

## New Hampshire Fish and Game Department Spatial Data Notes

**DATA LAYER:** WAP2015\_Aquatic.gdb → RiversStreams and LakesPonds feature classes  
**CONTENTS:** stream classification; Important Fish Habitat in New Hampshire  
**SOURCE:** National Hydrography Dataset (U.S. Geological Survey)  
**SOURCE SCALE:** 1:24,000  
**AUTOMATED BY:** USGS; attributes by TNC (2008) and NH Fish and Game Dept. (2015, 2017)  
**STATUS:** Updated as needed to accommodate revisions to NHD  
**LAST REVISION:** December 2017

### General Description of the Data

Larger work citation: Northeastern Aquatic Habitat Classification (TNC) designed to consistently represent the expected natural aquatic habitat types across this region in a manner deemed appropriate and useful for conservation planning by the participating states. This product is not intended to override state classifications, but is meant to complement state classifications and provide a means for looking at aquatic biodiversity patterns across the region.

The data set was revised in 2017 to highlight aquatic habitat of importance identified by the Inland Fisheries Division of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. Categories of importance include aquatic habitats or species of concern identified in the 2015 State Wildlife Action Plan, habitat related to ongoing migratory fish restoration projects, and areas where the Department has invested resources into restoration or other ongoing conservation work. The intent of the layer is to increase awareness of the Inland Fisheries Division's conservation goals as well as to encourage restoration and conservation efforts in areas that will benefit sensitive species and aquatic habitats in New Hampshire.

### Definitions of attributes added by NH Fish & Game

Field name	Description
NHDESMODEL	NH Dept. of Environmental Services' coldwater fisheries predictive model
NHTEMP	Fishery temperature class from NHDES Model and species occurrences
TNCHIGHQUAL	1 = top-ranked stream reach (TNC ranking method)
TIDAL	Reach is tidal (Y or N)
EBT	P = wild brook trout present in stream reach during survey; N = not detected
SPPCONCERN	P = fish/mussel species of conservation concern present; N = not detected
SPRINGFED	Y = spring fed, isolated, brook trout stream, population known to be vulnerable
ABL	P = American brook lamprey occupied habitat; N = not detected
BridleShiner	P = Bridle shiner occupied habitat; N = not detected
HerringStock	Y = River herring stock location, M = migratory path downstream to Merrimack River
ShadRestor	Y = American shad designated spawning habitat
AnadFish	Y = Anadromous fish present; N = not detected
NHFGinterest	Y = Rivers or streams with past, ongoing, or planned restoration/conservation work where NHFG has invested resources T = wild brook trout Tributaries to NHFG streams/rivers of interest
COLD_CAT	Coldwater Stream Habitat category = EBT (wild brook trout present); Spring-fed; NHDES model; upstream of NHDES model
WAP_CAT	Wildlife Action Plan Fish Species category = Fish T or E species; Fish Species of concern; Brook floater; Dwarf wedge mussel
DIAD_CAT	Diadromous Fish Restoration category = American shad; River herring
WAPSPECIES	List of species of conservation concern present in stream reach ( <i>abbreviated</i> )

Attributes added to RiversStreams feature class; except three highlighted were also added to LakesPonds feature class

## FISH

ABL American Brook Lamprey  
 AE American Eel  
 AS American Shad  
 AW Alewife  
 BDS Banded Sunfish  
 BRB Burbot  
 BS Bridle Shiner  
 EBT Brook Trout  
 FD Finescale Dace

LT Lake Trout  
 LW Lake Whitefish  
 NRD Northern Redbelly Dace  
 RFP Redfin Pickerel  
 RS Rainbow Smelt  
 RW Round Whitefish  
 SD Swamp Darter  
 SL Sea Lamprey  
 Atlantic Sturgeon (*no abbrv*); *Shortnose Sturgeon (no occur)*

## MUSSELS

BF Brook Floater  
 DWM Dwarf Wedge Mussel

Category	Description	Mapping	Intent/Justification
Coldwater Stream Habitat	Spring fed, isolated, brook trout streams or populations known to be vulnerable.	Highlight reach.	Protect brook trout streams that have high potential for extirpation.
Coldwater Stream Habitat	Coldwater streams with known wild EBT populations (survey record).	Highlight reach.	Broad scale prioritization of conservation work on known coldwater stream habitat.
Coldwater Stream Habitat	Predicted coldwater stream with no survey record (NHDES Coldwater IBI)	Highlight reach + all reaches upstream.	Create awareness of potential coldwater stream habitat.
NHFGD vested interest	Rivers or streams with past, ongoing, or planned restoration/conservation work (Nash Stream, Beebe River, Warner River, Ammonoosuc River, Dead Diamond River, Swift Diamond River, Indian Stream, McQuesten Brook, Emerald Acres crossing, Thompson Brook).	Highlight reach, and tributaries with wild brook trout present.	Protect sites where NHFG has invested resources in restoration or conservation projects.
WAP T&E species	Presence of State-listed Threatened & Endangered fish species.	Highlight occupied habitat.	Protect/create awareness of important habitat for T&E species.
WAP fish & mussel species of concern	Presence of fish and mussel species of conservation concern.	Highlight reach.	Encourage protection or restoration of habitat that supports SOC to help prevent declines.
Diadromous Fish Restoration	River or stream reaches important for river herring restoration.	Highlight migratory path and spawning habitat.	Emphasize areas where herring passage is important to achieving restoration goals.
Diadromous Fish Restoration	Designated as American shad spawning habitat in the Connecticut and Merrimack River shad management plans.	Highlight reach.	Increase awareness of restoration plan for American shad.

For more information, please contact the NH Fish & Game Department, Inland Fisheries Division, 11 Hazen Dr., Concord NH 03301 Phone: (603) 271-2612

E-mail: [Matthew.Carpenter@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:Matthew.Carpenter@wildlife.nh.gov)