

Archive Notebook copy_____

Field Notebook copy_____

If CR, owner's copy_____

Rattlesnake Gutter Trust Monitoring Report

Property/Conservation Restriction Name: David Smith Conservation Restriction

Date of visit(s): Sunday, November 13, 2011 CR? yes Owned by RGT?_____

IF CR please complete this information, if owned property skip to #1:

Current owner(s): Nancy V.A. Smith, Ellen Doris Smith

Address(es): Nancy: P.O. 683, Carbondale CO 81623

Ellen: 116 Morningside Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Email: nancyva@copris.net; smithellen@comcast.net

Local Contact if different from owner: Sandra Kirley and Pete Kosloski, Old Mountain Rd

1. In preparation for the visit

a. date of previous visit: November 7, 2010

b. special concerns listed from previous visits that need to be checked: problem with erosion from jeeps

c. IF CR, was the land owner contacted prior to monitoring? (if yes, give date and whether by phone, email, etc; if not, why not?)

no, both owners live out-of-state

2. Participants attending site visit (IF CR include land owner if present):

Matt Kelty, Mary Alice Wilson

3. Please use monitoring map (attached) to

a. show the path of the visit: went counter-clockwise around the boundary

b. mark any issues brought up in this report. None

c. suggest changes in information on next year's map. None

4. Describe any man-made alterations since the last monitoring visit. Describe extent, location, purpose, and person responsible (if known). Mark on attached map; add photographs or illustrations if helpful. (Be sure to check roadside areas for possible dumping/disturbance.)

None seen. The “no motorized vehicle” sign at the NW corner has fallen (bottom nail holding it upside down) and is not in an especially good place to be seen. Might be moved closer to woods road.

5. Describe natural alterations since previous visit (effects of flood, fire, insect infestation, ice damage, etc.) Note extent and location. Mark on attached map; add photographs or illustrations if helpful.

This has been a difficult year. It began with a very heavy winter snowfall (one storm had 19 inches of heavy snow and a week of very cold temperatures. Then tropical storm Irene dumped lots of rain – most of the damage was to stream beds in the hilltowns to the west and north of our area in Vermont, but there were roads washed out in Leverett. And then a heavy, wet snowstorm Halloween weekend that brought down many pines and oaks (pine needles and oak leaves weighted down the trees). It took most of a week to open roads and restore power.

The only one of these events that we noticed was damage from the recent snowstorm. Most of the broken oaks and pines (and a few hemlocks) that we saw were at the southern end – possibly because the higher elevations had drier snow that did less damage. (For example, Shutesbury generally had less damage than Leverett.) Since we did not cruise the inside of the property, there might have been more damage uphill than we saw.

6. Describe any interactions (on day of site visit or in past year) with landowner or others having use of the land.

We did have an opportunity to talk briefly with Sandy. No land issues except the loss of some trees in the storm. She did say that Nancy, her husband and Lincoln Fish had visited recently.

7. IF CR, describe any information that property will be transferred, leased, or sold. Are any changes in use being planned?

No information

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

We managed to find the post just beyond the vernal pool. (Possibly because it had recently been re-flagged. If so, thank you!) It is just east of a large fallen pine (see pictures).

The neighbor just north of that corner continues to have materials close to, but probably not over, the line. That area should be checked every year.

We did not check for jeep damage this year. A Conservation Restriction on the very large property which has encouraged jeep use (Cowls property to the north) is still be negotiated and we all hope will be completed soon. That CR will, like all CRs, exclude motorized vehicles except for logging/farming, emergency, and handicap access.

White boundary markers are still very clear. At some point, they will need to be repainted.

Road trash was picked up – not as much as some years (Miller Lite continues to be the beverage to toss.)

9. List any needed follow-up

none

10. Suggestions for next year's monitoring team?

Walking the boundary assuming one never gets lost or distracted by the lovely woods requires 2.5-3 hours. Plan accordingly. Take both monitoring map and survey – and compass. Always walk the northeast line near the houses.

