



MassWildlife Lands User Guide

Nissitissit River Wildlife Management Area

Town: Pepperell

Acreage: 627

Wildlife Management Zone: 9

Description of property:

Nissitissit River WMA is comprised of three parcels of flat land surrounding the Nissitissit River. The area contains an abandoned railroad bed that runs from Brookline Street to the New Hampshire border. Some portions of the area border town-owned conservation land. The predominant soil type on the area is sand and sandy loam. It primarily supports white pine forest intermixed with maples in the wetter areas.

Location/Access/Parking:

Two parking areas are available off Prescott Street, one parking area is available off North Street, and an additional parking area is on Brookline Street. The southernmost parcel can be accessed by parking on Hollis Street at the site of the Turner Dam removal.

Habitat Management:

Removal of the Turner Dam was completed in 2015. Restoration of the river shed area will continue for several years. River bank erosion from ATV trespass was restored along Sucker Brook.

Hunting Opportunities:

Aquatic furbearers including North American beaver, muskrat, mink, and river otter as well as raccoon and waterfowl are found along the river. The uplands support gray squirrel, white-tailed deer, fox, and eastern coyote.

Fishing Opportunities:

The Nissitissit is stocked with trout. A portion of the river is a fly fishing only catch-and-release area. Mine Brook and Sucker Brook (another trout-stocked stream) also flow through the WMA. For more information on trout stocking, visit [Mass.gov/Trout](https://www.mass.gov/trout).

Wildlife Viewing and Other Features:

Waterfowl and migratory birds use the river extensively, which provides great opportunities for birding. Kayak and canoes can be launched from the Hollis Street parking area. This area is rich in non-game species and harbors an endangered freshwater mussel.

Special WMA Regulations:

The reach of the Nissitissit River from the New Hampshire border to the Prescott Street Bridge is designated as fly fishing only (artificial lures only, no bait in possession) and is a catch-and-release only site.

Useful Links

[WMA Regulations](#)

[Habitat Program](#)

[Hunting & Fishing](#)

Fishing/Hunting Licenses

[Mass.gov/MassFishHunt](https://www.mass.gov/massfishhunt)

Learn more

[Mass.gov/MassWildlife](https://www.mass.gov/masswildlife)

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Get Your Orange On!

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Your local

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