

Lafayette Brook Area

Franconia Notch State Park



nhstateparks.org

Division of Parks and Recreation



CHAPTER 216-A EXPANSION OF STATE PARK SYSTEM

216-A:1 Intent. – It is the intent of the general court that a comprehensive state park system shall be developed, operated, and maintained to achieve the following purposes in order of the following priority:

I. To protect and preserve unusual scenic, scientific, historical, recreational, and natural areas within the state.

II. To continually provide such **additional park areas and facilities** as may be necessary to meet the recreational needs of the citizens of all regions of the state.

III. To make these areas accessible to the public for recreational, education, scientific, and other uses consistent with their protection and preservation.

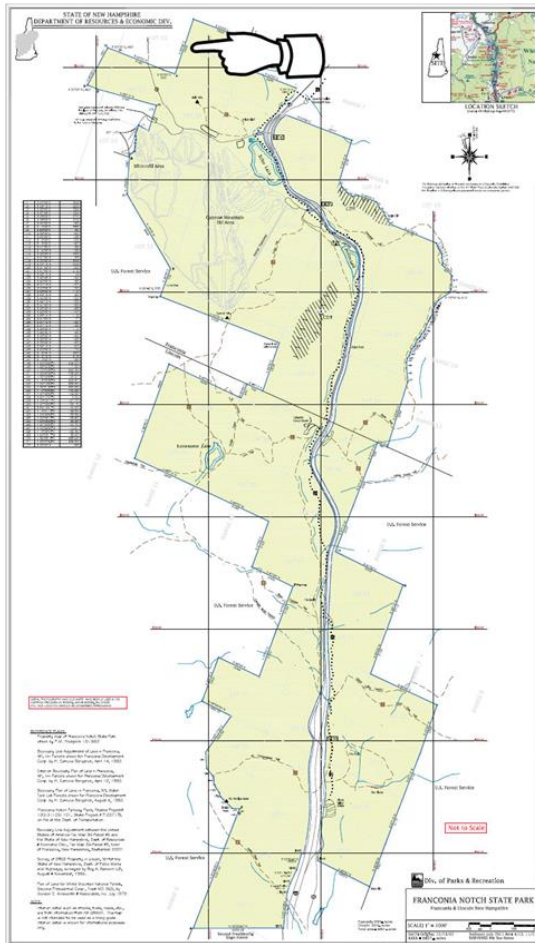
IV. To encourage and support tourism and related economic activity within the state.

Division of Parks and Recreation

The mission of the Division of Parks and Recreation is to provide New Hampshire's citizens and guests with outstanding recreational, educational, and inspirational experiences through the responsible management and cooperative stewardship of the state's natural, recreational and cultural resources.

- The State Park System has been operationally self-funded since 1991 raising all of its operational revenue from visitor and user fees.
- 92 properties including 38 day use areas, 21 campgrounds, 22 beaches, 7 waysides, 16 historic sites, 6 natural areas, 2 ski areas.
- Management is carried out with approximately 1000 employees, most part time seasonal.
- The total operating budget for the parks system is over 25 million dollars.
- Estimates are that 6 million people visit our state parks each year.
- Visitation to NH parks contributes over \$500 million to the state's economy and directly supports 8,000 jobs.
- Snowmobiling and ATVing, supported by our Trails Bureau and local clubs, delivers an additional economic impact of up to \$1 billion to the state annually.

Franconia Notch State Park



- 6,807 acres
- Dedicated in 1925 as a memorial to the men and women of NH who have served the nation in times of war.
- First parcels acquired in 1928
- Taft Trail opened in 1933
- Tramway opened in 1938
- Parkway improvements 1979

Franconia Notch State Park

- Cannon Mountain Ski Area & Aerial Tramway
- Flume Gorge
- Lafayette Campground
- Echo Lake Beach
- Bike Path, Pemi Trail, Boise Rock, Basin, Gallen Memorial, Old Man Memorial Plaza

