

Adopt a Road

Bradford Conservation Commission

Spring/Summer 2019 Report

Acknowledgements

This report update is the product of Bradford citizens' efforts to monitor the condition and usage of our Class VI roads. The surveillance and report are a function of the Bradford Conservation Commission.

Spring/Summer Update

Observations updated for Spring/Summer 2019 are noted in “red”.

Class VI Road Condition Definitions

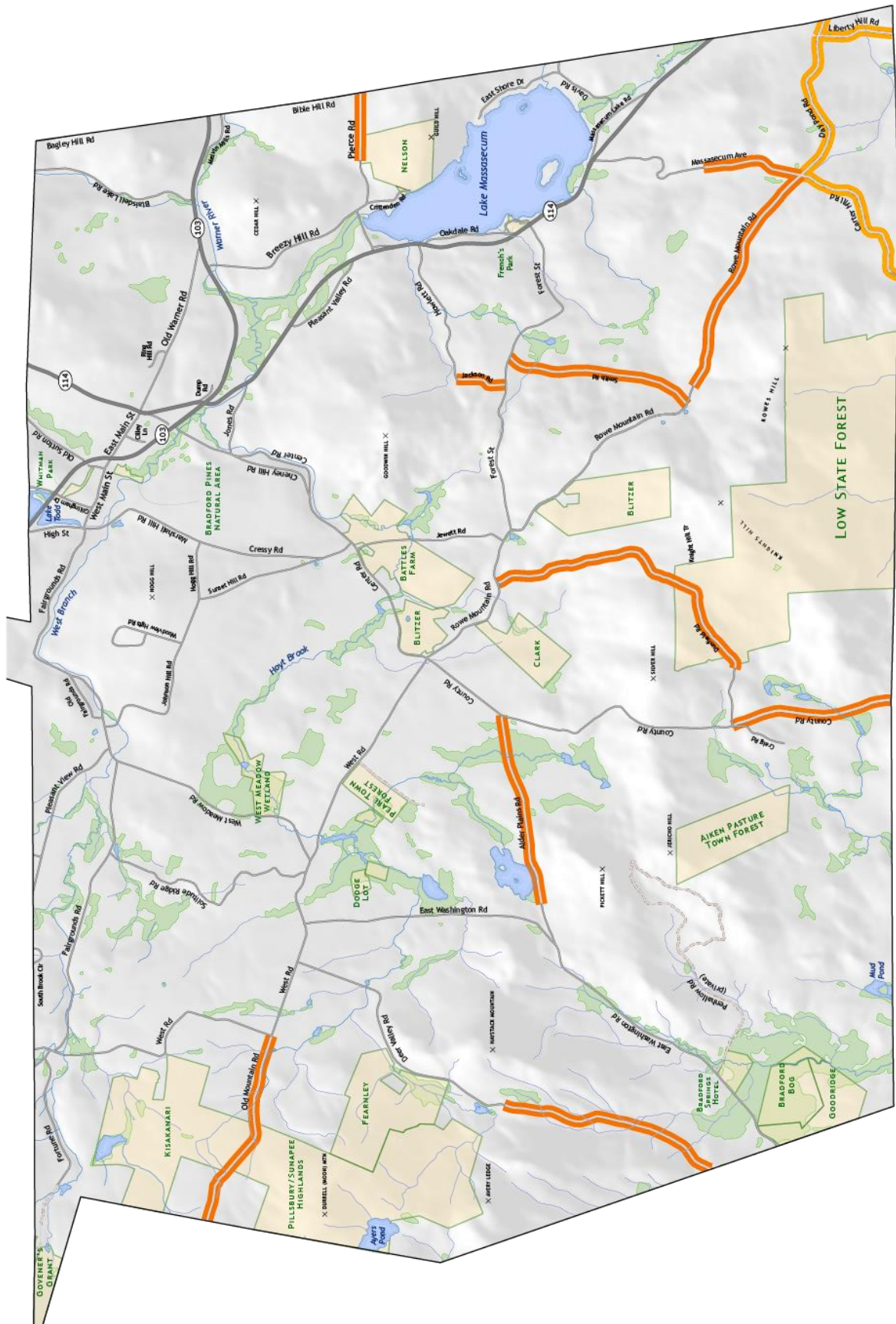
Road conditions may be classified by the volunteer road monitor based upon the following guidelines. The guidelines were developed to present realistic expectations for these gravel roads which are not maintained by the Town of Bradford.

