



# What's happening at Dutch Hill?

Expanded opportunities for backcountry skiing, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and hiking are coming to the former Dutch Hill Ski Area in Readsboro, Vermont!

**How?** In 2016, the **US Forest Service** released a Final Environmental Assessment for the South of Route 9 Integrated Resource Project. Recognizing the growth of backcountry skiing in the Northeast, this document **called for recreation opportunities at Dutch Hill**, allowing ski line maintenance by a Forest Service partner group.

**Who?** In early 2017, a group of backcountry enthusiasts came together to form **DHASH, the Dutch Hill Alliance of Skiers and Hikers**. DHASH is a chapter of Vermont's Catamount Trail Association (CTA) and is partnering with the Forest Service to develop recreation opportunities at Dutch Hill.

## For whom?



**Backcountry skiers:** some of Dutch Hill's original downhill trails will be cleared for skiers who wish to hike up and ski down; the old Alpine Lift line will be opened up for expert skiing; glades—forested areas with some underbrush removed—will be developed for tree skiing; a dedicated uphill skin track will be designated to preserve the downhill skiing experience in other areas.



**Cross country skiers:** several of the hiking and ski trails will be suitable for intermediate and expert cross country skiers.



**Hikers and snowshoers:** a marked route leading to an open vista at the top of the old ski area will be developed.



**And others:** those who enjoy sledding can continue to use the Dutch Meadows slope, which will be kept open; tourists can learn about the ski area's history through proposed roadside interpretive panels; birders and wildlife enthusiasts will appreciate the habitat enhancements brought about by ski trail clearing and Forest Service timber management activities.

**When?** DHASH started work in **Fall 2017** on one downhill run (Yankee Doodle), cleared an uphill skin track (following Meadows Extension), and began opening some gladed terrain (near Dyke). During **2018**, we hope to expand our efforts in conjunction with the Forest Service's timber and wildlife habitat management activities.

**What can I do?** **Become a member of DHASH and CTA;** follow us on Facebook; attend an upcoming work day at Dutch Hill (check our web site and Facebook page for details); spread the word!

[www.Dhash4vt.org](http://www.Dhash4vt.org) | [www.facebook.com/DHASH.CTA](https://www.facebook.com/DHASH.CTA)