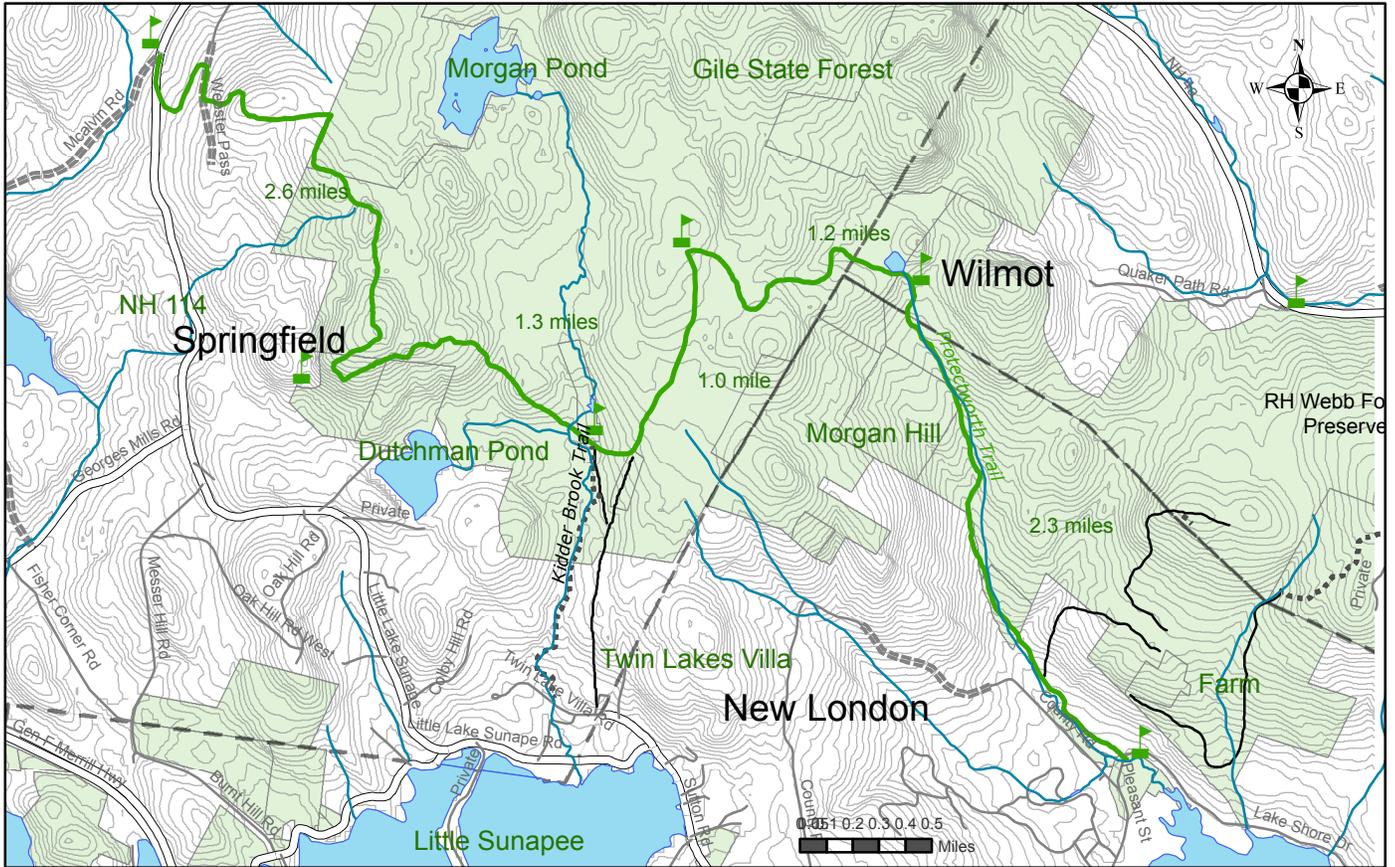


Trail 5 Springfield-New London Road to Great Brook Bridge



Total Distance: 8.4 miles
Total Ascents: 950 feet

Estimated time: 6 hours
Total Descents: 1700 feet

Overview: The SRKG in this part of Springfield continues along the *Protectworth Trail*, named in honor of Springfield's original name until its incorporation in 1778. After passing mica mines and crossing Royal Arch Hill, the trail drops to Kidder Brook, climbs and crosses a ridge to the source of Great Brook, then descends along Great Brook to near the northwest end of Pleasant Lake in New London. Although it is a lengthy hike, Trail 5 offers a bail out at about midway for hikers who feel they cannot complete the full route.

Finding the Trailheads: The western trailhead is on the east side of the Springfield Road, NH Route 114, and 1.5 mi. north of the road to Georges Mills. Park on the right, nearly opposite where the *Protectworth Trail* from Baptist Pond and Stoney Brook Road emerges. The eastern trailhead is at the north end of Pleasant Street, which leaves New London's Main Street, NH Route 114, opposite Tracy Memorial Library. Go north on Pleasant Street (2.0 mi.) and park in a New London Conservation Commission parking area on the right after crossing Great Brook.