

TRAIL ASSESSMENT FORM

Doc. #		Trail Name	Boardwalk	Trail Type:	Narrow - Platform	Condition	Poor
Route		5176 – Ponkapoag Pond					
Recent Weather:		Drought Conditions as declared by The National Drought Mitigation Center					
TRAIL LANDMARKS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailhead is located and leaves from the south side of Redman Farm Path (Green Dot Loop) opposite Marker #5176. Overall heading: southeast. For the purpose of the assessment the survey began at the DCR map board at the entrance to the parking area. Treadway offers a spectacular nature walk across Ponkapoag Bog. • Treadway enters the parking area at road width. • Spur path to the Boardwalk leaves on the left (SW) at 260 feet. • Boardwalk leaves on the left (SE) at 500 feet as spur path continues straight to rejoin Redman Farm Path • Trailhead in marked with a granite monument commemorating the Boardwalk. Marker has been pushed over and is lying flat on the ground. Signage states <i>Construction Pass At Own Risk</i> • Construction material at trailhead; it appears that construction has halted. • Treadway descends leaving the trailhead over a series of log supported steps. • Actual boardwalk begins at .12 miles. • There has been some replacement of rotted planking. Where present new construction is stable and solid. • Rotted and rotting planks are too numerous to identify; a rough estimate is that 60% of the existing boards need replacement. • Small observation platforms are no longer present. This limits the ability of visitors to pause on the bogwalk. Also comprises the ability <i>to step aside</i> when encountering people approaching from the opposite direction. • Treadway enters a wonderful clearing at .33 miles although many beams are floating and need support ties. • Boardwalk ends abruptly at the waters edge on the northwest side of Ponkapoag Pond at .51 miles No observation platform; area unable to support visitors who wish to pause and enjoy the Pond prior to reversing direction • Day of survey very dry, no visible water in bog; few visitors 					
MINOR&MAJOR PROBLEM AREAS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platform in poor condition; major renovation in progress • Consider trail <i>observation platforms</i> and viewing area at Pond terminus. • Extensive brushing required both side-to-side and overhead 					
DISTANCES TO MAJOR INTERSECTIONS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marker 5176 to Spur path to the Boardwalk leaves on the left (SW) - 260 feet. • Marker 5176 to Boardwalk leaves on the left (SE) - 500 feet. • Marker 5176 to the Boardwalk ends at the water on the northwest side of Ponkapoag Pond - .51 miles 					
Report prepared by:		Jim Green			Assessment date:		08/21/16

Note: based upon original report prepared by Ken Jones 4/29/0