



Section 11: Patchbrook Road to Tin Shanty

SNAPSHOT

This is a mostly wilderness section crossing the ridge between Bear Mountain and Round Top as well as Burnt Mountain through mostly hardwood forest. There are many excellent views and enjoyable downhill through open glades. Land in the southernmost parts of Section 11 is mostly owned by and has been conserved through the cooperation of The Ninevah Foundation, and you may notice trail signs used in the summer by the nearby Farm and Wilderness Camps. The trail north of Old Plymouth Road traverses Vermont's Coolidge State Forest and Vermont Fish and Wildlife lands.

LENGTH

10.1 miles (16.25 km)

DIFFICULTY

This is a challenging section with several short, difficult stretches, which are steep and narrow. However, the well-placed access points allow the section to be skied in shorter segments and in either direction. Climbing skins are recommended.

TRAIL ACCESS POINTS (south to north)

NOTE: The CCC Road between Tin Shanty and Route 100 is not plowed in winter. Sawyer Hill Road is not plowed all the way through from Route 103 to Patch Brook Road in winter. Patch Brook Road between Townsend Farm & Dublin Roads is not plowed in winter. Refer to the written Shuttle Directions and do not rely on GPS maps for driving directions.

1. Patch Brook Road - Plymouth

From the Route 103/Route100N junction (northwest of Ludlow) go 3.4 miles northwest on Route 103. Just past Healdville Road, turn right (north) onto Shunpike Road, which turns sharply left almost immediately. Follow for 0.6 miles west. Stay right at fork in road another 0.7 miles to the junction with Lake Nineveh Road. Turn right eventually passing the lake on your right. After approximately 2 miles, the road turns sharply right and becomes Patch Brook Road. Follow it to the intersection with Townsend Barn/ Sawyer Hill Road. Park efficiently to one side leaving a clear lane of travel. Do not block the unplowed portion of Patch Brook Road where it continues east towards Plymouth, as it receives significant snowmobile use.

2. Round Top Road - Plymouth

From the intersection of Route 100 and Route 100A in Plymouth Union go north on RT100 for 0.5 miles and turn left (west) on Round Top Road and follow past ski lodge and steeply uphill for 0.9 miles to the junction of Round Top Road and unplowed Old Plymouth Road at the first hairpin turn. Parking is limited, and do not block the unplowed portion of Old Plymouth Road. Ski west 1.0 miles on Old Plymouth Road to intersect the CT.

3. Old Plymouth Rd. – North Shrewsbury

From North Shrewsbury go NE past the Pierce General Store along the CCC Road until Old Plymouth Road veers off to the right. Follow Old Plymouth Rd. east approximately 0.6 miles to the winter parking lot at the end of the plowing. Ski east another 1.9 miles on the unplowed portion of Old Plymouth Road (also a snowmobile corridor) to where the snowmobile trail bears left (north) through a large clearing and Old Plymouth Road. continues straight into the woods. Follow Old Plymouth Road another 0.3 miles east to join the CT just west of Great Roaring Brook.

4. Tin Shanty - Shrewsbury

From the former W.E. Pierce Grocery Store in North Shrewsbury, take the CCC Road north 1.1 miles to a fork in the road. Bear left on Tin Shanty Road and continue north another 0.5 miles to the end of the road. The parking area is limited, but cars can park along the road with care. Ski north on the unplowed road 0.3 miles to a trail junction. VAST Corridor #7 heads both north and south from this trail junction. Turn right uphill on VAST #7 S for 0.7 miles before reaching the intersection with the north & southbound CT.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

From **Sawyer Hill/Patch Brook Road Junction (0.0)** the CT follows Patch Brook Road West for 0.1 mile before turning north onto a gated logging road. Follow this until it joins the unplowed **Unknown Soldier Road (0.8)**. Turn right and follow this road north until the trail branches off to the left and then into the woods. After a short ways the CT crosses an old logging road and bridge just north of the **Flying Cloud Camp shelter (1.5 miles)**.

The trail crosses **Money Brook Bridge (3.1 miles)** and climbs steadily through glades up to the **height of land (3.85 miles)** between Round Top and Bear Mountain. Heading downhill, the trail traverses the hillside crossing several wide drainages and then continues through logged areas before reaching **Old Plymouth Road (4.8 miles)**.

BAIL OUT POINT: *Head east/right on Old Plymouth Road to reach Round Top Road in 1.0 miles or head west/left on Old Plymouth Road to reach the snowmobile parking area in North Shrewsbury in 2.2 miles*

To continue north on the CT turn west/left on Old Plymouth Road and over the VAST bridge that crosses Great Roaring Brook. Just past the bridge the CT turns sharply right and heads north uphill to a narrow bridge, past a regenerating clear cut, then soon joins a logging road. There are several logging roads in this area but the CT is well marked and climbs steadily up the southeast slope of Burnt Mountain then along a ridge with views to the west, steeply up through glades and then along the east side of Burnt Mountain.

