

### Welcome to your Trail Guide



In 1986, Coastal Mountains Land Trust was founded for the purpose of permanently conserving Beech Hill, a beautiful coastal hilltop characterized by blueberry barrens, habitat for birds and other wildlife, and a historic landscape that offers uninterrupted views of Penobscot Bay and our coastal mountains.

Since that time, we have continued to grow and listen to the needs of our community. We remain committed to conserving important natural places, caring for the diversity of these lands, welcoming everyone to our preserves and trails, and engaging the next generation in our work. Across the fifteen towns we work in, we have permanently conserved over 13,000 acres of land and provide public access on over 55 miles of trails.

We offer this guide as an invitation to explore this area's beauty, to experience natural landscapes, to reconnect with friends and family, and to become further involved in the work of the Land Trust. After stepping onto our trails, we hope you will get involved with us as a member, volunteer, campaign supporter, and all-around ambassador for conservation.

As a locally focused organization, we believe that our strength lies in the deep connections with our local communities. Should you notice something amiss, have a question, or have an idea to share, please reach out. Our door is always open.



Happy Trails,

**Ian Stewart, Executive Director** Coastal Mountains Land Trust

FRONT COVER View of Megunticook Lake (pages 32–33) from Maiden Cliff (photo credit: Jim Hutton)

### **Preserve Guidelines**

While using our preserves, follow these guidelines. Our guidelines are subject to change and may be different for each preserve; they are posted on our website and at each trailhead.

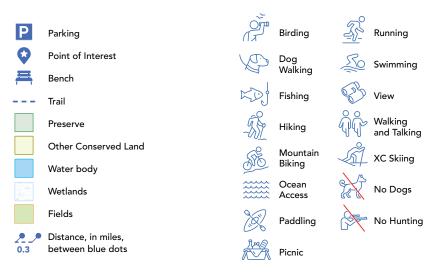
- Our preserves are open from dawn to dusk.
- Dogs must be on leash and picked up after (they are not permitted at some preserves).
- Leave no trace and carry out all your trash.
- Hunting is permitted on most, but NOT all preserves (see individual preserve pages). No predator hunting or trapping.
- Groups larger than 12 must obtain Land Trust permission. Visit our website for a group use permit.

- Mountain biking (including Class 1 and Class 3 E Bikes) is permitted on certain Ragged Mountain trails (pages 20–25). Prohibited on all other trails.
- No fires or overnight camping.
- No removal of vegetation (except wild fruit and mushrooms for personal use).
- No motorized vehicle or horse use (except snowmobiles at Ducktrap or Newman on designated trails).
- No use of drones except with prior written permission for research or educational use.

**ACTIVITY ICONS** 

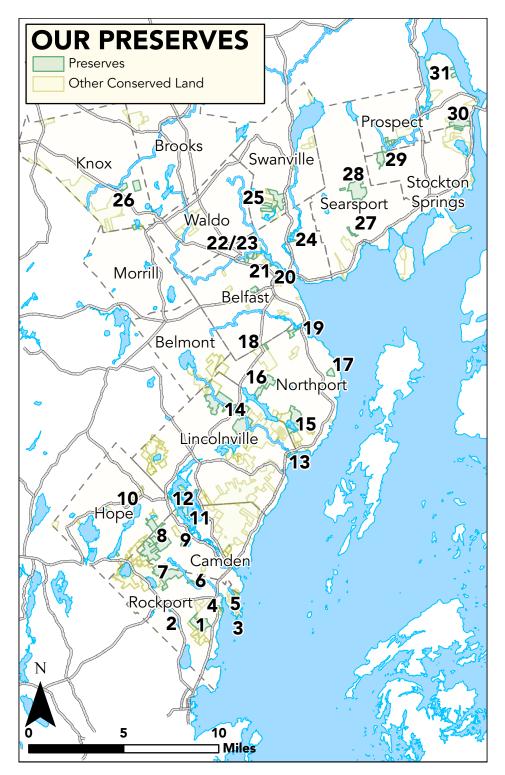
**Activity:** The blue icons at the top of each preserve page highlight the activities the preserve is best known for (but is not all inclusive). In addition, "No Dogs" and "No Hunting" icons have been included at the preserves that prohibit those activities.

#### MAP KEY



### **Preserve Legend**

	Preserve	Miles of Trail	Difficulty	Pages
1	Beech Hill	2.5	Easy/moderate	6–7
	Beech Hill and Erickson	1.8	Easy	8–9
2	Sides	0.4	Easy	10–11
3	Beauchamp Point	Paddle	_	12–13
4	Harkness	0.8	Easy	14–15
5	Rockport Shore	—	Easy	16–17
6	Simonton Quarry	—	_	18–19
7	Ragged Mountain			
	Round the Mountain Trail	6.5	Moderate	20 (Map 22–23)
	Hiking Trails	11.5	Difficult	21 (Map 22–23)
	Biking Trails	15.1	Easy/moderate/difficult	24–25
8	Bald Mountain	1.3	Difficult	26–27
9	Hodson and Rheault	1.7	Moderate/difficult	28–29
10	Hatchet Mountain	0.6	Difficult	30–31
11	Megunticook Lake by Boat	Paddle	_	32–33
12	Fernalds Neck	3.5	Easy/moderate	34–35
13	Murray	_	_	36–37
14	Ducktrap River	3.5	Easy/moderate	38–39
15	St. Clair	0.1	Easy	40-41
16	Newman	1.1	Moderate	42–43
17	Mount Percival	0.3	Moderate	44–45
18	Piper Stream	0.4	Easy	46–47
19	McLellan-Poor	2.3	Easy	48–49
20	Belfast Rail Trail	2.3	Easy	50–51
21	Stephenson	0.3	Moderate	52–53
22	Stover	0.9	Easy	54–55
23	Head of Tide	1.8	Easy/moderate	56–57
24	Littlefield	Paddle	—	58–59
25	Meadow Brook	2.1	Easy	60–61
26	Marsh Meadow	0.7	Moderate	62–63
27	Mill Brook	0.6	Easy	64–65
28	Long Cove Headwaters	2.4	Easy	66–67
29	Main Stream	1.1	Easy	68–69
30	Mount Tuck	1.7	Moderate	70–71
31	Penobscot Shore	0.7	Moderate	72–73



Rockport

### Blueberry barrens, Bay view, Stone hut



#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Two trails lead to the open hilltop summit of Beech Hill that offer fantastic panoramic views of the Penobscot Bay and mountains—a terrific hiking, picnicking, and birding destination. Highlights include the Beech Nut, a historic sod-roofed stone hut built in 1914. The Preserve is managed for bird habitat and organic blueberries. Check our website for information on free community events including Beech Nut open houses, Arts on the Hill live concerts, community blueberry picks, our annual Kites and Ice Cream event (pictured below), and more. 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.

Beech Nut is not available for rental/private events.

#### TRAILS

#### Farm Road Trail

0.6 mi one-way, climb on a 8–10 ft wide gravel farm road, 200 ft elevation gain, easy

#### Woods Trail

0.85 mi one-way (optional loop), dirt path with roots, 300 ft elevation gain, moderate

#### DIRECTIONS

#### 316 Beech Hill Rd, Rockport (Farm Road Trail)

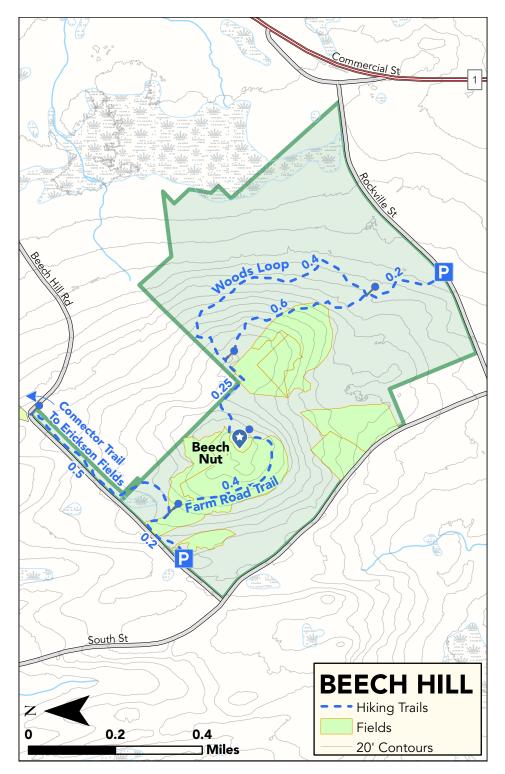
From Camden, go south on Rt 1, turn right onto Beech Hill Rd. Parking lot on the left in 1.6 mi.

#### Rockville St Entrance (Woods Loop)

From Camden, go south on Rt 1, turn right onto Rockville St. Parking lot is on the right in 0.7 mi.







#### Rockport

### Forests, Winding walk, Machine-built trail, Fields



#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

The Beech Hill Connector Trail was built in 2021, linking Beech Hill and Erickson Fields Preserve (a Maine Coast Heritage Trust property). Walk from the Beech Hill parking area or the Erickson Fields trailhead on Rt 90 through fields and forests on a beautiful and gently sloping machine-built trail. Extend your walk by going up the Farm Road Trail to the Beech Nut or stay down low and enjoy a pleasant stroll. Great for running or walking and talking with friends or family. The trail crosses Beech Hill Rd at a sharp corner; please use caution when crossing. Please note, the use guidelines are slightly different at each preserve. Dogs must be on leash at all times at Beech Hill. Please follow all signage. No parking on Beech Hill Rd.

The trail is the result of a partnership between Coastal Mountains Land Trust and Maine Coast Heritage Trust, which involved the permanent conservation of 28 acres, including historic blueberry fields, and the construction of the trail from 2018 through 2021.

#### TRAILS

Up to 1.8 mi one-way. 6–8 ft wide uniform gravel surface at Beech Hill, dirt and gravel at Erickson Fields. 330 ft elevation gain on full trail, easy



#### DIRECTIONS

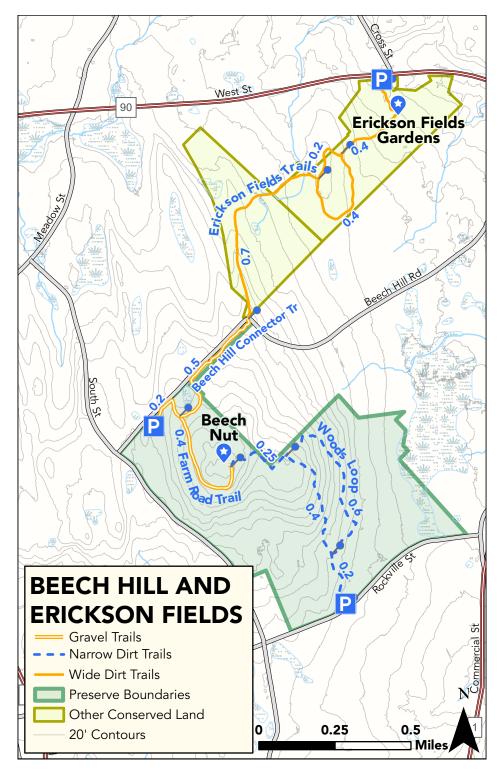
#### **Beech Hill Trailhead**

From Camden, go south on Rt 1, turn right onto Beech Hill Rd. Parking lot on the left in 1.6 mi.

