

## **SECTION 12: TIN SHANTY TO ROUTE 4**

### **SNAPSHOT:**

This section initially follows a moderately used snowmobile route over Robinson Hill and around Mendon Peak to Brewers Corner, and then continues as a remote backcountry ski through the Rutland City Forest. It is mostly at an elevation of 2000' feet or more so good early/late snow is often available.

**LENGTH:** 13.6 miles

### **DIFFICULTY:**

Although steep in places, the trail from Tin Shanty to Brewers Corner is usually groomed and only moderately difficult. From Brewers Corner to Rte. 4 the trail is ungroomed, often unbroken, and is very challenging with some steep downhill stretches, which can be very difficult under some snow conditions.

### **DIRECTIONS TO TRAIL**

#### **ACCESS POINTS (south to north):**

##### **1. Tin Shanty - Shrewsbury**

From the former W.E. Pierce Grocery Store in North Shrewsbury take the CCC Rd. north 1.1 miles to a fork in the road. Bear left on Tin Shanty Rd. and continue north another 0.5 miles to a small house on the left with a "Tin Shanty Camp" sign in the front window, where there is very limited parking. Continue north on the now unplowed road 0.3 miles to a trail junction. The CT and VAST Corridor 7 head both north and south from this trail junction.

##### **2. Long Trail via Upper Cold River Rd. - Shrewsbury**

From the fire station in North Shrewsbury take Upper Cold River Rd. northwest approximately 2.3 miles. Turn right (north) on Gilman Rd. (Town Rd. 12). After approximately half a mile, bear right, following the access road to the Green Mountain Club's Clement Shelter to the end of plowing. Follow the Long Trail (white painted blazes) toward the shelter to join the CT.

##### **3. Brewers Corner - Mendon**

From Sherburne Pass go 4.1 miles west on Rte. 4 and turn left (south) onto Wheelerville Rd. Follow Wheelerville Rd. for 4.0 miles to a right-angle turn, which is Brewers Corner. There is limited off-road parking. To reach the CT from Brewers Corner: if heading south (toward Tin Shanty), go south on the logging road from Brewers Corner; if heading north (toward Rte. 4), go east on the other logging road (also the Bucklin hiking trail). In either direction, you should encounter CT blazes within 100 yards or so. Brewers Corner can also be reached from the south with some difficulty. Consult the DeLorme "Vermont Atlas and Gazetteer" or another detailed map source.

##### **4. Rte. 4 Appalachian Trail/Long Trail/CT Parking Area - Mendon**

This ample parking area is located on the south side of Rte. 4, 0.9 miles west of Sherburne Pass. Proceed west from the parking area 100 yards to the trail.

### **ROUTE DESCRIPTION:**

From the CT/VAST trail junction north of the Tin Shanty (0.0), ski north on the VAST snowmobile trail, then west around Jockey Hill, and past GMC's Clement Shelter, to reach a junction with a side trail (2.5). This side trail exits west and then south toward Gilman and Upper Cold River Roads (possible bail-out point). Turn right (north) on VAST Corridor #7 and proceed

generally north-northwest to the height of land east of Robinson Hill (4.1). From here the Trail descends toward Brewers Corner (8.5), a small parking area on Wheelerville Rd., and another possible exit point. This is a good place to end/begin a shorter tour. The CT passes about 100 yards east of Brewers Corner by cutting across to the Bucklin Trail just before reaching Wheelerville Rd.

Head east on the Bucklin Trail and cross Brewers Brook Bridge (8.7). Shortly after the bridge, turn sharply left (north) and ascend an old logging road. From here the CT proceeds generally north through hardwood forest on a series of logging and skid roads connected by narrower winding trails. There are a number of brook crossings with bridges and much up and down although the route stays fairly close to 2,000 feet of elevation. The CT turns sharply right (east) off the logging road onto an old skid road (11.1). It heads uphill to a height of land (13.1) and skirts a knoll. This is a nice scenic spot to enjoy a last snack before the long descent northeast to the AT/LT/CT parking area (13.6) on Rte. 4.

**DISTANCE TO LANDMARKS:**

<b>Mileage Northbound</b>	<b>Landmark</b>	<b>Mileage Southbound</b>
0.0	CT/VAST Jct.	13.6
2.5	Side trail exiting to Gilman Rd.	11.1
4.1	Robinson Hill	9.5
8.5	Brewers Corner	5.1
8.7	Brewers Brook Bridge	4.9
11.1	Old skid road	2.5
13.1	Height of land	0.5
13.6	Rte. 4 AT/LT/CT parking	0.0

**SIDE TRAILS AND LOOPS:**

While the CT intersects several hiking trails in this area (Long Trail, Bucklin Trail), these trails are not recommended for skiing but may be navigable on snowshoes. Contact the Green Mountain Club for more information.