Hannah Lucarelli Dave Nault 25 Pleasant St Bristol, VT 05443 802 349 7003 (hannah) 802 989 9214 (dave) hlucarelli@gmail.com davenault8@gmail.com

## **CTA End to End Journal**

The Catamount Trail took us four years to complete. When we started it, it was not with the intent to finish. It began with a fun filled ski from Lincoln to Warren...and the seed was planted.

**Trail Sections:** 1 & 2

**Date**: 2/18/24

**Weather**: cloudy 20 degrees **Skiers**: Dave and Hannah

**Trail Notes**: These were our last two sections and we were excited to get them done despite limited snow in section 1. We started at 7:30 and finished around 3:45. We loved skiing on the old railroad bed off of 100 to the dam. It was also beautiful along the Harriman reservoir on the VAST trail. The ending was difficult, we were tired and there were quite a few little streams we had to cross. We did it though and are already dreaming about a through ski in our retirement.









Trail Sections: 3 & 4

**Date**: 2/10/24

**Weather**: warm and sunny 40s **Skiers**: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: We set off at 7am and headed North along the trail. Wow, were there a lot of stream crossings! We never got wet though and got better as the day went on! We met Ani Coleman and Heather Linscott on Somerset Reservoir. They were looking for the Ruby Run gang. Shortly after we crossed paths with Ben, Paul and the rest of the crew. This gave us a much needed boost of energy and it was so much fun to meet two of the founders.



Trail Sections: 5
Date: 1/20/24

Weather: single digits Skiers: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: We treated ourselves to a weekend at the Landgrove Inn. This made it easy to get an early start on the trail. We met Andrew, the trail chief for section 5. He was leading a tour and shared some history about this section. Dave had a hard time on the steep hills (but he says what else is new!).







Trail Sections: 6
Date: 1/21/24

Weather: single digits with sunshine

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

Trail Notes: Dave says that Hannah helped him traverse the downhills better than yesterday. It

was a beautiful day and section. Lots of snow! We will come back to this section.







Trail Sections: 7
Date: 1/28/23

**Weather**: 20s and beautiful **Skiers**: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: We loved the beginning of this trail with the inspirational quotes on the trees.

There was plenty of snow. We didn't see anyone, just soaked up the peacefulness and sunshine

and skied directly to the landgrove Inn with big appetites.









Trail Sections: 8

Date: 1/29/23

**Weather**: 20s and cloudy **Skiers**: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: We walked to the trail from Landgrove Inn. The skiing started off really good but then the trail became crusty and steep. We had to put our skins on and find our groove.







Trail Sections: 9 Date: 3/18/23

Weather: Perfect - blue skies in the 30s

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: This was a beautiful section (one of Hannah's favorites). We skied this after a huge snow storm (30 inches), so we really appreciated the VAST trails. Dave said the downhill







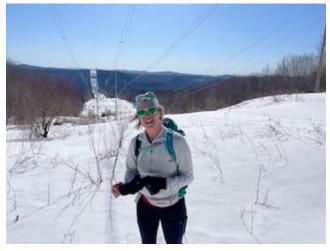


Trail Sections: 10
Date: 3/27/23
Weather: blue skip

Weather: blue skies

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: This was a short and fast section and we were done by 11:45am. Hannah saw a bobcat just before the power lines. The snow was hard and fast at first but it warmed up and softened. (Note to ourselves: remember to bring duct tape, towel and map next time!)





Trail Sections: 11 Date: 12/28/22 Weather: 20s

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: Dave reports "brutal conditions for the first ski of the year." There were a lot of stream crossings. Skins worked going up Bear Mountain but failed on Burnt Mtn. It was getting dark and we decided to ski to the car via the CCC road versus staying on the trail. Truth be told we had a disagreement - Hannah wanted to stay on the trail and Dave felt it was safer to take the road.



