

Property: East Leverett Meadow	Year of this Report: 2013
Owner: name, address, phone, email if relevant (Also name of local contact if relevant.): Rattlesnake Gutter Trust	
Date owner invited to monitoring Not Applicable	
Date and recommendations from last year's monitoring: October 27, 2012 Try to find and mark the SE and SW corners.	
Date of this year's monitoring: August 31, 2013	
Participants: Steve Weiss and Mary Alice Wilson	
Brief description of route taken (also draw on map): Beginning in the middle of the path on the southern side of the meadow, we walked down to the SW corner, then north along the western boundary of the meadow, east along the path on the northern side of the meadow to the NE corner, south along the path on the eastern side of the meadow to the SE corner, west along the path on the southern side of the meadow, then across the footbridge an out to the parking area on Cushman Road.	
Describe any man-made alterations (include on map, add photograph or "none observed"): None observed	
Describe any interactions (on day of site visit or in past year) with landowner or others having use of the land: Not Applicable	

Describe any changes in use being planned (change of ownership, land use, etc.):

None.

List observations, comments, management needs, information requests, areas needing discussion or review:

Thanks to the Town's contribution to the East Leverett Trails Grant from DCR, the parking area on Cushman Road has been much improved from last year.

Thanks to the work of Stewart Olson, the trail around the meadow is in excellent condition.

The bird boxes in the edge areas around the meadow need to be cleaned out and brought closer to the trail around the meadow. The grass around the bird boxes needs to be cut and maintained as an area of shorter grass.

The woody vegetation opposite the property owned by Chet Kramer needs to be cut back.

We continue to observe what appears to be frequent use of ATVs, especially on the east and south sides of the meadow.

Because of the decisions to cut the meadow only once each year, and to do so late in the fall, the property is losing its character as a meadow. Expansive sections of the meadow are now filled with goldenrod, which is crowding out the vegetation necessary for grassland birds.

List any needed follow-up:

Put up clear signage regarding the prohibition of ATVs in the meadow.

Repair and re-site the bird boxes.

Inspect and clean out the kestrel box in the middle of the meadow.

Cut a path from the observation bench along the trail paralleling the eastern boundary of the meadow to the remains of an old distillery that used to occupy the site.

Continue efforts to locate pins or other boundary markers at the NW and SE corners of the property.

Suggestions for next year's monitoring team?

Bring work gloves and clippers.

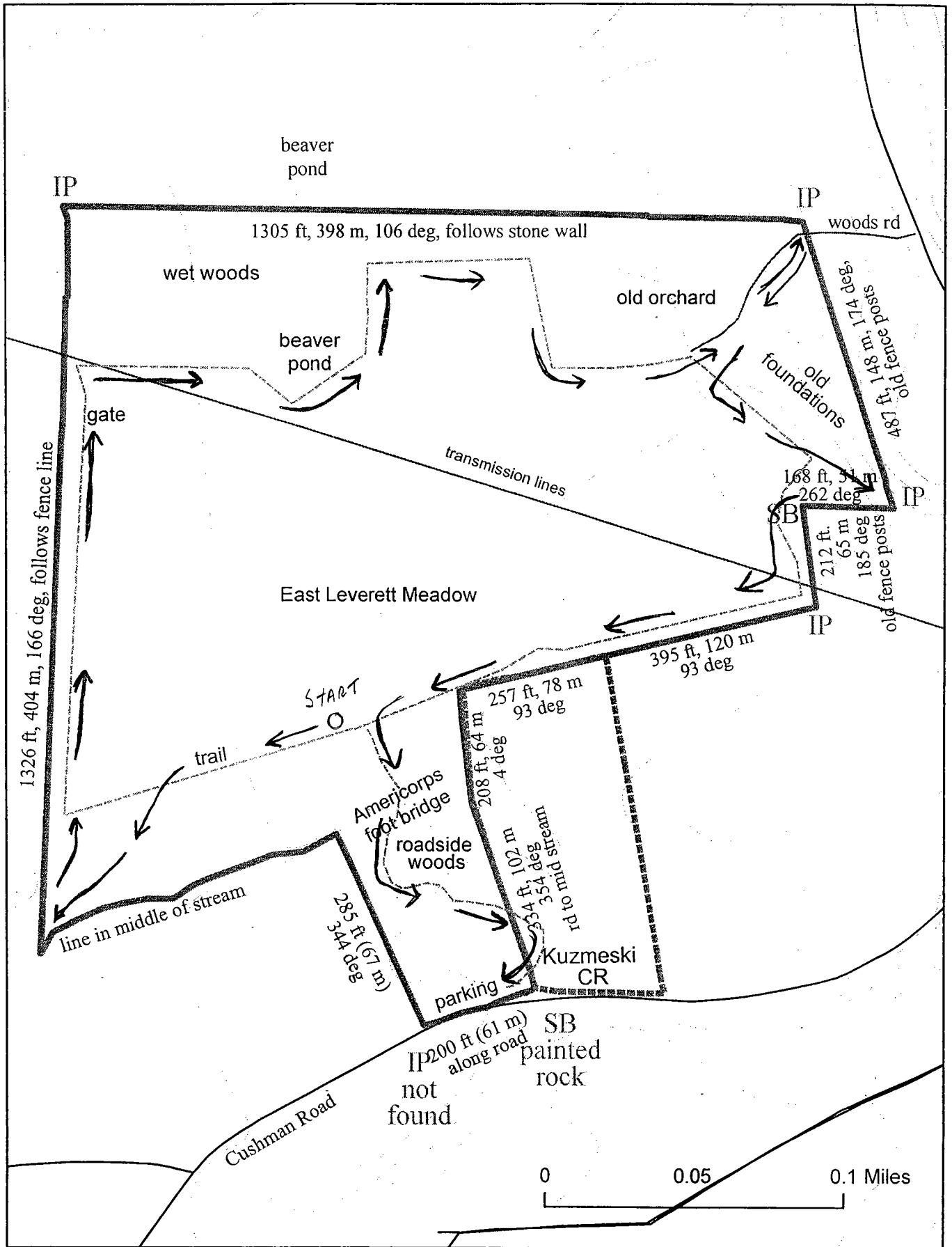
Signed:

Date signed:

..... **Date report to RGT Board:** **Date copy sent to owner:**.....

Date copy given for archive:

East Leverett Meadow



red line = ELM owned by Rattlesnake Gutter Trust (28 acres)
 Dotted purple line = Kuzmeski Conservation Restriction (3 acres)

