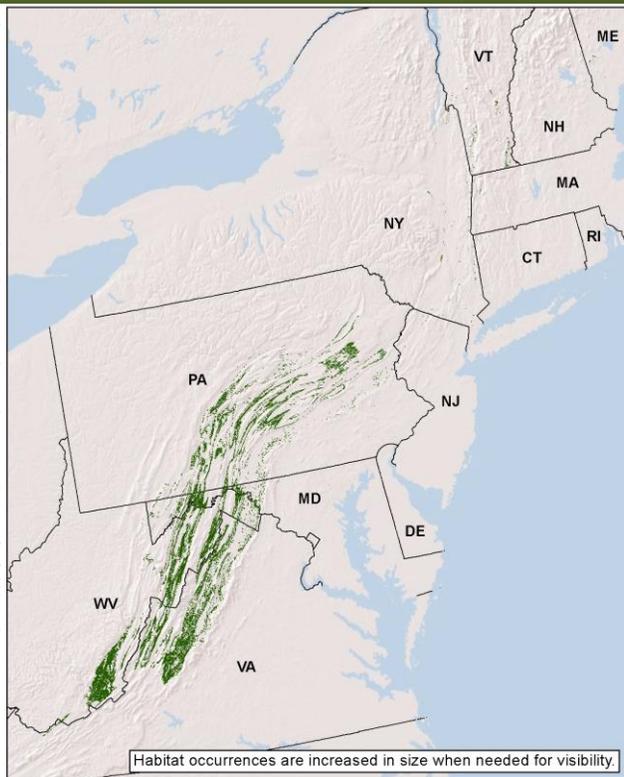


Central Appalachian Alkaline Glade and Woodland



Macrogroup: Glade, Barren and Savanna

This map is a modeled distribution based on current data and is not a substitute for field based inventory. Contact your State Natural Heritage Ecologist for more information about this habitat.



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Description:

A mosaic of woodlands and open glades on thin soils over limestone, dolostone or similar calcareous rock with its core distribution in the Central Appalachians, but extending well up into New England. In some cases, the woodlands grade into closed-canopy forests. Eastern red-cedar is a common tree, filling in in the absence of fire, and chinquapin oak is indicative of the limestone substrate. In the northern part of its range, northern white cedar may replace red cedar. Other locally occurring trees and shrubs are sugar maple, red and white oak, pignut hickory, eastern redbud, and hackberry. Prairie grasses are often dominant in the herb layer, and forb richness is often high, supporting species such as tall larkspur, american harebell, columbine, and four-leafed milkweed.

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

A moderately dry patch community that forms in shallow soils at high landscape positions (upper slopes, ridgetops), at elevations up to about 2500 feet. It is known widely through the region. Fire is sometimes an important natural disturbance vector, but open physiognomies may also be maintained by drought and landslides. Lower elevation examples are often in highly fragmented agricultural landscapes.

Similar Habitat Types:

Similar to Southern Ridge and Valley Calcareous Glade and Woodland, but on higher and more convex landforms, and farther north. As conditions become less dry, soil deepens, and the canopy closes, this system usually grades into Northeast Interior Dry-Mesic Oak Forest, or Appalachian or (farthest north) Laurentian-Acadian Northern Hardwoods.

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Upland Forest - Calcareous Forests (CT), Upland Woodland and Shrub - Red Cedar Glades (CT), Rocky Cliffs, Ridgetops, Talus Slopes, and Other Similar Habitats (MA), Barrens and Dry Glades (MD), Grassland Habitats - Naturally occurring barrens (PA), Forest Habitat - Mixed Forest (VA), Calcareous Forests and Woodlands (WV), Limestone Barrens and Glades (WV)

State Distribution: CT, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, VA, VT, WV

Total Habitat Acreage: 413,498

Percent Conserved: 11.6%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
WV	37%	154,340	2,525	9,145	142,669
PA	29%	118,776	1,377	7,485	109,914
VA	27%	110,933	6,795	15,842	88,296
MD	6%	25,052	2,341	1,489	21,222
VT	1%	2,464	221	214	2,029
NY	0%	1,297	107	157	1,033
MA	0%	202	57	0	145
ME	0%	183	1	28	154
NJ	0%	144	28	0	115
CT	0%	92	1	0	91
NH	0%	15	2	2	12

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Upland Woodland And Shrub - Red Cedar Glades (CT), Yellow Oak Dry Calcareous Forest (MA), Montane Dry Calcareous Forest And Woodland (MD), Limestone Glade (NJ), Limestone Woodland/Red Cedar Rocky Summit (NY), Yellow Oak - Redbud Woodland (PA), Ridge And Valley Dolomite Woodland (VA), Limestone Barrens And Glades (WV)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

Green Ridge State Forest | MD
 Nescopeck State Park | PA
 George Washington and Jefferson National Forest | VA
 George Washington National Forest | WV
 Monongahela National Forest | WV

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

BIRDS: cerulean warbler, eastern whip-poor-will, golden-winged warbler, prairie warbler, yellow-breasted chat

