

Appendix 3. Protections - Scenic and Recreational

Scenic and Recreational Protections

Outdoor recreational opportunities abound in Vermont. Accordingly, outdoor recreation is a central part of most Vermonter's lives. Many people enjoy outdoor activities in all four seasons; canoeing and kayaking, hiking, biking, camping, fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, skiing, snowmobiling and snowshoeing are just a few of the popular activities for residents of the Study area towns. The State of Vermont recognizes that recreational opportunities are important to its citizens, and has many programs in place to ensure the continued availability of recreational opportunities for all.

Federal Scenic and Recreational Protections

There are very few Federal laws that target protection of recreational resources. Federal ownership of land may be the most relevant recreational protection at the federal level; however, there currently are no federally -maintained parks or lands in the Study area towns. Inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places is the greatest federal protection currently available to recreational ORVs; this statute limits adverse effects caused by federally funded or permitted projects.¹

State Scenic and Recreational Protections

Regulatory

As the State of Vermont acknowledges the importance of recreation to its citizens, legislation has been passed that encourages town, planning commissions and State agencies to engage in planning processes to maintain and enhance recreation opportunities in the State. *Vermont's Land Use Planning Law*, Title 24, Chapter 117 of the Vermont Statutes, states that "Growth should not significantly diminish the value and availability of outdoor recreational activities", and "Public access to noncommercial outdoor recreational opportunities, such as lakes and hiking trails, should be identified, provided, and protected wherever appropriate" ([24 V.S.A. § 4302](#)). These statutes empower planning groups at the town, county or State level to preserve or protect the resources that offer recreational opportunities. At the level of State government, these protections are supported through a variety of agencies and programs.

The primary State agency in charge of managing recreational opportunities for Vermont is the [Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation](#)² (DFPR). This Department is responsible for the conservation and management of Vermont's forest resources, the operation and maintenance of the State Park system, and the promotion and support of outdoor recreation for Vermonters and visitors. In addition, DFPR is responsible for the acquisition, planning, coordination and administration of all Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) lands.² The management of ANR lands is the responsibility of the [Lands Administration](#)³ Division. The Division manages all lands held by the three major departments in the Agency of Natural Resources (Fish and Wildlife; Forests, Parks and Recreation; and Environmental Conservation). These lands include State parks, State forests, wildlife management areas, natural areas, boating access areas, conservation camps, stream bank parcels, flood control sites, fish hatcheries, and various other holdings.

Regulations regarding permitted activities on State lands are detailed in the DFPR Policy Document "[Uses of State Lands](#)."⁴ In general terms, the Policy allows activities that support or do not affect natural resources, and

Appendix 3. Protections - Scenic and Recreational

prohibits activities that conflict with intended uses of the land such as development of land and resource extraction.

The [Vermont Fish and Wildlife](#)⁵ department is responsible for “the conservation of fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the people of Vermont.” Other directives include providing quality fish and wildlife-based recreation. Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) are lands managed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Department’s intent with these properties is to emphasize the conservation of fish, wildlife and their habitat, and to provide people with opportunities to enjoy these resources. All WMAs are open to hunting, trapping, fishing, wildlife viewing and other related outdoor activities. There is one WMA in the Study area – [Avery’s Gore WMA](#),⁶ in Montgomery (an example of State ownership as protection).

There are three other State properties, each maintained by DFPR, in the Study area: Big Falls Natural Area and State Park (16 acres, in Troy), Hazen’s Notch Natural Area and State Park (273 acres, in Westfield), and Jay State Forest (7,951 acres, in Jay, Montgomery, Richford, and Westfield). Only Big Falls State Park is along the river corridor of the Wild and Scenic Study area. This site includes the largest undammed waterfall remaining on a major river in the State. There are stands of large hemlock and white pine trees, as well as a diverse plant community with many uncommon species. Big Falls is a very popular site for recreation, attracting people for swimming, fishing and viewing the falls and gorge.

Vermont’s Land Use Planning Law ([24 V.S.A. 117](#))

As the state of Vermont acknowledges the importance of recreation to its citizens, legislation has been passed that encourages towns, planning commissions and state agencies to engage in planning processes to maintain and enhance recreation opportunities in the state. ***Vermont’s Land Use Planning Law***, Title 24, Chapter 117 of the Vermont Statutes, states that “Growth should not significantly diminish the value and availability of outdoor recreational activities”, and “Public access to noncommercial outdoor recreational opportunities, such as lakes and hiking trails, should be identified, provided, and protected wherever appropriate” ([24 V.S.A. § 4302](#)). These statutes empower planning groups at the town, county or state level to preserve or protect the resources that offer recreational opportunities. At the level of state government, these protections are supported through a variety of agencies and programs.

