

Balsam Lake Mtn. 8/31/06

(260-51)

Looking for bogs in SE+SW quadrants.

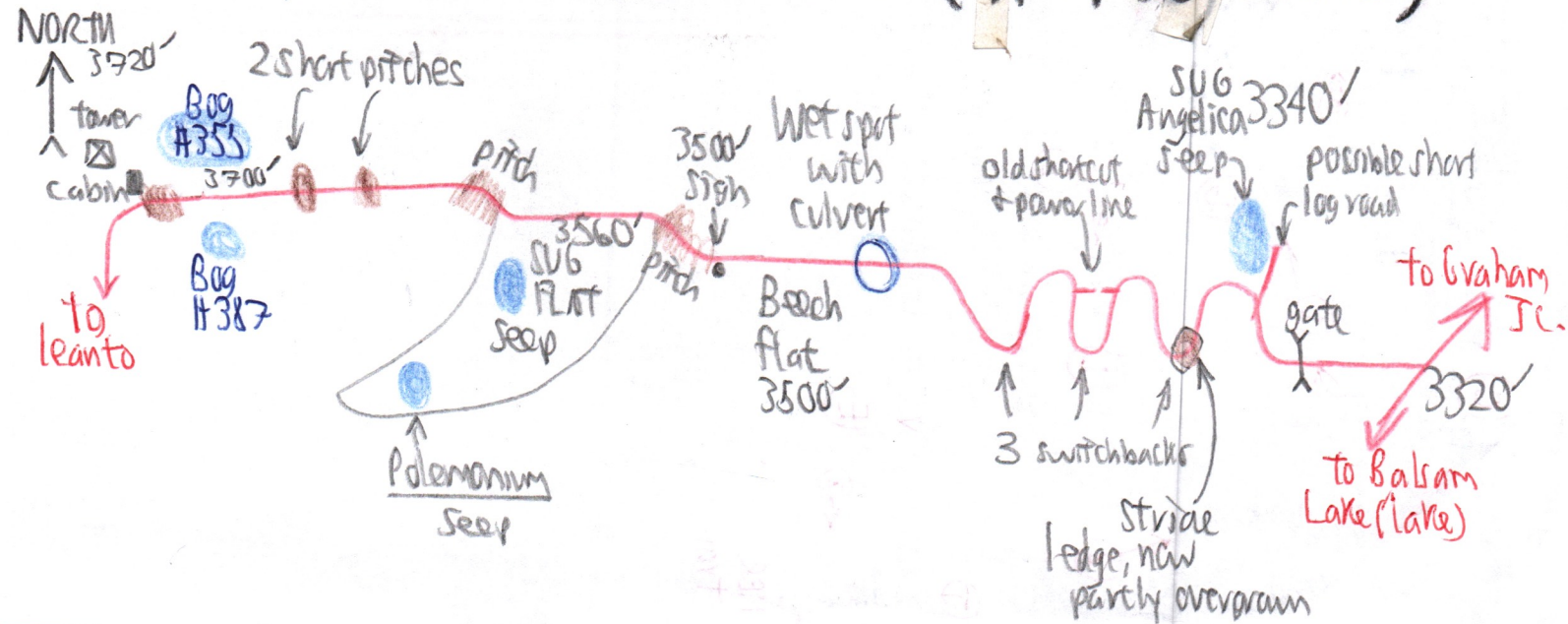
Exploring 3560' SUG flat in SE quadrant

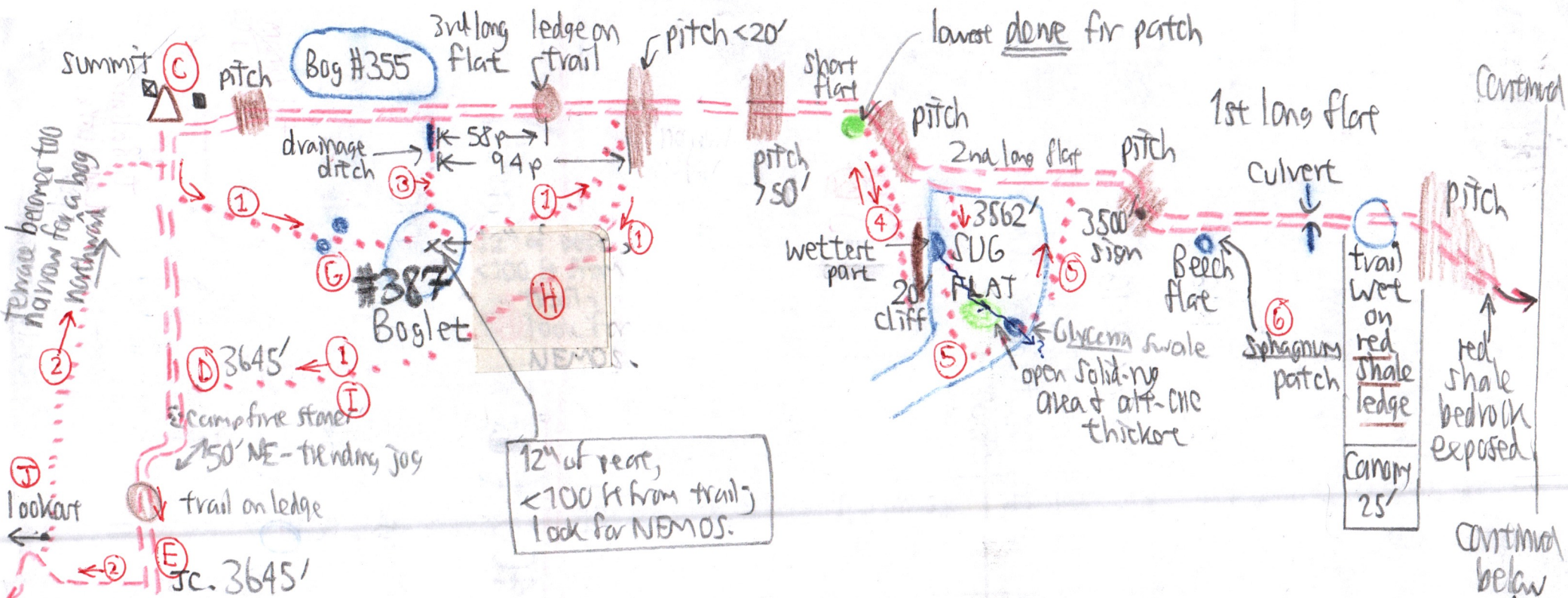
Site	P	Δp	Δe	$R = 0.833$ e calc	e map	time	R
(A) Mill Brook Road	not recorded	—	—	—	2600'	1:16	
(B) Junction - Summit + Balsam Lake trails	28.27	0.00	0.00	—	3320'	2:16 to 2:20	
(C) Summit	27.79	0.48	400	—	3723'	2:46	
(D) Sugar terrace	27.88	—	—	—	3560'		
(E) on trail to S	27.88	0.39	325	3645			} Loop ①
(F) MBR Trail Junc.	27.88	0.39	325	3645		3:49	
(G) Summit	27.79	0.48	400	—	3720'	4:25	
(H) Sugar terrace	27.98	0.29	242	3562	3566		
(I) gate near (B)	28.27	0.00	0.00	—		±5:45	
(J) Mill Brook Rd.	not recorded	—	—	—		6:36	

$$\frac{3720' - 3320'}{28.27 - 27.79} = \frac{400'}{0.48''} = 0.833$$

Ascent required 90 minutes with 3 short stops for ailing < 10 minutes.

