Appendix E. Water & Sediment Quality - Wantastiquet Region

Water Quality

Results of 2004 water quality assessment by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, with support from CRJC and US EPA Region I. Fish consumption information is based upon New Hampshire state health advisories.

CONNECTICUT RIVER mainstem segment	sampling location	TOWNS	miles	ASSESSMENT- 2004
Bellows Falls Dam to end of bypassed section of the River	Vilas Bridge	Walpole	½ mile	Safe for swimming, boating, fishing Meets state standards for supporting aquatic life **Fish consumption unsafe -mercury**
End of Bellows Falls bypass to confluence with Houghton Brook, Walpole	Route 123 Bridge	Walpole Westminster	7.5 miles	Safe for swimming, boating, fishing Meets state standards for supporting aquatic life **Fish consumption unsafe -mercury**
Confluence with Houghton Brook to confluence with Partridge Brook	Cheshire County Farm just above Partridge Bk.	Walpole Westmoreland Westminster	4.5 miles	Safe for swimming, boating, fishing Meets state standards for supporting aquatic life **Fish consumption unsafe -mercury**
Confluence with Partridge Brook to confluence with West River	Route 9 Bridge	Westmoreland Westminster Chesterfield Putney Dummerston Brattleboro	11 miles	Safe for swimming, boating, fishing Meets state standards for supporting aquatic life **Fish consumption unsafe -mercury**
One mile below Route 9 Bridge to Vernon Dam	Route 119 Bridge	Chesterfield Brattleboro Hinsdale Vernon	6 miles	Safe for swimming, boating, fishing Meets state standards for supporting aquatic life **Fish consumption unsafe -mercury**
Vernon Dam to Route 10 Bridge, Northfield MA	Route 10 Bridge	Hinsdale Vernon	6 miles	Safe for swimming, boating, fishing **Does not meet state standards for supporting aquatic life due to aluminum and copper** **Fish consumption unsafe -mercury**

Swimming, fishing, and boating - determined by measurements of bacteria (*E. coli*)
Aquatic habitat - determined by measurements of dissolved oxygen, pH, specific conductance, and temperature
Fish consumption advisories: Information is available on the web at: www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Fishing/fish_consumption.htm.

Sediment Quality

Sampling location	TOWN	Contaminants identified
Connecticut River downstream of confluence of Sackett's Brook	Putney VT	***Levels above those expected to have ecological effects*** • nickel • copper • chrysene ***Levels below those expected to have ecological effects*** • breakdown products of pesticide DDT • polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
Connecticut River downstream of confluence of West River, Vernon Pool	Brattleboro VT	***Levels above those expected to have ecological effects*** • nickel • copper ***Levels below those expected to have ecological effects*** • polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
Connecticut River downstream of confluence of Ashuelot River	Hinsdale NH	***Levels above those expected to have ecological effects*** • none ***Levels below those expected to have ecological effects*** • polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)

1998 Upper Connecticut River Sediment/Water Quality Analysis, US EPA, Region 1. A study of 10 locations on the mainstem from Stewartstown to Hinsdale NH.