

# TRAIL ASSESSMENT FORM

|                        |      |  |  |                    |                 |                  |      |
|------------------------|------|--|--|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|------|
| <b>Doc. #</b>          | 2001 | <b>Trail Name</b>  | Skyline Trail East<br>Hillside Street to<br>Route 28 | <b>Trail Type:</b> | <b>Wide - M</b> | <b>Condition</b> | Good |
| <b>Route:</b>          |      | Hillside Street – 2054 - 2117 – 2141 – 2165 – 2210 – Route 28  |  |                    |                 |                  |      |
| <b>Recent Weather:</b> |      | No Rain in last 24 hours. Clear and cold in 30's. Some ice on trail  |  |                    |                 |                  |      |
| <b>TRAIL LANDMARKS</b> |      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trailhead leaves at a granite marker from the south side of Hillside Street at the rear of a small parking turnout directly across the street from Reservation Headquarters. Headquarters is located .4 miles north of the Houghton's Pond parking area. There is signage on a tree labeled Skyline East to Buck Hill. Trail is blazed with blue rectangles.</li> <li>Cv under treadway at 150 feet for streambed running L to R. Rwk wells with 14" metal pipe. Rock in streambed on left blocking inlet and debris to be removed.</li> <li>Additional cv for the same streambed is located immediately to the left under the Skyline Connector road. Rkw on L and R with 18" metal pipe. Needs cleaning as well.</li> <li>Skyline Trail enters the Skyline Connector on the right at 240 feet and shares the same treadway for a short distance.</li> <li>Cv under treadway at .15 miles for streambed running L to R. Rwk/mortar const. w/ 14" clay pipe visible on right. Cv is heavily impacted on L with Sbd and debris on L. No visible pipe showing on left. (1)</li> <li>Skyline leaves the Skyline Connector on the left at intersection marker 2054 at .22 miles.</li> <li>Bn at .23 miles.</li> <li>Sbd crosses trail at .27 miles. Bow saw work.</li> <li>Blazed tree down to left of trail at .28 mile. Relocate blazing.</li> <li>Lbd crosses the treadway at .31 miles. Two large limbs cross trail requiring chainsaw removal. (2)</li> <li>Trail begins ascending Tucker Hill at .35 miles.</li> <li>Bn at .38 miles.</li> <li>Tucker Path crosses at .44 miles. Tucker Path is blazed with green dots with white triangular direction blazes pointing south.</li> <li>Log wb at .39 miles providing large step up. Needs to be dug out and ditched.</li> <li>Unnamed path crosses at .46 miles.</li> <li>Minor erosion noted ascending Tucker Hill at .49 w/ Rkw step acting as a wb. R to L. Opportunities for additional wb in this area to reduce erosion. Erosion stops at .54 miles as treadway enters a rock slab area.</li> <li>Bn at .62 miles.</li> <li>Unnamed path crosses at .64 miles. Spur Path to Athol Path.</li> <li>Athol Path enters on left at .67 miles crossing the summit of Tucker Hill.</li> <li>Treadway begins a steep descent off Tucker Hill at .73 miles through an area of minor erosion as treadway splits into two paths to avoid an area of rock scrambling.</li> <li>Treadway enters another area of minor erosion at .75 miles with 2-abandoned Rkw wbs running L to R. Need to be dug out and dt on right.</li> </ul> |  |                    |                 |                  |      |

- Blazed lbd on left at .8 miles. Needs to be cut back as it extends into the treadway and blaze needs to be relocated. 18" dia, chainsaw work.
- Dark Hollow Path crosses at .82 miles and uses the same treadway for approximately 50 yards. Trail is blazed with green dots with white triangular blazes pointing north.
- Skyline leaves the Dark Hollow Path on the right at .83 miles.
- Bn at .84 miles with downed tree limbs. Bow saw and lopper work.
- Treadway enters an area of moderate runoff at .84 miles. Possible bog bridge location. (3) (Photo attached SLE01).
- Treadway enters an area of moderate runoff at .87 miles. Possible bog bridge location. (4)
- Bn at .88 miles.
- Bn at .92 miles. Additional blazes in this direction would be helpful here as route finding becomes challenging. (5)
- Lbd crosses trail at .93 miles. Old dead tree needs removal. Chainsaw work.
- Trail begins ascending N. Boyce Hill at .94 miles.
- Unnamed path crosses at intersection marker 2117 at 1.0 miles. Blazed with white triangles pointing south. Blue rectangular blaze labeled KCE with design noted as trail reenters footpath.
- Treadway passes Whale Rock on right at 1.13 miles.
- Deer Hollow Path crosses at intersection marker 2141 at 1.17 miles.
- Bn at 1.18 miles.
- Trail begins ascending Buck Hill at 1.25 miles with bn.
- Trail enters an area of minor erosion at 1.27 miles. Rkw steps extend from here through 1.28 however 2 additional Rkw wb and dt running L to R above the steps would improve the erosion issue in this area. (6)
- Bn at 1.33 miles.
- Abandoned rwb at 1.37 miles needs to be dug out and dt.
- Unnamed path crosses at 1.39 miles.
- Treadway crosses the summit of Buck Hill at intersection marker 2165 at 1.41 miles.
- Unnamed path leaves on the left at 1.42 miles.
- Large cairn to left of treadway as the crossing the Buck Hill summit continues at 1.44 miles.
- Trail begins the descent of Buck Hill at 1.45 miles.
- Unnamed path leaves on the right at 1.45 miles.
- Rkw wb at 1.46 miles w/ bn. L to R. (New)
- Trail descends through an area of minor erosion however what appears to be new wbs in this area are addressing.
- Rkw wb at 1.47 miles w/ bn. L to R. (New)
- Rkw wb at 1.48 miles w/ bn. L to R. (New) Needs better dt on right.
- Rkw steps begin at 1.49 and continue through 1.52 miles with nice retaining walls. Loose rock needs to be removed.
- Buck Hill Path crosses at 1.52 miles.
- Unnamed path crosses at intersection marker 2210 at 1.63 miles. (May be an extension of Buck Hill Path.
- Forest Run Path crosses at 1.68 miles w/ white triangular blazes pointing north.
- Cv under treadway beside route 28 at 1.7 miles. L to R. Severely impacted. 20 dia. pipe 1/2 full of debris on right and 3/4 full on left with

