

**MEREDITH NRI PHASE II
CO-OCCURRENCE AREA SUMMARY**

[CA #10 – Pemigewasset Lake Map](#)

CO-OCCURRENCE AREA (CA): Pemigewasset Lake **CA #:** 10 **ACRES:** 525.0

LOCATION: Headwaters and Meredith portion of Pemigewasset Lake

Elevation: 558 - 740 ft. **General Aspect:** Northwest **Ave. Slope:** 0 – 15%

% Upland Forest: 56.9 **% Open Upland:** 0.2 **% Wetland:** 16.5 **% Open Water:** 26.4

GENERAL LAND USE: **Type:** Forestry-Conservation, Forestry-Rural, Shoreland **Zoning:** FC, FR, S
The shores of Pemigewasset Lake have two camps and several scattered residences along it. Access is from Route 104 near the north edge of the CA and from Upper New Hampton Road, which bisects the CA. Small-scale agriculture and forestry exists in the watershed above Pemigewasset Lake.

General Ecological Attributes: Roughly 55% of Pemigewasset Lake is in Meredith. The shoreline consists of narrow sandy beaches, rocky strands, and shallow water vegetated wetlands. The latter has mostly muck and silt bottoms, and support an excellent warmwater fishery. The adjacent emergent marsh and scrub-shrub swamp offers excellent habitat for wetland-dependent wildlife. Upstream of the lake is a perennial stream that descends from the upper part of the Frances Eames Recreation & Wildlife Area. The small chain of beaver ponds along this unnamed brook provides a good riparian corridor between the Meredith Center/Chemung CA and Pemigewasset Lake. Most of the upland area of the CA is forested with a young mixed forest with a predominance of white pine and hemlock.

Prime Wetland Description: There is no prime wetland associated with this CA.

Wildlife Habitat Description: Although few wildlife observations were made in this CA, it does contain excellent wildlife habitat. Noteworthy among its wildlife attributes is the diversity of breeding birds at the upper (southeast) portion of Pemigewasset Lake (Piscopo Wildlife Area). Here a mixture of shallow water wetlands, emergent marshes, scrub-shrub and forest swamps offer a rich diversity of cover types for breeding waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, and wetland-dependent passerines. The surrounding forests also contain an ample diversity of neo-tropical passerines such as Blackburnian, black-throated green, black-throated blue, and chestnut-sided warblers. The perennial stream feeding into Pemigewasset Lake supports mink, otter, and beaver, and likely provides habitat for brook trout. The upper headwaters contain several clearcut areas that have attracted moose in the recent past. The softwood dominated riparian area as well as the west side of Pemigewasset Lake contains excellent deer wintering habitat.

Rare & Endangered Species / Exemplary Natural Communities: Common loon (S3B) (documented nesting area is actually in New Hampton)

Wildlife Issues of Concern:

- Stormwater run-off from Route 104 into Pemigewasset Lake
- Some salt loading along Upper New Hampton Road
- Shoreline development of Pemigewasset Lake
- Sediment and/or nutrient loading from small-scale agriculture & timber activities via the unnamed perennial stream



Left: Foggy morning at upper Pemigewasset Lake; Right: Hudsonian whiteface at Piscopo; Lower left: headwater beaver pond at edge of Eames Wildlife Area; Below: Bearded sedge along the lake

