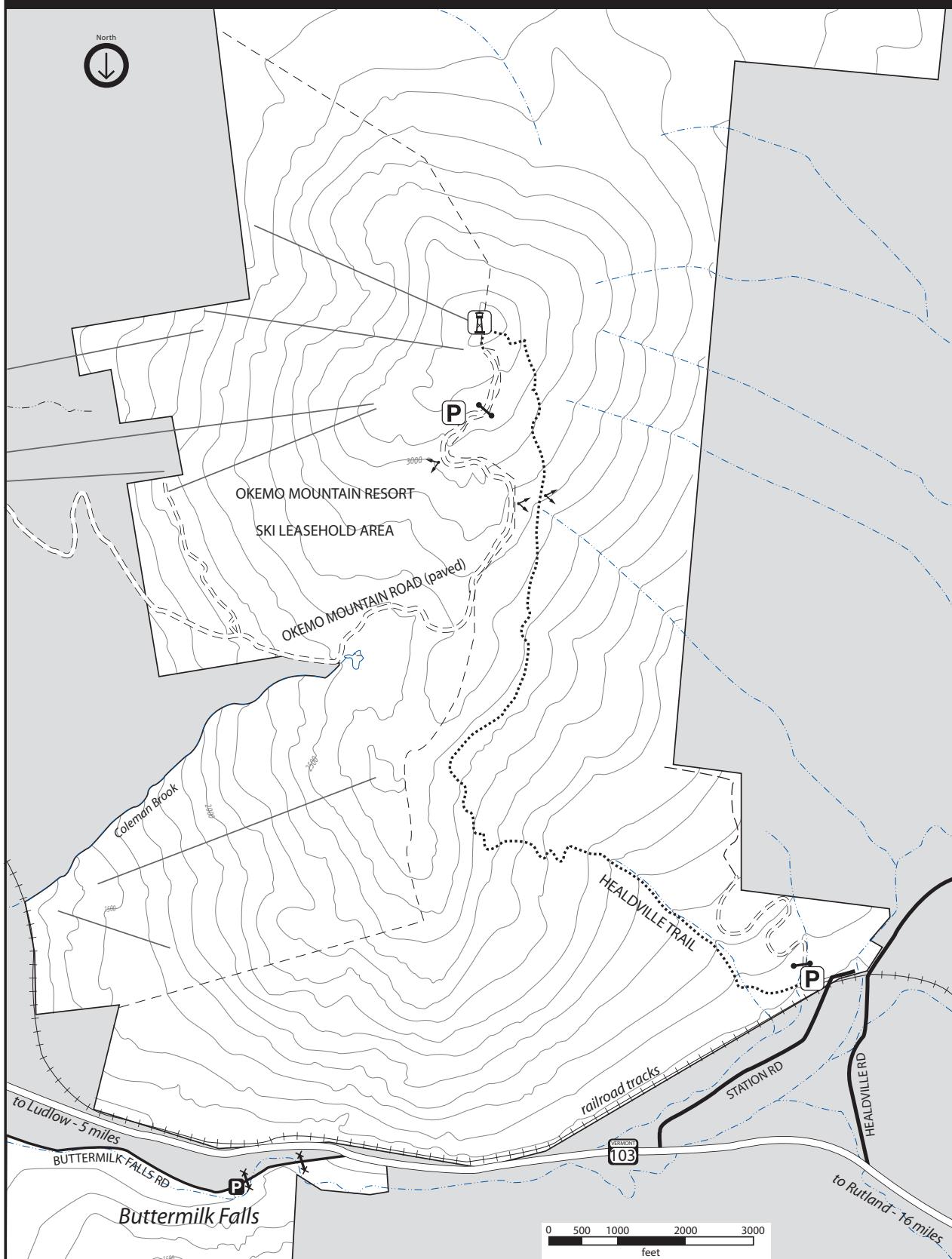


OKEMO STATE FOREST - HEALDVILLE TRAIL



Foot trail

Town highway

State highway

State forest highway (not maintained in winter)

Gate, barricade

Ski chairlift

LEGEND



Vista



Lookout tower



Parking area (not maintained in winter)



Stream

Ski area leasehold boundary



02/2013-ephpls

Healdville Trail - Okemo State Forest

The Healdville Trail climbs from the base to the summit of Okemo Mountain in Ludlow and Mount Holly. Highlights of this trail include the former fire lookout tower on the summit and a vista along the trail with views to the north and west. Crews from the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps constructed the trail under the direction of the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation during the summers of 1991-1993.

