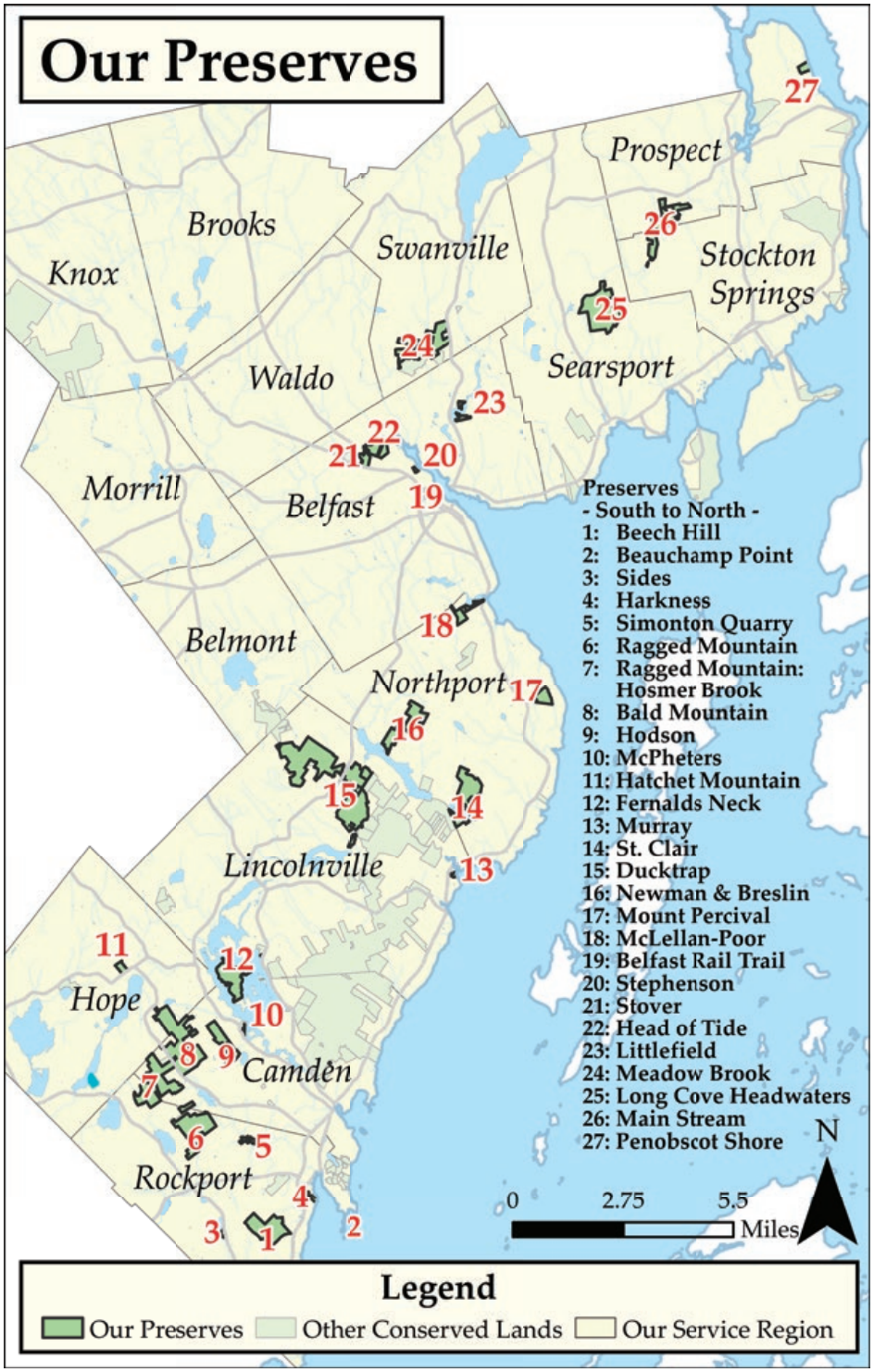
## Map and Icon Key

Maps show 10-foot contour, unless otherwise indicated

# Legend

| Preserve, Town | Miles of Trail | Activities | Page |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Beech Hill,** Rockport | 2.2 | | 6-7 |
| **Beauchamp Point**, Rockport | Paddle | | 8-9 |
| **Sides,** Rockport | 0.4 | | 10-11 |
| **Harkness,** Rockport | 0.8 | | 12-13 |
| **Simonton Quarry,** Rockport | — | | 14-15 |
| **Ragged Mountain,** Camden | 6.2 | | 16-17 |
| **Hosmer Brook Trail,** Camden | 1.6 | | 18-19 |
| **Bald Mountain,** Camden | 1.3 | | 20-21 |
| **Hodson & Rheault Trail,** Camden | 1.6 | | 22-23 |
| **McPheters,** Camden | — | | 24-25 |
| **Hatchet Mountain,** Hope | 0.6 | | 26-27 |
| **Fernalds Neck,** Lincolnville | 3.8 | | 28-29 |
| **Murray,** Lincolnville | — | | 30-31 |
| **Ducktrap River**, Lincolnville | 3.4 | | 32-33 |
| **St. Clair,** Northport | 0.15 | | 34-35 |
| **Newman & Breslin,** Northport | 1.1 | | 36-37 |
| **Mount Percival,** Northport | 0.3 | | 38-39 |
| **McLellan-Poor,** Northport | 2.1 | | 40-41 |
| **Belfast Rail Trail,** Belfast | 2.3 | | 42-43 |
| **Stephenson,** Belfast | 0.3 | | 44-45 |
| **Stover,** Belfast | 0.9 | | 46-47 |
| **Head of Tide,** Belfast | 1.7 | | 48-49 |
| **Littlefield,** Belfast | Paddle | | 50-51 |
| **Meadow Brook,** Swanville | 1.6 | | 52-55 |
| **Long Cove Headwaters,** Searsport | 2.5 | | 56-57 |
| **Main Stream,** Stockton Springs | 2.2 | | 58-59 |
| **Penobscot Shore,** Prospect | 0.5* | | 60-61 |

*Coming Fall 2017



# Beech Hill

Summit Trail: Beech Hill Road
Woods Trail: Rockville Street
**#beechhillpreserve**

**TRAIL:** Summit Trail, 0.6 miles one-way, easy
Woods Loop, 0.9 miles one-way, easy

**Size:** 295 acres

## BLUEBERRY BARRENS, BAY VIEW, STONE HUT

The Summit Trail offers views of the Bay and mountains. Beech Nut, built in 1914, is a stone hut on top of the hill. The preserve is managed for bird habitat and organic blueberries sold in August.

## DIRECTIONS

Beech Hill Road: From Camden, go south on Route 1, turn right onto Beech Hill Road. Parking lot on the left in 1.6 miles.

Rockville Street: From Camden, go south on Route 1, turn right onto Rockville Street. Parking lot is on the right in 0.7 miles.

## LOOK FOR

- 141 bird species, including eastern towhees, savannah sparrows and northern harriers
- Many events and Beech Nut open houses; check website

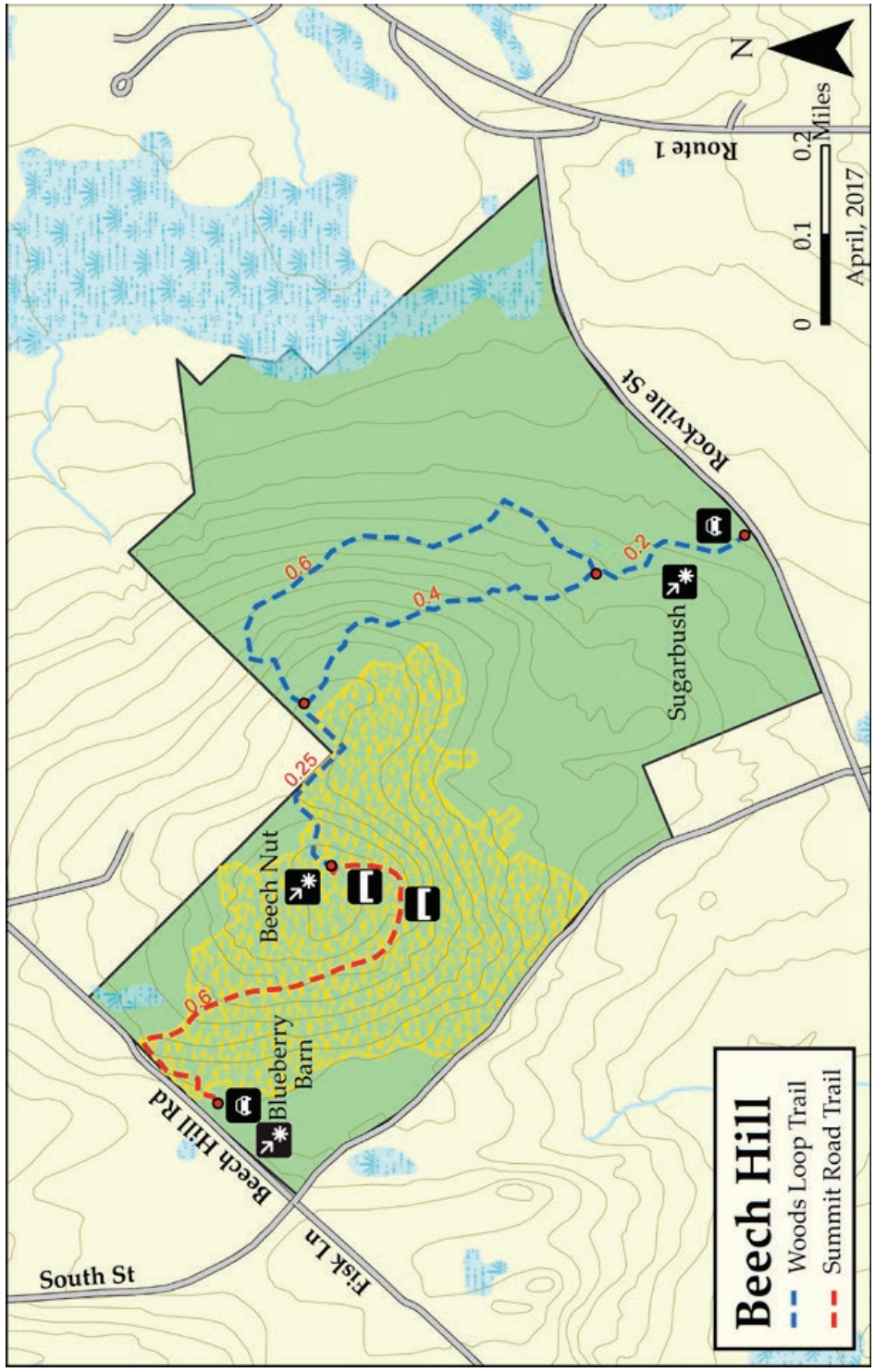
## HISTORY

Protected by our founding conservation easement in 1986, the preserve was purchased in 2003 with the help of Maine Coast Heritage Trust and the Stetson family.

## ADOPT-A-TRAIL SPONSORS

Micki Colquhoun, Camden Real Estate, the Jochnick family, Waterfront Restaurant, and RAYR – the Wine Shop

Tim Sullivan



# Beauchamp Point

Rockport Harbor, Rockport

**#beauchamppointpreserve**

**TRAIL:** Water access only via town landing **SIZE:** 2 acres

## GRAVEL BEACH, ROCKY LEDGES, WATERFRONT

This picturesque headland beach is an ideal picnic spot or a stopover on a paddle between Rockport and Camden. The gravel and rock shore is accessible at all tides. Visitors are asked to stay on the beach area. No camping or campfires please.

## DIRECTIONS

The preserve is a 1.4 mile paddle from Rockport Marine Park at 93 Pascal Ave, where there is a public boat launch. A sign is located on the preserve's shore, which is the tip of Beauchamp Point, just before Indian Island.

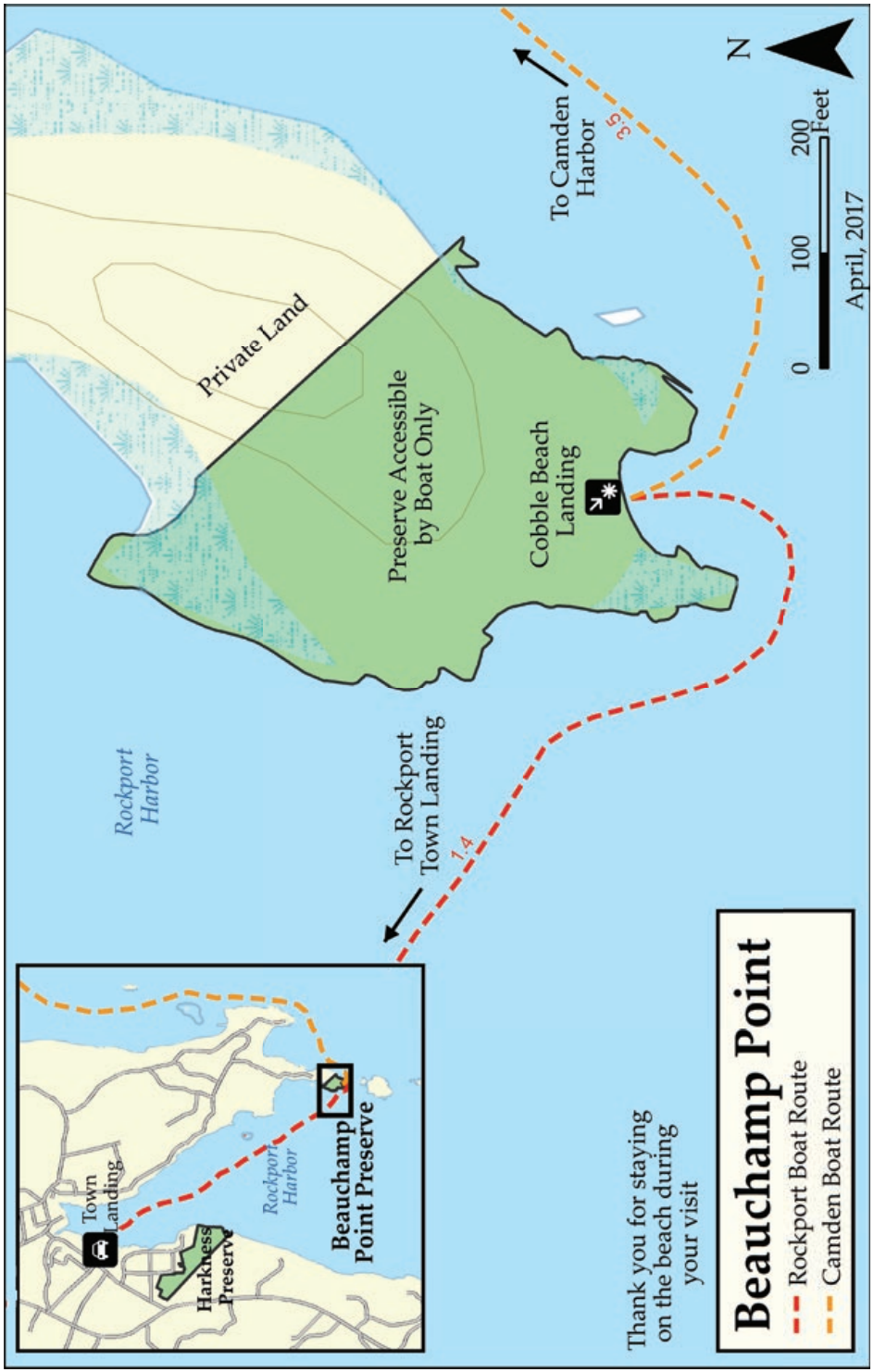
## LOOK FOR

- Harbor treasures on the shorefront
- Over 20 wildflowers near the shore, including sea lavender and seaside goldenrod
- A view of Indian Island Lighthouse, and the keepers' house, built in 1875 and now privately owned
- Osprey feeding in the water and nesting on shore, and seals swimming in the harbor with the tides

## HISTORY

Donated in 2000 by Charles and Mary Chatfield.

Phil Schimer



# Sides

Route 17, Rockport

**#sidespreserve**

**TRAIL:** 0.4 mile loop, easy **SIZE:** 9 acres

## MACES POND, FISHING, WATERFOWL

Maces Pond is a popular fishing spot for warm-water species. It is bordered by Route 17 to the east, the preserve to the southeast, and private undeveloped ownership to the west. Fishing can be done on shore, by boat, and on ice. This preserve conserves shorefront on Maces Pond's outlet and Meadow Brook, which drains into Chickawaukie Lake. A hand-carry launch is accessible at the pull-off on Route 17 at the preserve. A short loop-trail follows the waterfront, and provides glimpses of the neighboring Rockville Cemetery.

## DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Route 1 south, then take Route 90 inland. After 2.5 miles, turn left onto Route 17. Drive 1.4 miles east on Route 17. Roadside parking is on the right immediately after Maces Pond. Look for the preserve sign at the road.

