

9
Nahmakanta
Rainbow Twp

Vital Statistics

Size: 11,082 acres
Regulated: 1,271 acres
Non-Regulated: 9,811 acres
Upland: 9,341 acres
Forested Wetland (NWI): 51 acres
Non-Forested Wetland: 196 acres
Open Water: 301 acres
Roads: unimproved-5 miles
 trails-2 miles
 total-7 miles
Biophysical Region: Central
 Mountains
BPL Region: North



Rare Species and Exemplary Natural Community Table for Nahmakanta

Common Name	Latin Name	S-RANK	G-RANK	State Status
<i>Exemplary Natural Communities</i>				
Early Successional Forest		S5	G5	N/A
Evergreen Seepage Forest		S4	GNR	N/A
Northern Hardwoods Forest		S4	G3G5	N/A
Spruce-Northern Hardwoods Forest		S4	GNR	N/A
<i>Rare Plants</i>				
None found				
<i>Rare Animals</i>				
None found				

Description

At just over 11,000 acres, Nahmakanta is the largest of Maine’s ecological reserves. It consists of two sections straddling the Appalachian Trail. Nearly 90% of the reserve was classified as non-regulated, due to prior BPL designation as “back-country no-cut.” East of Nahmakanta Lake, the reserve includes the watersheds of the 5th through 8th Debsconeag Lakes. Most of the uplands within the reserve show some evidence of past harvesting or fire, but some remote stands support trees over 300 years old, including a 320 year old northern white cedar and a 397 year old red spruce.

Only one of the exemplary natural communities listed above lies entirely within the ecological reserve. It is a large post-burn red pine woodland near Gould Brook. The other five exemplary natural communities are partly within lands protected by the National Park Service as part of the Appalachian Trail. For example, Nahmakanta Stream, classified as an exemplary mid-reach stream, is bordered by the reserve to the northeast and the AT corridor to the southwest.

Resources

Lortie, J.P. Royte, J.L. Rooney, S.C. and J. McMahon. 1992. Landscape Analysis and Inventory of the Nahmakanta Management Unit, Bureau of Public Lands, Augusta, Maine. 20 pp. (+ Appendices)