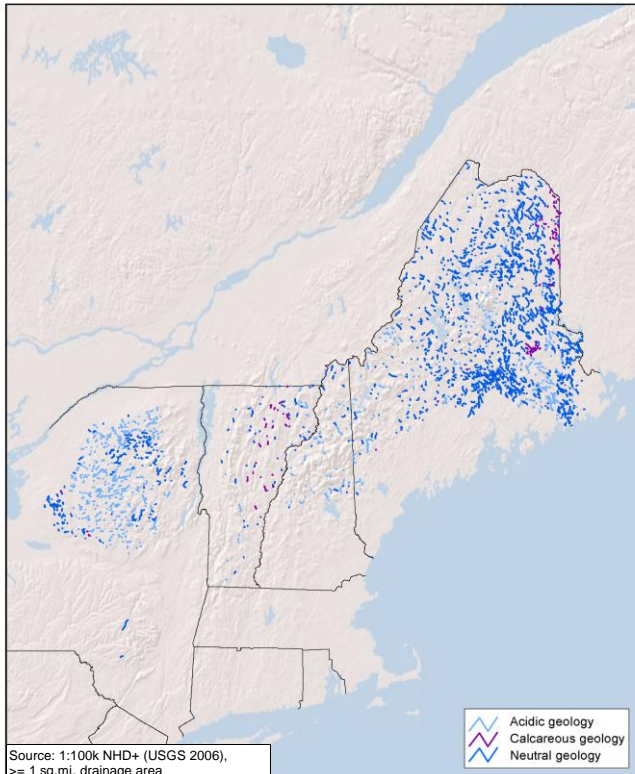


## Macrogroup: Headwaters and Creeks

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.



Source: 1:100k NHD+ (USGS 2006), >= 1 sq.mi. drainage area



Smith Pond Brook, © Josh Royte

### Description:

Cold, slow-moving, headwaters and creeks of flat, marshy settings. These small streams of northern regions or high elevations occur on flats or very gentle slopes in watersheds less than 39 sq.mi in size. The cold slow-moving waters may have high turbidity and be somewhat poorly oxygenated, although some examples may have significant groundwater inflow that maintains the cold temperature. Instream habitats are dominated by glide-pool and ripple-dune systems with runs interspersed by pool and a few short or no distinct riffles. Bed materials are predominantly sands, silt, and only isolated amounts of gravel. These low-gradient streams may have high sinuosity but are usually only slightly entrenched with adjacent floodplain and riparian wetland ecosystems. Permanent cold water temperatures in these streams means coldwater fish species, such as brook trout, likely represent over half of the fish community. Additional variation in the stream biological community is associated with acidic, calcareous, and neutral geologic settings where the pH of the water will limit the distribution of certain macroinvertebrates, plants, and other aquatic biota. The habitat can be further subdivided into 1) headwaters that drain watersheds less than 4 sq.mi, and have an average bankfull width of 16 feet or 2) Creeks that include larger streams with watersheds up to 39 sq.mi. and have an average bankfull width of 32 feet.

### Similar Habitat Types:

Headwaters and creeks also occur at lower elevations and on higher slopes, but these tend to have coarser substrates and faster water. Cold low gradient streams typically flow into low gradient cold and cool rivers.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Kunjamuk River headwaters, Siamese Ponds | NY Mad River headwaters, East Branch Fish Creek Conservation Area | NY Willoughby River headwaters, Willoughby River Streambank | VT Stratton Brook, Bigelow Preserve | ME Swift Cambridge River headwaters, Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge | ME

### State Distribution: ME, NH, NY, VT

**Total Habitat (mi):** 4,114

**% Conserved:** 29.0 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
ME	72	2971	75	365	1837
NY	21	882	270	161	233
VT	4	147	6	11	93
NH	3	114	11	11	64

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: brook trout, eastern blacknose dace, white sucker, fallfish, burbot, creek chub, longnose dace, american brook lamprey.  
Less Abundant: common shiner, slimy sculpin, threespine stickleback, smallmouth bass, longnose sucker, chain pickerel, tessellated darter, atlantic salmon, northern redbelly dace, spottail shiner, yellow perch.

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

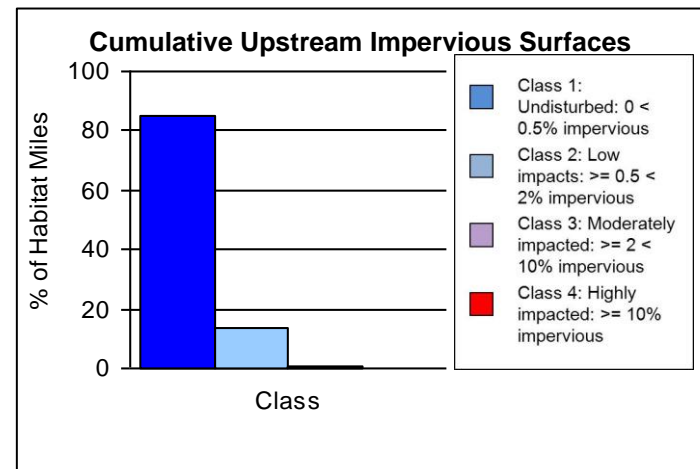
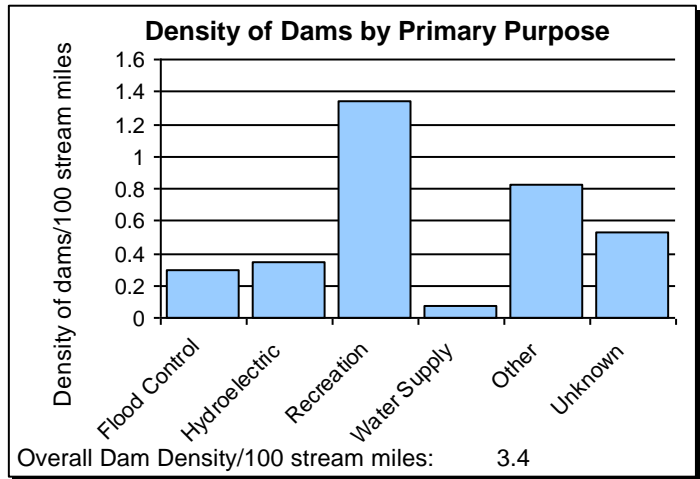
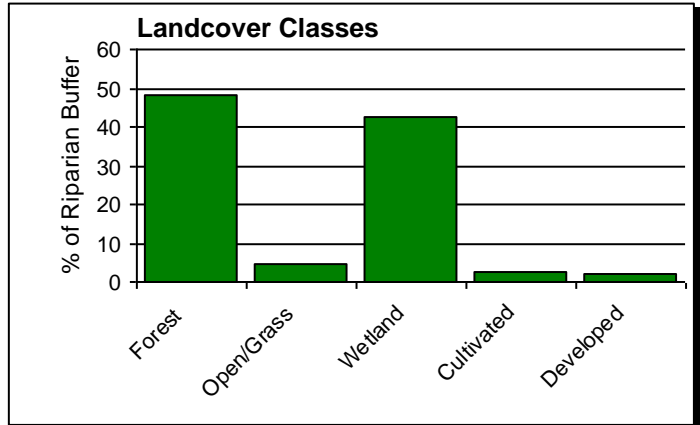
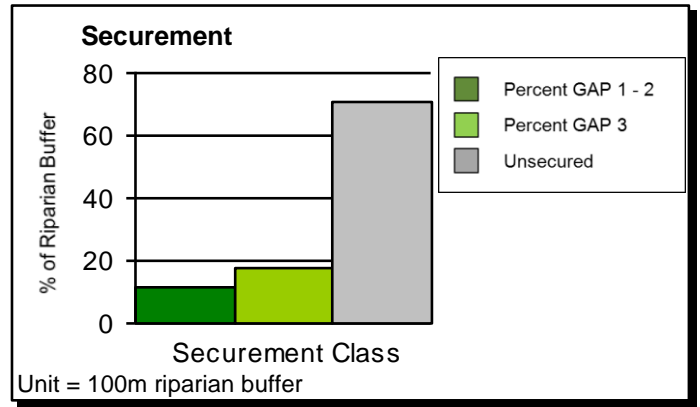
Fishes: none  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: brook floater  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

**Crosswalk to State Names:**

Vermont: Blacknose dace-Creek chub, Tessellated darter-Fallfish.  
New Hampshire: Lower gradient cold-water streams; Very large, shallow, low gradient cold-water rivers (wadable). New York: Marsh headwater stream.



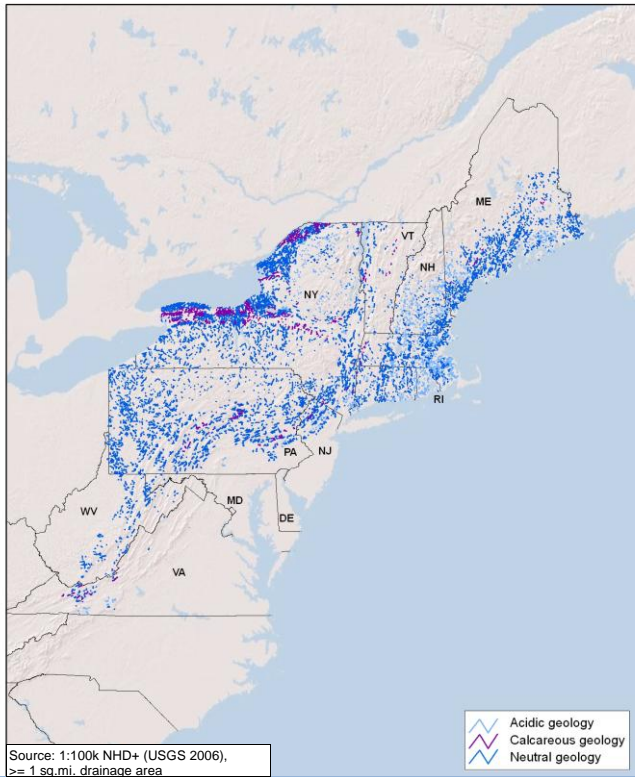
Slimy Sculpin, © J. Abatemarco, NJDEP



# Low Gradient, Cool, Headwaters and Creeks

## Macrogroup: Headwaters and Creeks

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.



Shawshheen River, © John Phelan

### Description:

Cool, slow-moving, headwaters and creeks of low-moderate elevation flat, marshy settings. These small streams of moderate to low elevations occur on flats or very gentle slopes in watersheds less than 39 sq.mi in size. The cool slow-moving waters may have high turbidity and be somewhat poorly oxygenated. Instream habitats are dominated by glide-pool and ripple-dune systems with runs interspersed by pools and a few short or no distinct riffles. Bed materials are predominantly sands, silt, and only isolated amounts of gravel. These low-gradient streams may have high sinuosity but are usually only slightly entrenched with adjacent floodplain and riparian wetland ecosystems. Cool water temperatures in these streams means the fish community contains a higher proportion of cool and warm water species relative to coldwater species. Additional variation in the stream biological community is associated with acidic, calcareous, and neutral geologic settings where the pH of the water will limit the distribution of certain macroinvertebrates, plants, and other aquatic biota. The habitat can be further subdivided into 1) headwaters that drain watersheds less than 4 sq.mi, and have an average bankfull width of 16 feet or 2) Creeks that include larger streams with watersheds up to 39 sq.mi. and have an average bankfull width of 32 feet.

### Similar Habitat Types:

Headwaters and creeks also occur at higher elevations and on higher slopes, but these tend to have coarser substrates and faster water. Cool low gradient streams typically flow into low gradient cool rivers.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Blacklog Creek, Tuscarora State Forest | PA Black Creek, Genesee Valley Greenway Trail | NY Beaver Brook, Beaver Brook Reservation | MA Canoe River headwaters, Maple Park Conservation Area | MA Blackledge River headwaters, Salmon River State Forest | CT

**State Distribution:** CT, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV

**Total Habitat (mi):** 16,579

**% Conserved:** 11.5 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

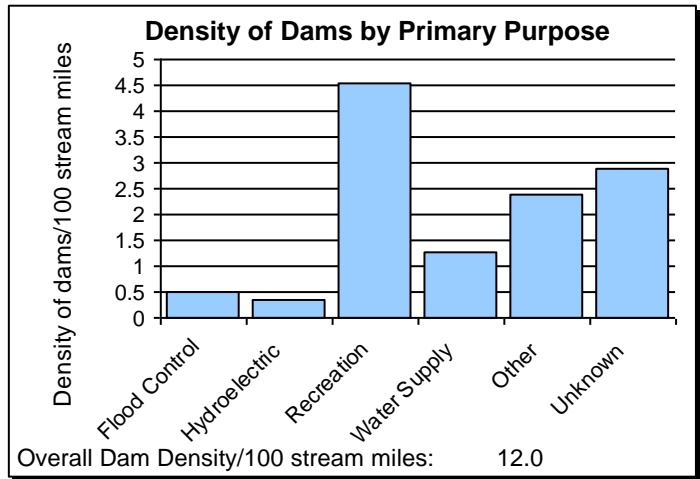
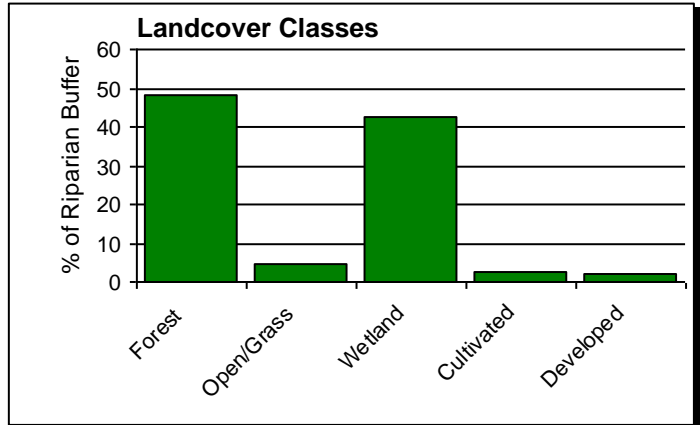
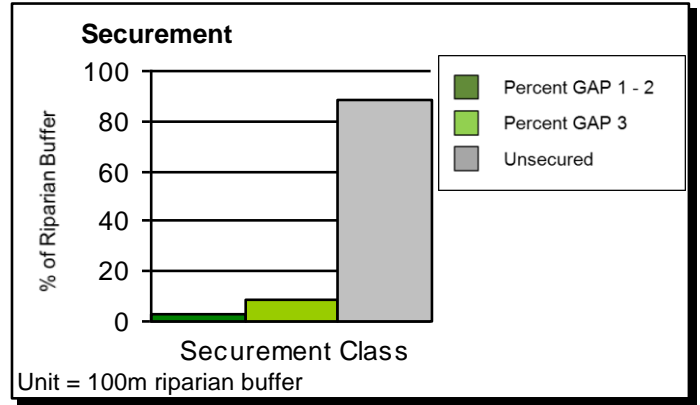
State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
NY	41	6830	94	325	4726
PA	19	3163	53	167	2142
ME	15	2419	65	119	1631
MA	9	1430	26	216	856
NH	5	792	22	113	470
CT	4	643	27	50	403
WV	2	338	14	27	209
VT	2	294	5	26	190
NJ	2	272	35	6	167
VA	1	195	1	5	136
RI	1	145	6	25	80
MD	0	57	1	1	40

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: white sucker, fallfish, common shiner, tessellated darter, creek chub, common shiner, centralstoneroller, longnose dace, bluntnose minnow, fathead minnow, mottled sculpin, eastern blacknose dace, smallmouth bass. Less Abundant: cutlip minnow, pumpkinseed, margined madtom, rock bass, brook trout, fantaildarter, northern hog sucker, largemouth bass, redbreast sunfish, bluegill, banded killifish, spottail shiner, johnny darter, green sunfish, silverjaw minnow, brown bullhead, river chub, reidside dace, swallowtail shiner, greenside darter, pearl dace, chain pickerel, yellow perch, redfin pickerel, pearl dace, yellow bullhead, golden shiner, american brook lamprey, swamp darter, creek chubsucker, banded sunfish, eastern mudminnow

