

STONEHOUSE FOREST



TRAIL GUIDE



Trailheads and Parking

Rte. 202 or Merry Hill Road
Barrington, NH

1,765 acres • 11 miles of easy/moderate trails



A World of Recreation and Resources

At more than 1,700 acres, Stonehouse Forest provides a rich landscape with critical habitat for many species, great trails for public enjoyment, and clean water with valuable wetlands and two natural ponds. It is home to terrific views from the top of the cliff at Stonehouse Pond, black gum trees that are over 400 years old, and even cellar holes (vestiges of early American homesteaders).

Within Stonehouse Forest lies Stonehouse Pond, managed by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department (NHFG). Access to Stonehouse Pond is an important 11-acre cold-water fishery and trout pond for fly fishing only.

The pond and surrounding 231 acres were acquired by SELT in 2010 in partnership with the Trust for Public Land, NHFG, Town of Barrington, US Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Carolyn S. Bedford Trust. In 2017, after a two-year fundraising effort, SELT acquired 1,500 acres of this property from an investor who had planned an exotic game hunting reserve for the property.

In 2019, a network of trails was created to link these two properties and provide access to this beautiful open space. The carefully planned trails are designed to leave sensitive wildlife habitats undisturbed and protect water quality. As you enjoy these lands, please stay on designated trails to minimize impacts to surrounding vegetation and wildlife.



Trail Descriptions

● **Locke Trail**

Starting at Marsh Road (Gate 2), this trail follows the western boundary for ~1 mile before it enters private land. Locke Trail connects the trails throughout the southern half of the forest and reaches the Merry Hill Trailhead via South Trail.

● **Ledges Loop**

This short loop connects the Locke Trail to the Overlook Trail and leads to the top of the beautiful cliffs overlooking Stonehouse Pond. Please stay on the trail to minimize impact to sensitive forest soils.

● **Overlook Trail**

This trail connects the northernmost portion of the Locke Trail to the east end of Ledges Leap before reconnecting with the Locke Trail further south.

○ **Brook Trail**

This trail leads from private land, overlaps briefly with the Locke Trail, and then continues to a wildlife viewing spot overlooking a shrubby wetland.

● **South Trail**

This trail extends from the Merry Hill Trailhead to Marsh Road, connecting the northern and southern parts of the north trail system.

● **Marsh Road**

This unmaintained dirt road extends from Rte. 9 to Merry Hill Road and connects trails on the north and south portions of the forest. Marsh Road Bypass detours a beaver pond.

● **Marison Trail**

This trail is an old woods road that begins at the Marison Trailhead at Rte. 202, and passes through two clearings on its way to Marsh Rd. The first clearing, at the intersection of the Marison and Bog Trails, features a stone stairway to nowhere. The second features foundation remnants from the Marison farm. Marison Trail East and West both connect to Marsh Road.

● **Bog Trail**

This trail leads to nice views of Round and Little Round Pond and meets up with Marison Trail East before intersecting with Marsh Road.

● **Boulder Trail**

This trail provides access to the swimming boulder via the Locke Trail and Overlook Trail. **The swimming boulder should not be accessed via the pond frontage at the end of Stonehouse Pond Road, as this area is managed by NH Fish and Game for fly-fishing and car-top boating only.**

Enjoy the Trails!

Stonehouse Forest is owned and managed by SELT and is open for public enjoyment. Please follow these visitation guidelines:

- Carry out what you carry in.
- Leave things where and as you find them – no cairns, rock art, etc.
- Stay on marked trails, respect designated trail uses and prohibitions and use only designated trailhead parking.
- Respect wildlife.
- Respect other users of the trails and our neighbors.
- Control your dog(s). Be aware where they may be required to be on leash or any areas they may not be allowed.
- Hunting is allowed on most SELT lands. Be aware of hunting season and wear blaze orange for your own safety.
- Swimming is not allowed on pond frontage at the end of Stonehouse Pond Road, as this area is managed by NH Fish and Game for fly-fishing and car-top boating only. Please access the swimming boulder via the Boulder Trail.

The following uses are not permitted:

- Camping
- Fires
- Target Shooting
- Trapping
- Wheeled motorized vehicles

About SELT

The Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire is a membership-based nonprofit whose mission is to protect and sustain the significant lands in our communities for clean water, outdoor recreation, fresh food, wildlife, and healthy forests. **Join as a member or volunteer today!**



Learn more about this land!
Tap or scan here!



