

## **Directions to MABI Northwest (Route 11), Forest Bird Monitoring Sites at: Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, Woodstock, VT**

Route established: 2006

### **NOTES:**

- *Observers should contact the park a minimum of one week before conducting a survey to notify park staff of their visit.*
- *All bearings in these directions are True North, your compass should be adjusted for 15° West to account for the declination (last calculated 8/2011). If your compass does not support declination adjustments, just add 15° to all the bearings in this document.*
- *Estimated distances are given in paces, and average 1.4m per pace (pace = two steps).*
- *Tree diameters were estimated at breast height (dbh @ 1.67 m).*
- *All listening stations are marked with a diamond-shaped, white, metal sign labeled “NPS Bird Study, Route 11 (NW), Point: #” (where # indicates the Point Number) and two reflective “fire-tacks”.*
- *Routes, where they leave established trail, are marked with a single fire-tack and a white “NPS Bird Study” sign on the side of the tree facing away from the trail.*
- *Sections of routes where short distances of off-trail travel are necessary are marked with fire-tacks every 15 meters. In cases where the observer is expected to navigate longer distances cross-country a white, diamond shaped “NPS Bird Study” sign is also used and labeled with the following information: Route 11 (NW), Pt. # to Pt. #” (where Pt. # to Pt. # indicates the two listening stations being connected).*
- *The routes and points can be viewed in Google Earth from the NETN website: [http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/netn/googleMaps/googleEarth\\_NETN.cfm](http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/netn/googleMaps/googleEarth_NETN.cfm) (A link to obtain Google Earth for free is also provided on this same page).*
- *Although using a GPS to run this route can be helpful, the written directions provided below are designed to only require a compass to accurately find the points.*

**Parking:** Trailhead parking is available off of Prosper Road on the west side of Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP (be sure not to block gated access to trails).

**Note:** *The most efficient way to run these points is to not visit them in the order that they are numbered. The instructions below start with Point 09 and then proceed in the order of the remaining points.*

**POINT 9** – From the Prosper Road parking area head south on McKenzie Farm Trail. Proceed south on the McKenzie Farm Trail until reaching the carriage road (McKenzie Road). Turn left onto McKenzie Road and continue 60 paces (85 m) to signed intersection with West Ridge Trail. Right onto West Ridge Trail and continue to signed intersection with Maple Trail. Turn left to stay on West Ridge Trail and continue to signed intersection with West Ridge Trail Overlook. Turn left towards overlook and continue for 60 paces (85 m) to large double ash on right (19” and 20” dbh). Point is visible 10 paces (14 m) from the trail on a 98° bearing. Point is marked with two fire-tacks and a white sign on a **5” diameter hemlock**.

**POINT 1** – After returning to the trail, continue uphill towards the West Ridge Trail Overlook. Continue straight on the 5<sup>th</sup> switchback and then take subtle fork in trail to left (marked with single fire-tack) for 10 paces (14 m). Look for white metal bird survey marker on back of 19” dbh maple on left of trail. From this location leave the trail at 70° bearing heading downhill and following the white diamond-shaped bird signs (1<sup>st</sup> sign @ 23 paces; 2<sup>nd</sup> sign 23 additional paces; 15 additional paces to the point itself). Point is marked with two fire-tacks and a white sign on an **8” diameter sugar maple** on a steep slope.

**POINT 2** – From Point 1 head east and downhill (steep and treacherous) towards the Pogue (barely visible through the trees) until intersecting the Pogue Loop carriage road. Turn left onto Pogue Loop and continue to intersection with signs for North Ridge and Prosper Road. From this intersection continue on the Pogue Loop Road for another 62 paces (87 m) looking for a small, but distinctive trail to the left connecting to Summer Pasture Road. Left on Summer Pasture Road and travel 96 paces (135 m) to 18” dbh beech on right (5 paces after fallen hemlock on right; 5 paces before 28” white oak on right). Leave trail to north (left) following white, metal bird signs. Point is not visible from the trail, but is located 32 paces (45 m) off trail on **6” diameter beech** marked with two fire-tacks and a white sign.