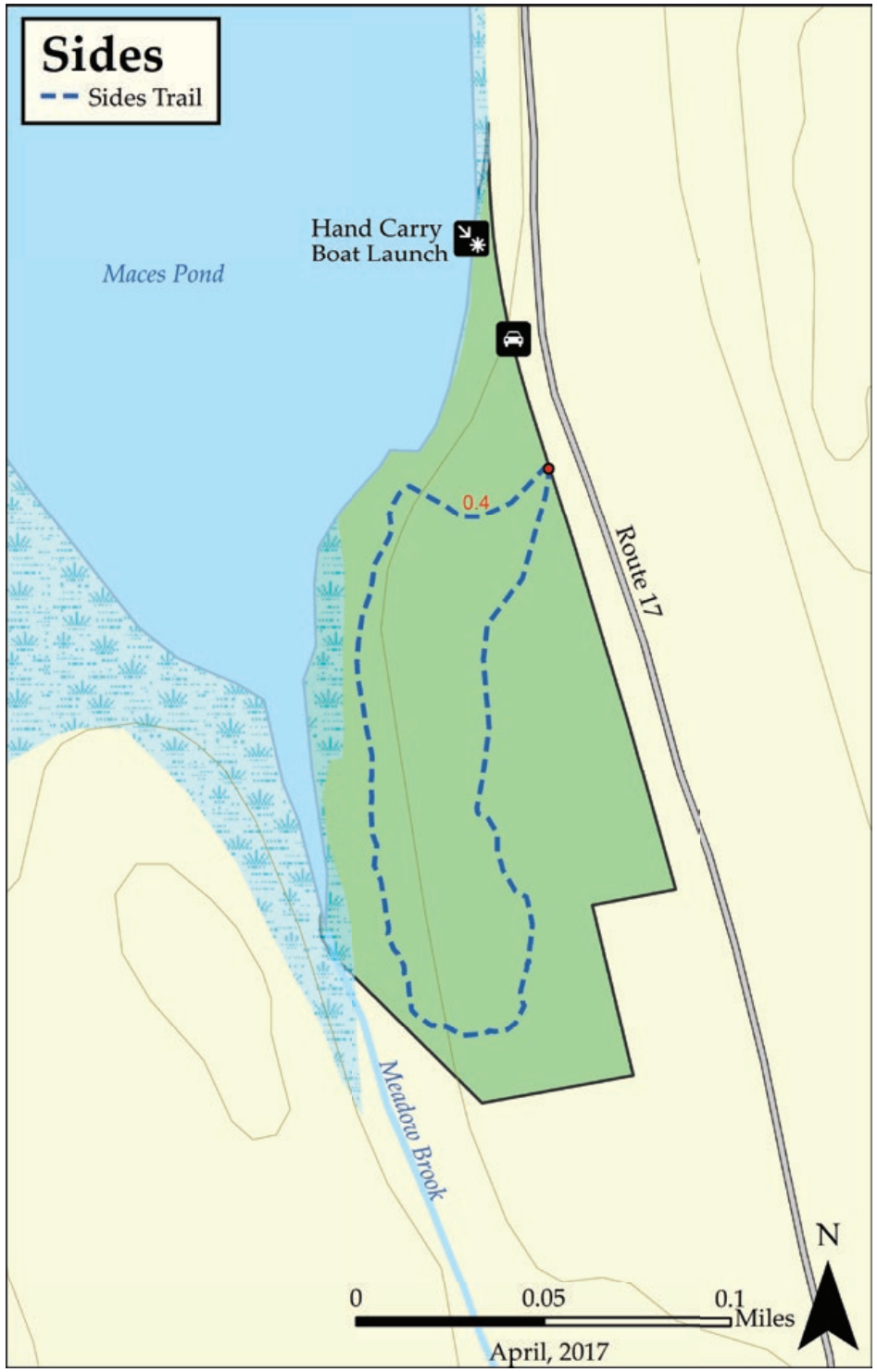
## LOOK FOR

- Blooming witch hazel flowers in late fall
- Significant waterfowl and wading bird habitat along the shore
- Range of wetland plants along pond shore

## HISTORY

Donated in 1997 by Andrew and Virginia Sides.

Nellie Sweet



# Harkness

Spruce Street, Rockport

**#harknesspreserve**

**TRAIL:** 1 mile loop, easy **SIZE:** 23 acres

## ROCKPORT HARBOR OVERLOOK, QUIET STREAM, CHESTNUT SPROUTS

This loop trail is a gentle walk suitable for young families. Two hand-built footbridges cross Ott Brook, a perennial stream that is rust-colored from tannic and humic acids from an upstream wetland.

## DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Route 1 south, turning left onto Pascal Avenue. Turn right onto School Street, then turn right onto Spruce Street. About 100 yards up Spruce Street is the preserve parking, marked by a sign.

## LOOK FOR

- Stone seat that overlooks Rockport Harbor
- This preserve's last full-sized American chestnut trees died in 2010, but stump sprouts live on
- Lime kiln chimney cap, a relic of Rockport Harbor's lime kilns

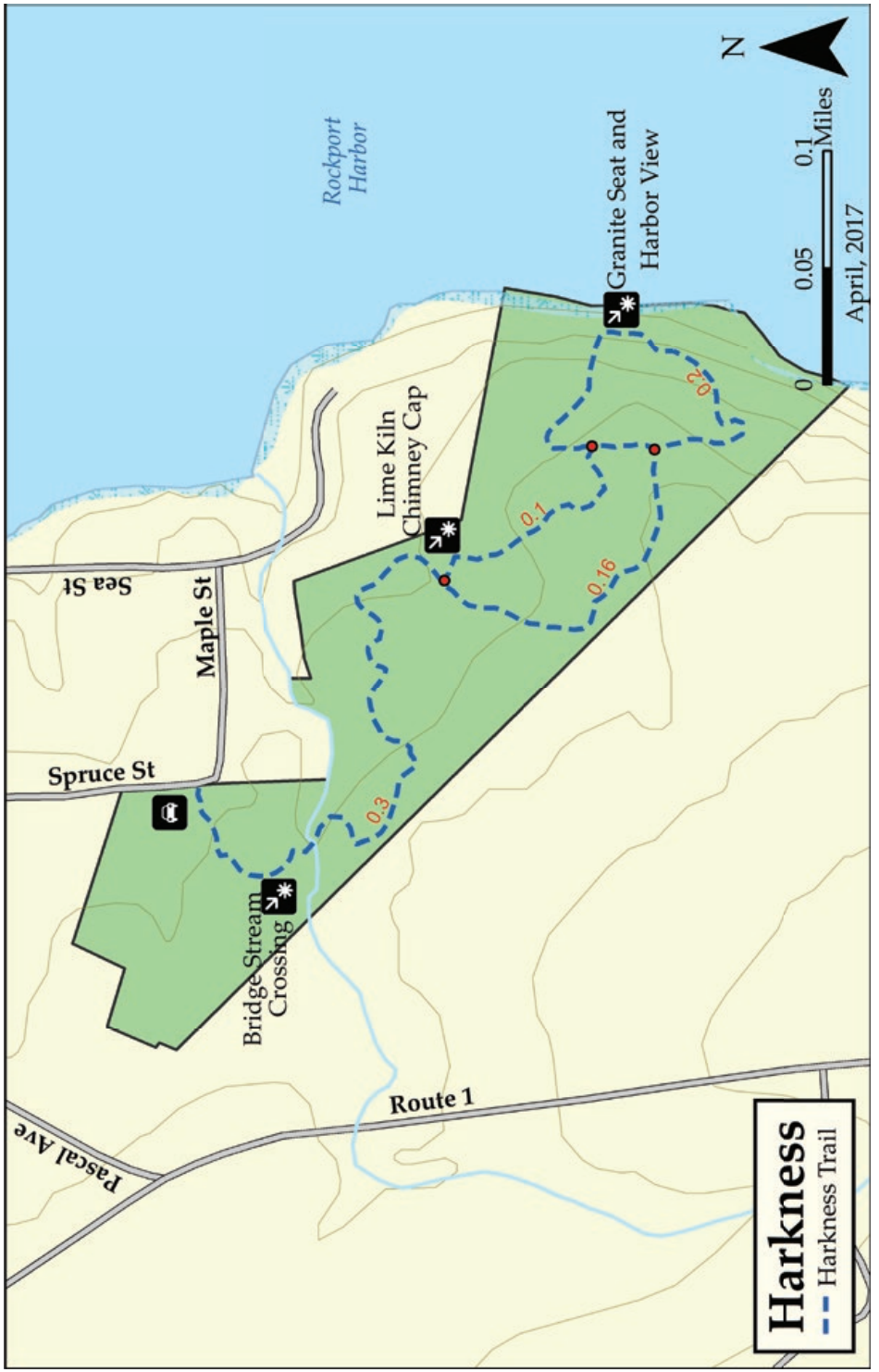
## HISTORY

Named in honor of John Harkness, a Revolutionary War hero, who settled in Rockport. Donated in 1996 by Mary Cramer and The Nature Conservancy.

## ADOPT-A-TRAIL SPONSORS

Camden National Bank, Biscuit & Wally

Lynn Luzzi, Lydia Harris



# Simonton Quarry

Main Street, Rockport

**#simontonquarrypreserve**

**TRAIL:** No trail **SIZE:** 26 acres

## HISTORIC QUARRIES, GOOSE RIVER, PICNIC

While no trail currently exists on the property, Simonton Quarry is a lovely place to observe Rockport's historic lime quarries. The three quarries were operated in the 1800's, and a narrow-gauge railroad transported lime to the Rockport Harbor kilns. The quarries provide a good picnic spot. Take caution around the quarries' edges.

## DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Route 1 south, then turn right onto Main Street, after Maine Sport. Drive 1.4 miles, pass through the Park Street intersection, and continue 0.3 miles to the pull-off on the right, immediately next to the quarries.

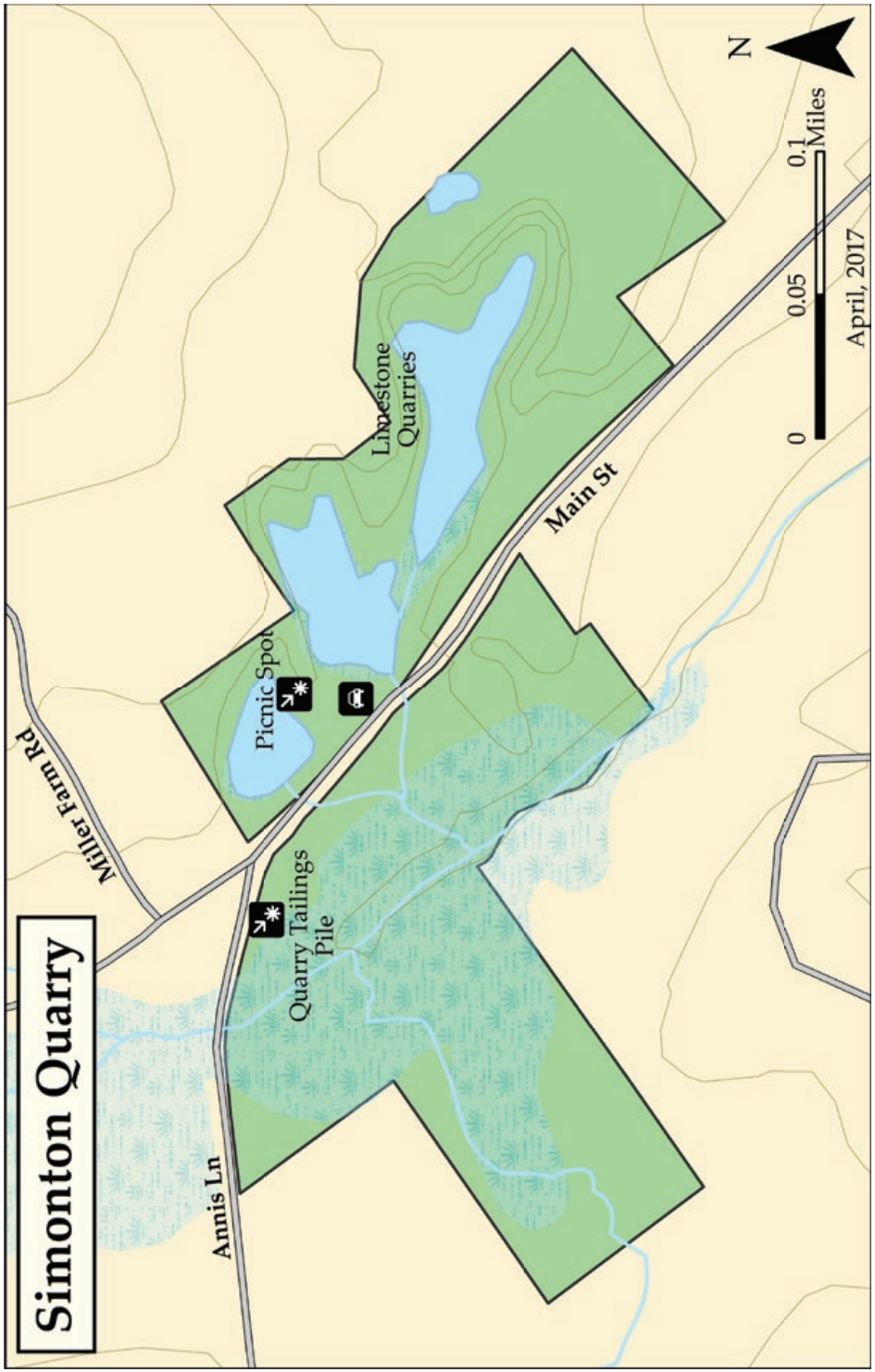
## LOOK FOR

- Deep quarries that once supplied Rockport's historic lime kilns
- Tailings pile and evidence of the railroad across the street
- Over 112 unique species of mosses, liverworts and lichens on the quarries' alkaline limestone walls

## HISTORY

The original preserve was gifted to The Nature Conservancy by A.H Chatfield in the early 1970s. In 2014, The Nature Conservancy and Maine Farmland Trust transferred preserve with an addition to the Land Trust.

Lynn Luzzi



# Ragged Mountain

## Round the Mountain Trail System

Camden Snow Bowl, 20 Barnestown Road

**#raggedmountainpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 5.1 mile round trip loop, moderate **SIZE:** 553 acres

## MOUNTAIN BIKING, XC SKIING, OAK GROVE

Access to this preserve begins at the Snow Bowl trailhead, where the Round the Mountain trail travels the Kuller loop 1.0 mile up the mountain before heading east onto the preserve. This trail connects to Five-Brooks, a hiking/biking trail, loops around the preserve, and provides trail connections to the Rollins Road mountain bike trail system. A winter-only cut-off creates a xc-ski loop. This trail will be expanded significantly between 2018 and 2020.

## DIRECTIONS

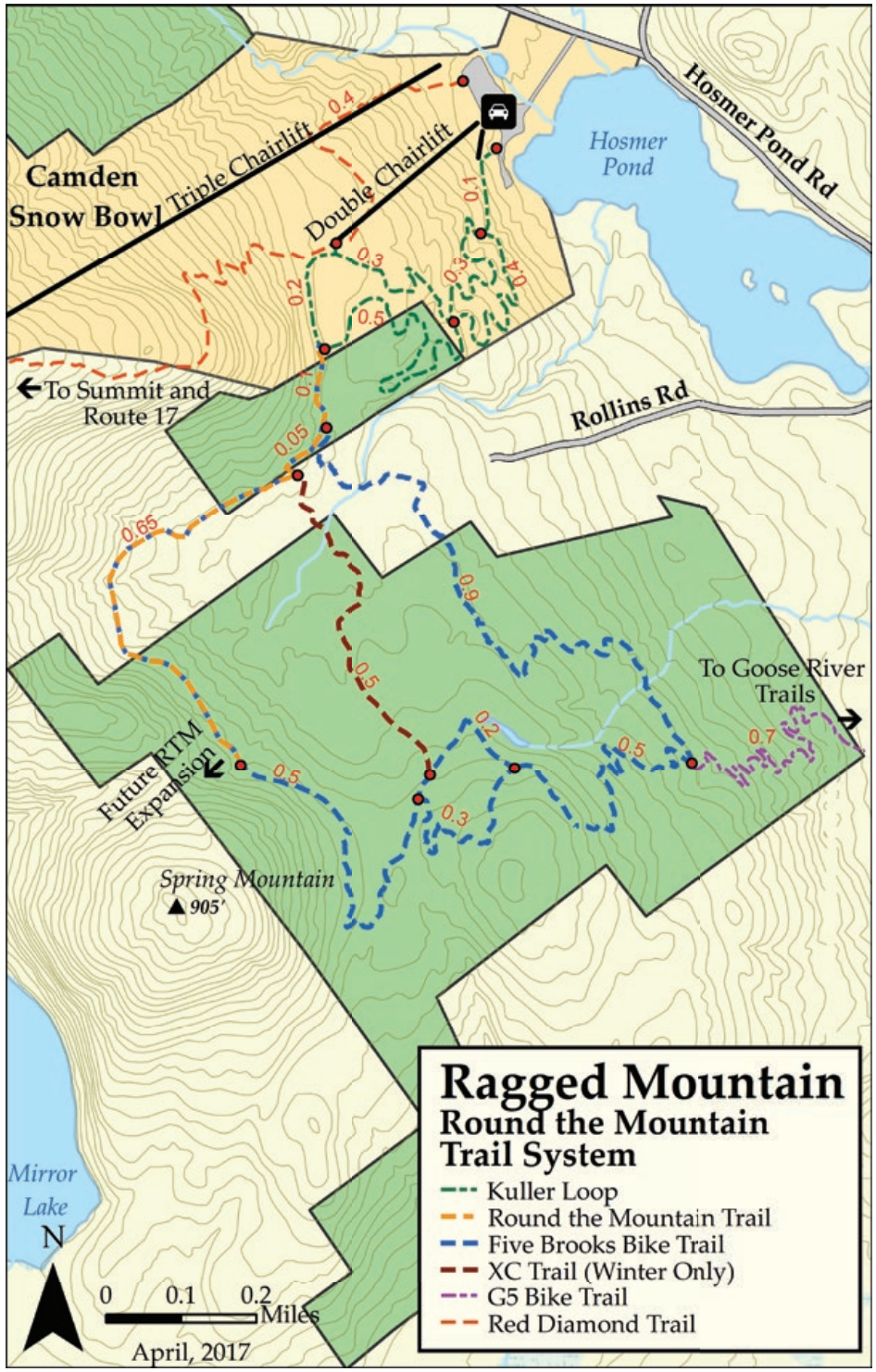
From Camden, take Route 1 south, then turn right onto John Street. Go 0.8 miles to Hosmer Pond Road on the left. In 2.1 miles, after passing Hosmer Pond, turn left into the Camden Snow Bowl. The trailhead is to the left of the Magic Carpet lift, straight ahead as you drive in.

## LOOK FOR

- Mature oak trees throughout the Preserve
- Talus slope and cliffs on the summit's slopes

## HISTORY

Land conserved from 1996 to present through purchases, as well as donations from the Town of Camden and the Barrett, Bresnahan, and Simonton families, and with support from Land for Maine's Future.



