

(I-A) CANAAN MOUNTAIN AREA

This area, like the highland areas of Dolly Sods, is characterized by highland marshes covered with moss and dense vegetation. Thick hemlock-and red spruce forests, rhododendron tangles and soupy bogs block the way for off-trail hiking. Some trails themselves are often small streambeds, and some trails are rocky and root covered. Wear sturdy, waterproof hiking boots.

In compensation, the area has unique vegetation and its compact layout makes it easy to plan loop hikes. Canaan Valley Loop Road (CLR) (FR13) surrounds most of the area, providing a convenient return leg for any loop. It is scenic and provides as good a hike as can be found on a road. Plantation Trail (TR101) runs E to W across the center of the area providing a backbone to which most other trails connect from the CLR on the N or S.

For those driving WV32 S from the town of Davis the following table of distances is useful:

Center of Davis	(N of bridge over Blackwater R.)	0.0mi
Plantation Trail	(sign) (TR101)	2.2mi
Fire Trail #2	(sign) (TR103)	2.4mi
Fire Trail #1	(sign) (TR102)	2.9mi
Canaan Loop Road	(CLR) (sign) (FR13)	3.3mi
Flag Run Trail	(sign) (TR106)	5.1mi

Do not drive in from Davis on the N leg of Canaan Loop Road (FR13) because it receives only minimum maintenance between Blackwater Falls State Park and the W trailhead of Plantation Trail (TR101). It may be deeply rutted and impassable, except for four-wheel drive vehicles. The S leg of CLR (FR13) is passable by car from WV32 to the W end of Plantation Trail (TR101).

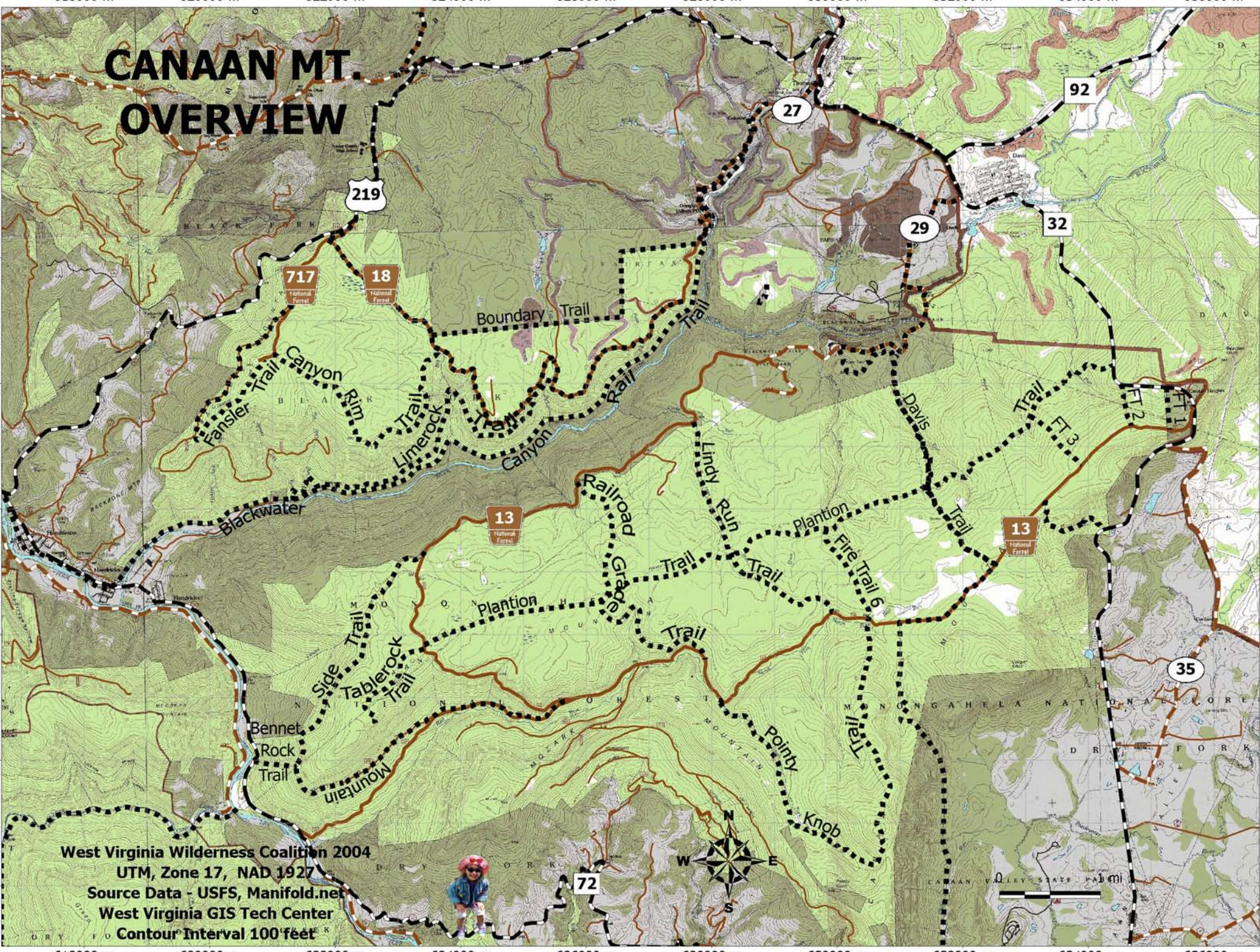
The best access to the area is the CLR from WV32 at Canaan Heights at the top of the hill. The entrance is marked with a large private sign saying, "#1 Wilderness Road" on the W side of WV32. On the E side of the intersection is a green highway department sign pointing N to Davis and S to Harman. The first 0.25mi is outside the MNF and lined with private homes. The road is well maintained for about 10mi with crushed stone. It is easily traveled in an ordinary vehicle. After the road turns N, near the W terminus of Plantation Trail (TR101), the crushed stone ends.

Along the well-maintained S leg of CLR are dozens of pull-off areas for parking and many roadside camp sites. Every trailhead has a parking area and is marked with a sign giving the trail name, the mileage to the next trail along the road and distance to the next trail intersection. All ORV access trails have been blocked by huge boulders so it is unlikely that you will see ORVs in the woods. The two main ORV trails are badly eroded and show no recent signs of use.

Used as a connecting trail, the lesser-used W end of the CLR would be a nice hike. It runs high on a steep hillside above Red Run and provides good views (in early spring before the leaves come out) of the mountains to the W as it turns N and then E back to Davis. The road offers good ski-touring.

Along the N leg of the CLR and along the Blackwater Falls State Park road on the opposite rim of Blackwater Canyon, numerous pulloffs can be found with short trails leading to great views of Blackwater Canyon. These trails are not described in this Guide, but you should have no trouble finding them.

