

HIKING

Basin Trail/Basin Rim Trail



USDA Forest Service
White Mountain National Forest
Evans Notch Ranger District

BASIN TRAIL

TRAIL BEGINS: At Wild River Campground at the end of the Wild River Road (FR 12), or at Basin Pond parking lot, one mile from Route 113 in North Chatham, NH.

LENGTH: 4.5 miles

ACCESS: From the north take US Route 2 to Gilead, Maine, then take Route 113 south 3.0 miles to the Wild River Road. Take the Wild River Road to the trailhead parking area at the campground. From the south drive north from Fryeburg, Maine on Route 113 for approximately 20 miles to Cold River Campground, turn left and follow signs one mile to Basin Pond Recreation Area.

ATTRACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS:

The Basin Trail is a favorite with campers at both Basin and Wild River Campgrounds because of their proximity to the campground and relative ease of the terrain.

NARRATIVE: *Descriptions are provided from both ends of the trail to Rim Junction.*

Shortly after beginning at the Wild River Campground, the Basin Trail joins an old road on an easy grade to Blue Brook. After crossing Blue Brook the trail turns right and begins to climb towards Basin Rim. At this

point there are some interesting ledges and cliffs on the opposite side of the brook along with some appealing pools and slides in the brook. At 2.0 miles a side trail leaves right which goes to Blue Brook Shelter, 0.3 mile away. Basin Trail continues on to "Rim Junction."

From Basin Pond Parking Lot follow the trail along the south side of the pond for 0.3 miles to an old logging road, continue on the road toward Rim Junction. At 1.0 mile a side trail leaves left to go to Hermit Falls, a small but picturesque cascade. This side trail rejoins the Basin Trail at 1.2 miles. As you continue to ascend to Basin Rim you will reach the steepest terrain on the trail.

DISTANCES:

Wild River Campground to

Blue Brook Shelter access trail - 2.0 miles
Rim Junction - 2.2 miles
Blue Brook Shelter - 2.3 miles

Basin Pond parking lot to

Hermit Falls Loop - 1.0 miles
Rim Junction - 2.3 miles

Total Length of Basin Trail 4.5 miles

BASIN RIM TRAIL

TRAIL BEGINS: On the east knob of Mt. Meader at the junction with the Mt. Meader and Meader Ridge Trails, elevation 2780 ft.

TRAIL ENDS: On the summit of West Royce Mountain, elevation 3202 ft.

LENGTH: 3.7 miles

ACCESS: Basin Rim Trail can be accessed on the south by the Mt. Meader Trail which leaves Route 113 approximately 1 mile north of the AMC Cold River Camp. This trail originates on private land. From the north, access is from the Burnt Mill Brook Trail with its trailhead on the Wild River Road or from the Royce, East Royce, or Laughing Lion Trails located along Route 113 in Evans Notch.

NARRATIVE: The trail descends north from Mt. Meader towards Rim Junction, passes over ledges on the way to a prominent knob called "Rugged Jacket," from which point the trail descends steeply to the Junction at 1.2 miles. From Rim Junction the trail heads northeast on relatively easy grades with some short stretches of steeper terrain until reaching the summit of West Royce Mountain where the trail ends.

DISTANCES:

Mt. Meader to Rim Junction - 1.2 miles

Rim Junction to West Royce - 2.5 miles

Total Length of Basin Rim Trail 3.7 miles

POINT OF INTEREST: At 0.3 miles north of Rim Junction an unmarked trail leaves right to a rock outcrop overlooking Basin Pond.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service is a diverse organization committed to equal opportunity in employment and program delivery. USDA prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political affiliation and familial status. Persons believing they have been discriminated against should contact the Secretary, US Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250, or call 202-720-7327 (voice), or 202-720-1127 (TTY).