#### Erickson Fields Trailhead

From Camden, go south on Rt 1 2.0 mi, turn right onto Rt 90 at the light. Continue 0.5 mi and the parking lot is on the left.







700/

### Maces Pond, Waterfowl, Wetland plants

#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Maces Pond is a popular fishing spot for warm-water species. It is bordered by Rt 17 to the east, the Preserve to the southeast, and private undeveloped land to the west. Fishing can be done on shore, by boat, and on the ice. The Preserve also contains stream frontage along Meadow Brook, which drains into Chickawaukie Lake. A hand-carry boat launch is accessible at the pull-off on Rt 17 at the Preserve. A short loop trail follows the waterfront and provides glimpses of the neighboring Rockville Cemetery. Donated in 1997 by Andrew and Virginia Sides.

#### TRAIL

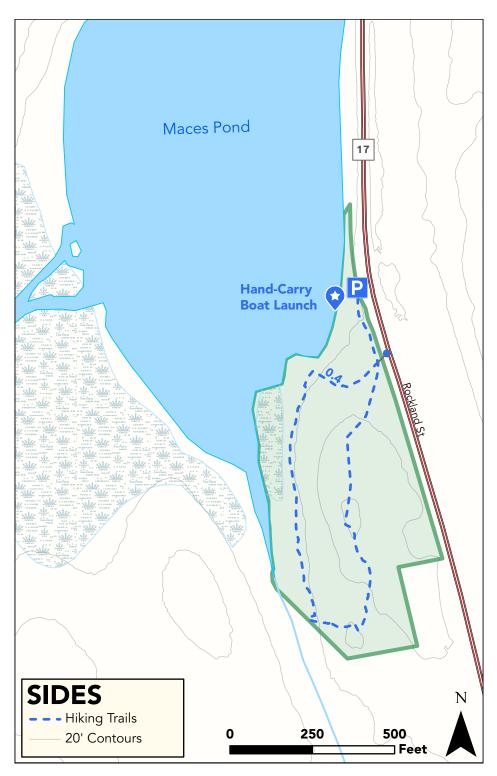
0.4 mi loop, dirt footpath, nearly flat, easy

#### DIRECTIONS

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







# **BEAUCHAMP POINT**

Rockport

SIZE 2 acres

No hunting permitted.

Gravel beach, Rocky ledges, Waterfront



#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

This picturesque headland beach is an ideal picnic spot or stopover on a paddle from Rockport to Camden. The gravel and rock shoreline is accessible at all tides. Visitors are asked to stay on the beach area. Camping and campfires are not permitted. Donated in 2000 by Charles and Mary Chatfield.

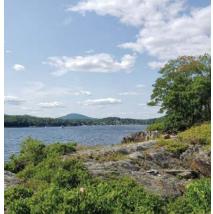
#### NO TRAIL

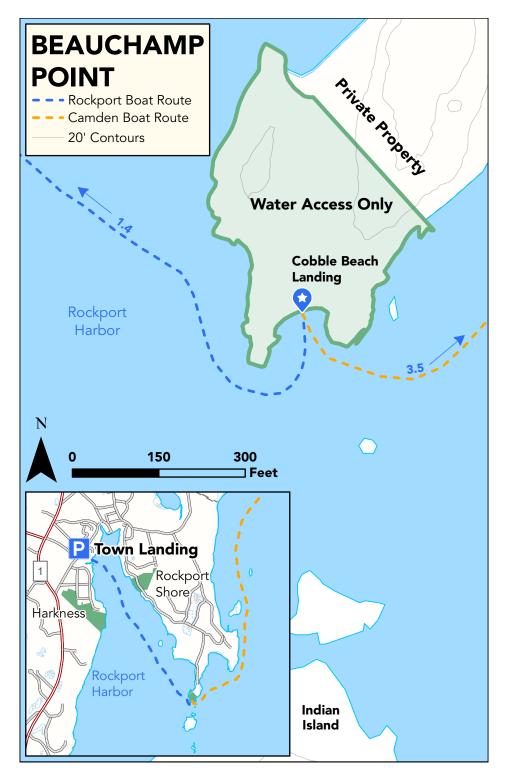
Water access only. Approximately 1.4 mi paddle from Rockport Harbor boat launch. There is no land access via Beauchamp Point Rd.

#### DIRECTIONS

The Preserve is a 1.4 mi 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.







No hunting permitted.

### Rockport Harbor overlook, Quiet stream, Chestnut sprouts

#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

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. Named in honor of John Harkness, a Revolutionary War hero, who settled in Rockport. The Preserve was transferred to the Land Trust from the Nature Conservancy in 1996, originally donated through a bequest from Mary Cramer earlier that year.

#### TRAIL

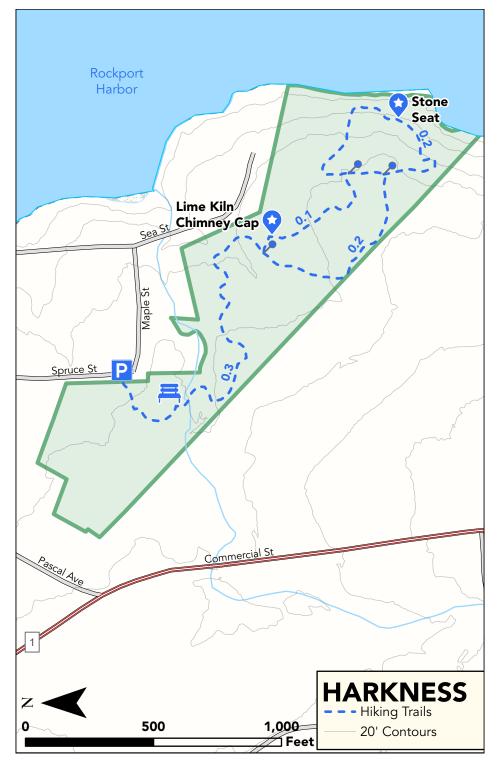
0.8 mi network, dirt footpath,60 ft elevation gain, easy

#### DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Rt 1 south, turning left onto Pascal Ave. Turn right onto School St, then turn right onto Spruce St. About 100 yds up Spruce St is the Preserve parking, marked by a sign.







Rockport

SIZE 10 acres

### Rocky coast, Harbor views, Mature forest

#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

This gem of an ocean front property was donated to the Land Trust in 2019. The Preserve contains 650 ft of rocky shore frontage, the longest undeveloped section on Rockport Harbor, and has a beautiful upland forest. A dirt town road, Beauchamp Point Rd, crosses the property (it is closed to vehicle traffic in the winter) and is a popular walk, often as a loop that goes to Chapel Hill Rd and Calderwood Ln. The property was donated anonymously.

#### NO TRAIL

0.2–1.6 mi walk on Beauchamp Point Rd (gravel road), easy

#### DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Rt 1 south and turn left onto Union St, take Union St past the Rockport Library and turn left onto Russell Ave, then turn right onto Mechanic St. Turn right onto the dirt Beauchamp Point Rd (closed in the winter) and drive very slowly. The Preserve kiosk and a small pull-off are on the left in 0.3 mi. Alternatively walk from Rockport.







# SIMONTON QUARRY

Rockport

SIZE 26 acres

### Historic quarries, Goose River, Mosses

#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

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 1800s, and a narrow-gauge railroad transported lime to the kilns at Rockport harbor. The quarries provide a good picnic spot. Use caution around the quarries' steep edges. The original Preserve was gifted to The Nature Conservancy by A.H. Chatfield, Jr. in the early 1970s. In 2014, The Nature Conservancy and Maine Farmland Trust transferred the Preserve to the Land Trust.

#### NO TRAIL

No trail exists on this preserve. Use caution around the quarries' steep edges.

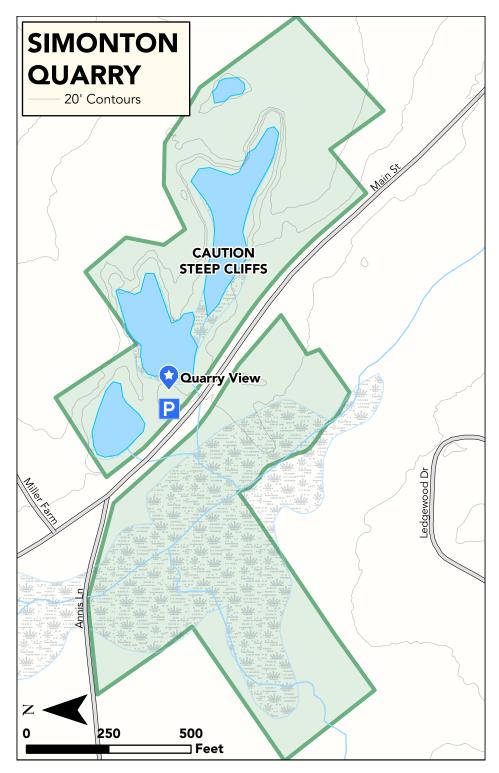
#### DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Rt 1 south, then turn right onto Main St, after Maine Sport. Drive 1.4 mi, pass through the Park St intersection, and continue 0.3 mi to the pull-off on the right, immediately next to the quarries. Look for a green gate and a small Preserve sign at the entrance.









### RAGGED MOUNTAIN: ROUND THE MOUNTAIN TRAIL

Camden, Rockport, and Hope

SIZE 2,645 acres

### Machine-built trail, Mature oak trees, Cliffs

# 

#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

This 1,300 ft tall mountain (together with nearby Spruce Mountain and Grassy Pond) contains a 2,645-acre conservation and recreation area open to the public for year-round trail use. There is a network of 30+ mi of trail primarily for hiking and mountain biking. The Preserve and adjoining easement land contains the 6.5 mi long Round the Mountain Trail, a 6–8 ft wide (mostly) gravel trail ideal for hiking, running, and biking, accessed from two trailheads. The trail from Thorndike Brook trailhead provides the smoothest surface and most gradual ascent for biking or walking. The trail from the Snow Bowl is bumpier and steeper, ascending the mountain along the Kuller Loop. The trip from the Snow Bowl to Thorndike Brook is 5.6 mi. Land has been conserved from 1996 to the present through purchases, as well as donations from the Town of Camden and many local families, and with support from the Land for Maine's Future program.