# Ragged Mountain

## Hosmer Brook Trail

Camden Snow Bowl, 20 Barnestown Road

**#raggedmountainpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 1.2 miles one-way, difficult **SIZE:** 301 acres

## OAK CANOPY, SMALL STREAMS

Hosmer Brook Trail climbs 1,000 feet to connect to the Georges Highland Path at the top of the Ragged Mountain Ridge. Connect this trail with the Georges Highland Path and the Red Diamond Trail for a longer hike. For a shorter hike, travel the lower Hosmer Brook loop, returning back to the Snow Bowl (1.1mi).

### DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Route 1 south, then turn right onto John Street, go 0.8 miles to Hosmer Pond Road on the left. In 2.1 miles, after passing Hosmer Pond, turn left into the Camden Snow Bowl parking lot. The trailhead is to the left of the Magic Carpet lift.

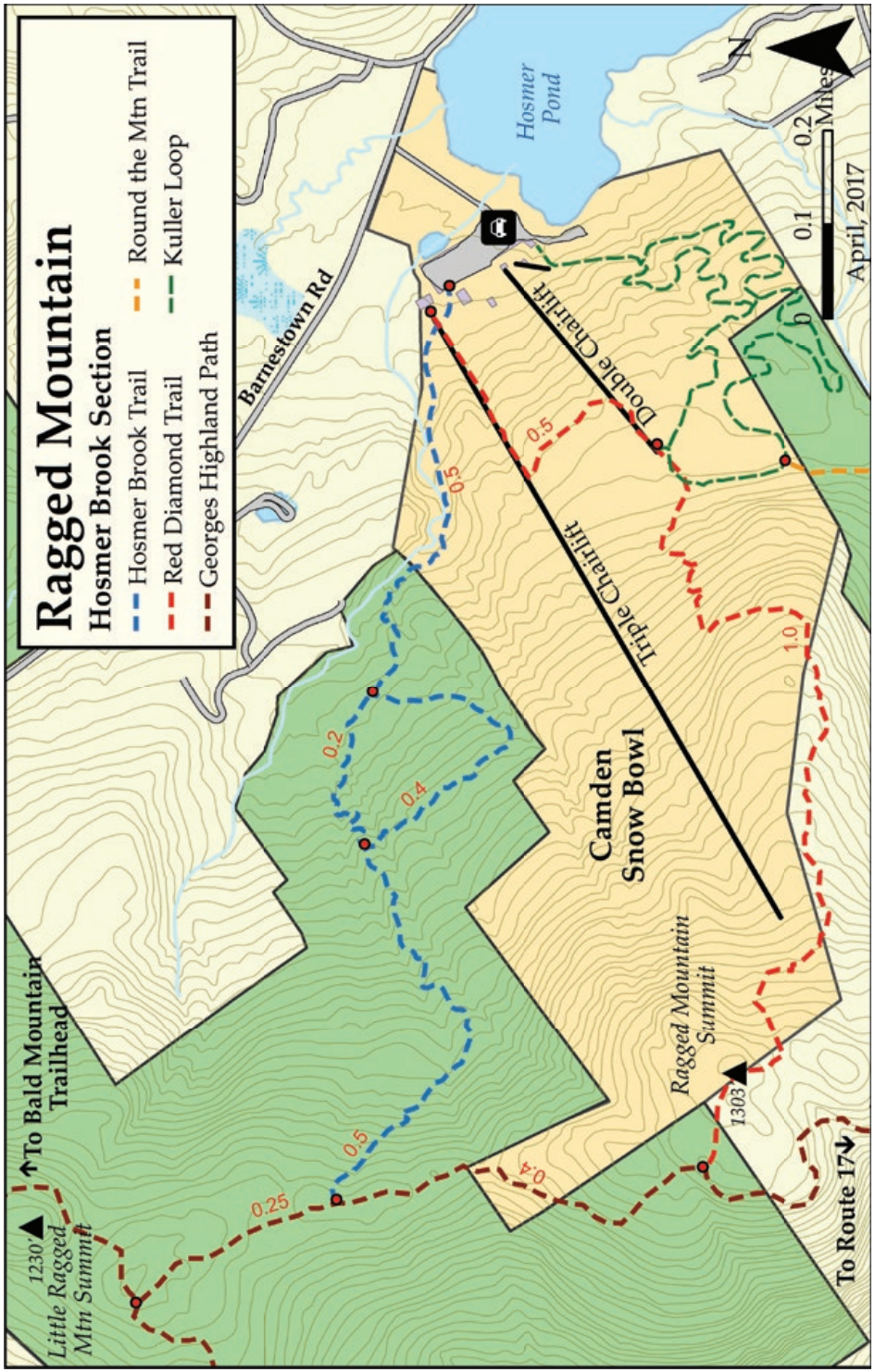
### LOOK FOR

- Several small streams that intensify during rain
- Rock outcroppings near the ridge create potential wildlife dens
- Diverse lichens on exposed bedrock and glacial till

### HISTORY

Land conserved from 1996 to present through purchases, as well as donations from the Town of Camden and the Barrett, Bresnahan, and Simonton families, and with support from Land for Maine's Future.

Alison Dibble



# Bald Mountain

Barnestown Road, Camden

**#baldmountainpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 2.6 miles, round trip, difficult **SIZE:** 583 acres

## LONG VIEWS, BALD SUMMIT, ROCK SCRAMBLE

At 1,280 feet, Bald Mountain's Summit Trail takes hikers above the tree line, offering views of western Penobscot Bay and surrounding coastal mountains. Bald Mountain is home to one of the Midcoast's largest rare subalpine natural communities on its rocky heath summit.

### DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Route 1 south, then turn right onto John Street for 0.8 miles to Hosmer Pond Road on the left. Follow 3.5 miles to the preserve parking lot on the left, just past Gillette Road.

### LOOK FOR

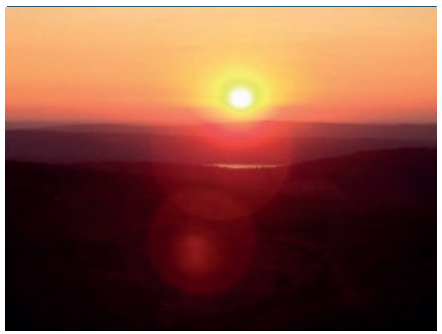
- Migrating hawks soaring past the summit during fall migration
- Rare and uncommon subalpine plants including smooth sandwort, three-toothed cinquefoil and poverty oatgrass
- Ripe wild blueberries in sunny patches along the trail in summer

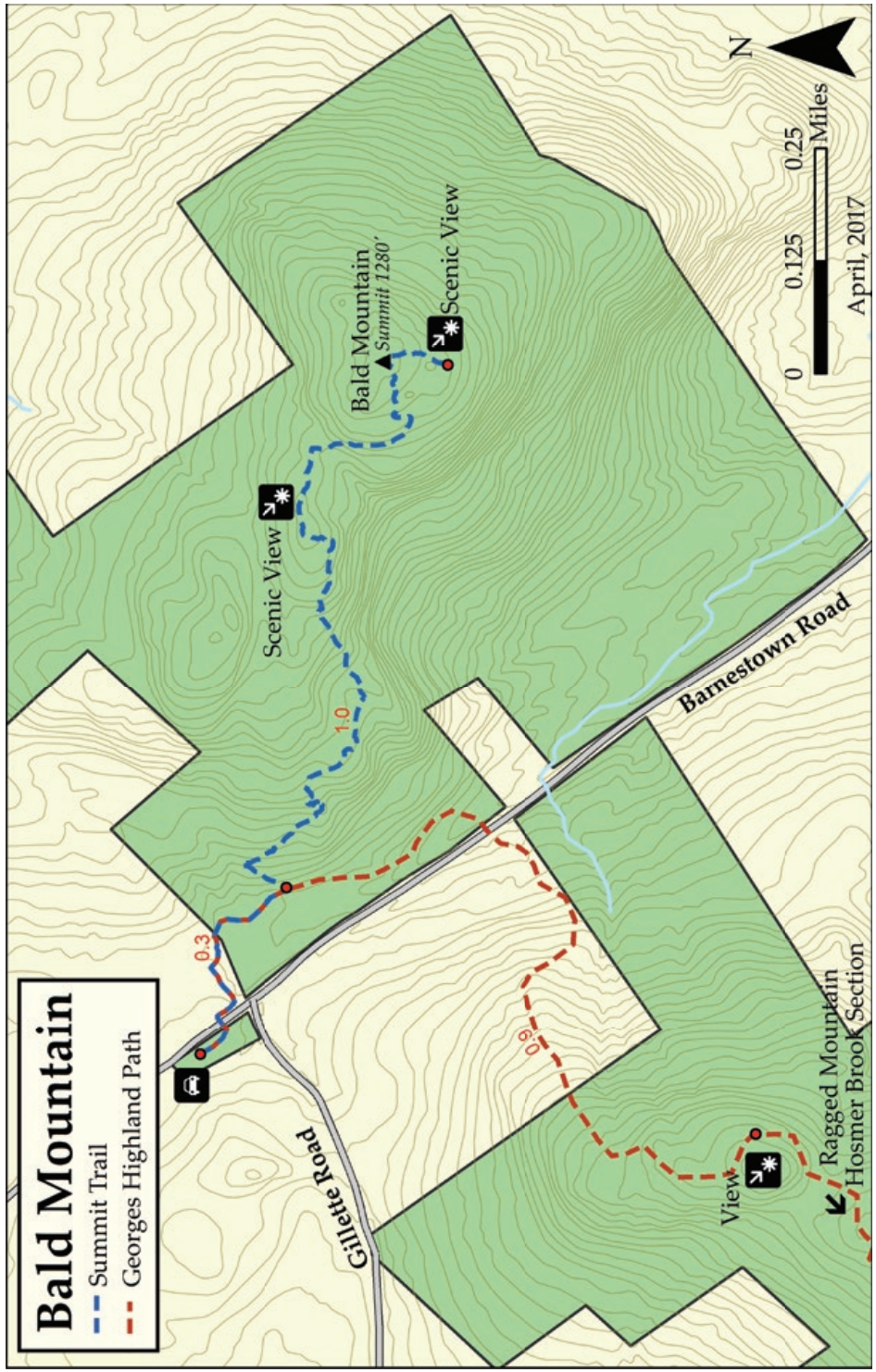
### HISTORY

Land acquired through purchases as well as donations from the Barnes, Fernald, Laite, O'Rourke, Pendleton, and Upham families, and with support from Land for Maine's Future.

### ADOPT-A-TRAIL SPONSORS

Camden Real Estate and the Montgomery Family.





# Richard S. Hodson

**Rheault Trail**
Molyneaux Road, Camden
**#hodsonpreserve**

**TRAIL:** Hodson Loop, 0.75 miles, easy
Howe Hill Summit, 1.2 miles

**SIZE:** Hodson: 35 acres
Rheault easement: 119 acres

## SCENIC BROOK, BLUEBERRY FIELD WITH VIEWS

Explore the hemlock grove and historic mill site along Sucker Brook. The Hodson Loop passes mature hardwoods and apple trees. The Summit Trail crosses the forested Rheault easement to the summit of Howe Hill, a managed organic blueberry barren. Please respect the farm by staying on trail.

### DIRECTION

From Camden, take Washington Street/Route 105 for 2.5 miles. Turn left onto Molyneaux Road and drive approximately 0.6 miles to the preserve parking area on the right.

### LOOK FOR

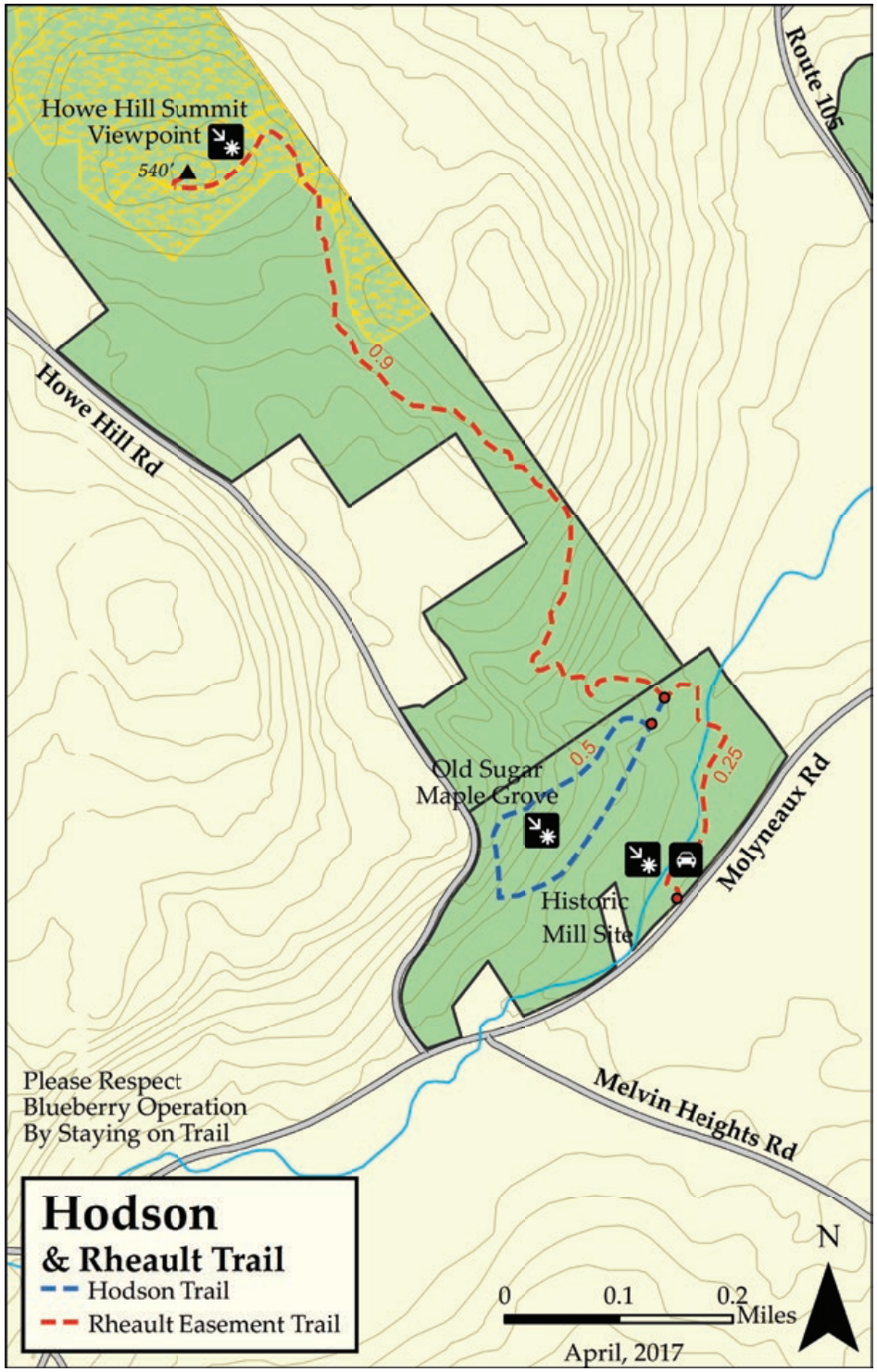
- Engraving of the Howe family name on the rock at the summit
- Views of Bald and Hatchet Mountains, Camden Hills State Park, and Penobscot Bay
- Tiny brown elfin butterfly throughout the blueberry barrens

### HISTORY

The Hodson Preserve was donated by Caroline O. Hodson in 1992. Sarah Rheault donated the Rheault conservation easement in 2005.

### ADOPT-A-TRAIL SPONSOR

Stephanie Smith, in memory of Richmond Smith.



# McPheters

Megunticook Lake, Route 105, Camden

**#mcpheterspreserve**

**TRAIL:** No trail exists **SIZE:** 10 acres

## MEGUNTICOOK LAKE, MATURE PINES

This small wooded preserve protects 2,000 feet of shoreline on Megunticook Lake. While no trail exists, you are welcome to visit and explore. Several spots along the shore provide access for fishing and watching wildlife on the lake. Large hemlocks and eastern white pines dominate the canopy.

## DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Route 105 inland for 3 miles, turning right into the Bog Bridge Boat Access parking lot, located on Megunticook Lake. The preserve is on Megunticook Lake on the opposite side of the bridge, a 500-foot walk across the bridge from the parking lot.

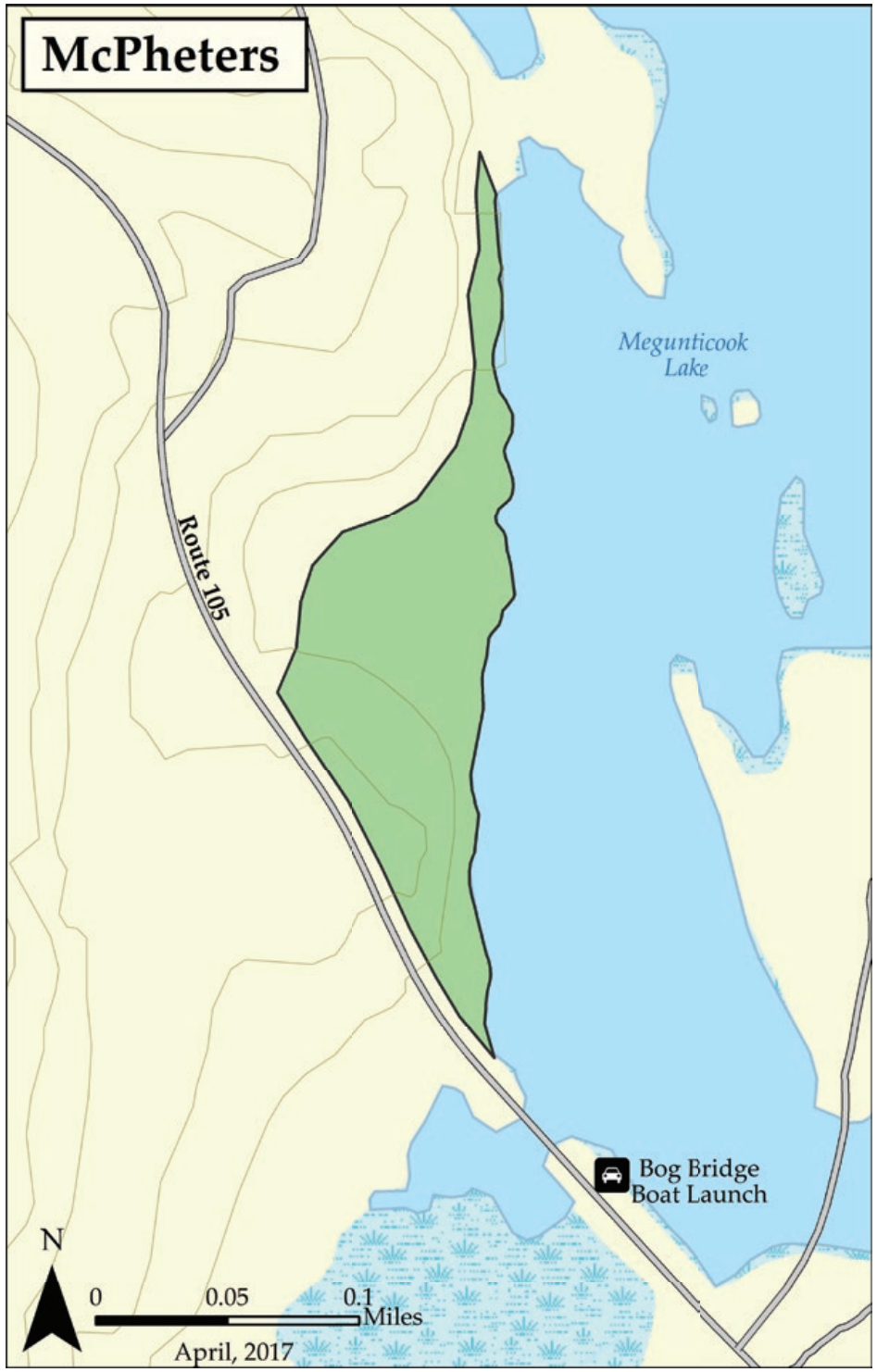
## LOOK FOR

- Red-winged blackbirds, common loons, and many species of ducks feeding along the wooded shore
- Abundant wildflowers and ferns along the shore
- Tall hemlock trees shading the forest's understory

## HISTORY

Donated in 1996 by the Bok family. Named after a Bok family caretaker.