Excellent	Suitable for all “off-road” travel
Good	Suitable for “off-road” travel, but not excellent. May have isolated rocks and mud.
Fair	Appropriate only for Jeeps/4-wheel drive with high ground clearance
Poor	Only specialized Jeeps/4-wheel drive and non-motorized travel

The Bradford Conservation Commission assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of these observations noting that a comprehensive professional assessment has not been done and road conditions change. Travelers must use their own discretion in traveling these roads and drive at their own risk.

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July 30, 2019

Alder Plains Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Seth Benowitz, George Beaton

Date of Monitoring: Sept. 14, 2018; June 4, 2019

Erosion? Y Comments: Severe erosion in areas.

Update: There has been much stone laid on the west side of Adler Plains Rd. (The west side is from E. Washington Rd to the residence.) This side of the road is passable in a vehicle.

The east side of Alder Plains Rd is severely eroded. (Far worse than it was in the spring of 2018.) There are impassable dirt/stone piles. There are very deep and extensive ruts. There are pools of water and a flowing stream running down a section of the road (see examples below).





Obstructions? Y Comments: One large 'dirt dam' blocks the road at one point. Part of the road is flooded – impassable. Many sections passable only on foot or by very high lifted 4wd truck.

The resident parks a truck in the middle of the road, obstructing other vehicles at that point (see below).



Trash/Dumping? Y Comments: Litter strewn throughout. A few huge trash piles and junk pile. **Update: There are also several enormous, unsightly junk piles (some containing food waste) along the road. Some of the junk piles are so large they encroach on the adjacent wetlands (examples below).**



Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? N Comments:

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Y Comments: Tracks and ruts from very large tires --
earth moving equip or large trucks.

Other Conditions? Comments: **Update: There appears to be an occupied camp under
development at 260 Adler Plains Road (map9, lot 15).**



There are also a number of vehicles on the property without current registration (see examples below).



Bible Hill Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Tom Dunne, Doug Southard

Date of Monitoring: Oct. 15, 2018

The Class VI section of Bible Hill Road appears to run through Warner with only the final brief (200 ft) section being in Bradford.

Starting at the beginning of the Class VI road, the following landmarks were noted.

Mile

0.0 Road maintained by Tom Dunne and is in EXCELLENT condition for a Class VI road.

0.3 Road converts to unmaintained and is in FAIR condition.

0.45 Warner/Bradford town line (approximately 800 ft from beginning of unmaintained road).

0.49 Apparent end of Class VI roadway (approximately 200 feet from town line).

Erosion? Y Comments: Mud/pot holes with some large rocks.

Obstructions? N Comments:

Trash/Dumping? N Comments:

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? N Comments:

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Y Comments: Some motorized tracks noted in the mud.

Carter Hill Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Peter Blank

Date of Monitoring: September 4, 2018; June 2019

Erosion? Yes Comments: Significant erosion from beginning to Hillsborough town line. Some sections essentially impassable except by articulated suspension. Update: Walk through in June 2019 did not reveal any significant changes.