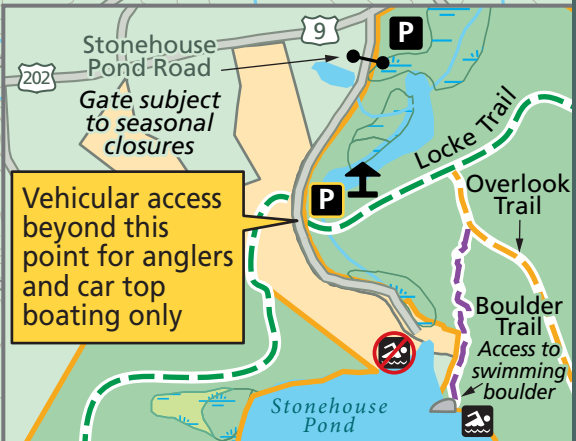
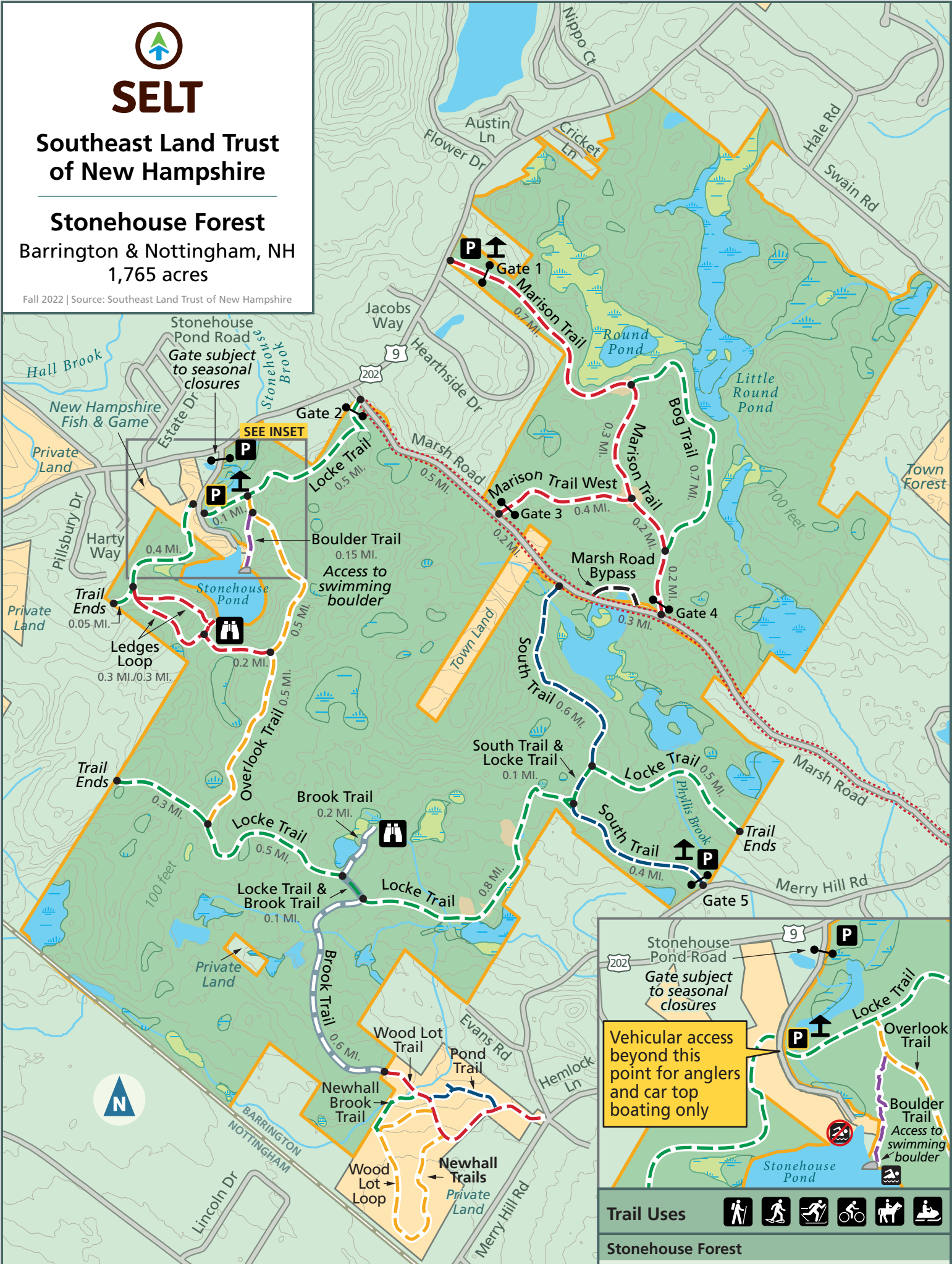
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Southeast Land Trust
of New Hampshire

Stonehouse Forest
Barrington & Nottingham, NH
1,765 acres

Fall 2022 | Source: Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire



Trail Uses						
Stonehouse Forest						
Marison/Mar. West	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Locke	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Brook	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Bog	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
South	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Overlook	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Ledges Loop	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Boulder	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Newhall Trails (Town of Barrington Easement)						
Wood Lot	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wood Lot Loop	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Pond	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Newhall Brook	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