Lynn Luzzi, Nellie Sweet



# Hatchet Mountain

Route 235, Hatchet Mountain Road, Hope

**#hatchetmountainpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 0.6 miles one-way, difficult **SIZE:** 27 acres

## VIEWS OF COASTAL MOUNTAINS, STEEP CLIMB

Rising above Hope Village, the preserve offers majestic views easterly past Bald and Ragged Mountains and Camden Hills State Park towards Penobscot Bay. Visible from Lake Megunticook in Camden and Lincolnville, Beech Hill in Rockport, and the Camden Hills, Hatchet Mountain is an important area landmark. The .75-mile well-built trail switchbacks up the face of the mountain, and has several view points of Hobbs Pond and beyond.

## DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Route 105 out of Camden to Hope Center. At Hope Center, take a left onto Hatchet Mountain Road, Route 235, and drive just over 0.5 miles to parking area on the right.

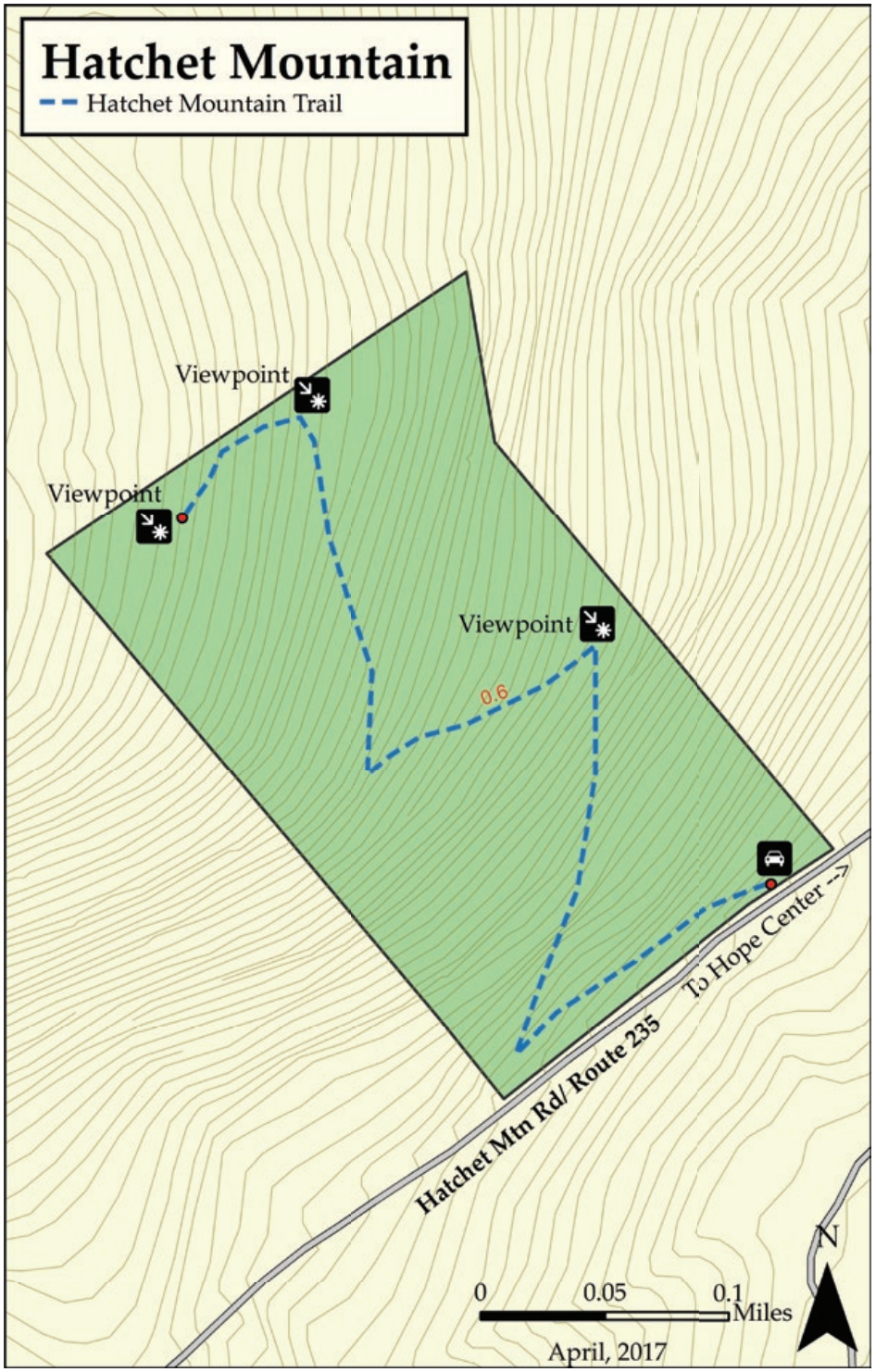
## LOOK FOR

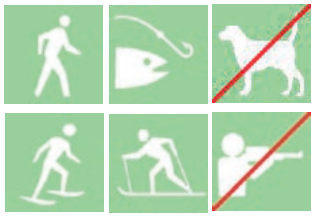
- Northern red oaks with damaged canopies broken by ice storms perched along the steep slopes
- Small blight-resistant American chestnut trees planted along the trail

## HISTORY

Conserved in 2007, with support from Hope residents, and a donation from owner Walter Lamont, Jr.

Nellie Sweet





# Fernalds Neck

Fernalds Neck Road, Lincolnville

**#fernaldsneckpreserve**

**TRAIL:** Blue Trail: 1.8 miles round trip, moderate
White Trail: 0.4 miles round trip, easy
Orange Trail: 1.75 miles round trip, moderate

**SIZE:** 285 acres

## MAJESTIC PINES, BALANCE ROCK, LAKEFRONT

Impressive mature pines, hemlocks, and hardwoods cover most of the peninsula. Rocky outcroppings, mosses, and mushrooms thrive among the peninsula's dark understory. Take the Orange or White trail for Megunticook Lake access, a popular spot for summer swimming.

## DIRECTIONS

From Lincolnville Center, take Route 52 south for 2 miles, then turn right at Fernalds Neck Road. Follow to its end, staying left at the fork. From Camden, take Route 52/Mountain Street north for 5.8 miles, turning left at Fernalds Neck Road. There is limited parking. Please respect roadside restrictions and drive slowly.

## LOOK FOR

- Balance Rock, a gigantic precariously-balanced glacial erratic
- Views of Megunticook Lake along the Orange and Blue Trails

## HISTORY

Conserved by local residents in 1969 through The Nature Conservancy. This property was transferred to the Land Trust in 2007.

## ADOPT-A-TRAIL SPONSORS

Sid & Elizabeth Eudy, Walter Curchack & Stacy Thomas

Lynn Luzzi

# Murray

Howe Point Road, Lincolnville

**#murraypreserve**

**TRAIL:** No trail **SIZE:** 10 acres

## OCEANSIDE FIELD, COBBLESTONE BEACH

Once an active hay and blueberry field, this 7-acre field is now mowed annually to maintain habitat and provide a scenic view from Route 1 to Penobscot Bay. Access this small preserve from the beach in Ducktrap Harbor on Howe Point Road. No dogs are allowed on the beach. This is an excellent picnic spot.

## DIRECTIONS

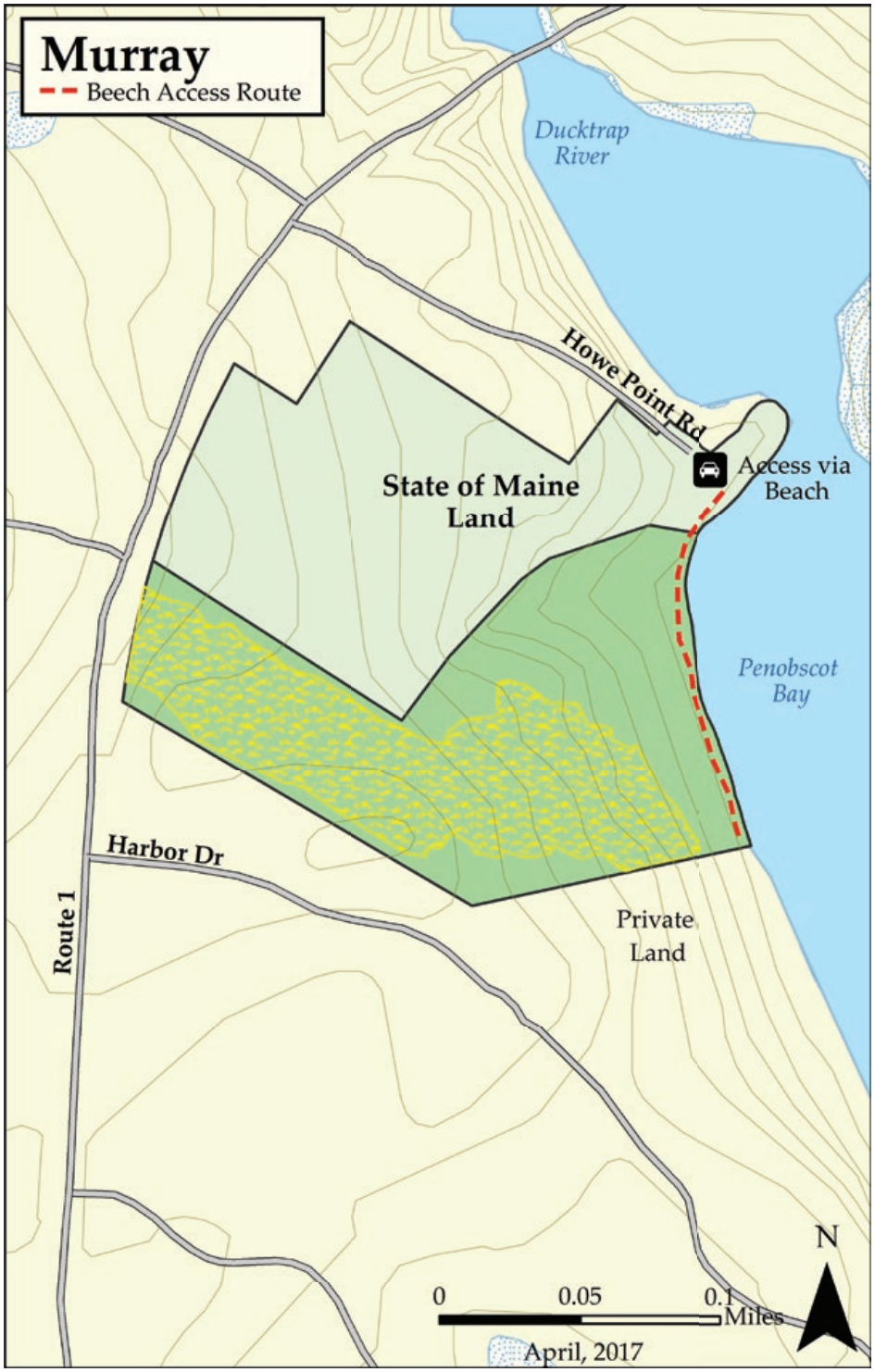
From Lincolnville Beach, drive 1.1 miles north on Route 1, turning right onto Howe Point Road just before the Ducktrap River bridge. This short road dead-ends at a small parking lot adjacent to a cobble beach owned by the State of Maine. The Murray Preserve is located just to the south of the parking lot. Small metal preserve medallions will be visible from the shore.

## LOOK FOR

- Wild turkeys feeding in the field and young forest
- Cobble beach and changing tidal views
- Range of colorful asters in late summer

## HISTORY

Donated in 2007 by siblings Jim Murray and Joan Webster in memory of James and Ninetta Murray and John and Coralee Murray.



# Ducktrap River

Route 52, Lincolnville

**#ducktrapriverpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 5.6 miles round-trip, moderate **SIZE:** 1140 acres

## SALMON HABITAT, WOODEN FOOTBRIDGE

Our largest and most wild preserve, this land protects the river's shoreline for wild Atlantic salmon habitat. The first 1.4 miles of the trail are shared with a snowmobile trail. An impressive 32-foot wooden bridge crosses the river 0.25 miles after leaving the snowmobile trail.

### DIRECTIONS

From Lincolnville Center, drive north on Route 52 for 3.5 miles. You will descend into a valley before a steep hill. The trailhead is located on the left, about 100 yards after Route 52 crosses the Ducktrap River. Park along the road.

### LOOK FOR

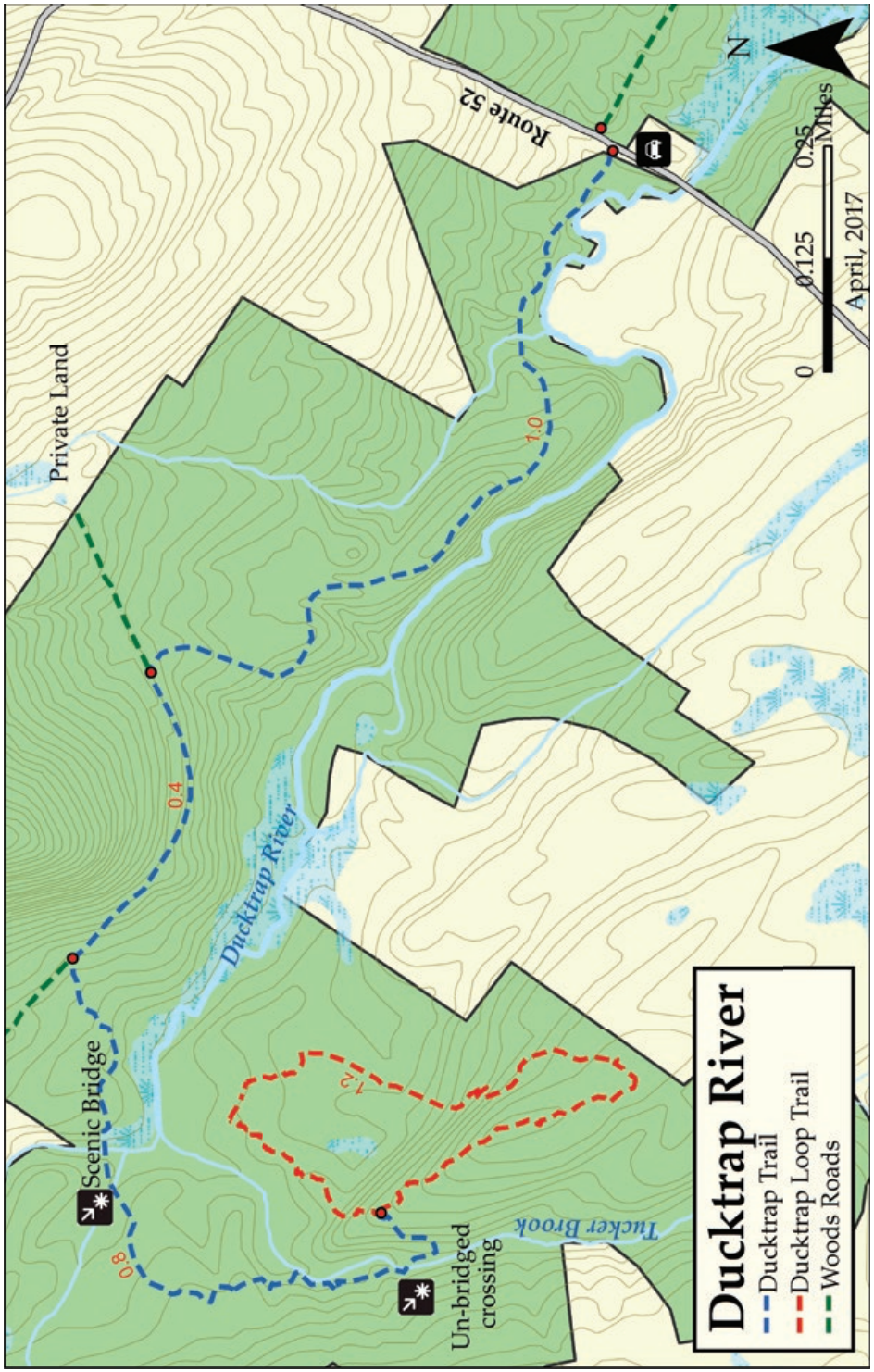
- Mature hemlock groves, home to painted trillium and Blackburnian warblers
- Tracks in the winter, including moose, deer, bobcat, and coyote
- Geotextile fabric used to eradicate invasive Japanese knotweed

### HISTORY

This land was conserved in numerous stages from 1996 to the present, led by the multi-stakeholder group Ducktrap Coalition.

