

Casco Bay/Royal River Watershed



Watersheds

New England includes many ecosystems that, by virtue of their ecological value, recreational value, or proximity to large populations, hold a special significance to us. EPA New England is focusing particular attention and resources on these special places. Working closely with our federal, state and local partners, these community-based initiatives are delivering tangible environmental improvements to these areas.

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Customer Call Center
888-372-7341
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What Makes The Royal River Watershed Special?

- The Royal River is one of the prime canoeing rivers in southern Maine with numerous access points and road crossings.
- Wildlife is abundant, including fresh water and marine game fish. Among the endangered species that live in the watershed are bald eagles and spotted turtles. Native brown and brook trout are found in the northern and western parts of the watershed.

Why Does The Royal River Watershed Need Special Attention?

- The watershed is still largely forested and undeveloped, many towns in the watershed are growing rapidly.
- Trout habitat in many of the western tributaries is degraded by sedimentation from stormwater runoff, eroding embankments and possibly inadequate dissolved oxygen concentrations.

What Are The Short And Long-Term Goals?

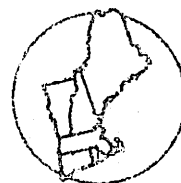
- Restore and protect the native trout fisheries and angling opportunities in Cole and Brandy Brooks by increasing the trout population and the size of individual trout in the brooks.
- Promote other trout habitat restoration efforts in the northern and western tributaries.
- Restore and protect self-sustaining trout fisheries in the western tributaries of the Royal River watershed.

Progress/Goals for the Future

What Partnership Progress Has Been Made?

- EPA and the ME DEP gave funds to the Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District which was used to explore alternatives for habitat restoration in Cole and Brandy Brooks.
- Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Maine Department of Transportation designed and installed stormwater runoff and erosion control structures adjacent to Brandy Brook and replaced a culvert where the brook passes under Routes 202 & 100. The structures prevent road sand from filling in the brook and allow fish to move upstream beyond the existing culvert.
- Friends of the Royal River, Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District, ME DEP, and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife conducted a watershed survey in summer 1999 for Libby Brook in order to determine sources of polluted runoff. Libby Brook converges with Brandy Brook to form Collyer Brook, a tributary to the Royal River. A report, expected in 2000, will guide future restoration efforts.
- EPA, ME DEP and Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District will work with Royal River Watershed municipalities and interested citizens in the creation of long-term implementation strategies to protect and improve water quality.

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Who Are The Partners?

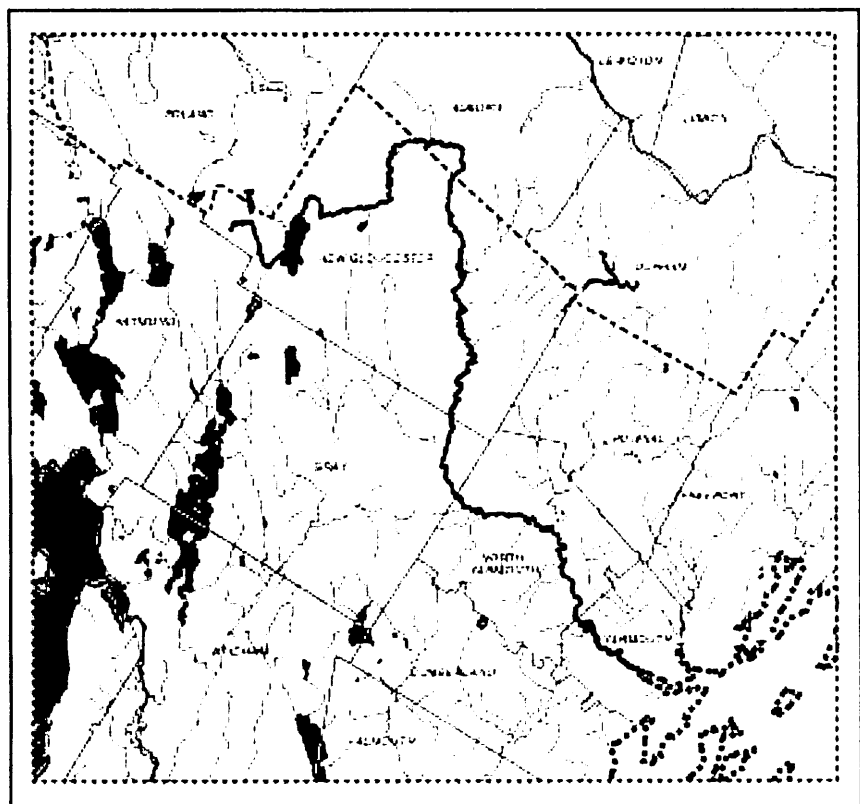
EPA New England • ME Department of Environmental Protection • ME Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife • Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District • Natural Resource Conservation Service • Private Land Owners/Farmers • Friends of the Royal River • Trout Unlimited • Casco Bay Estuary Project • Watershed Municipalities

► Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District Contact

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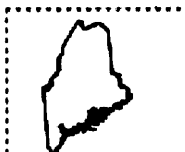
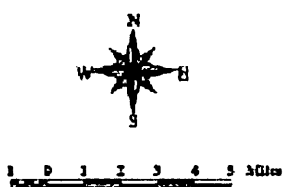
► Friends of the Royal River Contact

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- Lake or Pond
- ▲ Royal River
- ▲ Surface Hydrography
- ▲ State Boundary
- ▲ County Boundary
- ▲ Town Boundary

Royal River



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Note: EPA-New England offers businesses and municipalities information and assistance to improve compliance with environmental laws and become better stewards of their local environment. Please call to learn how EPA can help.