SECTION 8: DANBY-MT. TABOR RD. TO GREENDALE ROAD

SNAPSHOT:

Part back-country and part snowmobile trail, this section of the CT runs through a lovely part of the Green Mountain National Forest, and ends with a long downhill run on Jenny Coolidge Rd.

LENGTH: 9.7 miles

DIFFICULTY:

Skiers encounter mostly moderate turns and slopes, with a few difficult sections. The portions shared with snowmobiles can become icy and narrow. There are several exit points and side loops to shorten or extend the ski day, making parts of this section very accessible to novice backcountry skiers.

DIRECTIONS TO TRAIL

ACCESS\EXIT POINTS (south to north):

1. 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.

2. Jaquith Rd. - Landgrove

From the Landgrove Inn in the Village of Landgrove, head north on Landgrove-Weston Rd. for roughly two miles. Turn left (north) on Jaquith Rd. and stay left where the road forks. Park at the end of plowing and ski north and then west on the snowmobile trails to join the CT on the Moses Pond Trail.

3. Moses Pond Rd. (FR 29) - Weston

From the village of Weston, take the Landgrove-Weston Rd. approximately 0.3 miles, then bear right on Lawrence Hill Rd. Go approximately 0.5 miles, and then bear left on Moses Pond Rd. Park at the end of plowing and ski in approximately 2 miles on the unplowed portion of the road to join the CT on the Moses Pond Trail.

4. Greendale Winter Parking Area - Weston

Take the Greendale Rd. off Rte. 100, 1.9 miles north of Weston or 1.6 miles south of the Rte. 100/155 intersection. Travel approximately 2 miles north on the Greendale Rd. (FR 18) to the parking area that is immediately past a small bridge.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION:

From the Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd. (FR 10) snowplow turnaround (0.0), ski up the unplowed road to the entrance to the Utley Brook Trail (0.2) on the left. This trail parallels FR 10 for a while on fairly level terrain, and then begins an uphill climb through mature hardwoods to an intersection with the Little Michigan Trail (1.3). Continue on the Utley Brook Trail with varied elevation changes to intersect again with FR 10 (Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd.) (3.3). Turn left (north) onto FR 10 and ski north until you reach FR 321 (4.5).

Since the Utley Brook Trail can be moderately difficult, especially if the snow conditions are poor, you may want to choose the option of skiing north on FR 10 (instead of taking the Utley Brook Trail) for a distance of approximately 4 miles to reach the right turn onto FR 321.

Turn right (east) on FR 321. About 0.5 miles east of the Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd. (FR 10), cross a stream on a bridge constructed in July 2010 by the Green Mountain National Forest and Vermont Youth Conservation Corps. FR 321 is a relatively wide, old logging road meandering northeast for about 0.4 miles. Here the CT joins FR 367, which is also a groomed snowmobile trail, and turns southeast for another 0.3 miles.

At this intersection, turn left (east) onto the Moses Pond Trail (FR 365) (5.9). Head east and north following this trail as it climbs considerably, eventually joining a section of the Root Beer Ridge Trail (6.5). You will traverse the south side of Moses Pond, which can be seen through the trees on your left. The trail then drops down to intersect at a right angle with Moses Pond Rd. (FR 29) (7.8). Turn left (west) onto this forest road, which immediately turns right (north) and becomes FR 17A. After 0.6 miles of a downhill run with glorious mountain views, FR 17A meets the Jenny Coolidge Brook Trail (FR 17) (8.5) at a T junction. Turn right (southeast) onto this trail and enjoy a wonderful downhill ski along Jenny Coolidge Brook to the Greendale Winter Parking Area (9.7).

DISTANCE TO LANDMARKS:

Mileage Northbound	Landmark	Mileage Southbound
0.0	FR 10 snowplow turnaround	9.7
0.2	Utley Brook Trail	9.5
1.3	Little Michigan Trail	8.4
3.3	FR 10 (Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd.)	6.4
4.5	FR 321	5.2
5.9	Moses Pond Trail (FR 365)	3.8
6.5	Root Beer Ridge Trail	3.2
7.8	Moses Pond Rd. (FR 29)	1.9
8.5	Jenny Coolidge Brook Trail (FR 17)	1.2
9.7	Greendale Winter Parking Area	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, or to learn how to get involved with the activities of the MVTA, contact the Londonderry Area Chamber of Commerce at (802) 824-8178.