CANAAN MT. OVERVIEW



West Virginia Wilderness Coalition 2004
UTM, Zone 17, NAD 1927
Source Data - USFS, Manifold.net
West Virginia GIS Tech Center
Contour Interval 100 feet

618000 m 620000 m 622000 m 624000 m 626000 m 628000 m 630000 m 632000 m 634000 m 636000 m

4333000 m
4331000 m
4329000 m
4327000 m
4325000 m
4323000 m
4321000 m

4333000 m
4331000 m
4329000 m
4327000 m
4325000 m
4323000 m
4321000 m

ALLEGHENY TRAIL (TR701)

47.9mi(76.6km)

SCENERY: 1 (exceptional)

NOTE: B,H,M,S

DIFFICULTY: I-II (easy-moderate)

SKI-: S1-S3

CONDITION: A (good)

ELEV: 3705/1956

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Blackwater, Bowden, Harmon, Laneville, Lead Mine, Mozark Mountain, I-A-1 and I-A-3 in this Guide

TRAIL SEGMENTS:

- | | |
|---|--------|
| (1) US33 N to FR162 | 8.8mi |
| (2) FR162 to Jenningson Bridge (CO-35) | 12.0mi |
| (3) Jenningson Bridge to CO-45 | 3.7mi |
| (4) CO45 to Canaan Valley State Park | 1.5mi |
| (5) Canaan Valley S.P. to FR13 | 4.5mi |
| (6) FR13 to Blackwater Falls State Park | 3.6mi |
| (7) Blackwater Falls S.P. to CO-27 | 5.5mi |
| (8) CO-27(FR18) to US219 | 8.3mi |

Of interest to hikers is the diversity of elevation, scenery, hydrology, geology, and animal and plant species. Bear, deer, turkey, beaver, fox, skunk, owls, snakes, grouse, hawks, frogs, and box turtles are likely to be seen, or to signs of their presence. Plant life ranges from oak-hickory open forests to dense red spruce and rhododendron. Over 200 species of ferns and wildflowers have been observed in this section of trail. Trail campsites are common, and two developed campsites are on the way. Lodging and a restaurant are found near the S trailhead, in state parks, and in nearby towns such as Davis.

Access: The S trailhead is at a roadside parking space on US33, 1.3mi E of Alpena Lodge and Restaurant. Other intermediate trailheads are located: where Gladwin Road (CO12) crosses Glady Fork; at the E terminus of Mylius Trail (TR128); at the Canaan Valley State Park Restaurant and Lodge; at the two ends of Davis Trail (TR107) along FR13, and at the horse stable parking lot in Blackwater Falls State Park.

Segment 1: From the S terminus on US33, cross Flannigan Run and turn left onto an abandoned road. After a short ascent, descend to Glady Fork and follow an old RR grade off and on, and FR240 for the next 8mi. Along the way, in hardwood and rhododendron forests, are a number of good campsites near Glady Fork and its tributaries Wolf Run, Baker Camp Run, Five Lick Creek, and Brushy Creek. At 8.6mi the trail passes a USFS gate and turns left onto Gladwin Road (CO12). It then crosses Glady Fork on a bridge and, after 0.1mi, turns right onto FR162.

Segment 2: After 0.2mi on FR162 is the E terminus of Mylius Trail (TR128). For the next 8.5mi, Allegheny Trail follows an old RR grade and FR162 downstream of Glady Fork to Richford Road (CO26). Here it crosses a low-water bridge and joins a paved road in the community of Gladwin. From here the trail follows CO35/15 on the W side of Dry Fork for 3.2mi to Dry Fork Bridge in the community of Jenningson.

Segment 3: The trail continues on paved roads to CO45 where it turns right onto gravel CO45.

Segment 4: After 1.5mi on CO45, the trail turns left into Canaan Valley State Park. After 0.4mi it turns left onto Chimney Rock Trail, and soon turns right into the park's restaurant and lodge. (Another 1.0mi from the road junction is the park campground which has hot showers and hook-ups.)

Segment 5: In passing through Canaan Valley State Park, Allegheny Trail follows the 1.4mi Railroad Grade Trail and crosses Canaan Mountain

Trail and Middle Ridge Ski Trail. In a tributary cove of Blackwater River the trail ascends to reenter Cheat Ranger District. Views of Canaan Valley are outstanding. As the trail approaches the Canaan Mountain plateau, the forest becomes more dense with rhododendron and other evergreens. At 30.5mi the trail turns right onto Canaan Loop Road (FR13).

Segment 6: The trail follows FR13 for 1.2mi and turns left onto Blackwater/Canaan Cross-Country Ski Trail (Davis Trail (TR107)). At 32.9mi is a junction with Plantation Trail (TR101) where a 6-person shelter is located 70yd W. After another 1.6mi the trail reaches the horse stable parking lot in Blackwater Falls State Park. Ahead and to the left after 0.8mi is the park's lodge and restaurant. Hikers' vehicles may be left overnight at the lodge's parking area.

Segment 7: The trail turns right onto Falls View Trail and follows it 1.5mi to an exit opposite the parking area of Gentle Trail. The trail then follows paved road to the right, across Blackwater River, past a crossroads (the town of Davis is 1.3mi to the right), and past the entrance to the park's campground. The trail leaves the road near the Pendleton Lake swimming area. After 0.2mi it crosses the Pendleton Creek footbridge and enters Dobbins House Trail System. For the next 3.2mi the trail follows a scenic old RR grades and strip mine roads under tall hardwoods, hemlock and red spruce, and grassy meadows. At 41.1mi the trail turns left onto Douglas Road (CO27) and crosses the bridge over North Fork of Blackwater River. To the right 1.0mi is the town of Thomas, a source of groceries and supplies.

Note: Because of problems with private landowners, the trail from Dobbins House Trail System is now closed. So leave Blackwater Falls State Park via the entrance road, and follow WV32 to CO27 near Thomas.

Segment 8: The trail follows CO27 to the USFS boundary where CO27 becomes FR18 (Canyon Rim Road), a generally narrow, rocky, but level route. CO27 may be impassable at Tub Run in times of high water. After fording Tub Run go 0.25mi to Canyon Rim Trail. Continue on FR18 another 1.1mi to FR717. Turn right onto FR717 and follow it to US219 at 47.9mi. For information on the Cheat Ranger District portion of Allegheny Trail and the additional 82.6mi to the Pa. State Line refer to *Hiking Guide to the Allegheny Trail* published by WVSTA. (See page 33.)

