



Mount Washington State Park Update  
Mount Washington Commission

Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018  
Cannon Mountain, Franconia Notch State Park

# New Park Manager Introduction

**Patrick Hummel** [patrick.hummel@dncr.nh.gov](mailto:patrick.hummel@dncr.nh.gov)

**Current Cell: 603-419-0371**

- Born in Worcester, MA, but raised in New Hampshire (Jaffrey). Currently reside in Manchester (for now).
- Graduate of Keene State College with a Bachelor's Degree in (Business) Management
- Avid hiker and traveler
  - Completed the New Hampshire 48 Four Thousand Footers (all solo) and am casually working on the New England 67 and Winter 48
  - Outside of New England, have also hiked or backpacked in Alaska, Oregon, southern California, North Carolina, Tennessee, the Canadian Rockies, and Iceland.
- Began working for NH State Parks in Spring, 2001 at Monadnock State Park
- Park Manager, Monadnock State Park from 2007-2013
- NH State Parks Volunteer Program Manager from Fall 2013-Fall 2018
- Mount Washington State Park Manager, September 14, 2018-
- Previous to full time with NHSP, jobs held include, Tour/Band Management, Radio management, and Residential Program Manager for children with developmental disabilities (Crotched Mountain)



# Monadnock State Park

6,000+ acre Park, home to Mount Monadnock (3,165'), with a bare rock summit with 100+ mile unobstructed panoramic views

40+ miles of non-motorized trails hiked by ~125,000 people annually



- 3 staffed entrances with fee collections, 3 additional trail heads, 1 Retail Store, 2 campgrounds

3 satellite properties, and at one time, supervised 3 additional State Parks (Pisgah, Chesterfield Gorge, Miller)



# Mount Monadnock and Mount Washington similarities

- High Visitation
- Year-Round Operation
- High Profile locations
- Above tree line and summit prominence
- SAFETY
- Multiple stakeholder relationships
- (Advisory) Commission
- Staff size is similar
- Rare alpine vegetation
- Rich in history
- Separated by ~105 miles, one can be seen from the other



# Volunteer Program Manager 2013-2018

- Oversaw and coordinated Volunteer Program, including varying projects in Parks/Forests across the State.
- Managed ~100 individual volunteers and over 30 organizations with ongoing volunteer activities and helped develop project planning and review
- Successes included development of new procedures/forms, insurance, helped increase volunteers hours from a few hundred reported to over 19,000 annually, developed new partnerships
- Member of National Association of State Park Volunteer Coordinators (leadership), New Hampshire Association of Volunteer Administrators (President), White Mountain Trail Collective (Board, co-chair Trails committee), Quabbin 2 Cardigan Partnership (Grant Committee), Rivers Management Advisory Committee (Dept Rep), Volunteer NH (Gov Conference Planning, Spirit Awards review)



