

Aquatic networks are continuous stream systemslinking surface waters (streams plus associated lakes and wetlands) with adjacent areas that have a strong influence on the hydrology of those waters (floodplains, headwater subcatchments and riparian corridors). Displayed here are those aquatic networks of the Plateau suggested to be “conservation targets.” They meet minimum standards for size and condition, and represent areas deemed most ecologically important for the aquatic animals and plants of the Plateau landscape. We also incorporated a spread of examples from each of the five major watersheds and/or physiographic subdivision of the Plateau. Examples are further prioritized within each of these region-groups based on their size, condition, and diversity, so that the best couple of each type are highlighted for regional conservation efforts. Many of these networks are outstanding examples for our Eastern New York bioregion.