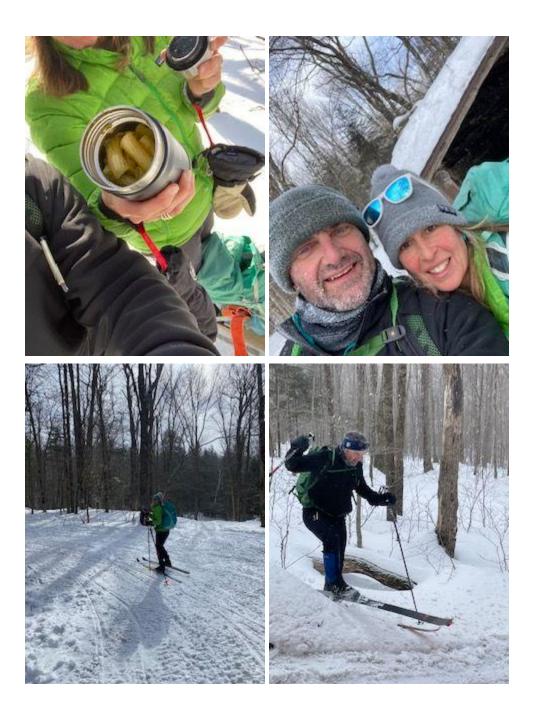
**Trail Sections: 12** 

Date: 2/12/22 and 2/14/22

Weather: cold

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: This section took two attempts. The first time we got a late start after a big snow storm and we were moving slowly. We didn't want to finish at 8pm, so we turned around. We got an early start on the second try. The snow was so hard and fast on the downhills that we had to ski off the trail for safety. It was a long long day.

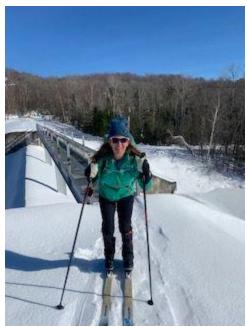


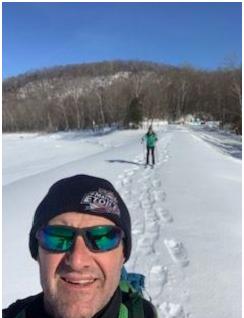
Trail Sections: 13
Date: 2/17/21

Weather: blue skies and single digits in the morning

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: Started off cold and crusty after we had a snow/rain event but became nice on the VAST. It was a beautiful ending at Mt Top but it was during COVID times so we couldn't stop in and celebrate our accomplishment with a drink.

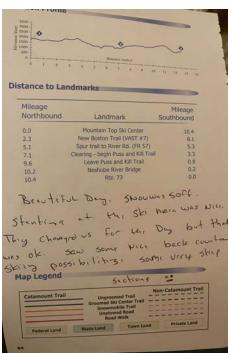




Trail Sections: 14 Date: 2/14/21 Weather: 20s

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: The only record we have of the day is this:





Trail Sections: 15 Date: 1/31/21

Weather: single digits with blue skies

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

Trail Notes: We got an early start to the day....and that was a good thing because Hannah had some equipment issues. She rented some boots from OGE and didn't realize they wouldn't work with her bindings. Dave thought this might mean we would go home and have coffee....but Hannah had another idea so they drove to blueberry hill. She knocked on the inn door shortly after 7am and asked Tony if he had any rentals. He got out of his bathrobe and opened the ski center and pointed to a bin of boots. Luckily there were boots (although a few sizes too big) that would work with the bindings. So back to 73 and onto the trail! It was rock hard. It was lots of fun to stop at blueberry hill later in the day for coffee and a cookie.



