

Existing Uses in Basin 10

Date Published: May 2023, reflecting the Basin 10 Tactical Plan adopted _____, 2023, and all preceding Basin 10 plans.

The ANR may identify existing uses of waters during the tactical basin planning process or on a case-by-case basis during application reviews for State or federal permits. Consistent with the federal Clean Water Act, the VWQS stipulate that existing uses may be documented in any surface water location where that use has occurred since November 28, 1975. Pursuant to the definition of Class B(1) in Act 79, the ANR may identify an existing use as Class B(1) when that use is demonstrably and consistently attained.

The ANR stipulates that all lakes and ponds in the basin have existing uses of swimming, boating, and fishing. The ANR recognizes that fishing activities in streams and rivers are widespread and too numerous to thoroughly document. In the case of streams too small to support significant fishing activity, the ANR recognizes these as potential spawning and nursery areas, which contribute fish stocks downstream where fishing may occur. These small streams support the use of fishing and therefore, are protected at a level commensurate with downstream areas.

Existing uses in the Basin should be viewed as a partial accounting of known existing uses based upon limited information. The list does not change protection under the Clean Water Act or the VWQS for unlisted waters. The existing uses of swimming, boating, fishing, and public water supply are listed in the tables below based on uses. The public is encouraged to recommend waters for existing uses of swimming, boating, fishing, public water supply, and ecological significance given that they provide evidence of such use. For existing uses of waters, the level of water quality necessary to protect those existing uses shall be maintained and protected regardless of the water's classification (DEC, 2017). Contact the basin's Watershed Planner to recommend waters for existing uses.

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Swimming

There are a number of popular swimming holes throughout the Basin on the mainstem rivers and on the tributaries. The locations described below are known for having good swimming access and are well documented as swimming locations. Sites listed here are accessed through publicly owned lands such as stream crossing road rights-of-ways. Some locations are privately owned with private and are accessible through the generous permission of landowners. Respectful use of these sites and respect for private property is what encourages landowner to continue offering these locations for public enjoyment. Please respect landowner privacy and respect for the resources they provide.

Waterbody	Site	Location of Use	Town	Access / Ownership
<i>Black River Watershed</i>				
Black River	RR Bridge	RR bridge crossing Cavendish village, ~350 below RR bridge	Cavendish	RR ROW
Black River	Cavendish Gorge	~300' below CVPS Cavendish dam	Cavendish	GMP
Black River	Carlton Rd Crossing	~100' north D/S of Carlton Rd bridge	Cavendish	unknown (ROW)
Black River	Power Plant Rd	~500' below the end of Power Plant Rd	Cavendish	GMP
Black River	Tolles Hill Dam Area	USACE No. Springfield Recreation Area	Weathersfield	USACE
North Branch Black River	Bartley Field Rec Area	Bartley Field	Reading	Town of Reading
North Branch Black River	Twenty-Foot Hole	Tyson Rd. access	Reading	VDFPR
North Branch Black River	Branch Brook Rd.	Branch Brook Rd. end	Weathersfield	USACE
Branch Brook	Buttermilk Falls	Buttermilk Falls	Ludlow	VDFPR
<i>Ottawaquechee River Watershed</i>				
Ottawaquechee River	Bridgewater Rec Park	Riverfront park	Bridgewater	Town of Bridgewater
Ottawaquechee River	River Road - Woodstocker's Rope Swing	River Rd. ~500' east of Otis Hill Rd.	Hartford	Town of Hartford
Ottawaquechee River	Quechee Gorge	Bottom end of gorge, ~2250' below Rte 4 bridge	Hartford	USACE/VDFPR
Ottawaquechee River	White Current Dam & Covered Bridges	Mill St	Hartland	Solid Waste District
Ottawaquechee River	Quechee Covered Bridge	Below Covered Bridge	Hartford	Town of Hartford ROW

Waterbody	Site	Location of Use	Town	Access / Ownership
Ottauquechee River	Elm St. Bridge	Below Elm St. bridge crossing	Woodstock	Town of Woodstock ROW
Ottauquechee River	Little Theatre	Woodstock Rec Center	Woodstock	Woodstock Rec Center
Lulls Brook	Martin Mill Covered Bridge	Martinsville Rd	Hartland	Private
Harlow Brook	Clay Hill Rd. Hole	Clay Hill Rd. crossing	Hartland	USACE
Connecticut River Watershed				
Connecticut River	Below Sumners Falls	Town Recreation Area	Hartland	Town of Hartland
Connecticut River	Wilgus State Park	Riverfront park	Weathersfield	VDFPR

Recreational Boating

The Basin's rivers offer both flatwater and whitewater boating opportunities. stretches in the basin; some highly rated by the Vermont Paddlers Association. The Lamoille main stem is used extensively for flat water canoeing and kayaking by the several local outfitting businesses as well as the general public. All sites listed on Table 2 are rated significant for boating (DEC, 1989) or were otherwise brought to VDEC's attention. Many canoe access areas and dam portages have been established on the main stem. Anyone boating these reaches should carefully scout routes before launching. This basin plan makes no representations as to the suitability or safety of the listed reaches with respect to the individual skills of the reader of this plan or those of prospective boaters.

