



DEST Trail Guide

Overview, highlights, and three section maps.

Sunrise Trail

www.sunrisetrail.org



Washington Junction to Ayers Junction = 85 miles

85 miles and growing, the Down East Sunrise Trail (DEST) is a year-round multi-use rail trail, and the longest off-road section of the East Coast Greenway.

This Guide provides a trail overview, highlights and near-trail amenities, and three section maps:

1. Washington Junction to Cherryfield (28 miles)
2. Cherryfield to Machias (29 miles)
3. Machias to Ayers Junction (28 miles)

Trail Surface is an old rail bed packed with gravel. Bridge surfaces include wood planking.

Use Types:

1. Non-motorized use includes but is not limited to bicycling (mountain bikes recommended), hiking, horseback riding, snowshoeing, dog sledding, and skiing.
2. All motorized vehicles must be legally registered as either an ATV and/or snowmobile.

Seasonal trail uses and closures are based on trail condition and are posted on trail. Please note:

1. Trail closures may occur during mud season (typically in April/May), for trail repairs, and for snow-dependent seasonal uses.
2. During mud season only human foot traffic is allowed: walking and jogging.
3. Trail Alerts and closures are posted on the Sunrise Trail Coalition website www.sunrisetrail.org.

Mileage is listed on trail by mile post markers.

Mile posts are denoted in this guide by "MP="



Junctions

= ATV and snowmobile trails that cross the DEST.



POINTS OF INTEREST

Online maps and brochures are available for many of the points of interest. A little research ahead of time will add to your DEST experience.

DEST Section Map

Acadia National Park.....	Map 1
www.nps.gov/acadia	
Bad Little Falls, 1 Elm St., Machias.....	Map 3
Blackwoods Scenic Byway	Map 1
www.exploremaine.org	
Cable Pool, Cherryfield.....	Map 1
Cobscook Bay State Park.....	Map 3
www.maine.gov/cobscookbay	
Cutler Coast Public Lands.....	Map 3
Donnell Pond Public Reserve Lands.....	Map 1
Downeast Fisheries Trail.....	Map 1-3
www.DowneastFisheriesTrail.org - online map	
DownEast Gardens and Scenic Vistas.....	Map 1-3
www.visitmaine.com - request map	
Down East Heritage Rail.....	Map 1
www.downeastscenicrail.org	
East Machias Aquatic Research Center.....	Map 2&3
Farmers' Markets.....	Map 1-3
www.getrealmaine.com and mofga.org	
Forest Hills Cemetery.....	Map 2
Franklin Memorial Park.....	Map 1
Gallison Library.....	Map 2
Lamoine State Park.....	Map 1
www.maine.gov/lamoine	
Maine's Ice Age Trail.....	Map 1-3
http://iceagetrail.umaine.edu -online map	
Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge.....	Map 3
www.fws.gov/northeast/moosehorn	
Pleasant River Community Forest.....	Map 2
www.mainesalmonrivers.org	
Quoddy Head State Park.....	Map 3
www.maine.gov/quoddyhead	
Rocky Lake Public Lands.....	Map 3
Roque Bluffs State Park.....	Map 2
www.maine.gov/roquebluffs	
Ruggles House & Garden.....	Map 2
Schoodic Bog www.frenchmanbay.org	Map 1
Schoodic National Scenic Byway.....	Map 1
www.schoodicbyway.org	
Shackford Head State Park.....	Map 3
www.maine.gov/shackfordhead	
Tunk Lake Public Reserved Lands.....	Map 1
Wild Salmon Resource Center.....	Map 2
www.mainesalmonrivers.org	



RESOURCES



Schoodic Mountain

ATV / ORV information

Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands
ATV program/ORV office (207) 287-4958
Statewide trail map available
www.parksandlands.com