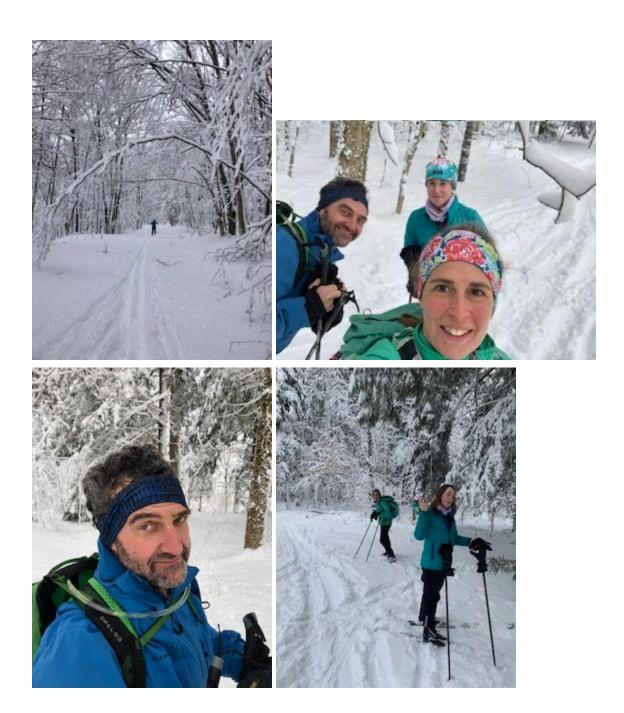


Trail Sections: 16 Date: 1/17/21 Weather: snowy

**Skiers**: Hannah , Dave and Emma (Hannah's daughter)

Trail Notes: Fresh snow. Great ski to Reikert. We bumped into Jessie (Hannah's sister). We headed South on the road instead of North to the car and didn't realize it until two miles had gone by. It was getting dark and cold. Dave flagged down a snowmobiler and hopped on with

Emma. Hannah had no choice but to also get on the back of a snowmobile.



**Trail Sections: 17** 

**Date**: 2020

Weather: not sure

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: We did this section in 4 trips. We didn't keep great notes because at the time, we were just having fun with the sections in our backyard and did not have any formal plans to complete the entire trail. We did an out and back from the gap road to French settlement. We skied South Lincoln to French Settlement. We skied an out and back from the Ripton side and

then finished the section with another out and back from South Lincoln. As we are writing this, Hannah thinks we should ski the whole section sometime:).



Trail Sections: 18 Date: 1/23/21 Weather: not sure

Skiers: Hannah and Dave

**Trail Notes**: This was our first full section. Knowing what we know now, we realize we started too late. We learned a lot. Breaking trail on the backside of Mt. Abe was hard! There were lots of little stream crossings - which were also challenging. We had a fast descent to West Hill. Later we got lost on the golf course. Skiing down from the Beaver pond to German Flats road was beautiful. We still had a ways to go though and we were running out of daylight. We finished in the dark without phones as flashlights. We always pack headlamps now! Dave makes sure of it!



golf course

## Trail Section 19:

Date: 2/27/21

Weather: cloudy and then rain at the end

Skiers: Dave and Hannah

Trail Notes: Dave fell and cut his mouth on his ski...quite a lot of blood!



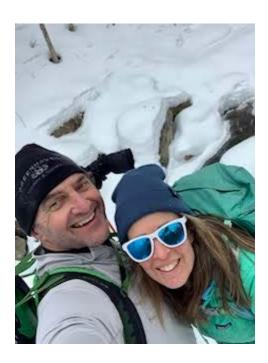
Trail Section: 20

Date: 3/6/21

Weather: overcast Skiers: Hannah & Dave

Trail Notes: We loved the trails through Camel's Hump ski area, even though there were some

steep parts.



Section 21
Date: 3/7/21
Weather: Sunny

**Skiers:** Dave and Hannah

Trail Notes: A lot of uphill! Happy to finish at Bolton Resort.



**Trail Section: 22** 

3/20/21

Weather: Blue Sky and Sunny Skiers: Dave and Hannah

Trail Notes: Hannah was really looking forward to this trip because we booked a night at Trapp Family. The skins did us well on the uphill, downhill was trickier because we didn't have AT or 3 pin binding. Pushed on for for 18 miles total and ended on RT 108 and ubered back to the lodge.



**Trail Section**: 23

3/21/21

Weather: warm and sunny Skiers: Dave and Hannah

Trail Notes: Made it to Edson Hill Ski touring center. Not a lot of snow, but we had a great day!



**Trail Section: 24** Date: 3/14/21

Weather: blustery and cold

Trail Notes: There was not a lot of snow on the golf course in Morrisville. We had to go under some barbed wire fences and there were beautiful views. We enjoyed sitting by at the lodge at

Edson Hill after we were done skiing.



