SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FORESTS



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## **Reservation Details**

Along the shores of Squam Lake, Merriman Forest is located in the heart of the Lakes region. Its mile-long trail to Eagle Cliff provides breathtaking views of the lake to the southeast, framed by the red pine, white pine and red oak that comprise a perfect example of the red oak – pine rocky ridge natural community. On the driest, most exposed ledges and cliffs, the predominance of fire-adapted red pine trees, basal fire scars on tree stumps, and charcoal/ash layers in the soil profile indicate that fire has played a significant role in the natural disturbance regime of the ecosystem.

**Did you know?** The Squam Lakes Association maintains over 50 miles of trails in the area, including Eagle Cliff Trail

### **Trail Information**

The Eagle Cliff Trail climbs steeply to Eagle Cliff, overlooking Squam Lake. The view encompasses most of Big Squam Lake and its many tiny islands, along with the formidable Squam Range. Continuing past Eagle Cliff for an additional 2 miles will take you to a fire tower at Red Hill Conservation Area.

- & DIFFICULTY: Strenuous
- ROUND TRIP DISTANCE: 1.2 miles to Eagle Cliff and back, 5.2 mi to fire tower
- **TRAIL MARKINGS**: Yellow rectangles

## **Getting There/Directions**

The trailhead for Eagle Cliff lies on the east side of Squam Lake Road and is easily accessed from the north via Routes 109 and 113.

From Route 25 in Center Harbor, take Bean Road north. This becomes Squam Lake Road once it crosses the Sandwich town line. The Eagle Cliff Trail trailhead is approximately 0.6 miles beyond the Sandwich town line. Parking is road-side only.

☼ Google Maps: There is no official street address for the trailhead, but entering "677 Squam Lake Rd, Sandwich, NH" in the google maps search will get you specific directions to the property from your location.

#### **Recreational Opportunities**

- **\( \)** Hiking
- Nature Observation
- & Snowshoeing
- & Hunting/Fishing

#### **Available Amenities**

- Roadside Parking
- Please note NO bathroom facilities are available at this location.

#### **Recreational Use Guidelines**

- Please stay on trails at this property
- No wheeled vehicles permitted, including bicycles
- Carry In, Carry Out all Trash
- No camping or campfires
- Do not disturb plants, animals or cultural features.
- Dogs must be under owner control at all times, and all dog waste packed out

#### COVID-19 HIKE SAFE TIPS

- Allow 6+ feet of distance between unrelated groups. Step off the trail to allow others to pass.
- Bring a mask or face covering and hand sanitizer in case you need it
- Don't attempt anything risky or outside your comfort zone
- BYO lunch and plenty of water!