#### TRAIL

6.5 mi one-way, 6–8 ft wide machine-built gravel (except the dirt Kuller Loop) trail, up to 900 ft elevation gain, moderate

Connects to 30+ mi network of trails; many loops are possible from 2 mi to 10 mi



#### DIRECTIONS

#### Thorndike Brook Trailhead (223 Hope St, Hope)

From Camden, take Rt 1 south, then take Rt 90 west. After 2.5 mi, turn right onto Rt 17. Continue 2.7 mi then turn right onto Hope St. There are two trailheads on this road. Park at the second, marked with a Coastal Mountains Land Trust sign for Round the Mountain Trail Access.

#### Camden Snow Bowl Trailhead (20 Barnestown Rd, Camden)

From Camden, turn onto Mechanic St heading out of town. Follow until a Y intersection, stay left onto Hosmer Pond Rd. The Snow Bowl is on the left after 2.1 mi. Drive into the Snow Bowl and go through the gate, head back and left and park in the small lot for best trail access.

### RAGGED MOUNTAIN: HIKING TRAILS

Camden, Rockport, and Hope

### Bay views, Rocky ledges, Pine trees



#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

A growing network of hiking trails intersects the Round the Mountain Trail in numerous locations, stretching from the north side of Mount Pleasant, over Spruce and Ragged Mountains, to Bald Mountain. Most of the trails are part of the Georges Highland Path (GHP), a trail system maintained by our partner organization Georges River Land Trust, on Coastal Mountains Land Trust preserve and conservation easement land. The Georges Highland Path trails, as well as the Hosmer Brook and Bald Mountain trails (pages 26–27), are for foot traffic only. They are rocky, rooty, and steep. There are dozens of combination hikes that can be done. A few favorites include the short Spruce Mountain trail from the Rt 17 trailhead, Little Ragged from the Bald Mountain trailhead, Ragged Mountain ridge loop from Thorndike Brook, and the 10 mi one-way hike from Mount Pleasant Rd to the top of Bald Mountain.

#### TRAIL

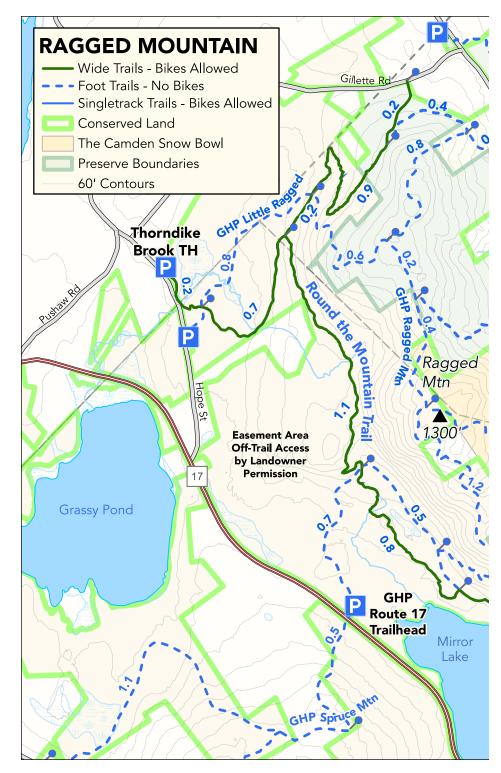
11.5 mi network, dirt and rock footpaths, 200–1,000 ft elevation gain, difficult

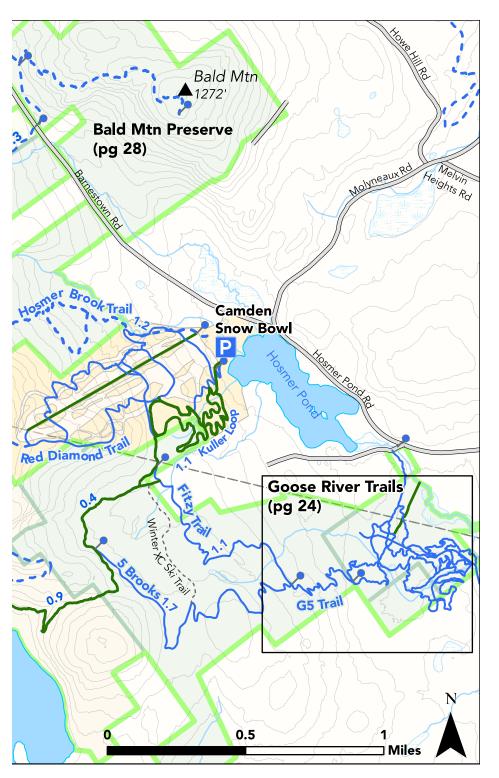


#### DIRECTIONS

Access from the Thorndike Brook Trailhead or Camden Snow Bowl (see page 20) or the Bald Mountain Trailhead (page 26).

For the Georges Highland Path trails to Spruce and Ragged Mtns, access from the Rt 17 parking lot maintained by Georges River Land Trust. From Camden, take Rt 1 south, turn right onto Rt 90 going west for 2.7 mi. Turn right onto Rt 17 going north and continue 2.0 mi. The parking lot is on the right, marked by a dark green Georges River Land Trust sign.





### RAGGED MOUNTAIN: GOOSE RIVER BIKING TRAILS

Camden, Rockport, and Hope

### Winding trails



#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

There are two networks of mountain biking trails (hiking is also permitted, follow signage) on Ragged Mountain, one at the Camden Snow Bowl, and one at the Goose River section of the Preserve. The Snow Bowl trails are steeper and more technical, offering some of the more difficult and thrilling riding around. The Goose River trails are winding and offer technical but flatter and more moderate riding. All Goose River trails are open to pedestrians. The networks are connected by the technical and difficult G5 trail. Access trails from the Camden Snow Bowl or trailhead off Rollins Rd. Coastal Mountains Land Trust manages the Goose River trails in partnership with MCNEMBA (Midcoast Chapter of New England Mountain Biking Association) with assistance from Sidecountry Trails, while the Town of Camden manages the Snow Bowl trails in partnership with MCNEMBA.

#### TRAILS

#### Goose River Trails

6.1 mi network, single track or wide dirt trails built for mtn biking, easy to moderate for mountain bikes, easy for hikers

#### Snow Bowl and Preserve Trails

9.0 mi network, single track or wide dirt trails built for mtn biking, moderate to difficult



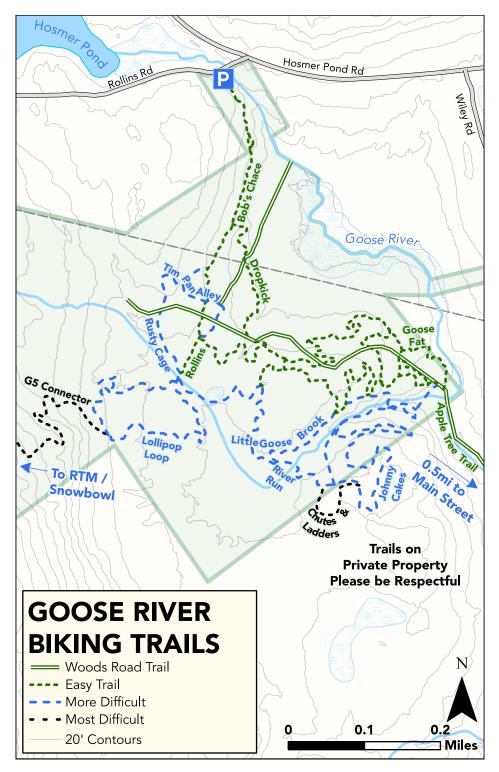
#### DIRECTIONS

**Snow Bowl Access** Directions on page 20.

#### Goose River Trails, Rollins Rd Camden

From Camden, turn onto Mechanic St heading out of town. Follow until a Y intersection, stay left onto Hosmer Pond Rd. Turn onto Rollins Rd after 1.3 mi. The trailhead is immediately on the left just past the bridge. Do not park on the road.





# BALD MOUNTAIN

Camden

**SIZE** 584 acres

### Views, Bald summit, Rock scramble



#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

The Bald Mountain Trail takes hikers above the tree line to a 1,280 ft peak, 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. Its trail also connects to the Ragged Mountain trail network (see pages 20–25). This land was acquired through purchases as well as donations from the Barnes, Fernald, Laite, O'Rourke, Pendleton, and Upham families, and with support from the Land for Maine's Future program.

#### TRAIL

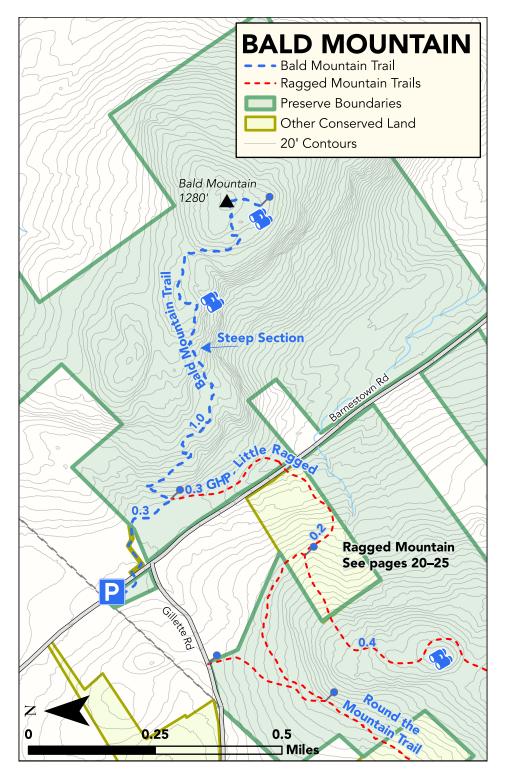
1.3 mi one-way, rocky footpath,660 ft elevation gain, difficult

#### DIRECTIONS

Trailhead (325 Barnestown Rd, Camden): From downtown Camden, take Rt 1 south, then turn right onto John St for 0.8 mi to Hosmer Pond Rd on the left. Follow 3.5 mi to the Preserve parking lot on the left, just past Gillette Rd.







