



« 2015 LOOK BACK 2016 LOOK AHEAD »

REGION BY REGION REPORT



Hiker with Harriman Map Set

2015 Major Accomplishments in East Hudson

- Completed the South Taconic Trail extension. This lengthens the South Taconic Trail by 6.5 miles, reaching Rudd Pond and the outskirts of Millerton, NY.
- Built an extension to the Round Hill Bypass trail in Fahnestock linking the Fahnestock Trail to School Mountain Road.
- Built three new trails, a total of four miles, in Dover Stone Church Preserve.

East Hudson Goals for 2016

- Expand and recruit a dedicated Hudson Highlands roving trail crew.
- Collaborate with NYC Parks to recruit volunteers and offer technical assistance and documentation with trail maintenance projects.

2015 Major Accomplishments in the Catskills

- Increased Catskill Conservation Corps achievements through work trips, workshops and litter pick-up events at the Blue Hole and other heavily used areas.
- Worked with Woodchuck Lodge to create family-friendly trail system, Roxbury, NY.
- Launched highly successful Summit Stewards program on Slide Mountain, the Catskills' highest and busiest mountain.

Catskills Goals for 2016

- Re-build German Hollow lean-to, which was crushed by fallen trees.
- Expand Summit Stewards program to other popular destinations in the Catskills.

2015 Major Accomplishments at Bear Mountain

- Completed approximately 500 highly labor-intensive feet of Upper East Face of the AT, reaching 60% completion.
- Finished construction of Trails for People Exhibit at base of Bear Mountain on the AT.
- Provided over 10,600 volunteer hours of labor.

Bear Mountain Goals for 2016

- Extended progress on the remaining 1,145 feet and 325 stone stairs of the Upper East Face. Complete all work by fall 2017.

2015 Major Accomplishments for New Jersey

- Conducted 30 Trail Crew outings with West Jersey Trail Crew, Ramapo Earth Crew and Long Distance Crew comprising hundreds of work hours.
- Played an early and leading role in successful effort to protect the Hudson Palisades from a proposed high-rise structure at LG Electronics headquarters. Revised lower structure preserves the Palisades viewshed and views from the Long Path.
- Strengthened working relations with National Park Service in the Delaware Water Gap resulting in increased partnerships and volunteer outreach in western New Jersey.



New Jersey Crew at Ramapo Mountain State Forest



AmeriCorps Crew member on Bear Mountain



Introduction to Trail Maintenance Workshop in the Catskills



The Invasives Strike Force removes 5 dump trucks full of barberry



Volunteers at Goose Pond Mountain in West Hudson

New Jersey Goals for 2016

- Promote, protect and improve the long-distance Highlands Trail, New Jersey's Millennium Legacy Trail.
- Develop workshops, volunteer outings, and events to draw attention to this nearby, under-utilized hiking treasure.
- Expand Trail Conference presence and recruitment everywhere we maintain trails.

2015 Major Accomplishments of the Invasives Program

- Completed the fifth year of the Invasives Strike Force (ISF) reaching a milestone of over 1,000 miles of trails surveyed for invasive species. This was the cumulative efforts of 400 volunteers making over 60,000 observations.
- Removed over 50,000 invasive plants from 20 parks, preserves, and partner properties, improving over 100 acres of land.
- Convened over 40 partner agencies of the Lower Hudson Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) to prioritize invasive species work, education, and outreach.

Invasives Goals for 2016

- Ramp up invasives removal efforts by increasing summer crew service periods, engaging more volunteers and streamlining data collection and processing.
- Lead the Lower Hudson PRISM to aggressively target priority areas and species while expanding public education and outreach.

2015 Major Accomplishments for Cartography

- Produced new print and digital editions of four maps sets: Catskill, Harriman-Bear Mountain, South Taconic, and West Hudson.
- Completed and launched the brand new Circuit Hikes in Harriman book.
- Produced 15 new northern New Jersey state park maps; made available as free handouts at parks, as downloads on our website, and through the PDF Maps app.

Cartography Goals for 2016

- Develop a brand new map set covering the entirety of the Long Path.
- Produce revised editions Jersey Highlands, Kittatinny, Sterling Forest, and Shawangunk map sets.

2015 Major Accomplishments for West Hudson

- Volunteers and groups built a new section of the Highlands Trail, eliminating a 1.4-mile road walk.
- Long Distance Trail crew re-routed an eroded portion of the AT, installing rock steps and cribbing on Bear Mountain.
- West Hudson North crew installed bog bridging on Mossy Glen trail in Minnewaska.

West Hudson Goals for 2016

- Collaborate in a Trails Town event along south-western boundary of Harriman, attracting eco-tourism and highlighting improved trail access via mass transit.
- Develop a Bear Mountain Stewards program.
- Create a new trail loop in Sterling Forest's recently 'preserved donut hole.'

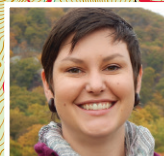
A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO YOUR PROGRAMS TEAM



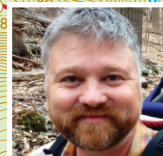
Peter Dolan
New Jersey
Program Coordinator



Sona Mason
West Hudson
Program Coordinator



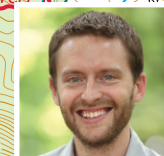
Ama Koenigshof
Trail Builder/Educator



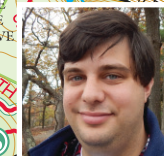
Hank Osborn
East Hudson Senior
Program Coordinator



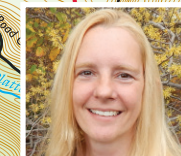
Doug Senterman
Catskills
Program Coordinator



Jeremy Appar
Cartographer



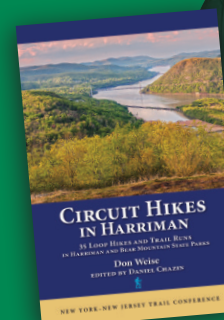
John Leigh
Volunteer Coordinator



Linda Rohleder, Ph.D.
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