

**New England National Scenic Trail
Maintenance & Management Committee- CT
November 23, 2009
Meeting Notes**

Introductions: Clare Cain, Paul Mei, Steve Schiller, Bob Nodine, Eric Hammerling (not present: Chuck Sack, Fred Mastale & Peter Dorpalen)

NST & Trail Stewardship Council Update

- Subcommittee Development
- MA meeting
- NPS updates

Maintenance & Management Committee Work

- Review Blueprint for Management: *Trail Maintenance & Management*
- What is currently being done successfully?
 - Trail is generally maintained to best practices standard.
 - Trail is well-maintained, signed well
- What are the current Trail needs?
 - Blazing is good but could be improved in some areas.
 - More trailheads & parking.
 - Need to identify where there are severe ATV impacts
 - Need to identify where horses are currently using the Trail
- Connecting w/ Trail Managers
 - Perform a trail survey w/ Trail Managers & Reps to get a clear picture of trail needs. Host a meeting w/ Trail Reps and get them involved.
- Brainstorm Ideas for Committee
 - Create an on-line trail map w/ Trailheads
 - NPS Highway signs (Rt. 91)
- Priorities
 - Trail Survey for Trail Managers & Reps

Other

- CFPA considering purchase of a router for in-house sign production.
- Who else should join us?

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 6th @ 5pm @ the CFPA office

**New England National Scenic Trail
Maintenance & Management Committee- CT
January 6, 2010
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Nodine, Cain, Mei, Perrines', Sack, Mastelle, Schiller, Dorpalen

1. Trail Survey
Reviewed a first draft of the trail survey being prepared for CT Trail Managers along the NST. Committee reviewed and made improvements to questions and inventory aspects of the survey. Cain will update survey and circulate when complete.
2. Committee Chair
Committee nominated Chuck & Bob to act as co-chairs. Paul will act as committee spokesperson.

**New England National Scenic Trail
Maintenance & Management Committee- CT
March 17, 2010
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Nodine, Mei, Cain, Perrine, Sack, Mastelle, Schiller, & Dorpalen

Survey Discussion:

- We did have problems with using the most current version of Adobe for the survey—many trail managers had an older version. Some were able to print the surveys and get them in, others were able to email the form.
- Clare has begun consolidating the returned surveys. All but three Trail Managers have completed their surveys.
- We will try to connect with Trail Reps to encourage their trail managers to complete their surveys. Ideally we would have 100% participation & input from the TM's.
- The survey will help us begin prioritizing needs for signage, where ATV damage is centered, what uses are allowed on each trail section, and where we need and have structures.

Campsite Discussion:

- We currently have 2 potential campsites- Guilford & Berlin.
- We need to see what our Trail Managers tell us in the survey.
- We need to think about sustainable sites—not just out-of-the-way backcountry sites.
- Do we consider shelters & related infrastructure—who's land will they go on?

NST Trail Manager Meeting:

- Discussion of a Trail Manager meeting in May to discuss the NST designation, signage, maintenance, work parties and priorities. Make sure all Trail reps are present.

Blazing:

- Discussion on trail blazing. MA is currently white, CT is blue. Could we conceive of a single blaze color? Would we consider a split blaze, half & half? Trail identity may suffer from not having a single blaze. If color stays as is we need to have good signage explaining the change at the state line.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 29th at 5pm @ CFPA