



**VERMONT DEPARTMENT
OF
FISH & WILDLIFE**

**SUMMARY OF 2007
PUBLIC ACCESS MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM**

Submitted to:
Vermont Legislature
House Fish, Wildlife and Water Resource Committee

Submitted by:
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
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REPORT

The Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife maintains 175 developed fishing access areas. These sites provide public access to waters in Vermont for shore fishing and launching of water craft. Thirteen of the Department access areas are equipped with universal shore fishing platforms that provide access for anglers of all ages and with disabilities. The Department has also assisted in the construction of three other sites not owned or maintained by the Department.

The development and maintenance costs for access areas range from several hundred to several hundred thousand dollars. Projects of substantial size are formally advertised for bid. Projects of lesser size, involving minor maintenance, are completed by various local contractors; such as gravel and grading of parking areas, brush removal, erosion control and other types of normal maintenance. Eleven Community Restitution Crews provided by the Vermont Department of Corrections complete routine maintenance. In remote locations, where the number or concentration of access areas is not cost effective to have a Community Restitution Crew complete the work, local contractors are hired.

Popular access areas are provided with port a lets on a year round basis. The port-o-let contractors are responsible for providing and maintaining port-o-lets for sites they are awarded. During the winter months, only access areas providing ice fishing opportunities retain a port-o-let. The Department has a number of secluded access areas, many of which contain port-o-lets. These access areas are at times vandalized. As a result the majority of the port-o-lets have been secured to concrete pads and protected with large boulders. Access areas where vandalism is a continual problem and facilities are necessary, manufactured steel port-o-lets are purchased and become a permanent part of the access area. Five steel port-o-lets, with an average cost over \$1,500 have been constructed and installed. The approximate cost to maintain a port-o-let is approximately \$25 per week. Rising steel costs have more than tripled the cost to construct new steel port-o-let units.

The Department continues to take part in joint venture projects with municipalities that allow for access areas to be constructed or upgraded. The public benefits from these projects because towns receive improved launching and fishing facilities and in most cases the Department does not increase their annual maintenance cost. We are currently working with the City of Newport and The Town of Georgia on public access improvement projects.

As in previous years, the adopt-a-dock program has continued. Unfortunately not all the groups have continued with the installation and maintenance of docks which has resulted in increased maintenance cost to the Department. The annual cost to maintain these docks at access areas statewide typically runs between \$ 15,000 and \$ 20,000 annually. A new dock was installed at Benson Landing and will be maintained by the Rutland County Bass Masters. A new dock for Mallets Bay is under contract and will be installed in May.

This past year no new universal shore fishing platforms were constructed. However, a new universal shore fishing platform will be constructed at the Lake Paran Fishing Access in Bennington during the spring of 2008. This will make 15 of these facilities state wide at the access areas owned by the Department.

In 2005, the Department added a page on their website that included information on Vermont Public Access Areas. Users may now search and gain information about access areas including location, parking, ramp type, as well as the fish species one might expect to encounter in the water body where the access is located. Further improvements to this web page are forthcoming as public interest about Fishing and Boating Access Areas appears to be on the increase.

The Department is looking forward to 2008 and the completion of more non-motorized access improvement projects made possible by House Bill H.832, passed in March, 2000. The department continues to work with municipalities, river commissions, and interested groups to add to the list of non-motorized access sites.

Any questions or concerns regarding the access maintenance and construction program should be directed to:

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2007 VERMONT FISH AND WILDLIFE PUBLIC ACCESS
MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Amherst Lake	Plymouth	Gravel and grading	\$ 195
Bald Hill Pond	Newark	Gravel and grading	\$ 404
Beaver Pond	Mendon	Grading	\$ 178
Benson Landing	Benson	Gravel and Grading	\$ 477
Bristol Pond	Bristol	Gravel and grading, dock repairs, brushing	\$ 1,171
Brylea	Addison	Gravel and Grading	\$ 877
Buck Lake G.M.C.C.	Woodbury	Gravel and Grading	\$ 940
Center Pond	Newark	Grading	\$ 250
Chimney Point	Panton	Gravel and grading, repairs and new dock	\$ 3,841
Chipman's Point	Orwell	New Dock Anchors	\$ 461
Chittenden Reservoir	Chittenden	Grading	\$ 436
Colby Pond	Plymouth	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,697
Converse Bay	Charlotte	Grading and dock repairs	\$ 1,059
Dead Creek	Addison	Grading	\$ 281
Derby Pond	Derby	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,162
Dillenbeck	Alburg	Replace vandalized port o let, install boulders and grading	\$ 1,083
Dunmore	Salisbury	Gravel and grading	\$ 506
East Creek	Addison	Gravel and grading	\$ 356

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MINOR PROJECT SUMMARY (continued)

