

Directions to Witch Hole Pond Forest Bird Monitoring Site at:

Acadia National Park, Mt. Desert Island, Maine

Site established 15 May, 2007 by Kate Miller

NOTE: All bearings are based on true North; your compass should be adjusted for 17° West declination. All listening stations are marked with double blue flagging and an aluminum treetag, labeled "NETN B#", where # indicates the Point Number. Using a GPS is highly recommended, especially for finding the beginning of the route from a trail/road. Routes marked in blue on the map are also flagged in the field. Estimated pace counts are given for distances, and average 1.4m per two steps. Tree diameters were estimated at a height of 1.37m.

Point 1 (NETN B38): Begin at Carriage Trail from Hull's Cove Visitor Center Parking lot. Go about 450m to intersection of Carriage Trails. Point is 150m (97 paces) at 230° from red "Danger to Bicycles" sign at intersection. First flagged tree is a red maple, and is 15 paces uphill from sign. At top of the lichen covered boulders (second or third flag) change compass bearing to 250°. Continue at 250° to the first listening point, which is a 8" diameter white pine, in white pine/red pine dominated forest with moderately dense red spruce understory.

Point 2 (NETN B39): Listening point is located 250m (182 paces) at 270° from Point 1 (P1). At 50m from P1 you will come to a wetland. Following the wetland edge North about 15m to flagged tree for crossable path. After wetland, go uphill. Pass over several caribou lichen covered rocky areas. Listening Point is a 12" diameter white pine, and is 20m west of lichen covered boulders.

Point 3 (NETN B40): Listening Point is located 250m (182 paces) at 180° from P2. Forest varies between white pine/ red spruce forest to red oak/big tooth aspen forest with relatively dense red spruce understory. Pass over several areas of lichen covered boulders. Listening Point is a 3" diameter red spruce at edge of small understory clearing.

Point 4 (NETN B41): Listening Point is 240m (170 paces) at 90° from P3. At 30m (17 paces) from P3 cross a wetland by stepping hummock to hummock. Pass through several areas of lichen covered boulders. Listening Point is a 6" diameter gnarly red spruce, located in an area with relatively dense red spruce and white pine branches.

Point 5 (NETN B42): Listening Point is 245m (189 paces) at 90° from P4. Head downhill through hardwood dominated with sparse understory red spruce, passing area with several big tooth aspen snags. After ~80m the understory has denser red spruce. At 140m, cross a hummocky wetland. As you go uphill from wetland, forest is more conifer dominated. Listening Point is a 5" diameter white pine in a white pine/ red oak forest with relatively open understory. You can see Witch Hole Pond through trees, and the Carriage trail is 85m (60 paces) at 90°.

NOTE: To find flagged path to P5 from Carriage trail (CT 5), walk 60m (43 paces) South from Carriage trail intersection (Sign Post 2), and look for line of 4 paper birches just up

slope from Carriage trail. First flagged tree is upslope at 270° between middle 2 birches, and is a red maple sapling flagged at base.

Point 6 (NETN B43): Listening Point is ~650m south on Carriage Trail from reference point CT 5, and is 12m from Carriage Trail (CT 6) at 320°. Look for area where the pond that is southwest of Witch Hole gets close to east side of Carriage Trail and a row of rocks line both sides. Listening Point is about 10m (7 paces) uphill, and is a large red oak (>20" diameter) that is forked at the base. Tag and flagging is facing away from the trail, and no flagging is wrapped around the tree.

Point 7 (NETN B44): Listening Point is 250m (170 paces) at 270° from P6. First 160m (110 paces) are fairly easy walking, with sparse understory conifers. Last 80m (60 paces) are fairly dense spruce understory. Listening Point is ~8" diameter big tooth aspen at the edge of an understory clearing.

Point 8 (NETN B45): Listening Point is 250m (182 paces) at 270° from P7. Path dominated by dense spruce understory, with several open, lichen-covered boulder areas. At 40m from P8, go down a steeper boulder area. Listening point is a ~8" diameter big tooth aspen forked at the base. The tree is located behind a large blown down white pine that is 20m below steep boulder area.

Point 9 (NETN B46): *Continue West from P8 about 40m to Break Neck Fire Road (FR 8).* Listening Point is 250m north from FR 8 along Breakneck Fire Road to FR 9. This spot is near top of hill, before goes downhill north to the stream. Look for patch of sheep laurel on west side of road, and lichen covered bedrock on the east side. Go 43m (30 paces) at 110° from Breakneck Fire Road through lichen covered bedrock. First flag is on a red spruce branch located at the top of outcrop. Listening Point is 5m past first flag, and is a 4" diameter White Pine.

NOTE: To get back to Hull's Cove VC Parking Lot, take Breakneck Fire Road south about 200m to hiking trail that connects with Carriage Trail. Take Witch Hole Pond Carriage Trail North, back to Parking Lot.

GPS NOTES: The forest canopy in much of the area is very dense, and can cause difficulties with GPS units. You should be able to get a decent reading along the fire road to navigate to "Reference Points". However, within the forest, GPS navigation can be tough and you should rely more on compass bearings and pacing. GPS points are projected in UTM NAD83.

POINT	Tag#	X	Y
1	38	559870	4916973
2	39	559628	4916974
3	40	559620	4916727
4	41	559866	4916730
5	42	560122	4916724
6	43	559879	4916230
7	44	559619	4916237

POINT	Tag#	X	Y
8	45	559377	4916238
9	46	559363	4916475
CT 5	n/a	560211	4916732
CT 6	n/a	559870	4916220
FR 8	n/a	559331	4916243
FR 9	n/a	559324	4916499