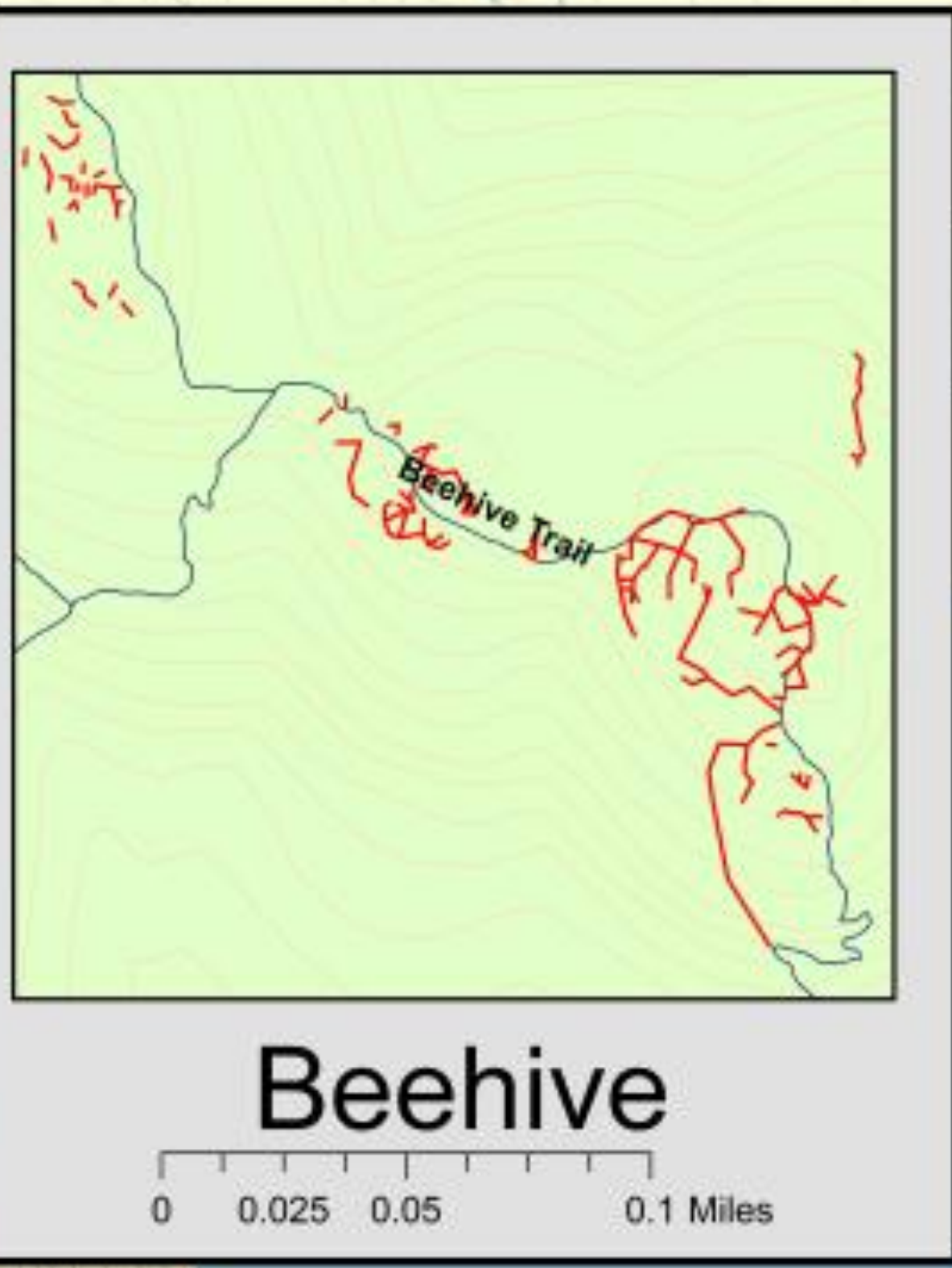


# Social Trails in Acadia National Park, Mount Desert Island, Maine

Abby Seymour<sup>1</sup>, Charlie Jacobi<sup>2</sup>, Karen Anderson<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Friends of Acadia, <sup>2</sup>Acadia National Park



Social trails are trails created by visitors seeking a better photo or view, picking blueberries, or any number of other reasons. Research shows that minimal use creates the appearance of a trail.

We mapped social trails at many locations, both high use (Cadillac Mountain) and low use (Little Moose Island). We then closed some trails and maintained others at a basic level to still allow access. More management is needed at many sites but it takes considerable time and energy, and often many ropes and signs, which need long term monitoring and maintenance.

**How many miles of social trails are shown on these maps?**

