

2020-04-27 Quiz Pleasant Mtn.

<https://www.maintailfinder.com/trails/trail/pleasant-mountain-trails>

See link for trail map for Pleasant Mtn. in Bridgeton, ME or use your own paper map. Should be the same. Trails are not labeled well. Use your resources.

Two scenarios. For each scenario there is no right or wrong answer more to make you think abstractly about navigation. Assume you are alone, have a map you printed from the link above and you do have a compass.

Both scenarios start like this.

Your plan is to hike the Ledges Trail. On the map the trailhead is the more southerly of the two trail heads on Moose Pond. The Ledges Trail takes you to the summit. From there your plan is to follow the Bald Peak Trail to the more northerly trail head on Moose Pond and then walk the road back to your car.

Scenario 1:

It is early spring and the weather is less than ideal. With light rain/snow and temperatures in the low 30's. Wind is light and variable. Because of the flat light you have no visual reference for direction. The trail is slippery in most places with either mud or a thin layer of ice or both. The trail is generally well marked but because of lingering snow is obscured in many places. You reach the summit and locate the trail leading roughly north from the summit. The trail descends, steeply in places, over very slippery ground. You realize that you should have arrived at Bald Peak by now and have descended a lot more than you should have. It is now getting late. You get out your compass and realize that you are heading generally west.

Question 1. Where are you?

Question 2 .What is your plan?

Scenario 2:

It is late fall with great weather. Temperature is in the mid 50's with patchy clouds and intermittent sun. You arrive at Bald Peak but lose the trail. You back track, and do some scouting but just cannot locate where the trail continues.

Question 3. What is your plan?