Lakes Region Conservation Trust

The Lakes Region Conservation Trust was founded in 1979 to conserve the natural heritage of New Hampshire's Lakes Region. Our conservation and stewardship work preserves community character, conserves critical wildlife habitat and diverse ecosystems, protects natural landmarks and scenic landscapes, and provides outdoor recreation opportunities for people of all ages.

Together with our dedicated community of supporters, we have conserved more than 150 properties totaling over 27,000 acres. These conserved lands encompass many of the special places that define this unique and spectacular part of New England, affording everyone abundant opportunities to explore and connect with the natural world and establishing a legacy of conservation for future generations.

Become a Member Today!



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RED HILL TRAIL MAP

Lakes Region Conservation Trust



RED HILL CONSERVATION AREA Moultonborough, New Hampshire





RED HILL CONSERVATION AREA

Conserved Property of the Lakes Region Conservation Trust

Welcome to the slopes and summits of Red Hill, famous since the 19th century for panoramic views of Winnipesaukee, Squam, and the White Mountains and today one of the major conservation landmarks and most popular family hikes in New Hampshire's Lakes Region. LRCT owns and stewards more than 2,650 acres of land here and is proud to have joined with the Squam Lakes Association, the Squam Lakes Conservation Society, the Lake Kanasatka Association, the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, faculty and students of Moultonborough schools, local scouts, and the Moultonborough Snowmobile Club, as well as many other local volunteers, to conserve and steward this area for thoughtful public access, wildlife habitat, and preservation of the natural and scenic heritage of the Lakes Region.

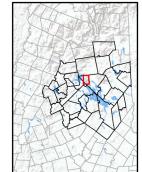
History: Tradition holds that Native Americans traversed and hunted on Red Hill's slopes and summits; historical records show that the Cook family of Massachusetts first settled here in 1788. Under their stewardship, the land was farmed and pastured, and they welcomed visitors who climbed the summit to enjoy one of the most beautiful views in New England. Timothy Dwight, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Herman Melville, and Henry David Thoreau were among the many who visited the mountain and praised its view.

In their time, the Dane, Hammond, Conley, Merriman, Wiggin, and Linglebach families, and the Trustees of Mt. Holyoke College, have taken care of these lands and assured their protection. Thousands of youngsters have learned to love the mountains and forests of New Hampshire here, and thousands of families return every year for the physical and spiritual renewal that these lands provide. This property has been conserved to ensure that this tradition will continue for future generations.

Summit Viewshed: From the Red Hill summit, across Lake Winnipesaukee, Mt. Major and the Belknap Mtns. are visible to the south. Continuing clockwise around the points of the compass, Mt. Kearsarge in Warner is visible to the southwest, then, to the west and northwest across Squam Lake, are Mt. Cardigan in Orange, Smarts Mtn. in Lyme, and Stinson Mtn. in Rumney, Mt. Moosilauke in Benton, and the Kinsmans in Lincoln, with the Squam Range and the Rattlesnakes in the foreground just north of Squam. To the north in the foreground is Sandwich Notch and Dinsmore Mtn., where the summit and 250 acres were protected by LRCT in 2004, with Sandwich Dome behind, then Mt. Israel, Mt. Carrigain in the distance, Tripyramid, Whiteface, Passaconaway, Wonalancet, and Paugus. Continuing on in the distance to the northeast are the Moat Mtns. near Conway, and, nearer, the familiar peak of Mt. Chocorua. To the northeast, in the distance, is Pleasant Mtn. in Maine, and then to the east are the northern and western slopes of the Ossipee Mtns., where LRCT has protected 8,932 acres of land since 1998. Finally, to the southeast, is Copple Crown, where the summit and 732 acres of land were protected by

of land were protecte LRCT in 1995.