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

Fishes: reidside dace, mountain brook lamprey, pugnose shiner, bridle shiner, kanawha minnow, tennessee dace, black sculpin, northern brook lamprey, american brook lamprey, ironcolor shiner, blacknose shiner, new river shiner, appalachia darter, stripeback darter  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: brook floater, dwarf wedgemussel, tennessee heelsplitter, triangle floater, slippershell mussel, eastern pondmussel, eastern pearlshell, vernal physa  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

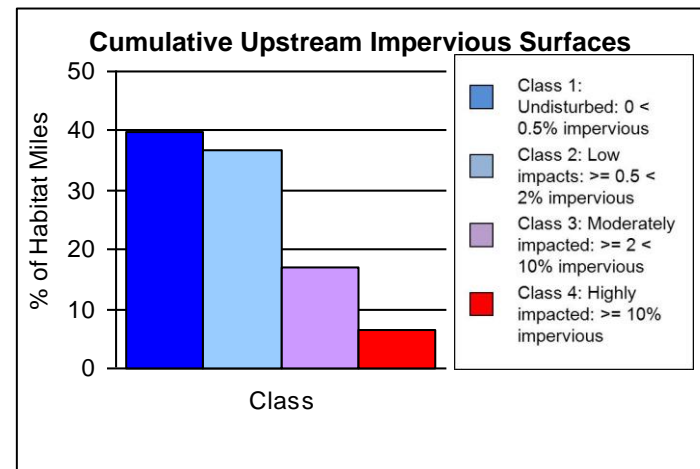


**Crosswalk to State Names:**

Vermont: Blacknose dace-Bluntnose minnow, Blacknose dace-Creek chub. New Hampshire: Low gradient wetland streams; Sandy glide streams, Warm water riffle streams. New York: Marsh headwater stream. Maryland: Piedmont Streams: low gradient variant; Cold Water Streams. Pennsylvania: Atlantic Basin Fish Coolwater Community 1, Ohio-Great Lakes Basins Fish Coolwater Stream Community



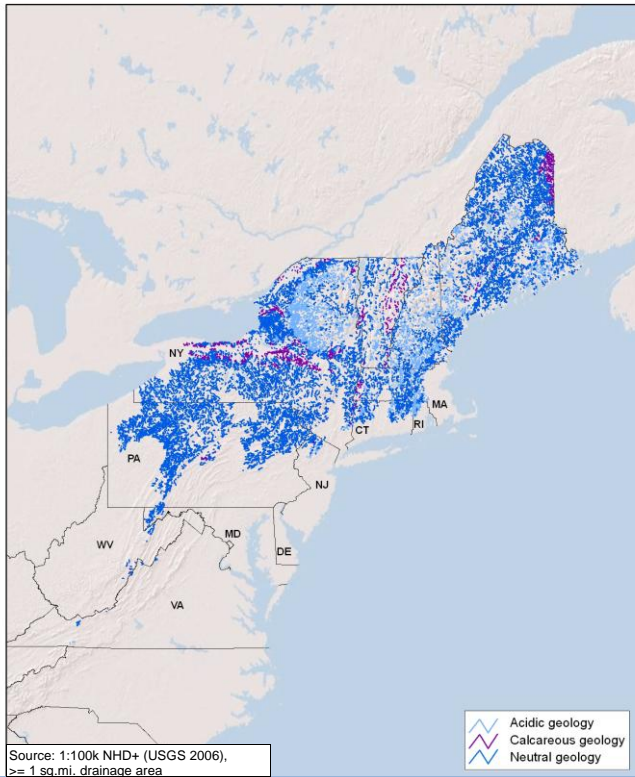
Creek chub, © Brian Gratwicke



# Moderate Gradient, Cold, Headwaters and Creeks

## Macrogroup: Headwaters and Creeks

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.



East Aspetuck River, © H. Morrow Long

### Description:

Cold, moderately fast-moving, headwaters and creeks of hills and gentle slopes. These small streams of northern regions or high elevations, occur on hills and slopes at moderate to high elevations in watersheds less than 39 sq.mi in size. They have cold moderately fast-moving waters water with good oxygenation. Instream habitats are dominated by riffle-pool development with low sinuosity, moderately entrenchment, and moderately narrow valleys. They have substrates dominated by cobble, gravel, and sand with occasional small patches of boulders. The predominant source of energy to the stream is terrestrial leaf litter or organic matter (these are allochthonous streams). Permanent cold water temperatures in these streams means coldwater fish species, such as brook trout, likely represent over half of the fish community. Additional variation in the stream biological community is associated with acidic, calcareous, and neutral geologic settings where the pH of the water will limit the distribution of certain macroinvertebrates, plants, and other aquatic biota. The habitat can be further subdivided into 1) headwaters that drain watersheds less than 4 sq.mi, and have an average bankfull width of 16 feet or 2) Creeks that include larger streams with watersheds up to 39 sq.mi. and have an average bankfull width of 32 feet.

### Similar Habitat Types:

These moderate gradient streams are transitional types and often exhibit some characteristics of both the higher and lower gradient streams. Cold moderate gradient streams typically flow into moderate or low gradient cold and cool rivers in areas of less topography.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Sucker Brook, Boughton Park | NY Stony Brook, State Game Land 57 in Tunkhannock | PA Houghton Brook, Mount Blue | ME Body Brook, Baxter State Park | ME North Branch Nulhegan River, Wenlock WMA | VT

**State Distribution:** CT, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV

**Total Habitat (mi):** 32,073

**% Conserved:** 17.8 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

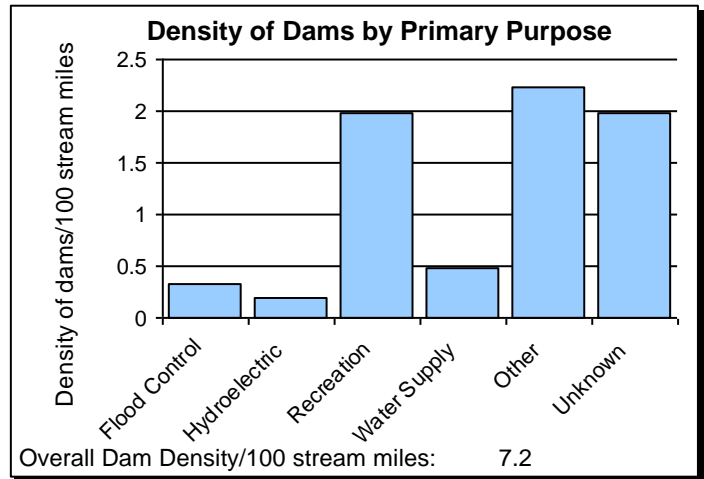
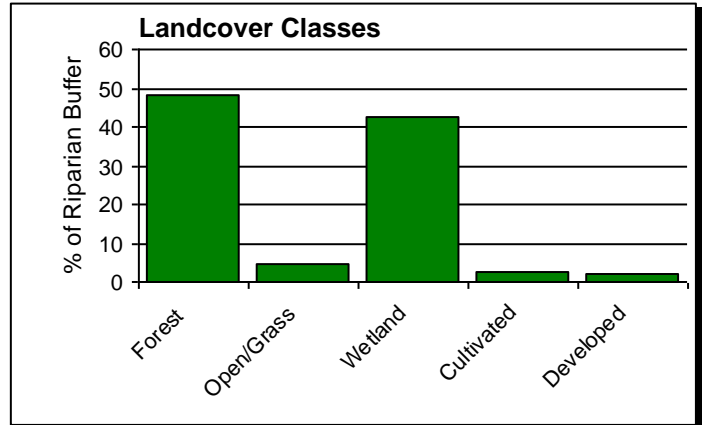
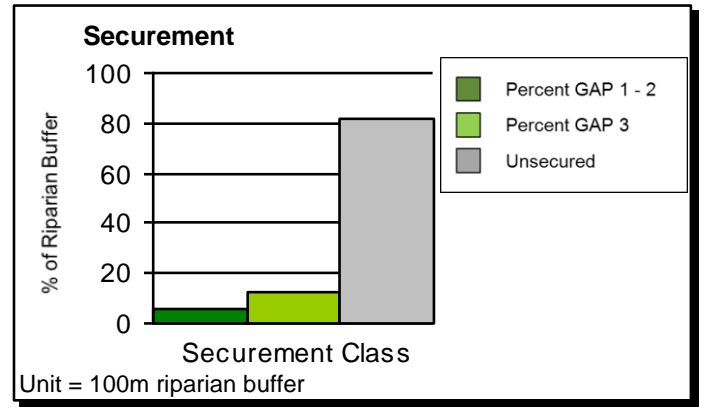
State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
NY	38	12183	883	777	7672
ME	27	8815	163	992	5739
PA	17	5439	120	719	3313
NH	6	1974	43	244	1236
VT	4	1352	25	79	923
MA	4	1227	22	182	744
CT	2	577	17	53	371
NJ	1	169	37	5	88
MD	0	135	4	14	87
RI	0	101	3	10	67
WV	0	64	2	10	36
VA	0	38	2	4	23

## Associated Fish:

**Most Abundant:** brook trout, slimy sculpin, longnose dace, eastern blacknose dace, creek chub, white sucker, common shiner. **Less Abundant:** central stoneroller, mottled sculpin, fathead minnow, fallfish, bluntnose minnow, brook stickleback, tessellated darter, fantail darter, blue ridge sculpin, atlantic salmon, mountain redbelly dace, trout-perch, river chub, spottail shiner, northern hog sucker, finescale dace, rainbow darter, burbot, longnose sucker

## Species of Concern (G1 - G4):

**Fishes:** mountain brook lamprey, bridle shiner, american brook lamprey  
**Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails:** eastern pearlshell, vernal physa  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

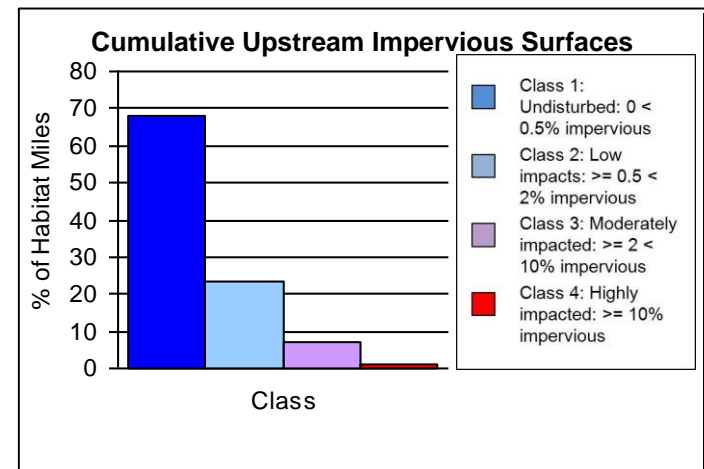


## Crosswalk to State Names:

**Vermont:** Brook trout, Brook trout-slimy sculpin, Blacknose dace-Slimy sculpin. **New Hampshire:** Lower gradient cold-water streams; High gradient, very cold streams. **New York:** Rocky headwater stream, Marsh headwater stream. **Maryland:** Cold Water Streams, Highland Streams. **Pennsylvania:** Atlantic Basin Fish Coldwater Community, Ohio-Great Lakes Basins Fish Coldwater Community.



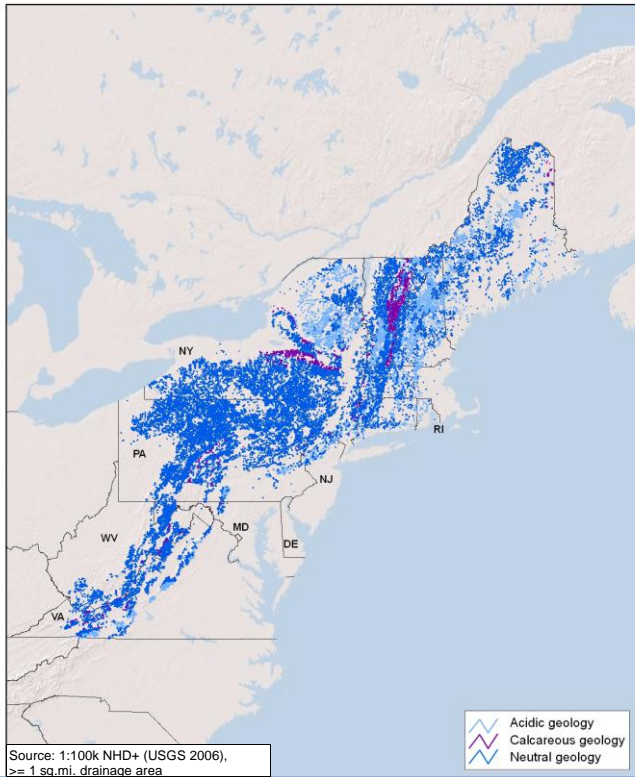
Slimy Sculpin, © Geoff Kimber



# High Gradient, Cold, Headwaters and Creeks

## Macrogroup: Headwaters and Creeks

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.



©Josh Royte

### Description:

Cold, fast-moving headwaters and creeks of steeper slopes at moderate to high elevations. These small streams of northern regions or high elevations occur on steep slope in watersheds less than 39 sq.mi in size. The cold fast moving water has high water clarity and is well oxygenated. Instream habitats are dominated by riffles and cascade and step-pool systems. Channels are usually narrowly confined, high-gradient, and surrounded by upland forests. Bed materials often consist of bedrock, boulders, cobbles, and coarse gravel. The predominant source of energy to the stream is terrestrial leaf litter or organic matter (these are allochthonous streams). Permanent cold water temperatures in these streams means coldwater fish species, such as brook trout, likely represent over half of the fish community. Additional variation in the stream biological community is associated with acidic, calcareous, and neutral geologic settings where the pH of the water will limit the distribution of certain macroinvertebrates, plants, and other aquatic biota. The habitat can be further subdivided into 1) headwaters that drain watersheds less than 4 sq.mi, and have an average bankfull width of 16 feet or 2) Creeks that include larger streams with watersheds up to 39 sq.mi. and have an average bankfull width of 32 feet.

### Similar Habitat Types:

Headwaters and creeks may also occur at lower elevations but these tend to be warmer, flatter, and slower. Coastal examples of high gradient headwaters are rare. Cold high gradient streams typically flows into moderate or low gradient cold and cool rivers in areas of less topography.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Dry Brook, Satans Kingdom WMA | MA Warner Creek, Phoenicia Wild Forest | NY Lamentation Run, Allegheny National Forest Non-Reserved | PA Dish Mill Brook, Victory State Forest | VT Leatherwood Creek, Monongahela National Forest | WV

**State Distribution:** CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV

**Total Habitat (mi):** 36,183

**% Conserved:** 26.3 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

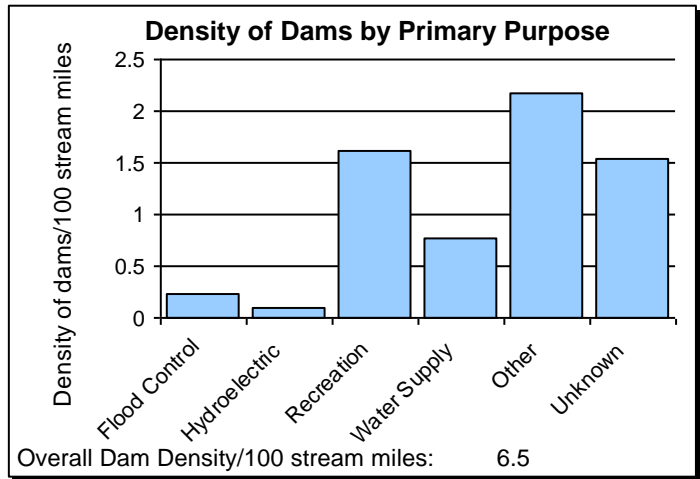
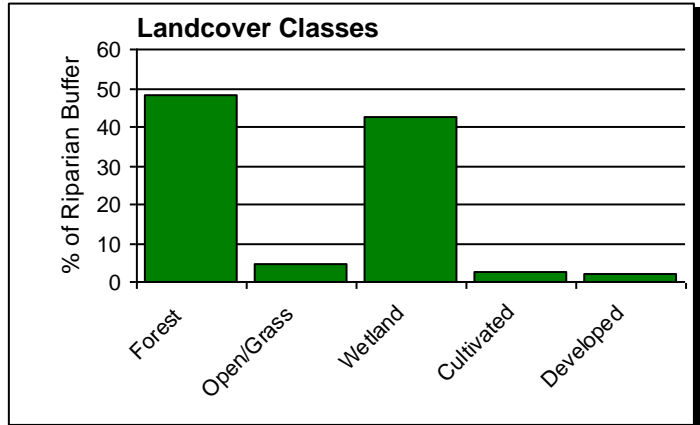
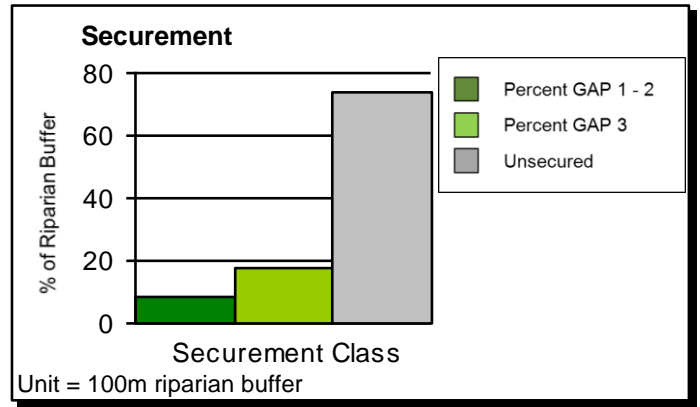
State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
NY	29	10443	1008	696	6458
PA	24	8847	293	1935	4756
ME	10	3799	180	454	2380
VT	10	3552	109	345	2313
NH	8	2868	265	594	1396
VA	6	2143	296	394	1004
WV	5	1692	58	273	1006
MA	3	1196	41	231	669
CT	2	816	37	74	526
NJ	1	403	65	28	224
MD	1	376	21	71	204
RI	0	47	1	9	28
DE	0	0	0	0	0

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: brook trout, slimy sculpin, longnose dace, longnose sucker, eastern blacknose dace, creek chub Less Abundant: mottled sculpin, white sucker, fantail darter, common shiner, lake chub, fallfish, atlantic salmon.