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Echo Lake	Plymouth	Gravel and grading	\$ 682
Evanoika Access (Grady Bridge)	Castleton	Gravel, grading and dock construction	\$ 2,016
Fort Cassin	Ferrisburg	Gravel and grading	\$ 2,215
Fox Stand	Royalton	Grading	\$ 171
George Davis (Singing Cedars)	Orwell	Gravel, grading and sign	\$ 768
Gale Meadows	Londonderry	Gravel, grading and repairs	\$ 3,770
Great Averill	Averill	Gravel and grading	\$ 825
Haverill Bridge	Newbury	Grading and repairs	\$ 1,100
Holcomb Bay	Isle La Motte	Gravel and grading	\$ 339
Holland Pond	Holland	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,062
Horicans	Alburg	Tree removal	\$ 830
Indian Point	Orleans	Grading and repairs	\$ 309
Joe's Pond	Danville	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,517
Keeler Bay	South Hero	Gravel, grading and dock	\$ 2,333
Kehoe Access	Castleton	Gravel, grading, repairs, bulletin board, signs and trees	\$ 4,194
Kelley Bay	Alburg	Grading	\$ 190
Kent Pond	Killington	Grading	\$ 269
Kings Bay	North Hero	Dock repairs and grading	\$ 800

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MINOR PROJECT SUMMARY (continued)

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Knapp Pond #1	Reading	Gravel, grading, and repairs	\$ 1,045
Knapp Pond #2	Cavendish	Gravel and grading.	\$ 635
Lake Eligo	Greensboro	Grading	\$ 100
Lake Elmore	Elmore	Gravel and grading	\$ 2,572
Lake Fairlee	Fairlee	Port a let repairs	\$ 45
Lake Hortonia East	Sudbury	Remove guard rail and install boulders	\$ 605
Lake Hortonia West (Dam)	Sudbury	Gravel and grading, install guard rail	\$ 1,285
Lake Iroquois	Hinnesburg	Gravel and grading	\$ 3,490
Lake Salem	Derby	Gravel, grading and dock	\$ 1,434
Lake Ninevah	Mount Holly	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,327
Lake Seymour	Morgan	Gravel and grading, repairs, dock	\$ 1,464
Lake St. Catherine	Wells	Removal of guard rail, brushing bulletin board repairs, gravel and grading	\$ 3,392
Lake Willoughby	Westmore	Grading	\$ 150
Lamoille River (Sears)	Milton	New ADA steel port a let	\$ 2,905
Lapham's Bay	Shoreham	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,066
Larrabee's Point	Shoreham	Gravel and grading, drainage repairs	\$ 1,894
Lewis Creek	Ferrisburgh	Gravel and grading	\$ 2,267
Marshfield Dam	Cabot	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,535

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MINOR PROJECT SUMMARY (continued)

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Martin's Pond	Peacham	Gravel, grading and drainage improvements	\$ 2,764
McCuen's Slang	Addison	Gravel and grading	\$ 3,384
Monkton Pond	Monkton	Grading	\$ 1,131
Newark Pond	Newark	Grading	\$ 260
Old Ferry Road	Brattleboro	Gravel, grading and repairs	\$ 1,527
Ompompanoosuc River	Norwich	Gravel and grading	\$ 578
Otter Creek, Rt 73	Orwell	Gravel and grading	\$ 581
Putney Landing	Putney	Gravel and grading, tree removal	\$ 1,993
Rescue Lake	Ludlow	Grading	\$ 1,210
Richville	Shoreham	Gravel and Grading	\$ 1,383
Sandbar	Milton	Gravel, grading, tree removal and install boulders	\$ 3,839
Shadow Lake	Glover	Gravel, grading and culvert	\$ 1,027
Shelburne Bay	Shelburne	Grading and Dock repair	\$ 2,339
Shelburne Pond	Shelburne	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,040
South Bay / Lake Memphremagog	Newport	Gravel and grading, dock repairs	\$ 1,122
South Pond	Marlboro	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,403
South Slang	Ferrisburg	Gravel and grading	\$ 921
Stony Point	North Hero	Grading	\$ 191
Shelburne Pond	Shelburne	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,040

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MINOR PROJECT SUMMARY (continued)

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Tabor Point	Swanton	Wood guard rail and ramp repairs	\$ 1,210
Thetford	Thetford	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,113
Vantines	Grand Isle	Gravel and grading	\$ 725
Vernon Hatchery Pond	Vernon	Gravel and grading	\$ 392
Weatherhead Hollow Pond	Guilford	Gravel and grading	\$ 472
West Swanton	West Swanton	Dock Repairs	\$ 960
Whipple Point / Lake Memphremagog	Newport	Gravel and grading, dock repair	\$ 3,230
Wolcott Pond	Wolcott	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,041
Woodard Reservoir	Plymouth	Grading	\$ 131
		Minor Project Total:	\$ 101,942

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JANUARY 1, 2007 - DECEMBER 31, 2007

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Category	Total Cost
Major Projects	\$ 267,381
Minor Projects	\$ 101,942
Building materials, rentals, roadway supplies, signage, docking facilities, equipment rentals, miscellaneous maintenance, personal service contracts, administration and other purchased services.	\$ 68,398
Port-o-let Rental	\$ 62,477
New Docks and Maintenance of Existing Docks	\$ 19,585
Snow Removal	\$ 25,985
Department of Corrections Community Restitution Crews	\$ 81,787
Engineering - Design / Construction	\$ 89,451
Property Tax -- Estimated	\$ 85,000
Contracted Services	\$ 27,646
Other Property Management Services	\$ 3,402
Leased Lands	\$ 8,520
Utilities	\$ 5,728
Town of Colchester - Harbor Master	\$ 2,500
Rubbish Removal	\$ 5,434
Lawn mowing and Maintenance, Misc	\$ 8,719
States Organization for Boating Access, ARCO	\$ 2,100
Land Acquisition: Coit's Pond, Cabot Vermont	\$ 12,040
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 878,095