



**VERMONT DEPARTMENT
OF
FISH & WILDLIFE**

**SUMMARY OF 2006
PUBLIC ACCESS MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM**

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

Submitted by:
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April 12, 2007

REPORT

The Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife maintains over 180 developed access areas. These sites provide public access to waters in Vermont for shore fishing and launching of water craft. Thirteen of the F & W access areas are equipped with universal shore fishing platforms that provide access for anglers with disabilities and anglers of all ages. The Department has also assisted in the construction of three other sites.

The development and maintenance costs for access areas range from several hundred to several hundred thousand dollars. Projects of considerable size are formally advertised for bid. Projects of lesser size, involving minor maintenance, are completed by equipment rental through various local contractors. Eleven Community Restitution Crews provided by the Vermont Department of Corrections complete access area 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 portalets and waste management contractors provide bids for areas they are interested in servicing. The contractors are responsible for providing and maintaining portalets for sites they are awarded. During the winter months, only access areas providing ice fishing opportunities retain a portalet. Vermont has many secluded access areas. Portalets at these areas are often vandalized. As a result, the majority of the portalets have been secured to concrete pads and protected with large boulders. Access areas where vandalism continues to be a problem and facilities are necessary are equipped with manufactured steel portalets. Five steel portalets, each costing over \$1,000 have been constructed and installed. The approximate cost to maintain a portalet is approximately \$25 per week. Rising steel costs have more than tripled the cost to construct new steel portalet 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 working with the City of Newport on another future project.

As in previous years, the adopt-a-dock program continues. Unfortunately not all the groups have continued with the installation and maintenance of docks that has resulted in increased maintenance cost to the department. The annual cost to maintain these docks at access areas statewide typically runs between \$ 12,000 and \$ 15,000 annually. A new dock was installed at Lake St. Catherine and another will be installed this year at Benson Landing.

In 2005, the Department added a page on the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Web Site that includes 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 2007 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 present and potential sites.

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

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2006 VERMONT FISH AND WILDLIFE PUBLIC ACCESS
MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

MINOR PROJECT SUMMARY

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Amherst Lake	Plymouth	Gravel and grading	\$ 494
Babbie (Missisquoi River)	Swanton	Gravel and grading, barrier stones	\$ 1,009
Baker Pond	Brookfield	Gravel and grading	\$ 3,049
Bald Hill Pond	Newark	Gravel and grading	\$ 400
Barton River	Barton	Grading	\$ 76
Big Averill	Averill	Parking, Ramp Repairs	\$ 500
Bristol Pond	Bristol	Gravel and grading, dock repairs, brushing	\$ 389
Brownington Pond	Brownington	Gravel and grading, topsoil, erosion repairs	\$ 1,326
Buck Lake G.M.C.C.	Woodbury	Gravel, grading , ditching	\$ 2,465
Burr Pond	Hubbardton	Grading	\$ 470
Center Pond	Newark	Gravel and Grading	\$ 440
Charcoal Creek	Swanton	Grading	\$ 116
Chimney Point	Panton	Gravel and grading, repairs	\$ 2,571
Chipman's Point	Orwell	Sign & Kiosk	\$ 661
Clark's Pond	Glover	Grading	\$ 68
Crystal Lake	Barton	Gravel and Grading	\$ 303
Curtis Pond	Calais	Grading	\$ 90
Dead Creek	Addison	Gravel and grading	\$ 450

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MINOR PROJECT SUMMARY (continued)

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Derby Pond	Derby	Gravel and grading	\$ 365
Dorothy Smith Access	Jeffersonville	Gravel and grading	\$ 504
Dummerston	Dummerston	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,444
East Creek	Addison	Gravel and grading	\$ 545
Echo Lake	Plymouth	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,807
Echo Lake	Charleston	Gravel and grading	\$ 578
Evanoika Access (Grady Bridge)	Castleton	Gravel and grading	\$ 245
Ewell Pond	Peacham	Grading	\$ 130
Fort Cassin	Ferrisburg	Gravel and grading	\$ 578
Greenwood Lake	Woodbury	Grading	\$ 180
Harvey's Lake	Barnet	Grading	\$ 130
Holland Pond	Holland	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,362
Horse Pond	Greensboro	Gravel and grading	\$ 410
Hoyt's Landing	Springfield	Gravel and Grading	\$ 2,164
Island Pond	Island Pond	Gravel and grading	\$ 480
Job's Pond	Westmore	Gravel and grading	\$ 300
Joe's Pond	Danville	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,649
John's River	Newport	Gravel and grading	\$ 480

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MINOR PROJECT SUMMARY (continued)

