

III. Summary of Results

Summary of 2003 Water Use versus General Standard for NH Designated Rivers

For 2003, the Department identified 492 registered sources and 326 registered, measured discharges that were included in this report. Highlighted values in the table below are the totals for the WMPA including other Designated Rivers.

Designated River WMPA summaries for 2003 water use versus stream flow assessment (Highlighted values are the totals for the WMPA that include other Designated Rivers.)

WMPA	Drainage Area (square miles)	AWU Registered Sources in the WMPA	AWU Registered Measured Returns in the WMPA	Hydropower facilities registered as AWUs in the WMPA
Ashuelot	422	27	14	4
Cold	102	1	0	0
Connecticut	6740	153	139	28
Pemigewasset	1023	59	18	10
Contoocook (North Branch)	121	3	2	2
Contoocook (Main stem)	764	57	15	15
Upper Merrimack	2428	169	86	30
Souhegan	220	23	10	3
Piscataquog (mainstem and branches)	218	13	3	3
Piscataquog (Lower Br.)	41	2	0	0
Piscataquog (Middle Br. with LB)	101	0	0	0
Piscataquog (Upper Br.)	76	2	0	0
Lower Merrimack	4046	291	185	43
Swift	114	3	0	0
Saco	425	23	1	0
Exeter	76	8	0	0
Isinglass	74	2	0	0
Lamprey	212	15	1	0
Totals		492	326	71

Future annual assessments for the Designated Rivers will use the rivers' Protected Instream Flow values when they are adopted. For 2003, no Protected Instream Flow values were established so all assessments were done using the General Standard. The Contoocook and Piscataquog Designated Rivers include separate branches, which were assessed individually. The fourteen Designated Rivers have seventeen segments because of these branches. Six of the seventeen Designated River segments were in compliance with the General Standard for the entire year. There was no registered water use on the Middle Branch of the Piscataquog in 2003. Aggregate

Water Use exceeded the General Standard criteria in the remaining eleven Designated River segments. July was the most commonly exceeded month (9 times) followed by August and September (5), then January, February, and November (2) and all other months (1). The Isinglass River was not in compliance during any month in 2003. The Contoocook (mainstem) was not in compliance for five months in 2003.

Designated River Name	Months Not In Compliance with the General Standard
Isinglass	All months
Contoocook (mainstem)	February, July, August, September and November
Exeter	July, August, September
Lamprey	July, August, September
Souhegan	July, August, September
Ashuelot	July
Contoocook (North Branch)	July
Merrimack (Lower)	July
Piscataquog (Lower Branch and mainstem)	July
Piscataquog (Upper Branch)	July
Saco	January
Cold	None
Connecticut	None
Merrimack (Upper)	None
Pemigewasset	None
Piscataquog (Middle Branch)	None
Swift	None

The General Standard is an assessment and illustration tool to compare basins of different sizes using normalizing criteria. It is not considered to be a protected flow for the river. Lack of compliance with the General Standard is not a violation. Monthly stream flow and water use used in these assessments may not illustrate acute impacts occurring for shorter durations. Because of the averaging affect of assessing water use and stream flows with monthly values, conditions resulting from shorter duration low flows or high intensity water use may not be observable.