Royal River Water Trail: Sabbathday to Bald Hill

OVERVIEW: The Royal River Water Trail flows from Sabbathday Lake to Casco Bay providing a wide variety of recreation opportunities. Conserved lands, parks, and public water access points support paddling, swimming, birding, fishing, hunting, fiddlehead harvesting, picnicking, skating, shoreline hiking, biking, and skiing.

SHAKER VILLAGE: Working forests and farms surrounding the village are protected by conservation easements with public access. Please avoid orchards and active farm operations. www.maineshakers.com

SABBATHDAY LAKE: Boat and swimming access for a small fee is available at Outlet Beach. There is no paddling connection between the lake and the river.

OUTLET RD TO TOBEY RD: Paddling this stretch of river downriver from the Outlet Rd bridge requires multiple portages around multiple fallen trees and beaver dams; recommended not even for bushwhackers. From Tobey Rd paddling upriver, the river is accessible upriver for a half mile, for fishing and birding.

TOBEY RD TO BALD HILL RD (FAIRGROUNDS): The two mile stretch (four miles round trip) from Tobey Rd downriver to Bald Hill Rd (Fairgrounds) is flat with a minor current, easily paddled in either direction by novices. One large beaver dam requires a short portage, roughly half-way between the two roads. Other old beaver dams and shoreline trees and alders are navigable, though bring a hand-saw in case of recent fallen trees. Roughly half of this segment is a pond formed by the dam at Bald Hill Road. Hand-carry boat launches (continued next panel....)