Just past the **John Stearns Viewpoint (6.5 miles)** the CT descends on a logging road with several deep water bars to a log landing. Continue west along the open trail about 0.5 miles to where the CT joins VAST Corridor #7. Continue on VAST north about 0.3 miles to where the **CT leaves VAST (8.5 miles)**

heading left/northwest and slightly uphill into the woods and along a clear cut. The CT continues west along a gentle grade through open hardwoods, keeping a broad wetland to the southwest before reaching the unplowed **CCC Road (9.5 miles)**.

Crossing the road, a stone chimney of an old caretaker’s cabin is a notable landmark on your left. Continue east about 0.25 miles on a wide trail to VAST #7. Go left/north on the snowmobile trail. At the next intersection, turn left/west and climb steeply on the snowmobile trail. Then descend a short hill to an intersection where **Section 12 of the CT begins (10.1)**. It leaves the VAST corridor and continues west through hardwoods towards Brewers Corner.

NOTE: To reach the Tin Shanty trailhead, go left (south) at the intersection with Section 12 and follow the VAST trail downhill 0.7 miles to a T intersection where VAST 7N continues to the right and the access route to Tin Shanty bears off to the left. Continue south 0.3 miles to the parking area.

DISTANCE TO LANDMARKS

Mileage Northbound	Landmark	Mileage Southbound
0.0	Townsend Farm/ Patch Brook Road	10.1
0.8	Unknown Soldier Road	9.3
1.5	Flying Cloud Camp	8.6
3.1	Money Brook Bridge	7.0
3.85	Height of Land	6.25
4.8	Old Plymouth Road	5.3
6.5	John Stearns Viewpoint	3.6
8.5	CT Leaves VAST	1.6
9.5	CCC Road	0.6
10.1	Intersection/CT Section 12 begins	0.0

SIDE TRAILS AND LOOPS

The unplowed portions of the CCC Road and Old Plymouth Road, as well as various ski and snowmobile trails in this area provide numerous opportunities for loops and side trail explorations. On Old Plymouth Road, west of the Catamount Trail junction, there is a network of ungroomed trails known as the “Plymsbury” network in the Plymsbury Wildlife Management Area. For more information on these trails, visit <https://fpr.vermont.gov/plymsbury-wildlife-management-area>.

SHUTTLE DIRECTIONS

Please use caution and common sense when using these directions. Some roads may not have signs. After a heavy snow it may be difficult to locate the trailhead or end-of-plowing. Your GPS will not replicate all of these routes and may direct you to a road that is not plowed, closed and impassable. When in doubt, follow someone familiar with the local area.

Look for blue blazes (Catamount Trail), yellow blazes (Catamount Trail Side Trail) or CT parking signs which may be present. If the road seems impassible, park and explore on foot. Always park clear of access roads and gates. Leave room for others to park including snowmobile trailers. Do not park in snowplow turnarounds.

The location of the Catamount Trail on these maps is approximate. Temporary reroutes are not displayed. Always visit the Catamount Trail Association website for the latest trail information and maps. www.catamounttrail.org

Driving to Patch Brook Road (north to south)

1. From the parking area at Tin Shanty Rd. (S11 access <4>) head south for 1.0 miles, then merge onto the old CCC Rd. and continue for 1.1 miles.
2. Continue onto Northam Rd., then bear left onto Eastham Rd. and go 2.5 miles.
3. At the intersection, turn left to stay on Eastham Rd. for another 1.1 miles.
4. Turn right onto Mt. Holly Rd., which turns to Hortonville Rd./Town Hwy 1 and continue for 1.9 miles.
5. Turn left onto Shunpike Rd. and go 1.5 miles.
6. Turn left on Lake Ninevah Rd. and drive 2.2 miles to a 4-way intersection, then turn right on Patch Brook Rd.
7. Continue for 0.6 miles to Townsend Farm Rd./Sawyer Hill Rd. (S11 access <1>) Park at this intersection out of the way of traffic.

Driving to Tin Shanty (south to north)

1. From the parking area at Patch Brook Rd. (S11 access <1>), drive northeast for 0.6 miles, then take a left onto Patch Brook/Lake Ninevah Rd.
2. Continue straight for 2.2 miles as Patchbrook Rd. turns to Lake Ninevah Rd.
3. Turn right onto Shunpike Rd. and drive 1.5 miles.
4. Turn right on Hortonville Rd/Town Hwy 1, which becomes Mt Holly Road, and go 1.9 miles.
5. Turn left at the tee intersection on Eastham Rd. (the road to the right is not plowed) and go 1.1 miles to the first intersection at a horse farm where Eastham Rd. turns sharply right. Continue on Eastham Rd. for 2.5 miles.
6. Turn right on Northam Rd. for a few feet and continue on the CCC Rd. for 1.1 miles.
7. Stay left on Tin Shanty Rd. for 1.0 miles to the trail head (S11 access <4>). Park in the small plowed area or single file on the road. Do not block access to the VAST trail.