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Keeler Bay	South Hero	Gravel, grading and dock	\$ 2,443
Kehoe Access	Castleton	Gravel and grading and repairs	\$ 2,216
Kent Pond	Killington	Paving	\$ 1,645
Keiser Pond	Peacham	Grading	\$ 120
Knapp Pond #1	Reading	Gravel and grading, erosion repairs	\$ 1,472
Knapp Pond #2	Cavendish	Gravel and grading.	\$ 692
Lake Eden	Eden	Gravel and grading, repairs	\$ 1,951
Lake Elmore	Elmore	Erosion repairs, grading	\$ 305
Lake Hortonia East	Sudbury	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,818
Lake Hortonia West (Dam)	Sudbury	Gravel and grading, boulders and topsoil	\$ 2,315
Lake Ninevah	Mount Holly	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,018
Lake Parker	Glover	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,356
Lake Sadagwa	Whitingham	Ramp Repairs	\$ 400
Lake Seymour	Morgan	Gravel and grading, repairs, dock	\$ 1,464
Lake St. Catherine	Wells	Sign Repairs, Guardrail	\$ 714
Lapham's Bay	Shoreham	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,980
Larrabee's Point	Shoreham	Gravel and grading, drainage repairs	\$ 1,715
Marshfield Dam	Cabot	Gravel and Grading, Stump removal	\$ 900

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MINOR PROJECT SUMMARY (continued)

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Martin's Pond	Peacham	Grading	\$ 130
McCuen's Slang	Addison	Gravel and grading	\$ 2,222
Mirror Lake	Calais	Grading	\$ 90
Monkton Pond	Monkton	Grading	\$ 160
Nelson Pond	Norton	Grading	\$ 190
Newark Pond	Newark	Gravel and grading	\$ 330
Putney Landing	Putney	Gravel and grading, tree removal	\$ 5,847
Rescue Lake	Ludlow	Grading	\$ 1,122
Richville	Shoreham	Gravel and Grading	\$ 983
Rock River	Highgate	Gravel and Grading	\$ 241
Sandbar	Milton	Gravel and grading, tree removal	\$ 2,567
Shelburne Bay	Shelburne	Grading and Dock repair	\$ 1,327
South Bay / Lake Memphremagog	Newport	Gravel and grading, dock repairs	\$ 1,741
South Pond	Marlboro	Gravel and grading	\$ 997
South Slang	Ferrisburg	Gravel and grading	\$ 1,784
Spectacle Pond	Brighton	Grading	\$ 1,255
St. Albans Bay	St. Albans	Dock repairs	\$ 535
Tildy's pond	Glover	Gravel and Grading	\$ 278

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MINOR PROJECT SUMMARY (continued)

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Van Everest	Milton	Gravel and grading, portalet repairs	\$ 3,947
Ward Access	Moretown	Timber railings, tree removal	\$ 809
West Swanton	West Swanton	Dock Repairs	\$ 200
Whipple Point / Lake Memphremagog	Newport	Gravel and grading, dock repair	\$ 2,060
		Minor Project Total:	\$ 81,567

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MAJOR PROJECT SUMMARY

Project	Town	Work	Cost
Allen Point Access	South Hero	Gravel, Grading, ditching, parking improvem	\$ 11,611
Lamoille River	Milton	Gravel, grade, repairs, brush and tree removal, erosion repairs	\$ 10,231
Malletts Bay	Colchester	Dock installations w/ major repairs, line stripping, erosion repairs, grading and signs.	\$ 9,323
Windermere Way	Colchester	Dock Repairs, Gravel and Grading	\$ 5,722

Total Major Projects \$36,887

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JANUARY 1, 2006 - DECEMBER 31, 2006

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Category	Total Cost
Major Projects	\$ 36,887
Minor Projects	\$ 81,567
Building materials, rentals, roadway supplies, rubbish removal, signage, docking facilities, equipment rentals, miscellaneous maintenance, personal service contracts, and other purchased services.	\$ 36,296
Portalet Rental (estimated)	\$ 52,647
Snow Removal	\$ 14,305
Department of Corrections Community Restitution Crews	\$ 107,100
Engineering - Design / Construction - Estimated	\$ 65,000
Property Tax	\$ 82,341
Contracted Services	\$ 20,161
Other Property Management Services	\$ 19,489
Leased Lands	\$ 11,138
Utilities	\$ 5,325
Town of Colchester - Harbor Master	\$ 2,500
Rubbish Removal	\$ 3,030
Misc, Lawn mowing and Maintenance, rentals	\$ 9,910
States Organization for Boating Access, ARCO	\$ 3,395
Land Appraisal: Coit's Pond, Cabot Vermont	\$ 2,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 553,091