

# Avery's Gore Wildlife Management Area

Last edited: 9/30/22



## General Description

Avery's Gore Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is located in the northern Vermont mountains in the town of Montgomery. The WMA is accessed from a parking area on the west side of Route 118 in Montgomery, near Highland Springs Road. Its 259 acres are forested with red and sugar maple, yellow birch and beech. Avery's Gore WMA is owned by the State of Vermont and managed by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department.



The WMA borders Atlas Timberland Partnership lands which are open to public hunting, fishing, and trapping. These lands are owned and conserved by the Vermont Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy. The Partnership practices sustainable logging.

## History

In 1791 several tracts of land around Vermont were granted to Samuel Avery. In the mid 1800's there were about 30 residents on this particular "Avery's Gore". In 1963 the small gore was assimilated into the neighboring towns of Bakersfield and Montgomery. The land comprising the WMA has been used in the past for farming and logging. Almost all of the former fields have grown back to forest.

The State bought the property from the Foster family in 1969. It was bought with Pittman Robertson funds, which are generated from a tax on the sale of firearms and ammunition.

## Habitat Features

Avery's Gore WMA is located on a gentle slope rising from the South Branch River. It is part of a much larger tract of forest that is partly owned by the Atlas Timberland Partnership. It is an upland environment, with a small wet area on the north end.

The WMA is comprised of northern hardwood forest, with mature sugar maple, yellow birch and beech dominating the overstory. Shrub layer plants include striped and mountain maple and witch hobble. Herbaceous plants common to northern hardwood forests are present, such as wood fern, hay-scented fern, Canada mayflower and sarsaparilla.

## Common Fish and Wildlife

**Mammals** Game animals include white-tailed deer, black bear, moose, bobcat, fisher and coyote. There are also many smaller non-game species that dwell within this large tract of forested land.



Good moose habitat contains shrubby growth and small balsams for browse.  
©Charles Willey photo.

**Birds** Ruffed grouse occur and may be hunted in season. Also present on the WMA are deciduous forest songbirds such as the black-throated blue warbler, red-eyed vireo, downy and hairy woodpeckers, white-throated sparrow and winter wren.

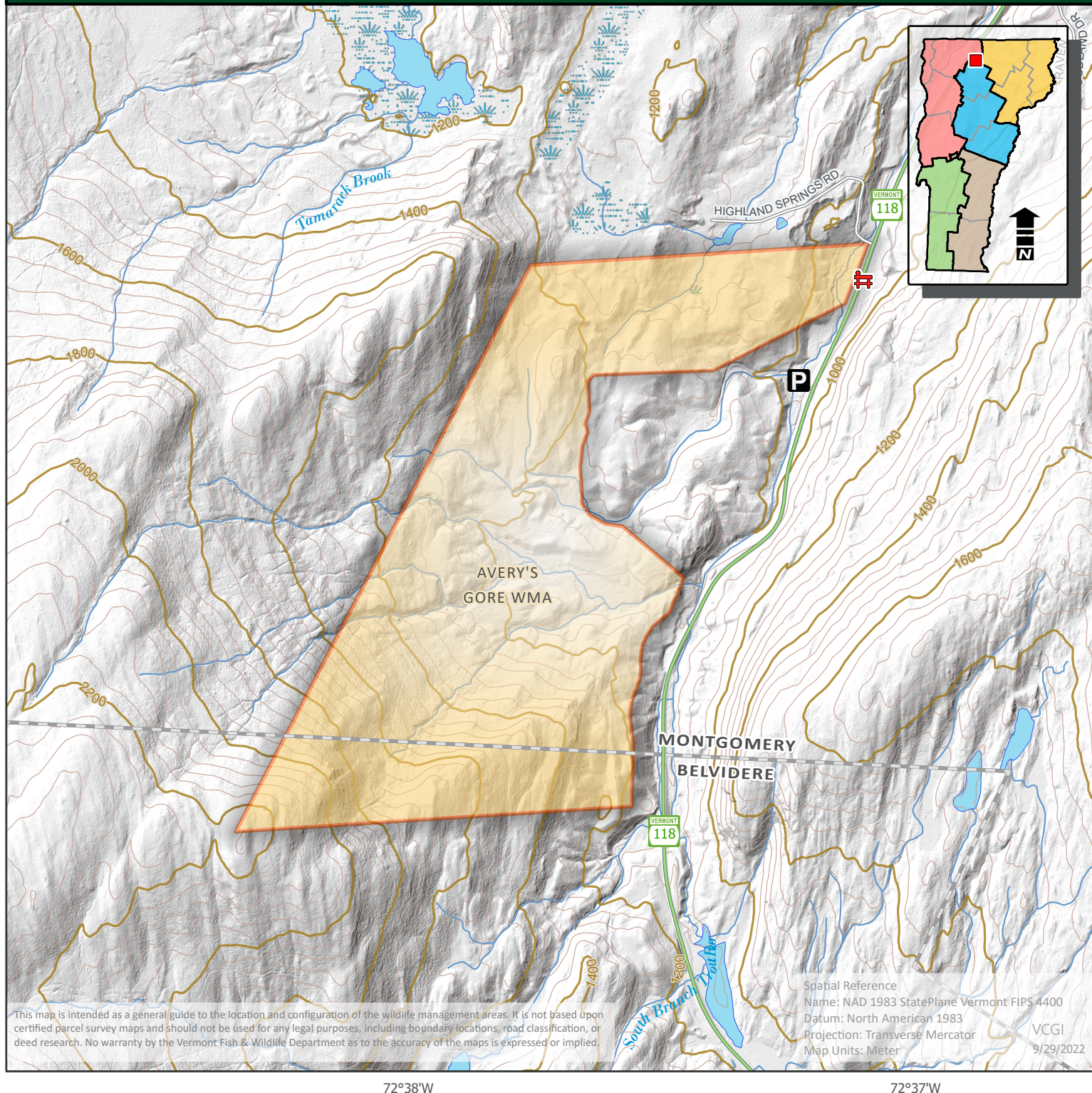
**Reptiles and Amphibians** Wood frogs, spotted salamanders, red-backed salamanders and garter snakes might be found on the WMA.

**Fish** The South Branch River on the eastern side of the property contains brook trout.





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This map is intended as a general guide to the location and configuration of the wildlife management areas. It is not based upon certified parcel survey maps and should not be used for any legal purposes, including boundary locations, road classification, or deed research. No warranty by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department as to the accuracy of the maps is expressed or implied.

Spatial Reference  
Name: NAD 1983 StatePlane Vermont FIPS 4400  
Datum: North American 1983  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Map Units: Meter  
VCGI 9/29/2022

## Avery's Gore WMA

Map Number: 31

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|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Parking       | Shooting Range        | Fishing Access      | Trails                   | Refuge (no public access)             | Federal Land |
| Boat Ramp     | Wildlife Viewing Area | Visitor Information | Town Boundary            | Special hunting/trapping restrictions | State Land   |
| Cartop Access | Campground            | Gate                | Wildlife Management Area | Streambank Management Area            | Town Land    |
| Park Office   | Vista                 | Rail Lines          | WMA Hunting Rights Only  | Controlled Hunting Area               |              |