## HODSON AND RHEAULT

#### Camden

Hodson 35 acres Rheault 119 acres

No dogs or hunting permitted.

SIZE

The Prover

Scenic brook, Blueberry field, Mountain views

#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Explore the hemlock grove and historic mill site along Sucker Brook. The Hodson Loop passes mature hardwoods and apple trees. The Rheault Trail crosses the forested Rheault easement to the summit of Howe Hill, a managed organic blueberry barren. Please respect the farm by staying on the trail. The Hodson Preserve was donated in 1992 in honor of Richard S. Hodson. Sarah Rheault donated the Rheault conservation easement in 2005.

#### TRAILS

#### Hodson Loop

0.75 mi round-trip, dirt footpath, 125 ft elevation gain, moderate

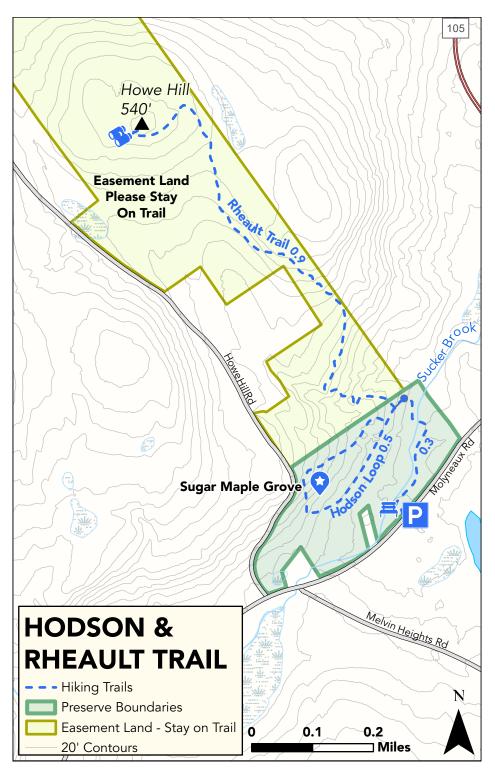
#### Rheault Trail to Howe Hill

1.2 mi one-way, dirt footpath, 400 ft elevation gain, difficult

#### DIRECTIONS

From Camden, take Washington St/Rt 105 for 2.5 mi. Turn left onto Molyneaux Rd and drive approximately 0.6 mi to the parking area on the right.





# HATCHET MOUNTAIN

Hope

### Mountain views, Steep climb, Northern red oaks



Dogs permitted off-leash before noon.

#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

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 Megunticook Lake in Camden and Lincolnville, Beech Hill in Rockport, and the Camden Hills, Hatchet Mountain is an important area landmark. The steep trail follows an old road that switchbacks up the face of the mountain and has several viewpoints of Hobbs Pond and beyond. Conserved in 2007, with support from Hope residents and a partial donation from owner Walter Lamont, Jr.

#### TRAIL

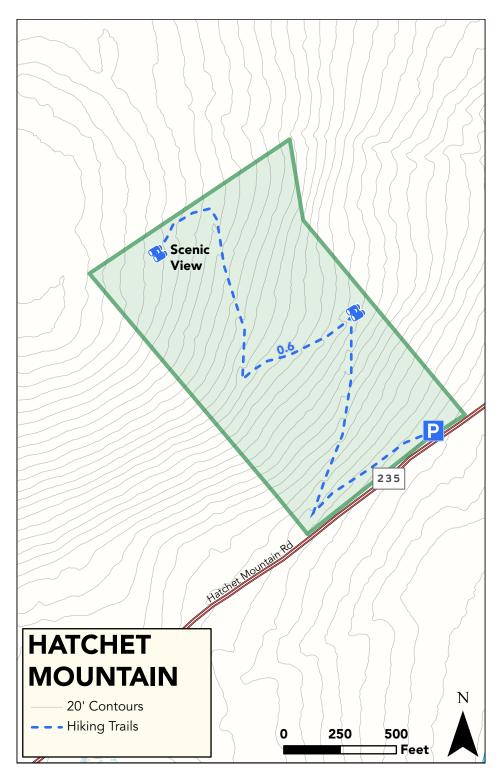
0.6 mi one-way, old dirt road (rocky), 540 ft elevation gain, difficult

#### DIRECTIONS

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







### MEGUNTICOOK LAKE BY BOAT

Camden, Lincolnville, and Hope

**SIZE** 364.5 acres combined

### Loons, Osprey, Eagles, Mature pines



#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Megunticook Lake in Camden is cherished by the community, in large part because of the amount of undeveloped shore front that offers many good places to swim, picnic, fish, and enjoy. Coastal Mountains Land Trust has four preserves on the Lake, Fernalds Neck (trails on pages 34–35) and its Hattie Lamb section, McPheters, Echo Island, and Richard's Wildlife (Pine and Little Pine Islands). The latter three were donated by the Bok, Simpkins, and Ledwith families, have no trails, and are only accessed via boat. Land's End, a Town of Camden property, has a number of great areas with picnic tables along the lakeshore. Start from one of two public launch sites to access any (or all) of these great sites. Echo, Pine, and Little Pine Islands are seasonally closed for loon nesting from April 1 to July 15.

#### WATER TRAIL

Water access only. Paddles range from 0.75–3.5 mi one-way

#### DIRECTIONS

#### Bog Bridge Boat Launch

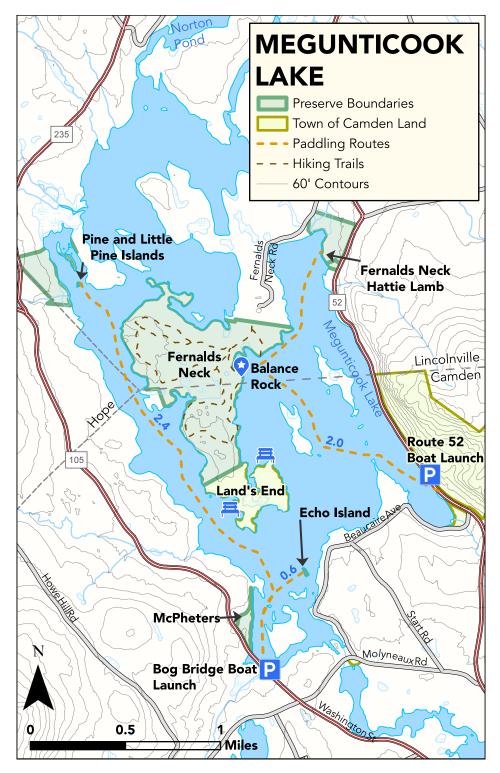
From Camden, turn onto Washington St/ Rt 105, and continue out of town. The landing is on the right side of the road. Parking is across the street on the left. There is no Land Trust signage.

#### Rt 52 Boat Launch

From Camden, take Rt 1 north and turn left onto Mountain St/Rt 52, and continue out of town. The public landing is on the left, just past Beaucaire Ave.







# FERNALDS NECK

Lincolnville and Camden

#### SIZE 325 acres

No dogs or hunting permitted.

Majestic pines, Balance Rock, Lakefront

#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

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. Originally donated by local residents to The Nature Conservancy in 1969, this property was transferred to the Land Trust in 2007.

#### TRAILS

#### Blue Trail

1.8 mi round-trip, dirt footpath, 120 ft elevation gain, moderate

#### White Trail

0.2 mi one-way, dirt footpath, flat, easy

#### Orange Trail

1.8 mi round-trip, dirt footpath,
135 ft elevation gain, moderate

#### DIRECTIONS

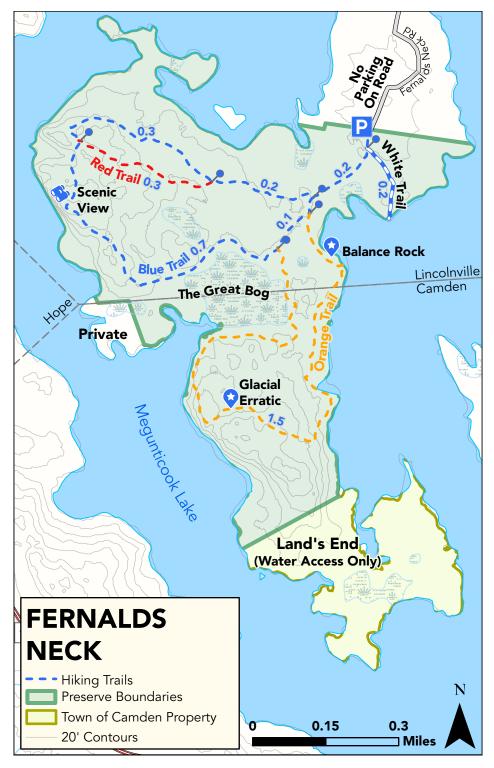
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From Lincolnville Center, take Rt 52 south for 2 mi, then turn right at Fernalds Neck Rd. Follow to its end, staying left at the fork. From Camden, take Rt 52/ Mountain St north for 5.8 mi, turning left at Fernalds Neck Rd. Please drive slowly, and park only in the parking lot, not along the roadside. The parking lot gate opens at 6:30 am, closes promptly at 7:30 pm. If the lot is full, please come back another time. Trails may be closed due to muddy roads in the spring.





LYNN LUZZI





Oceanside field, Cobblestone beach

#### **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Once an active hay and blueberry field, this 7-acre field is now mowed annually to maintain habitat and provide a scenic view from Rt 1 to Penobscot Bay. Access this small preserve from the beach at Ducktrap Harbor via Howe Point Rd. This is an excellent picnic spot. Donated in 2007 by siblings Jim Murray and Joan Webster in honor of James and Ninetta Murray and John and Coralee Murray.

#### NO TRAIL

Beach access

#### DIRECTIONS

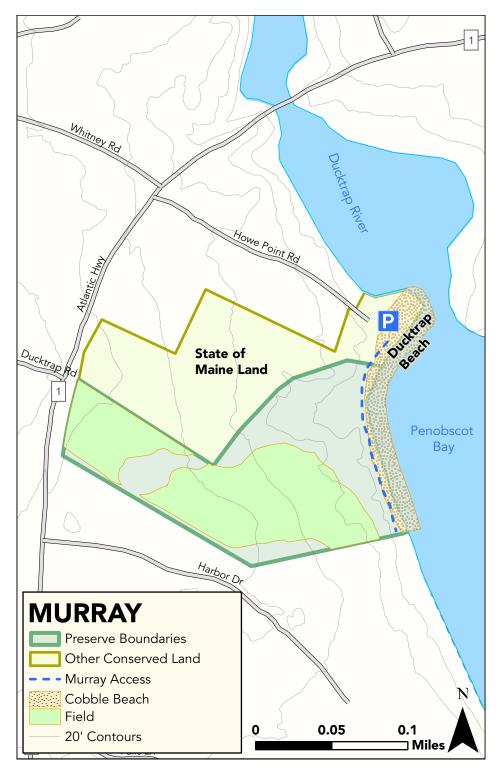
From Lincolnville Beach, drive 1.1 mi north on Rt 1, turning right onto Howe Point Rd just before the Ducktrap River bridge. This short road dead-ends at a small parking lot adjacent to a cobble beach owned by the State of Maine. The Murray Preserve is accessed by walking south (right) along the beach. Metal Preserve medallions will be visible from the shore.





