

Climatic Records for Pinkham Notch, New Hampshire

Averages for the period 1950-1982

Mean Temperatures

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
15.5	17.0	25.6	37.4	50.0	59.0	63.1	60.9	53.3	43.7	32.5	19.7	39.8 F
-9.2	-8.3	-3.6	3.0	10.0	15.0	17.3	16.1	11.8	6.5	0.3	6.8	4.3 C

Precipitation

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
4.30	4.55	4.97	4.35	4.30	4.80	4.55	4.51	4.65	5.11	6.17	5.42	57.68 in.
109	116	126	110	109	122	116	115	118	130	157	138	1465 mm.

Summarized by R.S. Ferrin and S. Simms. 1982.

DESCRIPTION OF VALUES

Flora

A general list of vegetation for Nancy Brook follows:^{4/}
red spruce (Picea rubens), yellow birch (Betula lutea), paper birch (Betula papyrifera), mountain ash (Sorbus americana), mountain maple (Acer spicatum), striped maple (Acer pensylvanicum), hemlock (Tsuga canadensis), balsam fir (Abies balsamea), hobblebush (Viburnum alnifolium), mountain holly (Nemopanthus mucronatay), clintonia (Clintonia borealis), creeping snowberry (Gaultheria hispidula), bunchberry (Cornus canadensis), lowbush blueberry (Vaccinium angustifolia), late sweet blueberry (Vaccinium angustifilium), whorled aster (Aster acuminatur), spinulose wood fern (Dryopteris spinulosa), wood sorrel (Oxalis montana), trillium (Trillium undulatum), rose mandarin twisted stalk (Streptopus roseus), canada mayflower (Maianthemum canadense), wild sarsaparilla (Aralia nudicaulis), mountain goldenrod (Solidago macrophylla), wild currants (Ribes spp), moss spp. and liverwort spp. The area of the Cascades, a series of waterfalls in a steep gorge, supports a population of the globally rare endemic plant, Mountain Avens (Geum pecki).

The area is mostly virgin high-elevation spruce/fir, with a mosaic of patches in various stages of succession. Some parts suffered severe blowdown in the 1938 hurricane. Small patches of recent blowdown are present. There are two small bogs with a ring of tamarack-black spruce around the edges and several boggy areas.

The predominant vegetation in the bogs consists of:
black spruce (Picea mariana), tamarack (Larix laricina), sweet gale (Myrica gale), pitcher plant (Sarracina purpurea), pale laurel (Kalmia polifolia),

^{4/}See Appendix C for the Vegetation Sampling Scheme.

roundleaf sundew (Drosera rotundifolia), intermediate sundew (Drosera intermedia), leatherleaf (Chamaedaphne calyculata), small cranberry (Vaccinium oxycoccos), tawny cotton-grass (Eriophorum virginicum), labrador tea (Ledum groenlandicum), and few-flowered sedge (Carex pauciflora).

Fauna

The New Hampshire Breeding Bird Atlas, a cooperative project of the University of New Hampshire Department of Forest Resources and the Audubon Society of New Hampshire, produced a list of species occurring within the Nancy Brook area in Block #6624 which can be found in Appendix B.

A number of wood frogs (Rana sylvatica)^{5/} and green frogs (Rana clamitans melanota) have been observed during the course of this study.

The Nancy Brook area supports the following mammals: deer (Odocoileus virginianus borealis)^{6/}, moose (Alces americana), snowshoe hare (Lepus americanus), and beaver (Castor canadensis). The deer population is reported to be high in this RNA. Nancy Pond is not stocked because the survival rate of trout is too low. Beaver activity is currently low.

Geology and Soils

The bedrock of this area is part of the Littleton Formation chiefly composed here of gray gneiss. There is a section of Mt. Lafayette Granite Prophy that runs east of the Cascades. Further information on the geology of this quadrangle can be found in Henderson et al. 1977.

According to the "Soils Survey of Grafton County, New Hampshire" by Latimer et al. (1939) the soil classification within this RNA is simply "rough mountainous land."

ELT's

The RNA consists of Ecological Land Types (ELT) 2, 6, 6E, 06, and 14, as illustrated on Map C. A description of those ELT's follows:

^{5/} Source of scientific and common names of Amphibians: DeGraaf, R. and D. Rudis, 1983, Amphibians and Reptiles of New England, Habitats, and Natural History, The University of Massachusetts Press.

^{6/} Source of scientific and common names of mammals: Godin, Alfred J., 1977, Wild Mammals of New England, The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD, 304 pp.