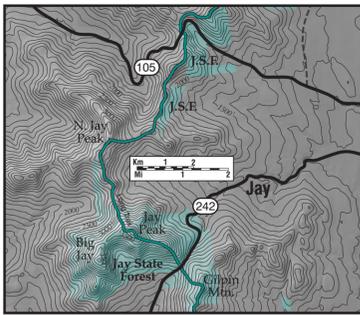


## D - Jay Peak



Long Trail - The trailhead and parking area for Jay Peak is located on VT Rte. 242 at the height of land in Jay Pass. From here, the Long Trail climbs north to the open summit of Jay Peak (elev. 3858') and beyond to the Canadian border. Follow the Long Trail north past a spur trail to Jay Camp, an overnight shelter for thru-hikers, and continue upwards through the changing forest to a ski trail intersection. Crossing the snowmaking pipeline and proceeding directly opposite the intersection, the Long Trail briefly reenters the now stunted forest and soon climbs onto the open and rocky summit of Jay Peak. NOTE: In inclement weather, the summit of Jay Peak can be dangerous due to its open exposure. To avoid the open summit, follow the ski trail to the left and circle around to the Tramway Station below the summit rock.

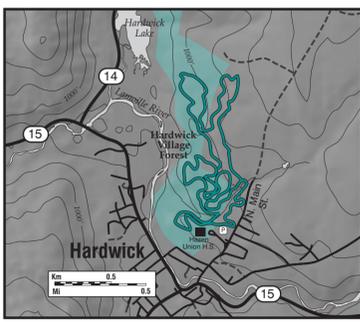
SUMMARY: Jay Pass / VT Rte 242 to Jay Peak summit, approx. 1.6 mi., 11/4 hr. (Rev. 3/4 hr.).

## I - Belvidere Mountain



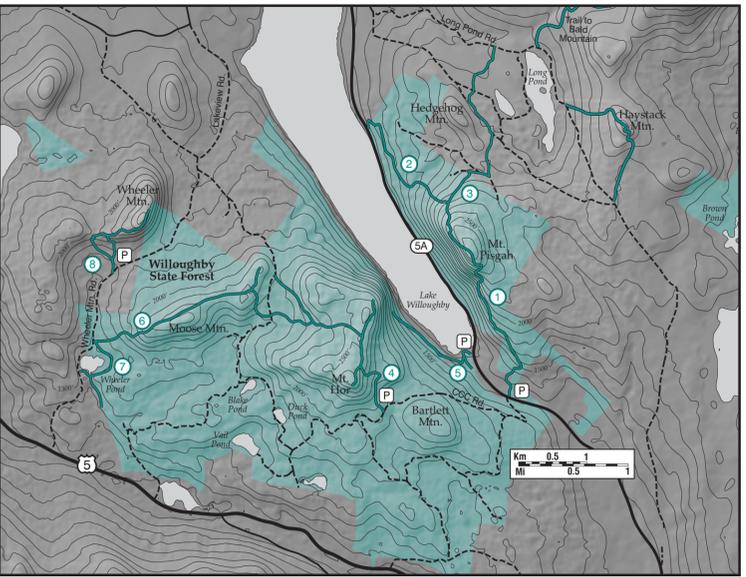
The open-deck summit fire tower on Belvidere Mountain (elev. 3360') shows one of the best views in northern Vermont. Reach the summit by several trails, most notably the Long Trail from the south. A second route north of Eden Mills, climbs from the northeast using the Frank Post Trail, the Long Trail and the Forester's Trail and makes a pleasant day hike. Frank Post-Forester's Trail Loop : From parking area, at terminus of Tiltston Rd., approx. 5.0 miles north of Eden Mills, follow Frank Post Trail north and west. After approx. 5 mile, it passes junction with Forester's Trail on left, climbs old grade, follows then crosses Lockwood Brook and reaches 1930's Buchanan-style Tiltston Camp. From there, it takes Long Trail south past Lockwood Pond (a beaver meadow) to trail junction at Belvidere saddle, short spur east to summit and fire tower on Belvidere. From junction turn northeast to Forester's Trail, around switchbacks to the junction with Frank Post Trail then back to trailhead. SUMMARY: Frank Post Trail to Tiltston Camp, approx. 2.0 mi., 13/4 hr. (Rev. 1 hr.); Tiltston Camp to Belvidere Junction, approx. 2.8 mi., 2 hrs.; Belvidere Junction to Frank Post Trail via Forester's Trail, approx. 3.0 mi., 11/2 (Rev. 21/2). Frank Post-Forester's Trail Loop, approx. 8.0 mi., 5.0 hrs. Consult the Green Mountain Club's Long Trail Guide for more information.

