



Big Benton Pond, Otis

General Information

This 327- acre raised Great Pond, also known as Lake Winiscutt or simply Big Pond, is located approximately a mile north of Route 23 in Otis. Average depth is 15 feet; maximum depth is 34 feet. Aquatic vegetation is scarce and transparency is good, extending to approximately ten feet. The bottom is composed of barren rock and sand. Except for its swampy northern margins, Big Benton's shoreline is heavily developed with permanent and seasonal residences. As a result, shore fishing access is poor.

Recreational Access

The Division of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) manages a concrete boat ramp, with an associated parking area at the southern end of the pond (73°2'20.576"W 42°10'46.096"N). The boat launch, which is suitable for small boats, canoes & kayaks, is connected to Big Pond via a ¾-mile canal.

Please contact the offices of Tolland State Forrest for additional information, fee structure, and/or restrictions pertaining to public access of Big Benton Pond.

Fish Populations

The following fish species were found during MassWildlife surveys: Rainbow Trout, Largemouth Bass, Chain Pickerel, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch, Brown Bullhead, Pumpkinseed, White Perch, Bluegill, White Sucker, Golden Shiner, Common Shiner and Banded Killifish. The pond is stocked with Rainbow Trout, Brook Trout and/or Brown Trout every spring.

Fishing

Big Benton offers a true smorgasbord of fishing opportunities, but a canoe or boat is almost a necessity due to the poor shoreline access. There is good trout fishing action throughout the year, although most of the pressure occurs in April and May. The bass — both smallmouth and largemouth — are fairly abundant and of good average size. They provide fair to good action throughout the year, but keep in mind that swimming, water skiing and other recreational use of this pond is high, particularly during mid-summer, and adjust your fishing schedule accordingly. Bass anglers should concentrate their efforts around the structure provided by the numerous islands and rocks. This is an excellent pond for ice fishing, producing an occasional large chain pickerel along with large numbers of nice yellow perch. Big Benton Pond has produced Chain Pickerel and Yellow Perch that meet minimum sizes for recognition by the Massachusetts Sportfishing Awards Program.

Useful Links:

[Get your Fishing License](#)

[Freshwater Fishing](#)

[Trout Stocking Information](#)

[Freshwater Sportfishing Awards Program](#)

Learn more:

[Mass.gov/MassWildlife](https://www.mass.gov/MassWildlife)

Connect with us:

[Facebook.com/MassWildlife](https://www.facebook.com/MassWildlife)

Your local

MassWildlife office:

88 Old Windsor Rd
Dalton, 01226
(413) 684-1646

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
[ProtectYourWaters.net](https://www.protectyourwaters.net)

Updated: 2018



Big Benton Pond

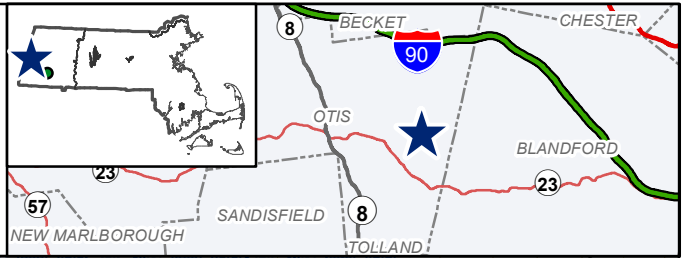
327 Acres

Otis

Farmington River Watershed

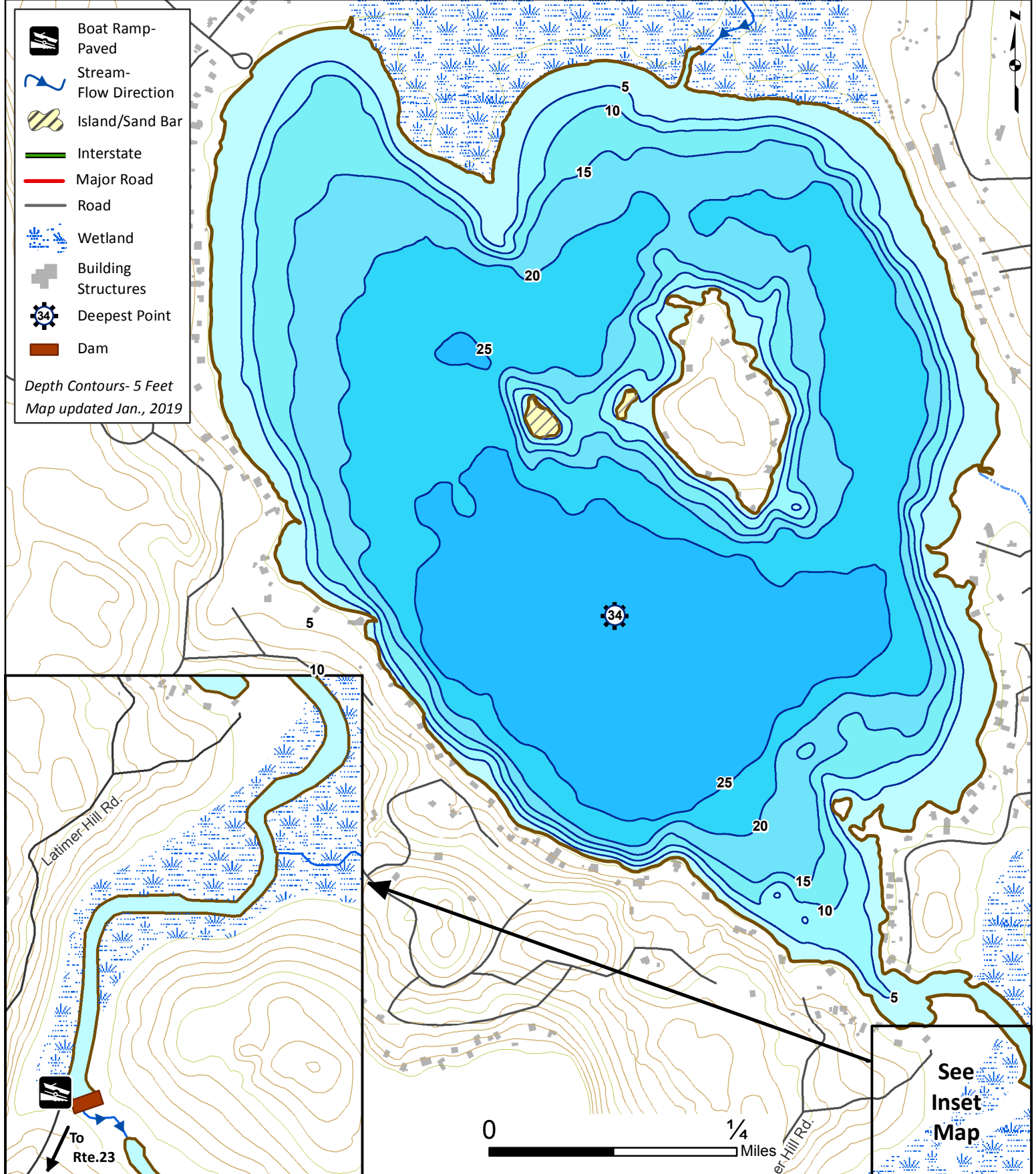
Coordinates: 73°2'21" W 42°10'46" N

USGS Quad: OTIS



- Boat Ramp-Paved
- Stream-Flow Direction
- Island/Sand Bar
- Interstate
- Major Road
- Road
- Wetland
- Building Structures
- Deepest Point
- Dam

Depth Contours- 5 Feet
Map updated Jan., 2019



See
Inset
Map