Signed _____ date _____

Date report submitted to RGT Board for Review: _____

Date report placed in Field Notebook? _____

Date second copy brought to Board Meeting for Archive Notebook? _____

IF CR, date third copy sent to owner ? _____

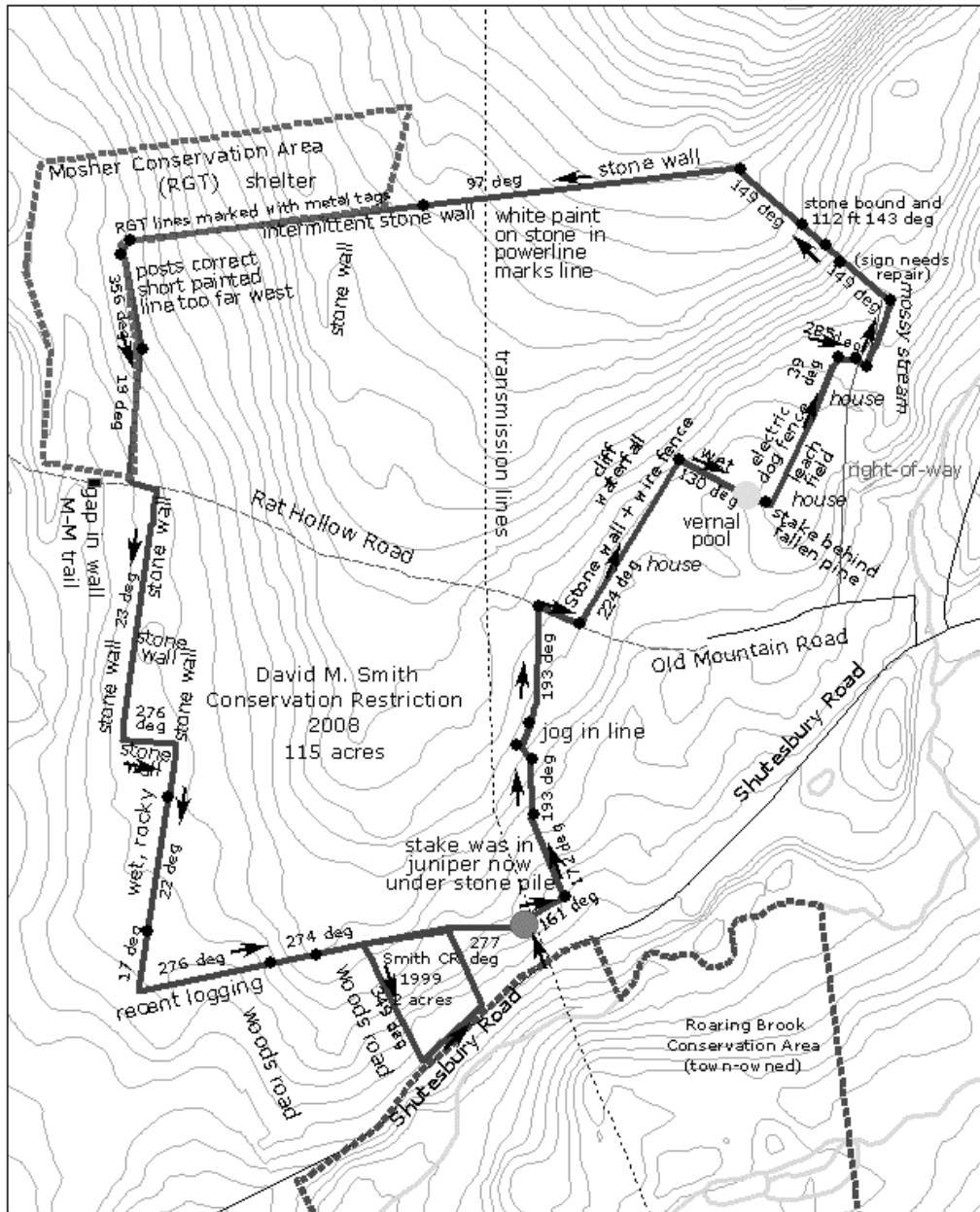


Above: Large pine tree trunk, pin and flag, looking north



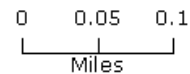
Right: Tree with white corner markings, log, pin (right edge)
From same spot also looking north

Smith Conservation Restriction



Land owned or CR
 [Symbol] Rattlesnake Gutter Trust
 [Symbol] Town of Leverett

Iron pipe at S. end of power line:
 was embedded in juniper bush
 is now somewhere in pile of rocks
 42.4455, -72.4735



Monitoring trip November 13, 2011