## M - Hardwick Trails



Hardwick Trails was conceived and constructed by the Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union in 2002-2005 with funding from the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation as a multi-use trail and is open for public use. This easy cross country trail explores some of Hardwick's scenic northern mixed forest and is accessed from the Hazen Union High School parking lot. Divided into two 3 mile loops abundantly blazed with either yellow (Forestry Trail that starts at the parking lot) or blue (Shepard's Trail that branches off the northeast corner of the Forestry Trail), Hardwick Trails offers a pleasant wooded walk though they are still a bit fresh and muddy in places. Keep an eye out for occasional signposts bearing select poetry!

## E- Willoughby State Forest



There are over 20 miles of hiking trails in and around Willoughby forest. Most of these trails are well suited to novice and intermediate hiker. Several other trails are located on adjacent private ownerships. These trails, blazed with white, blue or yellow paint, maintained by the Westmore Association, Northwoods Stewardship Center and the Green Mountain Club, are described in the "Day Hikers Guide to Vermont" published by the Green Mountain Club. Privately owned trails are located on Wheeler, Bald, Haystack and McSherry mountains. Mount Pisgah Trails Elevation 2751 feet. There are two overlooks near the summit: one offers a near view of the Passumpsic Valley and a distant view of the southern White Mountains, the other a near view of Bald Mountain and the northern White Mountains. From the overlooks north of the summit, there are partial views of the Green Mountains and Lake Memphremagog, with Willoughby Lake directly beneath. 1. South Trail Climb 530 feet, hike 1.0 mi. to Pulpit Rock. Climb 1480 feet, hike 1.9 mi. To summit and North Trail. From south end of lake, go 0.6 mi. South on Route 5A to start of trail on left (east). 2. North Trail Climb 1530 feet. Hike 2.2 mi. from Millbrook store, go 1.3 mi. south on Route 5A to start of trail on left (east). 3. East Trail Climb 900 feet. Hike 2.2 mi. (including private road). From Millbrook store go east (uphill) 1.8 mi. on Long Pond Road #31. Turn right on private logging road and park at gate. Hike 1.2 mi. on private road and turn right on branch road. 4. Herbert Hawkes Trail Climb 600+ feet. Hike 0.7+ mi. from beach at south end of lake, go south 0.6 mi. Turn right through parking area and go uphill 1.8 mi. to start of trail on right. On ridge (0.7 mi.), trail to left climbs 150 feet in 0.2 mi. and reaches summit, while branch trail on right leads to the two lake overlooks at 0.5 and 0.6 mi. 5. South Shore Trail Climb 200 feet. Hike 1.0 mi. To the base of Mt. Hor cliffs. From beach at south end of Willoughby Lake, go south on highway (200 feet) to entrance of parking area on right (west). Pass through area along old road for 600 feet to start of easy trail marked with blue paint. 6. Moose Mountain Trail Total climb 1800 feet. Hike 5.0 mi. From Wheeler Pond fishing access travel north 0.3 mi. on Wheeler Pond Road to a parking area and start of trail on right (east). A scenic vista, located 5 mile up the trail, overlooks Wheeler Pond and is a nice short hike. From the overlooks there are partial views of the northern range of the Green Mountains, Lake Willoughby and Burke Mountain. 7. Wheeler Pond Trail This 1 1/2 mile trail starts at the Moose Mountain trailhead and goes around the south end of Wheeler Pond, to the two camps, owned and operated by the Green Mountain Club, located on the west side of Wheeler Pond. 8. Wheeler Mountain Trail Trailhead is located on the left 1.9 miles on the Wheeler Mountain Road, which 8.3 miles north of VT 5A. The white-blazed trail soon diverges with a more difficult red-blazed route splitting to the right, then rejoining the main trail 0.3 miles from the junction. The main trail offers several scenic opportunities from open rock areas before descending to the end of the trail and Eagle Cliff, with an especially grand view of Lake Willoughby. Parking area to Eagle Cliff 1.3 miles.



