



Final Report: McKeags Meadow Connector Realignment

Prepared for:

Palisades Crew / Sterling Forest Backcountry Trails Program

Sterling Forest State Park, NY-NJ Trail Conference, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation

Prepared by:

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference

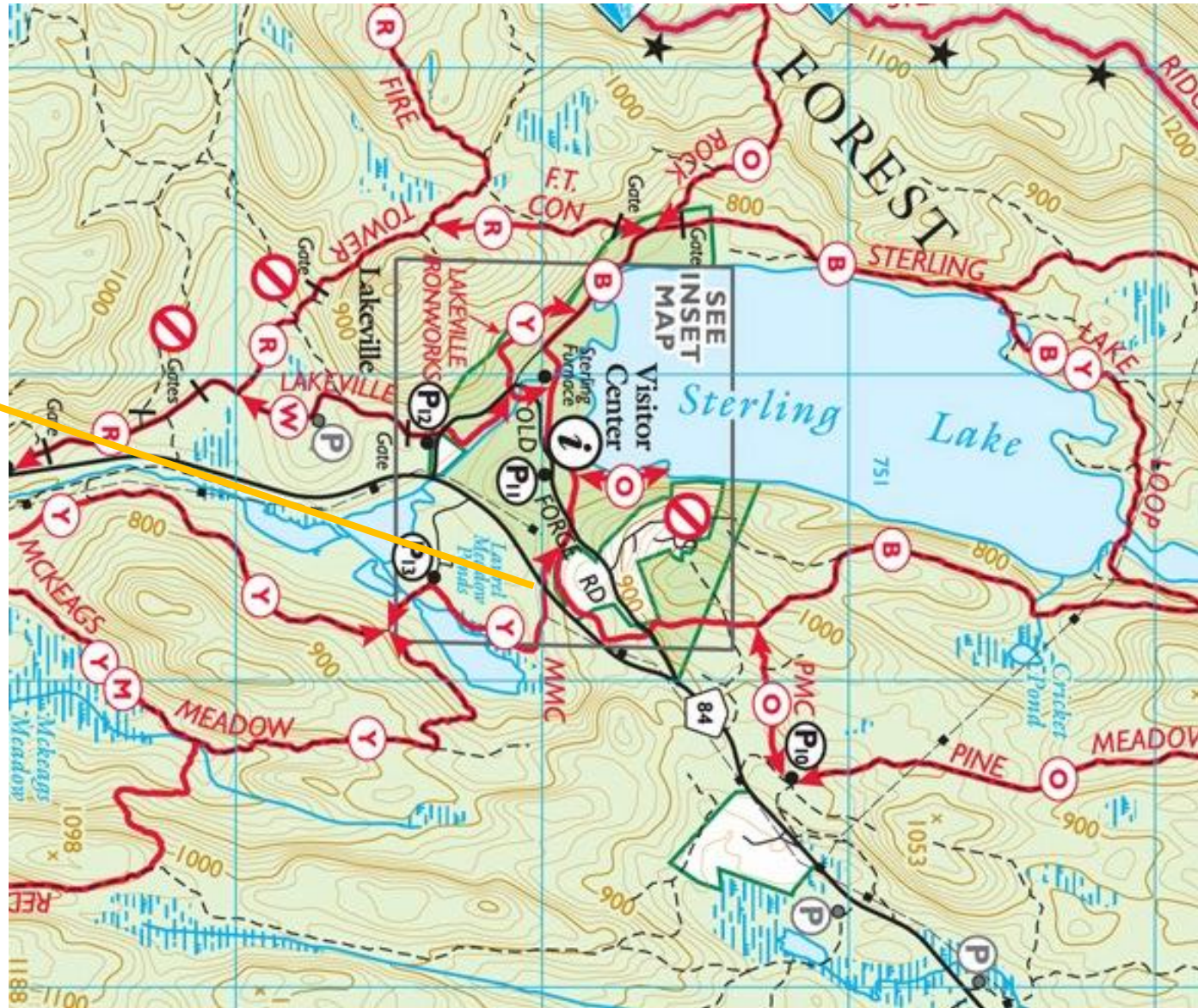
August 2014



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Location of Work Site

McKeags Meadow Connector Trail crossing on Long Meadow Road/84





Project Overview

The McKeags Meadow Connector project site had a muddy, steep, and slippery drop to Long Meadow Road (County Road 84). A rock staircase was recommended for a safer descent.

Over a period of three weeks, de-duffing exposed the bedrock onto which rock stairs were intended. Additionally, a swale at the top of the staircase was created to divert water away from the staircase.

As the project progressed, it became apparent that multiple seeps emerged from the bedrock, covering the rock face. There was concern that the seeps may cause hazardous icy conditions during winter.

