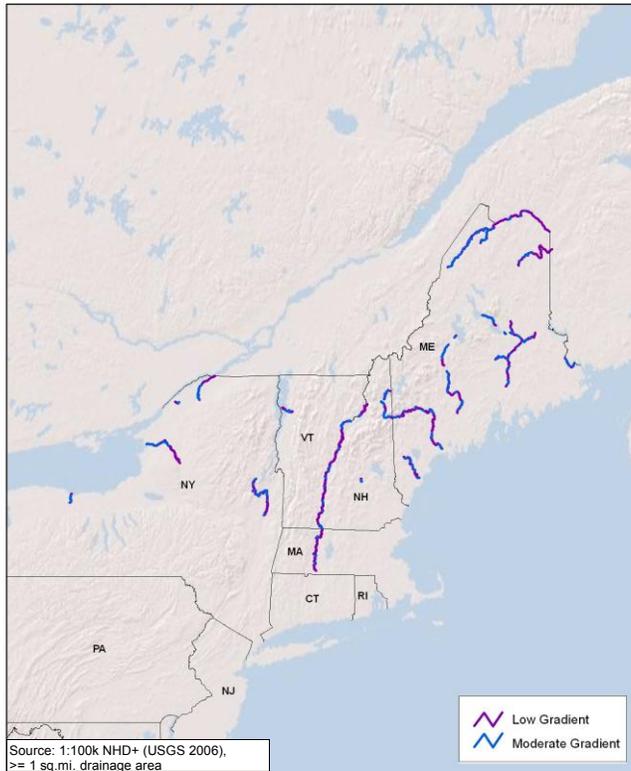


# Cool, Large River

## Macrogroup: Large River

This map is based on a model and has had little field-checking. Contact your State Natural Heritage Ecologist or State Fish Game Agency for more information about this habitat.



Androscoggin River, © Josh Royte

### Description:

Large, deep, coolwater rivers of the northern region. These very large and deep rivers drain watersheds >1000 sq.mi and have an average bankfull width of 250 feet. Slower moving, lower gradient sections of these rivers are expected to be more unconfined with higher sinuosity, broader floodplain valleys, more riparian wetlands, and lower width/depth ratios than the more moderate gradient portions. Species diversity is high in these rivers, and assemblages characteristic of runs, pools, and the pelagic zone dominate the community. Profundal areas without effective light penetration are also found and support populations of bacteria, fungi, and other decomposers that break down organic matter reaching the bottom. In coastal connected river sections, anadromous species are found. Cool water temperatures in these rivers means the fish community will contain a higher proportion of cool and warm water species relative to coldwater species and few permanent coldwater residents. Examples of this type in the region include the Saint John, Allagash, Aroostook, Mattawamkeag, Saint Croix, Piscataquis, Penobscot, Kennebec, Androscoggin, Raquette, Winooski, Saco, Black, Hudson, and Connecticut.

### Similar Habitat Types:

Cool large rivers typically have a number of cool, and sometimes cold, medium sized or small river sized tributary systems draining into them.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Androscoggin River, Alt-Jay Riley Dam | ME Allagash River, Allagash Wilderness Waterway State Park | ME Connecticut River, Maidstone Bends | NH Raquette River, Grantville State Forest | NY Winooski River, Winooski Valley Park District | VT

**State Distribution:** ME, MA, NH, NY, VT

**Total Habitat (mi):** 1,180

**% Conserved:** 12.0 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

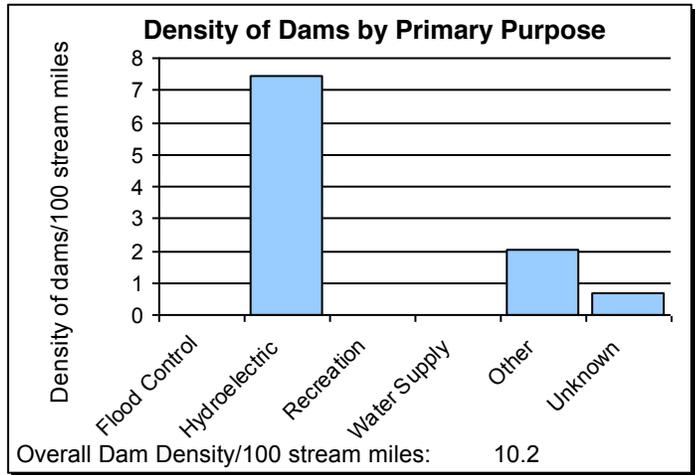
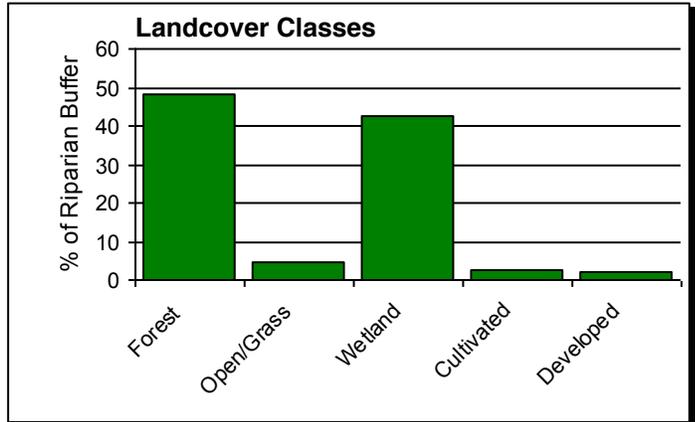
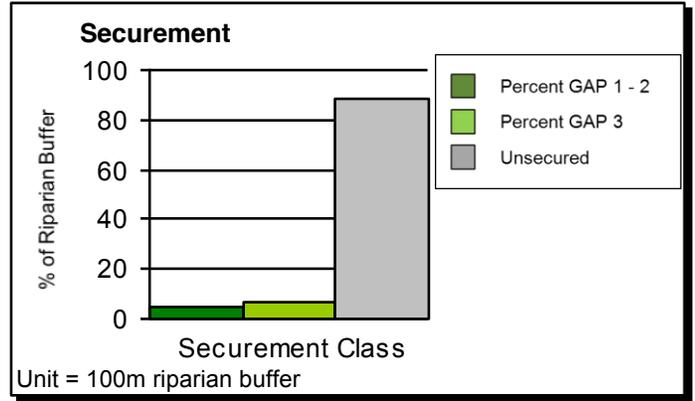
State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
ME	58	678	32	27	432
NY	16	187	4	6	116
NH	15	174	3	18	100
VT	6	74	0	4	46
MA	5	63	0	5	39

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: yellow perch, common shiner, mimic shiner, white sucker, spottail shiner, tessellated darter, eastern blacknose dace.  
Less Abundant: smallmouth bass, bluntnose minnow, pumpkinseed, swallowtail shiner, creek chub, bluegill, redbreast sunfish, largemouth bass, golden shiner, american eel, rock bass, alewife, black crappie, longnose dace.

**Species of Concern (G1 - G4):**

Fishes: shortnose sturgeon, lake sturgeon, eastern sand darter, channel darter  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: brook floater, yellow lampmussel, tidewater mucket, triangle floater, eastern pondmussel, eastern pearlshell  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names



**Crosswalk to State Names:**

Vermont: Atlantic Salmon-American Shad, Redhorse-Lake Sturgeon, White sucker-Tessellated darter. New York: Deepwater river.



Yellow perch, © Otis Maha, USFWS