PLANTATION TRAIL (TR101)

8.4mi(13.5km)

SCENERY: 2 (wooded)

NOTE: B,H,M,(8)

DIFFICULTY: II (moderate)

SKI-: S2

CONDITION: A (good)

ELEV: 3580/3310

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Mozark Mountain, Blackwater Falls, I-A-1 and I-A-2 in this Guide

- SEGMENTS: (1) WV32 to TR104 (Fire Trail No.3) 1.0mi
- (2) TR104 to TR107 (Davis Trail) 1.7mi
- (3) TR107 to TR108 (Fire Trail No.6) 1.1mi
- (4) TR108 to TR109 (Lindy Run Trail) 1.0mi
- (5) TR109 to TR110 (Railroad Grade Trail) 1.7mi
- (6) TR110 to FR13 (Canaan Loop Road) 1.9mi

Plantation Trail is the backbone of the trail system in the Canaan Mountain Spruce Plantation. Many loop routes are possible. The trail is not

shown on the topo but is shown on USFS maps. The E end of the trail is also designated for ski-touring. Ski-touring requires deep snow to cover rocks. The trail passes through rhododendron, spruce, hemlock and laurel and has few, if any, good views. It is wet and rocky in spots. Parts of the trail have been cut up badly by former ORV use. Blazing is yellow and sporadic. Segments 1 and 2 are in excellent shape.

Access: The E trailhead **A** (Map I-A-1) is on WV32, 2.1mi S of the town of Davis. Parking is available for several cars along the shoulder of the road. For backpacking trips it would probably be advisable to use one of the intersecting trails as a trailhead to secure safer parking for cars.

The W trailhead **I** (Map I-A-2) is on Canaan Loop Road (CLR) (FR13) near the westernmost point on this road. It is marked by a prominent sign. Parking is available for any number of cars along the shoulder.

Segment 1: Starting from the E trailhead **A** (Map I-A-1) descend from WV32, reaching Devil's Run at 0.5mi. Do not drink from the stream. From here ascend steadily, watching for good views to the N and W. At 1.0mi Fire Trail No.3 (TR104) **B** joins from the left. A sign marks this junction.

Segment 2: Beyond TR104, by 300yd, cross a stream with a dam and an old sign ("Pump Chance No.2"). The trail continues to ascend gradually, growing wider and crossing a pipeline **C** at 1.8mi. The trail here passes through rhododendron and spruce, passing through a rocky area at 2.3mi, where there is a view to the N. Cross a stream with a small dam at 2.5mi. Ascend briefly, to a level, open section. Descend gradually through laurel, reaching Allegheny Trail, TR701 (also known as Davis Trail, TR107) at 2.7mi. **D**. The junction is usually signed. The area around this junction is rocky, but open, with a few sites suitable for small tents. Water is found in a small stream crossing the trail 100yd W of the junction. A 6-person trail shelter is on the E side of this stream 100yd N of the trail. Just beyond the stream is an open field. The field's SW end offers dry, level tent sites.

Segment 3: Continuing on from TR701 **D**, the trail is level, running just below the ridge crest through hemlock and laurel. Cross streams at 2.8 and 3.0mi. At 3.3mi reach the crest and begin a gradual descent. Cross a stream with a small dam at 3.5mi. A few sites suitable for small tents are found in this area; the ground is generally rocky. Cross Fire Trail No.6 (TR108) **E** at 3.8mi. Beware that yellow blazes turn onto Fire Trail No.6. Yellow blazes do not reappear on Plantation Trail until 0.2mi further W.

Segment 4: After leaving TR108, cross another stream with a small concrete dam at 5.0mi. The trail now becomes narrower and rocky in spots, and occasionally passes through open areas. Reach the signed junction with Lindy Run Trail (TR109) **F** (Map I-A-2) at 4.8mi. To the N, Lindy Run Trail is labeled 688 on old USFS maps.

Segment 5: Proceeding W from the junction **F** with TR109, the trail crosses Lindy Run after 100yd. The route is level and walking is easy, except at boggy sections. The junction **G** with Railroad Grade Trail (TR110) is reached at 6.5mi. This junction may be confusing because it is not at right angles.

Segment 6: Continuing W from TR110 **G**, the trail is level, narrow, and passes through dense laurel. The footway is often wet. Several small streams cross the trail except during dry periods. Farther on, the trail passes through a more open section with mainly hardwoods, where it runs just below

the summit, with little elevation change. At 8.0mi the trail descends into a small bog [H] and climbs steeply for a short distance before descending gradually to FR13 (CLR) at 8.4mi [I]. Sparse tent areas are found to the left, on the E side of FR13.

FIRE TRAILS NO.1 AND NO.2 (TR102, TR103) 0.8mi(1.3km)

SCENERY: 2 (wooded) NOTE: M,(1)
DIFFICULTY: I (leisurely) SKI-: S4
CONDITION: B (average) ELEV: 3790/3560

MAPS: USFS (A,B), Blackwater Falls, I-A-1 in this Guide

SEGMENTS: (1) FR13(CLR) to WV32/TR103 (Fire Trail No. 2) 0.4mi
(2) WV32 to FR13(CLR)/TR102 (Fire Trail No. 1) 0.4mi

Fire Trails 1 and 2 run between WV32 and Canaan Loop Road (CLR) just W of the junction of these two roads. The trails are of little interest.

Access: To access the S trailhead of TR103 (Fire Trail No.2) from the junction of FR13 (CLR) with WV32, drive W 0.7mi on CLR and park at the turnaround near the Old Canaan Tower site.

Segment 1: From the S trailhead walk 100yd to Fire Trail No.2 (sign). The trail descends steadily through a stand of spruce. Cross Devil's Run (Do not drink the water.) and ascend briefly but steeply to WV32.

Segment 2: The N terminus of Fire Trail #1 (TR102) is 0.3mi E of the N terminus of TR103 along WV32. The trail descends briefly, crossing Devil's Run, then ascends gradually but steadily, with private land on the left (E), back to CLR. The turnaround is 0.25mi W on CLR from the S terminus of TR102. TR102 is not on Map I-A-1.

FIRE TRAIL NO.3 (TR104) 0.8mi(0.5km)

SCENERY: 2 (wooded) NOTE: M,(1)
DIFFICULTY: I (leisurely) SKI-: S1
CONDITION: B (average) ELEV: 3740/3540

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Blackwater Falls, I-A-1 in this Guide

SEGMENTS: (1) TR101 (Plantation Trail) to FR13 (CLR) 0.8mi

Fire Trail No.3 runs N and S between Plantation Trail (TR101) and the S part of Canaan Loop Road (CLR). Virtually the entire trail is a steady, moderate descent. It is rocky, mossy, and wet in spots. A few sporadic blue blazes mark this trail. The trail is in good shape and is well-defined.

