

SECTION 7: SOUTH ROAD TO DANBY-MT. TABOR ROAD

SNAPSHOT:

Almost completely within the Green Mountain National Forest, this section offers a mix of back-country trails, the ungroomed trails of the Mountain Valley Trail Association, and Class IV roads, ending in open fields near the Landgrove Inn.

LENGTH: 8.9 miles

DIFFICULTY:

This section is easy to intermediate, starting with a climb from South Rd. to Rock Bottom Lane. The rest of the route is fairly level and there are several road crossings providing alternative start and stop points.

DIRECTIONS TO TRAIL

ACCESS/EXIT POINTS (south to north):

1. South Rd. - Peru

A CT parking area is scheduled to be constructed on South Rd. in Peru in 2008. Until then, to avoid being towed from the shoulder of South Rd., park on a small plowed pull-off on Old Manchester Rd. To reach this parking area, from Rte. 11 in Peru, take South Rd. 1.5 miles south and turn right on Walt's Camp Rd. Go up the hill and turn right on Old Manchester Rd. The parking area is on your left after approximately 0.6 miles. A marked spur trail leads south to join the CT. Or walk or ski back along Old Manchester Rd. and continue approximately 0.1 miles east of the intersection with Walt's Camp Rd. to join the CT.

2. Rock Bottom Lane - Peru

From the village of Peru head south on South Rd., crossing Rte. 11 as you leave the village. Continue 0.7 miles on South Rd. and bear left on Halstead Rd. Go 0.2 miles and bear right on Rock Bottom Lane. After 0.2 miles there is a small pull off on the left where the CT crosses the road.

3. Hapgood Pond Rd. - Peru

From the store in the village of Peru go approximately 2.3 miles north on Hapgood Pond Rd. (also known as Landgrove Rd.) to the height of land where the CT crosses the road. There is no parking area here so be sure to pull well off the road.

4. Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd. (FR 10) - Peru

From the Landgrove Inn in the Village of Landgrove, head north on Landgrove-Weston Rd. for 0.2 miles. Turn left on Little Michigan Rd. and go 0.4 miles to Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd. (FR 10). Turn right and go 0.2 miles to the end of plowing. Park along the road - not in the snowplow turnaround.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION:

From South Rd. (0.0) head northeast through a spruce plantation, immediately crossing a small bridge and then the larger Cook Brook Bridge (0.1). The five bridges between South Rd. and Rte. 11 were built in 2003 with the assistance of a VT Youth Conservation Corps crew and staff of the GMNF. Following along the boundary of the GMNF, head north and uphill to the height of land and then descend slightly to cross Rock Bottom Lane (0.8). Continue north and then northeast and make a sharp right turn on an old logging road. Go east on this road for approximately half a mile and turn left (north). Cross a bridge (1.4) and continue north to join the

ungroomed trail system of the former Macartney House. Follow MH Trail 12 (2.0) east and cross another small bridge. The CT turns north and traverses beaver meadows and the east end of a large wetland complex, before joining MH Trail 10 and crossing the large Burnt Meadow Brook Bridge (2.8). Continue northeast on MH Trails 10 and 5 to reach the back of the former Macartney House (now a private residence).

From the back of Macartney House, take MH Trails 5 and 8 east to Landgrove Hollow Rd. (3.4). Turn left (north) and walk or ski north to cross Rte. 11 to Ridge Rd. Approximately 150 yards up Ridge Rd. turn left (northwest) onto a Class IV road (the second, more defined road on the left). The CT meanders alongside Flood Brook and is mostly flat - a chance to kick and glide, even with back-country skis. Bear right at a hunting camp (still on the Class IV road) and follow the Trail until it emerges onto Anderson Rd. (4.4). Walk northwest on Anderson Rd. for 300 yards to an opening (former log landing) on your left. Ski 100 yards up the log landing and then turn right into a stand of young mixed softwoods. The Trail dips and turns for a 1/4 mile then turns left to parallel a stream for 100 yards. Turn right over a low bridge, and follow the CT uphill into mature mixed hardwoods. Ski through woods until you emerge onto Hapgood Pond Rd. (5.8).

Cross the road and ski through mixed hardwoods on old skid roads and new trails until the CT merges with Stone Place Trail (6.6), just past the last home on Stone Place Rd. Ski on this trail downhill for a mile, through a log landing, to a brook crossing. Turn right after the brook onto Jones Brook Trail (7.4). Stone Place and Jones Brook Trails are part of a larger trail network maintained by the Mountain Valley Trail Association. Follow Jones Brook Trail along the brook and through a mix of young and old forest until it emerges into open fields (8.5). Skirt the left (north) side of the fields, and cross a brook on a small farm bridge. Cross Little Michigan Rd. (8.7), and ski through fields and into pinewoods until emerging onto the Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd. (8.9) just beyond the parking area.

DISTANCE TO LANDMARKS:

Mileage Northbound	Landmark	Mileage Southbound
0.0	South Rd.	8.9
0.1	Cook Brook Bridge	8.8
0.8	Rock Bottom Lane	8.1
1.4	Bridge	7.5
2.0	MH Trail 12	6.9
2.8	Burnt Meadow Brook Bridge	6.1
3.4	Landgrove Hollow Rd.	5.5
4.4	Anderson Rd.	4.5
5.8	Hapgood Pond Rd.	3.1
6.6	Stone Place Trail	2.3
7.4	Jones Brook Trail	1.5
8.5	Open fields	0.4
8.7	Little Michigan Rd.	0.2
8.9	Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd.	0.0

SIDE TRAILS AND LOOPS:

The Mountain Valley Trails Association (MVTA) maintains an extensive network of cross-country ski trails in this part of the GMNF, making it possible to ski a variety of loops. For

information and a trail map, contact the Londonderry Area Chamber of Commerce at (802) 824-8178.

The nearby Landgrove Inn offers 15 km of groomed X-C ski trails.