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

Fishes: black sculpin  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: eastern pearlshell  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

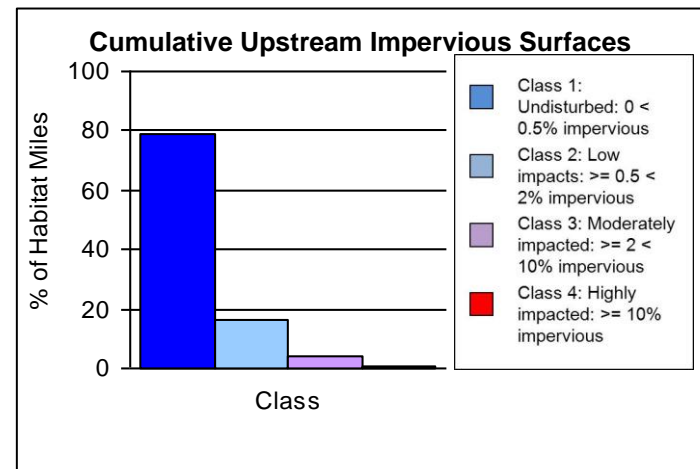


**Crosswalk to State Names:**

Vermont: Brook trout, Brook trout-slimy sculpin, Blacknose dace-Slimy sculpin. New Hampshire: High gradient, very cold streams; Very steep scour streams. New York: Rocky headwater stream. Maryland: Cold Water Streams. Pennsylvania: Atlantic Basin Fish Coldwater Community, Ohio-Great Lakes Basins Fish Coldwater Community.



Brook trout, © USFWS Southeast

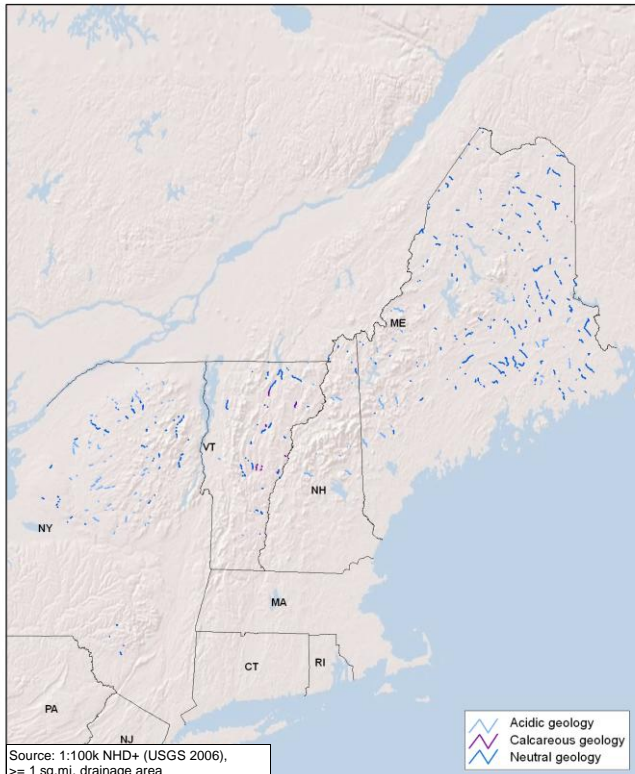




# Low Gradient, Cold, Small River

Macrogroup: Small 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.



West Branch Sacandaga River, © Andy Arthur

## Description:

Cold, slow-moving, small rivers of flat, marshy settings at high elevations or in areas of substantial cold groundwater inflow. These small rivers of northern regions drain watersheds up to 200 sq.mi and have an average bankfull width of 72 feet. The slow-moving waters are dominated by runs with interspersed pool sections and a few short or no distinct riffles. Their substrate is usually dominated by silt, sand, and fine gravel, and they may exhibit high turbidity and be somewhat poorly oxygenated. These low-gradient rivers are often described as unconfined and have moderate to high sinuosity with broader valleys. They are typically surrounded by floodplain forest, wetlands, or eroded sand or clay banks or fine sediment bars. Permanent cold water temperatures in these rivers means coldwater fish species, such as brook trout, likely represent over half of the fish community. Additional variation in the biological community is associated with acidic, calcareous, and neutral geologic settings where the pH of the water will limit the distribution of certain macroinvertebrates, plants, and other aquatic biota.

## Similar Habitat Types:

Small rivers also occur at higher elevations and on higher slopes, but these tend to have coarser substrates and faster water. Cold low gradient small rivers typically flow into low gradient cold and cool medium rivers.

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

**Total Habitat (mi):** 989

**% Conserved:** 24.6 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
ME	59	653	13	58	300
NY	24	261	49	15	74
VT	12	137	5	5	68
NH	4	48	1	6	22

## Places to Visit this Habitat:

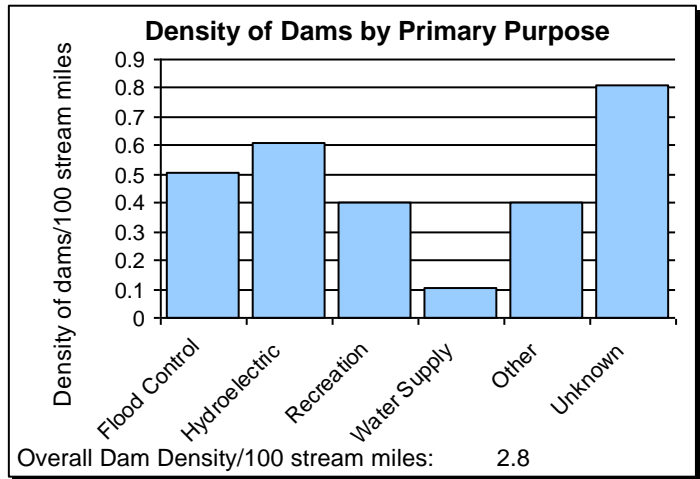
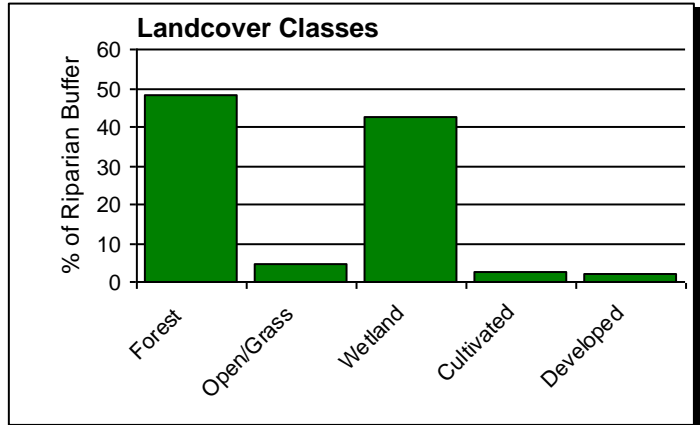
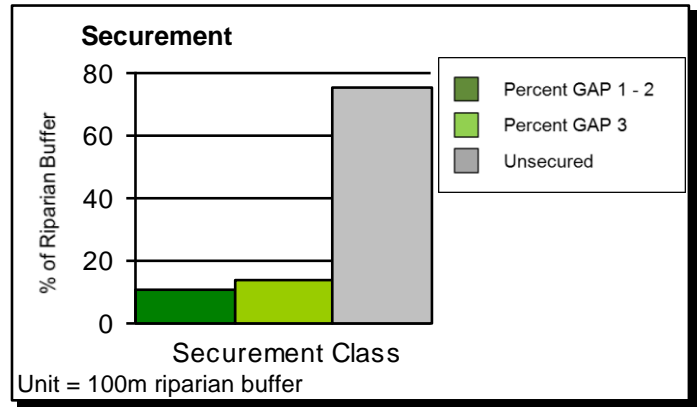
Sunkhaze Stream, Sunkhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge | ME Moose River, Holeb Public Land | ME Saint Regis River, Debar Mountain | NY West Branch Sacandaga River, Silver Lake | NY Black River, Vermont Land Trust Easement | VT

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: white sucker, common shiner, eastern blacknose dace, redbreast sunfish, creek chub, brook trout, fallfish, burbot, longnose sucker. Less Abundant: longnose dace, bluntnose minnow, american eel, smallmouth bass.

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

Fishes: none  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: brook floater, yellow lampmussel, eastern pearlshell  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

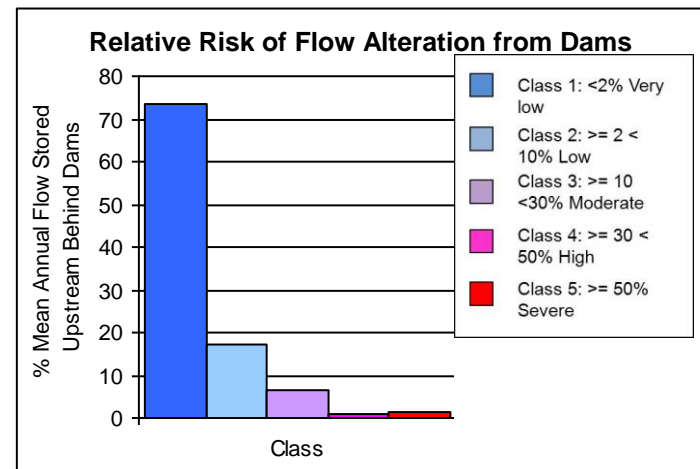


**Crosswalk to State Names:**

Vermont: Blacknose dace-White sucker, Blacknose dace-Creek chub. New York: Marsh headwater stream, Unconfined river, Backwater slough.



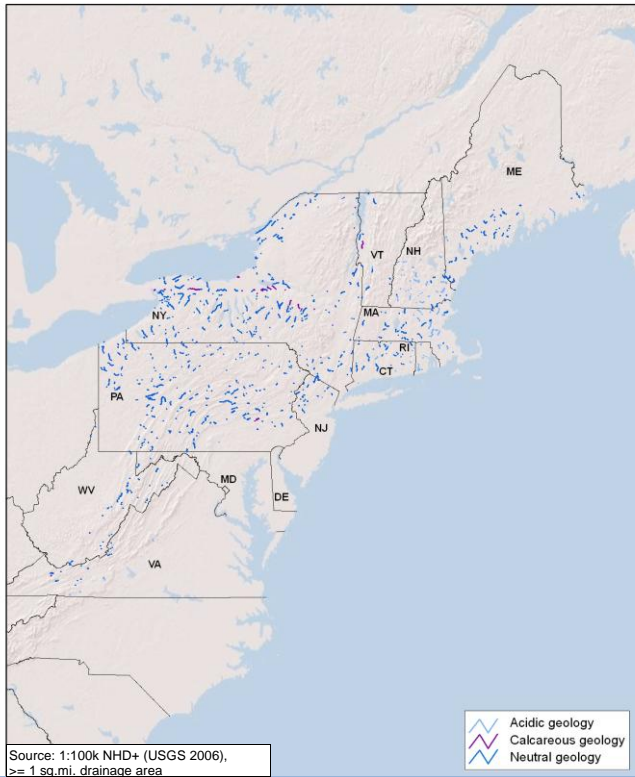
Longnose Sucker, © USFWS



# Low Gradient, Cool, Small River

## Macrogroup: Small 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.



Sudbury River, © John Phelan

### Description:

Cool, slow-moving, small rivers of flat, marshy settings at low to moderate elevations. These small rivers drain small watersheds of up to 200 sq.mi. in size and have an average bankfull width of 65 feet. The slow-moving waters are dominated by runs with interspersed pool sections and a few short or no distinct riffles. Their substrate is usually dominated by silt, sand, and fine gravel, and they may exhibit high turbidity and be somewhat poorly oxygenated. These low-gradient rivers are often described as unconfined and have moderate to high sinuosity with broader valleys. They are typically surrounded by floodplain forest, wetlands, or eroded sand or clay banks or fine sediment bars. 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. There will be less habitat with cool enough temperatures to support coldwater species year round. Additional variation in the biological community is expected in acidic, calcareous, and neutral geologic settings where the pH of the water will limit the distribution of certain macroinvertebrates, plants, and other aquatic biota.

### Similar Habitat Types:

Small rivers also occur at higher elevations and on higher slopes, but these tend to have coarser substrates, cooler, and faster water. Warm low gradient small rivers typically flow into low gradient cool or warm medium rivers.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Charles River, Elm Bank | MA Sudbury River, Great Meadows NWR | MA West River, High Tor Wilderness Management Area | NY Oak Orchard Creek, Iroquois National Game Refuge | NY Tohickon Creek, Nockamixon State Park | PA

**State Distribution:** CT, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV

**Total Habitat (mi):** 2,416

**% Conserved:** 13.4 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
NY	37	949	8	41	510
PA	23	594	15	20	324
MA	10	251	10	32	92
ME	8	215	5	6	109
NH	6	163	1	17	69
CT	4	109	8	5	49
VT	3	70	1	4	41
NJ	3	66	11	3	24
WV	2	52	2	4	27
VA	2	38	0	0	24
RI	1	24	0	3	10
MD	0	5	1	0	2

## Associated Fish:

**Most Abundant:** bluegill, white sucker, eastern blacknose dace, silverjaw minnow, longnose dace, pumpkinseed, yellow perch, central stoneroller, bluntnose minnow, cutlip minnow, creek chub, tessellated darter, rock bass. **Less Abundant:** fallfish, largemouth bass, telescope shiner, american eel, common shiner, spottail shiner, river chub, greenside darter, brown bullhead, golden shiner, smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, redbreast sunfish, banded darter, brook silverside, green sunfish.