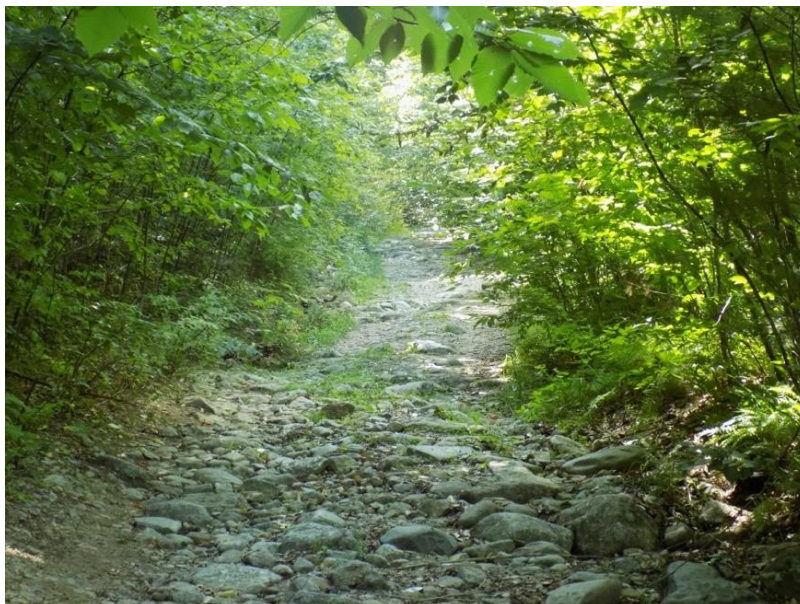
Obstructions? Yes Comments: One low lying area has roughly 6 inches to 2 feet of muddy water, perhaps 50ft by 30ft.

Trash/Dumping? Yes Comments: Very minimal trash.

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? No Comments:

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Yes Comments: Significant tire tracks, including ATV and 4x4 truck\jeep.

Other Conditions? Yes. Comments: Road primarily consists of large stones, with small sections of sand or gravel interspersed. Likely impassable by smaller ATVs.



County Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Bob Hodges and Bob Blank

Date of Monitoring: September 2018

Erosion? Y Comments: This erosion is on the last 50-75 yards to the line with Hillsborough, even down hill with ledge and rock abundant. **Update: The road is very much the same as last year. The beginning third to half mile, privately maintained, is in very good shape. While narrower than the town-maintained section preceding it, the roadbed and culverts are in great shape up to the last driveway. From that point to the town line (about 70-80 yds.), the roadway pitches down somewhat steeply and is exceedingly worn and eroded, bedrock exposed, and erosion channels down the road. I shouldn't add that for this section it's hard to imagine it getting much worse, however the privately-operated length, in great repair as it is, would suffer with increased traffic and abuse, going through an extended marshland.**

Obstructions? N

Trash/Dumping? N Comments:

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? N Comments:

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Y Comments: Several residences

Other Conditions? Y Comments: First 0.4 miles is privately, well maintained at or above town standards although somewhat single lane due to wetland (both sides).

Day Pond Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Doug Southard

Date of Monitoring: August 4, 2018; **June 14, 2019**

Starting at 4-way junction with Rowe Mountain Road, Carter Hill Road, and Massasecum Road.

Miles

0.0 Road generally in "FAIR" condition with some large rocks (8-12 inches) over the first .25 miles.

0.37 Appears to be old off-road damage near a water crossing on left.

0.96 Road enters 4-way junction with Liberty Hill Road and a private road before continuing on to Rt. 114. The last .25 miles moves from "FAIR" to "GOOD" in sections due to rip-rap placed after logging operations.

Erosion? Yes Comments: Section closest to Rowe Mountain Road has significant erosion. Rip-rap placed on Liberty Hill end makes road a bit more stable. **Update: No significant changes as of June 14, 2019.**

Obstructions? No Comments: No significant obstructions, however, erosion is so significant close to the Rowe Mountain Road junction, it could be considered an obstruction as noted above.

Trash/Dumping? No Comments: No significant dumping noted.

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? Yes Comments: One "snowmobile?" sign pointing to Henniker located at junction with Rowe Mountain Road.

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Yes Comments: Old off-road embankment damaged as noted above. No activity directly observed.

Other Conditions? Comments: Trail sign needs to be labeled "Snowmobile".



