SNAPSHOT

7.0 miles: Finohorn Rd. (28 11/16 St.) to S. Bucks Lake Rd. at CTH-F

This scenic segment through rolling county forest highlights the western edge of the Blue Hills and a loop around Hemlock Creek.

TRAIL ACCESS AND PARKING

Finohorn Rd. (28 11/16 St.): From Birchwood at the intersection of Main St. and STH-48, take STH-48 west 1.0 mi. At Loch Lomond Rd. (28 3/4 St.) turn left and go south then west 2.5 mi. At Finohorn Rd. (28 11/16 St.) turn left and go south 0.1 mi to the Trail access. Roadside parking.

S. Bucks Lake Rd. at CTH-F: From Birchwood at the intersection of Main St. and STH-48, take STH-48 east 2.3 mi. At CTH-F turn right and go south 8.5 mi to S. Bucks Lake Rd. Roadside parking on S. Bucks Lake Rd.

Additional Parking: (i) Bolger Rd. (25 1/2 Ave.) parking area, 1.2 mi west of CTH-F. (ii) Murphy Flowage Picnic Area 0.5 mi north of S. Bucks Lake Rd. on the west side of CTH-F. Follow access road around to the picnic area.

THE HIKE

From its starting point on Finohorn Road (28 11/16 Street) the segment heads south and quickly crosses Pigeon Creek. It continues over flat terrain and in about 0.9 mi intersects a blue-blazed spur trail that leads south to E. Lake Shore Drive. A little farther on, the segment passes an abandoned blue heron rookery (BW3), now home to nesting osprey.

South of the rookery the segment reaches a boardwalk; hikers should use caution when passing through this area and will likely come out with wet feet. An alternative is to walk on top of a beaver dam that parallels the segment.

As the segment makes its way to Bolger Road, it ascends into Barron quartzite hills, the first taste of the Blue Hills highlighted on segments farther east in Rusk County. Hikers should watch carefully for signage in this area as the route intersects many grassy logging roads.

Now in Rusk County, south of Bolger Road the segment drops steeply toward Hemlock Creek. Along the way the Trail passes some small, quickly flowing creeks. After paralleling Hemlock Creek for half a mile the segment reaches a junction (BW2) with a white-blazed trail that highlights the southern side of the creek.

From the junction with the white-blazed loop, the main segment continues east along the north side of Hemlock Creek with several trailside benches pre-
senting scenic views of the wetland below. The segment crosses the creek on an abandoned road bridge and enters the Murphy Flowage Picnic Area.

The segment continues south through a forested area, then reaches a primitive road and turns left. In 0.1 miles the Trail intersects another forest road that heads southwest 0.1 miles to the Rusk County Remote Campsite 6. The segment continues to follow the main primitive road east to its terminus on CTH-F.


**AREA SERVICES**

**Birchwood:** See Tuscobia Segment, p. 38. From the Finohorn Rd. (2811/16 St.) Trail access go north then east 3.6 mi. Also see Trail Access and Parking directions, above.

**Murphy Flowage Recreation Area:** Camping. On Trail. Picnic area is on the west side of CTH-F on the Trail route. The campground is on the east side of CTH-F, 1.0 mi north of S. Bucks Lake Rd. Rusk County Forestry Department (715-532-2113, RuskCounty.org/department/forestry/camping-information).

**Rusk County Remote Campsite 6:** Camping. From S. Bucks Lake Rd. at CTH-F Trail access go west 0.4 mi on primitive road (recommend 4WD). At “Y” junction, go southwest 0.1 mi on another primitive dirt road to campsite. For more information contact Rusk County Forestry Department (715-532-2113, RuskCounty.org/department/forestry/camping-information). A very remote site established for hunter use. No facilities.
Must-Have Ice Age Trail Books!

The **Ice Age Trail Guidebook** features more than 100 detailed segment-by-segment descriptions and maps to help you connect with the thousand-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail. Written for those seeking a wide range of adventures on the Ice Age Trail.

The **Ice Age Trail Atlas** is a set of 105 color, shaded relief-style maps at 1:48,000 scale. In contrast to the smaller map excerpts in the Ice Age Trail Guidebook, each map in this package is printed on an 8.5" x 11" sheet and includes not just the Ice Age Trail route but also a wider snapshot of the area around the Trail.

Both books were written and published by the Ice Age Trail Alliance. All proceeds for each book help build and maintain the Ice Age Trail. Please call the IATA at (800) 227-0046 with any questions.

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5/25/2017