## Species of Concern (G1 - G4):

**Fishes:** blotchside logperch, sickle darter, ohio lamprey, mountain brook lamprey, pugnose shiner, , bridle shiner, longhead darter, kanawha minnow, eastern sand darter, gravel chub, northern brook lamprey, american brook lamprey, blacknose shiner, new river shiner, tangerine darter, gilt darter, appalachia darter  
**Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails:** oyster mussel, shiny pigtoe, littlewing pearl mussel, purple bean, clubshell, tennessee clubshell, tennessee pigtoe, fluted kidneyshell, rayed bean, brook floater, snuffbox, longsolid, yellow lamp mussel, tennessee heelsplitter, green floater, tidewater mucket, elktoe, triangle floater, slippershell mussel, eastern pond mussel, eastern pearlshell, round pigtoe, kidneyshell, spiny riversnail

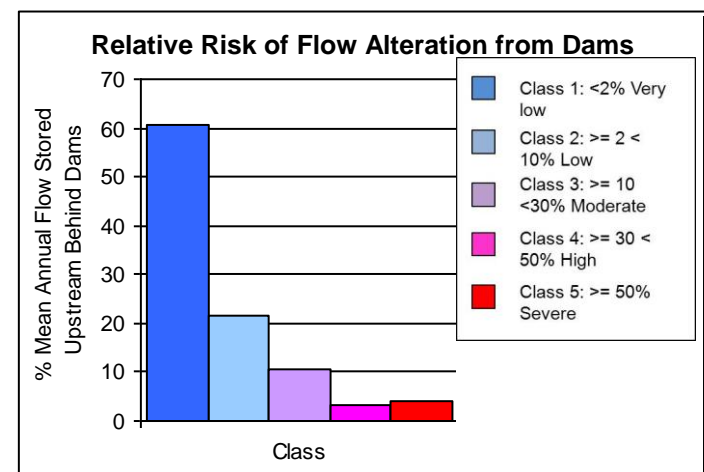
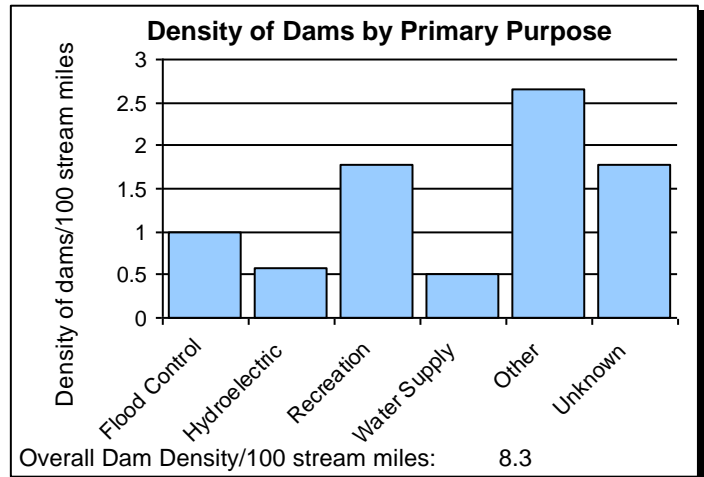
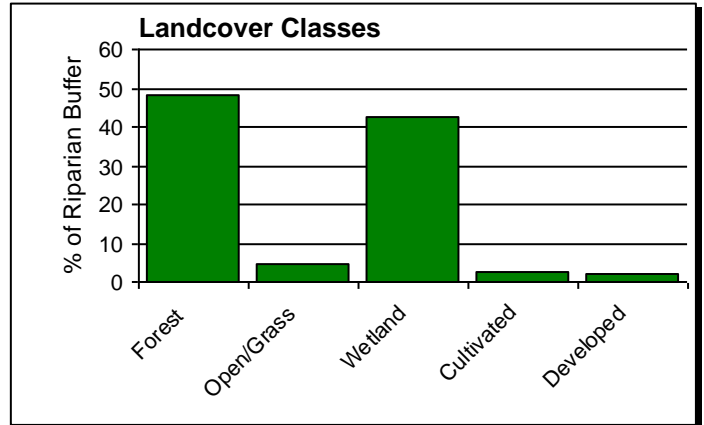
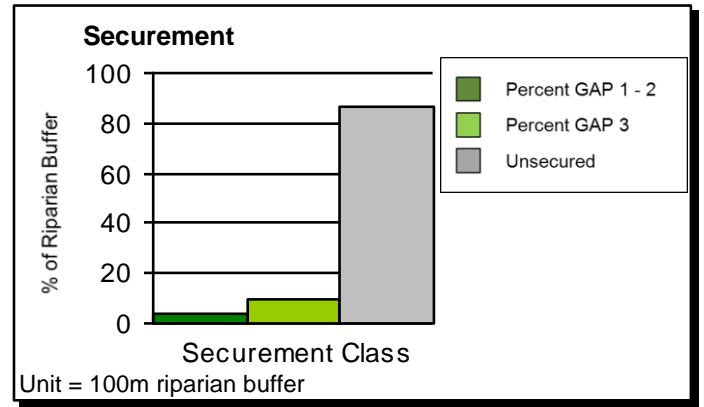
See Appendix 2 for scientific names

## Crosswalk to State Names:

**Vermont:** Blacknose dace-Bluntnose minnow, White sucker-Tessellated darter, Tessellated darter-Fallfish. **New York:** Marsh headwater stream, Unconfined river, Backwater slough. **Pennsylvania:** Atlantic Basin Fish Coolwater Community 1, Ohio-Great Lakes Basins Fish Coolwater Stream Community



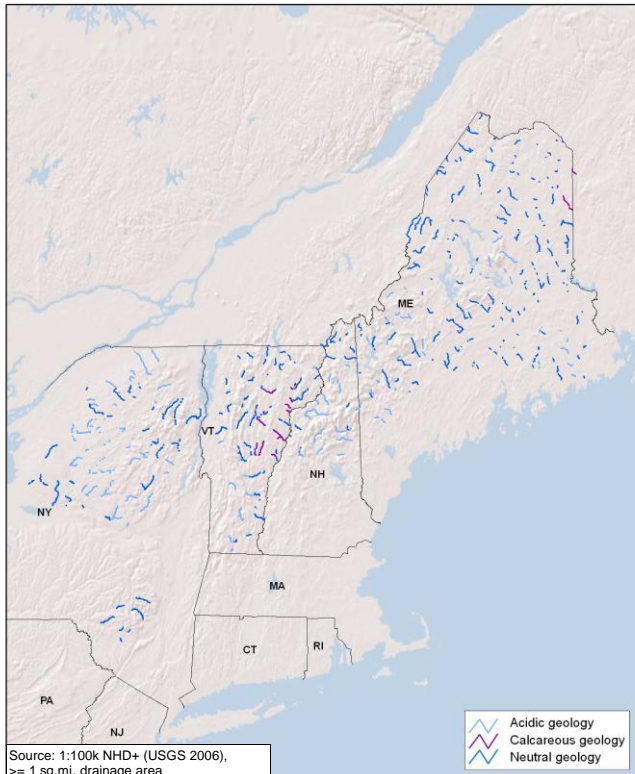
Bluegill, © Eric Engbretson



# Moderate Gradient, Cold, Small River

Macrogroup: Small 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.



East Branch Sacandaga River, © Andy Arthur

## Description:

Cold, moderately fast-moving, small rivers at high elevations or in areas of substantial cold groundwater inflow. These small rivers of the northern region drain watersheds up to 200 sq.mi and have an average bankfull width of 69 feet. The moderately fast-moving waters are dominated by a well-defined pattern of alternating pools, riffles, and runs. Their substrate is dominated by sand, gravel, and cobble, and they often have high water clarity and are well oxygenated. These moderate gradient rivers exhibit moderate to low sinuosity with moderately narrow valleys and adjacent riverside upland communities. Cold water temperatures in these rivers means coldwater fish species, such as brook trout, likely represent over half of this fish community. Additional variation in the biological community is expected in acidic, calcareous, and neutral geologic settings where the pH of the water will limit the distribution of certain macroinvertebrates, plants, and other aquatic biota.

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

**Total Habitat (mi):** 2,352

**% Conserved:** 23.8 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
ME	43	1032	37	90	526
NY	28	671	123	46	255
VT	19	460	3	18	271
NH	9	223	7	36	99

## Similar Habitat Types:

These moderate gradient small rivers are transitional types and often exhibit some characteristics of both the higher and lower gradient small rivers. Cold moderate gradient small rivers typically flow into moderate or low gradient larger cold and cool rivers in areas of less topography.

## Places to Visit this Habitat:

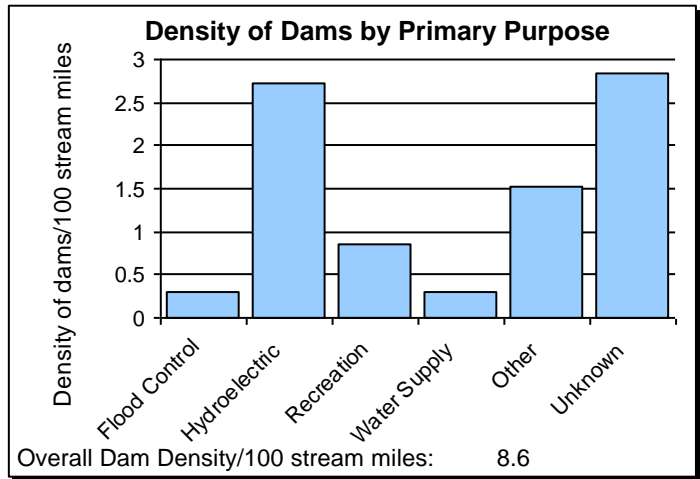
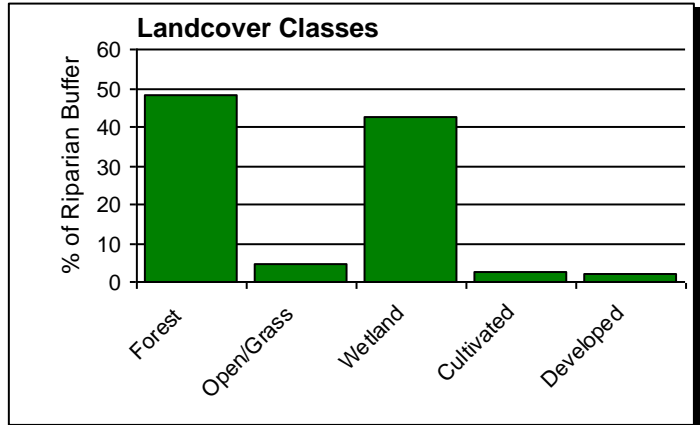
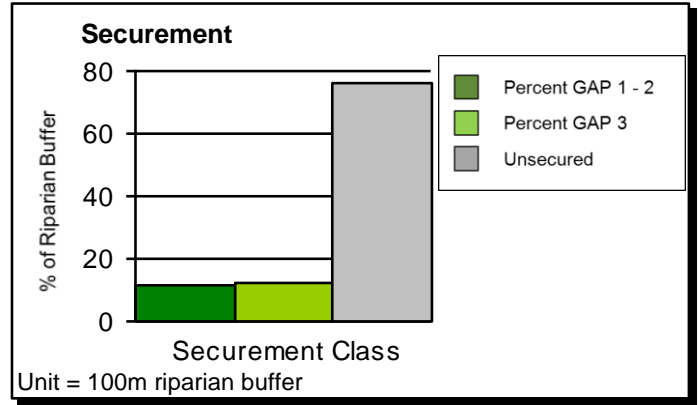
Nulhegan River, Brighton State Park | VT Old Stream, Machias River Watershed - Asc | ME Dead Diamond River, Second College Grant | NH East Branch Sacandaga River, Siamese Ponds | NY Middle Branch Oswegatchie River, Frank E Jadwin Memorial State Forest | NY Otter Creek, Independence River | NY

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: eastern blacknose dace, longnose dace, slimy sculpin, white sucker, brook trout. Less Abundant: common shiner, longnose sucker, creek chub, lake chub, cutlip minnow, atlantic salmon, fallfish.

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

Fishes: none  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: brook floater, eastern pearlshell  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

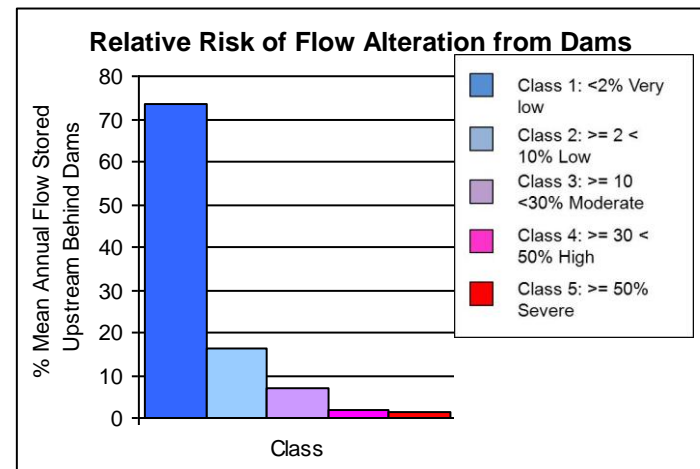


**Crosswalk to State Names:**

Vermont: Blacknose dace-White sucker. New York: Confined river.



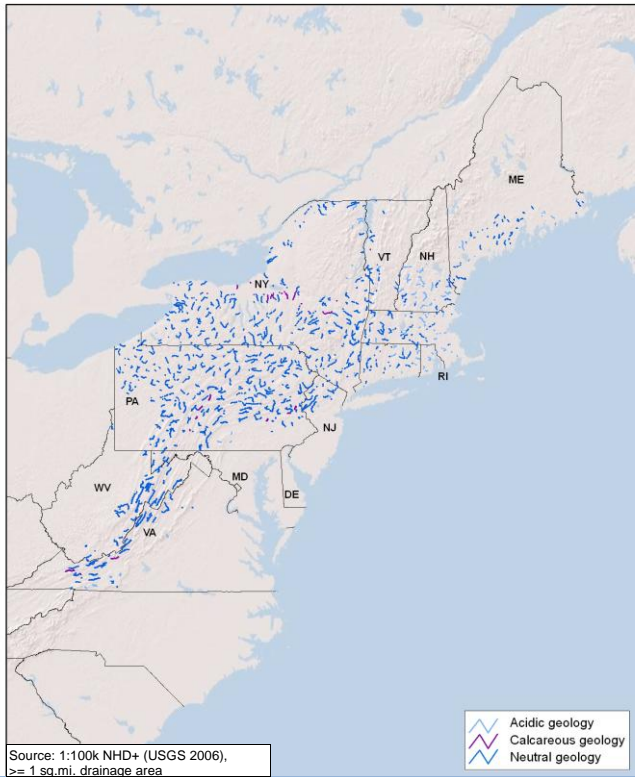
Blacknose dace, © Fairfax County, VA



# Moderate Gradient, Cool, Small River

Macrogroup: Small 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.



Westfield River, © Eric Aldrich

## Description:

Cool, moderately fast-moving, small rivers at moderate to low elevations in the north and at higher elevations in the south. These small rivers drain watersheds up to 200 sq.mi and have an average bankfull width of 62 feet. The moderately fast-moving waters are dominated by a well-defined pattern of alternating pools, riffles, and runs. Their substrate is composed of sand, gravel, and cobble, and they often have high water clarity and are well oxygenated. These moderate gradient rivers exhibit moderate to low sinuosity with moderately narrow valleys and adjacent riverside upland communities. Cool water temperatures in these rivers means the fish community will support few permanent coldwater species and will contain a higher proportion of cool and warm water species relative to coldwater species. Additional variation in the biological community is expected in acidic, calcareous, and neutral geologic settings where the pH of the water will limit the distribution of certain macroinvertebrates, plants, and other aquatic biota.

**State Distribution:** CT, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, VA, WV

**Total Habitat (mi):** 6,343

**% Conserved:** 11.1 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
PA	33	2115	38	125	1195
NY	29	1866	7	37	1129
VA	8	536	15	18	308
WV	8	529	6	78	258
MA	5	310	7	26	160
NH	4	272	4	24	140
ME	3	210	6	2	121
CT	3	188	8	14	94
NJ	2	154	17	3	79
VT	2	137	3	3	79
MD	1	47	3	4	24
RI	0	31	0	2	17

## Similar Habitat Types:

These moderate gradient small rivers are transitional types and often exhibit some characteristics of both the higher and lower gradient small rivers. Similarly cool rivers are transitional between cold and warm systems and may include biota found in both colder and warmer types. Cool moderate gradient small rivers typically flow into moderate or low gradient cool and warm larger rivers in areas of less topography.

