

HIKING

Mt. Kearsarge North



USDA Forest Service
White Mountain National Forest

[Click Here For A Trail Guide](#)

Location of Trail Head: The trail begins at a small parking area located 1.5 miles east of NH Route 16/302 on the north side of Hurricane Mountain Road in Kearsarge.

Length of Trail to the Summit (one way): 3.1 miles
Estimated Time (one way): 2 hours and 50 minutes
Elevation Gain: 2,700 feet
Summit Elevation Above Sea Level: 3,268 feet
Level of Difficulty: Moderate to difficult (it's fairly steep)

The Mount Kearsarge North Trail is a steep trail that makes a perfect day hike. The rocky, exposed summit of Mount Kearsarge North affords one of the finest view points in the White Mountains with exceptional views in all directions.

Trail Narrative: The trail starts at a relatively easy grade on an old road. It becomes rougher and progressively steeper at 1.1 miles where the trail passes several boulders. An area of rocky ledges is reached next providing nice views of the Saco River Valley and southern and western peaks. At 2.4 miles, the trail swings to the crest of the ridge connecting Kearsarge North to Bartlett Mountain. The trail bears to the right and travels up the north side of the ridge. At 2.9 miles, the trail makes a sharp turn at a steep section and continues around the west side of the summit ledges up to the mountain summit and fire tower.

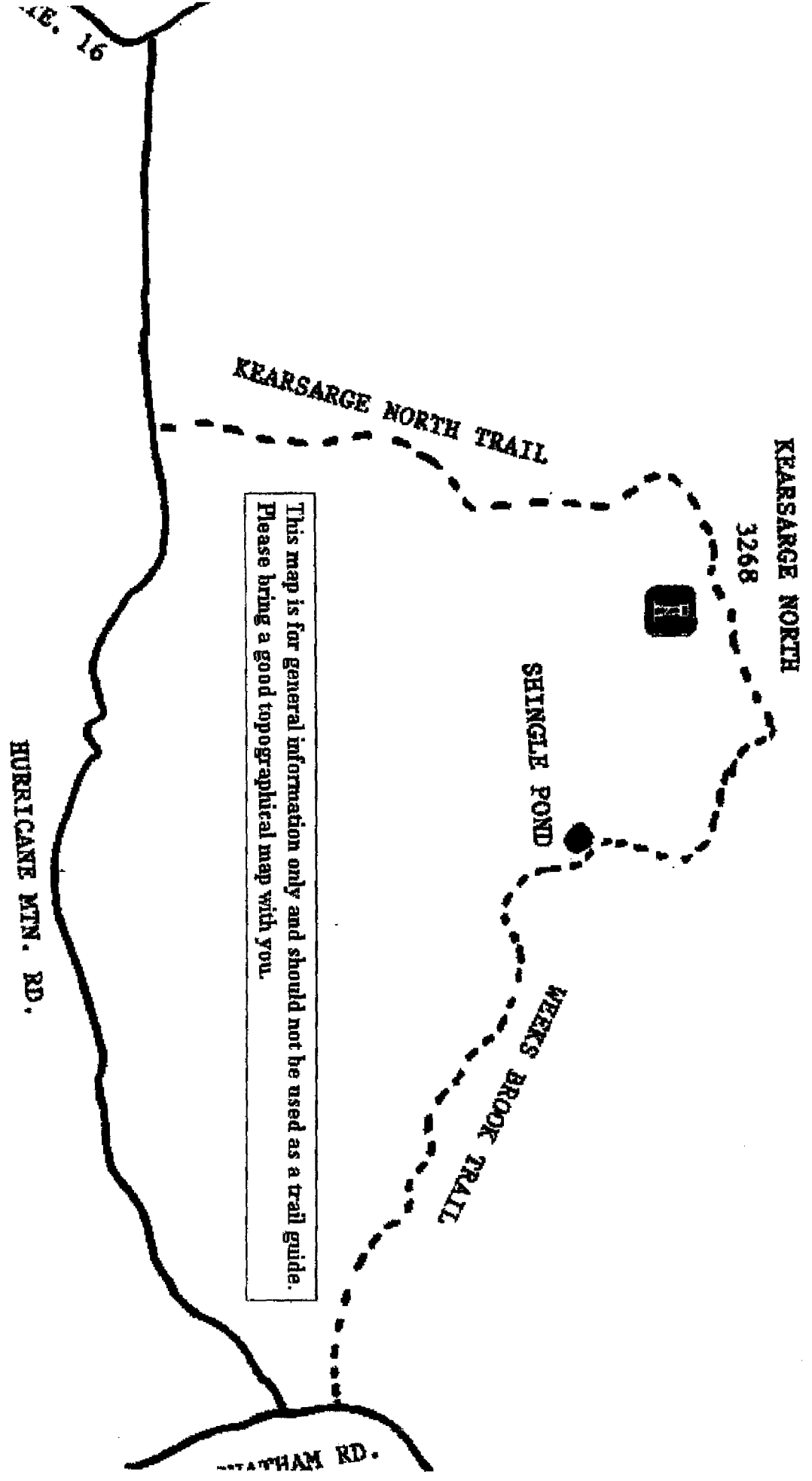
Location of Trail Head: (See Map) South Chatham Road .1 miles north of the east end of Hurricane Mountain Road or 5.2 miles from Maine 113 in North Fryeburg, Maine.
Length of the Trail to the Summit (one way): 4.9 miles
Length of the Trail to Shingle Pond (one way): 2.8 miles
Estimated Time (one way): 3 hours and 50 minutes

The Weeks Brook Trail leaves from a private drive on the west side of South Chatham Rd., 0.1 mi. North from the East terminus of Hurricane Mtn. Rd. It follows old logging roads climbing gradually and moderately to Shingle Pond. Use care in following the trail. At 4.0 miles, the trail enters a boggy area before steeply winding (watch for arrows) up to the summit.

The History of Mount Kearsarge North: Mount Kearsarge North was originally called "Mount Pequawket" after local Indians who frequented the area. This mountain became a popular peak starting in 1845 when three men cut a bridle path and built a two story wooden inn on the summit. The inn blew off the mountain when it came loose from its iron mooring rods and chains one autumn. It was rebuilt only to blow apart twenty-five years later.

The New Hampshire Forestry Commission built the first fire tower on Mount Kearsarge North in 1909. Through cooperative efforts, the Forest Service helped staff the tower from 1911 to the 1960's. Mount Kearsarge North supports the last remaining fire tower in the White Mountain National Forest. It was dedicated September 29, 1991 into the National Historic Lookout Registry. Planes now monitor forest lands for fires.

Remember to bring water, well soled walking shoes and warm clothes. Mountain winds, temperatures, and conditions can change in a drastically short amount of time.



This map is for general information only and should not be used as a trail guide.
Please bring a good topographical map with you.