

Elm Brook Wildlife Management Area

General Description

Elm Brook Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is located in northwest Vermont in the town of Fairfield. Lapland Road crosses through it between Stratton and Morey Roads. It is 208 acres in size. The WMA is owned by the State of Vermont and managed by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department.

History

Like many areas of Vermont, this land was once cleared for agriculture, probably for both crops and pasture. It is now mostly reforested, but some of the old fields are kept open to provide diverse habitat for deer and other wildlife.

R. H. Trudell sold the land for the WMA to the State in 1967. The property was bought with State funds generated by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.

Habitat Features

The WMA is located on gently sloping land southeast of a row of small hills. Elevations vary from 600 to 900 feet. Elm Brook runs through the southeastern edge of the property. It is 80% forested with a mix of red and sugar maple, yellow birch, beech, hemlock and white pine. The remainder is active agricultural land, brushy fields and scattered apple trees. There is a beaver-created wetland as

well, including an alder swamp. There are some vernal pools in the forest, which are important breeding habitat for amphibians. There is also a deer wintering area in the northeast corner of the WMA.

Common Fish and Wildlife

Mammals Expect to find the following game species: white-tailed deer, snowshoe hare, beaver, mink, coyote, fisher and raccoon. Non-game forest species abound as well, such as northern and southern flying squirrels, red squirrels, chipmunks and bat species.

Birds Upland game birds present on the WMA are ruffed grouse, American woodcock (especially in the alder swamp) and wild turkey. Woodpeckers, owls and forest-dwelling hawks live in the WMA. Songbirds that occur in forests and old fields may be found, such as thrushes, vireos and many species of warblers.

Reptiles and Amphibians Eastern newts, red-backed salamanders and spotted salamanders may be found on the WMA. Wood and gray tree frogs and American toads are other amphibians that may be encountered.

Fish There are brook trout in Elm Brook.

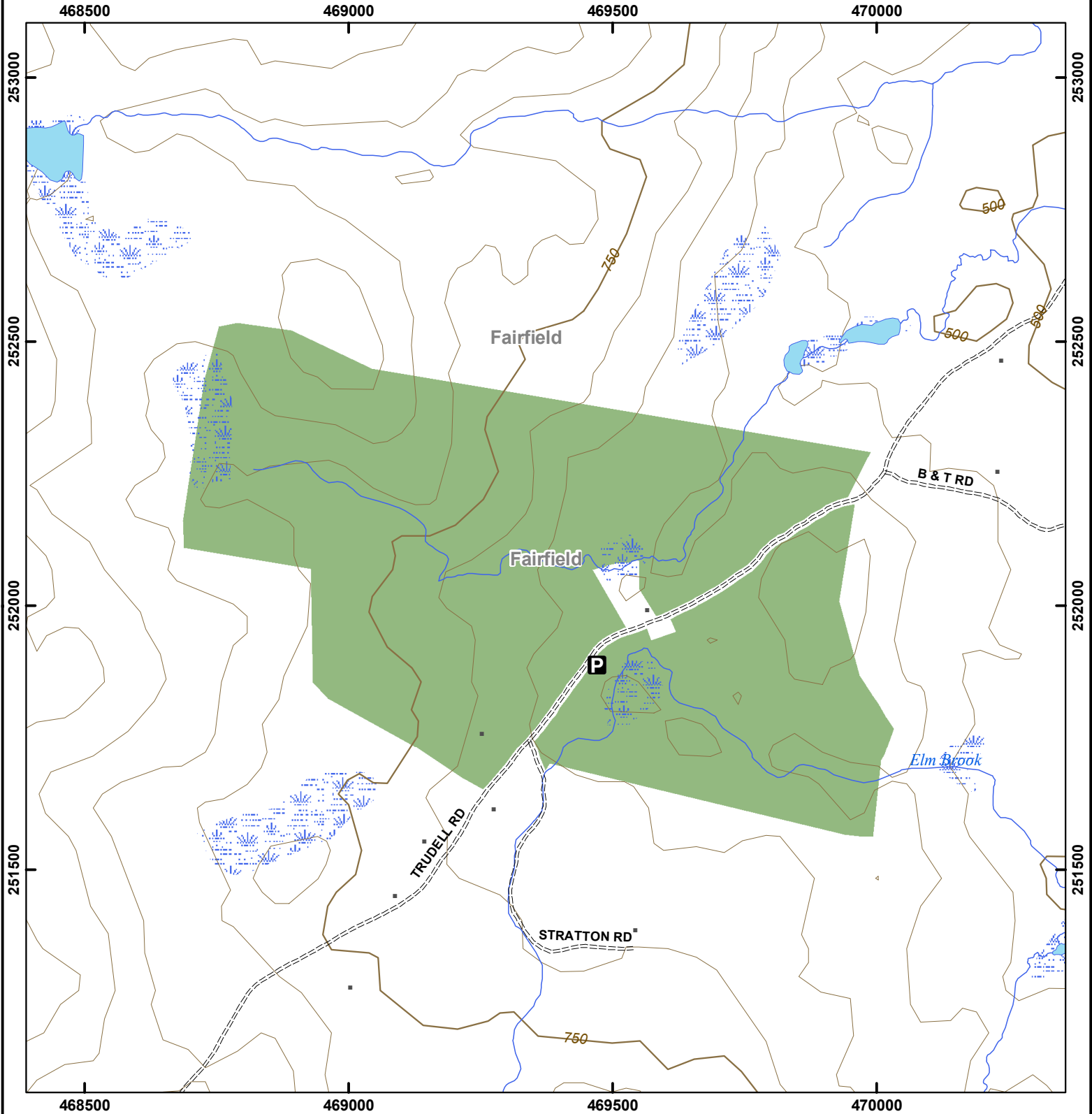


A red eft crawls along the forest floor. VFWD photo.

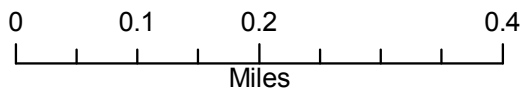


Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department

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Elm Brook WMA: 208 acres



- Wildlife Management Area
- Other Public Land
- Private w/ Public Access
- Wildlife Viewing Areas
- Car-top Access
- P Parking
- Boat Ramp
- Gate
- Designated Camp Site During Big Game Seasons Only

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