ATV Maine: www.atvmaine.org

Registration: www.maine.gov/ifw

Down East Sunrise Trail online maps

Sunrise Trail Coalition
www.sunrisetrail.org



Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands
www.parksandlands.com

East Coast Greenway
www.greenway.org

State Parks, Public Lands, and Historic Sites

Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands
www.parksandlands.com / www.campwithme.com

Snowmobile Information

Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands
Snowmobile program (207) 287-4957
Statewide trail map available
www.parksandlands.com

Registration: www.maine.gov/ifw

Tourism

DownEast & Acadia
Regional Tourism
www.downeastacadia.com

Maine Office of Tourism
www.visitmaine.com

Maine State Visitor
Information Centers
www.mainetourism.com





Washington Junction to Cherryfield = 28 miles

The Down East Sunrise Trail (DEST) takes riders off-road on a gentle journey through a natural landscape of forests, vast marshes, mountain views, and through habitat for Maine's iconic moose, beaver, eagles, osprey, waterfowl, wild turkeys, and white-tailed deer. 85 miles and growing, the DEST is the longest off-road section of the East Coast Greenway.

FMi: www.sunrisetrail.org
www.greenway.org
www.parksandlands.com

Washington Junction



Location: Railroad Siding Street, Ellsworth

Parking: Large off-street lot

Trail Section Length: 9 miles

Washington Junction to Franklin

Points of Interest & Side Trips:

Restored rail cars by Down East Heritage Rail at Washington Junction.

Wildlife-watching opportunities on this section of the trail and most impressively near wetlands. Watch out for deer crossing the trail.

A side trip to Franklin Memorial Park is a nice stop to take in local history and have a picnic.

Lamoine State Park and Acadia National Park offer additional cycling & hiking adventures.

Franklin Crossing

Location: Intersection of DEST and ME 182 in the center of Franklin

Parking: Limited parking at crossing

Trail Section Length: 7 miles

Franklin Crossing to Tunk Lake Rd.

Points of Interest & Side Trips:

Schoodic Bog and the view of Schoodic Mt. is stunning, especially in autumn. A picnic table awaits you.

Take North End Rd. from trail to Schoodic Beach Rd. for hiking on Schoodic and Black Mts. and camping and day use on Schoodic Beach.

NOTE: Trailhead is a 1/2-mile walk from beach.

The Blackwoods Scenic Byway/ME 182 provides access to Tunk Mt. hiking trails and Tunk Lake.



Schoodic Mountain

Tunk Lake Road/ME 183

Location: Four miles north of US 1 on ME 183 where DEST intersects

Parking: Limited parking next to the trail.

Trail Section Length: 8 miles

Tunk Lake Rd. to Unionville



Donnell Pond

Points of Interest & Side Trips:

Trail passes through remote forestland and crosses a few logging roads before reaching Unionville.

Hike, swim, and camp at Donnell Pond Public Lands. From trail take North End Rd or ME 183.

The Schoodic National Scenic Byway (US 1). To learn more about the geology of the area, view Maine's Ice Age Trail at <http://iceage-trail.umaine.edu>.

Unionville Crossing

Location: Unionville Rd.

Parking: Limited trailside parking

Trail Section Length: 4 miles

Unionville to Cherryfield

Points of Interest:

