

## 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 located on South Rd. in Peru. To reach this parking area, from Rte. 11 in Peru, take South Rd. 1.5 miles south. A plowed parking area is clearly evident after Walt's Camp Rd. The CT crosses South Rd. just after the parking area.

##### 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. The CT traverses beaver meadows and the east end of a large wetland complex before crossing the large **Burnt Meadow Brook Bridge (2.8)**. Near Burnt Meadow Bridge there is a Catamount side trail with yellow blazes heading south for about .2 miles to Mud Pond. Continue northeast and after going along the northern end of a clear cut area you will reach **Landgrove Hollow Road (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 about 0.5 miles 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:**

<b>Mileage Northbound</b>	<b>Landmark</b>	<b>Mileage Southbound</b>
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
2.8	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.