

# Minimally Disturbed Routine Biomonitoring Sites in the Northeastern U.S.

This map was prepared for the Northeast Climate Change and Bioassessment workshop to:

- help inform our discussion of landscape-scale vulnerabilities
- show spatial distributions of these sites
- provide a sense of how many years of data are available for these sites

This map does **NOT** represent a comprehensive list of sites. The criteria that were used when selecting these sites varied.

<b>ME</b>	Site selection was based on biology (sites attain Class A & AA status based on Maine's linear discriminant model). Only a subset of these sites are considered to be reference sites.
<b>NH</b>	Land use was a major consideration in reference site selection. Criteria varied by region (i.e. criteria had to be relaxed in some areas in order to provide adequate spatial distribution of sites).
<b>VT</b>	This represents a subset of reference sites that VT DEC has designated as long term monitoring sites (for biology and temperature). Some sites have USGS gages and continuous temperature loggers.
<b>CT</b>	Sites shown include long-term reference sites (best of USGS network), newer smaller reference sites (based on land use), and potential new reference sites (based on least disturbed watershed parameters & criteria—<4% impervious cover, >80% natural land cover, <10% developed land, no Reservoirs/Large Class C Dams, >0.5 miles below dams, watershed size > 1 Square Mile).
<b>MA</b>	Site selection was based on best professional judgment. Considerations included land use, % impervious cover, desktop and site reconnaissance.
<b>RI</b>	Reference sites with the longest term data are shown (there are additional reference sites in RI, but these have only been sampled intermittently).
<b>NY</b>	Land use was a major consideration in reference site selection (75% natural, <2% impervious, conductivity <150, previous assessments non-impacted where applicable). Not all of the sites that are shown on this map meet this criteria (i.e. in certain watersheds, sites represent the best attainable condition). Sites include reference sites that were sampled in 2008 and 2009 for the RIBS program, climate change project sites in NYC watersheds and reference sites from a recent nutrient criteria project.

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