Access: The S terminus [F] is on CLR near parking area #9. There is ample parking along CLR. The sign at this end says "Fire Line No. 3" and "3/4 Plantation Trail".

Segment 1: At 0.5mi from the S terminus is a short, steep descent. The descent becomes gradual again, and Plantation Trail (TR101) is reached at 0.8mi [B]. Water is available in a stream running alongside (and sometimes in) the trail just S of the junction with TR101.

FLAG RUN TRAIL (TR106) 1.0mi(1.6km)

SCENERY: 2 (wooded) NOTE: M,(0)
DIFFICULTY: I (leisurely) SKI-: S4
CONDITION: A (good) ELEV: 3690/3210

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Blackwater Falls, I-A-1 in this Guide

SEGMENTS: (1) FR13(CLR) to WV32 1.0mi

Flag Run Trail lies outside the area bounded by CLR (FR13), and runs NW-SE between FR13 (CLR) and WV32. Recent USFS map show the trail. The trail affords a trip of moderate interest, though views are few. It also affords access from the SE to the Canaan Mountain trail system. The trail is well maintained, well defined, and has light-blue blazes.

Access: The NW end **[G]** is on CLR 1.9mi W of WV32 and 1.0mi W of the turnaround at the Old Canaan Tower site. There is parking for a few cars at the turnaround. This NW end of Flag Run Trail is signed.

The SE end **[H]** is on WV32, 5.1mi S of the main intersection in Davis (just N of the bridge over Blackwater River). It is 1.9mi S along WV32 from the junction of WV32 with FR13 (CLR). Park along the shoulder of WV32. The SE terminus is signed. The trail leads straight uphill from a point 50yd S of the crossing of Flag Run.

Segment 1: From FR13 (CLR) **[G]** Flag Run Trail descends S through spruce on an old wood road. At 0.25mi it crosses a clearing; just beyond is a rocky section with views of Canaan Valley to the S. At 0.5mi cross Flag Run. The descent continues through hardwoods and becomes steeper.

DAVIS TRAIL (TR107)

2.8mi(4.5km)

SCENERY: 2 (wooded)

NOTE: B,H,M,(1)

DIFFICULTY: 1 (leisurely)

SKI-: S2

CONDITION: A (good)

ELEV: 3710/3150

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Blackwater Falls, I-A-1 in this Guide

SEGMENTS:

(1) FR13 S to TR101 (Plantation Trail) 1.6mi

(2) TR101 to TR111 (Firelane Split Trail) 0.5mi

(3) TR111 to FR13 (CLR) 0.7mi

Davis Trail is one segment of Allegheny Trail (TR701), a long-distance trail across the MNF. It is also part of the Blackwater/Canaan Cross-Country Ski Trail. It runs N-S across the area bounded by FR13 (Canaan Loop Road). Neither water nor tent sites are found on Davis Trail between Plantation Trail (TR101) and FR13 (CLR).

Access: Its N end **[I]** is in Blackwater Falls (BWF) State Park, and can be reached from the town of Davis as follows:

At 0.0mi leave WV32 in Davis for BWF State Park; at 1.0mi pass a sign at the entrance to BWF State Park; at 1.3mi turn left at intersection, follow signs to BWF Lodge; at 2.2mi a sign on the left indicates beginning of the trail. Park on the right shoulder 70yd before the sign.

A prominent sign marks the S end **[K]**, and ample parking is available along CLR.

Segment 1: From the sign at the N terminus **[I]**, Davis Trail leads SW away from FR13. At 0.2mi pass under a power line with a stream 30yd to the right. At 0.3mi pass a sign "Entering Canaan Mtn. Spruce Plantation". A stream is to the right; cross this stream at 0.4mi. Begin a gradual ascent, following a stream on the left. The trail is pleasant here, with laurel on either side. At 0.75mi cross a small brook. The ascent becomes steeper, leading away from the stream. Near the crest, a rock formation 30yd off the trail to the right offers views of the surrounding ridges. At 1.6mi, is the junction **[D]**

with Plantation Trail (TR101). A 6-person shelter is located 70yd W of this junction. Water can be found along Plantation Trail, 100yd W of the junction. Although the area around the junction is rocky, there are places where small tents may be pitched. Segment 1 is well-maintained and well-defined.

Segment 2: Continue S from the junction with TR101 following yellow blazes. Davis Trail ascends gradually, crossing a fire lane [J] (TR111) at 2.1mi. No sign marks this junction except for an arrow pointing N along Davis Trail.

Segment 3: From TR111 [J] the trail continues to ascend gradually to FR13 (CLR) [K].

Allegheny Trail: To travel further S on Allegheny Trail (TR701), walk SW from [K] on CLR for 1.2mi. Allegheny Trail leaves CLR here and leads S through open woods. The first 0.1- to 0.3mi is often boggy. About 1.0mi S of CLR is a hilltop view. The junction with Canaan Mountain Trail (Map I-A-3) is obscure. Canaan Mountain Trail takes one SE to Middle Ridge Ski Trail, one of the trails in Canaan Valley State Park network. Write to the Park (Davis, WV 26260) for a free map of the trail system.

FIRE TRAIL NO.6 (TR108)

1.1mi(1.8km)

SCENERY: 2 (wooded)

NOTE: M,W,(0)

DIFFICULTY: 1 (leisurely)

SKI-: S2

CONDITION: B (average)

ELEV: 3630/3500

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Blackwater Falls, I-A-1 in this Guide

SEGMENTS:

(1) FR13 (CLR) to TR111 (Firelane Split Trail) 0.7mi

(2) TR111 to TR101 (Plantation Trail) 0.4mi

Fire Trail No.6 runs N from CLR (FR13) to Plantation Trail (TR101). Nice camp sites are found in the hemlocks near the junction with the old fire lane (former TR111).

Access: Its S terminus [L] is along CLR, 4.2mi W of the junction of CLR and WV32. This end is signed, with a large parking area and a small camping area (with water) at the junction.

The N terminus [E] at TR101 may be unsigned.

Segment 1: Starting from the S terminus [L], Fire Trail No.6 heads N and crosses an old fire lane (TR111) [M].

Segment 2: At 0.5mi N of the fire lane the trail is a beautiful mossy path through spruce and hemlock. Plantation Trail (TR101) [E] is reached at 1.1mi.

