

Interim Report on the Activities of the Calais Trails Committee August 31, 2015

Trail Markers

Some of the 250 or so trail markers we made last March 14 in Syver Rogstad's shop were put up by members of the Calais Conservation Committee in the Town Forest; and by Reed, Denise Wilder, and Michael Fullerton along the northernmost ½ mile of the Robinson Ridge Trail. There are about 60 left, to be used on the "Bradley loop".

Routine Trail Maintenance

Several willing volunteers have come forward to remove downed trees on the trails and to improve wet spots (abundant earlier in the Summer). Toni Kaeding (229-0176) is organizing a work bee, tentatively scheduled for Saturday morning, September 12, to work on chronic wet areas on the Ellis-Bruce Trail. Contact her if you want to help. Ram Verma, Randy Allen, and Carter Stowell have already begun some of this work. Reed has mowed the Hans-Peter section of the Robinson Ridge Trail. The Wards have mowed from the big new bridge northward.

Land Sale

The sugaring operation west of the Robinson Ridge Trail has been sold to another operator. The land (about 350 acres) has been purchased by Valerie Colis and Peter Livaditis (who already owned the land and house near the north end on the trail). Peter and Valerie will lease the sugaring operation to this new operator. So now, we'll be dealing with fewer landowners. Peter and Valerie have been very accommodating and are looking forward to signing a revised agreement with us.

Bradley Loop

I walked the completed loop with Darby Bradley a couple of weeks ago. It is ready to have trail markers put up this Fall. At their own expense, the Bradleys have greatly improved this trail, hiring Jody Bayne and his excavator, and carefully seeding down all the excavated areas. The trail is initially to be open to walkers and skiers only. Darby and Liisa feel that much of the route is too steep and possibly subject to erosion to allow bikes and horses. We'll need appropriate signage where the loop leaves the Ellis-Bruce Trail.

Hannan-Carey

We are exploring a possible trail in the SE corner of the Town. Michael Fullerton and Denise Wilder will be meeting with Paul Hannan and Cornelia Carey shortly. Stay tuned.

Trails Committee Meeting?

Sometime this fall. Need to discuss and approve action on Bradley Loop and possibly Hannan-Carey (if it materializes). Need to revisit policy on trail mapsin collaboration with landowners. Other issues?