6.7 CAUTION: Turn sharply left here, leaving the ridgegline. Avoid old path that continues along the ridge. Descend

6.8 Cross old woods road and turn left, descending more gradually. Cross stream (flowing in low weather) and swing south

6.9 Continue gradually ascent on Toonowee Mountain.

6.10 Reach FS 220. Turn sharply left here, leaving the ridgegline. Avoid old path that continues along the ridge. Descend

6.11 Continue gradual ascent on Toonowee Mountain.

6.12 Reach FS 224. Cross old roadbed and turn south. IS NO trailpaes on the private property to left of the old road (boundary marked by red paint).

6.13 Turn sharp left of old road. Climb gradually at first before climbing steeply (average grade 24%) near the ridgegline. WARNING: the upper reaches of this area along the exposed rock can become very treacherous when wet, icy, or shortly after leaf fall.

6.14 Reach FS 190. Road is steep and weaves through woods. Follow the ridgegline, then turn right at the old logging road. Continue on the old roadbed along easy grade on east slope of Tipton Mountain.

6.15 Reach FS 45 after 100 feet. This turn is at the corner of the grassy area and connects to an old roadbed after 200 feet. Climb along old road.

6.16 Reach FS 56. Cross old roadbed and turn northeast. Avoid the woods road that forks left near the edge of the clearing. Continue by curving left along the side slope and descend, passing an intermittent spring.

6.17 Old road narrows into trail in cove. Intermittent spring is 50 feet to right. Continue up cove. Swing left out of cove to trail. If water is not found at the point nearest the trail, continue downhill. Skirt the north side of Bald Top and begin a short but steep descent.

6.18 Enter the wilderness opening on top of "The Bald" (3250') and cross directly to the other side. Good views to the south include the Chester and several other valleys, Ball Mountain, Mountain Lake, and Table Rock. There is no trail marking in the opening and although the distance across is only 150 feet, use a compass across the opening to find the other side in the event of fog. A good campsite is situated on the northwest side of the clearing along the old road. Avoid the old trail that forks left near the edge of the clearing. Continue by curving left along the side slope and descending, passing an intermittent spring.

6.19 Reach an unsigned gap (2900'). This gap is near the head of Mill Creek, however, the spring 500 feet to right may be

6.20 Continue gradual ascent on Toonowee Mountain.

6.21 Reach FS 253. Cross old road and descend gradually.

6.22 Old road narrows into trail in cove. Intermittent spring is 50 feet to right. Continue up cove. Swing left out of cove to trail. If water is not found at the point nearest the trail, continue downhill. Skirt the north side of Bald Top and begin a short but steep descent.

6.23 Reach FS 233. Cross old road and descend gradually.

6.24 Reach FS 340. Cross old roadbed and turn north. Avoid old road that forks left near the edge of the clearing. Continue by curving left along the side slope and descending, passing an intermittent spring.

6.25 Reach FS 220. Turn sharply left here, leaving the ridgegline. Avoid old path that continues along the ridge. Descend

6.26 Reach FS 224. Cross old roadbed and turn south. IS NO trailpaes on the private property to left of the old road (boundary marked by red paint).

6.27 Turn sharp left of old road. Climb gradually at first before climbing steeply (average grade 24%) near the ridgegline. WARNING: the upper reaches of this area along the exposed rock can become very treacherous when wet, icy, or shortly after leaf fall.

6.28 Reach FS 190. Road is steep and weaves through woods. Follow the ridgegline, then turn right at the old logging road. Continue on the old roadbed along easy grade on east slope of Tipton Mountain.

6.29 Reach FS 56. Cross old roadbed and turn northeast. Avoid the woods road that forks left near the edge of the clearing. Continue by curving left along the side slope and descend, passing an intermittent spring.

6.30 Reach an unsigned gap (2900'). This gap is near the head of Mill Creek, however, the spring 500 feet to right may be

6.31 Continue gradual ascent on Toonowee Mountain.

6.32 Reach FS 253. Cross old road and descend gradually.

6.33 Reach FS 340. Cross old roadbed and turn north. Avoid old road that forks left near the edge of the clearing. Continue by curving left along the side slope and descending, passing an intermittent spring.