Photo: Brian Alan Chamber of Commerce

Mount Pisgah Trails

Elevation 2751 feet. There are two overlooks near the summit: one offers a near view of the Passumpsic Valley and a distant view of the southern White Mountains, the other a near view of Bald Mountain and the northern White Mountains. From the overlooks north of the summit, there are partial views of the Green Mountains and Lake Memphremagog, with Willoughby Lake directly beneath.

- 1. South Trail Climb 530 feet, hike 1.0 mi. to Pulpit Rock. Climb 1480 feet, hike 1.9 mi. To summit and North Trail. From south end of lake, go 0.6 mi. South on Route 5A to start of trail on left (east). 2. North Trail Climb 1530 feet. Hike 2.2 mi. from Millbrook store, go 1.3 mi. south on Route 5A to start of trail on left (east). 3. East Trail Climb 900 feet. Hike 2.2 mi. (including private road). From Millbrook store go east (uphill) 1.8 mi. on Long Pond Road #31. Turn right on private logging road and park at gate. Hike 1.2 mi. on private road and turn right on branch road. 4. Herbert Hawkes Trail Climb 600+ feet. Hike 0.7+ mi. from beach at south end of lake, go south 0.6 mi. Turn right through parking area and go uphill 1.8 mi. to start of trail on right. On ridge (0.7 mi.), trail to left climbs 150 feet in 0.2 mi. and reaches summit, while branch trail on right leads to the two lake overlooks at 0.5 and 0.6 mi. 5. South Shore Trail Climb 200 feet. Hike 1.0 mi. To the base of Mt. Hor cliffs. From beach at south end of Willoughby Lake, go south on highway (200 feet) to entrance of parking area on right (west). Pass through area along old road for 600 feet to start of easy trail marked with blue paint. 6. Moose Mountain Trail Total climb 1800 feet. Hike 5.0 mi. From Wheeler Pond fishing access travel north 0.3 mi. on Wheeler Pond Road to a parking area and start of trail on right (east). A scenic vista, located 5 mile up the trail, overlooks Wheeler Pond and is a nice short hike. From the overlooks there are partial views of the northern range of the Green Mountains, Lake Willoughby and Burke Mountain. 7. Wheeler Pond Trail This 1 1/2 mile trail starts at the Moose Mountain trailhead and goes around the south end of Wheeler Pond, to the two camps, owned and operated by the Green Mountain Club, located on the west side of Wheeler Pond. 8. Wheeler Mountain Trail Trailhead is located on the left 1.9 miles on the Wheeler Mountain Road, which 8.3 miles north of VT 5A. The white-blazed trail soon diverges with a more difficult red-blazed route splitting to the right, then rejoining the main trail 0.3 miles from the junction. The main trail offers several scenic opportunities from open rock areas before descending to the end of the trail and Eagle Cliff, with an especially grand view of Lake Willoughby. Parking area to Eagle Cliff 1.3 miles.