Vermont’s Landowner Liability Law ([12 V.S.A. 5793](#))

Land which is not posted in Vermont is open for public use. This law protects the landowner from liability lawsuits by people using their land for recreation unless the landowner intentionally puts recreational users in harm’s way. The law states that "an owner shall not be liable for property damage or personal injury sustained by a person who, without consideration, enters or goes upon the owner's land for a recreational use unless the damage or injury is the result of the willful or wanton misconduct of the owner." This law helps meet the goal of this Management Plan to maintain and increase recreational opportunities and access to the Missisquoi and Trout River.

Act 250

[Act 250](#) is Vermont’s development control law. The law provides a public, quasi-judicial process for reviewing and managing the environmental, social and fiscal consequences of major subdivisions and development in Vermont through the issuance of land use permits. There are ten separate environmental criteria (with sub-criteria) that may cause a construction project to require issuance of an Act 250 permit, consequently making

the project susceptible to both State and public review. The permitting process includes review of land use permit applications for conformance with the Act's ten environmental criteria, issuance of opinions concerning the applicability of Act 250 to developments and subdivisions of property, monitoring for compliance with the Act and with land use permit conditions, and public education.⁷

Environmental Criterion number 10 of Act 250 is of particular note to the Wild & Scenic Study towns. This Criterion states that to obtain a permit, an applicant must demonstrate that a project is "...in conformance with any duly adopted local or regional plan or capital program under [24 V.S.A Chapter 117]." This means that town, through adoption of their town plans, have the ability to indicate that certain natural resources should be protected or conserved. In this case, any Act 250 project in conflict with the town plan would be in violation of Criterion 10, thereby giving towns regulatory power in the Act 250 process and greater involvement in the protection of natural resources.⁸

As previously stated, this Management Plan is non-regulatory. In order for this, or any, non-regulatory Management Plan to have a regulatory effect in Act 250 under Criterion 10, this Management Plan must be included in the town or regional plan and compliance with this Management Plan must be specifically mandated in the town or regional plan. This does not prevent participation in Act 250 hearings or permit reviews.

Under Criterion 8, Act 250 seeks to determine if a project will have an undue, adverse effect upon the scenic or natural beauty of an area. To determine if impacts are "adverse" Act 250 considers the following: 1) the nature of the project's surroundings; 2) whether the project's design is compatible with its surroundings; 3) whether the colors and materials selected for the project are suitable to the surroundings; 4) from where the project is visible; and, 5) what the impacts are on open space. If it's determined that a project has adverse impacts, an assessment occurs to determine whether or not a project's impacts are "undue." Essentially, a project is "undue" when a project: 1) violates a clear written community standard intended to preserve the aesthetics or scenic beauty of the area; or 2) offends the sensibilities of the average person, or is shocking or offensive and out of character with its surroundings, or significantly diminished the scenic qualities of the area; or 3) the Applicant has failed to take generally available mitigating steps which a reasonable person would take to improve the harmony of the project with its surroundings. If undue impacts are assessed, the project can be denied an Act 250 permit or have conditions attached which alter the project and mitigate the aesthetic impacts.

Franklin and Orleans Counties have different Act 250 permit review specialists. To find the specialist in your Town, visit the VT DEC [Permit Specialist Locator](#)⁹ webpage.

State Ownership

There is one WMA in the Study area – [Avery's Gore WMA](#),¹⁰ in Montgomery. There are three other State properties, each maintained by DFPR, in the Study area: Big Falls Natural Area and State Park (16 acres, in Troy), Hazen's Notch Natural Area and State Park (273 acres, in Westfield), and Jay State Forest (7,951 acres, in Jay, Montgomery, Richford, and Westfield). Only Big Falls State Park is along the river corridor of the Wild and Scenic Study Area.