**Trail Section: 25** Date: 1/8/22

Weather: bitterly cold and sunny

Trail Notes: This was our first xc ski of the season. Dave was just getting over covid and the

climb/re-route on the backside of elmore mountain was tough. The downhill was fun.



Trail Section: 26
Date: 1/22/21

Skier: Dave and Hannah

Weather: blue skies -17 when we started

Trail Notes: Very cold start. The trail was beautiful. We were happy to have hot tea and soup.

Last two miles were hard.



**Trail Section: 27** Date: 1/29/22

Weather: Cold but no wind Skiers: Dave and Hannah

Trail Notes: We had a fun time in the woods but when we got to the hill in craftsbury center, we

hit the head wind. We added 6 miles to the section and ended in a wind storm at a farm.



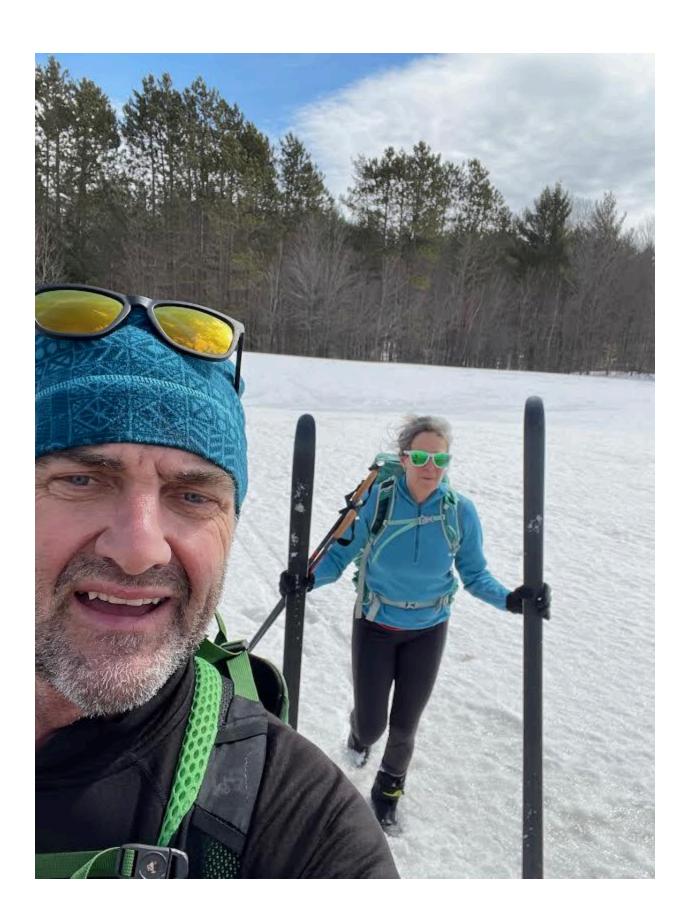
Trail Section: 28
Dates: 1/29/22 1st part

4/3/22 2nd part

**Skiers:** Dave and Hannah **Weather**: in april warm

Trail Notes: There was still lots of snow in April. We had forgotten we had done half last year,

so we had a short day!



Section 29 Date 3/5/23

Weather: Warm

**Skiers**: Dave and Hannah

**Trail Notes**: This was a hard section for Hannah because the snow stuck to her skis and there was no gliding. It was slow breaking trail when we weren't on the snowmobile trail. Grateful to finish with a nice downhill and roadwalk.



Section: 30 Date 3/5/22

**Weather**: warm and sunny **Skiers**: Dave and Hannah

**Trail Notes:** This was a long day and Dave was discouraged when we were near Jay Peak and all the BackCountry Skiers ame whizzing by. He broke his pole later but we made it to the Jay

Inn for a fun night!



Section: 31 Date: 3/6/22 Weather: Rain

Skiers: Dave and Hannah

Trail Notes: It was rainy and dreary and at the end we walked in the wrong direction to find our

car on north Jay Road.

