

## **Moxham Mountain**

The 2.7 mile trail to Moxham Mountain was constructed in the summer of 2012 and features many overlooks with scenic views, while the most spectacular views are from the 2,418 foot summit. There is an elevation gain of 1,152 feet for this 2.7 mile hike to the summit, however the trail was built to minimize the climb as much as possible. This is a truly enjoyable hike with view, after view, after view of the southwestern ADKs. Moxham is part of the Vanderwhacker Mountain Wild Forest but it offers great views of the Siamese Ponds Wilderness area in and around Gore Mountain.

This hike begins at the small parking area along 14<sup>th</sup> Road off NY 28N in Minerva about 0.2 miles after the pavement ends. The only marking at the parking area is a "Trail Parking" sign, however it is pretty obvious as you drive down the dirt road on the left. The trail starts just off the small parking area (elevation 1,536 feet). You're following yellow DEC trail markers. The trail immediately climbs and reaches the first of many overlooks at 0.6 miles (elevation 1904 feet). This view is just a teaser for what's ahead, but is still a good place to take a break.

The trail now descends and at 1.0 miles crosses a small stream (elevation 1,724). It's the outlet of an old beaver pond located just a short distance upstream. Now climbing again, pass a huge boulder on your left at 1.25 miles. Soon is another view, better than the first view with Gore Mountain as the main feature. At 1.6 miles reach the ridgeline (elevation 1,993 feet) and soon you start to reach one after another of the many overlooks that line this wonderful trail.

At 2.3 miles reach possibly the best of the pre-summit views as the cliffs of Moxham Mountain summit come into view (elevation 2,172 feet). Up there is your final destination and it is only 0.4 miles away. There are still more overlooks as you continue your climb toward the summit, reaching the 2,418 foot summit at 2.7 miles. While not a 360 degree view, the views are still spectacular and the open rocks offer a great picnic spot. As you approach the edge of the summit, remember you are on top of cliffs (so take special care). Moxham is named after a surveyor who took a wrong step while surveying the summit and died after falling from the cliffs.

Directions: Take NY 28N west out of North Creek toward Minerva. That major rock mountain on your left as you are driving along NY 28N is Moxham Mountain. In Minerva, turn left on 14<sup>th</sup> Road. Follow 14<sup>th</sup> Road to the end of the