

Mapper's Notes

This Story West expansion is our largest new map. The 2 square kilometers of new terrain was a pandemic-escape project for the mappers.

The entire area on the smooth, untagged side of the purple fence symbol has been field-checked. There is no actual fence or any indication in the terrain that you are crossing this line.

The national forest is big, wild and stable with respect to impacts like logging, but it is alive and may have changed after mapping. Many rootstocks are mapped with brown triangles; they are generally larger than 1 meter in height but a few might be on the small side.

Dot knolls vary from 0.5 m to larger; they were mapped if they seemed navigationally helpful. A broad spur with few features may have a smaller dot knoll marked. In very feature-rich terrain, only large knolls are mapped. Generally, knolls are very earthy decayed rootstocks; there might be some rootstocks that you will interpret to be dot knolls and vice versa.

Contours and small stream mapping seem to be very accurate. Transitions from dashed streams to dotted ditches are more obvious in the spring. Dashed streams see frequent flowing water. Dotted ditches have an erosion channel and gullies have steep/sharp banks. Salt Creek is the obvious river on the north edge of the map; it has soft banks and sediments and is NOT crossable.

Wells are mostly level with the terrain but visible; they vary from being very shallow to deep and poorly bounded. Use caution.

There are few cliffs but many very steep earth slopes. If there is a black cliff mapped, it is there. There are some unmapped cliffs and stream banks with high, steep sides. Be careful.

Vegetation boundaries are mapped with the green dashed line. These distinguish large pine groves from deciduous forest. Most of the woods are splendid white forest transitioning to slower forest with briars; this variation is not generally mapped. Much of the light green is either pine forest which is less well-lit and can have branches or small sections of trashier woods (fallen or smaller trees). There are greenbriars and very occasional rose bushes and brambles on ridgetops and in large, open valleys. Our use of green bar markings is still a work in progress; small adjustments to your routes may save your clothes and skin.

Course-Setter's Notes

We are in muzzle-loader hunting season. Everyone must wear orange (hat, jacket, shirt, or vest). Be aware of other users of the forest.

Parking is limited; please car pool. If the lot fills park along the road north of the parking lot and away from the bottom of the hill.

There are NO BATHROOMS at this venue. Plan ahead. The Brown County State Park Horseman's camp 2.5 miles NE of Story on Indiana-135 might solve a problem. You can park outside of the entrance gate at the horseman's camp and walk to the bathroom.

Control flags are placed 1 – 2 feet off the ground.

With the leaves down, most rock features except for larger cliffs, intermittent streams and smaller trails are not obvious.

On the red and blue courses only, you will start and end on the new map but have a segment of the course on the old Story map. The maps are at different standards and **use different symbol sets**. Note that the new/old symbols, respectively, are rootstocks (brown triangle/green X), wells (blue squares/blue circles), ditches (mapped as described above/near universal use of the deep gully symbol), and vegetation boundaries (green dashes/black dots).

Respect private property by staying off it. There are two main out-of-bounds areas; one is mapped with black bars SW of the start on the new map and one is Middle Fork ranch in the N part of the old map, shown in pink.

Safety bearing

West – you will reach either the cultivated field north of the start or the Nebo Ridge mountain bike trail where you should head to the north end of the trail.