Mountain Birdwatch 2.0 Route 165: Whiteface North, NY

Hike Duration/Difficulty: Only hike is along route, which is on Whiteface Toll Rd.

Route/Trail Access: First, go to Atmospheric Science Research Center on the way to the Whiteface Toll Rd, which is ~1 mile before toll gate. Talk to Doug Wolf about doing research for Mtn Birdwatch of the Vermont Center for Ecostudies, write a short letter requesting a research "permit" and gate key. Second, talk to people @ gate, show them your key and explain your purpose and mention Doug Wolf's permission. Third, find "J.R." at the Castle or Elevator on top of the mountain and ask him for permission to camp at the mowed pulloff with picnic table near the Placid Curve (and point 1). Then you're golden! Don't forget to return the key to Atmospheric Science Research Center when you're done. Drive up the toll road. Points 1-4 are on the toll rd, point 5 is at the top of the yellow-marked hiking trail next to the stone retaining wall for the toll road, and point 6 is ~300 m down the yellow-marked hiking trail.

165 Whiteface North Esthe Mtn e Min BOUNDAR Verified Points Potential BITH Habitat Meters 0 500 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000

Pt #	Picture 1	GPS ¹	Description
1	Facing N from Pt 1	N 44.36991 W 73.90951 Elev(m) 1252	Point is on N side of toll road. Boulder along N side of road at point is flat and short (1.5 long x 1 m wide x 10 cm high). MBW tag on 4 cm dbh (diameter at breast height) balsam (2.5 m tall) just N of this boulder. Boulder 0.75m W of point on N side road is 1 m tall and has horizontal orange streaks on bottom 2/3rds. 10 m SW is white "X" in center line of road. 50 m E is green sign (facing away from point on N side of road) with #s "431 1201 1112." 20 m beyond on S side of road is 25 mph sign. 200 m N to "Placid Curve." Across from green sign at center line of road is pointed in white "+1112." 130 m W is 15 mph yellow turn sign.
2	Facing W from Pt 2	N 44.36962 W 73.90639 Elev(m) 1304	Point is on N side of toll road. 95 m SE on S side of road is yellow "Rough Road next 1 mile" sign; 45 m further up road is a pullout on the S with picnic table. 50 m WNW on N side of road is small green sign with #s "431 1201 1111." Point is halfway along 170 m stretch of 3 m high exposed bedrock on S side of road. 10 m SE is white "X" painted on yellow center line in road. At point is 1.5 m long x 0.6 m wide x 0.8 m high boulder with 5 cm diameter hole at its western corner that runs all the way through to the other side (rock is at N edge of road). MBW tag on 13cm dbh balsam 1m N of rock with hole.
3	Facing W from Pt 3	N 44.36942 W 73.90325 Elev(m) 1304	Point is on N side of Toll Rd up Whiteface 1 m S of narrow "edging" boulder with 4 horizontal lines cut into the side. 6 m W of site is green road sign with numbers "431 1201 1109. Tag is on 7cm dbh balsam 4 m NW. On S side of road 12 m SE of site are 2 edging boulders that front 2 m- high cliffs with water trickling over edge. Summit elevator is due S of point, road above and castle visible to SW. Parking pull-off with picnic table on S side of road is 100 m W down road.
4	Facing E from Pt 4	N 44.37049 W 73.90048 Elev(m) 1322	Point is on N side of Whiteface Toll Rd next to triangle- shaped edging boulder. Sign for "Wilmington Turn" is 40 m E of point. Water runoff ditch starts at road 20 m E. 25 mph turn sign is 25 m ESE of site. Snag 10 cm dbh and 3 m tall is 2 m NW. MBW tag is on balsam 7 cm dbh with 2 trunks at top.
5	Facing S from Pt 5	N 44.36942 W 73.89772 Elev(m) 1313	From Toll Rd "Auto Rd Tour stop #8 at 4.4 miles" sign walk W 15 m to trail (with yellow blazes) going S then E down rocks next to road support wall. Site is on top of yellow rock blaze, 0.5 m S of rock wall. MBW tag is on 8cm dbh balsam cut off at 2 m high, 2 m SW of point. Metal eyebolt is hammered into boulder with yellow blaze 1.5 m SE. 5 cm diameter hole is drilled into same rock 25 cm E of blaze.
6	Facing W from Pt 6	N 44.37052 W 73.89496 Elev(m) 1275	 Point is 280 m E on trail from toll road. See point 5 for trail access from road. 2 m long bench-like rock with moss on top and 18 cm dbh balsam on its E end is 1 m N of point. MBW tag on this balsam. Point is on 3 m-long x 1 m wide flat boulder in trail. Balsam snag 25 cm dbh is blown down S to NE, 3 m N of point. Balsam 20 cm dbh points N diagonally over trail 4 m SW of point, 5 m off ground. Red DEC trail marker on 6 cm dbh balsam facing W, 3 m SW of site.

Please survey this route in order, beginning with point 1. ¹ Please note that waypoint locations are provided in decimal degrees. Visit <u>www.flickr.com</u> and search People for "Mountain Birdwatch" to view additional pictures of your route.