



Stewardship Monitoring Report

Property Information

(1) Name of Property: Farm Bureau Easement

(2) Property Ownership:

☐ RLT ☒ Private

If privately owned, record name and address of current owner:

Name(s): Vermont Farm Bureau

Address: 2083 East Main Street, Richmond, Vermont 05477

Contact Name and Phone Number: Tim Buskey, Administrator:
802-434-5646 (p), 802-434-6309 (f), timb@fb.org

(3) Has there been a change in ownership since last report?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, include recording information below:

Visit Report

(4) Date and Time of Inspection: Monday 10/28/2007

(5) If privately owned, was owner contacted prior to visit (if yes how)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

I contacted Tim Buskey, VFB Administrator the week prior to the visit.

(6) Did owner (or representative) accompany the monitor?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Tim was not able to join me on the monitoring tour as this is a very busy time of year for the VFB.

(7) Describe how the land is currently being used (in restricted area only). Give specific detail about agricultural and forest uses if applicable:

The property under easement covers approximately 44 acres and is a mix of forest (white and red pine plantation, and red oak-northern hardwood forest) and open field.

(8) Monitor's best assessment of whether the terms of the conservation restrictions are being observed: (if No, explain below or on attachment)

☒ Yes ☐ No

The property generally appears to be maintained in a manner consistent with the goals set in the easement (the conservation of productive agricultural and forestry lands; conservation of scenic, recreational and natural resources). Sign of recent ATV activity was not found.

(9) Did you note any possible violations of the terms of the conservation restrictions:

(if **Yes**, explain below or on attachment)

☒ **Yes**

☒ **No**

No conditions were noted on the Farm Bureau easement property that clearly appeared to be a violation of conservation restrictions were observed.

(10) General Remarks:

Woody vegetation is encroaching on the edges of some of the open field areas. If not under agriculture, open field areas should be brush-hogged every third year as stipulated in the easement

The exotic, invasive shrub Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*) was found growing on the east side of the property along the trail (see map site 1). Japanese barberry forms dense stands in natural habitats including canopy forests, open woodlands, wetlands, pastures, and meadows such as are found in and around the Farm Bureau property. It alters soil pH, nitrogen levels, and biological activity in the soil. Once established, barberry displaces native plants and reduces wildlife habitat and forage.

Prevention of Japanese barberry seed production should be a management priority as birds readily spread seeds. Because barberry can re-sprout from root fragments remaining in soil, thorough removal of root portions is important. Manual control works well but may need to be combined with chemical treatment to ensure eradication. The identified plants should be removed before they can spread and the surrounding area should be checked for additional plants. Follow-up visits should be made for two years to ensure that dormant seeds haven't sprouted.

(11) Attachments (Note how many of each - leave blank if none):

___ Photos

1 Maps

___ Drawings

___ Other (describe _____)

(12) Name of Monitor: Jon Kart

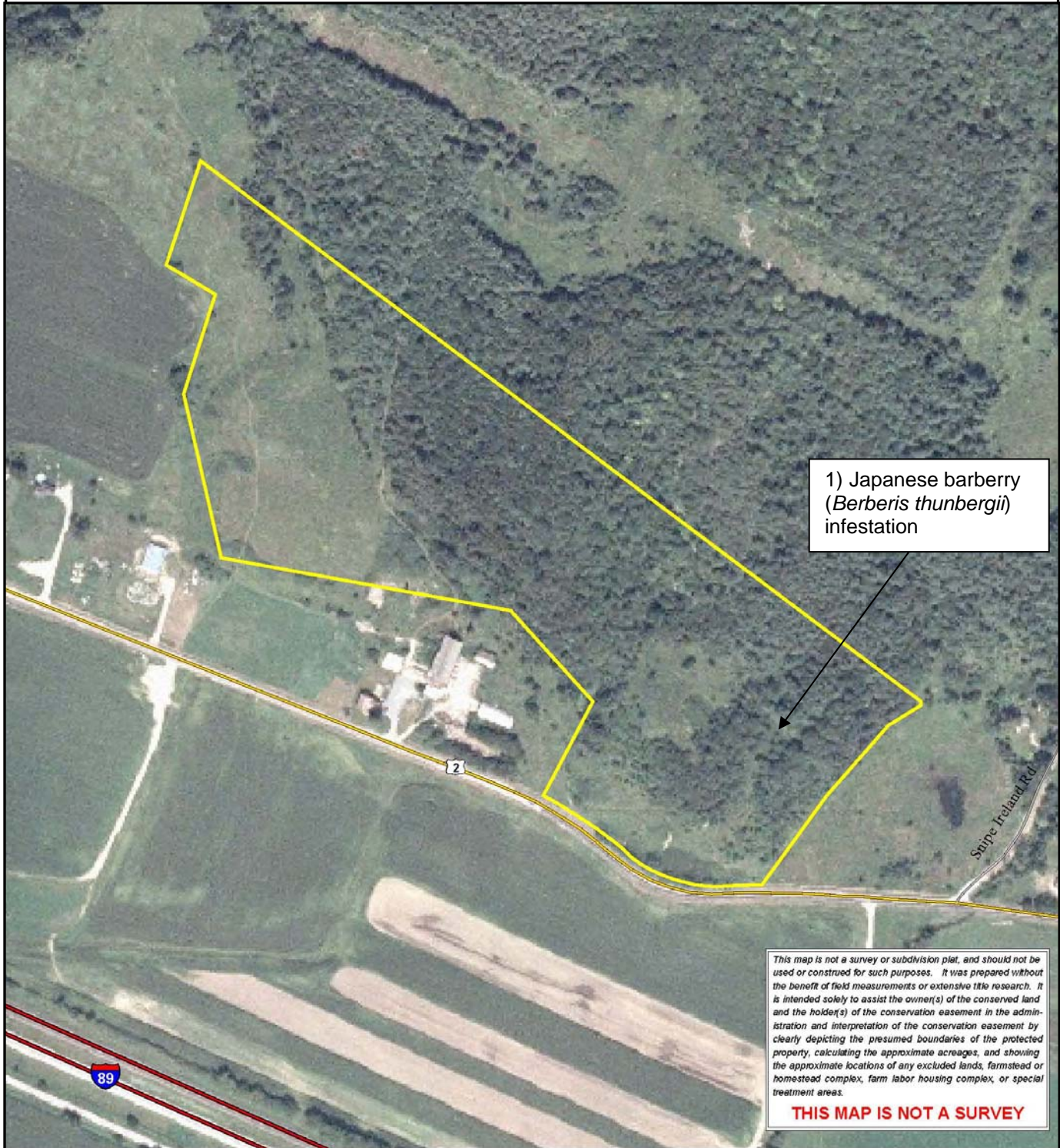
Signature:



Date: 10/30/2007

Stewardship Recommendations for the Farm Bureau Easement Property based on the 10/28 /2007 RLT Monitoring Visit.

Base map from Vermont Land Trust Monitor Barns/VFBS orthophoto map



 Protected Property

Scale:1:5,000