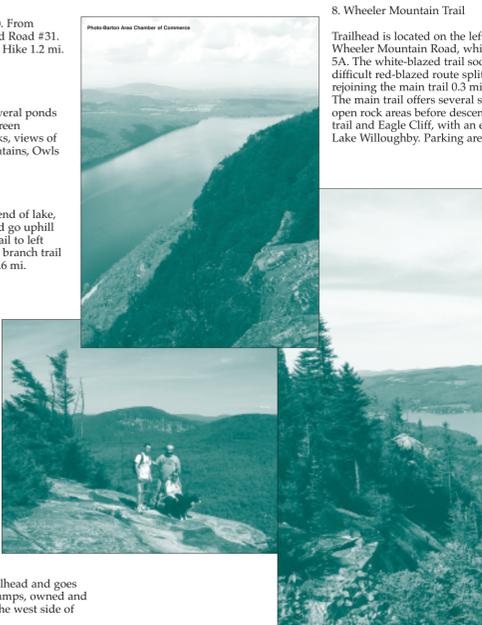


Photo: Brian Alan Chamber of Commerce

## F - Bluff Mountain



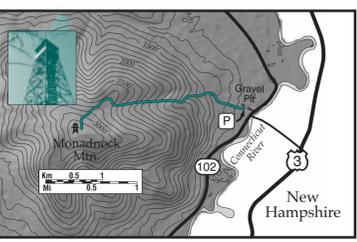
The Bluff Mountain Community Trail climbs to the lower summit and lookout on Bluff and has existed for many years. The blue-blazed trail, built and maintained by the Northeast Kingdom Conservation Service Corps, begins on the north side of Mountain Street in Island Pond, approximately 1/2 mile beyond the end of the pavement to a formal trail-head and parking area. From parking area, trail climbs north and west before descending to junction with now abandoned old trail, turns north, passing stream crossing and lower junction of historic Lookout Trail (1.0 mi.). To south and east are views of Nulhegan Basin and surrounding hills. It continues to summit ridge where it reaches short summit spur trail on right and historic Lookout Trail directly ahead (1.7 m.).

SUMMARY: Mountain St. to summit, 1.7 mi.; 1080 ft. ascent; 1 1/4 hr. (Rev. 3/4 hr.)

Lookout Trail: The yellow-blazed lookout trail is last remaining portion of original Bluff Mountain Trail. From cliff lookouts near summit are views visible to south and west. CAUTION: Lookout Trail is steep and rocky in some places and may not be suitable for some hikers! Recommended route follows Bluff Trail to Lookout Junction, then up Lookout Trail and back via the summit.

SUMMARY: Bluff Mountain Trail jct. to lookout, 0.4 mi.; 660 ft. ascent; 1/2 hr. (Rev. 20 min.). Lookout to summit, 0.1 mi.; 100 ft. ascent; 10 min. (Rev. 5 min.).

## J- Monadnock Mountain

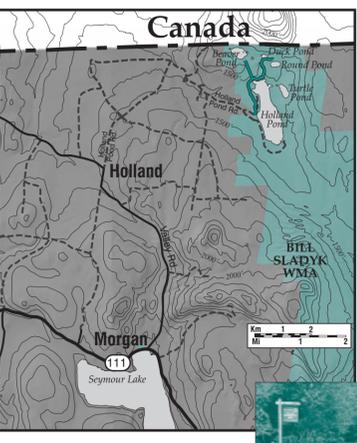


In the Town of Lemington (USGS Monadnock), Monadnock Mountain (3148') rises steeply above the Connecticut River and provides a unique view of the North Country from its summit fire tower. The yellow-blazed trail begins at the back of large gravel pit parking area a short distance north of the Lemington-Colebrook Bridge.

The rugged trail begins moderately through a small meadow and continues into a young forest following a scenic brook and rocky ledge. Then it climbs steeply, crosses the brook and reaches a recent logging road which it follows then crosses back over the brook on a long log bridge. From here, the trail begins its persistent climb upward over rocky footing, passing through a mixed forest where signs of the 1998 Ice Storm are evident. After climbing for some time, the trail turns north, levels out and then climbs again, winding its way through the spruce-fir forest to the summit. All that remain of the burned fire warden's cabin are the chimney and foundation but the fire tower is functional and provides excellent views of the Connecticut River Valley and northern Vermont and New Hampshire.