Permission was sought to close the bedrock trail access point and create a safer side-hilled trail circumventing the bedrock. The rock face was then closed up and re-vegetated. A bollard emblazoned with the trail marker was repositioned to guide users to the new route connection. In addition, the trail continuation across Route 84 was realigned to directly lead users to the new side-hilled section.



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Volunteer Achievements



23 individuals volunteered a total of 156 hours



New volunteers: 20



Returning volunteers: 3 (>1 work trip)



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Construction Achievements



Bedrock exposed, drilled

3 rocks split for stairs. 6 placed as turnpike over road drainage ditch





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Construction Achievements

240 feet of former trail closed and naturalized



Before



After



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Construction Achievements

244 feet of new trail side-hill cut
to avoid original bedrock with seeps



Before



After



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Construction Achievements



Former trail
closed and
naturalized

New trail route
side-hilled



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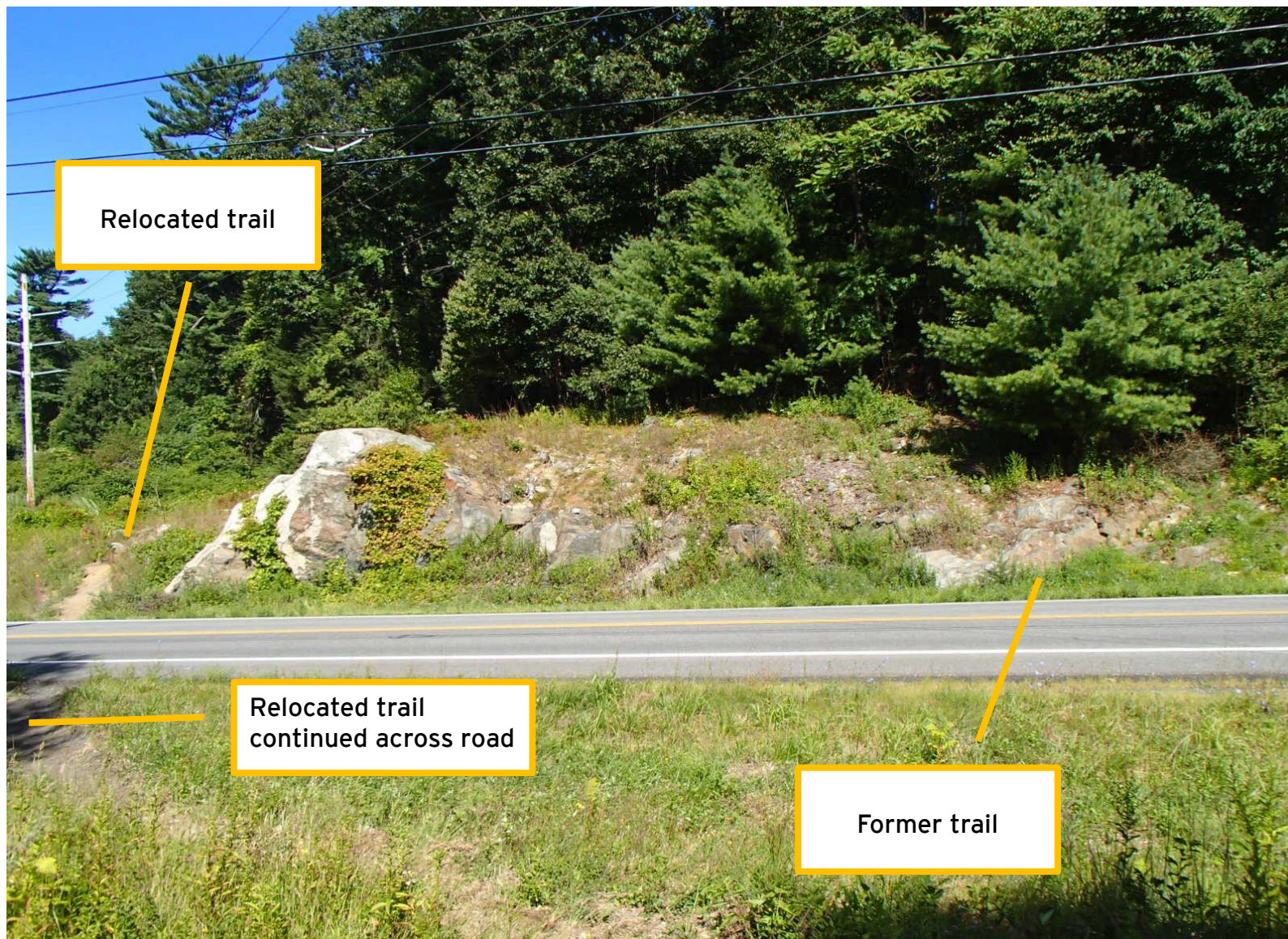






Construction Achievements

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Relocated trail

Relocated trail
continued across road

Former trail