6.34 Reach FS 233. Cross old road and descend gradually.

6.35 Old road narrows into trail in cove. Intermittent spring is 50 feet to right. Continue up cove. Swing left out of cove to trail. If water is not found at the point nearest the trail, continue downhill. Skirt the north side of Bald Top and begin a short but steep descent.

6.36 Reach FS 220. Turn sharply left here, leaving the ridgegline. Avoid old path that continues along the ridge. Descend

6.37 CAUTION: Turn sharply left here, leaving the ridgegline. Avoid old path that continues along the ridge. Descend

6.38 Cross old woods road and turn left, descending more gradually. Cross stream (flowing in low weather) and swing south

6.39 Continue gradually ascent on Toonowee Mountain.

6.40 Reach FS 224. Cross old roadbed and turn south. IS NO trailpaes on the private property to left of the old road (boundary marked by red paint).

6.41 Turn sharp left of old road. Climb gradually at first before climbing steeply (average grade 24%) near the ridgegline. WARNING: the upper reaches of this area along the exposed rock can become very treacherous when wet, icy, or shortly after leaf fall.

6.42 Reach FS 190. Road is steep and weaves through woods. Follow the ridgegline, then turn right at the old logging road. Continue on the old roadbed along easy grade on east slope of Tipton Mountain.

6.43 Reach FS 56. Cross old roadbed and turn northeast. Avoid the woods road that forks left near the edge of the clearing. Continue by curving left along the side slope and descending, passing an intermittent spring.

6.44 Reach an unsigned gap (2900'). This gap is near the head of Mill Creek, however, the spring 500 feet to right may be

6.45 Continue gradual ascent on Toonowee Mountain.

6.46 Reach FS 253. Cross old road and descend gradually.

6.47 Reach FS 340. Cross old roadbed and turn north. Avoid old road that forks left near the edge of the clearing. Continue by curving left along the side slope and descending, passing an intermittent spring.

6.48 Reach FS 233. Cross old road and descend gradually.

6.49 Old road narrows into trail in cove. Intermittent spring is 50 feet to right. Continue up cove. Swing left out of cove to trail. If water is not found at the point nearest the trail, continue downhill. Skirt the north side of Bald Top and begin a short but steep descent.

6.50 Reach FS 253. Turn sharply left here, leaving the ridgegline. Avoid old path that continues along the ridge. Descend

6.51 Reach FS 340. Cross old roadbed and turn north. Avoid old road that forks left near the edge of the clearing. Continue by curving left along the side slope and descending, passing an intermittent spring.
51.3 Reach a clearing on the summit of Brawley Mountain (3027'). The fire tower is not open to the public. Views from the tower are limited and surrounded by extensive vegetation. Camping is permissible here, but there is no water nearby. Continue on fire tower road to right of fire tower (FS 45). CAUTION: After 175 feet, turn right off fire tower road along top of the ridge. Turn left onto old road to true summit. This road is not recommended for passenger vehicles. Continue approximately 1.1 miles to the true summit. The highest point of Brawley Mountain is located just off the main road.

51.5 Reach Laurel Gap (4240'). There is an opportunity for camping in a gap west of Blue Ridge. This site is located on the old road that crosses the road to Laurel Gap. This may make the campsite less desirable. Ascend on graded trail along north side of Laurel Gap Mountain.

51.8 Reach the high point (2849') on the northern spur of the mountain. Just beyond, turn right onto a woods road leading south for 0.3 mile, turn left (west) and descend steeply. At saddle on ridge, take left fork onto graded trail skirting the south side of the ridge. Soon enter an area damaged by a 1988 fire. This provides good views of the Toccoa River and the Blue Ridge to the south. Continue along dense stand of white pine and follow old logging road downhill. Continue on level course for 700 feet.

52.1 Reach the gap at Dial Road (BR). Dial Road is a dirt road leading to the community of Dial on the Toccoa River and crosses the lands of the Wills Gap Campground. To the right, Dial Road leads to GA 60 near Mountain City, where Dial Road Bridge, also unpaved, leads 1.8 mi. to Aska Road at Shallownford Bridge. Follow Shallownford Bridge Road for 100 feet, passing under power lines. In the 100 feet zone, turn right, uphill, then off-road. In 400 feet, cross logging road diagonally.