Deer Valley Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Meg Fearnley and Will Kranz

Date of Monitoring: Aug. 10, 2018; **June 8, 2019**

Erosion? Y Comments: Heavy erosion in places, water crosses road in 2-3 locations; pooling in one spot (resident frogs). **Update: Still deep erosion (often 1' ruts) on each side of road in the steep downhill section in the first 2 miles after Jim Bibbo's farm. Last year's photos show this and that for about 1/2 mile at the end of this section water is actually flowing down the road as if it were a stream bed. Inspection performed the day after a rain storm so this was especially evident. There appear to have to been at least 2 stone culverts to divert water off to the road so it did not run down the road. We believe some minor maintenance in these areas would help preserve the road.**

Obstructions? Y Comments: **One gate across road, closed but not locked.**

Trash/Dumping? N Comments:

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? N Comments:

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Y Comments: fresh light atv tracks, not recently heavily used.

Other Conditions? Y Comments: Landowner at Bradford end of Class VI Deer Valley Rd. states he owns the road, but there is a public right-of-way. **Update: Questions road repairs on his property.**

Dunfield Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Sandy Luckury

Date of Monitoring: August 17, 2018; June 22, 2019

Erosion? No Comments: West end of road some sign of rain water running down the road, but not washed out. "Water bars" are doing their job well. East end washed out.

Update: With all the rain this year, there were more places with water running across the road and where vehicles had driven, more ruts. Not washed out.

Obstructions? No Comments: East end of Dunfield large boulders

Trash/Dumping? No Comments:

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? No Comments:

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Y Comments: No sign of current activity but earlier in summer there were both ATV's and motorcycles going by my house frequently. **Update: About a month ago several 4-wheel drive vehicles (trucks & Jeeps) came down the road by my house - most likely caused the ruts mentioned above. Have not seen ATV's or motorcycles yet this season.**

Comments: Overall, I felt the condition of the road was very good.



Fortunes Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Brooks McCandlish

Date of Monitoring: July 30, 2018; June 2019

Erosion? no Comments: **Update: No significant changes since July 2018.**

Obstructions? no Comments:

Trash/Dumping? no Comments:

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? no Comments:

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? yes Comments:

The Class VI portion of Fortune Rd (past the McDonald residence) is maintained in excellent condition and used year-round by the Nowell's to reach their place in Newbury, just over the Bradford line.

Jackson Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): George Beaton

Date of Monitoring: July 29, 2018; June 3, 2019

Erosion? Y Comments: from 2-inch downpour on 7/28. **Update: On June 3, 2019 the condition of Jackson Rd is slightly better than last fall. This pic is looking north down Jackson at the Forest St junction**

Obstructions? N Comments:

Trash/Dumping? N Comments:

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? N Comments:

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Y Comments: vehicular traffic

Other Conditions? Y Comments: #243 Jackson are full time residents plus 2 other seasonal residents plus 1 trailer



Liberty Hill Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Doug Southard

Date of Monitoring: August 4, 2018; **June 14 & July 15, 2019**

Starting at Bradford/Henniker Town Line

Miles

- 0.00 Road in "FAIR" condition with frequent pools of water and rocks 4-8 inches. ATV signs formerly present have been removed. An "End of Contoocook Valley ATV Trail System" sign is now present as one heads into Bradford along LHR. (see pic)
- 0.14 Rip-rap appears to have been placed secondary to a logging operation. Road is close to "GOOD" from this point forward.
- 0.2 Substantial off-road damage has been done to embankment on West side of a bridge over a small stream. (see pic)
- 0.5 LHR ends at 4-way junction with Day Pond Road (both ways) and a private road.

Erosion? Yes Comments: Section closest to Henniker has significant erosion. Rip-rap placed on Bradford end make road a bit more stable.

Obstructions? No Comments: No significant obstructions, however, erosion is so significant close to the Henniker line, it could be considered an obstruction as noted above.

Trash/Dumping? No Comments: No significant dumping noted.

