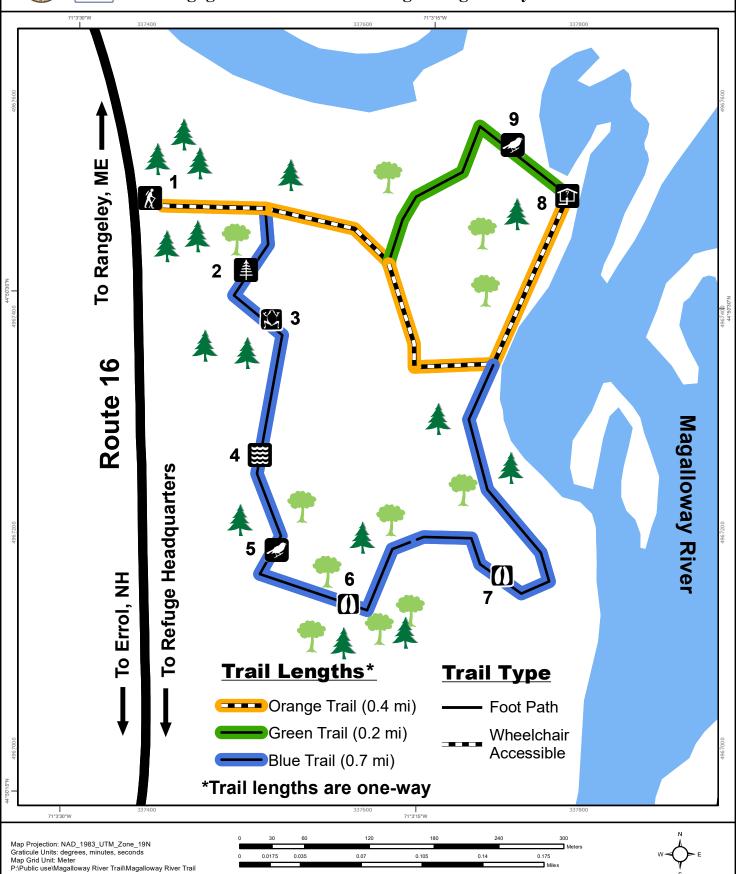




U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge: Magalloway River Trail



1 = 3,500

Magalloway River Trail

1. Trailhead/Parking area. The Magalloway River trailhead is located about one and a half miles north of the Refuge headquarters on Route 16. Approximately 1.3 miles of trails exist within this network, including the orange trail, a handicap accessible portion leading to an observation blind. Spruce-Fir forests dominate the vegetation in this area, and include a stand of Tamarack trees near the trailhead. Tamaracks are deciduous conifers, meaning they have needles and cones, but the needles change color and drop in the fall.

2. Stump/logging history. Until recently, much of the land now comprising Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge was privately owned by large paper companies. The stumps throughout the Magalloway River trail are a reminder of its logging history. Today, Umbagog NWR uses logging to promote softwood regeneration, to meet the habitat needs of many bird species. These include Blackburnian Warbler and Black-throated Green Warbler.

3. *Vernal pool.* Amphibians that may be seen on the refuge include wood frogs and spotted and blue-spotted salamanders. Wood Frog, Spring Peeper, American Toad, Mink Frog and Green Frog choruses can be heard in vernal pools and wetlands in spring and early summer.

Wood frog: sounds like a hoarse clacking sound; like the quack of a duck with little carrying power.

<u>Spring peeper:</u> sounds like a high, piping whistle. Large chorus sounds like sleigh bells.

Mink frog: sounds like a blurred and deep "cut-cut-cut-cut" or the distant hammering of nails.

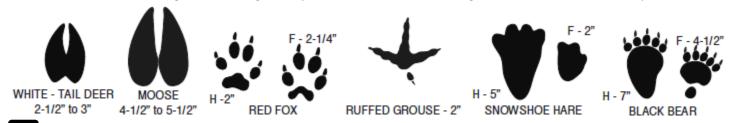
American toad: sounds like a long musical trill.

Green Frog: sound like a loose banjo string, "c-tung."

4. Windthrow/blowdown. Spruce-Fir forests favor wet or shallow soil. For this reason, and due to New Hampshire's rocky landscape, these forest stands typically exhibit shallow root systems, making them susceptible to blowdowns during high wind storms. These blowdowns are beneficial to many wildlife species including pine marten, raccoons, porcupine, and salamanders as they provide den areas, cover, and foraging grounds.

5, 9. Snag. Snags, or 'standing dead timber', provide important ecological benefits to many bird species. Woodpeckers and Sap-suckers feed on insects residing in the decaying tree, while other birds will use the snag as a perch site, where they have a clear view of any impending predators.

6, 7. Wildlife corridor/tracks. There are a number of foot bridges throughout the Magalloway River Trail network. These are great areas for viewing wildlife tracks, as they pass through wallows and vernal pools where the substrate is conducive for maintaining a track's original shape. Also look for moose as they feed in the wallows at dawn and dusk (pt 6). Deer are also seen throughout the Magalloway River Trail network, feeding on leaves and wildflowers (pt. 7).



8. Observation blind. This observation blind is a memorial to Warren E. Pearson who helped restore and run the historic Balsams Grand Resort Hotel. He upheld meaningful traditions of the past, set an outstanding example for the future, and derived much enjoyment from this natural treasure. The platform overlooks the backwaters of the Magalloway River, where it is possible to see a number of waterfowl and marshbirds. These include: American Black Duck, Mallard, Wood Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Common Goldeneye, Common Loon, Great Blue Heron, American Bittern, Virginia Rail, and Sora.