International Appalachian Trail Newfoundland & Labrador

A conservation and stewardship agreement between Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited (CBPPL) and the International Appalachian Trail Newfoundland and Labrador (IATNL) has created three Special Management Areas within CBPPL woodlands: **Codroy, Serpentine, and Chimney Cove**. These areas, ranging from southwestern Newfoundland to the North Arm Hills, represent more than 117.5 km² (11,750 ha) of productive forest and some of western Newfoundland's most majestic and diverse scenery.

Protected by CBPPL's indefinite moratorium on operations and developments, the three Special Management Areas include an abundance of old-growth forest, and represent a wealth of biological and geological diversity. According to the



Serpentine Lake and River. IATNL photo.

agreement, neither harvesting nor road construction activities will occur within these designated areas, and no permits will be granted for cottages, remote cottages, trails or domestic woodcutting. They will be managed with the goal of protecting their environmental, recreational, and spiritual value, while at the same time making them accessible to tourists, residents, and low-impact developments that provide economic benefit to local communities.



The Grand Codroy Way. IATNL photo.

The agreement reflects both organizations' mutual desire to promote cooperation between CBPPL and the IATNL, protect and enhance natural areas with significant environmental and adventure tourism value, and educate the public on matters of sustainable resource utilization. The agreement also demonstrates CBPPL's commitment to managing its woodlands in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner, and to protecting important features of this province's natural heritage. The IATNL, whose low-impact trails traverse the three Special Management Areas, will work in cooperation with CBPPL and Kruger Publications to protect and promote this shared natural heritage.

The North American Appalachian Trail system extends north from Mount Katahdin, Maine and crosses the Canadian-American border at Perth-Andover, New Brunswick. The trail crosses New Brunswick to Quebec's Gaspé Peninsula to Cap Forillon in Forillon National Park, re-enters New Brunswick, and crosses to Prince Edward Island, running east to Pictou, Nova Scotia and across Cape Breton. The west coast of Newfoundland encompasses the northern end of the AT range in North America.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter of the IAT was formed in 2003 with the goal to extend the IAT an additional 1,200 km along the Long Range Mountains from Port aux Basques in southwestern Newfoundland to Crow Head (just east of L'Anse aux Meadows) at the northern tip of the Great Northern Peninsula. IATNL utilizes existing walking trails, logging roads, the Newfoundland T'Railway, and new sections of community and backcountry trails.



Chimney Cove Pond and Valley on the southern border of Gros Morne National Park. *IATNL photo.*