

**Shelburne Bridge** Coordinates: 44; 24'; 18.78" 71; 04'; 05.69"

Location: Shelburne, New Hampshire. From Gorham, NH, go east on Route 2 then take a left onto Meadow Road going across the river. The launch site is on the left, down a short gravel road.

Owner: New Hampshire DOT right of way Manager: Town of Shelburne and Mahoosuc Land Trust

Launch facilities:

There is a rocky bank; canoes and kayaks are generally launched from the rocks under the bridge. Launching is difficult and into moderately fast current.

Parking:

There is limited parking for approximately 8 vehicles in a gravel lot. Drift boat access is possible but difficult.

Amenities:

None

Water Conditions:

Fast moving current with short sections of rips and Class I rapids at intervals downstream.

General comments:

Historic Shelburne Village is small but aesthetically enjoyable. Philbrook Farm Inn offers travelers an opportunity to stay at an historic property. Upstream, Gorham offers a variety of amenities, several motels, various eateries, shopping, and historic properties. Gorham is the northerly gateway to Mount Washington attractions such as the COG Railway and the White Mountain National Forest. The Appalachian Trail runs through the area with several access points nearby. Many private lands offer tremendous hiking opportunities. The Mahoosuc Map and Guide prepared by the Appalachian Mountain Club highlights a variety of hiking and many other outdoor recreation opportunities in the area including other paddling opportunities, bike rides and cross country skiing for your winter activity.

Upstream access to Reflection Pond (above Lead Mine Dam at North Road) is now gated. There are a few informal access points off Hogan Road, a dirt (not gravel) road that runs along the river from the westerly end of the North Rd in Shelburne (on river left) into Gorham. Access to Gorham village is not possible. People frequently bike on both North Road, paved but narrow with some dangerous curves, and Hogan Road. A mountain bike or rugged hybrid is recommended for the Hogan Road section as there are large potholes, some loose dirt and possibly other small obstacles. It is a generally family friendly, flat ride though.

Androscoggin Canoe Trail by Mahoosuc Land Trust (separate paper map available) The Meadow Road access site is most up-river point of the Androscoggin Canoe Trail that was developed several years ago by the Mahoosuc Land Trust. The Trail consists of eight sites with the down-river most site being above the falls in Rumford. The trail starts in the small, historic village of Shelburne, New Hampshire and passes the picturesque town of Bethel, Maine, home to Gould Academy and a beautiful National Historic District. The Moses Mason historic house and museum is located in the District. The trail ends just above downtown Rumford that also contains a National Historic District.