

LANGLADE COUNTY ICE AGE NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL CONDITIONS
(As of July 30, 2017)

Due to situations beyond the control of the Llanglade County Chapter of the Ice Age Trail Alliance, conditions are constantly changing. Hikers are urged to contact the chapter coordinator (715-623-2645) to check on current conditions in advance of any trip on one or more of the segments.

"You Are Here" signs, installed in 1997, are at select sites or where the trail crosses public roads on the Kettlebowl, Lumbercamp, Old Railroad and Parrish Hills segments.

KETTLEBOWL - Distance: Approximately 13 miles Highway 52 to Polar at Highway 64.



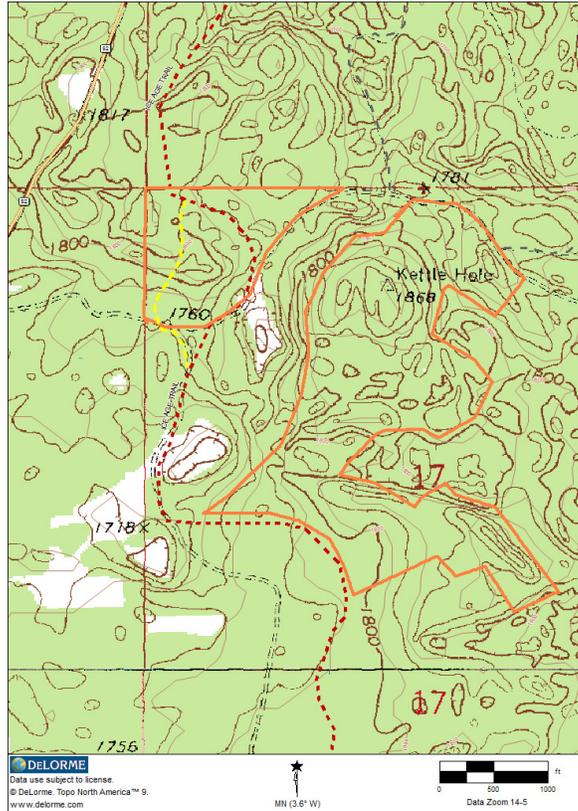
Frostpocket on the Kettlebowl Segment

Over half of this segment crosses privately-owned land. Unfortunately, the off-road stretch of trail east of Polar-Price Road to Sherry Road is closed at the landowner's request. Hikers can reach the trail head on Sherry Road by continuing north on Price-Polar and east on Oak/Sherry Roads. The segment passes through some of the highest terrain in Llanglade County and features scenic hardwood ridges, frostpockets and Big Stone Hole, a unique glacial feature. The boulder filled depression is a short distance from the trail but access is unimproved so caution is advised.

Markings were replaced where needed along with some mowing on the entire stretch from Sherry Road north to Kettlebowl Ski Hill at Highway 52 in 2015. Markings and some brushing were completed earlier this year from the south turnoff on Burma Road to the snowmobile trail just north of the frost pockets. Last year the stretch was mowed, checked and markings refreshed from the Oak/Sherry Roads trailhead north to the county property line. Markings were also repainted last year on the stretch from Highway 52 to the Kent Fire Tower Road.

Logging will be occurring along the segment south of the Kettlebowl Ski Area. The logging is scheduled to be completed by September. The affected areas are shown on the following map. Orange outlines the approximate boundary of the areas currently being harvested. The yellow dash line represents a rerouted portion of the trail since the original Ice Age Trail shown as a red dash line was established in 1975. Hikers are encouraged to use caution with the logging activity and increased vehicular traffic. The affected stretch is a mile of the segment covered by a 6 mile permanent state conservation and trail easement on land owned by the BTG Pactual Group and managed by Steigerwaldt Land Services of Tomahawk. If any questions contact the chapter coordinator.

(Kettlebowl cont.)



AREAS OF KETTLEBOWL SEGMENT TO BE LOGGED OUTLINED IN ORANGE.

LUMBERCAMP - Distance: 12 miles Wisconsin 52 to County Trunk A



Boulder field on South Slope of Summit Lake Moraine east of Baker Lake - Photo by Lee Auner
Brushing and directional arrows at critical intersections and yellow refresher markings were

(Lumbercamp cont.)

refreshed this spring on the stretch from County Trunk A to County Trunk S. The stretch through the Peters Marsh Wildlife Area was mowed late last year. The stretch from Wisconsin Highway 52 west to Otto Mauk Road was checked this year, including some mowing of thick brush just west of Baker Lake. The routed trailhead sign at Otto Mauk Road was restored this year.

