



# INLAND WOODS+ TRAILS



Fall 2022

[woodsandtrails.org](http://woodsandtrails.org)



## Building more trails....

The summer of 2022 has been the most productive in our history for Inland Woods + Trails. We built new trails and planted 7000 trees on several of your most popular properties:

- At the Bethel village trails, purpose built single track segments were designed and built in house by our staff, replacing portions of the Bingham Loop and Helix that were on double track trails and old logging roads.
- An 8-mile segment of the long awaited trail from Mt Abram to Bethel village. We have named the trail the Community Access Trails System or CATS. The trail from Vernon Street to Mt. Abram was opened and the switchback section up to Mt Abram improved. Signs along the way were added, making this a fun gravel grind.
- In Rumford, with the support of our PACT volunteer team, a 6-mile purpose built set of biking and walking loops from Mountain Valley High School was completed and is getting rave reviews.
- Maine Trail Builders has completed an intermediate mountain biking section (Gulley-Verse Travels) at the Bethel Community Forest and our team added a connector (Lynx) from the CATS to this new downhill flow trail, completing a nice loop.

## BCF grows

Working with The Conservation Fund, IWT will close on the purchase of 532 acres that is part of the Bethel Community Forest, including the Parks-Bennett tract on North Road. This property was part of the Chadbourne Tree Farm and has been owned by The Conservation Fund for the past two years. A tentative celebration is planned for Sunday, November 13.



## Woods + Trails + YOU!

Volunteers are a huge part of our trail building success and we thank all of you who come out all year to build new trails and maintain our existing system. Skip and Liz Repetto deserve a special shout out for their amazing efforts on the Fluffernutter mountain bike trail in town as they spent more than 100 hours contouring the tract into a flowing, much easier to climb path. Bravo!

### Coming Events!

IWT will continue fundraising efforts for the CATS trail from the Bethel Community Forest to Sunday River Resort. Some work has begun on this much-anticipated connector trail that will give Sunday River valley residents and visitors access to the Bingham and Community Forests and all the way to Mt. Abram—a total of 15 miles. Watch for events coming soon, including one at [@Luna Blu in Bethel in February.](#)

## Support IWT



Have you ever considered making a gift of appreciated stock?"

[Find out more..](#)

### Happy trails, Jake!



We are sad to announce that our talented Trail Steward, Jacob Burgess, is heading west to pursue other opportunities. Jake has been a huge part of our success the past four years since arriving as an intern and then heading up our trail stewardship and building program. His passion has been evident on all our properties as he has designed and overseen trails at the Bethel Community Forest, Bethel village trails, Mystery Mountain in Rumford Point and others. Many of the names in our system have been dreamed up by Jake, and his creativity has been contagious. Thank you, Jake, for all you have done for IWT! Good luck in Colorado!



### Winter Trail Memberships

Passes for nordic skiing, fat biking and snowshoeing at the Bethel village trails are on sale now! Visit [woodsandtrails.org](https://woodsandtrails.org)



## New Board Members

The IWT Board of Directors added two new board members this fall as we continue to grow as an organization:



### •Julie Reiff

Julie moved to Bethel in 2018 and has more than 30 years experience in nonprofit marketing and communications. She was a volunteer naturalist with the AMC for over 10 years and loves to hike, ski, snowshoe, and help maintain trails.

### •James Tassé PhD

Jim is the Assistant Director of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine, and has been active in trail development and policy in Maine since 2007. He recently moved from southern Maine into a property he's owned at Mount Abram since 2008, and is a ski instructor at both Mount Abram and Sunday River. He is an IMBA-trained trail designer and a certified road and trail bicycle riding instructor, as well as an expert on bike/ped infrastructure. He is married to Sarah Tasse, DVM, and enjoys bicycling, skiing, hiking, and playing music.