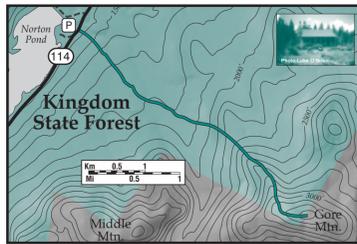
SUMMARY: Road to summit, 2.5 mi.; 2148 ft. ascent; 2 1/2 hr. (Rev. 1 1/4 hr.).

## O - Bill Sladyk Wildlife Management Area



The Bill Sladyk Wildlife Management Area straddles the northern edge of Orleans and Essex Counties along the US-Canadian border. Hikers are forewarned that the these trails are not marked and the WMA is filled with old woods roads and snowmobile trails so great care must be used to remain on the somewhat more visible hiking trail. On the plus side, these trails do not see as much traffic as some of the others in this guide and there are good opportunities for wildlife sightings. Please note this has not been designated as a hiking

## G - Gore Mountain



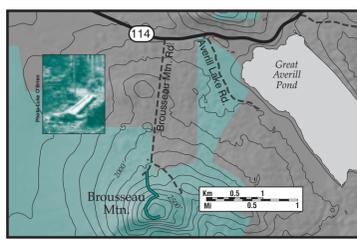
In the unorganized town of Avery's Gore (USGS Norton Pond), Gore Mountain (3322') forms the northern boundary of the Nulhegan River Basin. The white-blazed Gore Mountain Trail, built and maintained by the Northeast Kingdom Conservation Service Corps, follows the original fire warden's trail, though the fire tower no longer remains on the summit.

Trailhead is off Vermont Route 114, Norton, near north end of Norton Pond across from a pulloff between Lake Station Road and DeVost Road. Trail enters woods through small opening east side of road, follows a brook, levels off, crosses some poorly drained areas, some beaver meadows, and abandoned beaver pond (1.0 mi.). It travels eastward before reaching signed junction, turning to the left. After cresting small knoll, trail descends, follows and crosses a brook, emerges on edge of big logged area. Trail passes through and skirts logged area, winds through small hardwood stands before climbing to crest of a second knoll then to edge of large timber company road (2.0 m.). Marked trail continues on opposite side of clearing.

It crosses logging road, climbs to junction with short lookout spur trail, local views to the west. From there, trail continues to second road crossing, climbs to northwest ridge of mountain then through open hardwoods and higher elevation spruce-fir forests of summit. Continuing steeply over granite bedrock to mountain shoulder, it enters summit forest, turns eastward winding its way to summit clearing (3.8 mi.) with limited views of the Nulhegan Basin to south.

SUMMARY: Road to summit, 3.8 mi.; 1972 ft. ascent; 3 1/2 hr. (Rev. 2 hr.).

## K- Brousseau Mountain

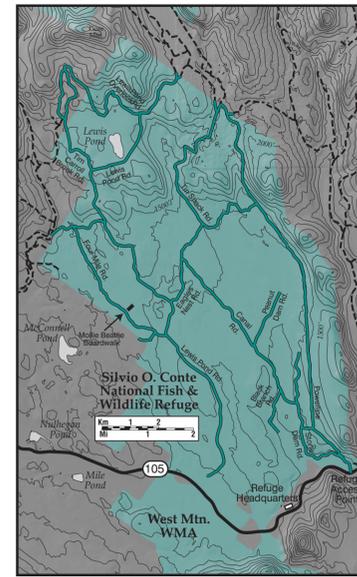


Situated just south of the Canadian Border in the town of Norton (USGS Averill), Brousseau Mountain (2723') is a rugged little peak. A short but scenic trail provides a pleasant hike to the summit where spectacular views can be had from the top of the mountain's extensive southern cliff complex. ATTENTION: Brousseau Mountain is one of the few nesting sites of the endangered Peregrine Falcon in northern Vermont. In order to avoid the spring-summer incubation and nesting period when the birds and their young are most sensitive hiking is prohibited before August 1st. Please help peregrine restoration in Vermont and respect these rare and special birds.