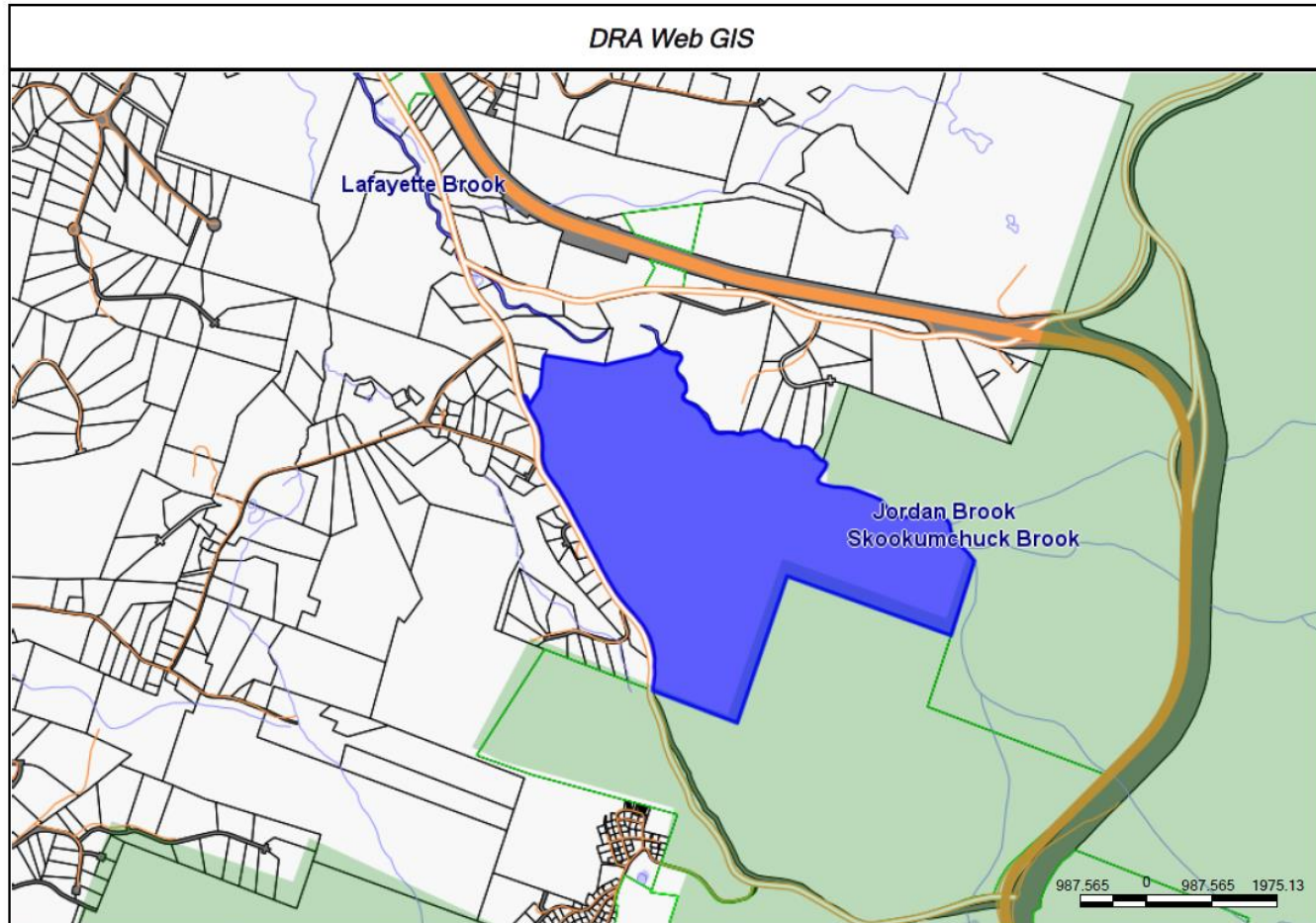


Franconia Notch State Park



- 2012 **Adventure Journal Magazine**: Ranked #2 – Best State Parks in North America, FNSP.
- Franconia Notch State Park Ranks # 2 to Chugah State Park in Alaska, the third largest state park in the U.S. in Adventure Poll for its (in their words) diverse awesomeness
- Franconia Notch also was proclaimed as one of the top 20 state parks in the country out of 6,624 state parks in the USA
- Franconia Notch State Park rated one of top 10 perfect parks in the U.S by Fodor's.

Lafayette Brook Parcel



This map was compiled using data believed to be accurate; however, a degree of error is inherent in all maps. This map was distributed "AS-IS" without warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, including but not limited to warranties of suitability to a particular purpose or use. No attempt has been made in either the design or production of the maps to define the limits or jurisdiction of any federal, state, or local government. Detailed on-the-ground surveys and historical analyses of sites may differ from the maps.

Lafayette Brook Parcel Description

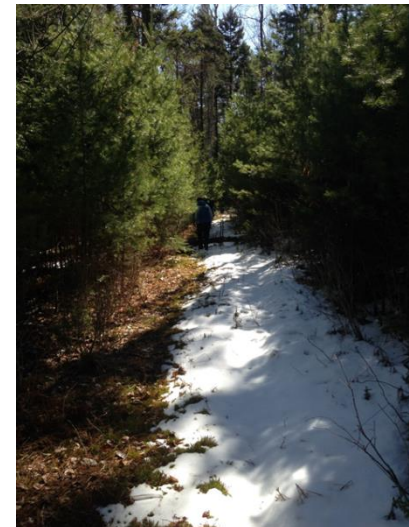
- 400 of undeveloped forested land in a IF residential district on Profile Road (parcel 00020-0000001).
- Natural Heritage categorized 28 acre exemplary forest seep/seepage forest system along Lafayette Brook.
- Current owner has created and maintained pedestrian trails on the property.
- Forest Description:
 - High-quality mature hardwood stand maintained as a sugarbush
 - 60 acres of younger forest dominated by paper birch,
 - 85 acre stand of very mature white pine
 - 130 acres of WAP Tier 2 habitat (remainder is Tier3)

Lafayette Brook Parcel

The Division is interested in acquiring the property for the following reasons:

Protection of the view shed from the Cannon Mountain and Mittersill ridges.