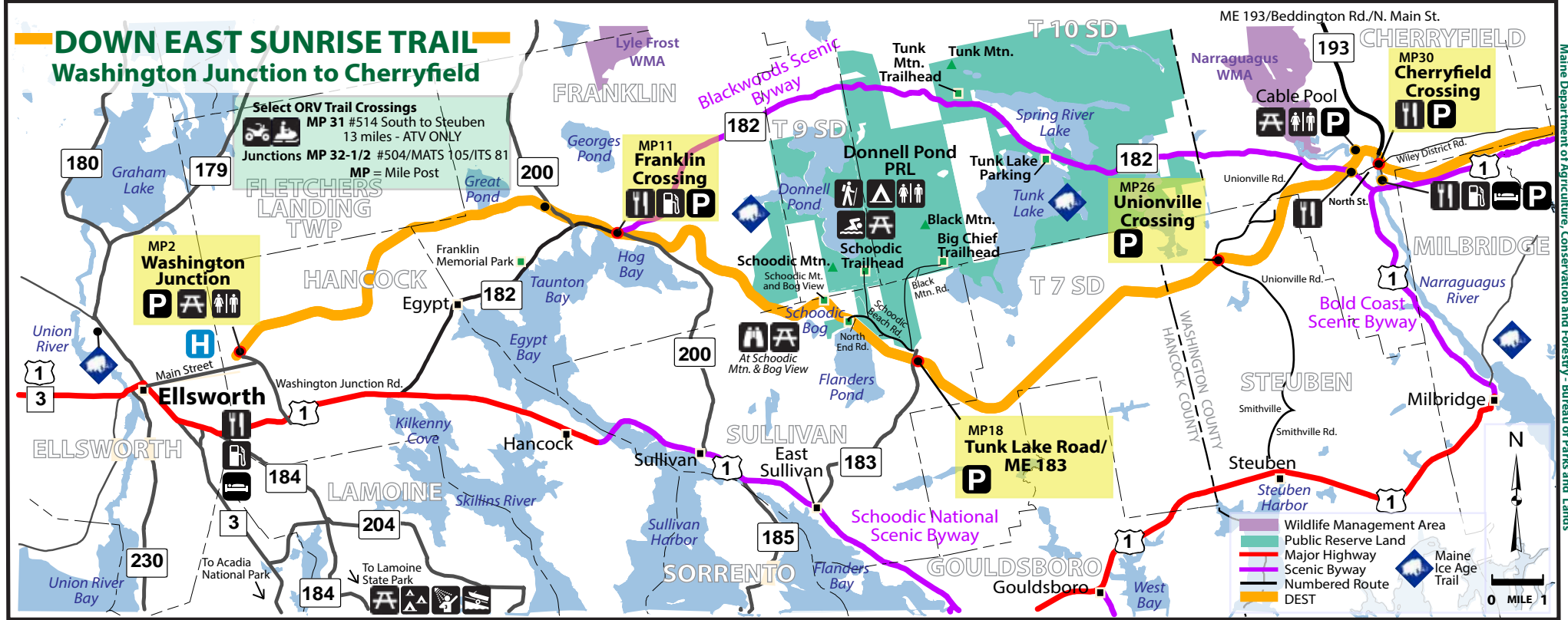
Trail parallels and then crosses Tunk Stream as it leaves Unionville.

It intersects the eastern end of the Blackwoods Scenic Byway/ME 182, then crosses the Narraguagus River at Cable Pool in Cherryfield via an early 20th-century steel trestle bridge.

Cable Pool, now a town park, is a historically significant salmon pool. It makes a great picnic spot.



Steel trestle bridge at Cable Pool



This guide was funded through a Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund grant and the Recreational Trails Program. It is the cooperative effort of the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands, the Hancock County Planning Commission, the Sunrise Trail Coalition, and Down East and Acadia Regional Tourism.



Cherryfield to Machias = 29 miles

The Down East Sunrise Trail (DEST) takes riders off-road through a variety of landscapes providing scenic views of coastal mountains, forests, open wetlands, and blueberry barrens. Along the way, 28 bridges span tree-lined streams and salmon rivers.

85 miles and growing, the DEST is the longest off-road section of the East Coast Greenway.

FMI: www.sunrisetrail.org
www.greenway.org
www.parksandlands.com

Cherryfield Crossing



Cable Pool, Cherryfield

Location: Trail crosses ME 193 in Cherryfield.

Parking: At North St. - North St. intersects ME 193 about 1 mile north of US 1, and 1/4 mile south of the DEST/ME 193 crossing.

Trail Section Length: 7 miles
Cherryfield to Harrington

Points of Interest & Side Trips:

Trail skirts downtown Cherryfield's historic district and then parallels US1 for almost 3 miles before crossing the Harrington River. A side trip to the historic district for the history and cafes makes for a fun lunch stop. To learn more about the geology of the area view Maine's Ice Age Trail at <http://iceagetrail.umaine.edu>.

