

KENNEBEC HIGHLANDS

Round Top Trail

Location: Rome, Kennebec County

Description of Hike: The winding trail ascends 1,133 feet up Round Top Mountain meandering through young and old hardwood and conifer forests before opening up to views of Long Pond, Belgrade Lakes Village and Great Pond. From the top, experience 360 degrees of spectacular views ranging from the Belgrade Lakes Below to the White Mountains, Mount Katahdin and the Camden Hills.

Directions: From the intersection of Routes 27 and 225 in Rome, travel north 1 mile on Route 27 to Watson Pond Road. Turn left and travel 4.5 miles. The trailhead is located on the right at the corner of Watson Pond Road and Wildflower Estates.

Total Distance: 3.9 miles

Hiking Time: Not available

Additional Maps:

Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance Trail Map and Guide
DeLorme Maine Atlas and Gazetteer Map 20, E-2 and D/E-3.

Local Attractions:

- *Village of Belgrade Lakes* – Paddle across the pond for a picnic lunch before exploring the trails.
- Take a short hike nearby on the Sanders Hill Trail, French Mountain Trail, Mountain Trail, Dolley Trail or the Mount Phillip Trail. All the trails are two miles or less round trip.

Sources:

- *BRCA Trail Map and guide to The Kennebec Highlands and nearby areas.* Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance 2003. www.belgradelakes.org
- Land for Maine's Future. Maine State Planning Office. http://media.informe.org/lmf/projects/project_detail.php?project=1543

LMF Background: In 1999, the Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance (BRCA) matched a grant from LMF to protect over 6,000 acres of wooded hills and wetlands just north of Augusta. The Highlands, which includes the highest peak in Kennebec County, is home to moose, deer, bear, coyotes, bobcats, foxes, turkeys,

Photo: Land for Maine's Future



waterfowl and other wildlife. There are more than 18 miles of old logging roads and trails to explore.