DIRECTIONS TO FBMP SITE AT:

BRISTOL CLIFFS WILDERNESS AREA

Bristol, VT

Site established by Ernie Buford, 1999.

From Rt. 116 in West Lincoln, turn south onto York Hill Road (over green steel bridge). Continue up this road for about 2 miles. Turn into the small parking lot for Bristol Cliffs Wilderness Area on the right where the road levels off and takes a sharp left turn.

Directions to the transect:

This can be tricky. It takes about 15 minutes to hike up to the transect. Technically there are no trails in the wilderness area, however, there is a well-worn trail that goes a short distance into the area, and there is actually a very primitive trail that goes all the way to the transect (this was quite accidental, but very convenient!). Follow the well-worn trail straight in from the parking lot. Beyond the trail register do not follow the main trail, which turns left, but proceed straight ahead on a less-worn trail to the stream. Cross straight across on the rocks and slog across a small seep (fern/sedge patch) to a primitive trail that leads to the transect. Finding this primitive footpath is key! If you don't think you are on it you may be better off proceeding downstream a short distance to a smaller stream that comes in from the left (west). Following this small tributary will also get you to the transect. Follow the primitive trail (or stream) for about 15-20 minutes until the stream and trail meet. Look for two yellow flags on a maple sapling at this point. On the opposite side (north) of the stream is a very big sugar maple (away from the stream maybe 10 meters?). There are yellow flags on striped maple and spruce saplings beneath this old maple which marks the beginning of the survey transect.

Transect layout:

(*Please Note: compass bearings are True North -- magnetic north +15*)

POINT 1: Beginning at the old maple follow a bearing of **280** for about 50 m to the first station (yellow flags on small maple next to a bigger maple).

POINT 2: Continue on the **280** bearing about 200 m to point 2 (yellow flagging on small beech), which is ~25m uphill from large boulders.

POINT 3: From point 2 proceed 200 m across the hill on **190** to a spot adjacent to a spruce sapling perched on top of a chest-high boulder and just shy of the now-tiny stream (yellow flagging on sugar maple).

POINT 4: Climb the hill along a **280** bearing to get here. Rather than pace, it is probably easiest to follow the bearing until you once again meet the stream, which makes a big U-turn around a steep rocky knoll after a steep climb. Upon meeting the stream you can cross it, follow it (upstream) around the U-turn, cross over again, and look for the next yellow flag. At this flag, climb the bank to the survey point, which is only several meters up from the stream. From this point you can look west along a rotting tree trunk that lies at the edge of a somewhat open hobblebush patch.

POINT 5: Continue another ~200 m along the **280** bearing. Look for a yellow-flagged white birch on the far side of a slight knoll that has several other white birches.

Point Count Coordinates (Decimal Degrees)

Point	Lat	Long
1	44.09303248	-73.02360722
2	44.09333289	-73.02555987
3	44.09178793	-73.02609631
4	44.09230292	-73.02985677
5	44.09214199	-73.02788266

NOTE: Surrounding each point count station are three vegetation plots, each located 30 m away on magnetic bearings of 0°, 120°, and 240°. They are labeled with treetags inscribed with the point count number and a letter corresponding to the bearing: B (0°), C (120°), and D (240°). Be careful not to confuse these points with the actual point count stations.