Geography of Trail above 3300' (9/7/06) observed





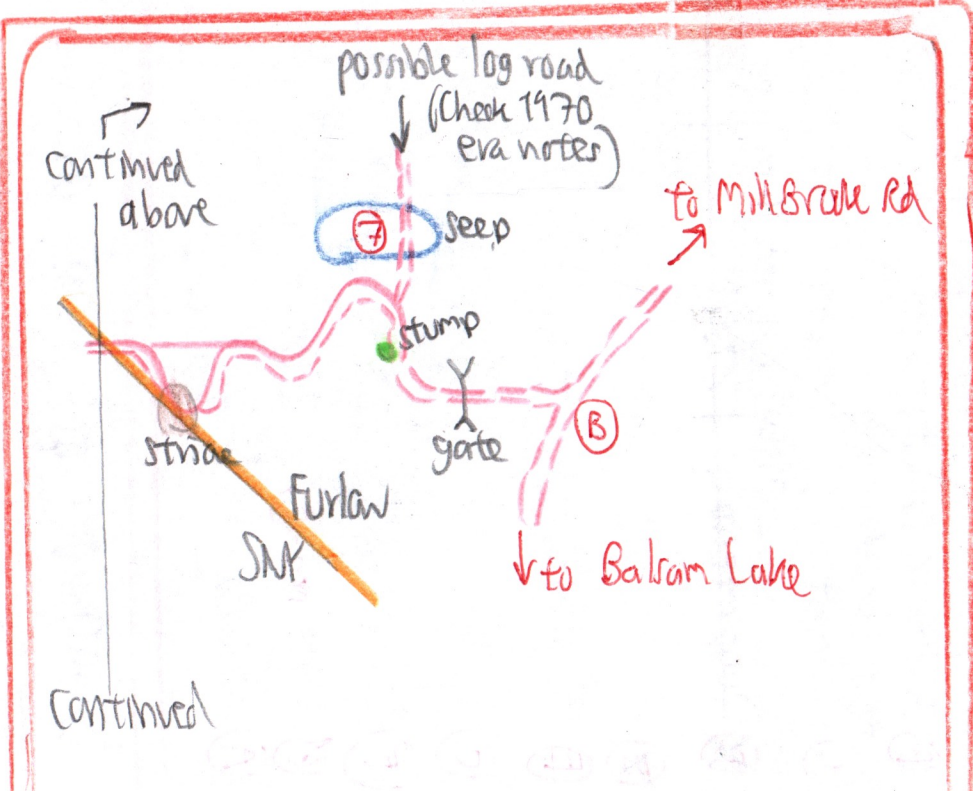
Terrace becomes too narrow for a bog

Northward

lookout

MBR trail

to lean to Balsam Lake



Red encircled numbers are off-trail explanatory loops ① → ⑦.

260-52

Vegetation

26053

D. campyloptera in scattered poplars.

1st is at the 3000-foot bend on YB talus E side of road.

2nd is at Porcupine Jc.

3rd is around 1/2 Way Rock.

Type locality is on Graham Shortcut where D. intermedia overlaps.

Both are also at (B)

Mixed in locally with DP at (J).

At (5).

CB = 1st seen at (B)

SM } 1st seen just past Graham Shortcut
SORS }

(7) Seep at 3350' past gate, under SUB. Follow possible 1960s log road through base of seep to north. Stump at its junct.

Angelica, IMP, SM, LAP, Glycyrrhiza nevada, Chelone, CAUL, TRALIC, Vicia → Polygonum sagittatum

(6) Patch of Sphagnum & Glycyrrhiza nevada just off trail on Beech flat, maybe 10 to 20' across. 8" deep.

MITCH: Between Graham Shortcut and Graham Junction without SUB.

1/2 Way Rock is just before, i.e. N of, the best strata exposure.

Solidago. Between (7) & (6), S. nvg & S. gram in flower but S. can. in bud only. Huge popn of S. nvg at (5) south of SUB seep, but on same terrace, in open area suppressing tree repro.

DP along trail ^{edge} blocks view of other ground cover sp. further away from trail around 3000' level & again between (4) & (1)

(G) Forest SE of tower:

DP openings, CC & CB in shade, SORS, NEMO. Small pockets of Sphagnum in wet spots with C1M & Ce-trisyema. Shallow 4"-5" to 7" deep & < 10' across.

The largest area, the "Boglet" has #387 more NEMO, some puddles, dense fir, 10" to 12" deep in spots. Needs tile spade probing & possible sampling.

Many hummocks & shallow spots within it. Boglet is at least 40' across.

→ Forest at east end of Beech Flat around wet trail is barely 25' tall, with some scats. taller fir

(H) E of Boglet. FIR dom, SORS, YB; more DP glades the further one goes from wet areas to the summit. BC a little lower down. Fir densest in and around wet spots but does NOT require wet spots; look at Balsam & Eagle Mtns. to prove this.

CHECK AERIAL PHOTOS FOR ANY OPENINGS.

I SSE of summit, are large DP glades with views to South, overlooking B-BC-YB nearly pure hardwood stands below. Fir stands are breaking up here into fragments.

→ DP may play as large a role in inhibiting FIR repro. as hdwd. competition, except that because FIR is evergreen, FIR can grow before DP leaves are in spring & after it drops brown in autumn.

Where FIR is now, it can reproduce. Where it isn't now, it has trouble with DP. Only a few saplings make it through DP. This is why the FIR popn. atop Balsam Lake Mtn. is stable.

J MBR trail lookout. SOB-BC-YB-B. Bushwhack N along W shoulder. CB, BX. Deer trails through dense DP patches. Locally, Decampyl. is mixed in.

As one ascends, DP glades become smaller & fewer while FIR thickets become more continuous. Shady under FIR.

Canopy gaps exhibit competition among FIR, DP & Camptoptera.

SUB TERRACE (5): elev 3562 (2625A)

Wettest spot is at base of >20' high ledge & with quite a slope: Angelica, AA, TIAR, CAMPYL, LAP, ALLIUM, AFF, VV, few SM, CMC, scattered FIR, THALIC

South of wettest spot is a large opening clam by S. rug-infill flower

South of this, near edge of terrace, is a Glycena nervata swale with Clematis !!

CMC thickets surround the wet spots and S. rug opening

This terrace turns SW & then W and is quite large.