Harrington and Columbia Falls Crossings

Location: Trail crosses North St. just north of Harrington; enters Columbia Falls at Tibbetstown & Centerville Rds.

Parking: Limited at Harrington and Columbia Falls Crossings. Summer and weekend parking at Narraguagus High School, Harrington.

Trail Section Length: 10 miles
Harrington Crossing to Columbia Falls = 6 miles
Columbia Falls to Jonesboro Station = 4 miles

Points of Interest & Side Trips:

Pass by blueberry barrens and the Pleasant River before the trail becomes semi-remote beyond Columbia Falls. The Wild Salmon Resource Center, Pleasant River Community Forest, Forest Hills Cemetery, Gallison Library, and Ruggles House & Garden are great side trips. A country store, 1 mile east of Columbia Falls is known for doughnuts and makes a good lunch and provisions stop.



Gallison Memorial Library

Jonesboro Station

Location: Trail crosses Station Road northwest of Jonesboro.

Parking: Limited parking next to the trail

Trail Section Length: 8 miles
Jonesboro Station to Whitneyville Crossing



Points of Interest & Side Trips:

The trail becomes increasingly remote, crossing the Chandler River, numerous streams, and beaver ponds. It passes by the Jonesboro Wildlife Management Area and provides opportunities for wildlife viewing.

Whitneyville Crossing

Location: Trail crosses ME 1A just south of Whitneyville.

Parking: Limited roadside parking

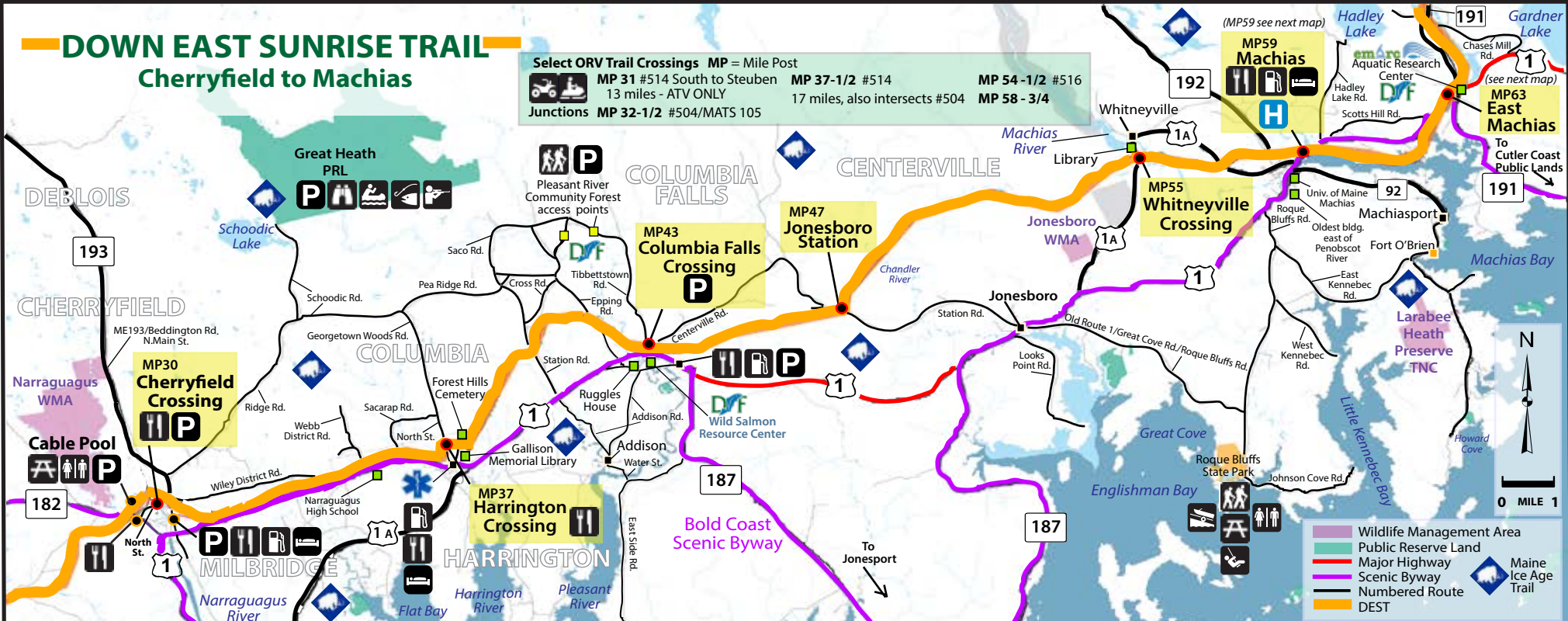
Trail Section Length: 4 miles
Whitneyville to Machias