Plans

Vermont Outdoor Recreation Plan

A Statewide comprehensive plan for outdoor recreation is a requirement for receiving federal support from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The LWCF, administered by the National Parks Service, has provided Vermont with tens of millions of federal dollars since 1965. These funds have helped the creation of nearly 500 recreation projects in over 100 Vermont communities, such as bike paths, parks, and playgrounds. On a federal level, these State's plans are known as Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, or SCORP. Here in Vermont, the Plan is called the [Vermont Outdoor Conservation Plan](#).¹¹ Though non-regulatory, the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Plan intends to provide the following resources to planning groups:

- A vision, along with goals and actions, in support of outdoor recreation endeavors throughout the State in five-year increments;
- Reference materials for towns, organizations, and recreationists to use when coordinating their activities with Statewide priorities, per requirements of some programs such as the LWCF;
- Vermont Trails and Greenways Plan; and
- Vermont Wetlands Conservation Strategy.

This Plan shows that studies undertaken by the State in 1992 and 2002 demonstrate “the importance of scenery to the people of Vermont. The quality of the State’s scenic landscape scored higher than any other recreation resource evaluated in both surveys.” Desired conditions for VT recreation in the Plan include: keeping the quality of Vermont’s existing outdoor recreation facilities, programming, and operations high; meeting Vermont increasing needs for outdoor recreation by making more resources and diverse programming available; and continuing the precedent of the majority of private landowners in Vermont allowing recreational access to their land. The NVDA recognizes that “Issues that were identified as important by residents in the 1993 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) remain important for the region a decade later. These issues include: degraded water quality and an increase in aquatic nuisances, overdevelopment of shorelines around lakes and ponds, destruction of fish and wildlife habitat, loss of scenic resources and rural character, increasingly limited access to private lands (posting), and a lack of respect for private lands. All of these land use issues affect recreation. Additionally, survey results indicated that there are an inadequate number of recreation facilities to meet public needs, as well as inadequate funding for public recreation. It still appears there is a lack of public education regarding recreation and a lack of information on recreation opportunities in the region. Lastly, respondents felt there is a need for greater numbers of trails, paths, and greenways in the region...new issues for the region are vandalism and littering in recreation areas, threats to existing trail resources, and the need to coordinate the development and maintenance of recreation areas and facilities.”¹² Leslie Mathews, former Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator with VT ANR’s Department of Environmental Conservation - Watershed Management Division states that phragmites and Japanese knotweed are issues in the watershed, but that we don’t have extensive data on river invasives species in the area because they are not systematically surveyed. Efforts should be made to monitor and control any new invasives such as didymo (rock snot), emerald ash borer, or hemlock woolly adelgid in the region.

The State of Vermont periodically evaluates the quality and need for outdoor recreation and seeks public opinion regarding recreational opportunities throughout the State. More information about the Plan, the revision process, and the full-text document can be found on the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Plan [website](#).⁷

Vermont Fish and Wildlife Strategic Plan

Assisted by public input, the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife developed a Strategic Plan to help direct its activities. The primary departmental goals in the Plan include managing wildlife and fisheries habitat. Another goal of the Plan is to support safe and sustainable recreational activities, namely fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing. The entire Plan can be viewed [here](#).¹²

Regional Plans (Non-regulatory)

The Northwest Regional Planning Commission’s (NRPC) Regional Plan for 2007-2012 contains directives (policy 3.20) that support the use of surface waters for a variety of appropriate recreational uses.¹³ The Plan goes on to say that a water supply goal (4.3) is to “insure that water systems are not contaminated, depleted or degraded, that drinking water sources do not contain harmful contaminants and that there is sufficient quantity of water available for existing and anticipated recreational, residential, commercial and industrial needs.” A summary of recreational goals from NRPC’s regional plan is presented in Table A3.1 below.

Table A3.1. Pertinent Recreational Goals from the NRPC’s Regional Plan.

4.18	Develop a high quality, sustainable recreational system based on the use of the Northwest’s natural and cultural resources.
4.19	Develop a recreational environment that reflects the desires of local residents and minimizes conflicts between different user groups.
4.20	Preserve recreational opportunities and resources for current and future generations.
4.21	Develop a regional recreation system that provides objectives that meet the recreational needs and wants of people of various ages, physical abilities, incomes and educations.
4.22	Increase public knowledge of the existence and values of local and regional recreational resources and objectives.
7.14	Expand the amount of land available for a wide variety of natural resource-based recreational uses, ranging from town greens to remote hiking trails.

According to the Northeastern Vermont Development Association’s (NVDA) Regional Plan (2006),¹⁴ the goal of providing sufficient quantities of water to meet existing and future residential, agricultural, commercial, industrial and recreational needs should be maintained. A strategy in the Plan for the protection of natural resources encourages the maintenance and improvement of recreational opportunities as a means for natural resources stewardship. It supports the increase of ecotourism in the Northeast Kingdom if it is done in a way that minimizes the disturbance and impact to the region’s natural resources. This Regional Plan recognizes that recreation is an important part of the economy in our Study area, and stresses the importance of balancing a “healthy and scenic” environment with the need for a healthy economy. A summary of recreational goals from NVDA’s regional plan is presented in Table A3.2 below.

