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Comments: It is worth preserving Gordon Pond Trail.

Wilderness is limited in New Hampshire by proximity residential and urban areas. We hikers take what we can in New Hampshire. The 2001 Roadless Rule Areas are a great way to experience wilderness, and the Mt Wolf-Gordon Pond Roadless area represents some wonderful wilderness characteristics - due to its relative isolation and size.

The Gordon Pond Trail is a conundrum because it provides access to a great wild area, with sense of solitude, but the trailhead suffers due to its location in a residential area. Parking along the road, near Crooked Pike Road, is hazardous, and land owners deserve privacy.

Given the benefit of Gordon Pond Trail as a fun and isolated hike, I think it's worth protecting the trail by relocating the trailhead onto public lands.

Here are some options I think are worth considering:

1. Relocate the trailhead to Route 3, through Fay State Forest and connect the relocated trail to the existing trail near North Woodstock Reservoir.
2. Create a parking area on Forest Service land across Crooked Pike Road and Moosilauke Brook -- this would still require a road walk, which is dangerous during the day and not possible in winter.

The first option might be only real option due to the highway and the number residential homes. Looking at one of the Caltopo maps, it appears a bootleg trail might already exist, entering from the North, into the area of Fay State Park. I'd be happy to scout this option to see if it's viable. See the attached screenshot and the link below for context:

<https://caltopo.com/map.html#l=44.04289,-71.69813&z=15&b=oo>

Please consider preserving this trail. The Mt Wolf-Gordon Pond Roadless Area is a hidden gem in the Western WMNF that is worth exploring and preserving. The approach via Gordon Pond Trail feels wild and primitive, like some trails in the Pemi or Sandwich Range.