**SIZE** 10 acres





# DUCKTRAP RIVER

Lincolnville

**SIZE** 1,263 acres

# Salmon habitat, Mature hemlock forest

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Our largest and most wild preserve, this land protects the river's shoreline for wild Atlantic salmon habitat. The first 1.4 mi of the trail are shared with a snowmobile trail. 0.25 mi later, the trail reaches the river. Though there is no longer a bridge here, the river is crossable at low water. Cross at your own risk. The Preserve was conserved in numerous stages from 1996 to the present. Other portions of the river were conserved by the multi-stakeholder group Ducktrap Coalition.

# TRAILS

#### **River Trail**

1.7 mi one-way to the old bridge location. Dirt 6 ft wide old road, 250 ft elevation gain, easy

#### Backcountry Loop\*

1.8 mi round-trip, dirt footpath, 110 ft elevation gain, moderate

## DIRECTIONS

From Lincolnville Center, drive north on Rt 52 for 3.5 mi. You will descend into a valley before a steep hill. The trailhead is located on the right about 125 yds after Rt 52 crosses the Ducktrap River. The trail begins on the opposite side of the road from the parking area.

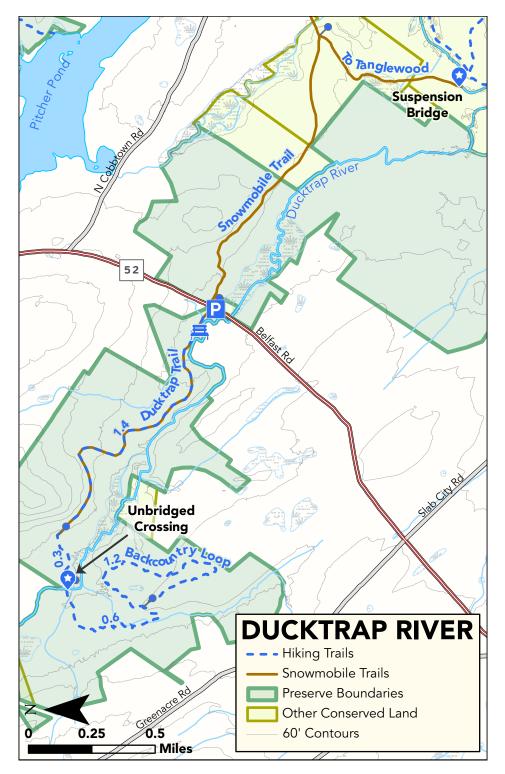
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\*Accessed via unbridged crossing. Please use caution.

**LIM SHAW** 







X Lo #

# Pond access, Views, Undeveloped lake shore

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

The Preserve runs along the shores of Knight 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. Transferred to the Land Trust in 2015 by The Nature Conservancy, the initial donations occurred in 1962 by the Bok family and in 1988 by the Gautschi family.

### TRAIL

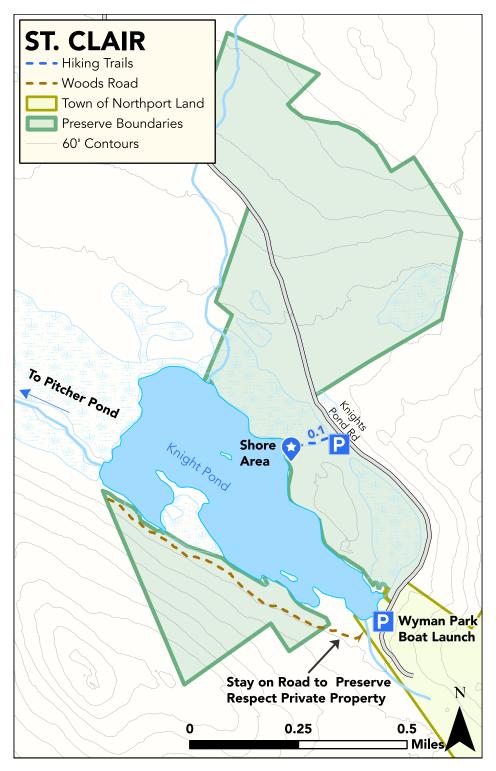
Water access and 0.1 mi trail, dirt footpath, easy

## DIRECTIONS

From Lincolnville Beach, take Rt 1 north 5.3 mi, then turn left onto Beech Hill Rd in Northport for 2.5 mi. Take a left onto Knights Pond Rd. The trail on the north shore is accessed off the side of the road, 1.3 mi from Beech Hill Rd. Look for a sign on the right. To access the lake and south shore, park at the end of Knights Pond Rd by the boat launch. The parking lot is on town property.







# SIZE 228 acres

# Wildlife

Oak grove, Pitcher Pond,

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

This trail descends downhill, passing through four distinct forest types. The guiet hillside hosts abundant wildlife. The trail ends at Pitcher Pond, a great spot for a picnic. Shorefront access is only available via this trail to the Breslin-Richenaker Tract on the pond. Donated in 1999 by James, Nancy, and Carol Newman. The estate of Elizabeth Breslin donated an additional section of the Preserve in 2015, providing trail access to the pond.

## TRAIL

1.1 mi, dirt footpath, 280 ft elevation loss, moderate

# DIRECTIONS

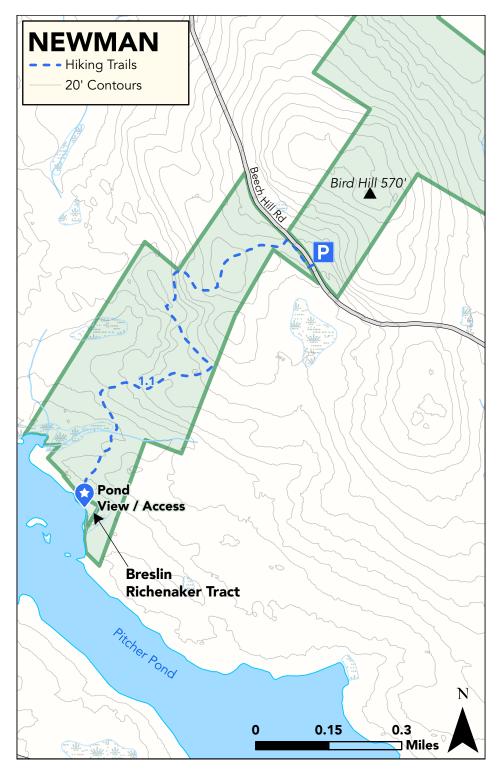
From Lincolnville Beach, take Rt 1 north 5.3 mi, then turn left onto Beech Hill Rd in Northport. Follow Beech Hill Rd 3.8 mi, passing over a hill, to a small parking lot on the right. The trail begins on the opposite side of the road.

COASTAL MOUNTAINS LAND TRUST









# **MOUNT PERCIVAL**

Northport

**SIZE** 73 acres

# *Historic tower foundation, Scenic hilltop*



Dogs permitted off-leash before noon.

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

The trail makes a gradual climb to the summit (elevation 410 ft), 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. Donated by the Hildreth family and transferred from Maine Coast Heritage Trust in 2003.

## TRAIL

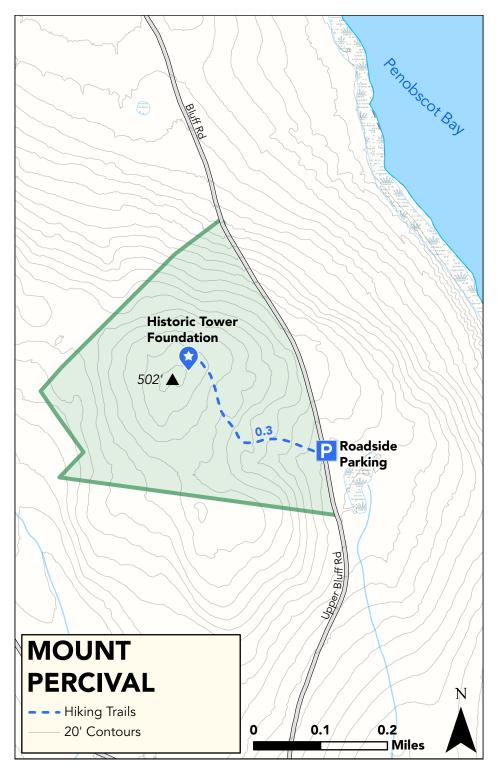
0.3 mi one-way, dirt footpath, 170 ft elevation gain, moderate

# DIRECTIONS

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







# Babbling stream, Mature forest, Old dam abutments

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Wander through this small preserve, with its mixed and diverse forest and charming, ecologically important stream and wetlands. Piper Stream feeds into the Little River and is an important wildlife corridor between the river and the large Herricks Bog in central Northport. The property was donated by Susan Conard and David Randall in 2021.

## TRAIL

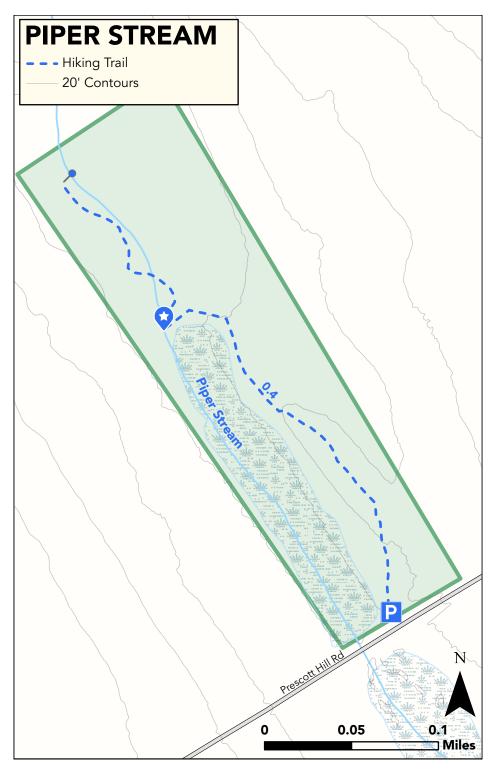
0.3 mi one-way, dirt footpath, nearly flat, easy

# DIRECTIONS

From Belfast, take Main St out of town to Lincolnville Ave/Rt 52. Pass through Rt 1 at the stop light and continue on Rt 52 for 3.8 mi. Turn left onto Prescott Hill Rd and continue 0.3 mi. The parking lot is on the left, just past the stream.