Table A3.2. Pertinent Recreational Goals from the NVDA’s Regional Plan

Sufficient open space should be available for current and future outdoor recreational pursuits.
A variety of year-round and seasonal, indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities should be available for residents and visitors.
Public access to water bodies should be protected.

The Wild and Scenic Study Committee should work with the Regional Planning Commissions to, as NVDA⁹ recommends, “support the protection and the acquisition of unique and irreplaceable recreational spaces open for the public to enjoy.”

Local (Municipal Level) Scenic and Recreational Protections

All of the Study area municipalities’ plans contain language about the value of recreational opportunities in the town, and the importance of supporting efforts to maintain and enhance those opportunities where possible. All towns except for Lowell and Montgomery have included ordinances related to recreational opportunities in their zoning bylaws.

Berkshire

The importance of the Missisquoi River to the Town of Berkshire is detailed in the Town’s Plan (adopted 4/26/10). The Vermont Rivers Study (ANR, 1986) identified the section of the river in Berkshire as important for boating and fishing. The 10.5-mile segment that flows through Town was cited as a quality fishery for smallmouth bass and brown trout. Objectives in the Town Plan which prioritize the preservation of the Missisquoi River as a recreational resource include:

- Streams, rivers, ponds, and wetlands should be maintained in their natural State, and be protected from pollution through appropriate health and land use regulations. Local regulations should provide buffer areas to maintain the environmental, recreational, and scenic value of water courses, water bodies, and shorelines (pg. 49).
- ...traditionally much of the privately owned land in Berkshire has been open to local residents for hunting and fishing, [but] the last decade has seen an increase in the posting of private land.... New development should be designed to ensure continued public access to outdoor recreational opportunities in the Town (pg. 76).

Although Berkshire’s Zoning Bylaws do not create districts solely for purposes of conservation of recreational opportunities, recreation is stated to be an important component of land use decision making. For example, Planned Unit Developments are to be designed to preserve open space and common land for parks, recreation, scenic views, and critical areas identified in the Berkshire Town Plan, among other land use considerations (Section 9.5).

Enosburg Falls, Village of

The importance of recreation is included in many portions of the Enosburg Falls Village Plan (adopted by the Trustees 8/26/08). Most Statements regarding recreational opportunities relate directly to the Missisquoi River. It is noted in the Plan that the river offers many opportunities for recreation, tourism and enhancement of the Village Commercial District. In Chapter 4, which addresses the economy of the village, it is the intent of the Town to promote utilization of the Missisquoi River and Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail as recreational resources to attract visitors to the Central Business District. Policies set forth in Chapter 11 (Natural Resources) include protection of water quality for scenic and recreational benefits. To achieve this, the Plan recommends maintaining a 50 foot buffer or natural vegetation between any development and the Missisquoi River as well as its tributaries. Another policy included in the Town Plan is concerned with protecting public access to the Missisquoi River in the Village. River access for the public is currently provided by a small parcel of land on Duffy Hill road which is owned by the Village Light Department. It is the intent of the Town to maintain an

opportunity for public access to the Missisquoi River; that the access is currently on private land presents a possible future conflict. In Chapter 12 (Land Use), it is noted in the Plan that the village should be more effective in its use of the scenic natural features of the village, including the Missisquoi River, to improve business and to supply the recreational needs of the community.

It is one of the primary purposes set forth in the Enosburg Falls Zoning Bylaws that the Village should provide services for recreation, such as parks, open spaces and other recreation areas (Section 1.2). Consequently, a Recreation District has been established, which reserves areas for facilities that support current and future outdoor recreation. No other development type is intended to occur in this district (Section 2.3).

Enosburgh

The Town Plan of Enosburgh (approved by the Selectboard 9/9/08) emphasizes the importance of the Town's natural areas for their environmental, ecological, scenic, educational, and recreational uses - especially concerning the Missisquoi River. As such, the Plan notes that maintaining the quality of the river and its tributaries is of "extreme importance," as it effects not only the Town but the Missisquoi Delta and Lake Champlain as well (pg. 38).