|   |   |                         |           |
|---|---|-------------------------|-----------|
|   | <p>water in dt backing up. This looks like a big job to me as the dt extends 50 feet uphill. I'd consider this state highway work. (7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skyline Trail crosses Route 28 at 1.7 miles at a granite marker labeled Skyline Trail 4.7 miles and a DCR Map board. Turnoff parking available for approximately 3 vehicles.</li> </ul>   |                         |           |
| <b>MINOR<br/>PROBLEM<br/>AREAS</b>              | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cv under treadway at .15 miles. Cv is heavily impacted on L with Sbd and debris on L. No visible pipe showing on left.</li> <li>2. Lbd crosses the treadway at .31 miles. Two large limbs cross trail requiring chainsaw removal.</li> <li>3. Treadway enters an area of moderate runoff at .84 miles. Possible bog bridge location. (Photo attached SLE01).</li> <li>4. Treadway enters an area of moderate runoff at .87 miles. Possible bog bridge location.</li> <li>5. Bn at .92 miles. Additional blazes in this direction would be helpful here as route finding becomes challenging.</li> <li>6. Trail enters an area of minor erosion at 1.27 miles. Rkw steps extend from here through 1.28 however 2 additional Rkw wb and dt running L to R above the steps would improve the erosion issue in this area.</li> <li>7. Cv under treadway beside route 28 at 1.7 miles. Severely impacted. Pipe is ½ full of debris on right and ¾ full on left with water in dt backing up. This looks like a big job to me as the dt extends 50 feet uphill. I'd consider this state highway work.</li> </ol> |                         |           |
| <b>MAJOR<br/>PROBLEM<br/>AREAS</b>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None Noted</li> </ul>  |                         |           |
| <b>DISTANCES TO<br/>MAJOR<br/>INTERSECTIONS</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hillside Street to Skyline leaves the Skyline Connector on the left at intersection marker 2054. - .22 miles.</li> <li>• Hillside Street to Tucker Path. - .44 miles.</li> <li>• Hillside Street to Athol Path and the summit of Tucker Hill. - .67 miles</li> <li>• Hillside Street to Dark Hollow Path - .82 miles</li> <li>• Hillside Street to intersection marker 2117. - 1.0 miles</li> <li>• Hillside Street to Whale Rock. - 1.13 miles</li> <li>• Hillside Street to Deer Hollow Path at intersection marker 2141. - 1.17 miles</li> <li>• Hillside Street to summit of Buck Hill at intersection marker 2165. - 1.41 miles.</li> <li>• Hillside Street to Buck Hill Path. - 1.52 miles</li> <li>• Hillside Street to intersection marker 2210. - 1.63 miles.</li> <li>• Hillside Street to Forest Run Path. - 1.68 miles</li> <li>• Hillside Street to Route 28. - 1.7 miles</li> </ul>  |                         |           |
| <b>Report prepared by:</b>                      | Ken Jones   | <b>Assessment date:</b> | 2/17/2008 |



**Abbreviations:**

Usage type: foot traffic only (H), multi-use (M)

|                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| waterbars (wb)       | small blowdowns (sbd)             |
| culverts(cv)         | large blowdowns (lbd)             |
| rolling dips (rd)    | rock work (rkw)                   |
| bridges (br)         | bridge building (bbd),            |
| bog bridges (bb)     | culvert replacement (cr)          |
| rock stairs (rs)     | trail relocation (tr),            |
| cribbing (cb)        | building new trail drainage (ntd) |
| retaining walls (rw) | brushing needed (bn)              |
| ditches (dt)         | excessive erosion (ee)            |
|                      | leaning tree (lt)                 |