Trail Facts

Distance: 3.0 miles (one way)

Elevation: 1,400 ft at trailhead
3,343 ft at summit

Blazed in Blue

Hiking Time: 4 hours round trip

The blue-blazed trail starts out on an old logging road that crosses a small bridge and follows the railroad tracks a short distance. It then turns right, away from the tracks. It crosses a second bridge (0.2 mi) and parallels a brook before crossing it on a third bridge (0.7 mi). The trail climbs steadily on switchbacks to a plateau (1.5 mi) where the trail flattens out and follows the mountain contour. The trail then crosses a stony brook bed (2.0 mi) and climbs to an overlook (2.3 mi) with views to the north (Salt Ash Mountain, Shrewsbury Peak, Killington Peak, Little Killington Peak, Mendon Peak) and west (Taconic mountain range). Beyond the overlook, the trail climbs steeply upward for about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. The trail levels, coming to the remains of a forest ranger's cabin (2.9 mi), and just beyond a sign pointing to the fire tower on the right (3.0 mi). The trail ends at the fire tower. The view from the tower includes the Okemo Resort ski area on the eastern flank of the mountain; Mount Ascutney to the east; Glebe Mountain, Mount Snow (in the far distance) Stratton Mountain, and Bromley Mountain to the south; Dorset Peak and the Taconics to the west; and Killington Peak to the north.

Return to the parking area by descending the same route.

Okemo State Forest encompasses 7,323 acres in the towns of Andover, Ludlow, Mount Holly and Weston. A Civilian Conservation Corps camp was established on

the property in 1935. Construction projects by the CCC include the fire tower, a ranger's cabin and an automobile access road. The majority of Okemo Mountain Resort's ski terrain is located within a leased portion of Okemo State Forest. Okemo State Forest is managed for multiple uses under a long-term management plan; these uses include forest products, recreation and wildlife habitat. Okemo State Forest provides an important wildlife corridor between Green Mountain National Forest lands to the south and Coolidge State Forest to the north. Okemo State Forest includes Buttermilk Falls, a series of scenic waterfalls on Broad Brook in Ludlow. Buttermilk Falls Road is located off Route 103 just north of the intersection of Routes 100 and 103.

Regulations and Guidelines

- The Healdville Trail is for foot travel only. Motorized use, horses and bikes are prohibited.
- Trails on State Lands are closed during mud season – snowmelt to around the 3rd weekend in May.
- Please stay on marked trails; hiking off trail, especially in steep and high elevation areas, destroys vegetation and causes erosion.
- Carry out what you bring in.
- Keep pets under control at all times and keep them leashed around other visitors.
- Do not pick plants, trees or wildflowers; leave them for others to enjoy.

Directions to the Healdville Trail Parking Area

From Ludlow: From the intersection of Vermont Routes 100 and 103, head west on Vermont Route 103; turn left on Station Road (2.7 mi). Turn left again just after the railroad tracks (0.8 mi) and park in the lot at the end of the gravel road.

From Rutland: From the intersection of US Route 7 and Vermont Route 103, head south on Vermont 103; turn right on Station Road (15 mi). Turn left just after the railroad tracks (0.8 mi) and park in the lot at the end of the gravel road.

This document is available upon request in Braille, large print and audio format. VT TDD Relay: (800)253-0191.

02/2013 - ERP/RW

Okemo State Forest Guide



The Healdville Trail Mount Holly, Vermont