

Maine Huts and Trail Proposal for Stratton Brook Hut - Bigelow Preserve Connector Trail

Maine Huts & Trails requests permission from the Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL) to build a multi-use trail between our Stratton Brook Hut and the 60's Haul Road, on the Carrabassett Valley (CV) lot and partly within the Bigelow Preserve (portion of the proposed trail north of Stratton Brook).

Trail Objectives and Intended Uses:

The purpose is to ensure a trail connection between our Stratton Brook Hut and the Sixties Road within the Preserve (as shown on the attached map), linking to the Fire Warden's Trail.

Our trail will be designed as a hiking trail. Skiing and snowshoeing will also be intended uses. The trail will be ungroomed.

Trail Route:

The trail would begin at a point along MH&Ts existing multi-use trail named Newton's Revenge, near the "Height of Land Farm" site on the CV lot, and run northward down the slope to the CMP powerline corridor, where it will begin following an old road. The old road crosses Stratton Brook and links to the 60s Road (AKA Stratton Brook bike and ski trail). The trail from Newton's Revenge trail to the power line will be 1.0 to 1.5 miles in length; the old road section will be approximately 0.4 miles in length. Actual trail length will depend on the routing determined by BPL in collaboration with MH&T. The quarter-mile portion of the trail north of Stratton Brook, on the old road, will be within the Bigelow Preserve and The Horns Ecological Reserve.

MH&T will collaborate with BPL on scouting and laying out the route of the new trail, and on trail design, with consideration given to the trail grade etc. that is most appropriate for the type of trail experience and difficulty desired.

A safe means of crossing Stratton Brook will need to be designed, in consultation with BPL. Conditions may require a footbridge.

Trail Maintenance:

Our plan for maintaining this trail will be to utilize our staff and volunteers.

