

Proposal presented to the Trustees of MAI -- July 2006

Trails Assessment - Lester Kenway
Maine Conservation Corps

Summary:

Lester Kenway's report on Monhegan Island's trails is comprehensive. He has vast experience from his twenty-two years as Trails Supervisor at Baxter State park and as Field Team Program Coordinator with the Maine Conservation Corps. We are fortunate that Barry Timson arranged for him to give a lecture on Monhegan last summer. At the directions of Monhegan Associates Trustees, Lester has evaluated every trail, reported what our priorities should be and given recommendations as well. He has also provided a map of the GPS tracks he made for updating our trails map.

Proposal:

Lester's plan for trails work is a long term plan. If, as I will recommend, we decide to start work on it, I think we should proceed in the following way. First, we should choose projects that Lester Kenway recommends as priorities. Second, to begin work, if possible, on a trail highlighted on the trails map as recommended for short term visitors. Third, we should choose projects that utilize most of the specific ways the Maine Conservation Corps rehabilitates trails.

For these reasons given, I think we should begin with the Lobster Cove Trail and the Underhill Trail. The Lobster Cove trail, that portion between the main road and the beach, would utilize stone steps, waterbars and trail rehabilitation. The Underhill Trail frequently becomes impassable during wet weather. It both starts from the main road and is close to Lobster Cove., keeping both projects close together. The Underhill Trail would utilize bog bridges and water bars.

Funding:

Based on Lester's report, the cost for these projects will be approximately \$22,750 plus materials. An additional expense could be food and lodging depending on the season and their own provisions. Having non-profit status is essential and once that is attained, we could fund the projects with grant money, donations, and MAI funds. Lester Kenway has offered to assist us with applying for grant money and Barry Timson informed me that grant money is available from the Outdoor Heritage Fund and The Department of Conservation.