Points of Interest:

An 1868 schoolhouse turned library in 1966 is located close to the trail in Whitneyville.



Leaving Whitneyville, the trail crosses the Machias River and cuts through freshwater marshes and upland forests. Skirting downtown Machias, the trail crosses just two roads in this section before reaching the Machias Station 98.



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Down East Sunrise Trail
www.sunrisetrail.org

Machias to Ayers Junction = 28 miles

The Down East Sunrise Trail (DEST) takes riders off-road on a journey along the entire Downeast coastal area. Stunning views, wildlife-watching opportunities, and interesting side trips are plentiful for the adventurous. Its compacted gravel surface follows an old railroad bed from Ellsworth to Ayers Junction.

85 miles and growing, the DEST is the longest off-road section of the East Coast Greenway.

FMI: www.sunrisetrail.org
www.greenway.org
www.parksandlands.com



Machias

Location:

Trail crosses US 1 in Machias.

Parking:

At green boxcar and Station 98 just west of causeway (dike) and on causeway (no trailers)

Trail Section Length: 4 miles

Machias to East Machias

Points of Interest & Side Trips:

On this trail section visitors cross over extensive salt marshes and experience beautiful views across the Machias and East Machias rivers. The trail crosses the Machias Dike, where both flea and farmers' markets take place in the summer. A motel, ATM, and nationally famous blueberry pie-making restaurant provide amenities just west of the dike (causeway). Explore town, then consider a side trip to Roque Bluffs State Park for an on-road bike loop ride.



East Machias

Location: Trail crosses US 1 and ME 191.

Parking: Large lot on Willow St. just east of US 1. Limited at ME 191/DEST crossing

Trail Section Length: 7 miles

East Machias to Rocky Lake Crossing

Points of Interest & Side Trips:

This section of the trail runs through fields and forest while paralleling ME 191. The trail intersects the SE corner of Rocky Lake Public Lands, accessed by a multi-use trail, before swinging east toward Dennysville. It is just a short side trip to the boating and camping areas on Rocky Lake's shore.



Visit the East Machias Aquatic Research Center (EMARC) to learn about Maine's fisheries. Cutler Coast Public Lands, Cobscook Bay and Quoddy Head State Parks and lighthouse are recommended side trips.

Rocky Lake Crossing

Location: Trail crosses ME 191 just south of Diamond Match Rd.

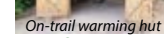
Parking: West side of ME 191 at trail

Trail Section Length: 10 miles

Rocky Lake Crossing to Dennysville



Fishing at Rocky Lake



On-trail warming hut

Points of Interest & Side Trips:

Forests and numerous ponds and streams define this trail section. Don't miss Rocky Lake Public Lands. Consider a picnic by the smaller Patrick Lake (access off ME 86). Enjoy beautiful views over Harmon's Stream, the East Ridge, Great Works Wildlife Management Area, and the Denny's River. Cobscook Bay & Quoddy Head State Parks are great side trips from Dennysville.

