

# Eagle Point Wildlife Management Area (at Missisquoi NWR)

Last edited: 9/30/22



## General Description

Eagle Point Wildlife Management Area (WMA) at Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge is a 458-acre parcel located along the eastern shore of Lake Memphremagog on the United States-Canada border, in Derby Vermont. The WMA is located approximately five miles north of Newport City on the Eagle Point Road. It is owned by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and managed by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department in partnership.

The parcel offers excellent wildlife based public use opportunities, and angling access to Lake Memphremagog.

## History

The USFWS acquired the property in accordance with the terms of the Michael Dunn Trust, which offered the land to the federal government as a donation. Michael Dunn was a native of Montreal who emigrated to the family property in the 1970s and later became an American citizen. He passed away in 2007, leaving the property to the U.S. government for the purposes of conservation and use by the public. The Province of Quebec accepted an adjacent 420-acre parcel in Canada that Mr. Dunn left to the Canadian government for the same purposes.

## Habitat Features

The property consists of nearly a mile of lakeshore habitat, numerous wetlands, large meadows, hemlock and mixed forest. It supports a great diversity of wildlife including aquatic mammals, waterfowl, grassland birds, and many other wetland and terrestrial species.

## Common Fish and Wildlife

**Mammals** The wetlands are important habitat for several aquatic mammals, including muskrat, mink, river otter, and beaver. Red fox, eastern coyote, fisher, bobcat, skunk, raccoon, weasel, deer and occasionally moose can be found in the forested wetlands, upland fringes of the marshes and nearby fields.

**Birds** Similar to South Bay WMA located just a few miles to the south, Eagle Point WMA is an important waterfowl production and migration area, particularly for black ducks, mallards and wood ducks. It's also an important grassland bird production area. Short hay crop rotations and habitat loss to development throughout Vermont elevate the importance of the 200+ acres of grassland habitat on the WMA. Grassland species include bobolink, savannah sparrow, field sparrow, and possibly vesper sparrow. Also present are a variety of raptors including the northern

harrier, osprey, bald eagle, kestrel, red-tailed hawk, barred and great horned owls. This WMA also provides excellent opportunities to see a variety of wetland and marsh species. Herons, bitterns, snipe, pied-billed grebes, rails, common moorhens, and marsh wrens make up a large portion of the species you will likely encounter in the marshes of the WMA.

**Reptiles and Amphibians** Painted and snapping turtles may be found throughout the WMA in the wetlands and creek and along the lake shore. A diversity of frogs, including spring peepers, gray tree, bull, green, wood, and probably others inhabit the marshes and wetland pools. Red-spotted newts are common, and spotted, red-backed and northern two-lined salamanders are likely inhabitants of the forests.

**Fish** Largemouth and smallmouth bass, chain pickerel, yellow perch, bullheads and pumpkinseed sunfish may be caught in the Johns river mouth and in Hall's Creek. Large brown trout journey up the Johns River in the fall to spawn, as do rainbow trout in the spring.



Eagle Point WMA at Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge provides excellent opportunities to see a variety of wetland and marsh species such as American bittern. Photo courtesy of Doug Gimler.

## Public Uses

The property is open to public use for hunting, fishing (including access for ice fishing), hiking and wildlife watching. Trapping is allowed by Special Use Permit (SUP) only, which must be obtained from the USFWS Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge Manager. Tent camping is allowed only on 3 tent platforms maintained as part of the Northern Forest Canoe trail. No reservations, platforms are occupied upon arrival. The site may be accessed only by paddle craft. Fires are not allowed.

