





Bedwell Bayfront Park Map Notes


Scale: 1:5,000, Contour interval: 2 meters. Note that the map is sporting new, lidar contours (hence a new contour interval). You'll see lots of little "jaggies" on the contour lines that are not readily visible in the field, but the land shapes portrayed by the contours are quite accurate.


There are a few non-standard symbols used on the Bayfront map, and there are several standard symbols used in non-standard ways.



 Usually used for "charcoal platforms" in forests that have such things. On the Bayfront map: "knolls with manhole covers". In fact, the manhole covers are usually rectangular cement covers too small for a person to get through, and the knoll is usually no more than a foot high, sometimes a good deal less. Note: To be consistent with the map, when one of these brown triangles is used for a control location, the control description sheet uses the "charcoal platform" symbol: 

 As usual, "boulder cluster", but on this map all of the boulders in virtually all of the boulder clusters are less than a foot high. If the grass around a boulder cluster isn't mowed, you might not see the rocks until you're less than a few meters away.

 Very small black dots are used for rocky ground (though that's not in the legend). However, the only time you'll see them on the map is when they're in a line (so it might look more to you like a distinct vegetation boundary). The rocks mapped as rocky ground are very much like the rocks mapped as boulder clusters; the difference is that the rocky-ground ones are strung out in a line and the boulder-cluster ones are clumped together.


 Large and small boulders are mapped with the usual large and small black dots, but here "large" means maybe a meter high and "small" means something less than that.


 Usually: a "cairn" (rock pile). Bayfront: "rock sculptures" (more like "arrangements" than sculptures), usually made of a rock or two, perhaps a meter in length and width but usually only a foot or two high. The distinguishing characteristic of these rock sculptures is that each is accompanied by a 3 or 4 foot high wooden post explaining the sculpture. The posts are not on the map, but the sculptures almost invariably have one nearby.


Most of the terrain is open land and is mapped with the dull yellow  usually used for "rough open". There are some patches of bright yellow  on the map (usually used for "open") but on this map that means "bare earth", i.e., no grass growing there at all (and some of those bare earth patches might look to you like a road).


You'll be doing most of your navigation by the white and green (two shades)




patches on the map, plus the “distinct tree”  symbols. The good news is that there is an excellent correlation between the vegetation on the map and the vegetation in the terrain in terms of location and shape. What's much harder to discern is why some patches are white or light green or dark green, or why some “distinct plants” are mapped as solid green dots and others as green rings, or why sometimes two trees near each other are mapped as a patch of white and other times four trees next to each other are mapped as four distinct trees. Not trying to be discouraging: the vegetation mapping is very good if you just focus on location and shape and keep an open mind in terms of what the colors and circles are trying to tell you. Certainly white is different from green, and the difference is easy to see when they are next to each other, but neither one might be exactly what you were expecting.

 Usually used for root stocks, but on this map they're usually just broken branches lying on the ground.

 This denotes a knoll made out of gravel, i.e., a pile of gravel. These can range from a few inches in height to as much a meter high.

 The legend describes this as “bare gravel”. There are a few small patches on the map. They look like old gravel piles where the bulk of the gravel was taken away and there's just a bit left flush to the ground. Doubt that these will be of any use to you.

 Listed in the legend as “gas wells”. All the ones I've seen look like rubber hoses about a foot long sticking out of the ground. You probably won't see one unless you practically trip on it.

Permanent orienteering markers - wooden posts with a orienteering symbols on them - are quite visible in the terrain, but they're not on the map.

--Dennis Wildfogel, July 2013