## Places to Visit this Habitat:

Westfield River, Streeter | MA Musconetcong River, Allamuchy | NJ Bush Kill, Delaware State Forest | PA Little Connewango River, Connewango Swamp WMA | NY Shavers Fork, Monongahela National Forest | WV

## Associated Fish:

**Most Abundant:** eastern blacknose dace, longnose dace, white sucker, common shiner, central stoneroller, tessellated darter, cutlip minnow, slimy sculpin, fallfish, telescope shiner, creek chub, rock bass, american eel. **Less Abundant:** mottled sculpin, smallmouth bass, margined madtom, river chub, fantail darter, bluntnose minnow, tennessee shiner, brook trout, northern hog sucker, spottail shiner, pumpkinseed, rosyface shiner, bluehead chub, redbreast sunfish, fathead minnow, mountain redbelly dace, bigmouth chub, white shiner, shield darter, atlantic salmon, yellow perch, banded sculpin, striped shiner, greenside darter.

## Species of Concern (G1 - G4):

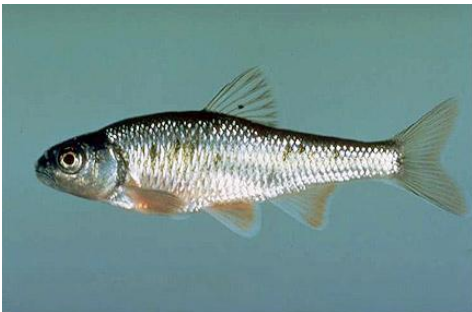
**Fishes:** clinch sculpin, cheat minnow, spotted darter, roughhead shiner, orangefin madtom, blotchside logperch, sickle darter, reddsides dace, candy darter, ohio lamprey, mountain brook lamprey, bridle shiner, longhead darter, kanawha minnow, eastern sand darter, black sculpin, gravel chub, bluebreast darter, greenfin darter, bluespar darter, swannanoa darter, tonguetied minnow, northern brook lamprey, american brook lamprey, greater redhorse, bigmouth chub, blacknose shiner, new river shiner, mirror shiner, channel darter, appalachia darter, stripeback darter

**Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails:** elk river crayfish, new river crayfish,, oyster mussel, shiny pigtoe, finereyed pigtoe, littleting pearl mussel, james spinymussel, cumberland bean, yellow lance, atlantic pigtoe, clubshell, tennessee clubshell, tennessee pigtoe, slabside pearl mussel, fluted kidneyshell, brook floater, snuffbox, longsolid, yellow lamp mussel, tennessee heelsplitter, green floater, rough rabbitsfoot, elktoe, triangle floater, slippershell mussel, eastern pondmussel, eastern pearlshell, round hickorynut, round pigtoe, kidneyshell, Chittenango Ovate Amber Snail, fontigens morrisoni, spiny riversnail

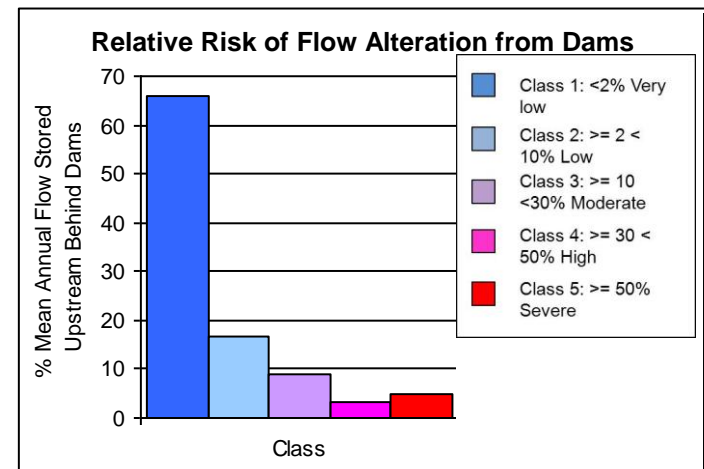
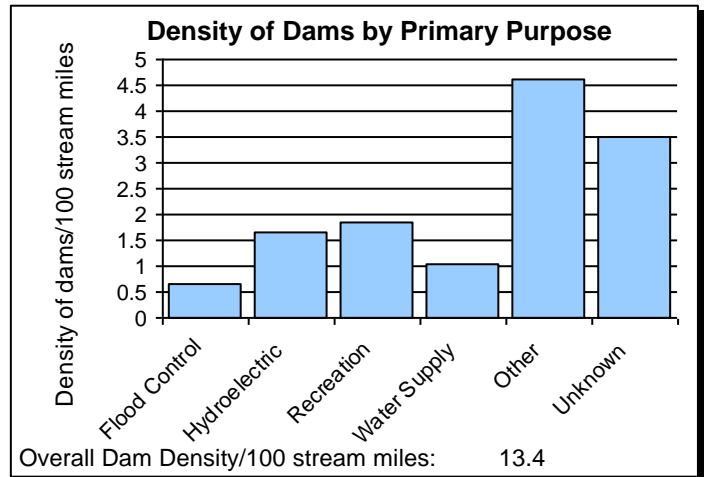
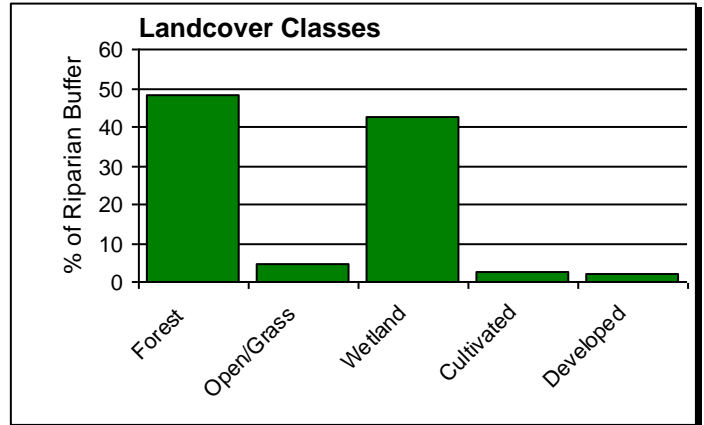
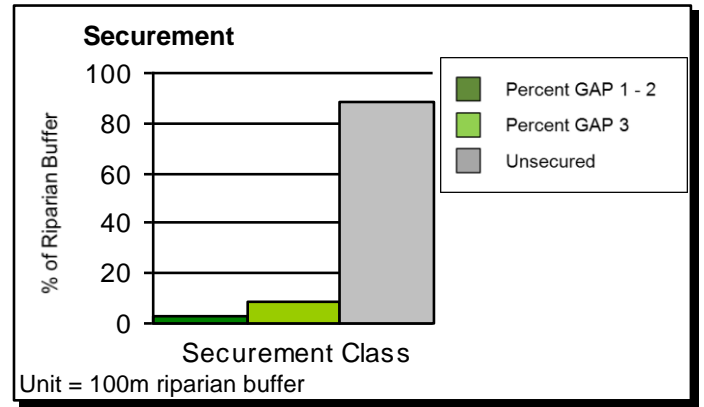
See Appendix 2 for scientific names

## Crosswalk to State Names:

**Vermont:** White sucker-Tessellated darter. **New York:** Confined river. **Maryland:** Highland Streams. **Pennsylvania:** Atlantic Basin Fish Coolwater Community 2, Ohio-Great Lakes Basins Fish Coolwater Stream Community



Common shiner, © Jon Cloutier

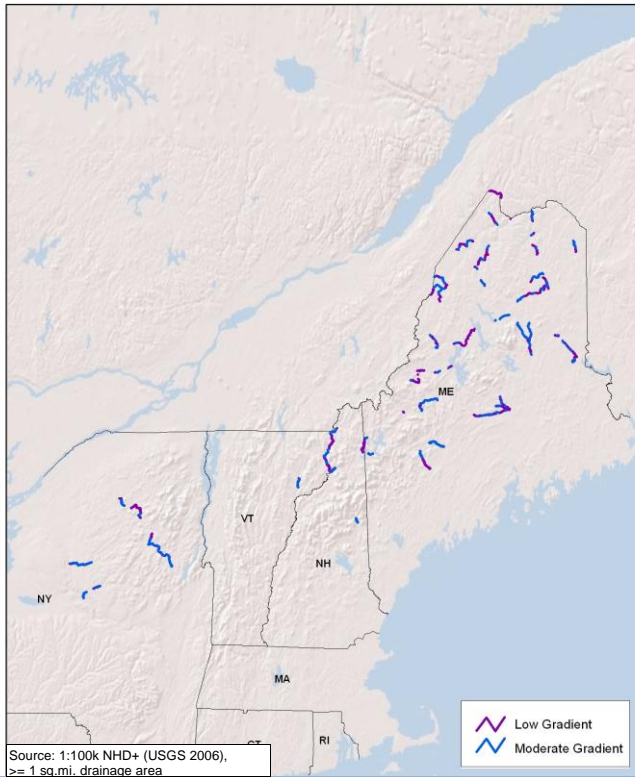




# Cold, Medium River

Macrogroup: Medium 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.



Upper Ammonoosuc River, © Alexis Horatius

## Description:

Cold, medium-sized rivers of the northern region. These medium sized rivers drain watersheds up to 1000 sq.mi. in size and have an average bankfull width of 131 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. Permanent cold water temperatures in these rivers means coldwater fish species likely represent over half of the fish community. Examples of this river type in the region include the Allagash, Aroostook, Southwest Branch Saint John, East Branch Penobscot, West Branch Penobscot, Moose, Piscataquis, Upper Connecticut, Raquette, and Upper Hudson.

## Similar Habitat Types:

Cool and warm medium rivers are also found in the region. Cold medium rivers typically flow into larger cool rivers or directly to the coast.

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

**Total Habitat (mi):** 693

**% Conserved:** 36.1 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
ME	74	541	53	66	220
NY	15	108	37	2	34
VT	6	42	0	1	26
NH	5	36	4	3	16

## Places to Visit this Habitat:

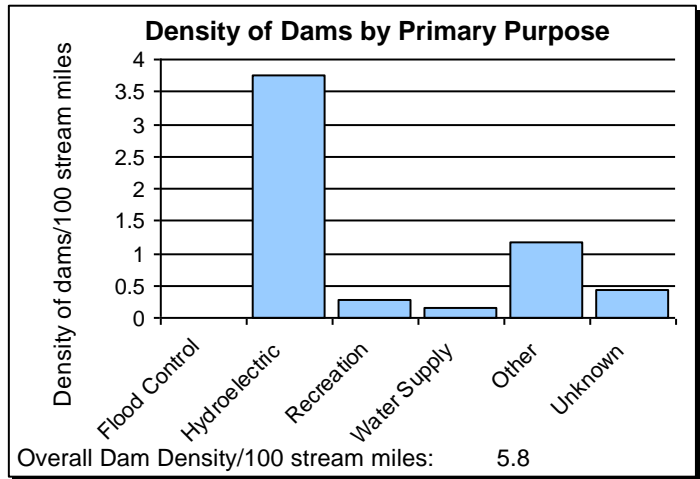
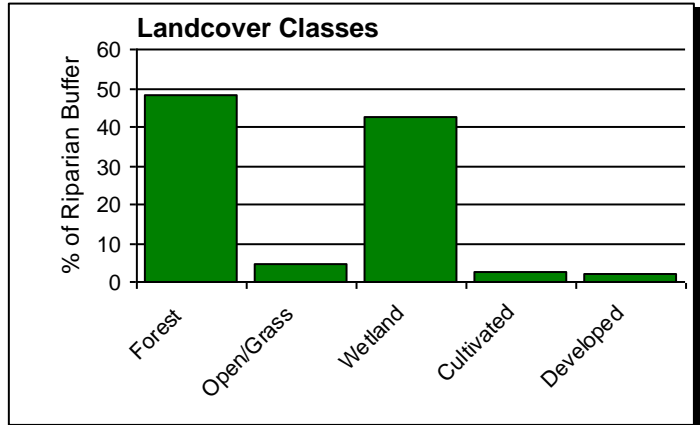
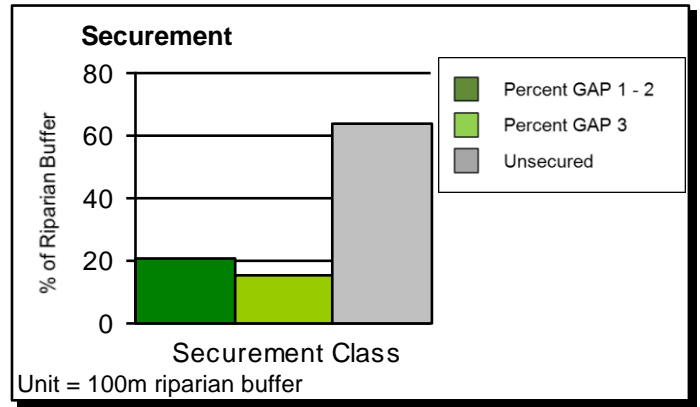
Raquette River, Sargent Ponds Wild Forest | NY East Branch Penobscot River, Baxter State Park | ME Baker Branch Saint John River, Upper St John River Watershed - Tnc Reserve | ME Connecticut River, Maidstone Bends | VT Connecticut River, Lyman Falls State Park | VT

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant Species: fallfish, yellow perch. Less Abundant Species: white sucker, common shiner, tessellated darter, northern pike, american eel, burbot, brook trout, atlantic salmon.

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

Fishes: round whitefish  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: brook floater, yellow lampmussel  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

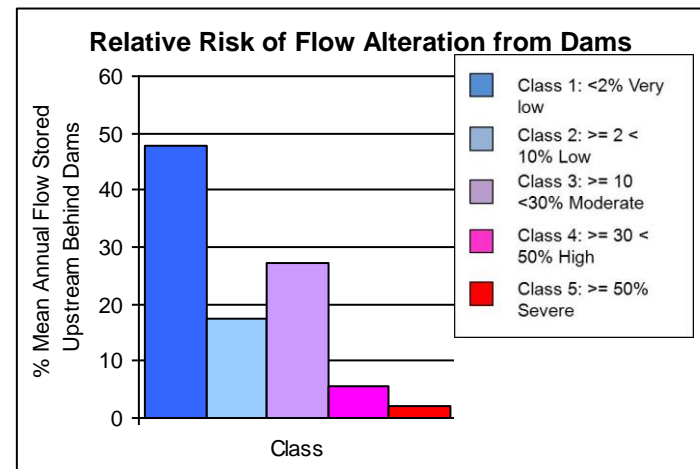


**Crosswalk to State Names:**

New York: Confined river, Unconfined river, Backwater slough.

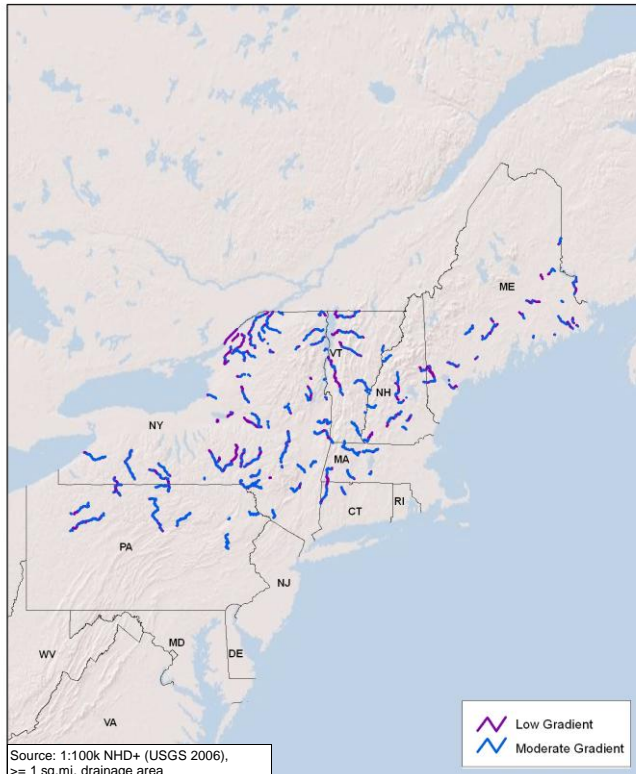


Fallfish, © Troutageous1



## Macrogroup: Medium 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.



Cattaraugus Creek, © Andrew Kormacki

### Description:

Cool, medium-sized rivers of the moderate elevation northern region. These medium sized rivers drain watersheds up to 1000 sq.mi. in size and have an average bankfull width of 115 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. Cool water temperatures in these rivers means the fish community will support few permanent coldwater species and will contain a higher proportion of cool and warm water species relative to coldwater species. Examples of this type in the region include the Missisquoi, Lamoile, Saranac, Saint Regis, Uper Saco, Grass, Oswegatchie, Otter Creek, Hoosic, Schoharie Creek, Chenango, Housatonic, Genesee, Pine Creek, and Clarion River.