Recent logging has occurred along portions west of Highway 52. Also a portion of the stretch east from County Trunk S to the Fischer Lake intersection has been damaged by inordinate 4-wheel vehicle use and is scheduled for repair by the county. Caution is advised in these areas.

The boulder strewn slopes near Baker Lake and a former logging camp are features to be observed. The rugged terrain is part of a recessive moraine which stretches from Summit Lake to north of the Village of White Lake.

Local sportsmen have fixed up the stone cellar at the former Norem Lumbercamp site just west of Otto Mauk Road for overnight use. Hikers are encouraged to exercise good trail stewardship if using the historic structure.

OLD RAILROAD - Distance: Approximately 9.5 miles County Trunk A to U. S. 45.



Left Photo: Game Lake Bog Walk-4-21-17-Tom Lazars
Right Panel: East Side of Jack Lake overflow seepage.
Upper: May 8, 1993-Joe Jopek
Lower: June 12, 2014-Gerald Anderson

Wet Trail Sections of Old Railroad – Game Lake Bog Walk and Jack Lake overflow seepage.

(Old Railroad cont.)

Over four miles of this segment will be displaced by a new county ATV trail this year. Planning is underway to reroute affected stretches of the Ice Age Trail.

Recent logging has occurred on this segment, especially in the Veterans Memorial Park and Pence Lake Road areas. Caution is advised.

Markings were also checked and replaced on the stretch from US 45 to the County A trailhead this spring. Recent logging has occurred along the trail just north of County A so caution is advised. The stretch from the south crossing of Pence Lake Road to US 45 was recently mowed and markings checked.

Recent rains have raised lake levels in this area. The bog walk at Game Lake is especially affected by the higher lake levels. Hikers should be aware of this condition and if necessary consider bypassing the bog walk by following the Game Lake Nature Trail around the lake to make the trail connection east or west.

Hikers may also encounter water over a short stretch along the east shore of Jack Lake which may require a bit of creativity to get around it.

Five features of this segment are Veterans Memorial Park, bog walk, Clearwater Stonehole, the Koepenick-Pearson rail grade and Spsychalla Lodge. The latter facility was completed in 2015 and offers shelter for trail users but overnight use is discouraged. There are two primitive campsites along the segment on Game and Jack Lakes.

Veterans Memorial Park is a county facility with cabins, developed campground, picnic area, beach and arboretum. Some hikers have used the park as a base camp while hiking through the county.

HIGHLAND LAKES - Distance: 13.5 miles US 45 to County Trunk T

This segment is incomplete and requires a hike along a stretch of Forest and Kleeever Roads in the Town of Upham for approximately 4.5 miles to complete a trip from the eastern trailhead at US 45 to County Trunk T. An interesting feature along Forest Road is the Bogus Swamp Natural Area. Watch for a state marker about the unique area on the east side of the road. The natural area marker is slightly under a mile north of the Bogus Road intersection with Forest Road.

North of Kleeever Road the segment parallels the Parrish terminal moraine for over 3 miles. Just north of 5 Points, is a gap cut by the West Branch of the Eau Claire River through the moraine and shaped later for a railroad grade. Shortly beyond 5 Points the trail crosses the Eau Claire's west branch requiring a ford or a bit of creativity to get around it. West of the stream crossing inordinate 4-wheel vehicle use has created water-filled ruts requiring some careful steps.

In 2009, the Knights Templar Club granted permission for the trail to cross their land on a logging lane north of Kleeever Road. Gates and carsonite trail markings were installed on that stretch in 2010. Windfallen trees across the trail between the gates have been recently reported. Yellow refresher markings and directional arrows at critical intersections for this stretch were checked this year.

PARRISH HILLS - Distance: 12 miles County Trunk T to Lincoln County Line

In April 2011, a tornado devastated a portion of the segment south of 5 Cent Road. The Ice Age Trail is shown as red dashes but the section in the tornado affected trail is closed between the **red Xs** shown on the following map. A re-route via ATV trails on the Parrish Game Trail Fire Lane and Five Cent Road is provided until the chapter is able to re-establish the original trail.

Refreshing of markers and some brushing were completed this spring from the trailhead at County T to the Prairie River ford. Depending on ground water levels, the segment also has several wet crossings which may require a bit of creativity to get around them.

Logging is occurring on county owned land south of the Prairie River ford so caution is advised. A half mile stretch affected by logging late last year and remarked this spring is shown as orange in Section 21 on the following map.

