

Peggy Hart, Shelburne Falls, MA.

I am writing to comment as a recreational boater on the Connecticut River.

Mostly I kayak, canoe and row on the stretch below the Vernon dam. I observe that when Northfield Mountain is releasing, the current goes counter to what it should and that stretch of river has few waterbirds.

The Riverview Picnic area nominally offers cartop launching, but it is a long carry from the parking area to where one can launch or take out.

I also boat below the Turners Falls Dam, and when that dam is releasing, water levels vary drastically in the vicinity of Second island and are at times un navigable even in a canoe. The shores have a scoured look.

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