- Maintenance and potential expansion of the existing trail use on the property and to potentially connect it to the trails in Franconia Notch State Park and the White Mountain National Forest.
- Future state park recreational development on the flatter terrain to compliment the more mountainous terrain in the rest of the park and expand existing services.
- Protection of the exemplary forest seep/seepage forest located on the lower slopes of Lafayette Brook.
- Wildlife habitat management and protection.
- Demonstrate sustainable forest management.

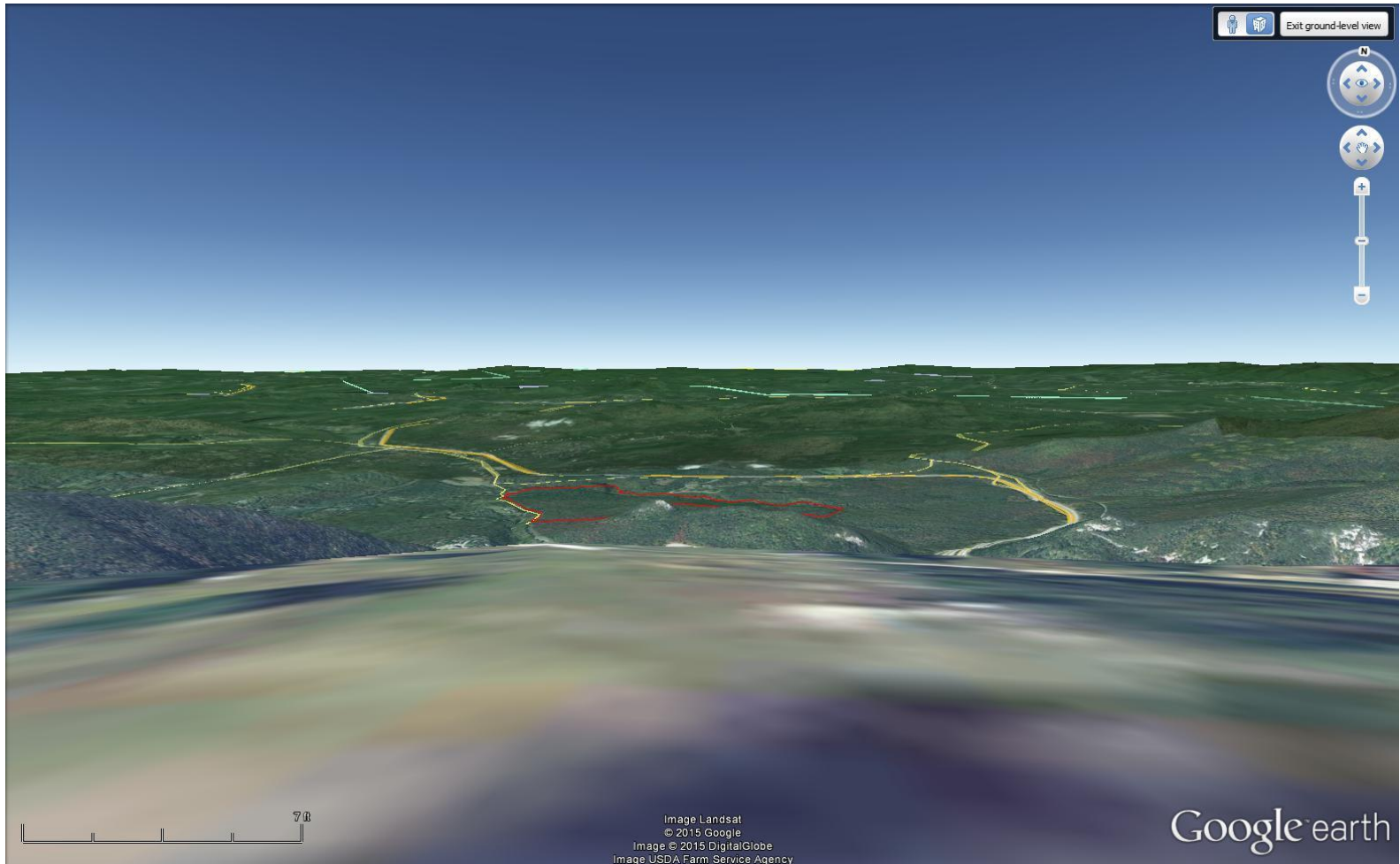


Slope Analysis

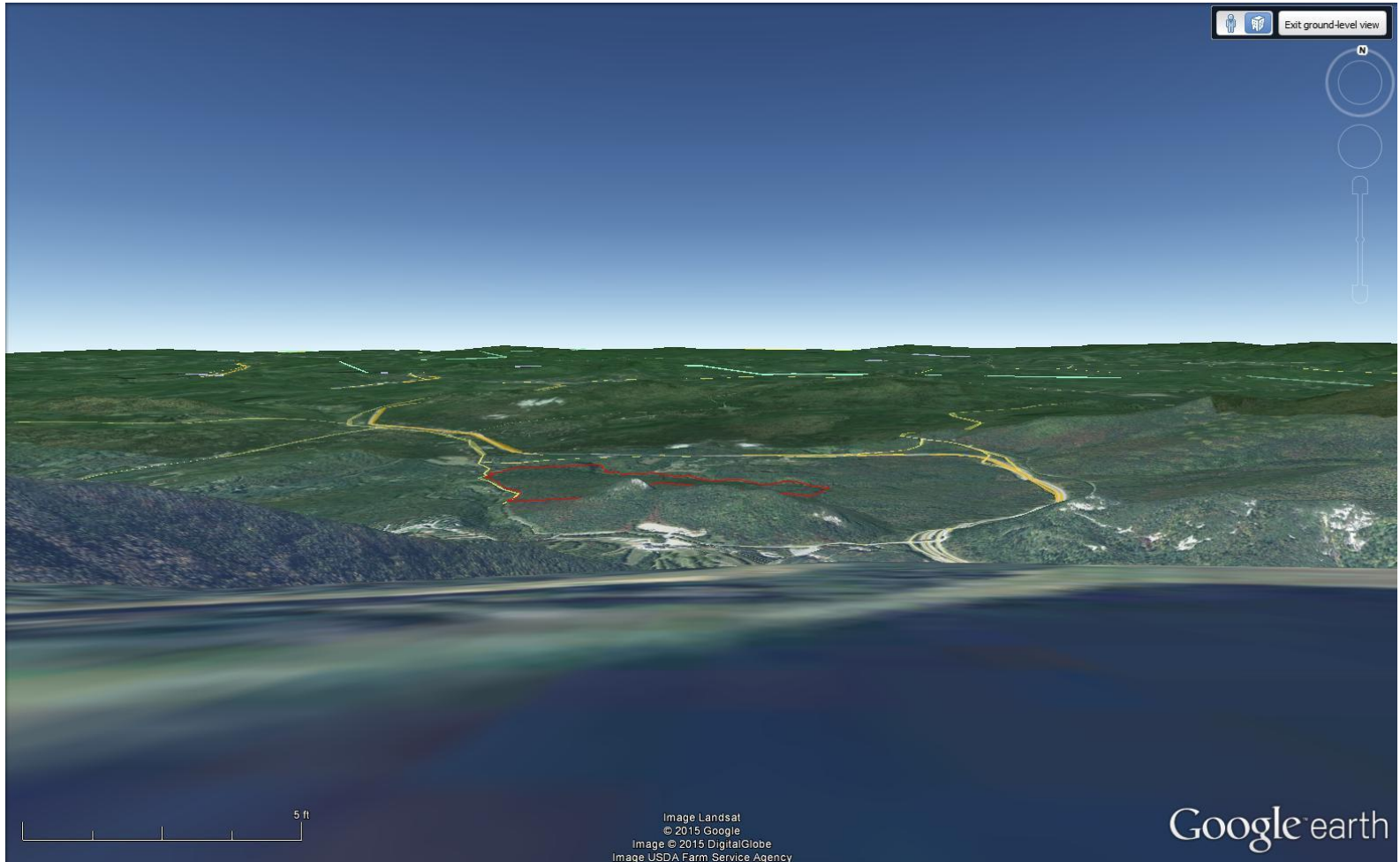
Slope Analysis 0-3% and 3%-8%

- 7.3% of the terrain in Franconia Notch State Park is less than 8% slope
- 30.3% of the terrain on the Lafayette Brook Tract is less than 8% slope
- Lafayette Brook is 6 % the size of FNSP yet it has 25% as much terrain less than 8% slope as does the entire park
- Flat terrain is more contiguous

View from Cannonball Quad Summit



View from Tram Summit



Next Steps

- Application to the National Park Service for a grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).
- Submit request to the legislative fiscal committee for approval to match LWCF funds with park funds .
- Comment Period on proposed acquisition open until September 11, 2016, 4:00 pm.
- LafayetteBrook.Comments@dred.nh.gov or mailed to the Department of Resources & Economic Development, Lafayette Brook Comments, 172 Pembroke Rd, Concord, NH 03301.