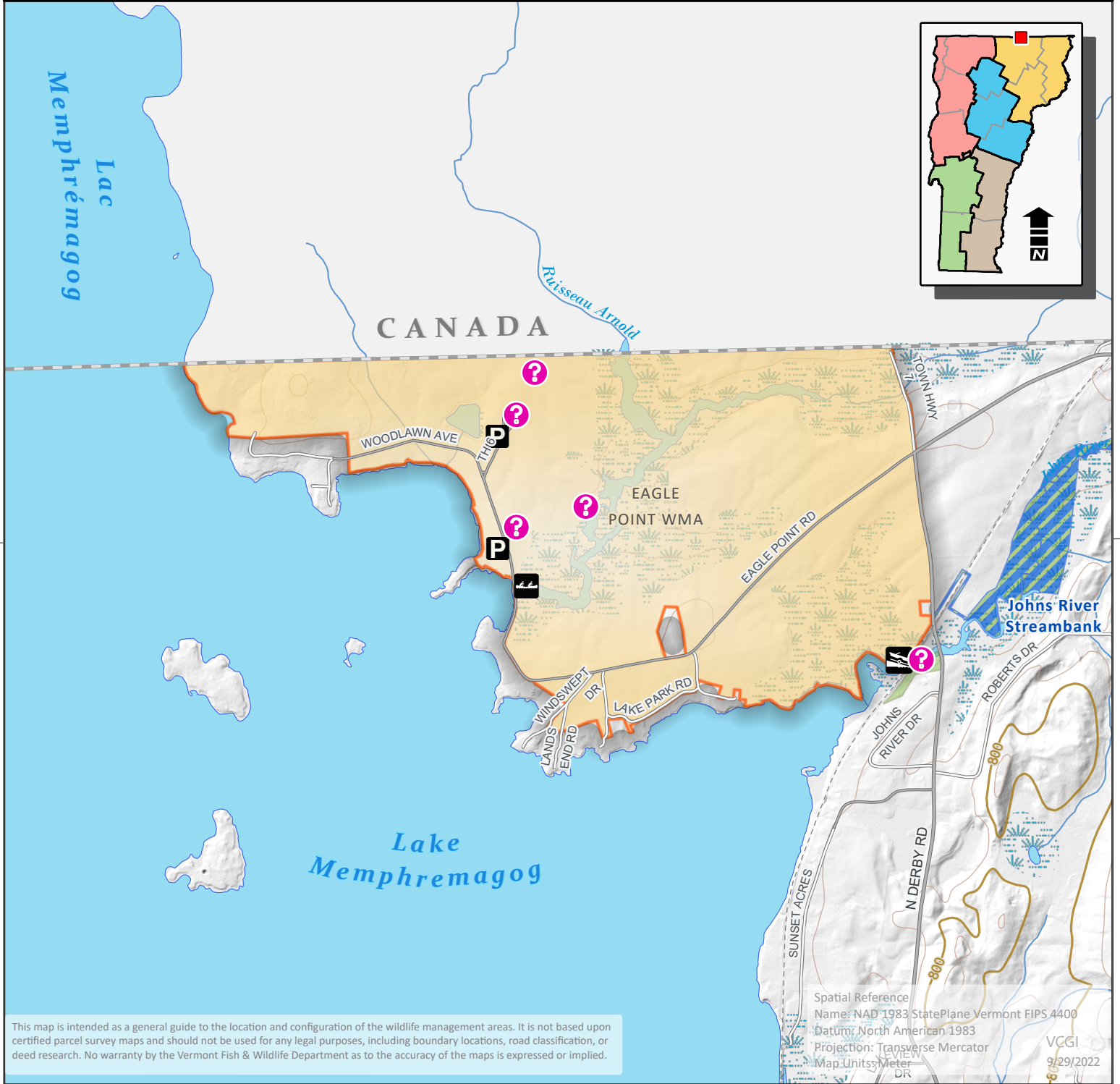
**ATVs are prohibited on the property; it is unlawful to load or unload an ATV on the property for any purpose, including accessing Lake Memphremagog for ice fishing.**

Eagle Point WMA is open to regulated hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking and wildlife viewing.



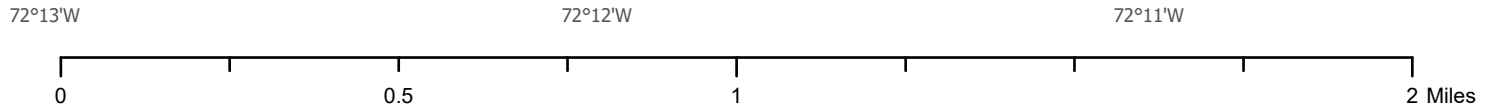
# Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department

## Eagle Point Wildlife Management Area



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



Eagle Point WMA				Map Number: 19		
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		