**POINT 3** – After returning to Summer Pasture Road, continue up the road to the 1<sup>st</sup> intersection. Bear right to follow signs for North Ridge Loop. At fork in North Ridge Loop, bear right. At intersection with sign to Spring Lot bear left and travel 260 paces (364 m) to 2 foot high rock ledge on left shoulder of trail. Point is highly visible to the left (190° bearing, 10 paces) marked with a white, metal bird sign on an **11” diameter white ash**.

**POINT 4** – Continue on North Ridge Loop to overlook bench (160 paces; 225 m). Travel 12 paces past the bench and look left and up to the top of the small ridge to see the 1<sup>st</sup> white guide sign on a 5” dbh sugar maple. Follow metal bird study guide signs up and over the ridge and to the point (63 total paces; 88 m) on a marked **12” diameter sugar maple**.

**POINT 5** – After returning to North Ridge Loop, continue up the trail to sharp “U” turn in trail. Take wide, but less developed trail to left (south). Bear right at “Y” in trail and proceed a short distance to a 14” dbh white ash on trail-right marked with a white metal guide sign at the start of an old logging road. Follow the old logging road uphill looking for white guide signs. Continue to follow signs until spruce plantation is on left. Point is located uphill to right (18 paces, 90° bearing) on a **8” diameter sugar maple** marked with a white NPS bird study sign.

**POINT 6** – From Point 5 travel north through the woods to intersect the North Ridge Loop. Take the Loop west (left) to its signed intersection with McKenzie Road. Turn right onto McKenzie Road and take to intersection with Prosper Trail. Turn right onto Prosper Trail and travel for about 100 paces (140 m) sloping downhill. Point is highly visible to the right located on a marked **4” diameter sugar maple** between trails. If you reach the Middle Pass Trail coming in from the right, you have passed the point (12 paces back).

**POINT 7** – Continue downhill on Prosper Trail past intersection with Middle Pass Trail. At the signed intersection with North Slope Trail take a right. Travel on North Slope Trail 284 paces

(400 m), crossing over a wooden bridge in the first 60 paces). Point is highly visible just a few paces west (left) of the trail on a **20” diameter scotch pine** marked with a white metal sign.

**POINT 8** – Retrace your steps back down the North Slope Trail to its intersection with Prosper Trail. Cross over Prosper Trail to stay on North Slope Trail. From this intersection, walk 67 paces (90 m). Point is highly visible on trail right, located only 3 paces to north of trail on **5” diameter hophornbeam** marked with a white NPS Bird Study sign.