### ADOPT-A-TRAIL SPONSOR

In memory of Richard C. Hennemuth.






*Protecting land for the community, forever.* 

# St. Clair

Knights Pond Road, Northport

**#stclairpreserve**

**TRAIL:** Water access and 0.15 mile trail **SIZE:** 309 acres

## POND ACCESS AND VIEWS

This preserve runs along the shores of Knights Pond offering beautiful views of the water and access for swimming and paddling. The pond and preserve are surrounded by other conservation land, protected by partner organizations.

## DIRECTIONS

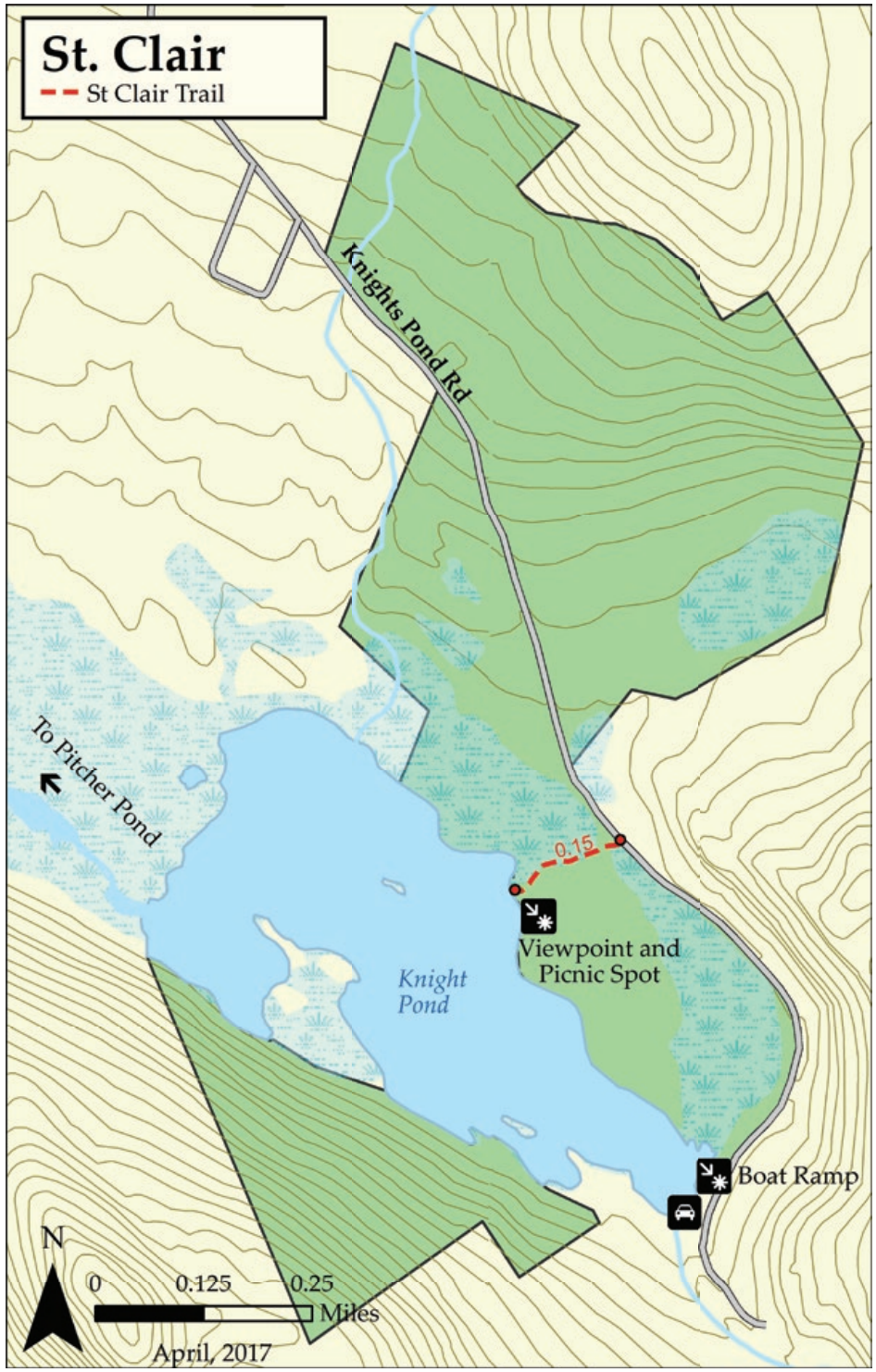
From Lincolnville Beach, take Route 1 north 5.3 miles, then turn left onto Beech Hill Road in Northport for 2.5 miles. Take a left onto Knights Pond Road and park at the end of this dirt road by the pond.

## LOOK FOR

- The northernmost Atlantic white cedar stand on the East Coast
- New England bluets, a damselfly species
- White-tailed deer wintering grounds
- Painted turtles and carnivorous pitcher plants
- An area of entirely unblemished beech trees, apparently resistant to the beech bark disease

## HISTORY

Transferred in 2015 by The Nature Conservancy. Initial donation in 1962 by Cary Bok and second parcel in 1988 by the Gautschi family.



# Newman and Breslin

Beech Hill Road, Northport

**#newmanpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 1.1 miles one-way, moderate **SIZE:** 230 acres

## OAK GROVE, PITCHER POND, WILDLIFE

This trail descends downhill, passing through four distinct forest types. The quiet hillside hosts abundant wildlife. The trail ends at Pitcher Pond, a great spot for a picnic. Shorefront access is only available via the Newman Preserve Trail, through the Breslin-Richenaker Preserve.

## DIRECTIONS

From Lincolnville Beach, take Route 1 north 5.3 miles, then turn left onto Beech Hill Road in Northport. Follow Beech Hill Road 3.8 miles, passing over a hill, to a small parking lot on the right. The trail begins on the opposite side of the road.

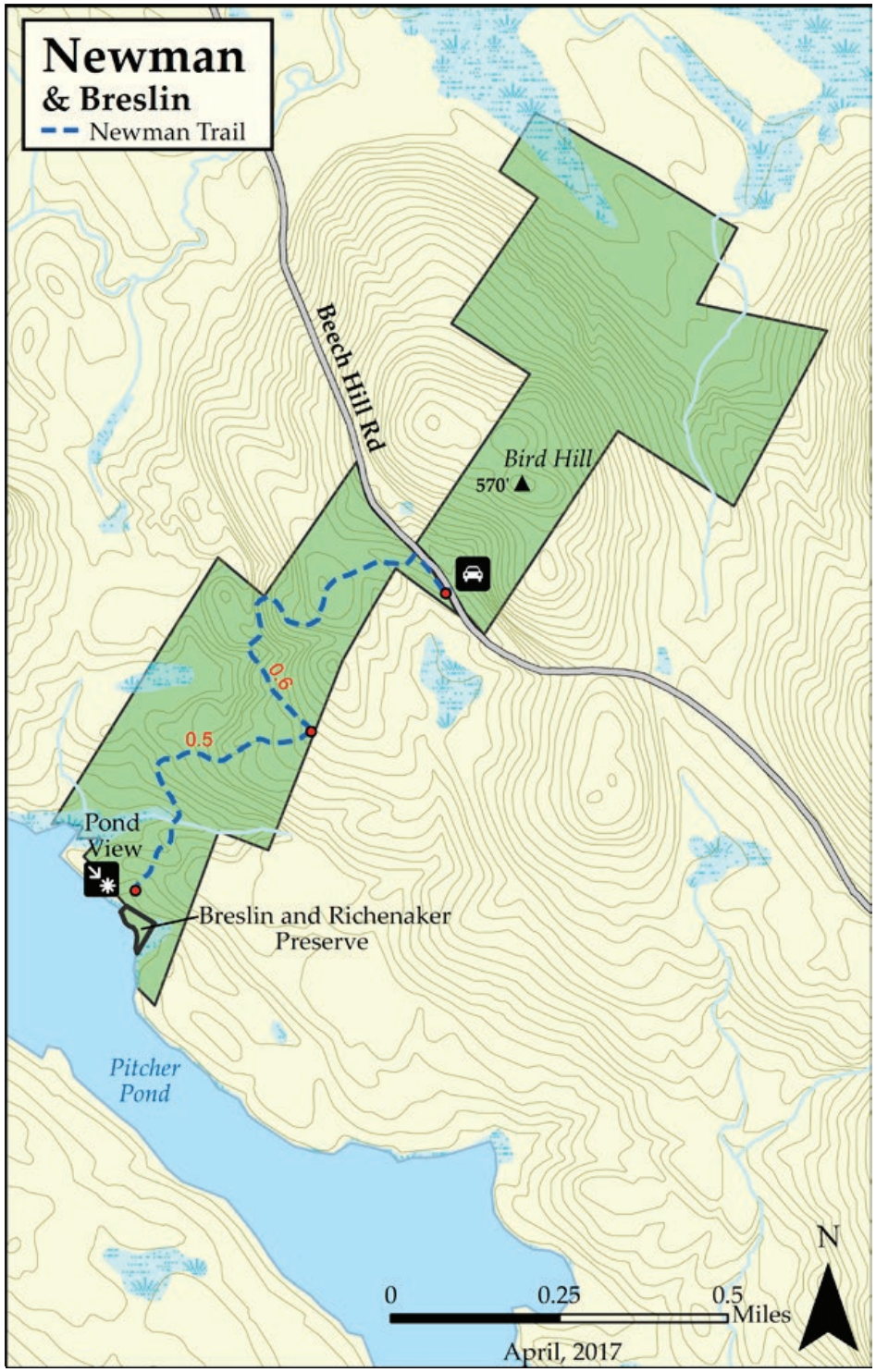
## LOOK FOR

- Fern beds, including sensitive, cinnamon, interrupted, lady, Christmas, bracken, and New York fern
- Wildlife, including tracks and scat of moose, deer, bobcat and fox
- A commemorative donor plaque on Breslin Preserve

## HISTORY

Donated in 1999 by James, Nancy, and Carol Newman. Elizabeth Breslin donated land in 2015, providing trail access to the pond.

Judy Berk



# Mount Percival

Bluff Road, Northport

**#mountpercivalpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 0.6 mile round-trip, moderate **SIZE:** 73 acres

## RUSTICATOR TOWER FOUNDATION, SCENIC HILLTOP

The trail makes a gradual climb to the summit (elevation 410 feet), where the foundation of an early rusticator's tower and cistern remains. In the early 1900s, there were expansive views of Penobscot Bay and the Camden Hills, but the growing forest now blocks the view.

## DIRECTIONS

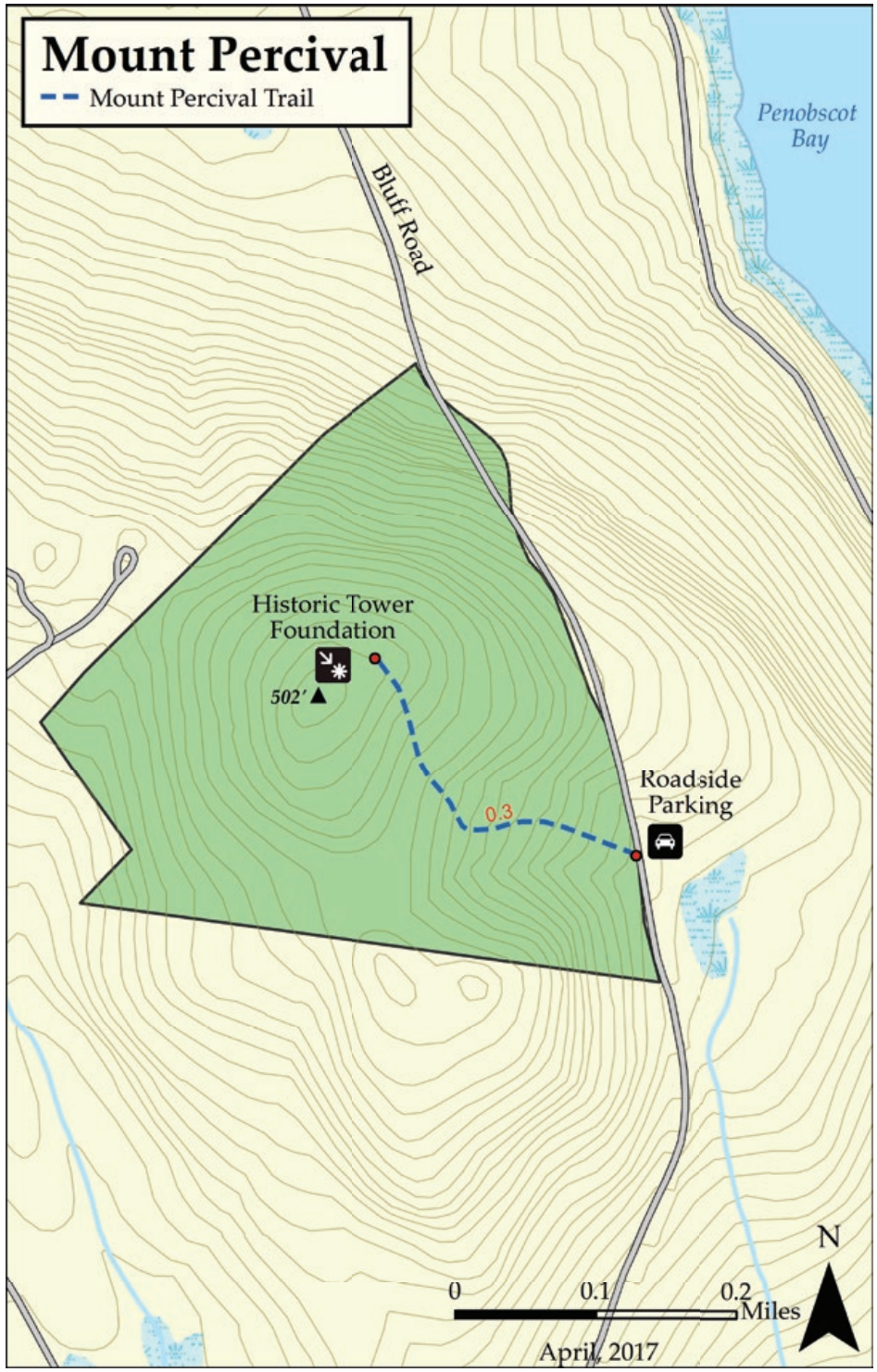
From Lincolnville Beach, take Route 1 north 4.9 miles, taking a slight right onto Shore Road. Continue 1 mile as it turns into Pound Hill Road, then turn right at the fork onto Upper Bluff Road. Continue for 0.5 miles to preserve entrance on the left, across from the mailbox marked 220 Upper Bluff Road. Park along the road.

## LOOK FOR

- Stone wall foundation and cistern of historic rusticator's lookout tower at the summit
- Large white ash trees that line the trail to the summit
- Stepping stones from road

## HISTORY

Donated by the Hildreth family and transferred from Maine Coast Heritage Trust in 2003.



# McLellan-Poor

Two Trailheads: Route 1, Northport
Herrick Road, Northport
**#mclellanpoorpreserve**

**TRAILS:** Peggity's Path, 1.4 miles round-trip, easy
Route 1 Trail, 0.9 mile round-trip, easy.

**SIZE:** 66 acres

## OLD CONIFER FORESTS, STREAM CROSSINGS

With the exception of a 2.5-acre abandoned field along Route 1, the preserve is densely forested by stands of hemlock, mixed conifer, old-field pine, and red maple swamps. The trail crosses many streams, which have created distinct ravines throughout the landscape.

## DIRECTIONS

Route 1 Entrance**:** From Belfast, take Route 1 south. The preserve is 100 yards south of the Belfast/Northport town line. Parking is on the right.

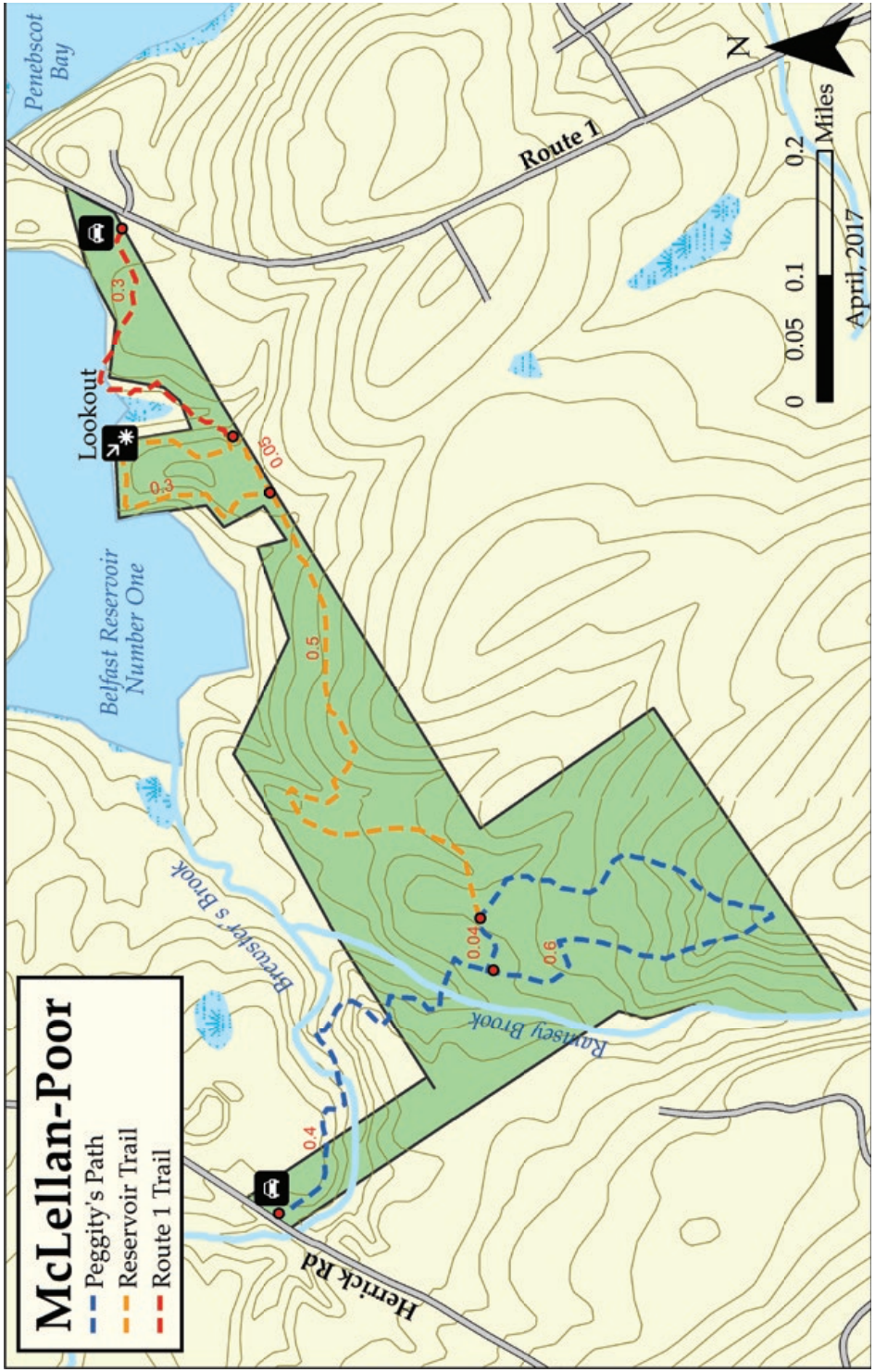
Herrick Road entrance: From Belfast, take Route 1 south and turn right onto Perkins Road (near Northport boundary). Bear left onto Herrick Road. Parking is on left.

