

# MassWildlife Lands User Guide Hockomock Swamp Wildlife Management Area

Towns: Bridewater, Easton, Norton, Raynham, Taunton, West Bridgewater

**Acreage:** 6,157

Wildlife Management Zone: 11

## **Description of property:**

Hockomock Swamp WMA consists of numerous parcels that are primarily vegetated wetlands which are extremely variable in nature. In fact, this area of Massachusetts contains the largest wetland in the state. Marshes and cattails dominate some areas, other locations are comprised of red maple, and there are numerous pockets of Atlantic white cedar bogs and swamps, and acidic fens. The upland habitat consists of open farmland and mixed stands of hardwood, pine, and hemlock.

## Location/Access/Parking:

Several parking areas are available near this property. For access to the northern section, a dirt lot with space for 6 vehicles can be found off of Route 106 in West Bridgewater. To the east of the property, there is a 4-vehicle dirt lot off of Maple Street in West Bridgewater. The southeastern section, which features access to Lake Nippenicket, has roadside parking at the end of Chase Road in Bridgewater. You can access the southern and western area of this property from the 5-vehicle lot off of Prospect Hill Street in Raynham. This property can also be accessed by parking at the end of Toad Island Road in Norton and crossing through the Erwin S. Wilder WMA which borders the Hockomock Swamp WMA.

## **Hunting Opportunities:**

Opportunities to pursue upland game species such as white-tailed deer and eastern coyote are abundant. The WMA is also home to several furbearers and numerous species of waterfowl.

#### **Fishing Opportunities:**

The WMA abuts Lake Nippenicket and includes multiple canoe-accessible rivers, including the Hockomock River, Town River, and Snake River. Lake Nippenicket and the three river systems provide quality warmwater fishing for species including chain pickerel, largemouth bass, sunfish, black crappie, bullheads, white perch, and yellow perch. Shore fishing opportunities are present at this WMA.

## Wildlife Viewing and Other Features:

The area contains many non-game species such as wading birds and songbirds, reptiles, and amphibians. There are multiple areas for canoe and kayak use as well.

## **Special WMA Regulations:**

None.

#### **Useful Links**

**WMA Regulations** 

**Habitat Program** 

**Hunting & Fishing** 

## Fishing/Hunting Licenses

Mass.gov/MassFishHunt

#### Learn more

Mass.gov/MassWildlife

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## **Get Your Orange On!**

All outdoor users are encouraged to wear blaze orange during hunting seasons.

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