

PART II
REPORTS ON INDIVIDUAL SITES

Basin 1: Batten Kill, Hoosic River and Walloomsac River

Including the following site:

Roaring Brook Cascade Roaring Brook, Stamford

See the appendix for the following:

Downer Glen Bourne Brook, Sunderland

Hemlock Gorge Potter Hollow Brook, Pownal

Imaginary Falls Roaring Branch, Sunderland

This basin is located in the southwest corner of the state, and contains parts of the Taconic Mountains and southern Green Mountain Plateau. The streams are all small to medium rivers and we are sure there are no major lowland falls or gorges in the basin. There are, however, a number of headwaters streams, especially on Mt. Equinox and the western scarp of the Green Mountains, and almost certainly there are a number of cascades and falls on the headwaters streams that have not been mapped. We know of several falls on intermittent streams in Cooks and Skinner Hollows on Equinox and of small cascades on several brooks in Pownal and Sunderland. None of these would qualify as more than locally important, but it is quite possible that moderately important sites exist.

Report 1, Roaring Brook Cascade, Roaring Brook, Stamford, Bennington County, Vermont.

Site NN, surveyed 17 October 1983 by J.C. Jenkins.

Small cascade under a bridge on a mountain brook.

Atlas map 1, USGS Stamford 7.7-minute quadrangle. Take County Road west out of Stamford, climb the hill and at the top (1st house) where the stream goes under the bridge is the cascade.

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A wooded part of the Green Mountain Plateau, with a few houses and small fields along a dirt road. Rather scruffy beech-birch-maple. The cascade is about 25 yards from a house and directly below a small bridge.

The stream is a small mountain brook about ten feet wide with very clean water. The channel bottom is mostly boulders.

Site is a short cascade, about 75-100 feet long by 15 feet wide with a total drop of 20 feet. The rock seems to be the Readsboro Schist, of Precambrian age. The cascade has a slope of about 20 degrees, a number of large boulders, and discontinuous rock walls five to ten feet high. There are no pools and the rock is not carved or rippled.

No rare plants occur. There are no vascular plants within the stream channel. Around the edges are:

<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	<i>Spiraea latifolia</i>
<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>	<i>Solidago rugosa</i>
<i>Carex torta</i>	<i>Thelypteris phegopteris</i>
<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>	<i>Aster acuminatus</i>

All of these are very common upland plants.

About ten species of mosses and liverworts occur, all apparently common. The collections have not been named yet.

No particular use seems to be made of the falls.

Given that it is a small site it is still a pretty one; as noted in the introduction in these boulder-channel streams that come off the plateau even small cascades are uncommon and worth noting.

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Summary: rural setting, average to nice rocks and water, average botany, not secluded, no trash, clean mountain water, hardly used, natural area.