INSECTS: compton tortoiseshell

PLANTS: barren strawberry (*Waldsteinia fragarioides*), downy arrow-wood (*Viburnum rafinesquianum*), chinquapin oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*), glade flax (*Linum sulcatum* var. *sulcatum*), hairy beardtongue (*Penstemon hirsutus*), hairy pinweed (*Lechea mucronata*), orange-grass st. john's-wort (*Hypericum gentianoides*), prairie ragwort (*Packera plattensis*), running serviceberry (*Amelanchier humilis*), smoke hole bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa* ssp. 1), violet bushclover (*Lespedeza violacea*), western hairy rockcress (*Arabis hirsuta*), western wallflower (*Erysimum capitatum*)

Species of Concern (G1-G4): *Appendix lists scientific names*

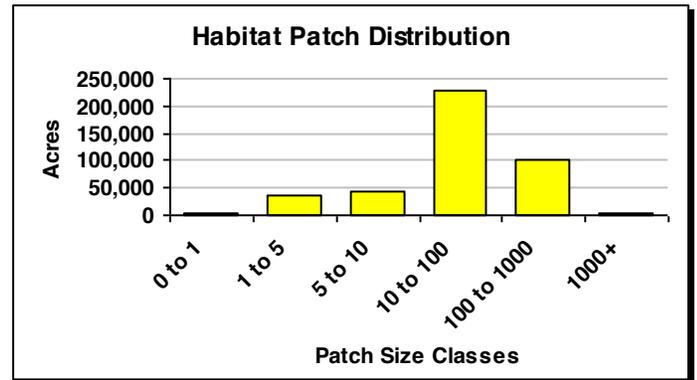
HERPTILES: Wehrle's salamander, west virginia spring salamander

INSECTS: Carolyn's cave springtail, cavern sheet-web Spider, Hubbard's cave beetle, Maddens cave beetle, natural bridge cave beetle, Seneca cave beetle, and many other cave beetle, mites, springtails and spiders

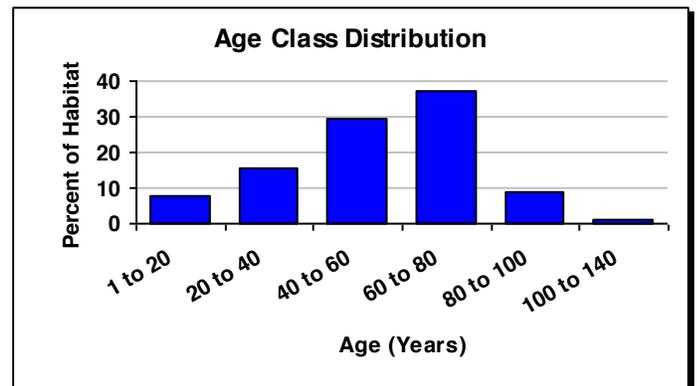
PLANTS: cliff stonecrop (*Sedum glaucophyllum*), hidden spike-moss (*Selaginella eclipes*), tall larkspur (*Delphinium exaltatum*), three-lobed violet (*Viola triloba*)



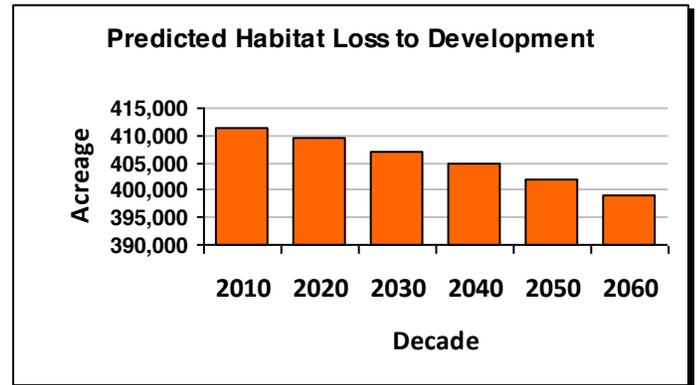
© Gary P. Fleming (Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation Natural Heritage Program)



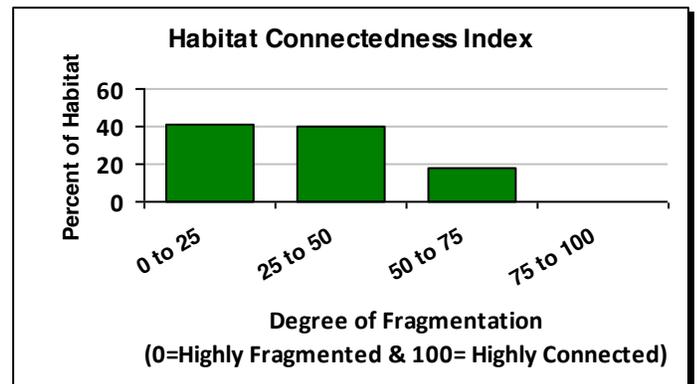
The average patch size for this habitat is 9 acres and the largest single patch is 1,190 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



This chart shows the average age of trees associated with this habitat based on forest inventory data. For non-forested systems or small habitats the average age is influenced by the surroundings.



This chart shows the predicted loss of habitat over the next five decades (12,363 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 247 acres per year.



This metric measures how connected or fragmented the land directly surrounding (18 square miles) the habitat is, this the chart shows the proportion of the habitat in each connectedness class.