# MCLELLAN-POOR

Northport

**SIZE** 100 acres

# Old conifer forests, Stream crossings

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

This property is almost entirely forested by beautiful stands of hemlock, mixed conifer, old-field pine, and red maple along the southern shore of Little River Lower Reservoir. The trail crosses many streams, which have created distinct ravines throughout the landscape. Since 2007, Hugh McLellan Russell, and Elisabeth Wolfe and Michael Cunning, have generously donated land to the Preserve. The original gift was facilitated through Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

## TRAILS (dirt footpaths)

## Peggity's Path

1.4 mi round-trip, 155 ft elevation gain, easy

## **Reservoir Trail and Loop**

0.9 mi one-way, 105 ft elevation gain, easy

# DIRECTIONS

#### Rt 1 Entrance

From Belfast, take Rt 1 south. The Preserve is 100 yds south of the Belfast/ Northport town line. Parking is on the right.

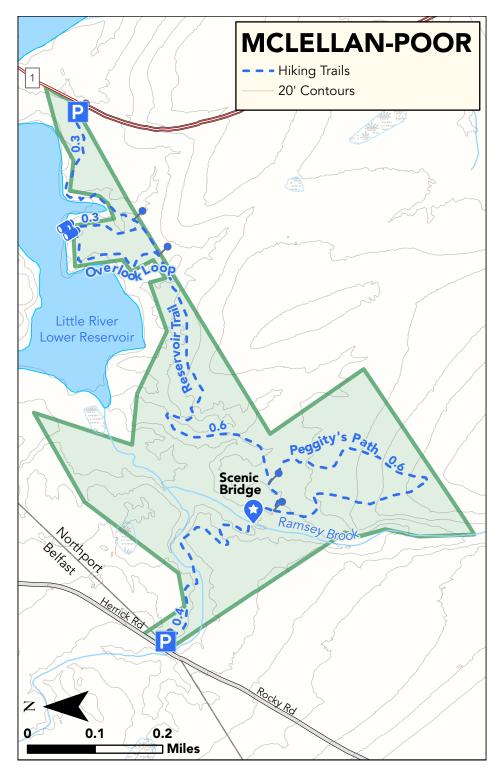
#### Herrick Rd Entrance

From Belfast, take Rt 1 south and turn right onto Perkins Rd (near Northport boundary). Bear left onto Herrick Rd. Parking is on left.









# BELFAST RAIL TRAIL

Belfast

# Scenic river walk, Wheelchair accessible, Town access



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. Owned and managed by the City of Belfast, the trail begins at the Armistice Bridge on the waterfront, travels along the river to the City Point Railroad yard and parking area, and provides a connection to the 47 mi Hills to Sea Trail to Unity. This collaborative project between the Land Trust and the City of Belfast was completed in 2016 and made possible by local residents and businesses.

# TRAIL

2.3 mi, 10 ft wide gravel machine-built trail, nearly flat, easy

# DIRECTIONS

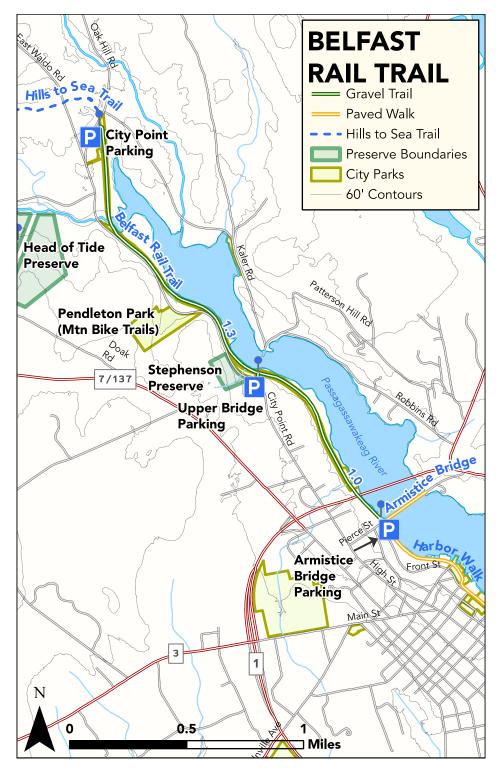
From downtown Belfast, park on Water St and access the trail by the Armistice footbridge. Parking is also available at the trail's terminus, at the City Point parking area, and at the Upper Bridge parking area (same as for Stephenson, pages 52–53), near the trail's midpoint.





MICHAEL HARRIS





# Rock bluffs, Seasonal waterfall, Hemlock stands

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

The 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 Pendleton Park down the road and Belfast Rail Trail along the Passagassawakeag River. Donated in 2000 by Ralph Stephenson.

## TRAIL

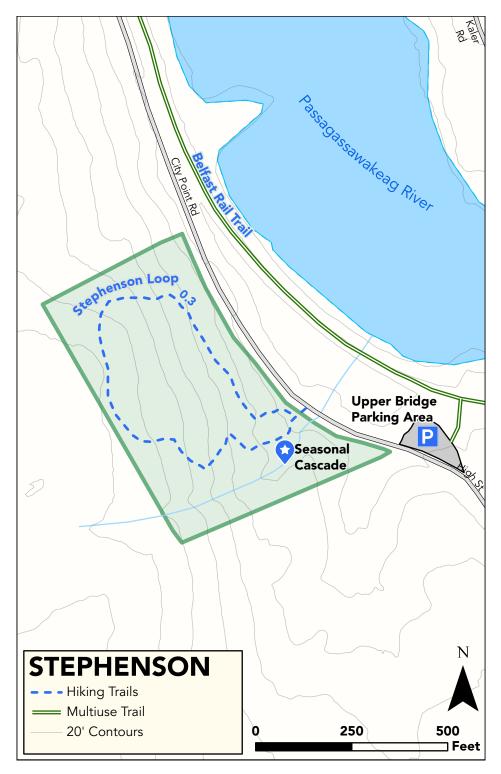
0.3 mi loop, dirt and rock footpath, 120 ft elevation gain, moderate

## DIRECTIONS

From downtown Belfast, take High St/Rt 137. Follow for 1 mi. Park in the Rail Trail parking lot on the right. Walk down City Point Rd for 300 ft (use caution on this busy road); a sign marks the Preserve trail on the left side of the road.







# Passagassawakeag River, Stone walls, Ferns

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

This property along the Passagassawakeag River provides an opportunity to enjoy a scenic nature walk in 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. Conserved in 2004 in partnership with Lee and Donna Stover.

## TRAIL

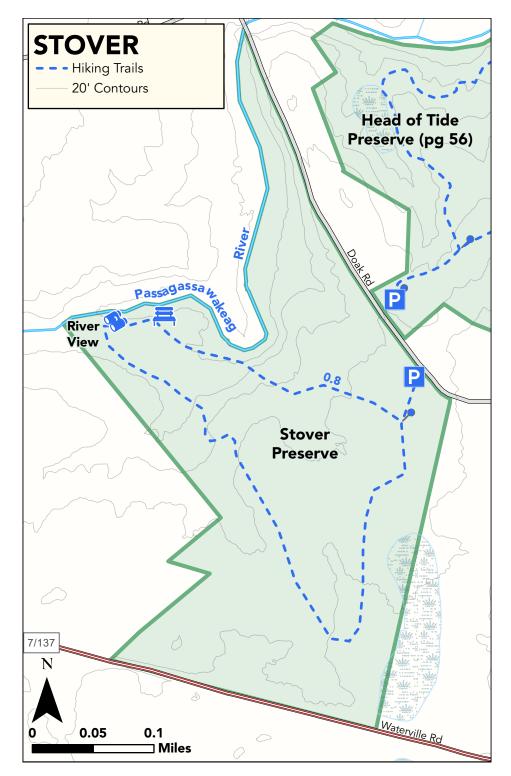
0.9 mi, loop, 90 ft elevation gain, easy

## DIRECTIONS

From downtown Belfast, take Main St west and immediately turn right onto Waldo Ave. In 1.5 mi, turn right onto Doak Rd. Parking area is on the left immediately after Doak's Machine Shop (red building) or park at our Head of Tide Preserve just down the street.







# HEAD OF TIDE

Belfast

# Passagassawakeag River, Old farm fields

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

The 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, including the Stover Preserve. The River Loop travels along the high banks of the river. The Shed of Tides, a tool storage, meeting, and small event space that is the hub of the Land Trust's work in Waldo County, is located by the parking area. Conserved in 2009 with support from the Land for Maine's Future program.

## TRAILS

#### **River Loop**

1.1 mi, dirt footpath, 145 ft elevation gain, moderate

#### Woods Loop

1.0 mi, dirt old road, 125 ft elevation gain, easy

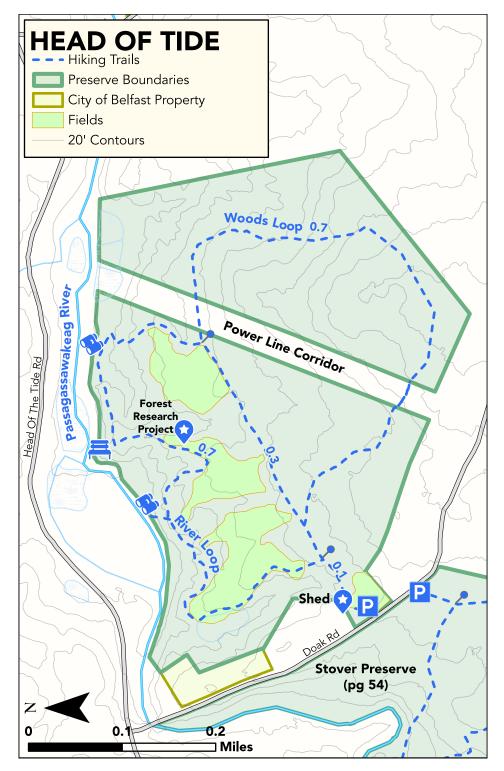
# DIRECTIONS

#### Trailhead (89 Doak Rd, Belfast)

From downtown Belfast, take Main St west and immediately turn right onto Waldo Ave. In 1.5 mi, turn right onto Doak Rd. Parking area is on the right immediately after Doak's Machine Shop (red building).