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? Yes Comments: In addition to the end of trail sign recently placed on LHR near the Bradford/Henniker line, there is a "No ATVs/Dirt Bikes" sign placed at the end of LHR near the 4-way junction. Similar signage is also noted as Day Pond Road continues on to Rt. 114. **Update: End of ATV trail sign missing during walk through on June 14, 2019. Jenn McCourt of the CVATV Club contacted. She followed up on the 18th to report that the sign had been replaced on June 16, 2019. Signage verified on July 15, 2019.**

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Yes Comments: Embankment damaged as noted above. No activity directly observed.

Other Conditions? Comments: The Bureau of Trails and CVATV Club have been thanked for taking down the ATV trail signs and putting up the end of trail system sign.



Massasecum Ave

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Scott Kirkell, Bindy, Doug Southard, Ann Eldridge

Date of Monitoring: Oct. 1, 2018; **June 9, 2019**

Mileage from junction with Rowe Mountain Road, Carter Hill Road, and Day Pond Road is 0.73 miles to what appears to be end of town maintenance where snowmobile trail goes off to the left. This end point needs to be confirmed.

Erosion? Modest Comments: Road in generally "GOOD" condition with isolated rocks and water bars. Several areas appear to have had small rock fill in the low points.

Obstructions? N Comments: **Update: Road was still rutted and wet from spring but passable.**

Trash/Dumping? N Comments: Only 3 bottles/cans noted in .75 miles. **Update: Went prepared with bag last week and found no trash but a big tire, which seems to have been removed. I hauled it out of the brush on the side so it was pretty prominent. On second walk, noted only about half dozen new additions.**

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? Y Comments: Snowmobile trail signs at transition to Class V section of the road. **Update: Jeeps in attendance.**

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Y Comments: Road clearly in regular use.

Notes: Scott Kirkell has done significant road maintenance on Massesecum Ave. as well as on the southern end of Rowe Mountain Road. Water bars are maintained and washouts are filled in whenever possible. This permits fairly good travel on these roads.



Old Mountain Road

Road Monitor: Carol Meise

Date: August 9, 2018

The road itself is in ok shape, there are a few potholes at the base near west road and some erosion as you go further up to the last Lucas house.

Someone has been widening the road on to our property, the south side of the road, putting down sand and cutting trees along the stream bank. From the base of old mountain road to the first Lucas house. We are, along with our forester, trying to stop and remedy this situation. I have a series of photos of the damage if you'd like to see them.

As Old Mountain Road goes up into the woods, the road and the shoulder of it seems fine on both sides.

Update: We have just been through old mountain road Friday with Fish and Game and DES. We replanted the southern bank along the stream last fall and put up stakes, most of which has been removed so that the road's sand and gravel go into the stream and much of the vegetation we planted has been removed. The culvert near west road has been modified by someone.

The road itself is in passable condition, it has been widened onto our property. We don't want this as it disrupts the stream bed. The stream itself is of interest to Fish and Game as it used to have a population of brook trout, before the sand disposition from the road damaged the trout habitat.

Fish and Game are interested in talking to the selectmen and road crew. They would like a small section of the road that borders the stream to be sloped away from the bank towards the north side of the road. This would allow the stream bank to recover from the damage done by grading and tree cuts and the sand to dissipate recovering the brook trout habitat. There may be money to help with the restoration, should the selectmen approve the road crew helping in this project.

Pierce Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Brad Keller

Date of Monitoring: September 13, 2018; July 24, 2019

Pierce Road is approximately 0.45 miles long.

Erosion? Yes Comments: most of the roadway has been eroded over time. There are long stretches that is a river bed in the spring and heavy rains. There a stream bed along the right side of the road which crosses back and forth in several places. Some areas are just rocks with no road surface. One stretch (about 100 feet) the erosion is about 3 feet deep as to the original service. **Update: The lower 100 yards is fair with one long rut running through the center of the roadway. As one goes further up the road the road becomes heavy rocks and washed away. Further up still there are several water beds that have cut across the roadway making it pretty well impassable.**

Obstructions? Not really Comments: there are a couple of trees down but we keep them from blocking the road

Trash/Dumping? No Comments: we keep any trash picked up

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? None Comments: All land area along road is posted No Trespassing.

