

Existing Uses in Basin 15

Swimming

Most of the swimming in the basin takes places on the many lakes and ponds which have a presumed existing use of contact recreation. During the 2014 tactical basin planning process three locations of swimming use on rivers were identified as listed below. No additional existing use locations were identified during the 2019 and 2024 tactical basin planning processes.

Table 1. Swimming as an existing use of specific waters within the Passumpsic River Basin.

Location	Town	Description
Emerson Falls swimming hole - Sleepers River	Saint Johnsbury	Off of Emerson Falls Road above and below the waterfall.
East Burke village swimming hole – East Branch Passumpsic River	Burke	Swimming hole used by mountain bikers and local residents for swimming in the village
East Burke Park swimming hole – East Branch Passumpsic River	Burke	Lightly used swimming hole on the East Branch of the Passumpsic River.

Recreational Boating

It is the Agency’s long-standing stipulation that all lakes and ponds in the basin have existing uses of boating and so only boating locations on rivers are listed below. Several locations are good whitewater or flatwater boating stretches in the basin; some highly rated by the Vermont Paddlers Association, listed in the AMC or Vermont White Water Rivers. The [Passumpsic River Paddling Guide](#) was updated in 2017 and is a great resource for paddling opportunities in the basin.

Table 2. Recreational boating as an existing use of specific waters within the Passumpsic River Basin.

Location	Documentation	Characteristics that support that use	Put in	Take out
Moose River Victory through St Johnsbury	AMC River Guide, Vermont’s White Water Rivers	Flat water to Class III rapids. Remote stream with wetland scenery through Victory Bog.	Victory Basin WMA	Fred Mold Park
East Branch Passumpsic River (11 miles)	Vermont’s White Water Rivers	Class I and II rapids rural scenery.	Rt. 114 Bridge in Newark	Lily Pond Road/Passumpsic River access or PVLTL lands at the confluence with West Branch

Passumpsic River West Branch confluence to Connecticut River	AMC River Guide, Passumpsic River boating guide		Lily Pond Road or PVLTLands at the confluence with West Branch	Connecticut River access in Barnet
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Public Water Sources

Table 3. Public water sources as an existing use within the Passumpsic River Basin.

Water Body	Town	Documentation
Stiles Pond	St Johnsbury	Town of St. Johnsbury water supply
Danville Reservoir - Tributary to Brown Brook	Danville	Danville emergency water supply