LINDY RUN TRAIL (TR109)

2.8mi(4.5km)

SCENERY: 1 (exceptional)

NOTE: M,(1)

DIFFICULTY: 1 (leisurely)

SKI-: S2

CONDITION: A (good)

ELEV: 3620/3100

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Mozark Mountain, Blackwater Falls, I-A-1 & I-A-2 in this Guide

SEGMENTS:

(1) FR13 to TR101 (Plantation Trail) 1.5mi

(2) TR101 to TR111 (Firelane Split Trail) 0.9mi

(3) TR111 to FR13 (Canaan Loop Road) 0.4mi

Lindy Run Trail follows a N-S route across the area bounded by the CLR. North of Plantation Trail (TR101), it is TR688 on old USFS maps; the S section is labeled TR109. The trail is a lovely walk through laurel and hemlocks, with Lindy Run close by for much of the first half. The trail is sporadically blazed in faded light blue. No tent sites are found along the trail. Water is available from Lindy Run along the N half. The S half has few sources of water, although the trail itself is wet.

Access: The N trailhead [A] (Map I-A-2) is along CLR, just W of where CLR crosses Lindy Run, 1.2mi W of the sled run parking area in Blackwater Falls State Park.

The S trailhead [N] (Map I-A-1) is also on CLR, 4.5mi W of WV32. This junction is signed.

Segment 1: Starting from the N, the ascent is steady but moderate. Within 0.2mi the trail skirts a large impressive rock formation. Cross Lindy Run at 0.5mi. This crossing is not difficult, even during high water. At 1.3mi the ascent becomes steeper, and Plantation Trail [F] is reached at 1.5mi. The junction is signed.

Segment 2: Continuing S from the junction with TR101, the trail ascends gradually. At 1.8mi the trail levels off as it passes over the crest. At 2.5mi a fire lane (TR111) [B], leading E is passed. A sign marks the junction, and the fire lane is easy to spot.

Segment 3: The trail ends at CLR [N] (Map I-A-1).

RAILROAD GRADE TRAIL (TR110)

3.1mi(5.0km)

SCENERY: 1 (exceptional)

NOTE: B,H,M,(1)

DIFFICULTY: II (moderate)

SKI-: S2

CONDITION: A (good)

ELEV: 3610/3210

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Mozark Mountain, I-A-2 in this Guide

SEGMENTS: (1) FR13 S to TR101 (Plantation Trail)

1.4mi

(2) TR101 to shelter

0.6mi

(3) Shelter to FR13 (Canaan Loop Road)

1.1mi

Railroad Grade Trail runs N-S from the N leg of the CLR (FR13) to the S leg, parallel to, and W of, Lindy Run Trail (TR109). It follows the bed of an old logging RR. Remnants of ties can still be seen in places, although the rails have been removed.

Access: The N end [C] is 1.0mi W, along the CLR, of the N end of Lindy Run Trail (TR109), and is marked with a sign.

The S junction [E] with CLR is also signed.

Segment 1: Heading S from the N leg of CLR [C] the route is a gradual but steady ascent through the woods. At 0.75mi cross a small stream by rock hopping. Continuing the ascent, the junction [G] with Plantation Trail (TR101) (signed) is reached at 1.4mi. There are no suitable tent sites along this section of trail.

Segment 2: The trail widens S of the junction with TR101. At 1.75mi the footway improves, descending and swinging to the SE around the S side of the mountain with views of Mozark Mountain to the SW. The shelter [D] is reached at 2.0mi. It is in good condition, with a wooden table and a small outside fireplace. It sleeps six on the elevated wooden floor. Water is available from a small stream that flows in front of the shelter. A few small tents could be pitched just S or NE of the shelter, although the ground is rocky.

Segment 3: Proceeding S from the shelter, the descent continues on the old RR grade, with partially obstructed views of Mozark Mountain over the valley of Red Run. The S leg of FR13(CLR) [E] is reached at 3.1mi. A short distance E along CLR are several tent sites, some of them overlooking Red Run, a convenient source of water.

FIRELANE SPLIT TRAIL (formerly TR111) 2.0mi(3.2km)

SCENERY: 2 (wooded) NOTE: M,W,(0)
 DIFFICULTY: II (moderate) SKI-: S1
 CONDITION: B (average) ELEV: 3680/3590
 MAPS: USFS(A,B), Mozark Mountain, Fackwater Falls, I-A-1 and I-A-2 in this Guide

- SEGMENTS: (1) TR109 (Lindy Run Trail) to TR109 (Davis Trail) 0.8mi
 (2) TR109 to TR109 (Davis Trail) 1.2mi

Firelane Split Trail is not officially part of the numbered trail system in the Canaan Mountain State Park, but it is shown on the USFS map. It is marked by signs in places and is combined with other trails to form a variety of circuit hikes. The USFS approved this trail for fire emergency access by 4WD vehicles. There is no water.

Access: The W end [B] (Map 1-2) on Lindy Run Trail (TR109) 0.4mi N of the S end (at CLR). No sign marks either end of this trail.

The E terminus is on Davis Trail (TR109) [J] (Map 1-1).

The USFS is trying to rehabilitate this old route and return it to nature. The USFS therefore asks you to stay off this trail. The number TR111 has been given to Two Camp Trail in Horseshoe Recreation Area.

BENNETT ROCK TRAIL (TR112) 0.7mi(1.1km)

SCENERY: 2 (wooded) NOTE: B,M,(0)
 DIFFICULTY: III (strenuous) SKI-: S4
 CONDITION: C (poor) ELEV: 2880/1830

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Mozark Mountain, I-A-2 in this Guide
 SEGMENTS: (1) TR114 (Mountainside Trail) W to WV72 0.7mi

Bennett Rock Trail is a short steep (1050ft. change in elevation) trail connecting Mountain Side Trail (TR114) with WV72 S of Parsons. It is not numbered on USFS maps. It provides an approach from the SW and Otter Creek Wilderness into the Canaan Mountain Trail system. It is strenuous and difficult to find.

Access: To reach the W trailhead [K], follow WV72 S from Parsons through Hambleton and Hendricks. About 1.5mi beyond Hendricks is a yellow house on the right (between WV72 and the Dry Fork). About 0.3mi beyond this house is a logging road leading left up the mountain, closed off by a wire fence near the highway and by a cable 200ft. up the slope. About 50yd beyond this road is a break in the laurel where Bennett Rock Trail heads up the mountain. There is no sign, but the trail is unmistakable. If one goes beyond it, the slope is covered with boulders. Look for the trail between the logging road and the boulder-covered slope. Highway WV72 is narrow and has a narrow shoulder. Parking for a single car can be found at occasional

spots on the shoulder in both directions from the trail junction, or at the USFS parking area between the road and Dry Fork River.

The E terminus [J] at Mountain Side Trail (TR114) is signed.

Segment 1: Because the trail is rarely-used, the footway is not worn. It is axe-blazed (a short slash above a longer vertical slash) but the blazes are old and often far apart. However, if the trail is lost there is no great problem, whether ascending or descending. Anyone attempting the trail should be prepared for a steep route. Bushwhacking up the mountain cannot fail to reach Mountain Side Trail (TR114); bushwhacking down will inevitably lead to WV72.

