

North Country Trail Hike in the Trap Hills

North Woods Native Plant Society

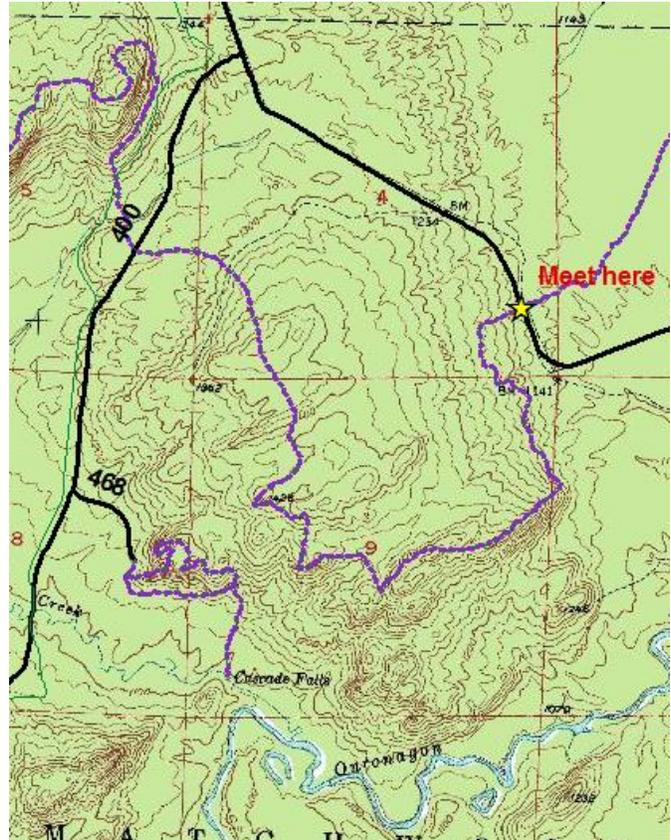
Saturday, June 17, 2017. 10 AM Eastern Time, 9 AM Central.

We'll do a five-mile hike along one of the most scenic segments of the North Country Trail in the Trap Hills, visiting several rock bluffs overlooking the West Branch Ontonagon River. We should be able to find some uncommon spring wildflowers. The hike will be moderately difficult, with several up-and-down segments.

DIRECTIONS

From the south: Take Highway M28 to Norwich Road. The M28/Norwich Road intersection is 8.9 miles east of Bergland and 5.1 miles west of Ewen. Go north 9.3 miles on Norwich Road (taking a moment to admire Norwich Bluff) to the intersection with Forest Road 630. Go west 2.4 miles on Forest Road 630 to the North Country Trail trailhead.

From the north: From Ontonagon, go west 1.5 miles on highway M64 to Norwich Road. Go south 1.8 miles on Norwich Road to the intersection with Forest Road 630. Go west 2.4 miles on Forest Road 630 to the North Country Trail trailhead.



Trailhead coordinates: N46.66788° W89.42905°.

WHAT TO BRING: water, lunch, hiking boots, insect repellent, camera.

CONTACT: Ian Shackelford, Botanist with the Ottawa National Forest. Office 906-932-1330 x331, cell 906-285-4329, email ishackelford@fs.fed.us. Letting me know if you plan to come would be welcome, but just showing up is also fine.

OPTIONS: The basic hike is a five mile loop: three miles on the North Country Trail, two miles on road back to the trailhead. When we meet at the trailhead Saturday morning we can talk about three extra options.

- Option 1 (shorter hike): Before we start, we could drop off vehicles at the Forest Road 400 trailhead, eliminating the two-mile walk on the road back to the start.
- Option 2 (longer hike): There are some nearby bluffs in the area that have apparently never been checked for rare plants. We could go off-trail, check them out, and maybe find and document some new populations.
- Option 3 (bonus hike): Cascade Falls is nearby. We could drive over there after the North Country Trail hike and do the 1.4-mile Cascade Falls Trail.



Rock bluffs like this are both scenic and excellent habitat for some rare wildflowers.