

STORY OF THE LAND

The Whitefield Salmon Preserve, along with protected property on the west side of the West Branch and to the north of Howe Road, supports over 4,000 feet of prime Atlantic salmon rearing and spawning habitat.

Originally part of the Crowe Rope factory complex, the Whitefield Salmon Preserve was acquired by the Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association (now Midcoast Conservancy) in 1999 and features trails through a beautiful wilderness teeming with wildlife that follow the banks of both the Main Stem and West Branch of the Sheepscot River.



An adjacent private property (across North Howe Road where the Blue Trail exits the preserve) is protected by a conservation easement held by Midcoast Conservancy. The property was purchased in 2012 by a landowner who generously allowed the Whitefield Trails Committee to build and maintain the Sheepscot West Branch Trail on the land and open it to public use. This trail offers views over river rapids and oxbows, with numerous picnic and fishing spots on large rocks along the river's edge.

WHAT YOU MIGHT SEE



Look along the water's edge and you might see **beavers, frogs, turtles** or **osprey** and **bald eagles** fishing along the river. Nesting boxes have been placed along the river on the Salmon Trail for **wood ducks**. As you walk the trails, listen for **black-capped chickadees, nuthatches, woodpeckers, warblers, sparrows, common yellow-throated warblers** and **cedar waxwings**. In early spring, look for **lady slippers, wood anemones** and **trout lilies** under the **American hornbeams** (musclewood).

"In the 25 years that I've lived on the Howe Road, quite a number of homes have been built. It's great to know that the preserve will always provide great habitat for critters and a chance for folks to walk in the woods along a lovely stretch of river!" –Stephen Spencer

According to locals, a deep pool below the falls near the beginning of the Sheepscot West Branch Trail makes a good summer swimming hole. As the trail drops back down to the river, look for hand-quarried rocks and sections of wire cable that are evidence of earlier settlers. At the top of the ridge on the loop, look for patches of **reindeer lichen**, small **"ground pines"**, **Christmas ferns** and **evergreen wood ferns**.

DURING YOUR VISIT

- Stay on trails
- Carry out what you carry in
- Keep dogs under control; please clean up after your pets
- Open during daylight hours
- Wear blaze orange during hunting season
- No fires
- Beware of poison ivy (especially along the river)



HOW TO GET THERE

From Wiscasset:

- Take Route 218 north for 17.6 miles. Turn left onto Route 126 and right onto 218 N. In 3.1 miles, turn left onto Route 32. In 0.7 mile, turn left on Howe Road. In 1.3 miles, gravel parking and kiosk are on the left.

GET INVOLVED

Support from members and volunteers makes this preserve possible.

Join Today

- Unlimited use** of preserves without day use fees
- Discounts** on cabins, camp sites, events, classes and workshops
- Special events** for members
- Keep Midcoast Maine** a beautiful place for all
- Be a member** visit www.midcoastconservancy.org

Volunteer

You can help maintain trails and buildings, staff recreational events, lead guided walks, and more. You too can make a difference in your community!

For more information contact Midcoast Conservancy at 207-389-5150, or midcoastconservancy.org

The all-volunteer **Whitefield Trails Committee** continues its work to maintain trails and develop others. Ideas for future trails are always welcome, as are additional volunteers. **To learn more about the Trails Committee and how you can help, contact David Elliott at 207-549-7572 or d.elliott.92546@gmail.com.**

Whitefield Salmon Preserve and Sheepscot West Branch Trails

Whitefield, ME



MIDCOAST
CONSERVANCY



WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME TRAIL

Whitefield Salmon Preserve and Sheepscot West Branch Trails

Trails feature beautiful views of both the Main Stem and West Branch of the Sheepscot River

