

Lake Umbagog

National Wildlife Refuge in Maine

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R)
Senator Susan M. Collins (R)
Rep. Michael H. Michaud (D-2nd)

Contact

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Purpose

Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge was established for the long-term conservation of wetlands, and the protection and management of habitat for migratory birds.

Public Use Notes

- Boat launch
- Hunting and fishing
- Wildlife observation
- Photography

Management Activities

- Administering public hunts to manage refuge game populations
- Monitoring and protecting nesting bald eagles and their habitat
- Monitoring and protecting common loon nests and habitat
- Cooperatively managing lake water levels for nesting water bird populations



Sunset at Lake Umbagog

Edward Henry/USFWS

Highlights

The refuge is located in the heart of New England's northern boreal forest and encompasses the largest remaining pristine lake on the Maine-New Hampshire border.

In 1971, the Secretary of the Interior granted a National Natural Landmark designation to the Floating Islands Bog, which is now part of the refuge.

More than 194 species of birds frequent the refuge, with more than 137 species known to breed. These include many species considered rare in New England.

Lake Umbagog is one of the most productive breeding areas in New England for common loons and osprey.

The refuge provides habitat for migratory and resident waterfowl, including American black ducks.

The refuge represents a unique cooperative management partnership among the Service,

the states of Maine and New Hampshire, conservation organizations, land trusts and local landowners.

Issues

Second home development continues to threaten portions of the lakeshore and surrounding upland areas.

The impact of a hydropower dam on lake water levels, waterbirds and other wildlife is unknown.

Increasing levels of public use on the refuge and their impacts to wildlife result in conflicts between public uses.

There is poor post-hatching survival of loon chicks.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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