

Mill Brook Ridge Bog 7500 from Alder Lake
 #319 270-35

with Rich
 Panjo 5/14/98

Site	p	Δp	Δe	e calc	e map	time	r
(A) Alder Lake trailhead	29.54	0.00	0	2220	2220	10:20	$\frac{3120-2220'}{29.54-28.52}$ $= \frac{900'}{1.02''}$ $= 0.882$
(B) Junction, E end of Alder Lake	29.52	0.02	18	2238	2220	10:40	
(C) 1st approach to Alder Cr.	29.43	0.11	97	2317			
(D) log roads	29.42	0.12	106	2326			
(E) smaller Ashes	↑ measured						
(F) big Ash; possible skid road to NE	on way down						
(G) big YBS, wet flat	29.18	0.36	318	2538			
(H) lower meadow	29.18 ±	0.36	318	2538	2500	11:12	
(I) 1st ledge	29.01	0.53	467	2687			
(J) Beaver Meadow lean to at 2nd meadow	29.02	0.52	459	2679	2700	11:50 to 12:10	
(K) 3rd meadow	28.97	0.57	503	2723	2720		
(L) trail approaches brook	28.82	0.72	635	2855			
(M) cross dry brook bed	28.72	0.82	723	2943			
(N) Bog in col.	28.52	1.02	900	3120	3120	12:50	
(N) down	28.46	1.02				1:15	
(J) Lean to	29.00	0.48	423	2643		2:28 to 2:40	Same r: $r = 0.882$
(H) 1st meadow	29.21	0.27	238	2499		(H) 3:00	
(F) 30' Ash; log rd?	29.32	0.16	141	2361			
(E) several small Ash	29.40	0.08	71	2291			
(D) openings on N	29.40	0.08	71	2291			
(B) Junction	—					3:25	
(A) out	29.48	0.00	0	2220		3:47	

27036 First growth

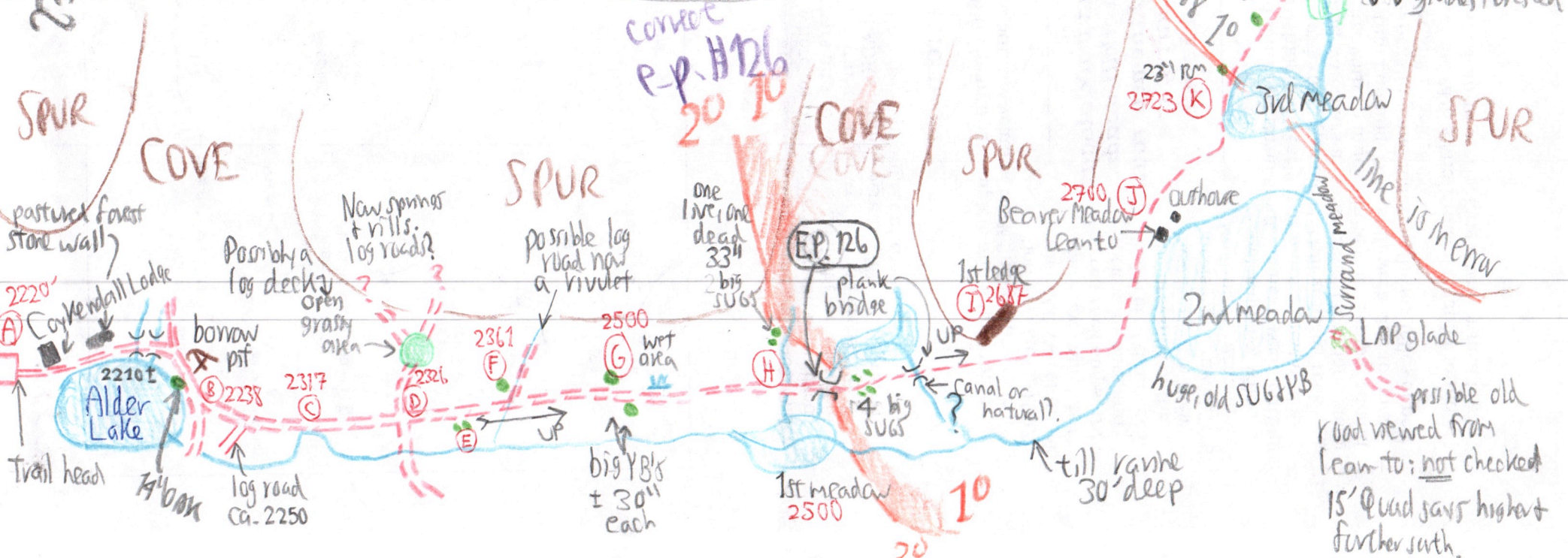
At E-P. 126, the log road ends and the 1st big SUGs appear. Above this, the trail has been brushed at new in the fall of 1997. The old Alder Lake - Beecher Lake road, shown on the Margaretville 15', was not observed east of the entry point. It may have been washed out by beaver activity and/or built on south side of Alder Creek from about the "canal" eastward.

