

# Robbins Mountain Wildlife Management Area

## General Description

Robbins Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is located in west central Vermont in the towns of Bolton and Richmond. It consists of 888 acres of forested mountainside. It is owned by the State of Vermont and managed by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. Access is either from a small parking area on Gillett Pond Road, or through the Chittenden County Fish and Game Club nearby. Wood roads provide foot access into the heart of the WMA. The property is adjacent to the much larger Camel's Hump State Forest, thereby providing an opportunity for fine backcountry experiences.

## History

In the 1800's Bolton was known as the "land of boulders and bears" because of its lack of tillable land. Robbins Mountain is named after the unlucky settler who was granted this piece of mountainous terrain. Although parts of the WMA were probably once used to pasture sheep during the 1800's, very little agricultural history has been recorded, and Robbins Mountain has been forested for some time.

The State first acquired land for the WMA in 1967 from M. and L. Cullen. More purchases were made in 1968. Funding was provided by Pittman-Robertson Federal monies (generated from the sale of firearms and ammunition), Department funds (generated from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses) and funds from the adjacent Chittenden County Fish and Game Club.

## Habitat Features

Robbins Mountain WMA is on a west-facing slope of Robbins Mountain. Altitude ranges from 750 feet near the

shore of Gillett Pond to 2,300 feet in the southeast corner. It supports a northern hardwood forest with a mix of hemlock, red and sugar maple, yellow birch, white ash and beech. There is also a small area in hemlock and spruce-fir. Understory shrubs include striped and mountain maple, hobblebush and red-berried elder. Common herbaceous plants are woodfern, Canada mayflower and sarsaparilla.

## Common Fish and Wildlife

**Mammals** Robbins Mountain is a good big game hunting venue. White-tailed deer, black bear and moose frequent the WMA and adjacent Camel's Hump State Forest. Other mammals present are coyote, bobcat, red fox, fisher, snowshoe hare, raccoon and a variety of smaller mammals.

**Birds** Wild turkey, ruffed grouse and woodcock live on the WMA and may be hunted in season. Songbird species include eastern wood pewee, white-and red-breasted nuthatches, black-capped chickadee, blue jay, red-eyed vireo, ovenbird, black-throated blue warbler, hermit and wood thrushes, and scarlet tanager. Forest dwelling raptors such as barred owls and Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawks may be encountered.

**Reptiles and Amphibians** Look for northern dusky, northern two-lined, spotted and red-backed salamanders and newts, wood frogs and American toads. One may also find milk, brown, garter and possibly red-bellied snakes.

**Fish** The two small streams on the property contain some small brook trout.



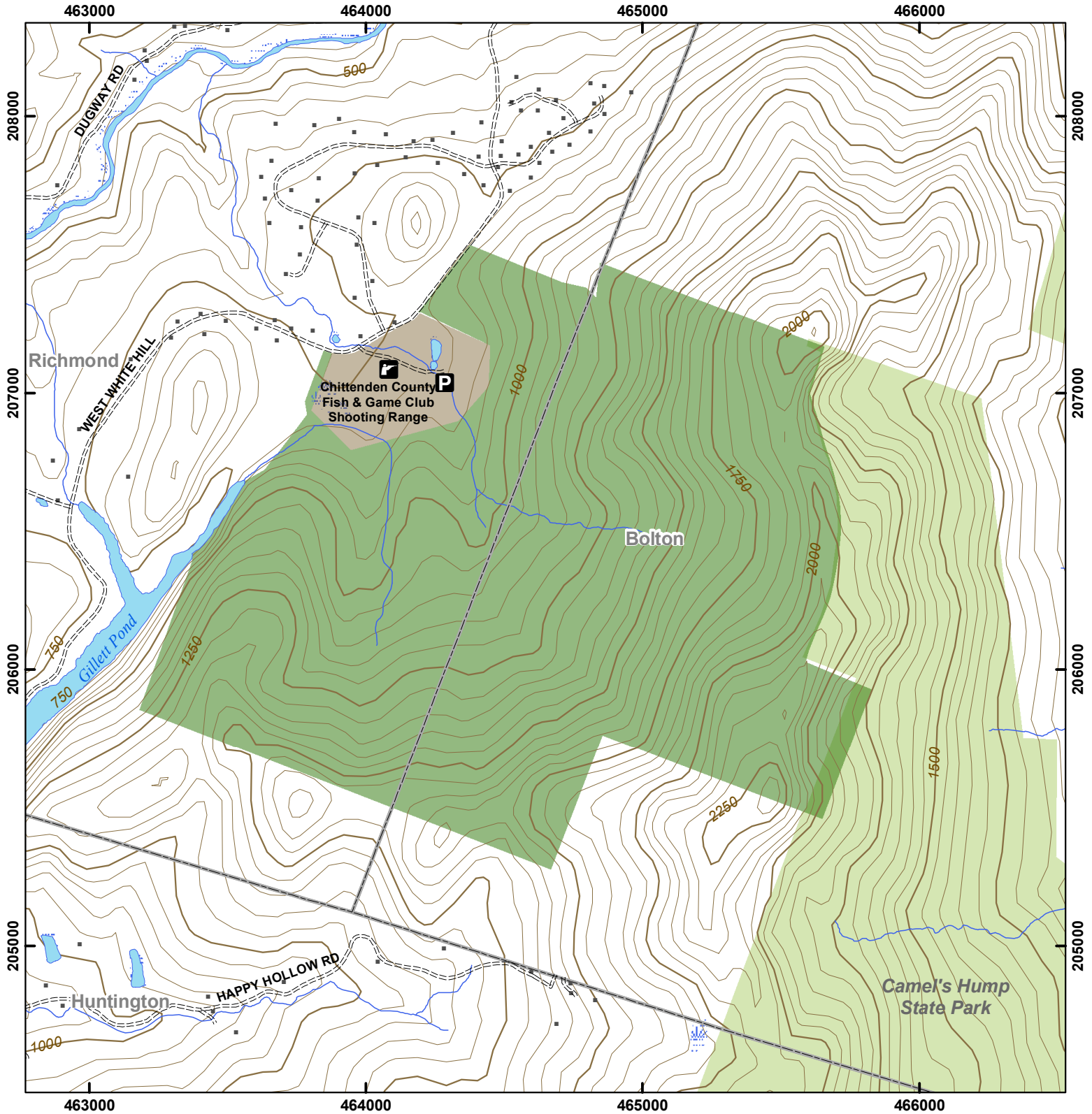
An early successional cut on Robbins Mountain creates browse for wildlife.  
Wayne Laroche, VFWD photo.

Robbins Mountain WMA is open to regulated hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking and wildlife viewing.

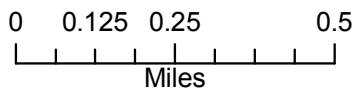











# Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department

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### Robbins Mountain WMA: 888 acres



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

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