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? occasional Comments:

Rowe Mountain Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): Doug and Barb Southard, Miranda Levin

Date of Monitoring: August 4, 2018; June 14, 2019

Starting at the beginning of the Class VI section of RMR from the Class V Section

Miles

0.0 Road initially level and then climbs up one hill that has significant erosion. Overall road condition is "FAIR" with occasional rocks up to 10 inches. **Update: Conditions have improved considerably on the first 0.25 mile of this section of the road due to timbering operation that laid down significant crushed rock. Some erosion remains, however, it is much improved since last year. From 0.25 miles to 0.5 miles the road appears somewhat downgraded as the crushed rock was minimal compared to the first 0.25 miles.**

0.65 Snowmobile detour to the left (Northside).

0.75 Road conditions deteriorate substantially. Gentle downslope with significant rock outcropping, ledge and general erosion. Road condition is "POOR". See pictures.

0.94 1st camp noted on right (Southside). Some rip-rap on road and conditions improve to "FAIR".

1.0 End of detour which comes in from the left. Road conditions improve to "GOOD".

1.7 RMR ends at four corners with Massasecum Road, Day Pond Road, and Carter Hill Road. Junction is "GOOD".

Erosion? Yes Comments: Entire road suffers from erosion, however, the section from 0.75 to 0.94 is extremely eroded. Rocks/ledge drops of 1-2 feet are frequent in this section.

Obstructions? No Comments: No significant obstructions, however, erosion is so significant, it could be considered an obstruction as noted above. **Update: Significant obstructions are imminent as several large trees are about to impact the road at about the 0.25 mile point (see pic).**

Trash/Dumping? No Comments: No significant dumping noted.

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? Yes Comments: Snowmobile signage noted, particularly around detour. **Update: A new snowmobile trail has been established that cuts through the Southard property between Smith Road and Rowe Mountain Road. Signage designates it as a snowmobile trail. Gates are pending.**

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Yes Comments: One truck and one ATV (both local residents) observed.

Other Conditions/Comments: It should be noted that one resident was working to improve road conditions via water-bars and establishing drainage. Also, timber cut pending on Rowe family land around mile 0.5.





Smith Road

Name(s) of Monitor(s): George Beaton; Barb and Doug Southard

Date of Monitoring: July 31, 2018; Sept. 16, 2018; **June 3, 2019**

Road Conditions: Starting at the Junction of Smith Road and Rowe Mountain Road

Miles

- 0.38 Intersection with Tuttle Road - FAIR
- 0.48 Hill with significant erosion – FAIR/POOR
- 0.70 Smith Cellar Hole - FAIR
- 0.72 Old logging landing - GOOD
- 1.22 Ends on Forest Ave - GOOD

Erosion? Y Comments: Significant on hill about 0.5 miles from Rowe Mtn. Road junction.

Obstructions? N Comments:

Trash/Dumping? Y Comments: Walked up to Abraham Smith cellar hole with my handsaw and cut some brush and small trees near the sign today. I noticed that some probable illegal dumping has occurred opposite the cellar hole in Margaret Kincaid's log landing - 2 pair of ski boots and a sink. My investigation was cut short by a screeching hawk that ushered me away from the area. I informed Margaret and suggested that she report it to the police. **Update: Inspected on 6/3/19 from Forest St to Smith cellar hole. The trash from last year has been cleaned up and 1 bag remains beside the road.**

Recreational Vehicle Trail Signage? Y Comments: snowmobile trail

Motorized/Non-motorized Activities? Y Comments: occasional OHRV. **Update: Logging is in progress on Kincaid property and the road has been impacted. A closer log landing is being used which is roughly 1/4 mile from Forest St and has created a muddy area in that area of the road. Crushed stone /gravel has been placed at the Forest St junction and a few other places to help out log truck access. The condition now has worsened from last fall's inspection due to current logging and vehicle usage during wet conditions.**