The Brousseau Mountain Trail is located off of Vermont Route 144 just beyond the gated terminus of the Brousseau Mountain Road in Norton. As parking is limited please pull off the road completely without blocking the gate or camp access. From the gate continue straight up the access road where, shortly, the signed trailhead appears on the left. The trail begins moderately, passing through an old field before entering a recently cut mixed forest. After crossing an open logging road, it enters a mature softwood forest and continues for some time, winding over granite bedrock to the forested summit. The cliff lookouts a short distance further, provides extensive mountain views to the south and east.

SUMMARY: Road to summit, approx. 1.2 mi.; 623 ft. ascent; 1 hr. (Rev. 40 min.).

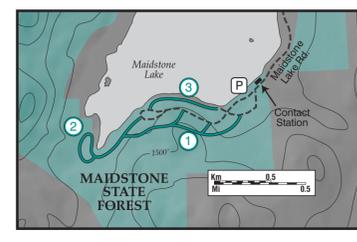
## H - Silvio O. Conte National Fish & Wildlife Refuge



The Nulhegan Basin Division, part of the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, was established to protect the diversity and abundance of native species within the 7.2 million-acre Connecticut River watershed. The Nulhegan Basin, a portion of which lies within the 26,300-acre Nulhegan Refuge, can be accessed via a network of gravel roads that were built to facilitate timber harvesting in the former Champion International Corporation (Champion) lands. Car and truck access will be allowed on the major gravel roads except during snowmobile season and mud season. A maximum speed limit of 25 mph for vehicles and 35 mph for snowmobiles is in effect on Nulhegan Basin Division, consistent with the speed limit on the other former Champion lands and other state lands. ATV's, horses, bicycles and camping were not allowed on the former Champion lands, and this policy will be continued.

Wildlife populations and key habitats on Nulhegan Basin Division are generally dispersed. Many visitors with limited time or no back roads driving experience may prefer to simply view the landscape, a panoramic view of the basin which is available from Nulhegan Basin Division's future headquarters/visitor contact station on Route 105 in Brunswick. Information to orient visitors may be found at the headquarters and also on kiosks at major entrances. Wildlife observation in a non-disruptive way is encouraged and the 200-foot boardwalk trail with interpretive signs at Mollie Beattie Bog in particular was created for this purpose. The most popular types of wildlife to be seen here are spring warblers, boreal birds (e.g. gray jay or BB woodpecker) and moose. Nulhegan Refuge and Wenlock WMA support the only viable breeding population of spruce grouse in Vermont.

## L - Maidstone State Forest



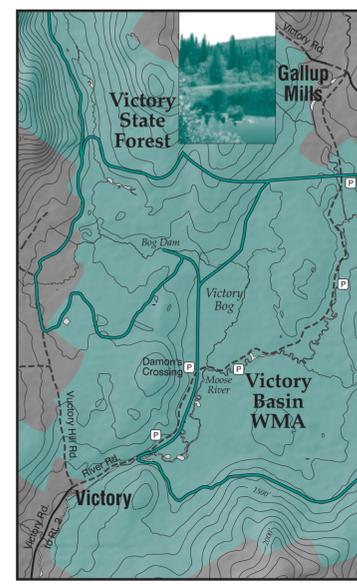
This trail goes along the shoreline to the south end of the lake, a good spot to see loons. Begins between campsites 33 and 35 in campground B. Enters woods rd quickly turns left, uphill. Soon turns right and levels off for a short distance before heading steeply downhill to lakeshore. Trail follows shoreline to the end of the lake, then splits into a loop trail through lush, mossy woods. Return to the road by the same path and end at the starting point.

