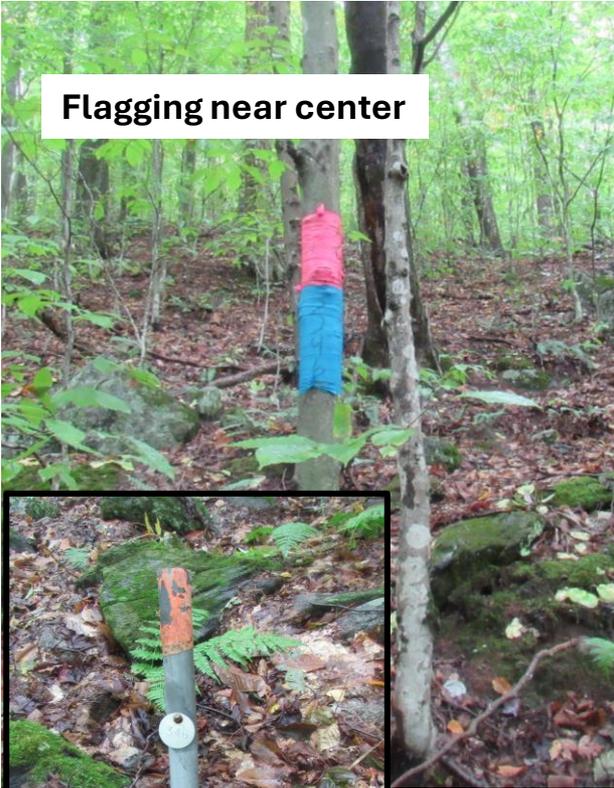




**Flagging near center**



The valleywide plots are also used for bird point counts and accompanying data on hobblebush density. The importance of the valleywide plots is their landscape scale and the ability to track tree, bird and meteorological at a larger scale than previously. They have also proved invaluable for locating study sites requiring dominance of specific tree species.

**What you will see one of these plots:** Near the center of the plot a tree is flagged with pink and blue flagging. The true center of the plot is a PVC post with orange (faded) spray paint on the top and the plot number screwed on. Trees are tagged in a circle facing the center post of the plot.

You may also notice HOBO temperature and humidity sensors (some in poor condition) which are in every fifth valleywide plot. If there are flags at ground level these are usually indicating marked tree seedlings. Some plots also have sound recorders that are only active at early morning and evening (see sound recorder entry).

**Center post**



**What NOT to do in these plots:** Do NOT sample within these plots. Make sure you are outside the tagged trees by at least 10m.

**Tagged tree**



If the center post is out of the ground, do NOT stand it back in the ground. It must be precisely placed using the witness tree data in order to be in the correct location which sets the boundaries of the plot. You can make it more obvious but leave it lying out of the ground.

Do NOT core, shoot foliage or otherwise damage the tagged trees on these plots. These plots continue to be a base for monitoring new disturbances such as beech leaf disease in the valley.