## LOOK FOR

- Steep ravines and streams draining into the Little River Reservoir
- A granite bench overlooking fields and two streams
- The close-by Little River Trail to extend your hike

## HISTORY

Since 2007 Hugh McLellan Russell, Elizabeth Wolfe and Michael Cunning have all generously donated land to this Preserve. The original gift was facilitated through Maine Coast Heritage Trust.



# Belfast Rail Trail

**Along the Passagassawakeag River**

*Owned and managed by the City of Belfast*

City Point Road, Belfast

**#belfastrailtrail**

**TRAIL:** 2.3 miles one-way, easy

## SCENIC RIVER WALK, WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE, CLOSE TO TOWN

The old Belfast-Moosehead Lake Railroad corridor along the Passagassawakeag River was transformed into a level, packed granite stone trail suitable for foot, ski, bike, and wheelchair compatible recreation. The trail begins at the Armistice footbridge on the waterfront, and travels along the river to the City Point Railroad Museum, then connects to the 47-mile Hills to Sea Trail to Unity.

## DIRECTIONS

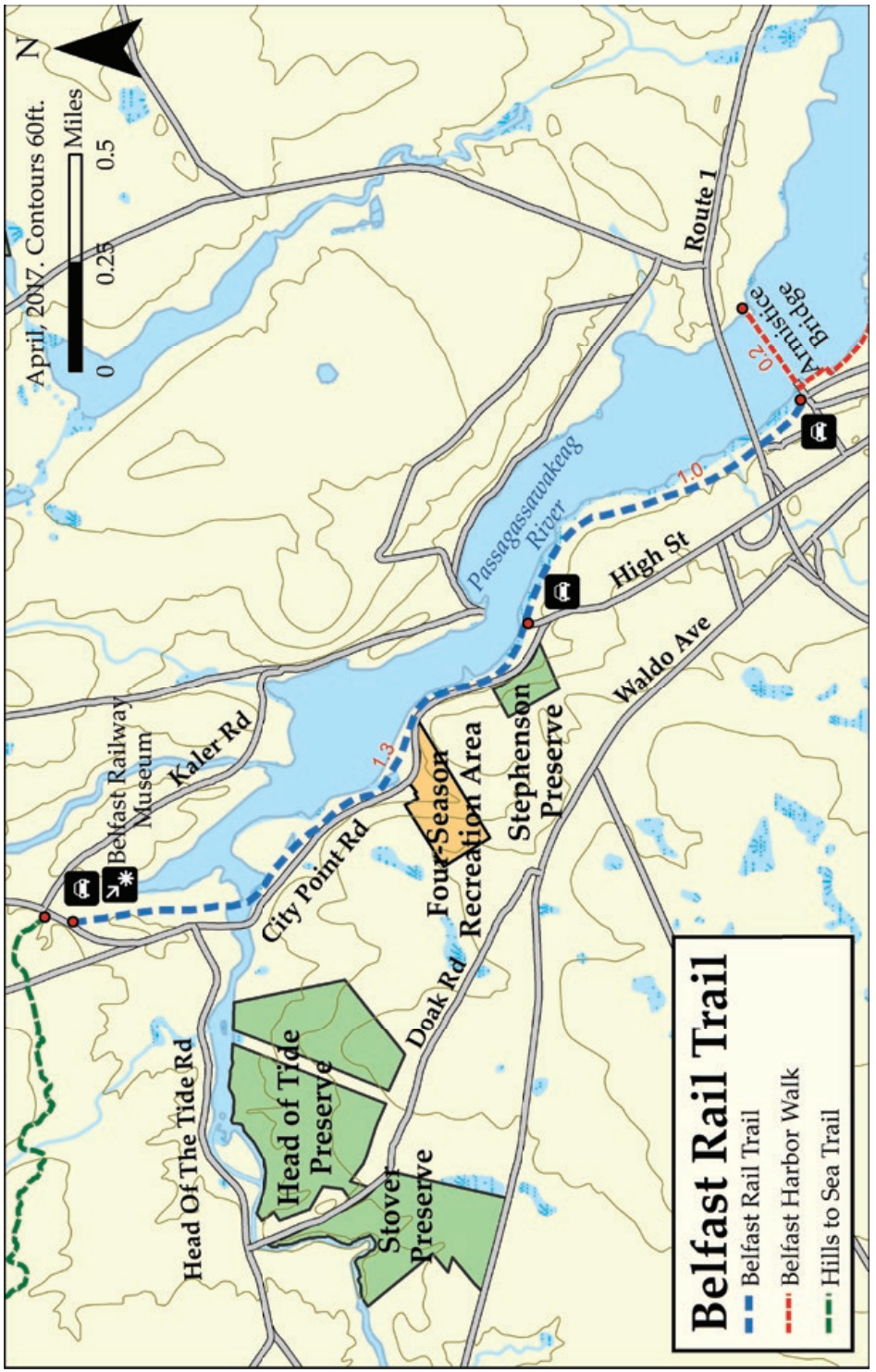
From downtown Belfast, park on Water Street and access the trail by the Armistice footbridge. Parking is also available at the trail's terminus, at the City Point Railroad Museum along City Point Road, and at the Stephenson Preserve parking lot, near the trail's midpoint.

## LOOK FOR

- Osprey and bald eagles in summer, buffleheads ducks in winter
- Signs and structures relating to the Belfast-Moosehead Railroad

## HISTORY

This collaborative project between the Land Trust and the City of Belfast was completed in 2016, made possible by local residents and businesses.



# Stephenson

City Point Road, Belfast

**#stephensonpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 0.3 mile loop, easy **SIZE:** 8 acres

## ROCK BLUFFS, SEASONAL WATERFALL, HEMLOCK STAND

Formally known as the Knowlton-Swanson-Stephenson Preserve, this preserve offers a short hike close to downtown Belfast. A small waterfall flows during spring melt and heavy rain. You could extend your outing by visiting the neighboring Belfast City Preserve and Belfast Rail Trail along the Passagassawakeag River.

### DIRECTIONS

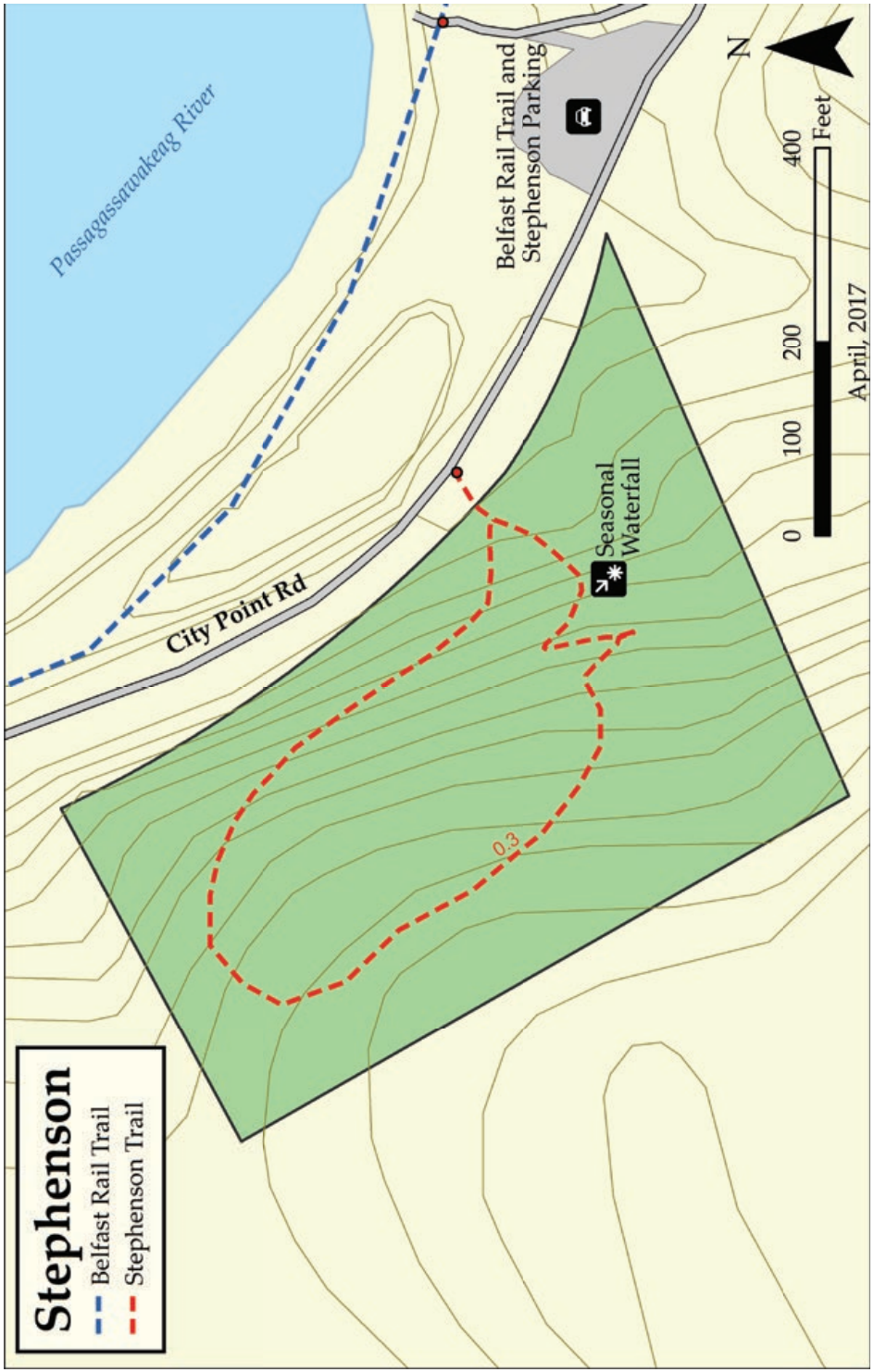
From downtown Belfast, take High Street/Route 137. Follow for 1 mile. Entrance to parking lot is on the left.

### LOOK FOR

- Fern beds, including sensitive, cinnamon, Christmas and New York ferns
- Coarse woody debris, important habitat for small mammals and invertebrates
- Yellow birch, whose twigs smell like wintergreen when scratched

### HISTORY

Donated in 2000 by Ralph Stephenson.



# Stover

Doak Road, Belfast

**#stoverpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 0.9 mile loop, easy **SIZE:** 53 acres

## SCENIC PASSAGASSAWAKEAG RIVER FRONT

This property along the Passagassawakeag River provides an opportunity to enjoy a scenic nature walk within close proximity to downtown Belfast. The trail meanders through old-field pines, mixed conifer-hardwood stands with extensive bog bridging, and along a wild section of the river.

## DIRECTIONS

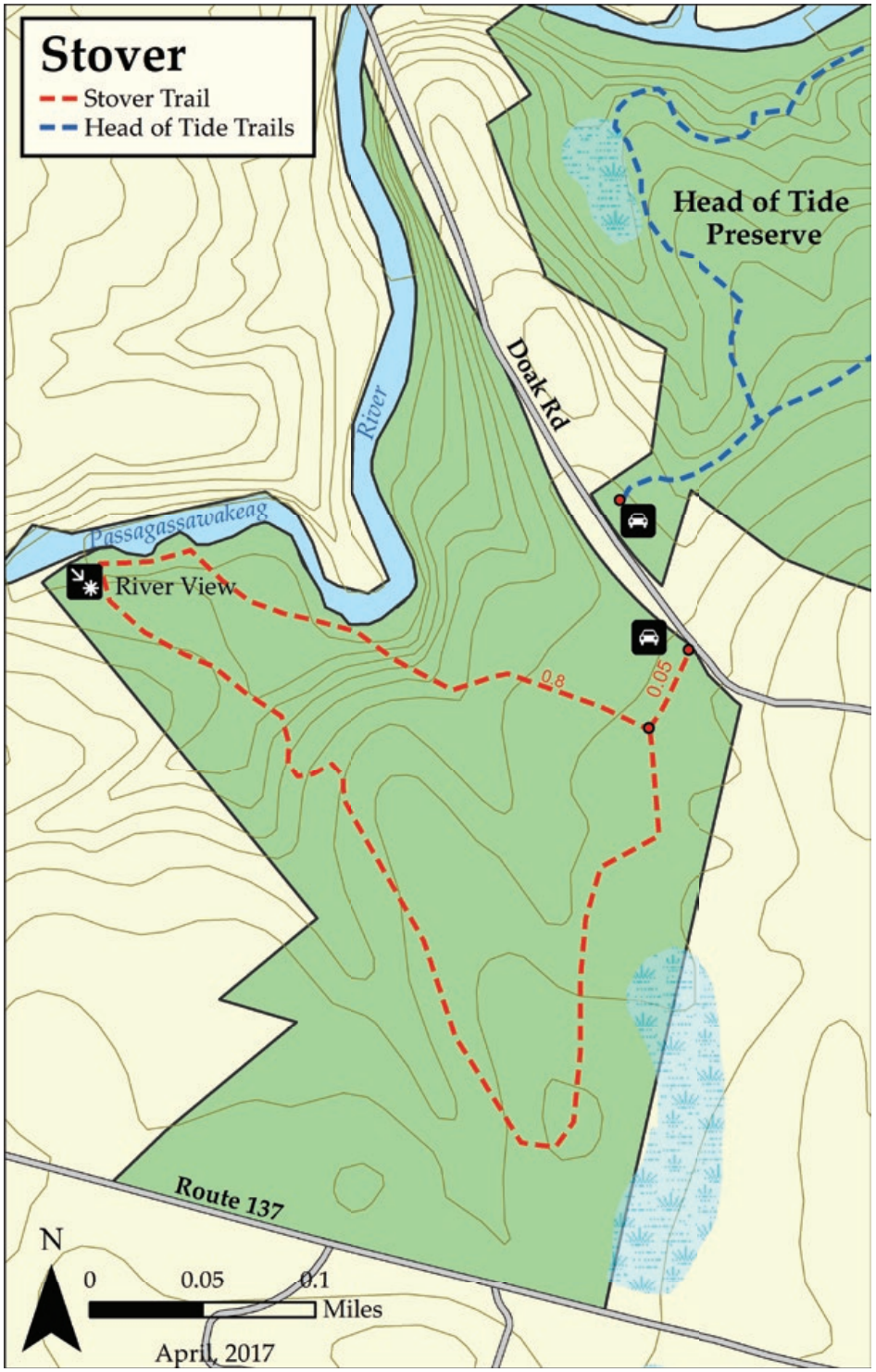
From downtown Belfast, take Main Street west and immediately turn right onto Waldo Avenue. In 1.5 miles, turn right onto Doak Road. Parking area is on the left immediately after Doak's Machine Shop. Stover Preserve is across the road from Head of Tide Preserve.

## LOOK FOR

- Stone walls, apple trees, old multi-trunk pine trees
- Brown ash, a slow-growing tree used by Wabanaki people for basket weaving
- Ferns and mosses along the banks of the last rapids before the river becomes tidal

## HISTORY

Conserved in 2004 with support of Lee and Donna Stover.



# Head of Tide

Doak Road, Belfast

**#headoftidepreserve**

**TRAILS:** Blue River Loop 1.0 mile, easy
Woods Loop 1.0 mile, easy

**SIZE:** 92 acres

## PASSAGASSAWAKEAG RIVER, OLD FARM FIELDS, PERMACULTURE GARDENS

This preserve protects part of the Passagassawakeag River shoreline, as well as old fields and forests. It abuts two other parcels of land within the Passagassawakeag Greenway: the Stover Preserve and a privately-owned easement. The Blue River Loop travels along the high banks of the river. The group Belfast Transition manages an interactive and educational permaculture garden with picnic tables for the public.