The Zoning Bylaws of Enosburgh establish two separate districts with the goal of preserving recreational opportunities. The Conservation District (Section 560) was created to protect pristine and sensitive areas of the Town. These areas are primarily used for forestry and outdoor recreation, and are at elevations of 1,500 feet or greater. Some limited development is allowed in these areas, but all development is subject to [Section 306] Conditional Use Approval. The other provision for natural resource preservation is the Natural Resources Overlay (Section 570), which, among other provisions, intends to preserve natural resources and support recreational activities in the Town.

Jay

In the Jay Town Plan (adopted by the Selectboard 12/20/10), discussions of recreation are largely based around Jay Peak Resort. Since the Missisquoi River does not actually flow through Town owned land, the Plan does not contain specific reference to the Missisquoi River as a recreational asset of the community. According to the Plan, the Town of Jay supports the designation, acquisition, preservation and planning for development of recreational areas of the Town. The Town Plan also supports development of recreational opportunities in "non-growth" areas of the Town, with the goal of creating economic opportunities while protecting the rural character of the Town. Other goals of the Town regarding natural resources include leaving the maximum amount of open space possible on lands that are of significant value for agriculture, passive recreation or undeveloped condition, except within the confines of the Village Center Zoning District.

Jay has many zoning districts related to establishing or maintaining areas for recreation. The intent of the Recreation District (Section 305 of Bylaws) is to provide a high-density recreation, vacation, residential and commercial center, currently oriented around and supported by the Jay Peak Recreation Area and its facilities. The Conservation-Recreation District (Section 307) is comprised of community-owned land given to the Town of Jay solely for conservation and recreational use. Section 504.05 of the bylaws gives the Jay Planning Commission the authority to determine land use activities regarding Open Spaces and Recreation Areas in proposed development. The Planning Commission may also regulate the amount, location and degree of public access and use of some or all of the land in proposed development projects. Also under this provision, the Planning Commission requires that each proposed development project contains adequate opportunity for recreation for its residents.

Appendix 3. Protections - Scenic and Recreational

Lowell

The Lowell Town Plan (re-adopted 4/14/09) recognizes the wealth of outdoor recreational opportunities in the Town. The Plan notes that most activities are directly tied to the quality of the Town's environment, making it necessary to maintain Lowell's natural resources and protect them from development. The Plan states that any development away from the village center should be sited to reduce negative visual impacts and be placed on lots large enough for adequate water supply and sewage disposal.

Lowell has no Zoning Bylaws that are specific to the maintenance or preservation of recreational opportunities.

Montgomery

The importance of recreation to the Montgomery community is emphasized in many portions of the Town Plan (amended and updated 8/2010). The Plan notes that varied recreational opportunities are vital to the community's quality of life and economic development. Accordingly, the maintenance of scenic beauty and natural resources related to recreation are integral to the implementation of goals set forth in the Town Plan. The Town intends to preserve areas for activities such as hiking, hunting and fishing. The protection of water quality is another important objective detailed in the Town Plan, as this directly affects fishing and swimming activities. The Town seeks to protect its waterways from adjacent development that may adversely impact the resource.

The Trout River travels mostly through Montgomery before joining the Missisquoi River in Berkshire. The Trout River is a valuable natural and cultural resource to Montgomery, according to the Town Plan. The Trout River provides many recreational opportunities for the Town and its visitors; therefore, maintaining the water quality of the Trout River is of extreme importance to the Town (pg. 54).

Montgomery has no Zoning Bylaws that are specific to the maintenance or preservation of recreational opportunities. *(As this W&S Management Plan is being written, Montgomery is beginning the process of revising its Town Plan.)*

Richford

The Richford Town Plan (2007) includes a discussion about the Missisquoi River as an important resource for recreation in the Town. The Plan cites Missisquoi, Memorial and Davis Parks, which provide boat accesses to the Missisquoi River, as a vital resource to the Town. The Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail passes through the Town and is also an important recreational resource.

Richford has two Zoning Districts that contain recreational purposes in their bylaws. The Recreation/Conservation District is to provide areas with recreational opportunities and to protect environmentally fragile areas in the village district. Residential development is prohibited within the Recreation/Conservation District. The Forest/Conservation District was created to protect the scenic and natural resource values of sections of the Town for forestry, wildlife habitat, wetlands, and outdoor recreation. The Forest/Conservation District is reserved for land with limited suitability for community growth and development because of remote location, extreme topography and/or shallow soils. Only limited low density development is encouraged in this district.