Dennysville/Ayers Junct.

Location: Trail crosses Milwaukee Rd. in Dennysville.

Parking: US 1 north to ME 86 west to Milwaukee Rd. north 100-ft. to where trail intersects the road.

Trail Section Length: 7 miles

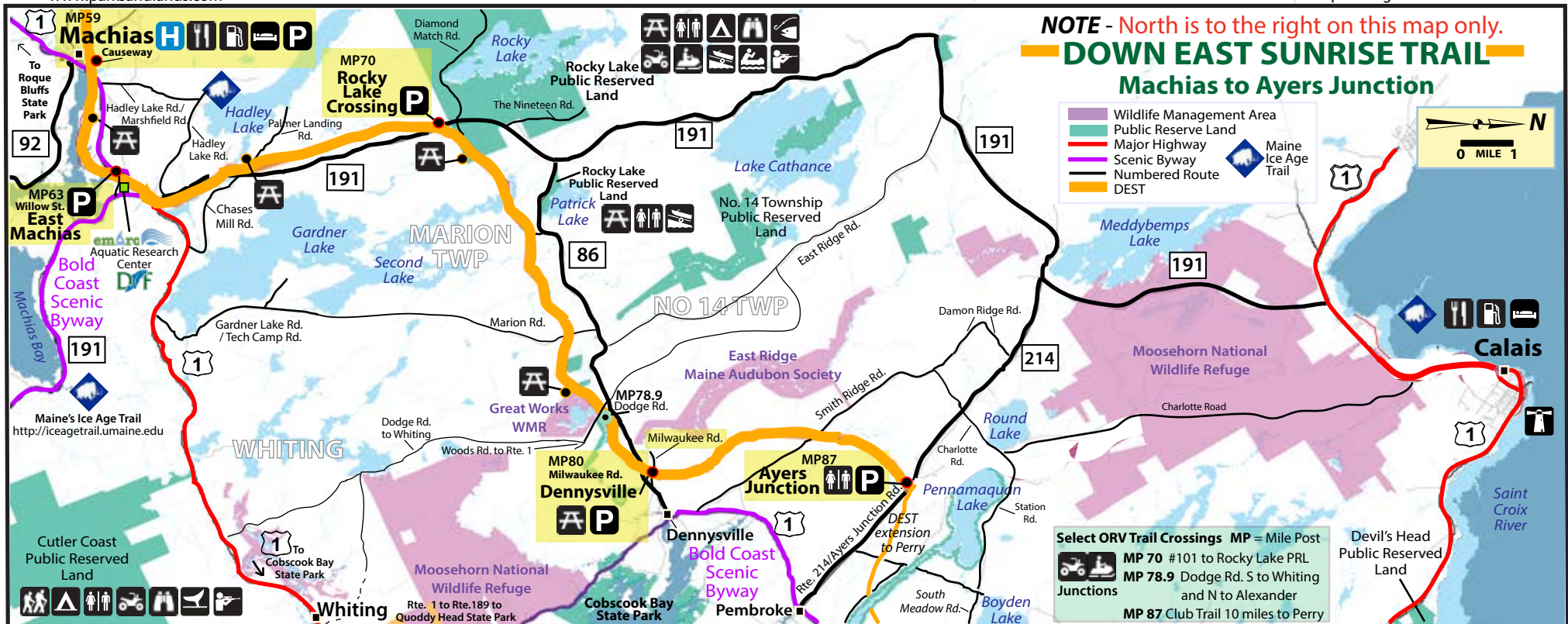
Dennysville to Ayers Junction

Points of Interest & Side Trips:

The trail continues through relatively remote forestland until it reaches its eastern terminus at Ayers Junction, just a few miles north of Pembroke.

Add to your adventure by visiting the village of Pembroke, Reversing Falls, Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge, Gleason Cove Park, Shackford Head State Park, and historic Eastport.

View Maine's Ice Age Trail at <http://iceagetrail.umaine.edu>.



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