### DIRECTIONS

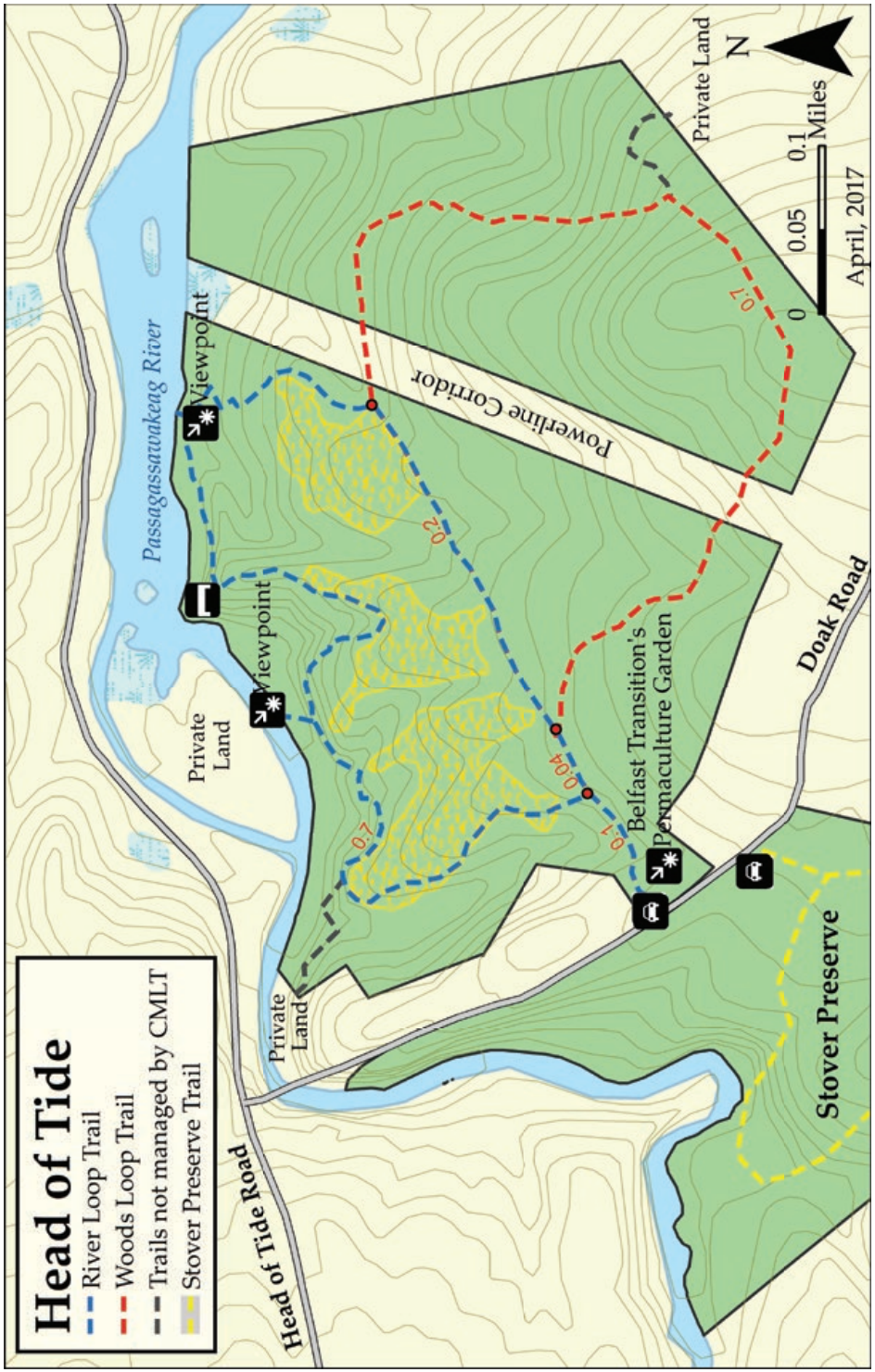
From downtown Belfast, take Main Street west and immediately turn right onto Waldo Avenue. In 1.5 miles, turn right onto Doak Road. Parking area is on the right immediately after Doak's Machine Shop.

### LOOK FOR

- Osprey, bald eagles and belted kingfishers flying along the river
- Grassland nesting birds and monarch butterflies
- Wolf trees, apple trees, and old rock walls surrounding the fields

### HISTORY

Conserved in 2009 with support from Land for Maine's Future.



# Littlefield

Swan Lake Avenue, Belfast

**#littlefieldpreserve**

**TRAIL:** Water access only **SIZE:** 25 acres

## UPPER MASON POND, PADDLING, FISHING

This preserve, made up of two separate waterfront parcels, protects important wetland habitat as well as scenic views surrounding Upper Mason Pond. Anglers, paddlers, and ice skaters can all use the shores of this preserve. Paddlers can travel the Goose River from Swanville and end in Upper Mason Pond.

## DIRECTIONS

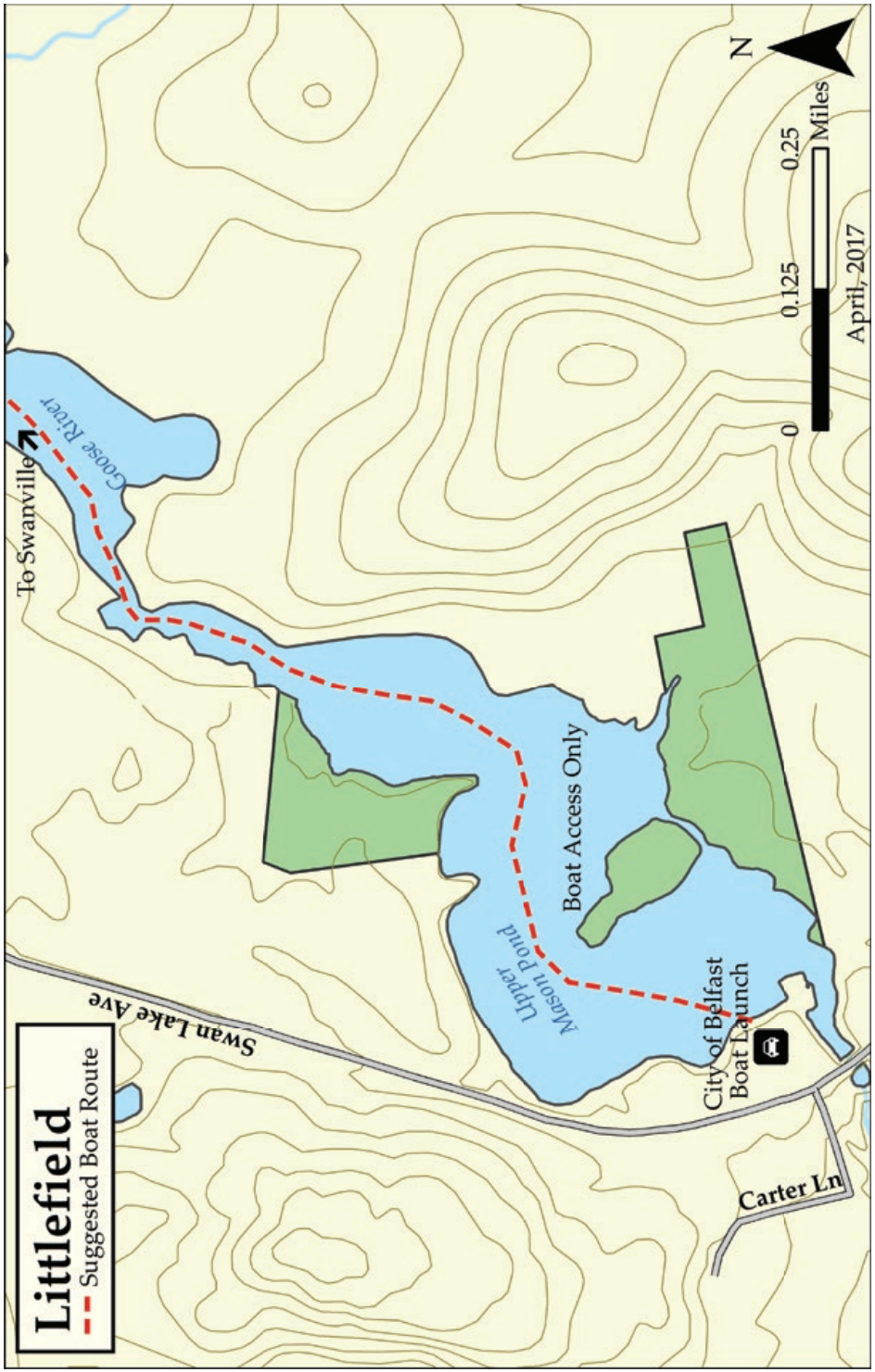
From Belfast, take the Route 1 bridge over the Passagassawakeag River, taking an immediate left onto Swan Lake Avenue (Route 141). Drive on Swan Lake Avenue for 2 miles, turning right into the Upper Mason Pond boat launch parking lot.

## LOOK FOR

- Turtles basking on logs in the water
- Scenic picnic spots along the shores
- Bass, yellow perch, and pickerel, species that thrive in the warm waters of this 10-foot deep pond

## HISTORY

Donated in 2016 by Butch and Evelyn Littlefield.



# Meadow Brook

## Hauk-Fry Trail

Oak Hill Road, Swanville

**#meadowbrookpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 1.0 mile one-way, easy **SIZE:** 86 acres

### HURDS POND, ROCK DAM, PICNIC TABLE

Hauk-Fry is one of three tracts that make up the 372-acre Meadow Brook Preserve. This trail meanders through regenerating spruce-fir forests and ends on the beautiful shoreline of Hurds Pond. Crossing the historic rock dam brings hikers to a small island, where a grand view of the expansive wetlands complex can be seen. Enrich your hike with a picnic at the table placed on the western shoreline. The table can be easily accessed by water or by land. Trail can be seasonally wet.

### DIRECTIONS

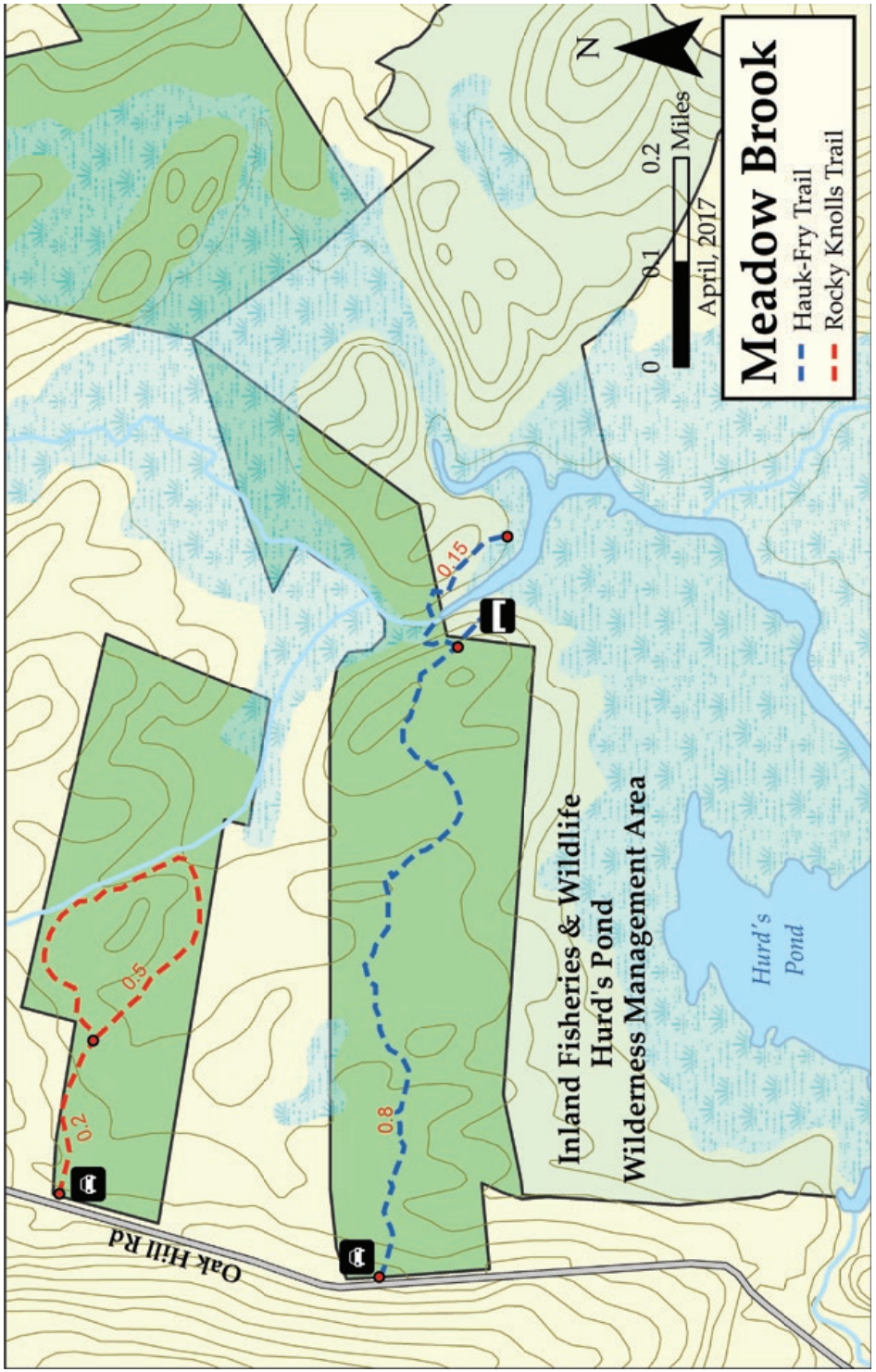
From downtown Belfast, take High Street/Route 137 for 2.6 miles. Take a slight right onto Oak Hill Road. In 2.0 miles, the preserve will be on right; park along the road.

### LOOK FOR

- Abundant beaver lodges and tree felling activity along the water's edge
- Nesting wood ducks, marsh wrens, Canada warblers, and many other bird species
- Tracks of bobcat, fisher, hare, deer, coyote, and fox in the winter

### HISTORY

Donated by David Hauk and Pattie Fry in 2013.



# Meadow Brook

## Rocky Knolls Trail

Oak Hill Road, Swanville

**#meadowbrookpreserve**

**TRAIL:** 0.7 mile loop, easy **SIZE:** 49 acres

## OLD LOGGING ROADS, SCRUB-SHRUB HABITAT

This is just one trail on the 372-acre Meadow Brook Preserve, which is a central part of a 2,408-acre undeveloped habitat block. Because of a recent timber harvest prior to its conservation, this property offers early-succession regenerating forest habitat and wildlife. This trail loops through several old logging roads and provides flat terrain for cross-country skiing. The trail can be seasonally wet, but many bog bridges allow for dry passage.

### DIRECTIONS

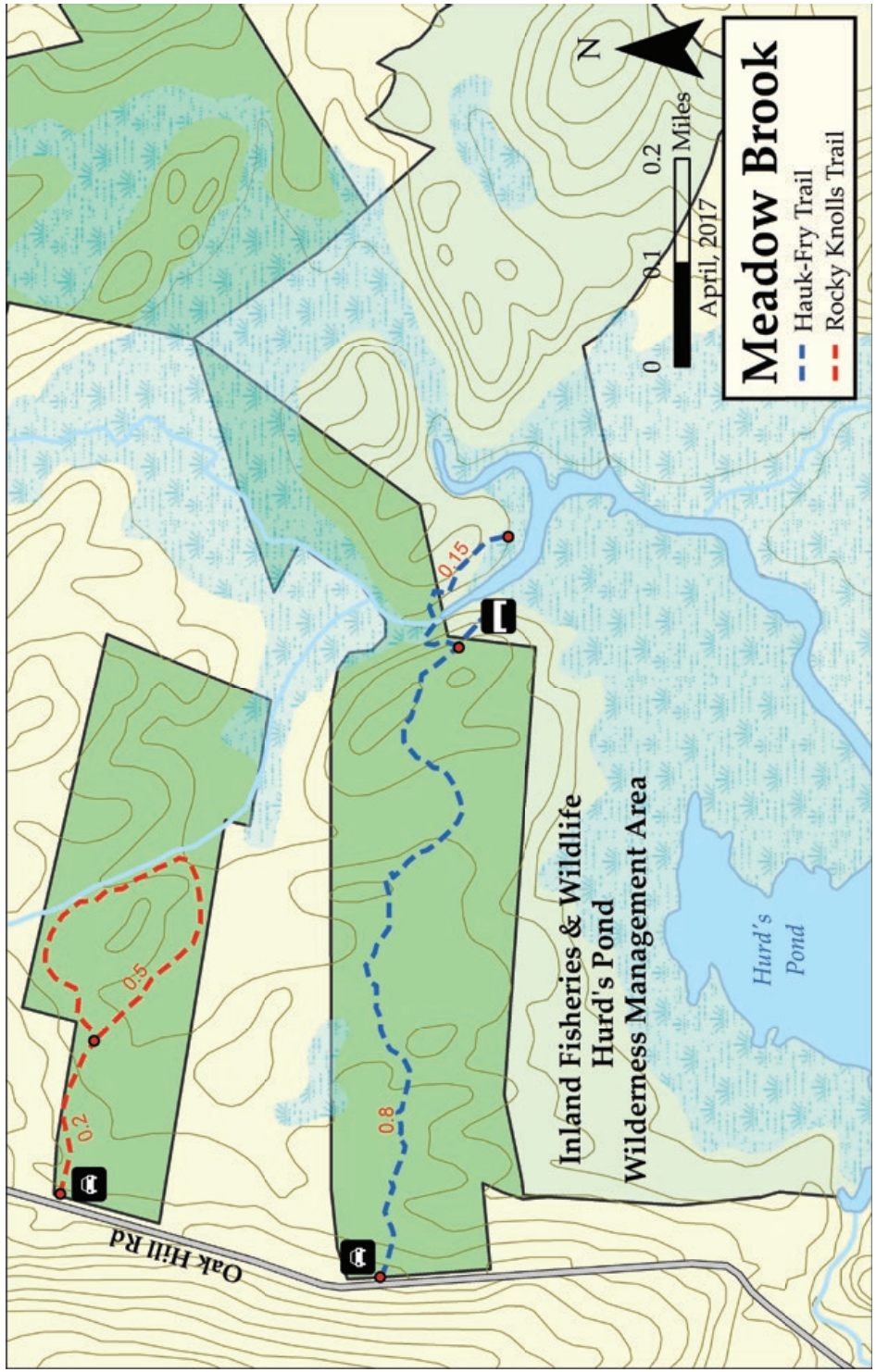
From downtown Belfast, take High Street/Route 137 for 2.6 miles. Take a slight right onto Oak Hill Road. In 2.3 miles, the preserve will be on right; park along the road.

### LOOK FOR

- Early-successional habitat that attracts bird species including chestnut-sided warblers and prairie warblers
- Diverse wildflowers and grasses growing along the old logging roads
- Small brooks supporting abundant amphibian life

### HISTORY

Donated anonymously in 2011.