### Similar Habitat Types:

Cool rivers are transitional between cold and warm systems and may include biota found in both colder and warmer types. Cool medium rivers typically flow into larger cool or warm rivers.

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

**Total Habitat (mi):** 2,661

**% Conserved:** 13.7 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
NY	49	1335	23	41	791
PA	13	353	28	51	149
ME	12	336	5	35	174
VT	12	321	6	9	196
NH	7	199	1	22	104
MA	5	130	2	9	70
CT	2	46	5	4	22

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

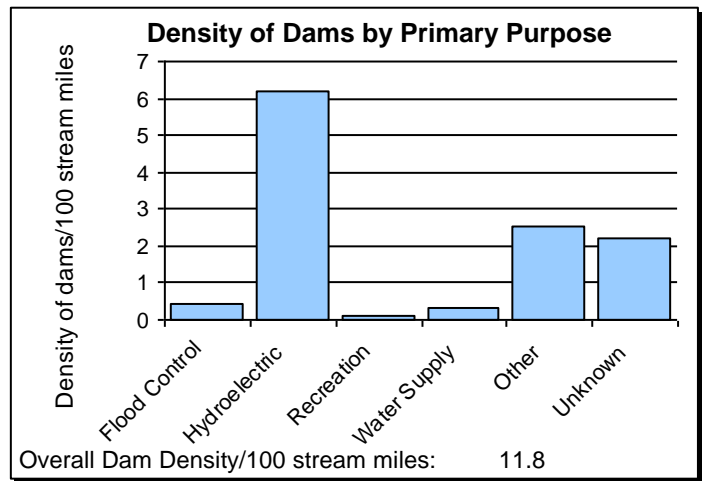
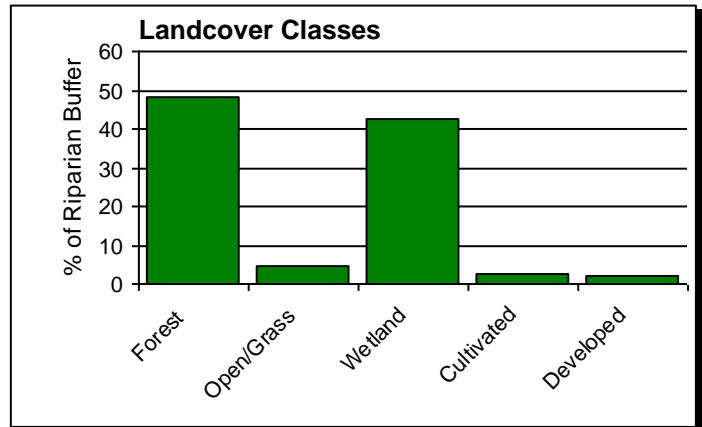
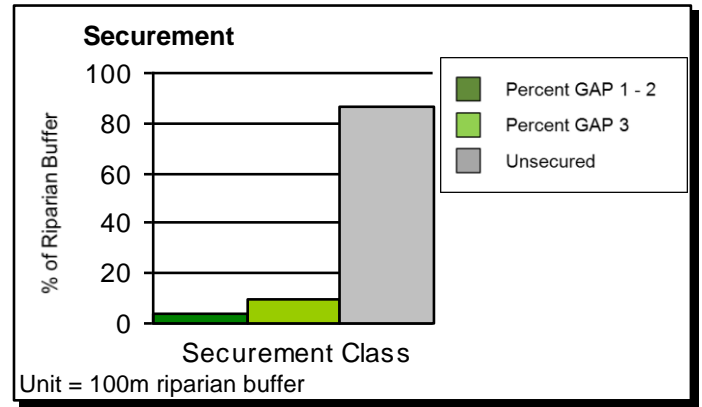
Saint Croix River, Spednick Saint Croix International Waterway | ME Cattaraugus Creek, Zoar Valley MUA | NY West Branch Saint Regis River, Southville State Forest | NY Clarion River, Allegheny National Forest Non-Reserved | PA Lehigh River, Lehigh Gorge State Park | PA

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: fallfish, white sucker, longnose dace, central stoneroller, tessellated darter, eastern blacknose dace, smallmouth bass, golden shiner, creek chub, largemouth bass, pumpkinseed, spottail shiner, mottled sculpin, mimic shiner, yellow perch, rock bass, bluntnose minnow, rosyface shiner, cutlip minnow. Less Abundant: margined madtom, emerald shiner, greenside darter, northern hog sucker, river chub, common shiner, blackside darter, golden redhorse, fathead minnow, sand shiner, johnny darter, brook trout, redbreast sunfish, swallowtail shiner, walleye, american eel, shield darter, slimy sculpin.

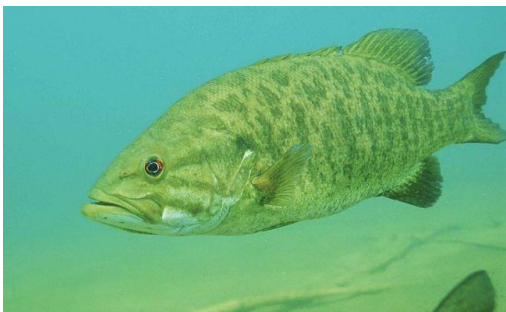
**Species of Concern (G1 - G4):**

Fishes: lake sturgeon, ohio lamprey, mountain brook lamprey, bridle shiner, longhead darter, eastern sand darter, gravel chub, bluebreast darter, northern brook lamprey, american brook lamprey, greater redhorse, blacknose shiner, channel darter  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: rayed bean, brook floater, longsolid, yellow lampmussel, green floater, tidewater mucket, elktoe, triangle floater, eastern pondmussel, eastern pearlshell, round pigtoe  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

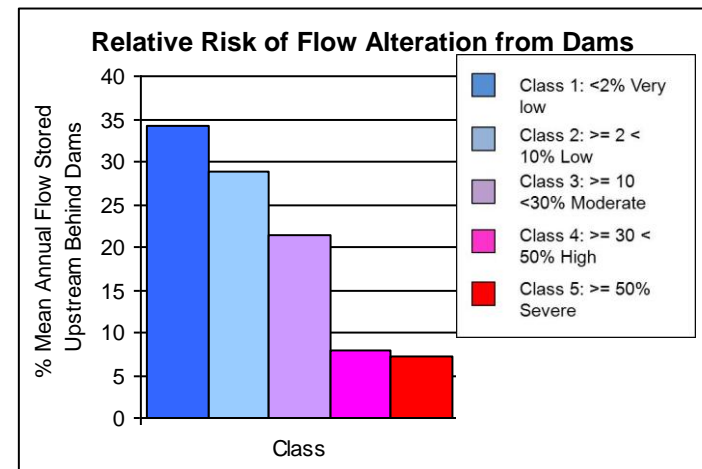


**Crosswalk to State Names:**

New York: Confined river, Unconfined river, Backwater slough.  
Pennsylvania: Atlantic Basin Fish Warmwater Community 1, Ohio-Great Lakes Basins Fish Warmwater Stream Community



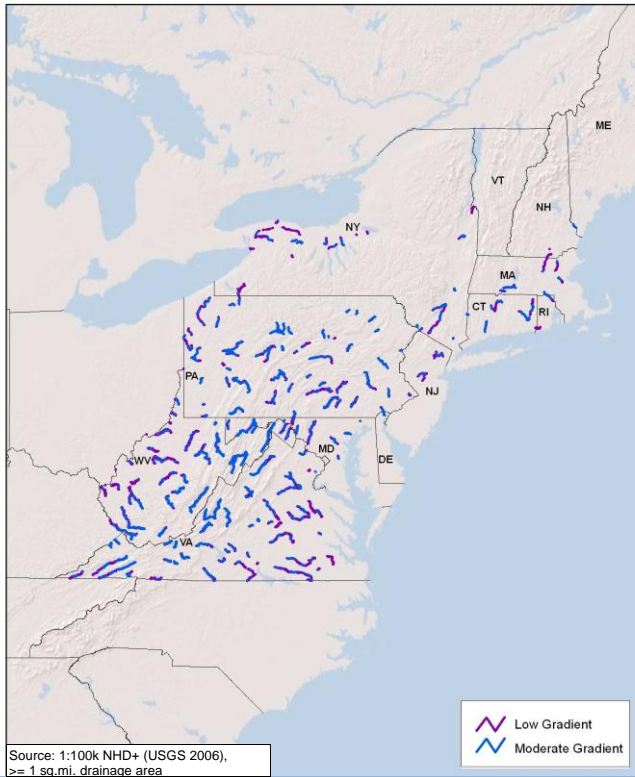
Smallmouth bass, © Eric Engbretson, USFWS



# Warm, Medium River

## Macrogroup: Medium 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.



Shavers Fork, © Tim Kiser

### Description:

Warm, medium-sized rivers of the low elevation north and of the Mid-Atlantic. These medium sized rivers drain watersheds up to 1000 sq.mi. in size and have an average bankfull width of 115 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. Warm water temperatures in these rivers means the fish community will contain a higher proportion of warmwater species relative to coolwater species. These systems are unlikely to support any resident coldwater species. Examples of this type in the region include French Creek, Conodoguinet Creek, North Branch Potomac, Cacapon, North Fork Shenandoah, Lieelt Kanawah, Elk, Mattaponi, Greenbrier, Appomattox, Guyandote, Tug Fork, Meherrin, Clinch, and North Fork Holston.

**State Distribution:** CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, WV

**Total Habitat (mi):** 4,953

**% Conserved:** 8.8 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
VA	31	1566	11	43	953
WV	25	1272	11	60	761
PA	25	1245	37	29	737
NY	8	379	5	5	228
MD	4	203	20	19	92
CT	2	116	1	11	63
MA	2	98	5	9	47
NJ	1	70	9	3	32
RI	1	26	3	1	11
NH	0	15	0	2	7
DE	0	7	0	1	3
ME	0	5	0	0	3

### Similar Habitat Types:

Cool and cold medium rivers are also found in the region. Warm medium rivers typically flow into larger warm rivers or directly to the coast.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Patuxent River, Patuxent River State Park | MD Patapsco River, Patapsco Valley State Park | MD Roanoke River, Wasena | VA French Creek, French Creek State Park | PA Greenbrier River, Monongahela National Forest | WV

## Associated Fish:

**Most Abundant:** bluntnose minnow, redbreast sunfish, rock bass, central stoneroller, spottail shiner, white sucker, smallmouth bass, american eel, northern hog sucker, greenside darter, spottin shiner, white shiner, pumpkinseed, common shiner, river chub, bluegill, telescope shiner, margined madtom, mimic shiner, swallowtail shiner, bluehead chub, tessellated darter, redline darter, rosyface shiner.  
**Less Abundant:** tennessee shiner, largemouth bass, fantail darter, roanoke darter, longnose dace, banded darter, cutlip minnow, satinfin shiner, yellow bullhead, golden redbreast, striped shiner, green sunfish, yellow perch, creek chub, bigmouth chub, rainbow darter, fallfish, gizzard shad, banded sculpin, whitetail shiner, banded killifish, eastern silvery minnow, shield darter, johnny darter, white perch, longear sunfish, variegate darter, warpaint shiner, bull chub, logperch, black redbreast, comely shiner.

## Species of Concern (G1 - G4):

**Fishes:** slender chub, yellowfin madtom, cheat minnow, roanoke logperch, spottin chub, ashy darter, golden darter, spotted darter, roughhead shiner, orangefin madtom, blotchside logperch, sickle darter, western sand darter, sharphead darter, candy darter, tippecanoe darter, ohio lamprey, mountain brook lamprey, popeye shiner, northern madtom, longhead darter, fatlips minnow, kanawha minnow, eastern sand darter, black sculpin, potomac sculpin, bluebreast darter, bluespar darter, swannanoa darter, northern brook lamprey, american brook lamprey, river redbreast, bigmouth chub, new river shiner, mirror shiner, mountain madtom, tangerine darter, channel darter, gilt darter, appalachia darter, stripeback darter, paddlefish

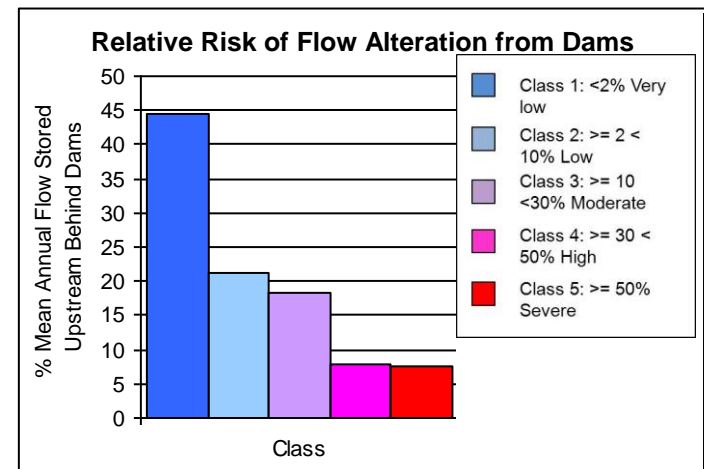
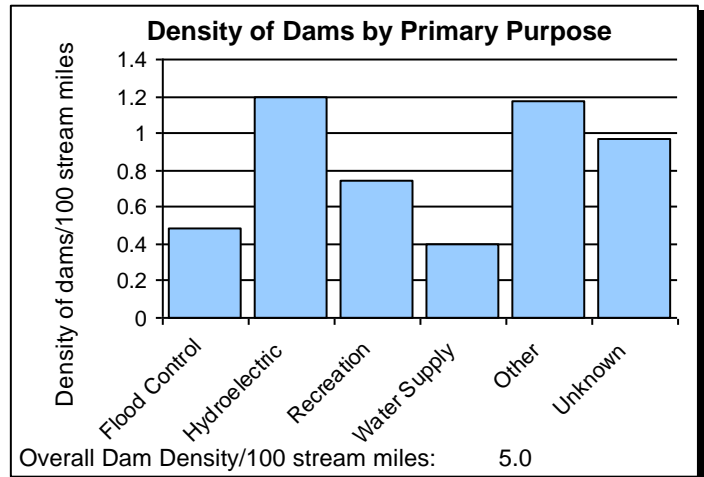
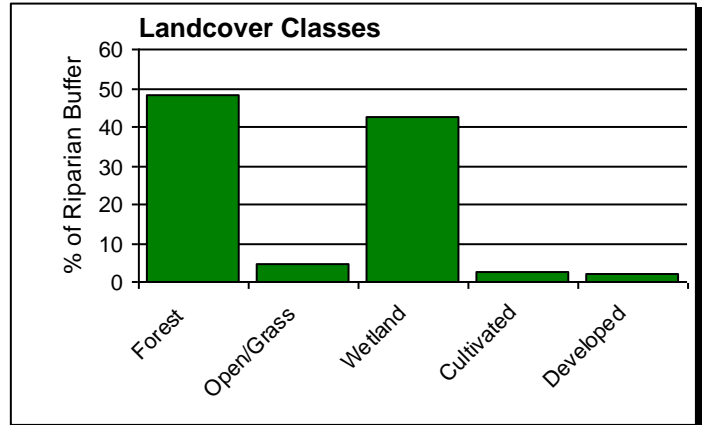
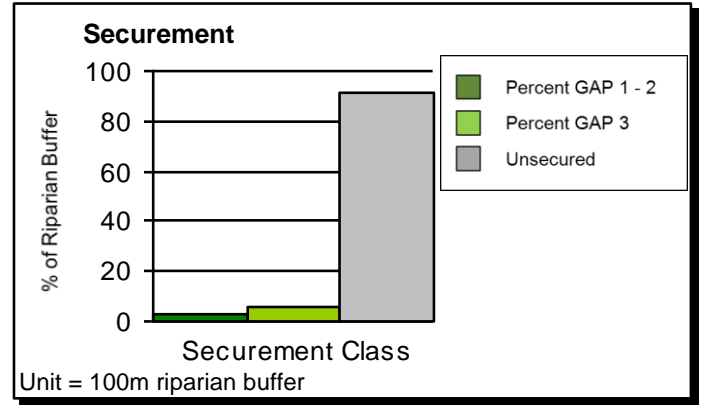
**Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails:** elk river crayfish, big sandy crayfish, fanshell, dromedary pearl mussel, cumberlandian combshell, oyster mussel, finereyed pigtoe, cracking pearl mussel, birdwing pearl mussel, virginia pigtoe, littlewing pearl mussel, james spiny mussel, rough pigtoe, cumberland monkeyface, appalachian monkeyface, purple bean, cumberland bean, yellow lance, atlantic pigtoe, pink mucket, clubshell, tennessee clubshell, pyramid pigtoe, tennessee pigtoe, slabside pearl mussel, black sandshell, fluted kidneyshell, rayed bean, brook floater, spectaclecase, roanoke slabshell, snuffbox, longsolid, yellow lamp mussel, tennessee heelsplitter, green floater, sheepsnose, rabbitsfoot, salamander mussel, purple lilliput, tan riffleshell, northern riffleshell, rough rabbitsfoot, green blossom, elktoe, triangle floater, slippershell mussel, northern lance, eastern pond mussel, round hickorynut, ohio pigtoe, round pigtoe, kidneyshell, pistolgripspiny riversnail  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