Waterbody	Reach	Access - Put In	Take Out
Black River Watershed			
Black River	Lake Pauline (Reservoir Pond) to Cavendish	Lake Pauline Dam	Greven Field
	Cavendish to Weathersfield	Rt 131 Fishing Access	Upper Falls Covered Bridge
	Weathersfield	Upper Falls Covered Bridge	USACE Rec. area above Soapstone Dam
	Weathersfield to No. Springfield	USACE Rec. area below Tolles Dam	USACE Rec. area above No Springfield Reservoir
	No. Springfield to Springfield Plaza	USGS Gaging Station, Mill Rd.	Riverside Middle School dock
Ottauquechee River Watershed			
	Quechee Gorge to No Hartland Dam	-----	No Hartland Dam Rec Area
Ottauquechee River	Upper Ottauquechee Wetlands-Killington	Thundering Falls Trailhead	Jct of Rts 4 & 100, Town lands
	West Bridgewater to Woodstock	Blackies Buy-out	Lincoln Covered Bridge Access

Waterbody	Reach	Access - Put In	Take Out
	Woodstock	Lincoln Covered Bridge Access	East End Park
	Woodstock to Taftsville	East End Park	Taftsville dam portage
	Taftsville to Quechee	Taftsville Dam	Quechee Green
Connecticut River Watershed			
Connecticut River	White River to Ottauquechee River	Lyman Point Park Launch	Ottauquechee Launch
	Ottauquechee River to Black River	Ottauquechee Launch	Sumners Falls Portage
		Sumners Falls Portage	Hoyt's Landing
	Black River to Williams River	Hoyt's Landing	Herricks Cove

Recreational Fishing

As stated above, ANR recognizes that fishing activities in streams and rivers are widespread and too numerous to thoroughly document. Fishing is understood to occur on all lakes and ponds.

The table below identifies where in the Basin the state, federal, municipal and other local organizations provide public fishing access areas. The public can access detailed information about Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife fishing access sites that includes images, boat size, water body size, ramp type, fish species, recommended season and more at:

<https://anrweb.vt.gov/FWD/FW/FishingAccessAreas.aspx?accessarea=5>.

Waterbody	Location	Town	Access Ownership
RIVERS			
Black River Watershed			
Black River	Rt 131 Access	Cavendish	VT AOT
Black River	Upper Falls Rd covered bridge	Weathersfield/Cavendish	Town of Weathersfield ROW
Black River	Tolles Dams	Weathersfield	USACE
Black River	Hoyts Landing	Springfield	VT DFW
Buffalo Brook	Camp Plymouth State Park	Plymouth	VT DFPR
Ottauquechee River Watershed			
Ottauquechee River	Ottauquechee River Streambank	Killington	VT DFW
Ottauquechee River	East End Park	Woodstock	Town Of Woodstock

Waterbody	Location	Town	Access Ownership
Ottawaquechee River	Ottawaquechee WMA	Bridgewater	VT DFW
Ottawaquechee River	Ottawaquechee River Streambank	Bridgewater	VT DFW
Ottawaquechee River	Lincoln Covered Bridge Access	Woodstock	VT DFW
Great Roaring Brook	Coolidge State Forest	Plymouth	VT DFPR
Broad Brook	Coolidge State Forest	Plymouth	VT DFPR
<i>Connecticut River</i>			
Connecticut River	Radcliff Park	Hartford	Town of Hartford
Connecticut River	Wilgus State park	Weathersfield	VT DFPR
Connecticut River	Hoyts Landing	Springfield	VT DFW
Connecticut River	Hammond Cove Access	Hartland	VT DFW
Connecticut River	Ferry Road Access	Weathersfield	Town of Weathersfield
<i>LAKES</i>			
Amherst Lake	Amherst Lake Access	Plymouth	VT DFW
Colby Pond	Colby Pond Access	Plymouth	VT DFW
Deweys Pond	Quechee Main Street Access	Hartford / Hartland	VT DFPR
Echo Lake	Echo Lake Access	Plymouth	VT DFW
Kent Pond	Kent Pond Access & Kent Pond Shorefishing Platform	Killington	VT DFW
Knapp Pond 1	Access	Reading / Cavendish	VT DFW
Knapp Pond 2	Access	Reading / Cavendish	VT DFW
Lake Ninevah	Joseph Wiltshire Access	Mount Holly	VT DFW
Lake Rescue	Lake Rescue Access	Ludlow	VT DFW
Mill Pond	Boat Access	Windsor	Town of Windsor
No. Hartland Reservoir	Beach Access	Hartford / Hartland	USACE
No. Springfield Lake		Weathersfield / Springfield	USACE
Stoughton Pond	Boat Access	Weathersfield	USACE
Woodward Reservoir	Woodward Reservoir Access	Plymouth	VT DFW

Public Water Source

Public water sources are an existing use.

Waterbody	Location	Supply for:
<i>Black River Watershed</i>		
Grant Brook (Off Jewell Brook) – Approx. 3.2 miles	Grant Brook and all waters within its watershed upstream of the flood control dam	Village of Ludlow water supply. (No longer in use)
Springfield Reservoir Brook – 1.8 miles	Springfield Reservoir Brook and tributaries and all waters in its watershed upstream of Springfield Reservoir	Village of Springfield water supply. (Reserved for emergency use).
Springfield Reservoir and tributaries – 9.8 acres	Springfield Reservoir all waters within its watershed	Village of Springfield water supply. (Reserved for emergency use).
<i>Ottawaquechee River Watershed</i>		
Spring and unnamed tributary to the Ottawaquechee River – 0.3 miles	A spring and unnamed tributary to the Ottawaquechee River and all waters within its watershed upstream of the water intake. The spring and brook are located approx. 1 mile north-northwest of North Hartland Village	Village of North Hartland water supply. (Reserved for emergency use)
Cox, Vondell and Carlton Hill Reservoirs – Approx. 2.5 miles (Stream only)	Cox, Vondell and Carlton Hill Reservoirs – Approx. 2.5 miles (Stream only)	Village of Woodstock water supply. (Private. Reserved for emergency use. Carlton Hill no longer in the system).