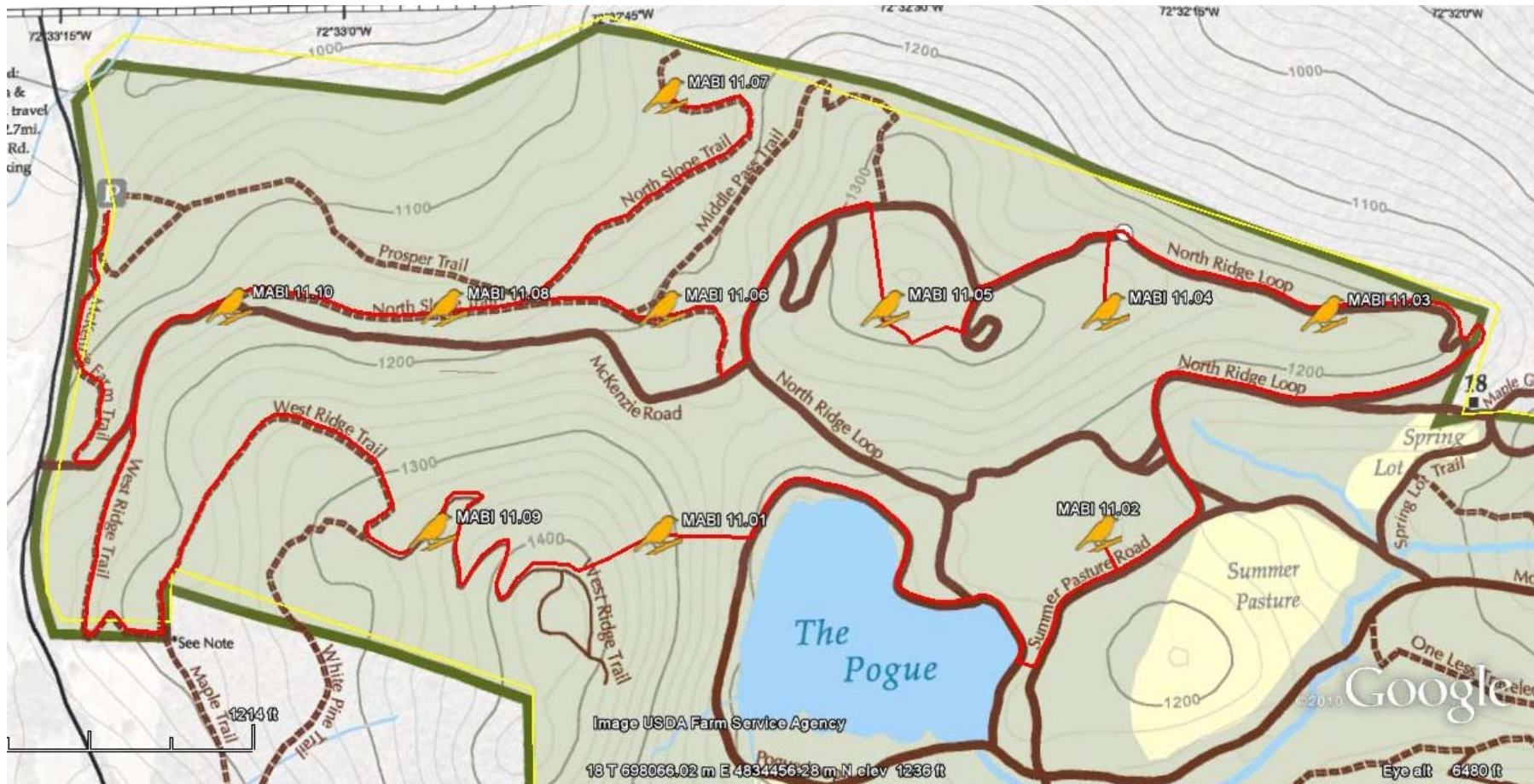
**POINT 10** – Continue west on the North Slope Trail to its intersection with McKenzie Road. Turn left and walk 32 paces (45 m) back up McKenzie Road. Point is highly visible from the road on **12” diameter red pine** between trails. Point is marked with a white, metal NPS Bird Study sign.

*To return to the parking area:* Head downhill (west) from Point 10 on McKenzie Road until you reach McKenzie Farm Trail. Turn right onto McKenzie Farm Trail and follow it north to the Prosper Road parking area.

Table 1: GPS Coordinates - Datum NAD 83; UTM Zone 18T

| Point Name      | Latitude<br>(Dec. Deg) | Longitude<br>(Dec. Deg.) | UTM E  | UTM E   |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------|---------|
| 11.01 (MABI NW) | 43.634859              | -72.545414               | 698000 | 4834250 |
| 11.02 (MABI NW) | 43.634726              | -72.539221               | 698500 | 4834250 |
| 11.03 (MABI NW) | 43.636908              | -72.536033               | 698750 | 4834500 |
| 11.04 (MABI NW) | 43.636974              | -72.539129               | 698500 | 4834500 |
| 11.05 (MABI NW) | 43.637041              | -72.542226               | 698250 | 4834500 |
| 11.06 (MABI NW) | 43.637108              | -72.545322               | 698000 | 4834500 |
| 11.07 (MABI NW) | 43.639357              | -72.545231               | 698000 | 4834750 |
| 11.08 (MABI NW) | 43.637175              | -72.548419               | 697750 | 4834500 |
| 11.09 (MABI NW) | 43.634926              | -72.548510               | 697750 | 4834250 |
| 11.10 (MABI NW) | 43.637241              | -72.551516               | 697500 | 4834500 |

Map showing preferred route for visiting Northeast Temperate Network Forest Bird Monitoring Sites along survey route 11 (Northwest) at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, Woodstock, VT



This map was generated using the Google Earth application.