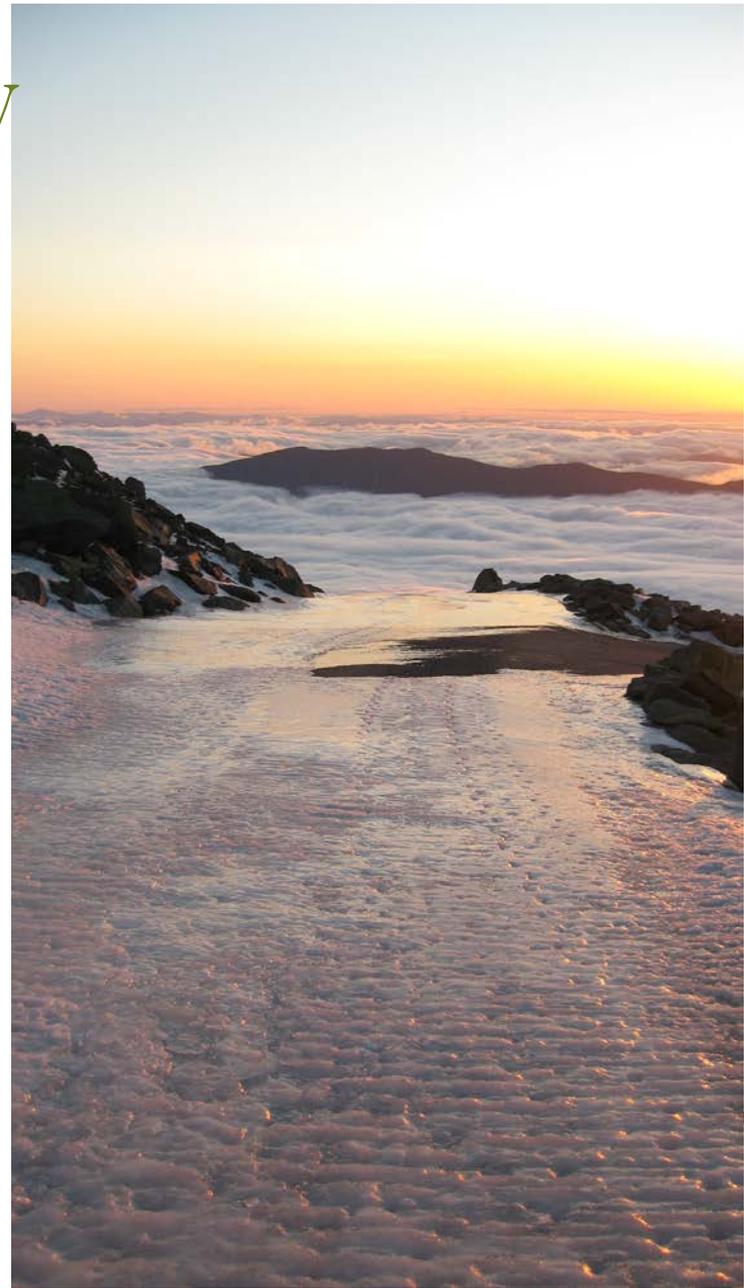
# Prior Mt. Washington Experiences

- Hiked Mount Washington multiple times, seasons
- Also have driven the Auto Road and rode the Cog
- Winter overnight trips, multiple years
- Assisted with maintenance projects, repairs
- Led volunteer work days at the summit
- Coordinated visits and transportation
- Familiar face to some of the staff from the Park and Obs



# 2018 Park Overview

- ~300,000 (?) visitors to the Sherman Adams Building
- Retail and Food Concessions for the season totaled about \$1.1 million; slightly down from last year.
- Improvement Projects completed included electrical upgrades in SAB, Fire Code compliances, and Yankee workshop organization



# 2018 Improvement Projects

- Four new cafeteria style tables were purchased, increasing the seating capacity in the rotunda and hiker pack room.
- The Yankee workshop was reorganized/rearranged allowing for a more efficient work space.
- Paver Steps installed at the exit of the hiker pack room, improving footing.
- Improvements were made throughout the SAB, to bring the building up to code. Door closers were added, smoke/heat detectors were relocated, etc.
- Electrical upgrades were made. More outlets in work spaces, more efficient lighting, and corrections in concession area.
- Enough fuel hose was purchased to fuel the Tip Top furnace from the 1000 gallon tank in the generator building so we no longer have to haul fuel in five gallon cans.
- New door installed at ESTP



# Trail Of Thai Royalty- Aug 2018



# Winter 2018/2019 Planned Projects and Goals

- Decrease total number of Snow Cat trips for State Park.  
Scheduling not yet finalized
- Snow Cat driver training for 2 staff members
- Re-explore new snow cat purchase
- Prepare staff orientation in Spring
- New Concession storage space
- Research options for new interpretive displays
- MWSP Org Chart and staffing set up
- Clean/organize throughout SAB
- Improve wall space displays in SAB
- Other annual winter maintenance projects such as painting, repairs, and general upgrades



# 2019 improvement areas

- Better manage retail inventory and improve product mix and design
- Consider updates to retail layout and space
- Credit Card Sales at Food Concessions
- Improvements to interior of Tip Top House and exterior area
- Rehabilitation of tip top house exterior sign
- Return Lizzie Bourne portrait to sab with new info display
- Stabilize staffing shortages, decrease OT, and uniform needs
- Clean out State Park quarters and Yankee building
- Assess staff radio set up and protocol for usage
- Clean up outdoors summit area
- New trash and recycling bins
- Hand dryers in bathrooms
- Carpeting in state park qrtrs



It is a privilege to be here. Thank you!