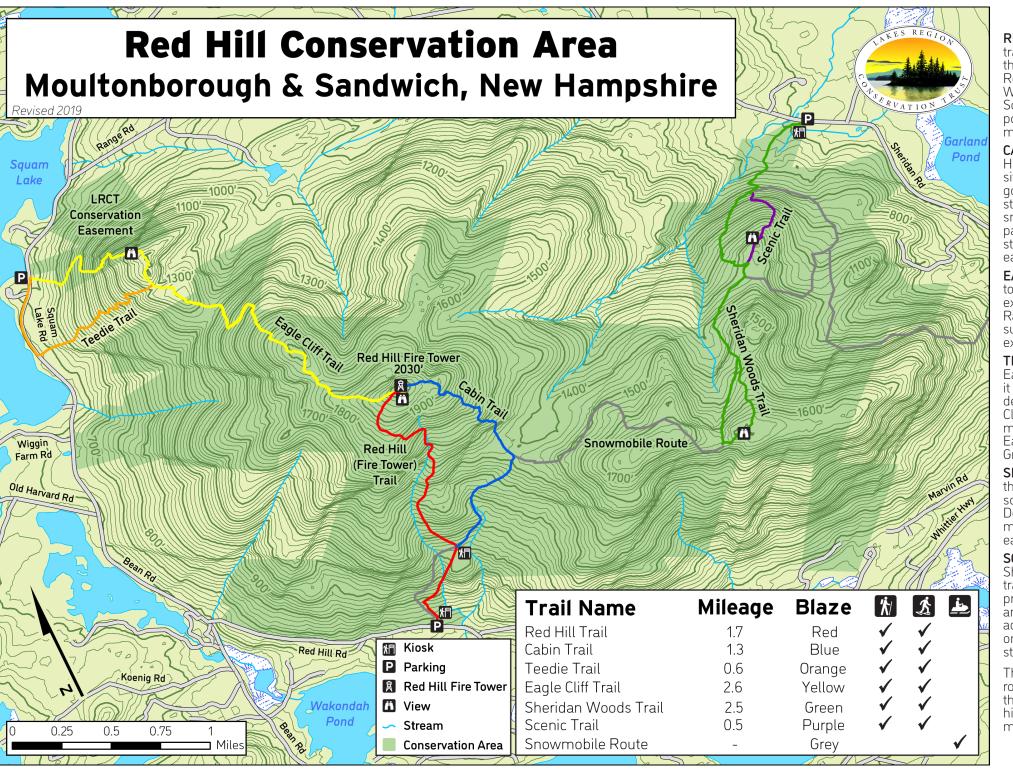
Our thanks go to the donors and stewardship volunteers whose tremendous generosity and dedication have made possible the preservation and continuing stewardship of this regional landmark.



Directions:

Red Hill Rd. Trailhead: From traffic lights on NH Route 25 in Center Harbor, turn north onto Bean Rd. toward Center Sandwich. After 1.5 miles, turn right onto Sibley Rd. (see Red Hill Forest Fire Lookout sign at turn). Travel 1.2 miles, bearing left onto Red Hill Rd., to trailhead parking on right.

Sheridan Rd. Trailhead: From intersection of Route 25 and Sheridan Rd. in Moultonborough (located 3.7 miles east of Center Harbor traffic lights and 1.7 miles west of junction of Routes 25 and 109 in Moultonborough), turn north onto Sheridan Rd. Continue on Sheridan Rd. for 1.5 miles to trailhead on left.



TRAILS

RED HILL (FIRE TOWER) TRAIL – The main trail to the fire tower on the summit of Red Hill, this trail begins at the trailhead on Red Hill Road. The summit provides grand views of Lake Winnipesaukee, Squam Lake, and the Ossipees, Squam and Sandwich Ranges, and many other points to the north, east, south, and west. Grade: moderate.

CABIN TRAIL – The trail branches off the Red Hill Trail at the Horne cellar hole/second kiosk site, about 0.5 mi from the trailhead; instead of going left on the Red Hill Trail at that point, go straight ahead; after 0.2 mi at a junction with a snowmobile trail, go left; in 0.5 mi more, after passing an old field, the trail reaches a nicely built, still fairly well-preserved hunter's cabin. Grade: easy.

EAGLE CLIFF TRAIL – This trail provides a route to the Red Hill fire tower via Eagle Cliff; it provides excellent views of Squam Lake and the Squam Range from Eagle Cliff and grand views at the summit (noted above). Grade: easy to moderate, except at the cliff, where it's steep.

TEEDIE TRAIL – This short trail runs from the Eagle Cliff Trail to Bean Rd./Squam Lake Rd.; it can be used to avoid a potentially dangerous descent of the cliff when coming down the Eagle Cliff Trail in wet weather and can also be used to make a loop with the westernmost part of the Eagle Cliff Trail and Bean Rd./Squam Lake Rd.. Grade: easy.

SHERIDAN WOODS TRAIL – This trial runs from the trailheads on Sheridan Rd to high ground on southeastern Red Hill, with views of Sandwich Dome and Mt Israel at the highest point. Grade: moderate, though most elevation is gained fairly early on.

SCENIC TRAIL – This trail branches off the Sheridan Woods Trail about 0.5 mi above the trailhead and rejoins that trail in about 0.5 mi; it provides an alternate route for part of the climb and from two outlooks affords fine views, one across Garland Pond to the Ossipee Range and one to the Sandwich Range. Grade: moderate to steep.

The trails colored grey on the map are old logging roads now used as snowmobile trails. Although they are sometimes used in summer for extended hikes, they are not maintained as hiking trails and may be somewhat rough in some places.