Welcome to Stoddard Rocks-Pioneer Lake

Linking Trails

Welcome to Stoddard Rocks-Pioneer Lake Reservation

In 2012, the 750-acre-foot land was donated to the towns of Stoddard by Swett Water Trust. Other threatened, by development and pending unrest, Stoddard Rocks and the surrounding lands are now open to the public for hiking, equestrian, cross-country skiing, and wildlife observation. In 2010, a "Forever Wild" conservation easement was placed on this property and granted to the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. Woodland areas do not have to be pristine even occupied by man, they can be "wild".. as this area will eventually.

A "Forever Wild" designation seeks to protect the ecological integrity and the wild character of land, when human manipulation is minimal. Woodland areas are absolutely essential for the conservation of biodiversity. For example, some species in the northeast, including a number of nontypical migrant birds, amphibians, and, probably many species of invertebrates and fungi that are narrowly understood, thrive in mature or old-growth forests that contain complex intact local conditions such as a variety of sites and steepness zones, an abundance of standing and fallen woody debris, and microclimate refugia for seasonal and species-specific thermal and moisture fluctuations.

History

If you're at one of its many turnoffs, Charlie's pond is an easy 4 miles round trip. The largest terrestrial is a long-tailed and worth a weakened 4800 feet. When Charles Swett viewed from the 1st time, he identified their location where he made for first of the towns in 1882. Stoddard's town forest is the 300-acre section of land north of Stoddard pond, including land you are about to hike. He used the waterways in the forest help the woods be rich.

Stoddard Rocks

On a Hill, formerly known as Chapman's Hill, several huge boulders, called "glacial erratics", comprised of granite fragments, were deposited during the last ice age. The largest boulder is the sheet of granite, which is estimated 200 years. When Charles Swett looked from the top of Chapman's Hill, he identified their location where he made for first of the towns in 1882. Stoddard's town forest is the 300-acre section of land north of Stoddard pond, including land you are about to hike. He used the waterways in the forest help the woods be rich.

Stoddard-Meadow Trail

April 1906 was the first time most of the towns had the highest average temperature and lowest rainfall since 1877. On April 28th, Swett Water closed the Meadow Pond into Marlee. On the second day, the first snow over the slope, and mowed across Highland Lake at the northern end near the entrance of Pickeral Cove. On the 2nd day a harvest of Stoddard Rocks and headed up to Center Hill. Stoddard's town forest is the 300-acre section of land north of Stoddard pond, including land you are about to hike.

Evident of the fire is represented in the stands of white birch and some oaks. White pine stands scattered throughout this property.

Conservation Land, Trails, and Roads

Conservation Land

The land is open to the public for hiking, equestrian, cross-country skiing, and wildlife observation. In 2010, a "Forever Wild" conservation easement was placed on this property and granted to the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. Woodland areas do not have to be pristine even occupied by man, they can be "wild".. as this area will eventually.

Highlights of Stoddard Rocks:

- 750 acres (1180 acres of wetlands and ponds 621 acres of forest): Stoddard Rocks - a hilltop scattered with huge glacial boulders; Sharon Pioneer Lake with 2 miles of undeveloped shoreline and nesting loon habitat; 5 miles of woods, roads, trails; "Forever Wild" conservation easement held by SPNHF, the purpose of which is to preserve the ecological integrity and wild character of the land. It rettives to minimize human interaction and prohibyle hold, subdivisions, mapping, motorized vehicles, and commercial logging.

Goal of Town Ownership:

To provide a stronger link and sense of stewardship between townspeople and conservation lands.

Acknowledgements:

The residents of Stoddard are presently grateful to the present of Swett Water Protection for this land in 2016 and donating it to the town in 2021 along with a $10,000 stewardship fund.

The residents of Stoddard appreciate the collective land protection efforts of other conservation groups and land trusts, including the Society for the Protection of NH Forests (in particular for allowing this parking lot on their Pickeral Cove property). The Nature Conservancy, the Harris Center, NH Audubon & Trust for Public Land, who collectively have helped protect two-thirds of the towns of Stoddard from development.

The voting residents of the town for supporting these conservation efforts at town meeting.

This property is managed by the Stoddard Conservation Commission.

You are entering a large, wild area and are responsible for your own safety. While we strive to maintain trails for public use, we believe there is value in the lessons learned by experiencing the "wilderness and�" for the wise and foolish acts that a woodland faces on a daily basis, the like of which our modern lies have built a thousand buffers". paraphrased from Aldo Leopold (forster, wildlife biologist, conservationist, author).

To volunteer for trail work: contact the Conservation Commission.

For a map of this property or other public trails in town visit

https://sites.google.com/site/soddardconscom/

Please consider making a gift to the Stoddard Conservation Stewardship Fund.

Thank You!