## Crosswalk to State Names:

**New York:** Confined river, Unconfined river, Backwater slough.  
**Pennsylvania:** Atlantic Basin Fish Warmwater Community 2, Ohio-Great Lakes Basins Fish Warmwater Stream Community



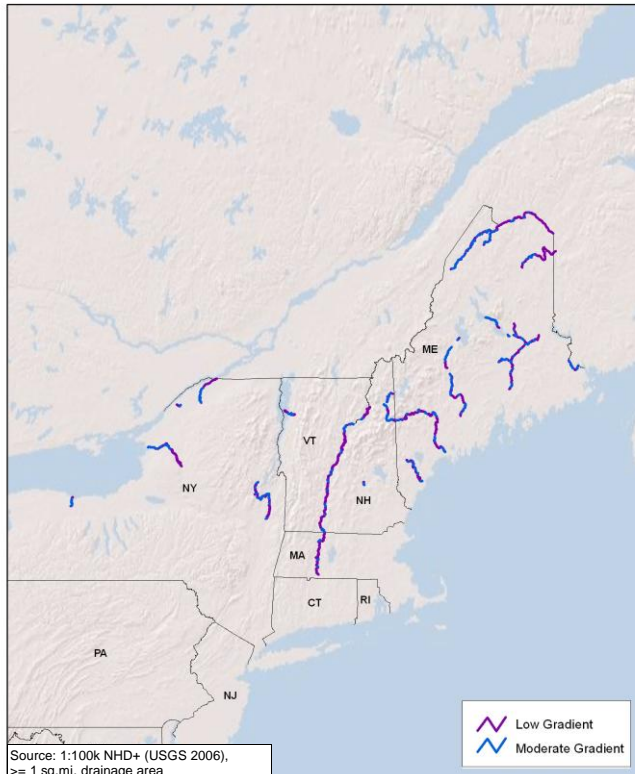
Rock bass, © Pen Waggener



# 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

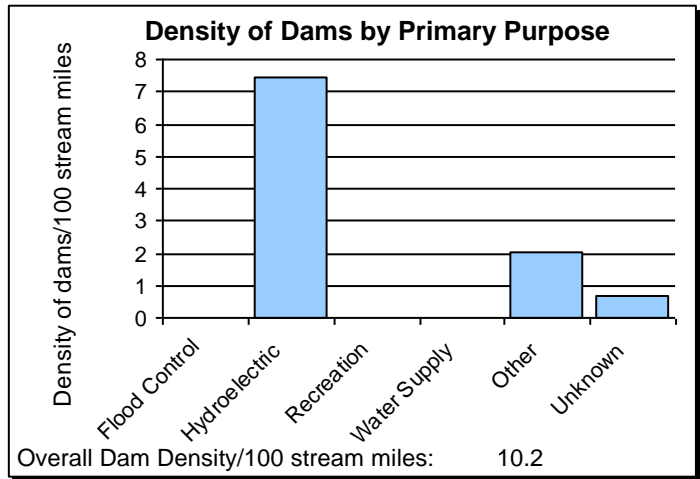
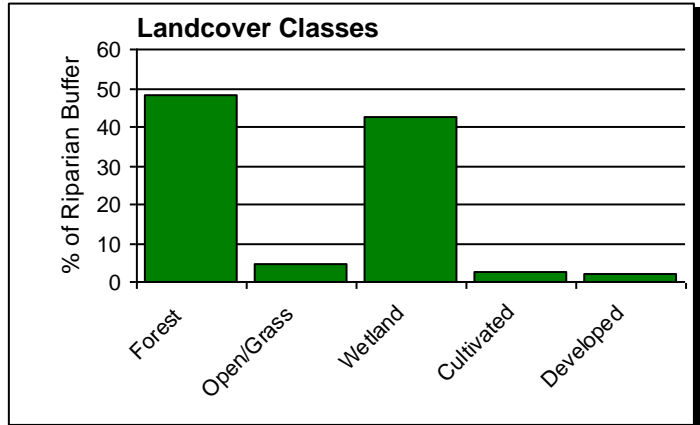
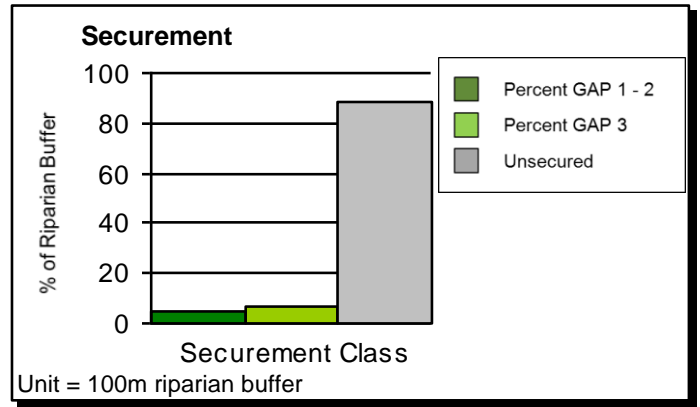
State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
ME	58	678	32	27	432
NY	16	187	4	6	116
NH	15	174	3	18	100
VT	6	74	0	4	46
MA	5	63	0	5	39

**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

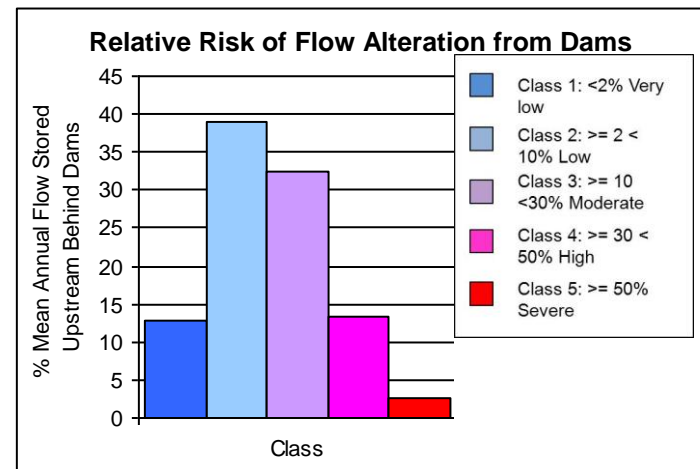


**Crosswalk to State Names:**

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



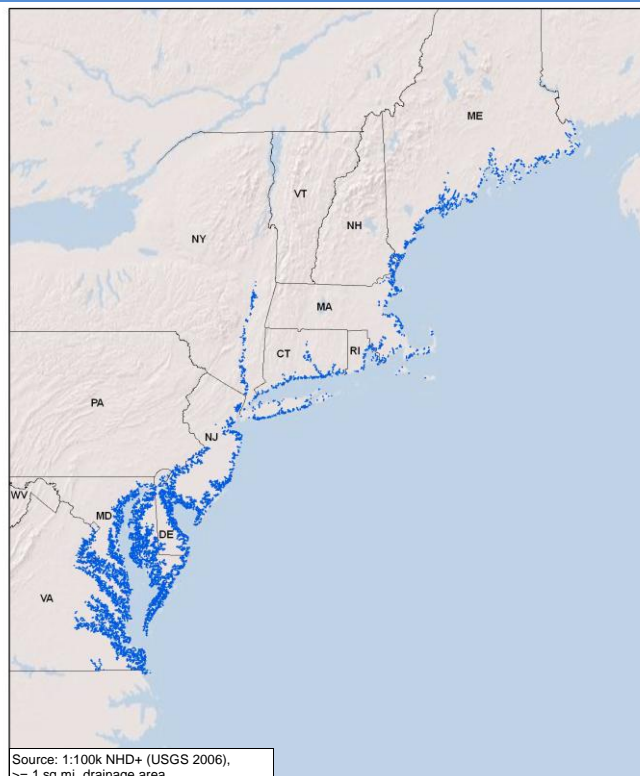
Yellow perch, © Otis Maha, USFWS





## Macrogroup: Tidal Headwaters and Creeks

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.



Source: 1:100k NHD+ (USGS 2006), >= 1 sq.mi. drainage area



Quashnet River

### Description:

Slow-moving, shallow, tidally influenced creeks and headwater streams. These tidal creeks and streams connect directly to the ocean or to large tidal rivers estuaries and have watersheds under 39 square miles. The water flow and level in these streams fluctuates with the tides creating subtidal habitat which is permanently flooded and an intertidal habitat exposed at low tide. Salinity typically ranges between 30 and 0.5 ppt and grades into a freshwater system in the upper portions of many of these reaches. Most tidal streams have moderately firm, sandy channel bottoms and vertical banks that are regularly eroded and slump into the creek bottom. Many have a very sinuous pattern as they wind through large salt marshes along the coast. Others have smaller associated brackish or salt marshes along their length and/or intertidal sand and mud flats in their lower portions. These streams and their associated estuaries support a rich diversity of plant and animals and serve as the primary nursery area for many marine fishes. The ecological importance of small tidal streams has historically been undervalued, but recent research is showing their collective influence on estuarine ecosystem function may equal or exceed that of larger tidal rivers.

### Similar Habitat Types:

Tidal headwaters and creeks may drain directly to the coast or into larger tidal rivers and their estuaries. High gradient examples of tidal creeks and streams are rare but do occur occasionally along the northern rocky coast of the region.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Wye River, Md Environmental Trust Easement | MD Cedar Run, Stafford Forge | NJ Bass River, Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge | NJ Pettaquanscutt River, John H. Chafee National Wildlife Refuge | RI Powhatan Creek, Colonial National Historical Park | VA

**State Distribution:** CT, DE, DC, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA

**Total Habitat (mi):** 7,835

**% Conserved:** 13.2 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
VA	31	2402	43	86	1690
MD	29	2307	50	169	1548
NJ	12	906	156	32	511
ME	8	654	29	24	445
DE	6	501	27	52	309
NY	4	336	10	17	238
MA	4	312	14	39	185
CT	3	218	9	12	151
NH	1	95	3	7	61
RI	1	71	3	5	50
PA	0	24	2	1	16
DC	0	7	0	1	6

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: alewife, blueback herring, atlantic silverside, mummichog , striped killifish, sheepshead minnow, fourspine stickleback, threespine stickleback, american eel, winter flounder , black sea bass, bluefish, striped bass, naked goby, northern pipefish.  
Less Abundant: eastern mudminnow, white sucker, tessellated darter, pumpkinseed, redbfin pickerel, eastern mosquitofish, swallowtail shiner, redbreast sunfish, largemouth bass, brook trout, satinfin shiner, banded killifish, sea lamprey, golden shiner, banded sunfish.

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

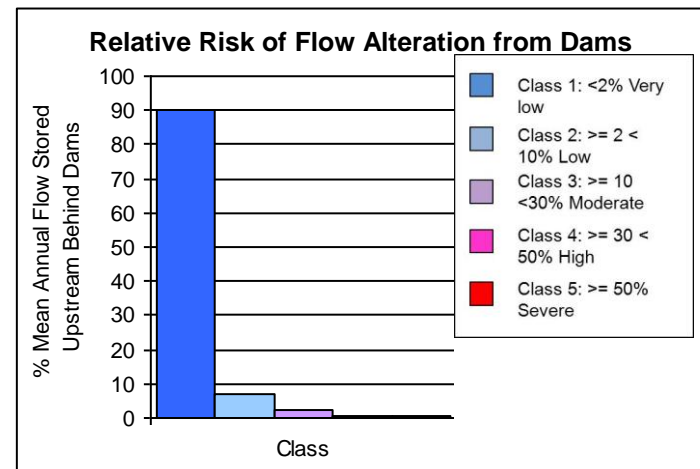
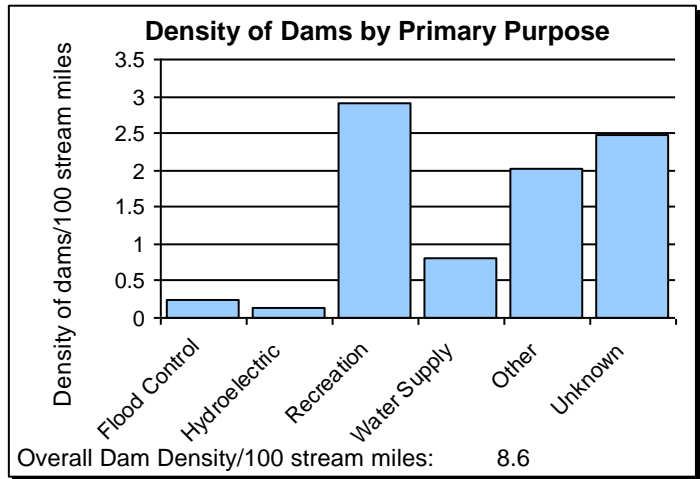
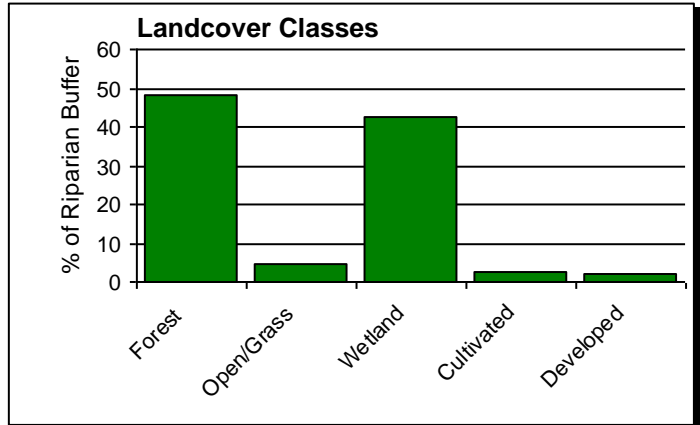
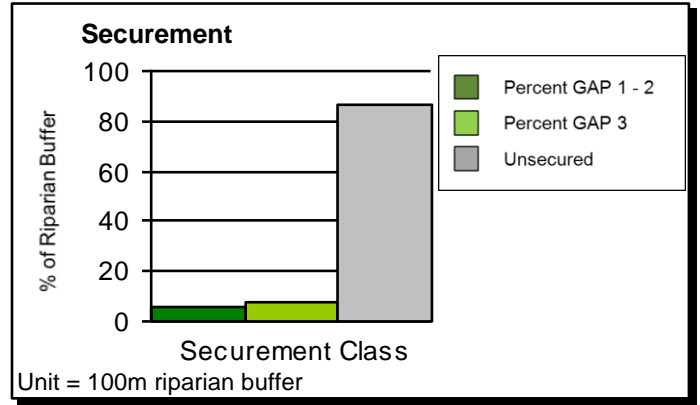
Fishes: bridle shiner, glassy darter, spotfin killifish, american brook lamprey, ironcolor shiner  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: tidewater mucket, eastern pondmussel, new england siltsnail  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

**Crosswalk to State Names:**

New York: Brackish interdunal swales, Brackish intertidal mudflats, Brackish intertidal shore, Brackish meadow, Brackish subtidal aquatic bed, Brackish tidal marsh, Coastal salt pond, Freshwater intertidal mudflats, Freshwater intertidal shore, Freshwater tidal creek, Freshwater tidal marsh, Freshwater tidal swamp, High salt marsh, Low salt marsh, Salt panne, Salt shrub, Saltwater tidal creek.  
Maryland: Tidal Streams, Coastal Plain Streams, Blackwater Streams.