# Long Cove Headwaters

Savery Road, Searsport

**#longcoveheadwaterspreserve**

**TRAIL:** Blue Loop, 1.2 miles round-trip, easy
Orange Loop, 2.3 miles round-trip, easy

**SIZE:** 456 acres

## OPEN WETLANDS, DEEP FORESTS, WILDLIFE

A multitude of habitat types host an abundance of wildlife. The scrub-shrub habitat, created by a recent timber harvest, hosts relatively rare early-successional species including song birds. This is a great preserve for those interested in wildlife and birding. The trail comes close to several vernal pools, providing important habitat for frogs and salamanders.

## DIRECTIONS

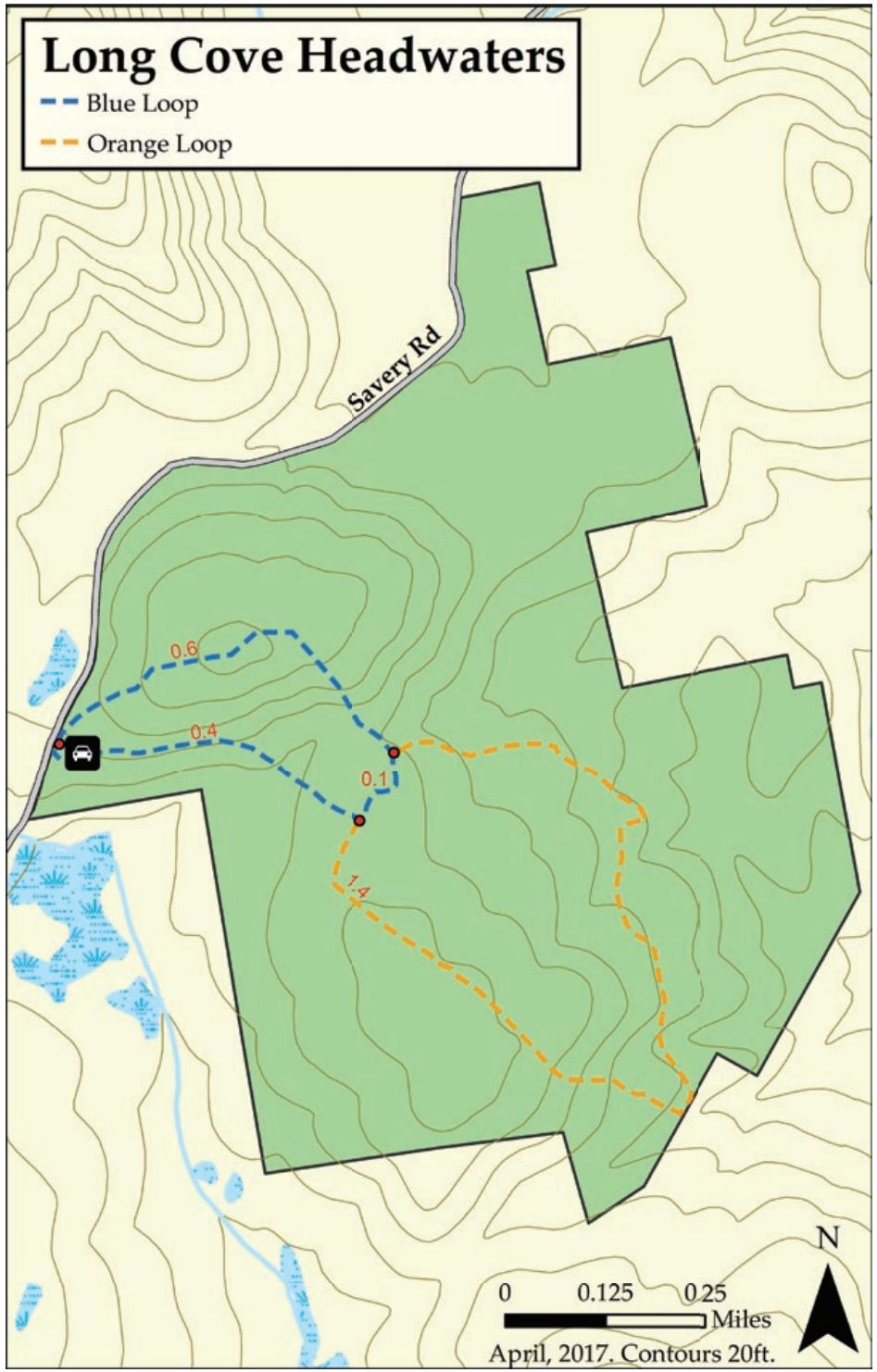
From Searsport, take Mt. Ephraim Road west (off of Route 1). In 2.6 miles turn right onto Savery Road. Follow for 0.6 miles to the preserve parking lot on the right.

## LOOK FOR

- Porcupines in hemlock stands, signs of their dens and heavily chewed trees
- Wood frogs and spotted salamanders using vernal pools
- Evidence of bear, moose, deer, coyote, and hare

## HISTORY

Acquired from Central Maine Power Company in 2010 and the Whitten family in 2014.



# Main Stream

Sherer Road, Stockton Springs

**#mainstreampreserve**

**TRAIL:** 1.6 miles round-trip, easy **SIZE:** 250 acres

## RIVER WALK, FIR FOREST, OLD SETTLEMENTS

This trail begins on a discontinued road and meanders through riparian habitat, dense fir forests, black cherry floodplains, grassy fields, and hemlock groves. Look out for woodcock, partridge, deer, coyotes, beaver, and even bears in this remote preserve. Though wild now, the preserve was once the site of several homestead settlements.

## DIRECTIONS

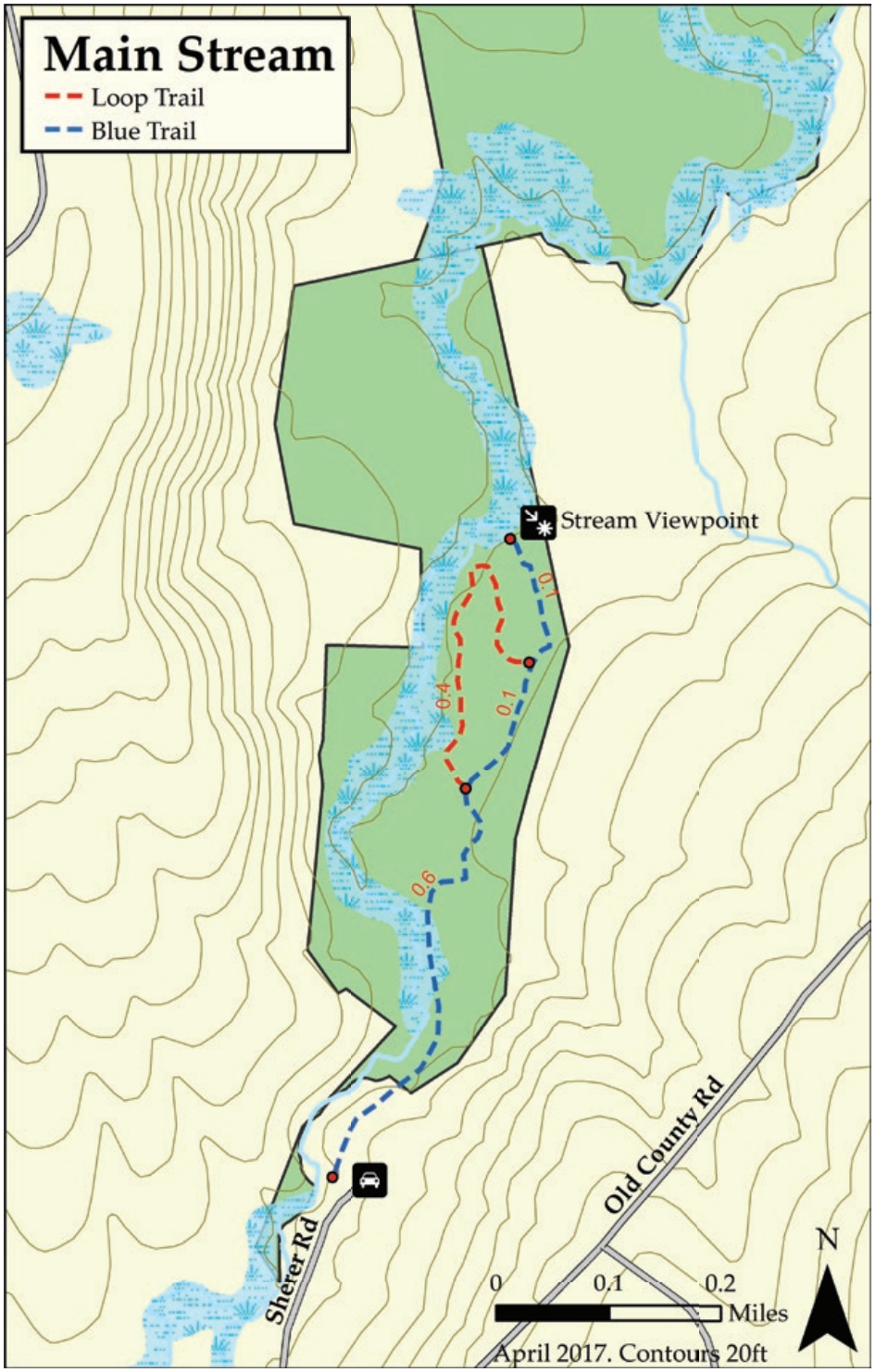
From Stockton Springs, take Route 1 north, then turn onto Harris Road by Just Barb's Restaurant. Turn left onto Green Valley Road, then right onto Old County Road, then left onto Sherer Road. Parking at the end of Sherer Road on the left.

## LOOK FOR

- Glacial erratics (large fragments of rock carried by glacial ice during the last ice age)
- Beaver activity along Main Stream, including gnawed tree trunks, dams, and lodges
- Historic mill and homestead foundations throughout preserve

## HISTORY

Acquired from Central Maine Power Company in 2010.



# Penobscot Shore

Bowden Point Road, Prospect

**#penobscotshorepreserve**

**TRAIL:** Coming Fall 2017 **SIZE:** 47 acres

## PENOBSCOT RIVER FRONTAGE

Our first preserve in Prospect offers 1,800 feet of forested shoreline along the Penobscot River. Several old foundations can be found along the shore, and you can view the old Bucksport mill across the river on the Bucksport shoreline.

## DIRECTIONS

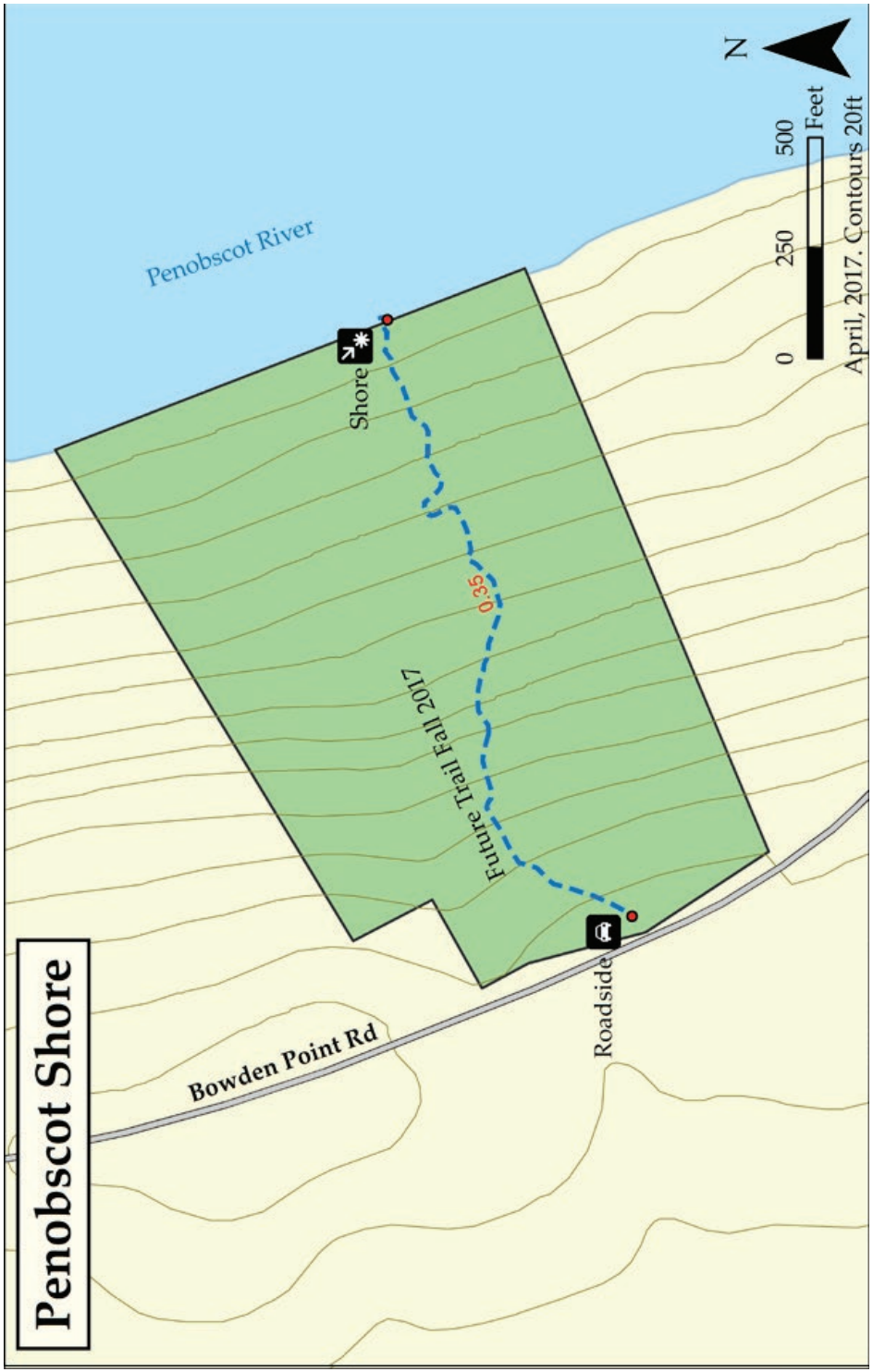
From Belfast, drive north on Route 1 toward the Penobscot Narrows Bridge, but turn left at the lights onto Route 174 before the bridge. In 1.4 miles, turn right onto Bowden Point Road. The preserve is on the right in 1.1 miles, 100 yards before Worcester's Lobster Bait. No parking lot currently exists. Park along the road.

## LOOK FOR

- Interesting ice shapes and heaved over ice sheets along the shore in winter
- Shorebirds along the mudflats
- Portions of the discontinued Shore Road run parallel to the river, midway through the preserve.

## HISTORY

Transferred from Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust in 2017, originally donated by Elizabeth Wemett.



# HIKE THE GUIDE!

**Complete the "Hike the Guide" challenge. Hike 10 preserves and earn a Land Trust patch. Visit all of the listed preserves and earn a prize.**

Document your visits by writing something in the space below or by sharing your outing on Instagram with the suggested hashtags.

When you are ready, come by the Land Trust office to claim your prize.

| PRESERVE NAME | DATE OF VISIT | TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR VISIT |
|---|---|---|
| Bald Mountain, Camden #baldmountainpreserve | | |
| Beauchamp Point, Rockport #beauchamppointpreserve | | |
| Beech Hill, Rockport #beechhillpreserve | | |
| Belfast Rail Trail, Belfast #belfastrailtrail | | |
| Ducktrap River, Lincolnville #ducktrapriverpreserve | | |
| Fernalds Neck, Lincolnville #fernaldsneckpreserve | | |
| Harkness, Rockport #harknesspreserve | | |
| Hatchet Mountain, Hope #hatchetmountainpreserve | | |
| Head of Tide, Belfast #headoftidepreserve | | |
| Hodson & Rheault, Camden #hodsonpreserve | | |
| Littlefield Preserve, Belfast #littlefieldpreserve | | |

For more information on Hike-The-Guide, visit coastalmountains.org.

**Share your experience #CoastalMountainsLandTrust**

**#HikeTheGuide #(preservename), i.e. #BaldMountainPreserve**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Long Cove Headwaters, Searsport #longcovepreserve | | |
| Main Stream, Stockton Springs #mainstreampreserve | | |
| McLellan-Poor, Belfast #mclellanpoorpreserve | | |
| McPheters, Camden #mcpheterspreserve | | |
| Meadow Brook, Swanville Granite Knolls Trail #meadowbrookpreserve | | |
| Meadow Brook, Swanville Hauk-Fry Trail #meadowbrookpreserve | | |
| Mount Percival, Northport #mountpercivalpreserve | | |
| Murray, Northport #murraypreserve | | |
| Newman & Breslin Northport, #newmanpreserve | | |
| Penobscot Shore, Prospect #penobscotshorepreserve | | |
| Ragged Mountain, Camden Round the Mountain Trail, #raggedmountainpreserve | | |
| Ragged Mountain, Camden Hosmer Brook Trail, #raggedmountainpreserve | | |
| Sides, Rockport #sidespreserve | | |
| Simonton Quarry, Rockport #simontonquarrypreserve | | |
| St. Clair, Northport #stclairpreserve | | |
| Stephenson, Belfast #stephensonpreserve | | |
| Stover, Belfast #stoverpreserve | | |

# Join Us!

Coastal Mountains Land Trust has worked since 1986 to permanently conserve land to benefit the natural and human communities of the western Penobscot Bay region. The Land Trust has protected over 10,000 acres and provides 40+ miles of trail open to the public.

The Land Trust is a **membership organization**, and we hope that you will consider joining the community of people who value conservation and who commit to supporting the stewardship of these special places.

As a member, you will receive updates on work and invitations to participate in activities via our printed and electronic newsletters. Members are also invited to advance-order our organic Beech Hill blueberries each year.

**Volunteering** is a great way to get involved—we rely on volunteers in every aspect of our organization and welcome your skills, enthusiasm, and interest.

**coastalmountains.org**

Follow us!

**207-236-7091**

COASTAL MOUNTAINS LAND TRUST

Protecting land for the community, *forever*.

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