

Town of Holderness Trails Access

Pilote Forest

The Pilote Forest is located on Beede Road just a short distance from the intersection with Seven Pines on the north side of the road. From Route 175 you can turn onto either Seven Pines Road or Hardhack Road to get to Beede Road. Parking is available at the Town Forest parking lot across Beede Road and just south of the town maintenance yard. There is also room for one car to park at the trailhead. This property consists of 105 acres purchased with LCIP funds from the Pilote family in 1991. They retained a small section of land on which their summer home is located.

The Trail: The trail begins next to the small creek which crosses under Beede Road. The trail initially parallels the creek heading west until it reaches the property boundary (near a stone wall). From there it zigzags to the north up the hill and cuts across to where it intersects the old farm road that traverses from Beede Road towards Mt. Prospect. The forest stand on this section of the trail passes through some pretty good-sized white pines. When you reach the old farm road, take a left hand turn to follow the road. Please do not turn right, as that will take you into the Pilote family's private property. From this point on the trail is the old farm road. It passes through a variety of different stands of trees, mostly deciduous, but some conifers as well. Some old stonewalls intersect or run near the road. These walls enclosed open pasture lands when they were first constructed.

On the far side of the creek you will intersect a logging road. Proceed left on the road. Turning right will take you to a logging yard that was used a decade ago, when the adjacent property above the Pilote Property was logged. Follow the road until it intersects with the Old Town Farm road. Follow the Old Town Farm Road and you will reach Beede Road. Take a left on the road and you will soon be back to the trailhead. The total distance is roughly four miles

Town Forest

This property consists of 45 acres and is located just north of the Pilote Forest on Beede Road. There is a small parking lot on the south side of the road. Just to the west of the Town maintenance sheds the property was designated a town forest by a vote of the town in 1972. Part of the property was once mined for gravel and some old building debris is still evident.

The Trail:

The trail starts at the left corner of the parking lot and curves around to the right almost to the adjacent property line. The trail runs parallel to the property line and then curves to the left. It finally intersects an old farm road (the same one that is on the Pilote Forest property). Turn right on the road and follow it to the bottom of the hill where there are a couple of creeks which represent the back property line of the forest. You will need to return on the same path. Although the forest has been cut many times since settlement,

there are some good-sized trees adjacent to the trail. The distance down and back is roughly about two miles.

The Pemigewasset Park

This property was purchased in 1991. It is roughly 2.5 acres in size and is located off Route 175A near the DiCenzo Memorial Bridge. Just before the Bridge over the Pemi turn on to South River Street and follow it to the end. There are a couple of parking spots on the right at the end of the road. There is lots of poison ivy on the property, so be careful where you walk and what you touch. You may notice some small aluminum circles nailed to some of the trees. These trees were used for ecological studies and have had cores taken to determine their ages.

The Trail:

The trail heads south on the east edge of an arroyo. As the walls of the arroyo become less steep, the trail passes to the river over towards the riverbank. It then follows the riverbank south and ends up at a broad beach on the Pemigewasset River. You can either retrace your route back, or to make a loop by returning by the road which leads to the gas stations. Turn left to return to Route 175A and your car. The distance in the park is less than 1/2 mile. To the beach is about a mile and the loop is less than three miles.

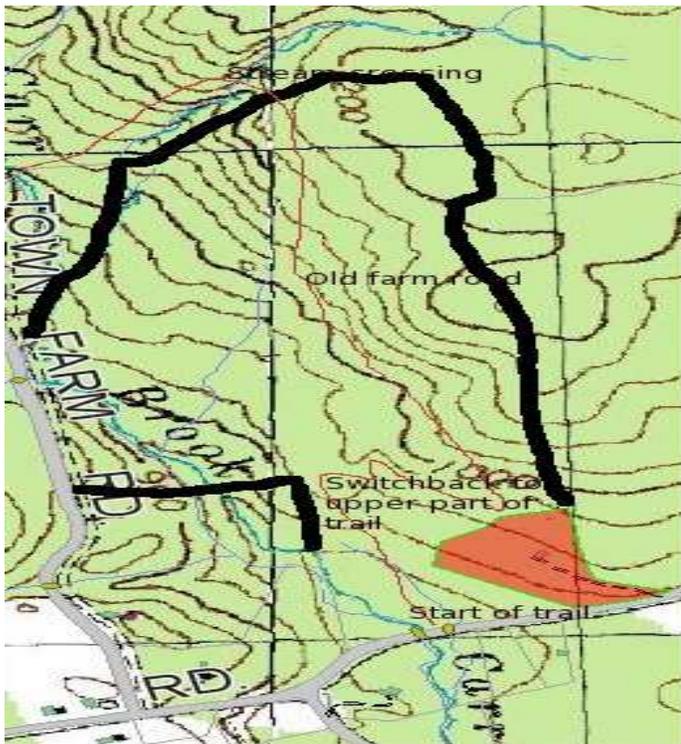


Figure 1. The Pilote Forest