# LITTLEFIELD

Belfast

Upper Mason Pond, Wildlife

## **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

The 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 protected area. A landing spot and picnic table is an inviting destination for wildlife viewing and a picnic. Paddlers can travel the Goose River from Swanville and end in Upper Mason Pond. Donated in 2016 by Carroll and Evelyn Littlefield.

### NO TRAIL

Water access only

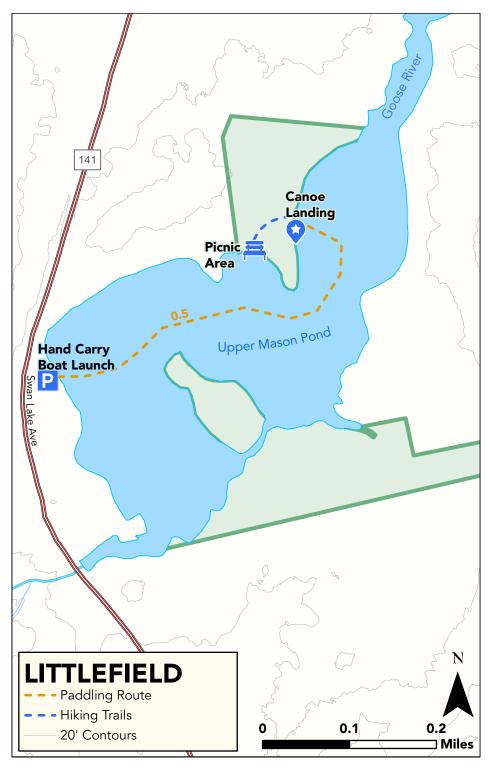
## DIRECTIONS

From Belfast, take the Rt 1 bridge over the Passagassawakeag River, taking an immediate left onto Swan Lake Ave (Rt 141). Drive on Swan Lake Ave for 2 mi, turning right into the Walter Ash Recreation Area parking lot, managed by the City of Belfast.





**SIZE** 25 acres



# **MEADOW BROOK**

Swanville

SIZE 404 acres

# Sweeping wetland views, Rock dams, Mature forests, First succession forests

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Meadow Brook Preserve is a central part of a 2,408-acre undeveloped habitat block. The original 1 mi trail was extended to 2.1 mi and now crosses from the new parking lot at Oak Hill Rd to Swan Lake Ave (roadside parking only). The trail traverses (from west to east) through a variety of mature forests, wetland, riparian, and early successional habitats and has unique views into the wetlands around Hurds Pond. The trail is easy except for two rock dam crossings across Meadow Brook in the middle of the trail, which require stepping over large stones. The first property was donated anonymously in 2011, along with another piece in 2020. David Hauk and Patti Fry donated a portion in 2013. Additional parcels were purchased in 2014, 2020, and 2022.

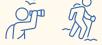
## TRAIL

2.1 mi one-way, dirt footpath, 160 ft elevation gain, easy (except for rock dam crossing—please use caution)

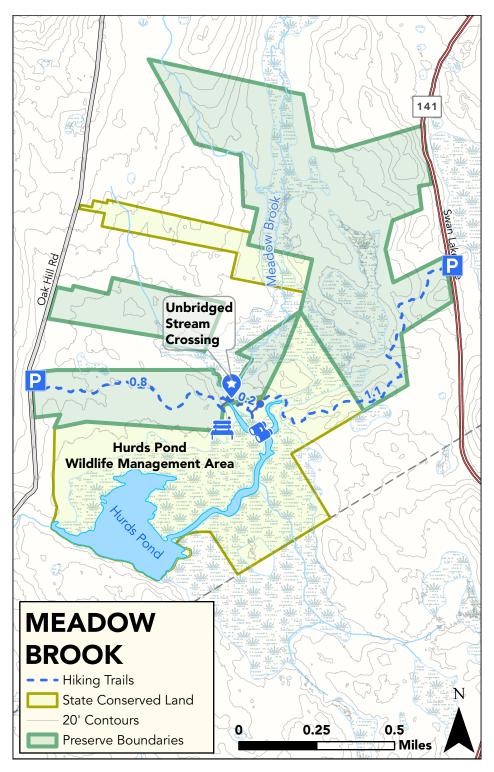
## DIRECTIONS

From downtown Belfast, take High St/ City Point Rd for 2.6 mi. Take a slight right onto Oak Hill Rd. In 2.1 mi, a 3-4 car parking lot is on the right. Access is available on Swan Lake Ave across from the Swanville transfer station. There is no parking lot at that location; users are encouraged to park on Oak Hill Rd.









# MARSH MEADOW

Knox

# Dynamic wetland ecosystem, Rocky ledges, Hornbeam trees

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Our first preserve in the town of Knox, this conserved land protects a remarkable wetland at the headwaters of the Marsh Stream, which flows from Frye Mountain to the lower Penobscot River. The trail follows a dry woods road for 0.3 mi, skirting the edge of the impressive wetland and pond system, before crossing a beaver dammed stream, and climbing through forests on the steep eastern slope. Views of the wetland and a lookout towards Frye Mountain (best in the fall or winter) await visitors. Conserved in 2021 with support from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act program and land donations from Matt Wagner and Caitlin Hutt, and Allie Smith and David Wessels.

# TRAIL

0.7 mi one-way. Dirt footpath, 260 ft elevation gain, moderate

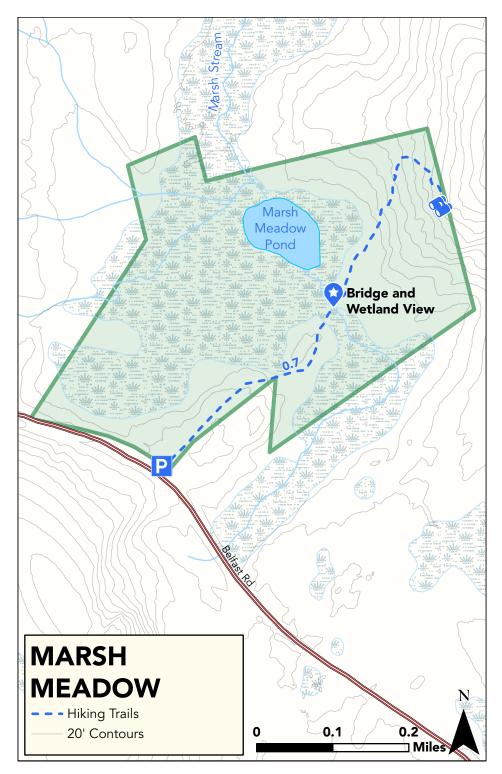
# DIRECTIONS

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From Belfast, take Main St west and turn right onto Waldo Ave/Rt 137. Continue 10.4 mi (passing the 131 intersection) to the trailhead on the right. Park only in the designated lot and not along the driveway.







# Bridge, Hemlock stands, Learning Landscape

## **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Visit the breathtaking Mill Brook and the 44 ft hemlock decked bridge that spans it. Walking distance from the Searsport Elementary, Middle, and High Schools, this property is a Learning Landscape Preserve used for outdoor education. Hidden in a steep valley filled with mighty white pines and spruce trees, the Preserve protects a long stretch of the Mill Brook that is great for fishing. The trail currently dead ends after 0.3 mi but we hope to expand it soon. Conserved in 2021, thanks to the generosity of Linda and Jim Babb.

#### TRAIL

0.3 mi one-way, old woods road, nearly flat, easy

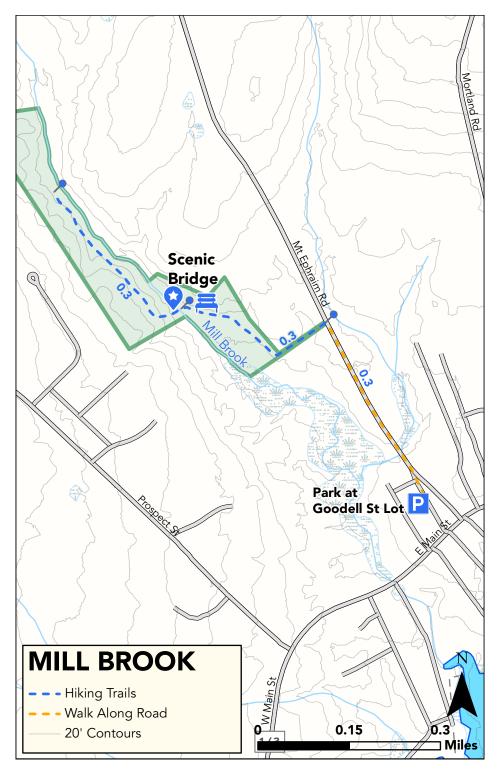


## DIRECTIONS

NO PARKING CURRENTLY AVAILABLE ON PRESERVE. Park in nearby public parking lot and walk 0.3 mi to Preserve entrance.

From Belfast, turn onto Rt 1 north via High St, cross the bridge and continue. Turn left onto Goodell St in Searsport (the road before Toziers). Park in the municipal lot on the left. Walk north on Goodell St/ Mount Ephraim Rd 0.25 mi. The Preserve entrance is the grassy road on the left, right next to a prominent red fire hydrant in the lawn. There is a sign on a tree.





# LONG COVE HEADWATERS

Searsport

**SIZE** 474.5 acres

Dogs permitted off-leash before noon.

Forested wetlands. Deep forests, Wildlife

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

A multitude of habitat types host an abundance of wildlife. The scrub-shrub habitat, created by a recent timber harvest, hosts rare early-successional species including songbirds. This is a great preserve for those interested in wildlife and birding. The trail comes close to several vernal pools, providing an important habitat for frogs and salamanders. Acquired from Central Maine Power Company in 2010 and the Whitten family in 2014.