The ford across the Prairie River southeast of the hamlet of Parrish has a firm bottom and the water level is usually below the knees. Northwoods Chapter members regularly check the stretch from County Trunk H west to Lincoln County.

Beaver activity observed last year has also created a water crossing challenge in the area. The approximate location of the beaver dam is also identified on the following map. Beaver activity was reported this spring near the Old Truck Marker 2.5 miles north of the trailhead at County T. If desired, the beaver dam and the Section 21 logged area can be by-passed via 5 Cent Road and County Trunk Highway H to the trail crossing.



**PARRISH HILLS SEGMENT
LANGLADE COUNTY**

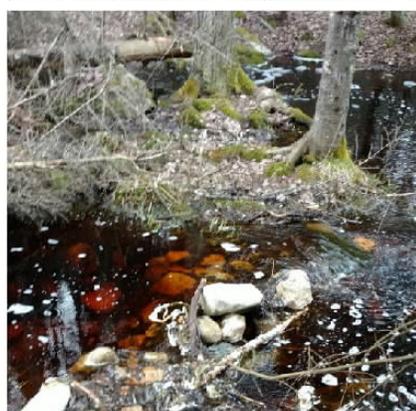
Photo Left:
Beaver Activity at Old Truck
Marker Area
April 24, 2017

Photo Right:
Beaver dam at unnamed
drainage north of Five Cent
Road and just east of forest
lane to ATV shelter.
April 29, 2017



Photo Left:
Wet crossing approximately
one-quarter mile west of
Nelson Fire Lane trail crossing
April 29, 2017

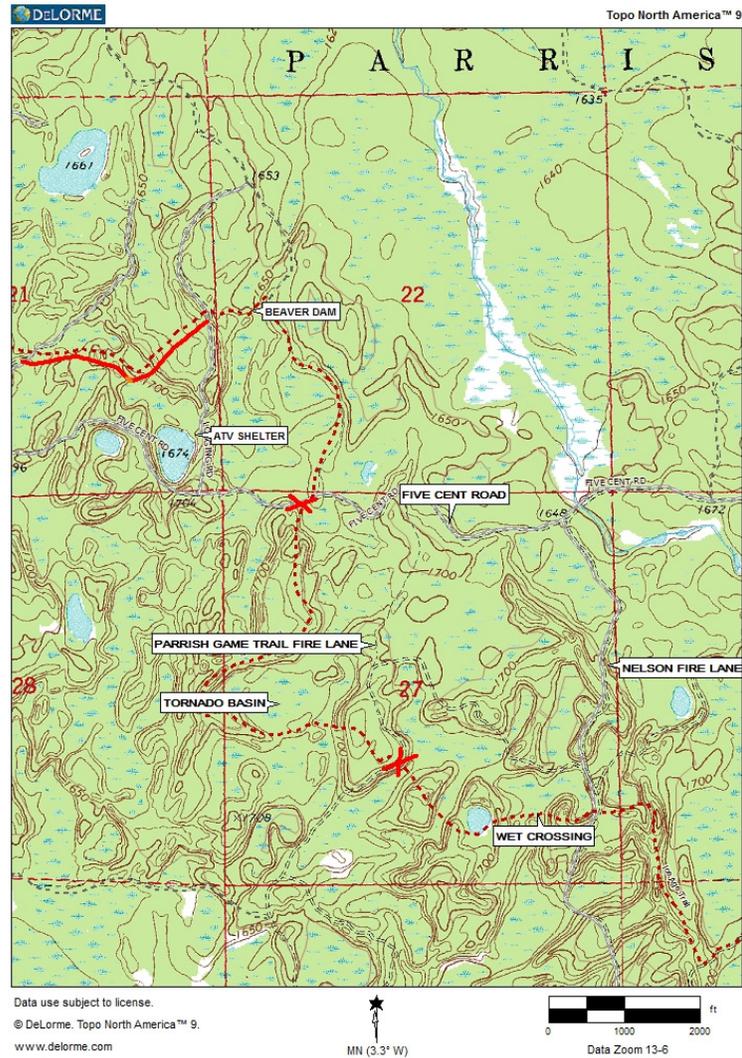
Photo Right:
There is a decent crossing
place about 50 feet south of
the beaver dam where one can
step on rocks. Maybe a few
more rocks would make it a
better crossing.
April 29, 2017



All photos: Gerald Anderson

Wet Trail Sections of Parrish Hills.

(PARRISH HILLS cont.)



STRETCH OF PARRISH HILLS AFFECTED BY LOGGING SHOWN IN ORANGE AND THE CLOSED TORNADO AFFECTED TRAIL SHOWN BETWEEN RED Xs.