This walk leads through cedar and hemlock woods and offers a good view of the lake. Trail hugs the shoreline from the camper's beach in area A to the bathroom in area B.

Maidstone State Forest has three main trails which run through lush woods and along the lakeshore. All travel through smooth terrain and take less than an hour to walk. All trails are marked with light blue blazes. A detailed brochure is available from rangers at Maidstone State Park contact station - is located at the end of the unpaved Maidstone Lake Road, a left off of Route 102 about 5 miles south of Bloomfield.

1. Moose Trail (3/4 mile) An excellent walk to look for evidence of moose and other wildlife. Leaves from the right side of the road near sites 22/23 in campground area A. Travels through spruce-fir forest. Trail crosses two streambeds and takes a sharp left uphill. Trail passes an old logging area and winds uphill through thick woods to a hilltop. Note: bullers left by glaciers. Trail winds downhill and comes to a T. The right fork leads to the main road. The left fork comes to a logging road. Turn left on the logging road and pick up the trail again in a few yards to the right. Trail continues to campground B to end between lean-to Juniper and Boxelder.

## P - Victory State Forest & Victory Basin WMA



Victory Basin is a spectacular lowland natural area with a large diversity of plant and animal species. Covering some 28,000 acres of land, Victory Basin Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and Victory State Forest provide excellent habitat for a large number of game and non-game species. Common mammals such as bear, moose, beaver and muskrat use the many ponds and wetlands that drain into the Moose River with other species such as fisher, mink, snowshoe hare and coyote cohabiting the area. The Victory Basin is also an excellent location for birding, with opportunities to view common species such as grouse or woodcock and less common northern species including grey jays, black-backed woodpeckers and boreal chickadees. The dense softwoods provide a critical wintering area for the white-tailed deer.

Victory Basin has an extensive logging history that reached its peak in the late-1800's leaving roads and trails found there today, the remnants of this logging past. Old cellar holes and abandoned homesteads can be found throughout the basin, some near the old roads. Of special interest is the abandoned Victory Branch Railroad corridor, a flat, level grade that follows the western border of the basin.

In addition to the short hikes listed below, several expansive loops can be made following the Victory logging road network. Consult a map and plan accordingly.

Victory Railroad Trail South: From the Damon's Crossing parking area north the Railroad Trail follows Boy Brook and passes wetlands, beaver ponds, and softwood stands before reaching a junction with Bog Pond Trail. For many visitors it is easiest to turn around and return to the parking area. The more ambitious hiker can turn left and follow the western spur trail to Bog Pond or continue on Railroad Trail where it eventually intersects the Portland Pipeline cut and forms a large loop back to River Road. The Bog Pond spur leads to a old dam and mill site at Bog Pond and makes a nice destination hike.

SUMMARY: Damon's Crossing parking area south to snowmobile bridge, approx. 3/4 mi.; 1/2 - 3/4 hr. (loop - 11/2 hr.)

Victory Railroad Trail North: From the Damon's Crossing parking area north the Railroad Trail follows Boy Brook and passes wetlands, beaver ponds, and softwood stands before reaching a junction with Bog Pond Trail. For many visitors it is easiest to turn around and return to the parking area. The more ambitious hiker can turn left and follow the western spur trail to Bog Pond or continue on Railroad Trail where it eventually intersects the Portland Pipeline cut and forms a large loop back to River Road. The Bog Pond spur leads to a old dam and mill site at Bog Pond and makes a nice destination hike. SUMMARY: Damon's Crossing parking area north to Bog Pond junction, approx. 3/4 mi.; 1/2 - 3/4 hr. Bog Pond Junction to Bog Pond, approx. 1/2 mi. Bog Pond Junction to Portland Pipeline, approx. 1.5 mi.