TABLE ROCK OVERLOOK TRAIL (TR113) 1.1mi(1.8km)
SCENERY: 1 (exceptional) NOTE: M,(0)
DIFFICULTY: I (leisurely) SKI-: S4
CONDITION: A (good) ELEV: 3435/3310
MAPS: USFS(A,B), Mozark Mountain, I-A-2 in this Guide
SEGMENTS: (1) FR13 (Canaan Loop Road) to Overlook 1.1mi

Table Rock Overlook Trail, W of the area bounded by FR13 (CLR), leads to one of the most spectacular views in the Cheat Ranger District. The trail is blazed with blue paint (faded and sporadic). The trail is regularly used and quite evident.

Access: The NE terminus [L] is at the CLR (FR13) 65yd S of the W end of Plantation Trail (TR101). This point on the CLR is 9.8mi from WV32 and 6.6mi from Blackwater Falls State Park Lodge. The trailhead may be signed and the parking area may be boggy.

Segment 1: Starting from CLR [L], the trail climbs gradually through the woods. The footway is reasonably clear but rocky. After completing the slight incline, descend slightly to a damp area in dense rhododendron. Beyond is a large outcrop (Table Rock) [M] from which the entire Red Run Valley can be seen to the SE with Mozark Mountain near at hand. To the S, over the valley of the Dry Fork, several mountains, including Shavers Mountain, are visible in the distance. In the vicinity of the W terminus of the Trail are heavy mountain laurel thickets and one established campsite.

MOUNTAIN SIDE TRAIL (TR114) 4.8mi(7.7km)
SCENERY: 1 (exceptional) NOTE: B,M,(6)
DIFFICULTY: II (moderate) SKI-: S2
CONDITION: B (average) ELEV: 3240/2440
MAPS: USFS(A,B), Mozark Mountain, I-A-2 in this Guide
SEGMENTS:

- (1) FR13(N) to TR112 (Benett Rock Trail) 3.0mi
 - (2) TR112 to FR244A 1.8mi
 - (3) FR244A to FR13(S) (1.8mi)
- (Segment 3) is not part of TR114)

Mountain Side Trail is near the W edge of Canaan Mountain Spruce Plantation. Part of the trail is shown as TR688 on old USFS maps. The trail follows an old logging RR grade. Ties are still evident, but rails are gone. Changes in elevation are gradual and the route is not strenuous. Along the route there are views, first to the NW, across the valley of Blackwater River

to Backbone Mountain, then to the W across the valley of Dry Fork River to McGowan Mountain, then S across the Dry Fork to Green- and Shavers Mountains, and finally across the valley of Red Run to Mozark Mountain, closer at hand.

Access: The N end [N] of the trail is at the CLR 1.0mi N of the W end [I] of Plantation Trail (TR101). This junction is signed. After looping around the SW arm of Canaan Mountain the trail becomes FR244A and FR244 which can be walked to FR13, where FR244 is gated.

Segment 1: Starting at the N end [N], Mountain Side Trail enters the woods on a dirt road. After entering USFS land, the trail passes an old hunting camp on the left. Beyond the camp the trail narrows and the old RR bed becomes evident. In the next 0.5mi the trail crosses Laurel Run five times. The area around these crossings is open, and there are several tent sites, particularly around the first two crossings. Laurel Run is a convenient source of water. The trail makes a sixth crossing, of a tributary of Laurel Run. Even in periods of high water these crossings are not difficult. The trail beyond the crossing descends gradually as Laurel Run descends steeply to the valley of the Dry Fork of the Cheat. Beware of a hairpin turnoff to the right before Bennett Rock Trail; keep going straight ahead here. Bennett Rock Trail (TR112) [J] is reached at 3.0mi.

Segment 2: The trail then swings around the SW arm of Canaan Mountain and heads E. parallel to Red Run, which is nearly 1000ft below. As one travels E, Red Run becomes increasingly audible as its elevation increases. At 4.8mi the trail reaches the signed junction [O] with Red Run Logging Road, FR244A.

Segment 3: Walk another 1.8mi on FR244A and FR244 to the NE end [P] of FR244 (gated). The NE end of FR244 is 2.0mi W of the S end of Railroad Grade Trail (TR110) [E]. About 0.5mi W of [P] is a clear view of Mozark Mountain. This is the least-obstructed view along the trail.

Circuit Hikes: Using the shelter [D] on TR110 as a base camp, the following one-day circuit hike could be made: From the shelter go N on Railroad Grade Trail to Plantation Trail (TR101) [G], then W to the CLR [I]; N on CLR to Mountain Side Trail [N], then to FR244 which is then taken back to CLR [P]; E on the CLR to Railroad Grade Trail (TR110) [E], and return to the shelter. The total distance of 13.0mi involves less than 2.0mi on the CLR. FR244 can also be followed to WV72 and Otter Creek Wilderness, or used as part of a 5.3mi loop involving FR244A, TR114, TR112 and WV72.

POINTY KNOB TRAIL (TR139)

5.2mi(8.3km)

SCENERY: 2 (wooded)

NOTE: B,M,H,S (6)

DIFFICULTY: II (moderate)

SKI-: S4

CONDITION: A (good)

ELEV: 4100/3240

MAPS: USFS(A,B), Blackwater Falls, Mozark Mountain, I-A-1, I-A-2 and I-A-3 in this Guide

SEGMENTS: (1) FR13(E) to White Raven Rocks 2.4mi

(2) White Raven Rocks to FR13(W) 2.8mi

Pointy Knob Trail goes neither to Pointy Knob nor to Chimney Rocks. A faint side trail toward these two points of interest dead-ends at the boundary of private land. Pointy Knob Trail does however cross White Raven Rocks where there is a partial view. The trail is blue-paint blazed.