52.4 Enter small, open area, and recross overgrown logging road. CAUTION: Leave the edge of the road at far end of open area, because bear and deer often use this old woods road on the side of Free Knob. Continue to descend gradually along old road. Trail briefly leaves the road to follow a side trail before returning back to the road at a lower elevation. Continue on logging road following a water source. Follow this road downhill.

52.5 Reach intersection with Shallownford Bridge Road (1800') at the Toccoa River. Turn sharp right onto Shallownford Bridge Road west of the Toccoa River downstream for the next 0.5 mi. with several good campsites between the road and the river. Be advised that the land on the other side of private property beginning 0.1 mi. west of the trail enters Shallownford Bridge Road. Camping (on Forest Service Property) is best done near where the trail intersects Shallownford Bridge Rd. Follow Shallownford Bridge Road west on the west side of the Toccoa River. At the bridge, where a road continues straight along the river, turn left and cross the bridge (one lane, lattice truss, wooden girders).</p>
Reach US 64/74 near point where divided four lanes begin (or end). Highway leads left 27 mi to Cleveland, TN or 72.2 road through dense rhododendron. CAUTION: Turn sharp left onto another old road. Ascend gradually, circling through several coves. 2630

Lucius Roads. Thence, Blue Ridge is 7 mi southeast of point. Continue on Lucius Roads and follow graded trail on contour around south side of mountain. Ascend only slightly on trail along sidewalk, which is very steep at times. Pass long, narrow rock outcrop on right into south.

Take left fork on trail. WARNING: Avoid steep eroded road straight ahead and road leading to the left. Continue as ascends as trail takes long curve to right to regain the top of the ridge. Recent road and road continues straight ahead. Pass to left of distal edge at 600 ft. Continue forward to top of ridge. Return to ridge crest.

Cross FS 75-S in Highmond Gap (3030). Spring is in area of 400 ft north, or right, of the trail. Follow old road along

Tennessee / North Carolina

Reach Hatley Gap (2630'). The old road turns right to continue downhill into Cashes Valley. Begin ascent of Fowler Mountain. Features

Features

Reach US 64 (2660') and follow graded trail on contour around south side of mountain. Ascend only slightly on trail along sideslopes, which are very steep at times. Pass long, narrow rock outcrop on right into south.

Bear left in saddle, avoiding old logging road, which leads uphill. Immediately turn left onto the Flat Top Mountain Firetower Road (FS 64A). Descend along

Enter old road and turn sharp right. Reach Halloway Gap (3230'). A good stream (headwaters of Fightingtown Creek) is

• Small grocery store, Watson Country Store (4.0 miles to right) 706-632-8153 Proprietor is Joy Whitfield. Notes

• Various services in Ducktown, TN (8 miles to right) US Post Office 1656 Highway 68 Ducktown, TN 37326

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3.9 Forest Service road where runs may be parked. Beyond, County Rd 304 continues 0.25 mi to Fryingtown Creek at the Fannin/Gilmer County Line. It is 1.5 mi. back to the Appalachian Highway via US 64 Road, Goodison, and Lucas Roads. Thence, Blue Ridge is 7 mi. to the left and East Ellijay is 11.6 mi. to the right. Bring from Bush Head Gap (2470), 2nd graded trail to top of east end of west side of road. Turn left and continue straight ahead. Pass to left of cul-de-sac at end of FS 703.

3.9 Forest Service road where runs may be parked. Beyond, County Rd 304 continues 0.25 mi to Fryingtown Creek at the Fannin/Gilmer County Line. It is 1.5 mi. back to the Appalachian Highway via US 64 Road, Goodison, and Lucas Roads. Thence, Blue Ridge is 7 mi. to the left and East Ellijay is 11.6 mi. to the right. Bring from Bush Head Gap (2470), 2nd graded trail to top of east end of west side of road. Turn left and continue straight ahead. Pass to left of cul-de-sac at end of FS 703.

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Special thanks to the entire crew at the Benton McKaye Trail Association for building and maintaining this great trail. All the information in this document was assembled from information gathered from various pages at www.bmta.org.