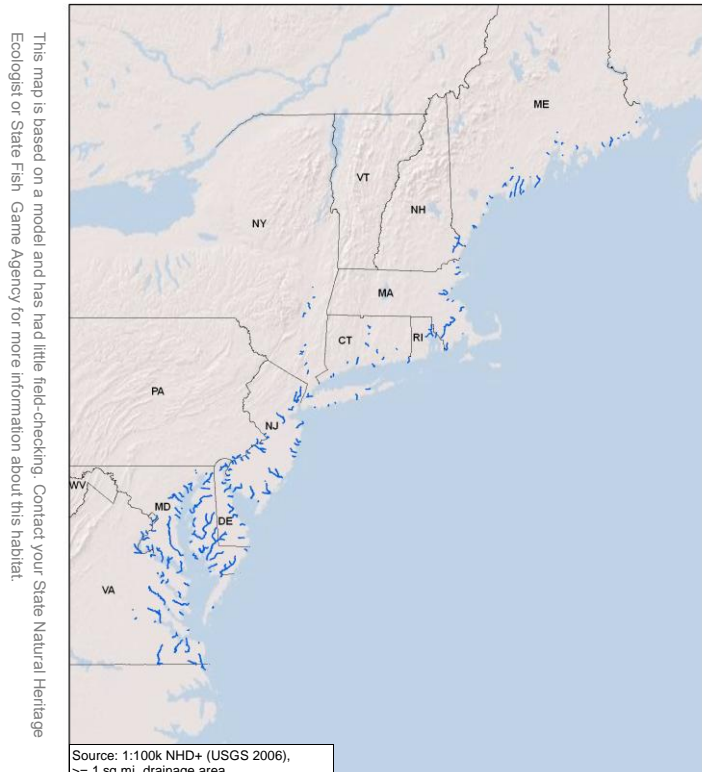


Alewife, © USDA Forest Service



# Tidal Small and Medium River

## Macrogroup: Tidal Small and Medium 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.



Nanticoke River, © Doug Samson

### Description:

Slow moving, small to medium, tidally influenced rivers. These small to medium sized rivers connect directly to the ocean or to large estuaries and their water flow and level fluctuates with the tides. They drain watersheds up to 1,000 sq.mi.in size and have an average bankfull width of 89 feet. In the river there is a vertical salinity gradient, with a surface layer of fresh water (salinity less than 0.5 ppt) floating over a deeper layer of brackish water (salinity between 0.5 and 18.0ppt). Salinities at any one place in the river may fluctuate as the tides flow in and out because the "salt wedge" of brackish water alternately rises and falls with the tides. Vegetational and faunal communities found in and along the river are determined by both depth and salinity. Commonly associated communities include brackish and salt marshes, swamps, and mudflats. These rivers and their associated estuaries support a rich diversity of plant and animals and serve as the primary nursery area for many marine, estuarine, and anadromous fishes.

**State Distribution:** CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, WV

**Total Habitat (mi):** 1,885

**% Conserved:** 18.2 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
MD	32	589	40	106	539
VA	19	350	20	28	389
NJ	17	323	53	16	192
ME	8	150	4	11	122
DE	6	119	6	14	62
MA	6	110	3	15	74
NY	4	65	5	1	55
CT	3	53	1	6	26
RI	2	37	1	1	27
PA	1	23	3	1	10
NH	1	22	1	1	11
DC	0	7	0	0	7

### Similar Habitat Types:

Tidal rivers typically have a number of connected smaller tidal creeks and may drain directly to the coast or into larger tidal rivers and their estuaries.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Quinnipiac River, Quinnipiac River State Park, CT Nanticoke River, Nanticoke River Watershed Conservancy | DE Transquaking River, Fishing Bay Wildlife Management Area | MD Northwest River, Northwest River | VA Mattaponi River, Sandy Point State Forest | VA

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: alewife, blueback herring, american shad, hickory shad, gizzard shad, striped bass, atlantic tomcod, american eel, rainbow smelt, sea lamprey, white perch, hogchoker, striped bass, banded killifish, spottail shiner, tessellated darter, pumpkinseed, bay anchovy. Less Abundant: pumpkinseed, white sucker, yellow perch, largemouth bass, redbreast sunfish, spottail shiner, chain pickerel, golden shiner, eastern silver minnow, common shiner, satinfish shiner, shorthead redhorse, redbfin pickerel.

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

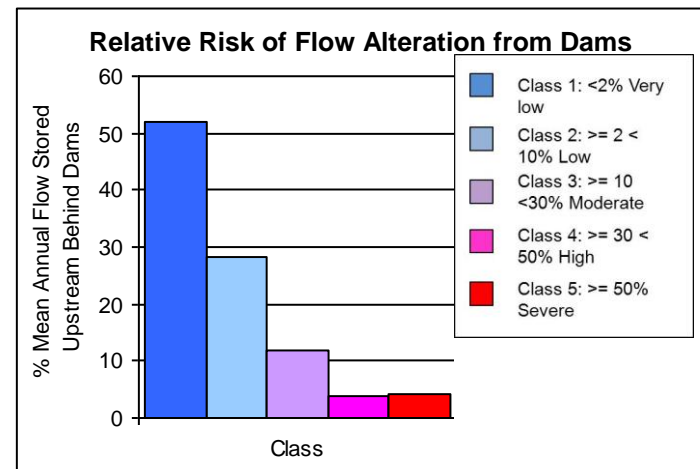
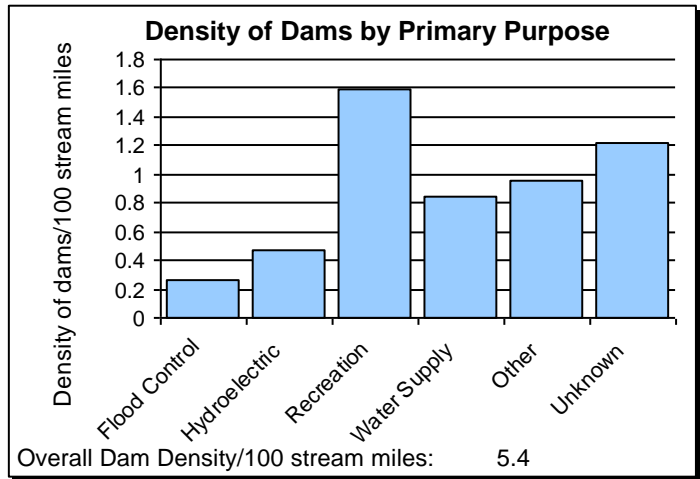
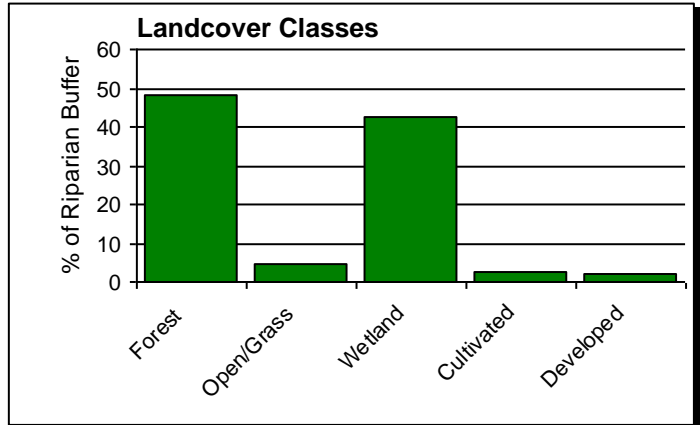
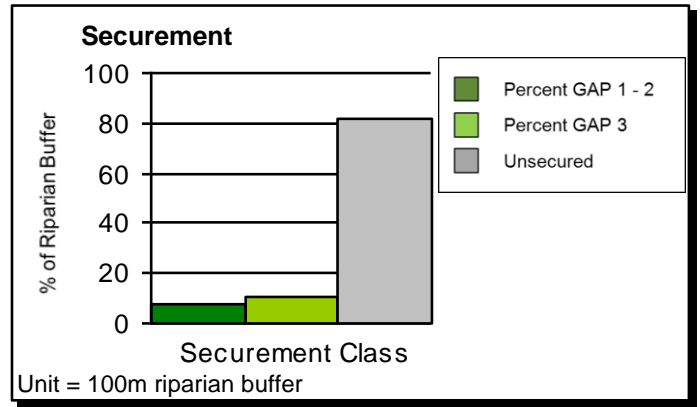
Fishes: shortnose sturgeon, atlantic sturgeon, glassy darter, spotfin killifish, ironcolor shiner  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: tidewater mucket, eastern pondmussel, new england siltsnail  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names

**Crosswalk to State Names:**

New York: Brackish interdunal swales, Brackish intertidal mudflats, Brackish intertidal shore, Brackish meadow, Brackish subtidal aquatic bed, Brackish tidal marsh, Coastal salt pond, Freshwater intertidal mudflats, Freshwater intertidal shore, Freshwater tidal creek, Freshwater tidal marsh, Freshwater tidal swamp, High salt marsh, Low salt marsh, Salt panne, Salt shrub, Saltwater tidal creek, Tidal river. Maryland: Tidal Streams, Coastal Plain Streams, Blackwater Streams.



American shad, © Raver Duane, USFWS



## Macrogroup: Tidal 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.



Source: 1:100k NHD+ (USGS 2006), >= 1 sq.mi. drainage area



Connecticut River, © Jerry Monkman

### Description:

Slow moving, large, deep, tidally influenced rivers. These very large rivers connect directly to the ocean or to large estuaries and their water flow and level fluctuates with the tides. They have large upstream watersheds >1000 sq.mi and average bankfull widths of over 300 feet. In the river there is a vertical salinity gradient, with a surface layer of fresh water (salinity less than 0.5 ppt) floating over a deeper layer of brackish water (salinity between 0.5 and 18.0ppt). Salinities at any one place in the river may fluctuate as the tides flow in and out because the "salt wedge" of brackish water alternately rises and falls with the tides. Vegetational and faunal communities found in and along the river are determined by both depth and salinity. Commonly associated communities include brackish and salt marshes, swamps, and mudflats. Most of these rivers have extensive salt marshes an/or intertidal sand and mud flats at their mouths. These rivers and their associated estuaries support a rich diversity of plant and animals and serve as the primary nursery area for many marine, estuarine, and anadromous fishes.

### Similar Habitat Types:

Large tidal rivers typically have a number of connected smaller tidal rivers and creeks.

### Places to Visit this Habitat:

Connecticut River, Windsor Meadows State Park | CT Hudson River, Peebles Island | NY Schuylkill River, Fairmont Park | PA James River, James River National Wildlife Refuge | VA Delaware River, Supawna Meadows NWR | NJ

**State Distribution:** CT, DE, DC, ME, MD, MA, NJ, NY, PA, VA

**Total Habitat (mi):** 1,026

**% Conserved:** 15.9 Unit = Acres of 100m Riparian Buffer

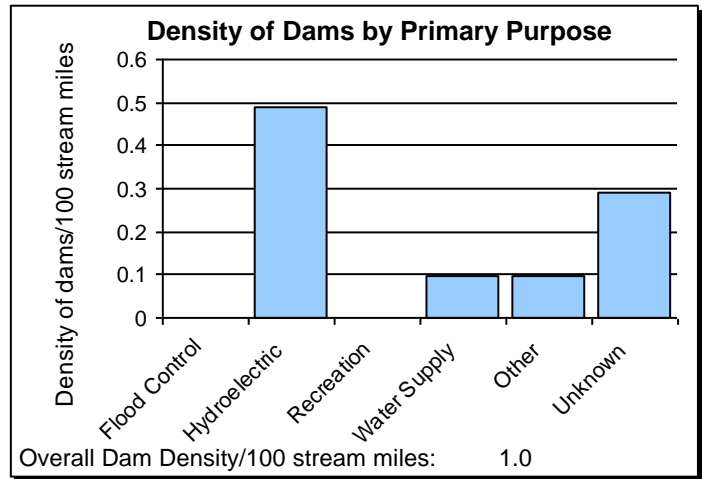
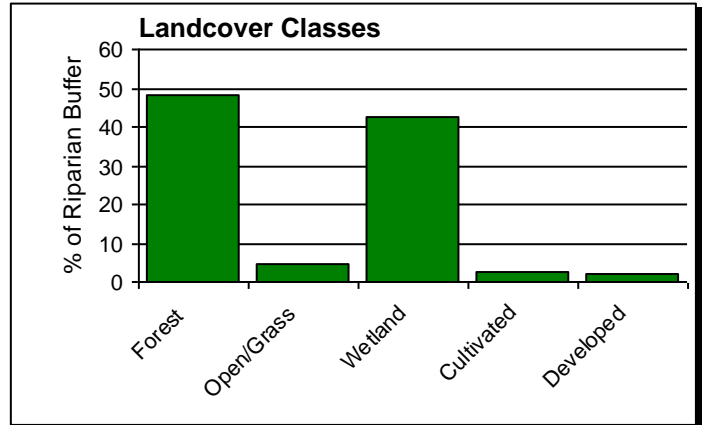
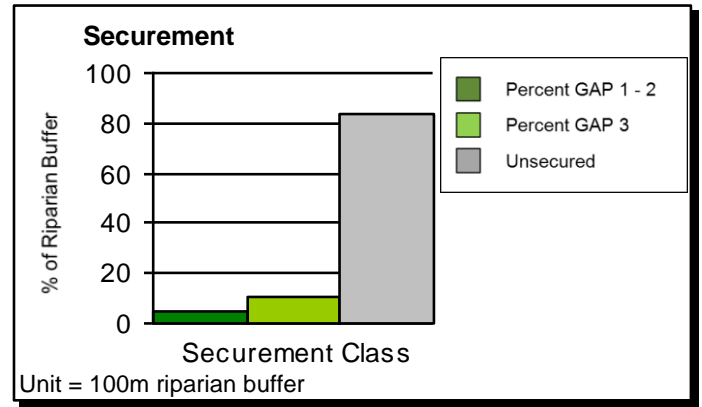
State	State Habitat %	Miles of Habitat	Acres GAP 1 - 2	Acres GAP 3	Total Acres Unsecured
VA	41	412	9	42	358
NY	15	146	5	16	87
ME	12	116	1	2	61
CT	10	99	6	8	59
NJ	8	77	10	11	45
MD	5	48	2	5	31
PA	5	46	1	3	29
MA	3	26	1	1	18
DE	2	25	9	2	9
DC	1	6	0	0	5

**Associated Fish:**

Most Abundant: atlantic sturgeon, shortnose sturgeon, atlantic salmon, alewife, blueback herring, american shad, hickory shad, gizzard shad, striped bass, atlantic tomcod, american eel, sea lamprey, hogchoker, banded killifish, spottail shiner, tessellated darter, pumpkinseed, bay anchovy, white perch. Less Abundant: spottail shiner, pumpkinseed, yellow perch, redbreast sunfish, largemouth bass, eastern silvery minnow, white sucker, fallfish, inland silverside.

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

Fishes: shortnose sturgeon, atlantic sturgeon  
Crayfish, Mussels, and Snails: tidewater mucket, eastern pondmussel, new england siltsnail  
 See Appendix 2 for scientific names



**Crosswalk to State Names:**

New York: Brackish interdunal swales, Brackish intertidal mudflats, Brackish intertidal shore, Brackish meadow, Brackish subtidal aquatic bed, Brackish tidal marsh, Coastal salt pond, Freshwater intertidal mudflats, Freshwater intertidal shore, Freshwater tidal marsh, Freshwater tidal swamp, High salt marsh, Low salt marsh, Salt panne, Salt shrub, Tidal river.



Atlantic sturgeon © VA Park Staff