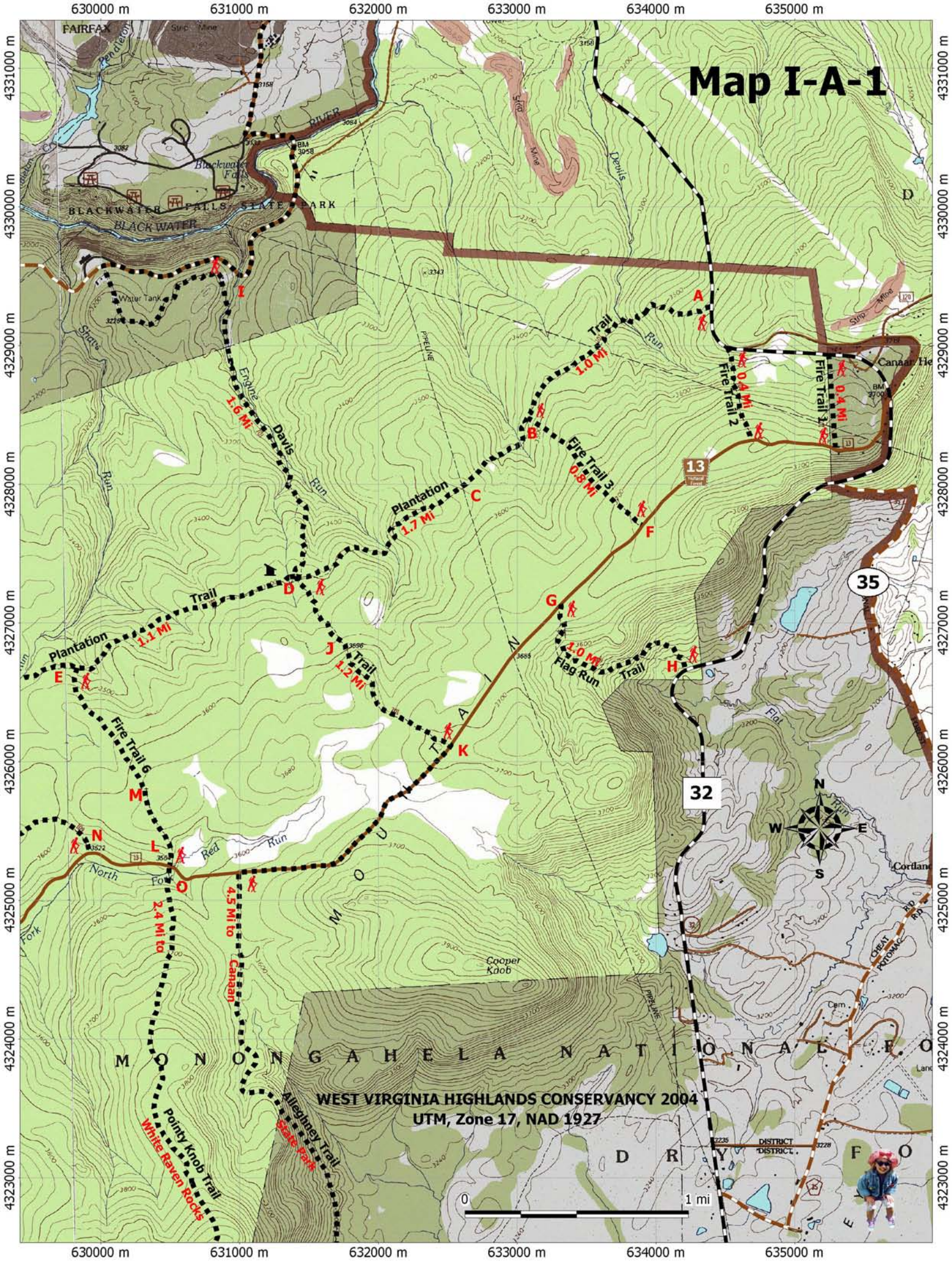
Access: The E trailhead **O** (Map 1-A-1) (el. 3630ft) is on Canaan Loop Road (CLR), 4.1mi from WV32 and 0.2mi E of TR108.

The W trailhead **Q** (Map 1-A-2) on CLR is signed but requires effort to locate. The sign is on the side of the stream at the parking area. One must cross the stream (North Fork of Red Run) and locate blazes to begin hiking.

Segment 1: From the E trailhead **O** (Map 1-A-1) on CLR look for an old forest road. Park in this area; follow the old road 0.1mi and turn left onto the trail. Follow blazes S on a slight ascent through mountain laurel, rhododendron and red spruce. Reach White Raven Rocks (el.4100ft) (Map 1-A-3) at 2.4mi.

Segment 2: Turn right, W, and follow the blazes in a descent through hardwoods to cross the headwaters of South Fork of Red Run at 3.3mi. At 3.6mi is an Adirondak shelter (Map 1-A-2) built by the USFS and the W. Va. National Guard in 1989. This shelter accommodates 6-8 hikers. From here the trail follows a scenic and easy treadway on an old RR grade which parallels the stream. There are a number of cascades and rock formations where mosses and ferns are prominent. At 4.8mi rock hop the stream, and three times more before turning right off the old RR grade. Descend 30yd to the confluence of South Fork and North Fork of Red Run, rock hop, and climb the stream bank to the parking area **Q** at FR13.

Map I-A-1



630000 m

631000 m

632000 m

633000 m

634000 m

635000 m

4331000 m
4330000 m
4329000 m
4328000 m
4327000 m
4326000 m
4325000 m
4324000 m
4323000 m

4331000 m
4330000 m
4329000 m
4328000 m
4327000 m
4326000 m
4325000 m
4324000 m
4323000 m