#### TRAILS

#### Blue Loop

1.1 mi round-trip, dirt old woods road,
110 ft elevation gain, easy

#### Orange Loop

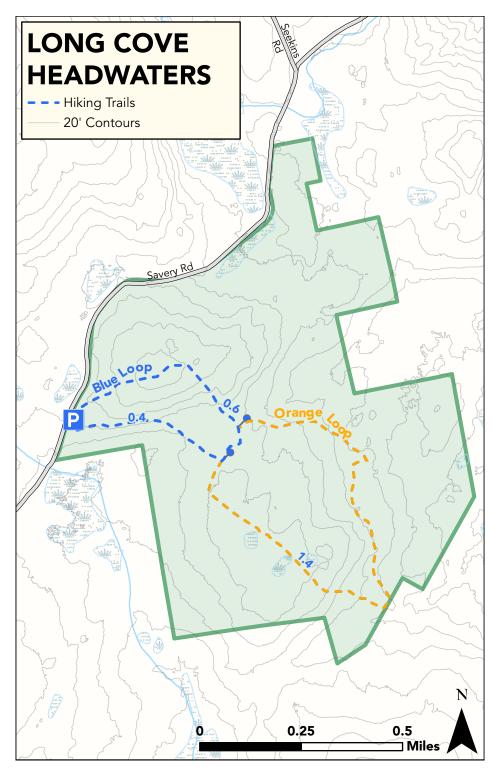
2.4 mi round-trip, dirt footpath, 220 ft elevation gain, easy

#### DIRECTIONS

From Searsport, take Mt. Ephraim Rd west (off Rt 1). In 2.6 mi turn right onto Savery Rd. Follow for 0.6 mi to the Preserve parking lot on the right.







**Stockton Springs and Prospect** 

# *River walk, Fir forest, Old settlements, Glacial erratics*

## **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

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. Acquired from Central Maine Power Company in 2010. Two properties were added through partial donations from Thomas Donaldson in 2013 and 2021.

#### TRAIL

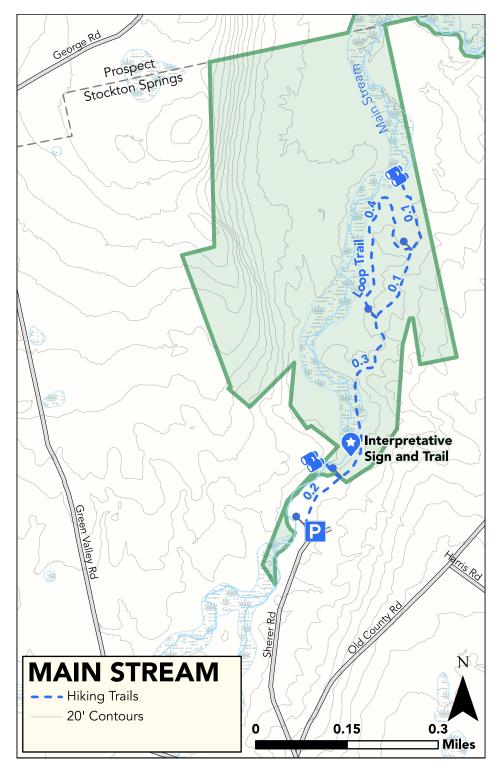
0.7–1 mi out and back, dirt footpath, 110 ft elevation gain, easy

## DIRECTIONS

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







**Stockton Springs and Prospect** 

Penobscot Narrows Bridge, Views to the east, Mid-successional forest

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

A long and rewarding ramble through a mixed age forest. Start at Meadow Rd and walk up a dirt road through forests and meadows 0.7 mi across abutting property to the Preserve. Turn right onto the trail and hike up the rocky dirt trail that climbs continuously, but moderately, over 0.8 mi to the forested summit of Mount Tuck. Continue 0.3 mi to a scenic overlook on the east side of the mountain. The Preserve was conserved through five property purchases between 2019 and 2022.

#### TRAIL

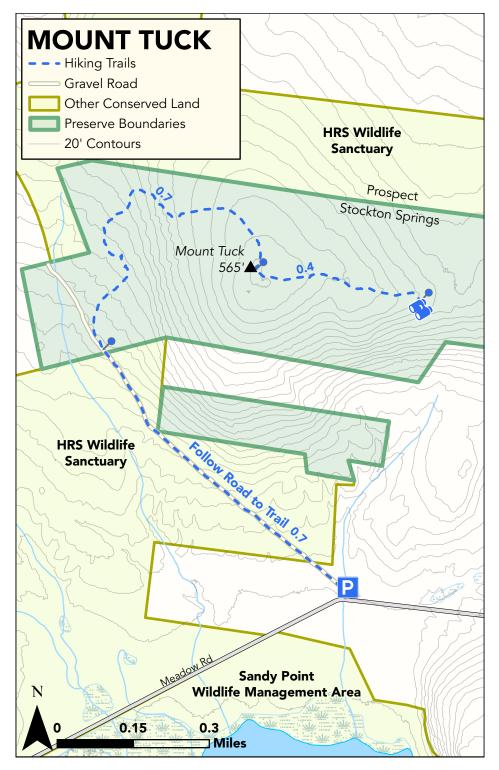
1.7 mi one-way, dirt footpath, 425 ft elevation gain, moderate

#### DIRECTIONS

From Stockton Springs, turn north on Rt 1. In 4.1 mi, turn left onto Meadow Rd. Continue 0.6 mi and park on the side of Meadow Rd, or in the dirt pull-off by the kiosk. Do NOT block the town road, as it is actively used by abutting landowners.









# Penobscot River frontage

# **DESCRIPTION & HISTORY**

Our first preserve in Prospect offers 1,800 ft of forested shoreline along the Penobscot River. Several old foundations can be found along the shore, and you can view the former Bucksport mill site across the river on the Bucksport shoreline. Transferred from Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust in 2017, this property was originally donated by Elizabeth Wemett in honor of Mary Lord.

## TRAIL

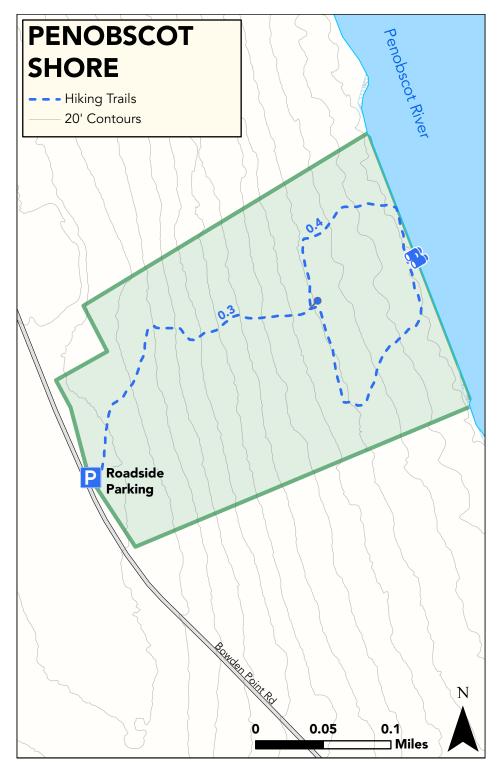
1.0 mi round-trip, dirt footpath, 250 ft elevation gain, moderate

## DIRECTIONS

From Belfast, drive north on Rt 1 toward the Penobscot Narrows Bridge, but turn left at the lights onto Rt 174 before the bridge. In 1.4 mi, turn right onto Bowden Point Rd. The Preserve is on the right in 1.1 mi. Park along the road.







# **Other Trails in Our Communities**

If you are looking for more trails and places to explore, check out the trails of our partner organizations. Our partners, town governments, other land trusts, volunteer trail groups, and state organizations do amazing work maintaining phenomenal trails and natural areas nearby ours. Check them out!

Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT): A statewide organization and one of Maine's oldest land trusts. We frequently collaborate on conserving new land with MCHT. MCHT manages Erickson Fields Preserve (pages 8–9), Aldermere Farm, Clark Island, Monroe Island, and many more preserves open to recreation in the Midcoast. mcht.org

**Georges River Land Trust (GRLT):** Our closest neighbor, GRLT, works across its namesake's watershed, from Saint George to Montville. They maintain over 80 mi of trail and over 20 preserves, including the Georges Highland Path on our Ragged Mountain Preserve (pages 21–23). georgesriver.org

**Hills to Sea Trail Coalition:** We are a proud member of the Hills to Sea Trail Coalition, which manages the 47 mi long hiking trail that goes from Belfast Harbor to Unity Village, along private and conserved land. Please check the Hills to Sea website before visiting, as conditions and closures of trails change. hillstosea.org

**Midcoast Chapter of New England Mountain Biking Association (MCNEMBA):** The all-volunteer biking group that partners with us to maintain the Goose River bike trails (pages 24–25), and works on trails throughout Knox County, including at Camden Hills State Park and Thomaston Town Forest. **nemba.org** 

**City of Belfast:** The largest municipality in our service region has a wonderful parks and recreation department that we frequently collaborate with. We helped to build the Belfast Rail Trail (pages 50–51). **cityofbelfast.org** 

**Town of Camden:** The Parks and Recreation department manages the Camden Snow Bowl, a downhill ski area and site of four-season trails on Ragged Mountain (pages 20–25), as well as many other beautiful parks and facilities. camdenparksandrec.com

**Camden Hills State Park:** The 4,800-acre state park is one of best in the state, with over 30 mi of trails, a campground, and tons to explore. We helped conserve many portions of the park in the early 2000s, such as Milliken Ledges and Mount Battie. The Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands also maintains Birch Point, Moose Point, Fort Knox, and Fort Point State Parks nearby. maine.gov/dacf/parks

# **Our Community Events and Programs**

Coastal Mountains Land Trust hosts dozens of free events on our preserves for all ages throughout the year. Below are some of our most popular annual events. Please check our website and our summer newsletter for up-to-date schedules. coastalmountains.org/events

**Arts on the Hill:** A free outdoor concert series featuring local musicians of different genres from classical to funk, and everything in between. These concerts take place atop Beech Hill Preserve, backdropped by the historic Beech Nut and expansive views of Penobscot Bay.

**Happy Wanderers:** Group hikes are held in partnership with Maine Health's Community Health Program. These walks take place on the first Thursday of each month.

**Coastal Mountains Nature Program:** Guided hikes that are led by Maine-based naturalists with different areas of expertise, ranging from vernal pools to geology.

**Blueberry Free Pick:** For one week in the summer, usually late July or early August, we open the blueberry fields at Beech Hill for a community free pick. Over 2,000 people come to hand pick organic blueberries each year. All you need to do is register, and bring a pail, and a smile.

## CONNECTING KIDS WITH THE OUTDOORS

**Learning Landscapes:** In 2022, Coastal Mountains Land Trust launched our Learning Landscapes Program to connect each child in our communities with a natural place near their school and the opportunity to learn outdoors. Staff and volunteers work directly with schools in our service region by conserving land or securing access to land near schools, enhancing outdoor spaces for kids, and supporting teachers in outdoor education. To find out more and to help support this program visit **coastalmountains.org/learning-landscapes** 





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# 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 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.

We welcome you to connect with us to learn more about

becoming a member, our Adopt-a-Trail program, volunteer opportunities, conserving your land or planning a legacy gift.



Protecting land for the community, forever.