Correct the 1988 August entry point made in the lean-to area to this one, then add the extra 1° forest to calculations.

The 2nd meadow is surrounded by huge, old SUGs & YBs, with broken limbs in crowns (photos).

Mileages of signboards-

- From Alder Lake (A)
 - 2.3 to lean to
 - 6.7 to BLMtn
- From June (B):
 - 1.5 to lean to
 - 4.0 to ridge vista
 - 6.0 BLMtn
 - 0.75 to (A)
- From (D):
 - 2.5 ridge vista
 - 4.5 BLMtn.
 - 2.25 (A)



(N) 3120
BOG 7500

bedrock ledge holding in south end of bog

dry brook bed (M) 2943
upper end of LAP-VV springy area
freshly-fallen large SUG ± 3050'

incorrect E-P. H 126

to 3480' MBR Summit

correct E-P. H 126 20 10

SPUR

line is in error

possible old road newed from lean-to; not checked 15' Quad says highest & further south.

Alders 270-37

Not one alder was seen on the whole hike. All 3 meadows were checked.

The names, Alder Creek & Alder Lake, could have been assigned by shrub I.D. error. On the 19th century alders could have been eliminated by repeated beaver flooding.

Where the Alder Creek Road, Campy Cove (54), crosses the outlet of Alder Lake, willows only - no alders!

At (K) no alders, but *Ilex mont*, *Lonicera com*, *Spiraea lat*, *Vacc*, *Caltha*.

Hemlock

None in the valley around or above Alder Lake. Thus, no bark roads along Alder Cr. above Alder Lake.

Hemlock does appear along the outlet along the Highway to Tumwood in the ravine.

* Hemlocks DO occur just below the dam.

Photos

2 of beaver-chewed Beech at (H)

2 of old trees from lean-to at (J) looking E, then SW.

3 of Bog 7500'. (End film roll) 1st two from SE to NW 3rd from SW to NE.

Logging

Stump at W end of (H) about 40 years old. No bark left logs without bark at (D), maybe 30 years.

Landing N of (D) at open grassy area, now a spring.

Other species

Caltha in flower - arand Alder Lake

Also in Heischmanns

Ranunculus in flower arand 3rd beaver meadow (K).

Flowers yellow, large, 1" across, like *Caltha*, lvs trifoliate:



Dan Spada reported it in meadow (J).

Anemone *gummatifolia* Common at (D)

Ilex montana, with serrate, acuminate lvs. 1/2 expanded, arand all 3 beaver meadows.

Ribes *frutic* at (H). CB at (H).

ORK 14" near (B).

BC 23" between (K) & (L)

RM 23" at (K)