630000 m

631000 m

632000 m

633000 m

634000 m

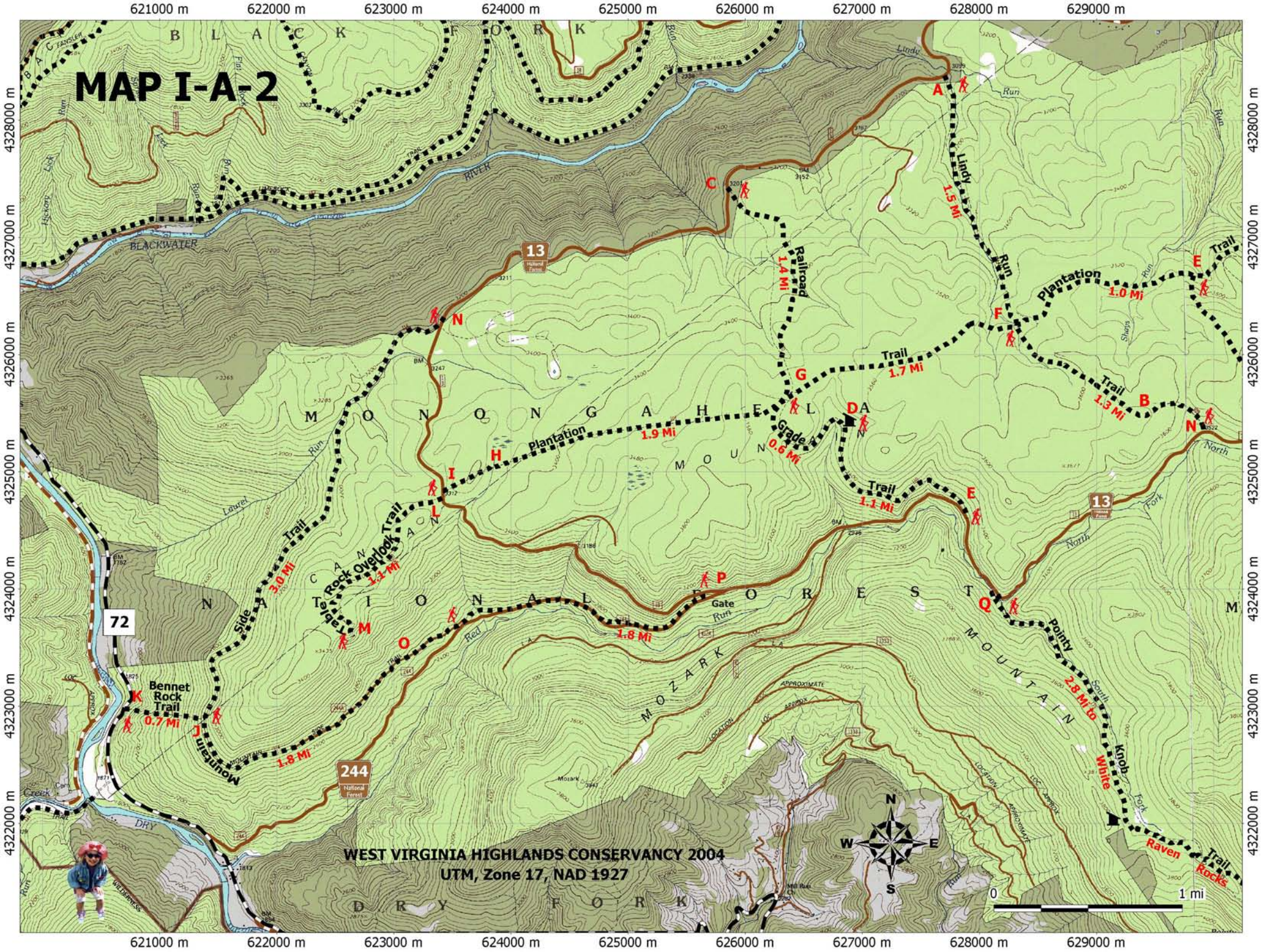
635000 m

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY 2004
UTM, Zone 17, NAD 1927

1 mi



MAP I-A-2



WEST VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY 2004
UTM, Zone 17, NAD 1927



629000 m

630000 m

631000 m

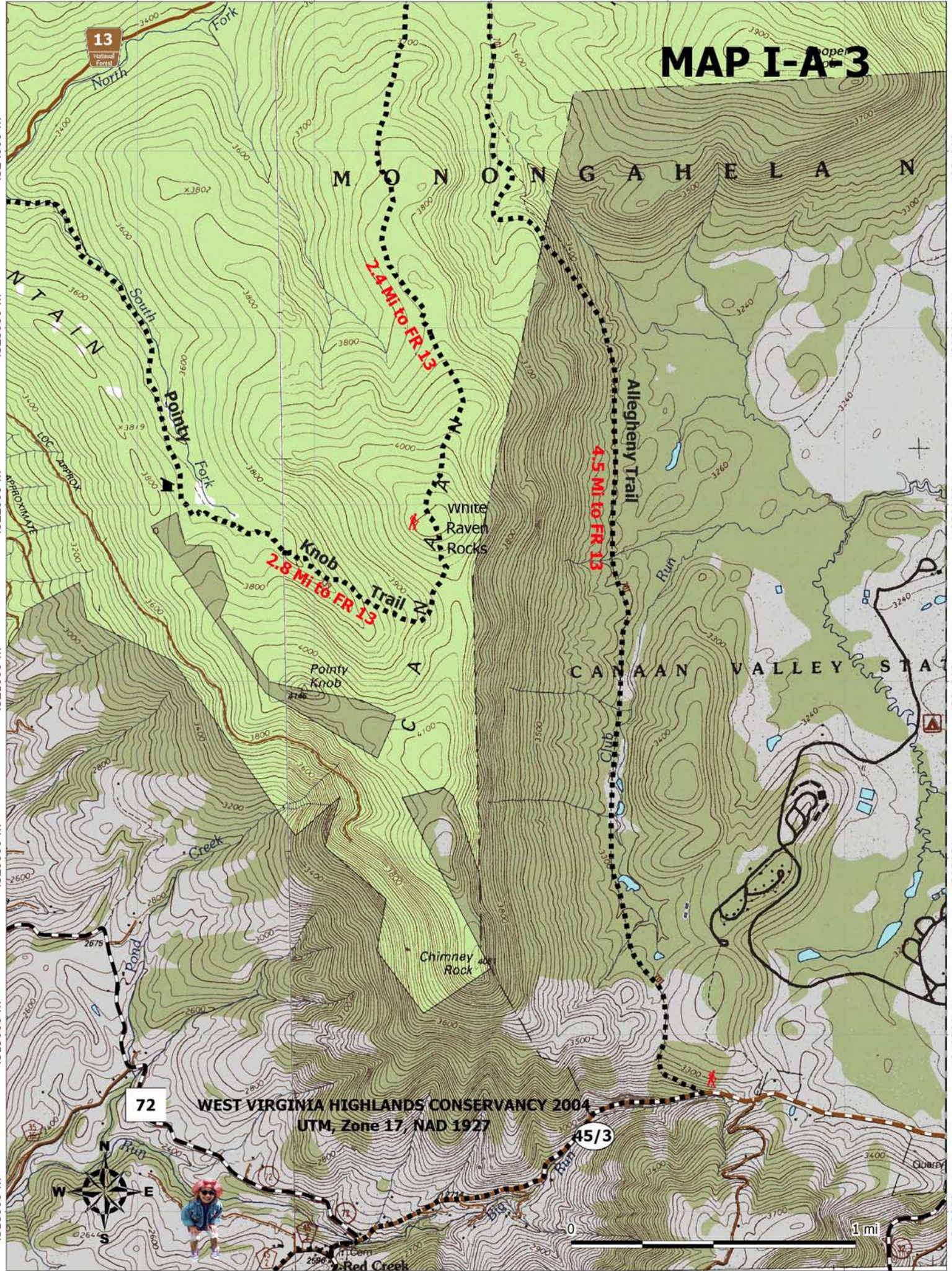
632000 m

633000 m

MAP I-A-3

4324000 m
4323000 m
4322000 m
4321000 m
4320000 m
4319000 m
4318000 m

4324000 m
4323000 m
4322000 m
4321000 m
4320000 m
4319000 m
4318000 m



WEST VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY 2004
UTM, Zone 17, NAD 1927

72

45/3



629000 m

630000 m

631000 m

632000 m

633000 m