



Section 7: South Road to Danby-Mt. Tabor Road

SNAPSHOT

Almost completely within the Green Mountain National Forest, this section offers a mix of backcountry trails, the ungroomed trails of the Mountain Valley Trail Association, and Class IV roads, ending in open fields near the Landgrove Inn.

The five bridges between South Road and Route 11 were built in 2003 with the assistance of a VT Youth Conservation Corps crew and staff of the Green Mountain National Forest.

LENGTH

8.9 miles (14.32 km)

DIFFICULTY

The section is easy to intermediate, starting with a climb from South Road to Rock Bottom Lane. The rest of the route is fairly level and there are several road crossings providing alternative start and stop points.

TRAIL ACCESS POINTS (south to north)

NOTE: Please do not park at the McCartney House Inn to access the Catamount Trail. Use the parking/access areas indicated in the description below.

1. South Road - Peru

From Route 11 in Peru, take South Road 1.5 miles south. A plowed parking area is clearly evident after Walt's Camp Road. The CT crosses South Road just after the parking area.

2. Rock Bottom Lane - Peru

From the village of Peru head south on South Road, crossing Route 11 as you leave the village. Continue 0.7 miles on South Road and bear left on Halstead Road. 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 Road - Peru

From the store in the village of Peru go approximately 2.3 miles north on Hapgood Pond Road (also known as Landgrove Road) to the height of land where the CT crosses the road. Park in a single file line and be sure to pull well off the road.

4. Danby-Mt. Tabor Road (FR 10) - Peru

From the Landgrove Inn in the Village of Landgrove, head north on Landgrove-Weston Road for 0.2 miles. Turn left on Little Michigan Road and go 0.4 miles to Danby-Mt. Tabor Road (FR 10). Turn right and go 0.2 miles to the end of plowing. Park along the road - not in the snowplow turn-around.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION (south to north)

From **South Road (0.0)** head northeast through a spruce plantation, immediately crossing a small bridge and then the larger **Cook Brook Bridge (0.1)**. Following along the boundary of the Green Mountain National Forest, 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 0.2 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 Route 11 to Ridge Road. Approximately 150 yards up Ridge Road 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 CT until it emerges onto **Anderson Road (4.4)**. Walk northwest on Anderson Road 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 0.25 miles 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 Road (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 Road. 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 Road (8.7)**, and ski through fields and into pinewoods until emerging onto the **Danby-Mt. Tabor Road (8.9)** just beyond the parking area.

DISTANCE TO LANDMARKS

Mileage Northbound	Landmark	Mileage Southbound
0.0	South Road	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 Road	5.5
4.4	Anderson Road	4.5
5.8	Hapgood Pond Road	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 Road	0.2
8.9	Danby-Mt. Tabor Road	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, visit <https://www.mountainvalleytrails.club/>.

Near Burnt Meadow Brook Bridge, there is a short side trail that leads to Mud Pond. The trail is marked with yellow blazes and is approximately 0.2 miles to the pond.

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

Drive to South Road (north to south)

1. From the end of plowing (#64) on Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd. in Peru (S7 access <4>), drive 0.2 miles.
2. Turn left on Little Michigan Rd. and drive 0.4 miles.
3. Turn right on Landgrove Rd. and drive 1.4 miles
4. Turn right on West Ridge Rd. and drive 1.6 miles.
5. Turn right on Rte. 11 and drive 2.4 miles.
6. Turn left on South Rd. (S7 access <1>) and drive 1.7 miles to the parking area.

Drive to Danby-Mt. Tabor Road (south to north)

1. From the parking area on South Rd. in Peru (S7 access <1>) drive 1.5 miles north.
2. Turn right on Rte. 11 and drive 2.4 miles to West Ridge Rd.
3. Turn left on West Ridge Rd. and drive north for 1.6 miles.
4. Turn left on Landgrove Rd. and drive 1.4 miles.
5. Turn left on Little Michigan Rd. and drive 0.4 miles.
6. Turn right on Danby-Mt. Tabor Rd. and drive 0.2 miles to the end of plowing (S7 access <4>).