Troy and North Troy, Village of

The Town of Troy and the Village of North Troy have a combined Town Plan (adopted 3/20/08) and Zoning Bylaws. Recreation is included in the central objectives of the Troy Town Plan. Specifically, it is indicated in the Plan that the Town will promote outdoor recreational opportunities and explore opportunities to protect existing natural and scenic areas. The Missisquoi River and its floodways were identified by local residents as an environmentally sensitive area that should be addressed in any development permitting processes. An objective in the Town Plan regarding this and other environmentally sensitive areas States that these areas should not be fragmented, but rather maintained in a continuous corridor that “complement the local landscape... and provide significant recreational opportunities” (pg. 8). The Town Plan also includes a number of specific goals for the conservation of natural resources, many of which relate to the continuance of outdoor recreation in the Town. Among these goals is a statement regarding planning for and protecting the quality of water resources (pg. 35). The Zoning Bylaws of Troy include a provision in Section 321, regarding Planned Unit Developments. This ordinance encourages “a more efficient use of land... to preserve open space, natural resources and recreational areas” (pg. 24).

Westfield

Landowner relations are a critical component to continued recreation opportunities for Westfield citizens. A central goal of the Westfield Town Plan (adopted 11/16/09), regarding recreation, is to help maintain local access to farm and forestland for snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, skiing and hiking. The Town Planners recognize the importance of recreation to the development of the Town’s economy, and propose in the Town Plan that maintaining recreational opportunities in the Town is vital to the success of current and future local businesses, especially farms.

The Town of Westfield has established a Recreation-Residential District in their zoning bylaws, in order to have a district that is for the development of both residential and recreational land uses while maintaining the rural character of these areas.

Appendix 3. Protections - Scenic and Recreational

Table A3-3. Many ORVs in the Scenic and Recreational category are covered by a variety of federal, state and/or local protections– not just the protections discussed in this chapter and the Appendices. This table contains a listing of Scenic and Recreational ORVs and the protection categories that pertain to each.

Scenic and Recreational ORVs	Protection Categories				
	Water Quality	Historical	Geological Features & Natural Areas	RTE Species & Communities	Recreation
<i>Swimming Holes</i>	X		X		X
<i>Covered Bridges</i>		X			X
<i>Trail Systems</i>			X		X
<i>Waterfalls</i>			X		X
<i>Geological Features</i>			X		X
<i>Paddling</i>	X				X
<i>Fishing</i>	X		X	X	X
<i>Hunting</i>			X		X
<i>Camping</i>	X		X		X
<i>Wildlife Viewing</i>			X	X	X

Endnotes

1. National Park Service Locations – Vermont Locations: <http://www.nps.gov/state/vt/index.htm>
2. Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation: <http://www.vtfpr.org/index.cfm>
3. Division of Lands Administration: <http://www.vtfpr.org/lands/index.cfm>
4. “Uses of State Lands” document: <http://www.vtfpr.org/lands/UsesofStateLandsPolicy11.14.2008.pdf>
5. Department of Fish and Wildlife: <http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/index.cfm>
6. Avery’s Gore WMA: <http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/library/maps/Wildlife%20Management%20Areas/Essex%20District/Averys%20Gore%20WMA.pdf>
7. Paragraph taken directly from: www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/permit_hb/sheet47.pdf
8. “Conserving Vermont’s Natural Heritage” - a publication of the State of Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife. Available online: www.vtfishandwildlife.com/library/maps/Community_Wildlife_Program/complete.pdf
9. VT DEC Permit Specialist Locator: www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/ead/pa/index.htm
10. Avery’s Gore WMA: <http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/library/maps/Wildlife%20Management%20Areas/Essex%20District/Averys%20Gore%20WMA.pdf>
11. Vermont Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP): <http://www.vtfpr.org/recreation/scorp/home.cfm>
12. VT Fish & Wildlife Strategic Management Plan: http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/library/reports_and_documents/Fish_and_wildlife/Strategic_Plan.pdf
13. The Northwest Regional Planning Commission’s (NRPC) Regional Plan [Franklin and Grand Isle Counties] for 2007-2012 as adopted by the NRPC on August 29, 3007 (<http://www.nrpcvt.com/Reports/RegionalPlan.pdf>).
14. Northeastern Vermont Development Association’s (NVDA) Regional Plan [Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans Counties] as adopted by the NVDA June 29, 2006 (<http://nvda.net/TopNavBars/regionalplan.html>).