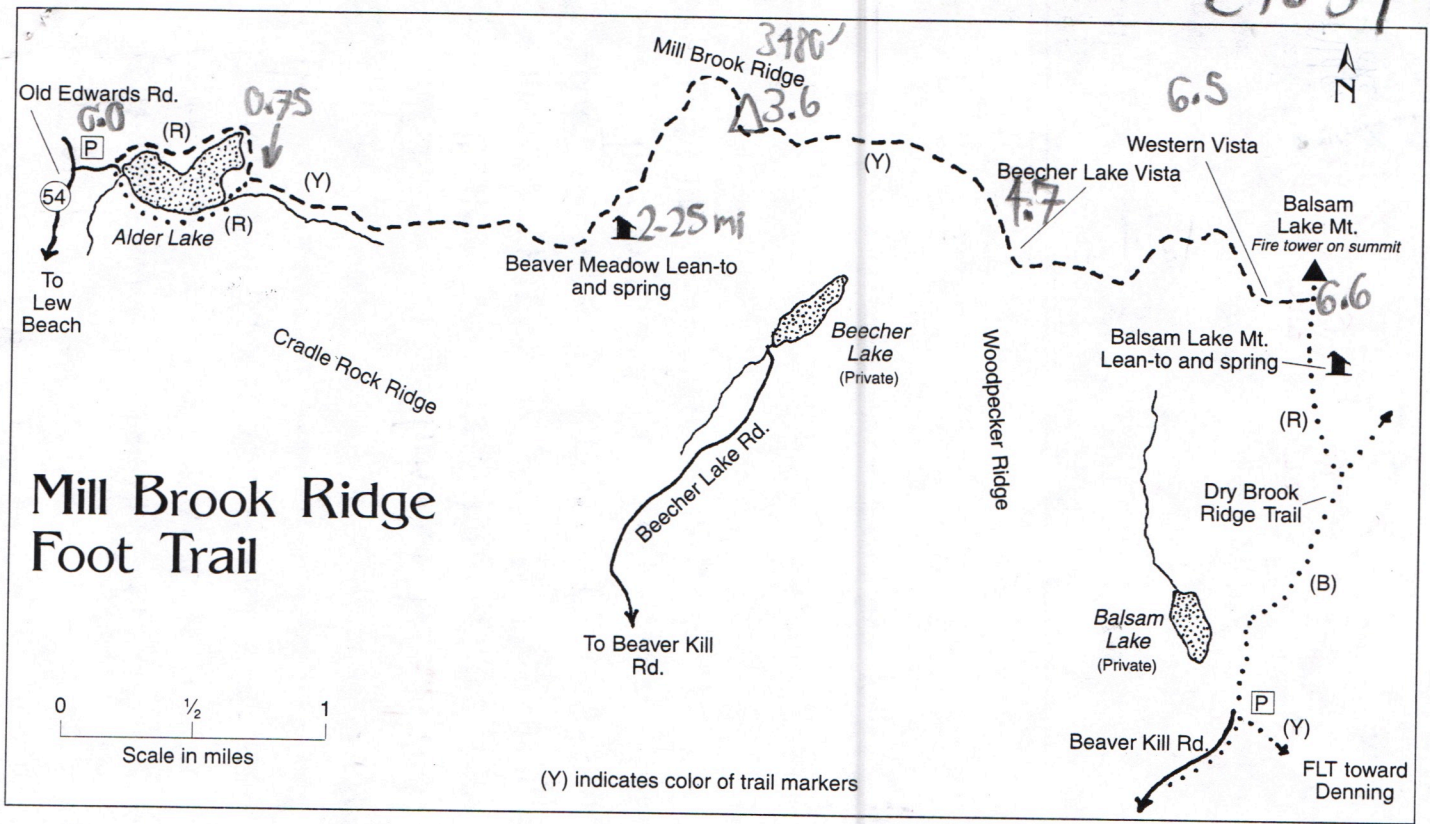
OST & ASH at (C)

Polemonium at old beaver dams at (K). Also

ELM & OST mid-way along N shore of Alder Lake.

R. septentrionale
R. riparium var. *canadense*

270-39



A lean-to too

Coincidentally, the Mid-Hudson Chapter of ADK approached DEC in early 1997 to express their interest in undertaking a Forest Preserve project, perhaps building a lean-to, in the Catskills. When they learned that the Balsam Lake Mt. UMP also proposed relocation of a lean-to that was above 3500 feet on Balsam Lake Mt. and in poor repair, they eagerly accepted the challenge, with only minor reservations. The Chapter had never undertaken such a project, and while project chair Frank Dogil had plenty of enthusiasm and determination, he knew his members lacked the skills and experience necessary to accomplish such a project on their own.

Fortunately, DEC and the Chapter were able to work together to get the project off the ground. DEC was able to provide the logs from a state reforestation area near Windham, N.Y., and a DEC-supervised inmate crew from the Sullivan Correctional Facility Annex prefabricated the lean-to. The Frost Valley YMCA in Claryville provided a site that was easily accessible for both the inmate crew and a helicopter when it came time to fly in the lean-to materials. A certain synergy was developing around the project.

As the route began to take shape, it became

evident that significant drainage work would be required at the western end of the trail, near Alder Lake, where an old wood road would be utilized. Waterbars and rock steps would be necessary to carry the trail through wet, muddy areas. Up stepped ADK's Trail Program staff, who agreed to schedule a five-day project at the site.

ADK, FLTC, DEC

With the planning complete and a final route flagged out, the years of work finally came to fruition in August, 1997, when ADK's volunteer trail crew completed seven rock steps, three rock waterbars and 235 feet of drainage on the first mile of the new route. On their heels came the FLTC's volunteer vacation participants, who worked diligently throughout the next week, cutting and brushing out nearly four miles of new trail as well as undertaking some sidehill grading, rock steps and waterbars at some critical locations along the route. With so much of the work completed and momentum building, DEC staff were able to finish cutting, brushing and marking the six miles of new trail over Mill Brook Ridge.

Meanwhile, ADK's Mid-Hudson Chapter found a site for the lean-to overlooking a beaver meadow

Nearly nine miles of road walk along the Alder Lake and Beaverkill Roads have been eliminated, and the new route travels through the heart of the Balsam Lake Mt. Wild Forest.

