

## Long Hill Natural Area, 2010 Monitoring Report

March 23, 2010, Brooke and Shirley Thomas (and their cat) and Mary Alice Wilson walked part of the boundary, focusing primarily on the road-to-view edge and the far northern edge. GPS points were taken.

April 23, 2010. With that walk as background, Mary Alice and Bill Wilson followed the southern, western, and northern border beginning at the road, going up the south side and then clockwise. Took GPS and pictures for future monitoring. We were not able to find the pins on the piece of land bordering the pond. Need to visit with Ken and Brooke in the spring of 2011. (Tried to find them June 10, 2010, but poison ivy was just too lush. One pipe done.) No problems were found along any of the boundary lines. The excel file of boundary points was updated.

May 1, 2010. RGT Work Party cut brush to restore view from the top of Long Hill. Files include correspondence with neighbor below about some additional cutting (5/31/2010) and pictures of the work party. (And of the improved view.)

In 2011: Monitor (and perhaps improve) view. Complete GPS/photographs of the pond-edge piece. Assemble a Word photo file of all corners to help future monitors.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Mary Alice Wilson \_\_\_\_\_)

Attached correspondence about cutting for the view and shed

For the Long Hill Nat'l Area records.

On May 1, 2010 a RGT work party cleaned up the trail to the summit, piled brush on the summit, and cleared trees on the southern slope of RGT land and 87 feet into the land of Tilman Wolf where we have a conservation easement and hence management rights. Since our least clearing trees had grown up blocking the view of the valley below. Three views were sought. One looking down on the pond and town center, a second viewing the Holyoke Range, and a third of Mt. Tom. We succeeded in partially opening these views but trees further down slope blocked complete views.

The owner of the land abutting that of RGT on the south slope, Tilman Wolf, was made aware of the intent of the work party several days before and invited to participate. On the day following the work party he was invited to inspect the work and on Tues, May 4th, Tilman and Brooke Thomas inspected the cutting. It was pointed out to him that we tried to stay within the 87' easement corridor but that inadvertently, because of the steep slope and the lean of the trees, some fell down slope beyond the zone. Others were hung up on standing trees within the zone. He seemed to accept this as the best we could do. We also discussed taking down trees in the view line further down the slope. he agree to this to as long as it was limited and did not expose the view upward from his house or endanger it in any way. Before taking these tress down we will mark them and get his permission to cut.

Submitted by Brooke Thomas  
May 6, 2010

Copy sent to Tilman Wolf for his acknowledgement.

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Dear Tilman,

Thanks for walking Long Hill with me and inspecting our work. Below is a report we place in the Rattlesnake Gutter Trust (RGT) files when we carry out a project on our lands. Please read it over to see if you concur with our conversation.

There is another item I forgot to mention concerning the Trust. This relates to the position of your shed, 1/3 of which is on RGT land. Mr Flaherty (?) was aware of this, and before he sold the land called me if this was a problem. I said it was not as long as he formally advised the new owners (you and Anna) of the situation. Since I'm not sure this occurred I take the opportunity to advise you. As we asked of Mr Flaherty, would you kindly write us (to RGT addressed to me) a formal letter acknowledging the situation. The matter will therefore be resolved: the shed is fine where it is.

One of the policies of the Trust is to respect the interests of the our neighbors. Please feel free to contact us should there be any problems.

Yours sincerely,  
Brooke Thomas

39 Long Hill Rd.  
Leverett, MA 01054  
548-9281

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Brooke,

sorry about the delay in responding (end of semester...). Yes, I concur with the report. I will send you a letter regarding the shed soon.

Best regards,  
Tilman