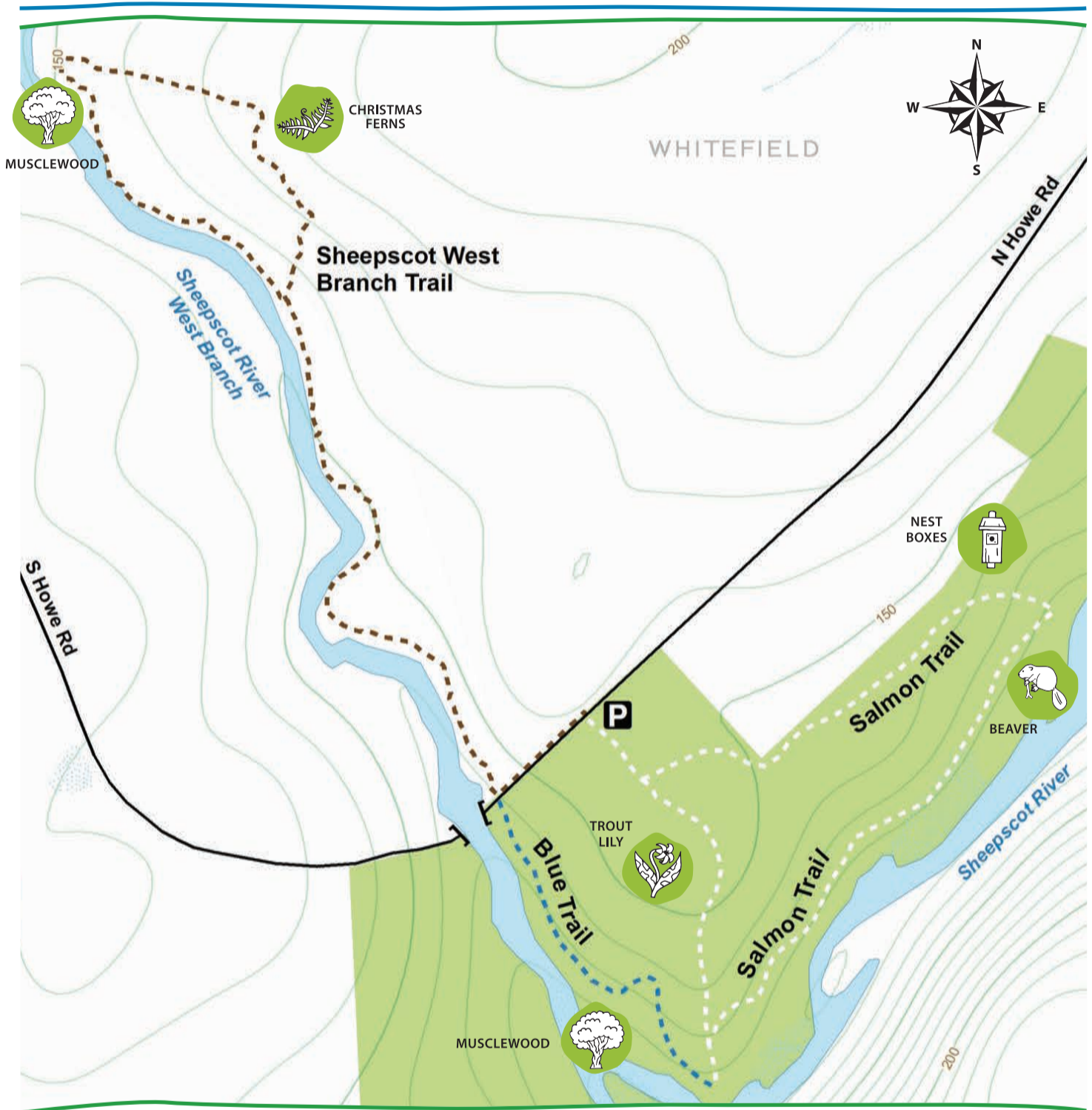
Total Acres: 56

Total Trail Length: 1.3 miles

Total Whitefield Trails Committee Trail Length: 1.7 miles



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Map Key



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|--|--|---|
| <p>Blue Trail
Trail Length: 0.3 Mile
Difficulty: Moderate
Highlights: Musclewood</p> | <p>Sheepscot West Branch Trail
Trail Length: 1.7 Mile Roundtrip
Difficulty: Moderate
Highlights: Falls Overlook</p> | <p>Midcoast Conservancy Property</p> |
| <p>Salmon Trail
Trail Length: 1 Mile
Difficulty: Easy
Highlights: Sheepscot River Views</p> | | <p>50-foot contour line</p> |
| | | <p>Whitefield Trails Committee Trail</p> |
| | | <p>Private Property
Please stay on trail</p> |