Backcountry Skiing
New Hampshire & Western Maine
Sustainable & Low-Impact Forestry Methods
Human-Powered
All Ages & Abilities
• Fastest Growing Segment in Ski Industry
• Limited Terrain in Northeast
• Fragmented User Group
LIGHT MY FIRE

• Backyard (#GIMBY)
• Vermont Model
• Perfect Storm
Localize Efforts
Partnerships
Community-Centric
Connection to History
Economic Driver
Keep it Fun!
RESULTS

- User Group Mobilization
- Big Projects
- Economic Impact
• Shift the Mindset / Bridge the Gap
• Engagement
• Raise Money
• Work Day Blues!
• Manage up to 100 volunteers
• Delegate
• Technology
• Free Swag
• Fun!
Sixty Granite Backcountry Alliance skiers open up four new glade lines

BY EDITH TUCKER

RANDOLPH — Sixty volunteer members of the Granite Backcountry Alliance turned out to do trail clearing work on Saturday morning, Aug. 26, at the Mount Crescent Trailhead at the top of Randolph Hill Road, and a dozen returned the following day for more work.

Their collective task was to cut down saplings and some larger trees, trim branches and hanging debris, and clear the understorey and hobblebush in four-plus well-marked skiable glade lines — 35- to 50-foot-wide “ski corridors” — on 75 southeast-facing acres in the 10,000-plus-acre Randolph Community Forest.

First, at 8 a.m. with an eye toward safety, 10 or 12 hardhat-wearing sawyers with chainsaws headed a mile-and-a-half north toward the Crescent Ridge Trail so they could do some heavy cutting uphill from an existing wildlife opening before some 50 brush draggers, pole sawyers and lopper-wielding volunteers climbed to the site where backcountry skiing is already enjoyed on the (Dave) Dernbach glades. They were instructed only to cut between hanging bright pink and pink-striped ribbons, whose placement was checked out by the RCF forester David DeGruttola of Landvest.

REFLECTIONS

- Patience IS a Virtue
- Identify your Style
- Don’t be Afraid of Failure!