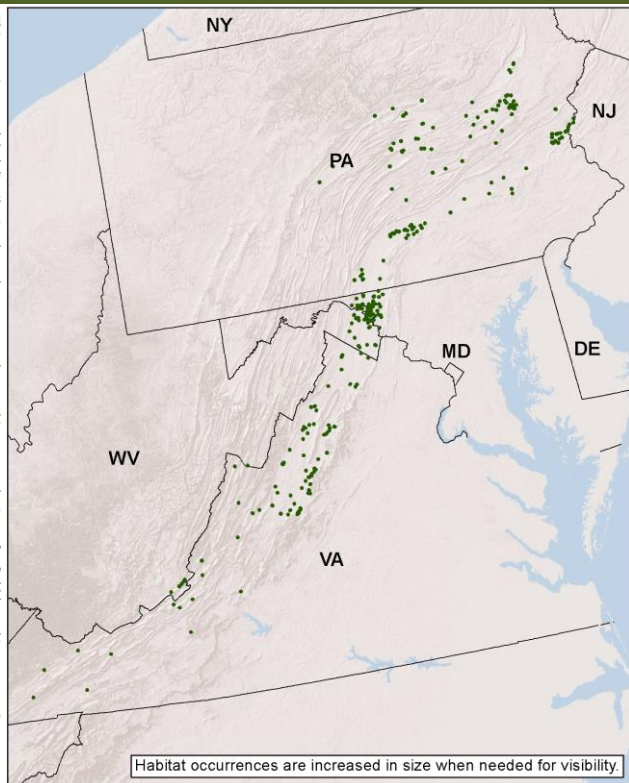


Central Interior Highlands and Appalachian Sinkhole and Depression Pond



Macrogroup: Central Hardwood Swamp

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 small pond and wetland habitat with variable vegetation found in basins of sinkholes or other isolated depressions on uplands from the Ozarks east to the northern Piedmont. Water depth may vary greatly on a seasonal basis and may be a meter deep or more in the winter. Some examples become dry in the summer. Structure varies from open water to herb-dominated to shrub-dominated, where buttonbush is a typical component. Tree-dominated examples typically contain oaks, sycamore, green ash, silver maple, and/or black gum. Many of these ponds have their geologic origin as a more-or-less complete karst collapse feature.

State Distribution: MD, NJ, PA, VA, WV

Total Habitat Acreage: 1,458

Percent Conserved: 7.9%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
PA	45%	653	9	23	621
VA	28%	415	54	11	350
MD	16%	232	5	8	219
WV	10%	150	5	0	145
NJ	1%	8	0	0	8

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

Soils are very poorly drained, and surface water may be present for extended periods of time, occasionally becoming dry. Soils may be deep (1 meter or more), consisting of peat or muck, with parent material of peat, muck or alluvium.

Similar Habitat Types:

Core distribution for this system is in the Ozarks and the hilly plateaus of western Kentucky and Tennessee. Because of their association with limestone geology, these ponds often sit in a fragmented agricultural landscape.

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Upland Depression Swamps (MD), Shenandoah Valley Sinkhole Pond (Typic Type) (VA)

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Upland Depression Swamps (MD), Wetlands - Forested Wetlands and Bogs (PA), Wetland Habitat - Forested (VA), Floodplain Forests and Swamps (WV)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

C & O Canal National Historical Park | MD
George Washington and Jefferson National Forest | VA

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

BIRDS: belted kingfisher, eastern kingbird, green heron, red-shouldered hawk, willow flycatcher, wood duck

PLANTS: blackfoot quillwort (*Isoetes melanopoda*), dwarf burrhead (*Echinodorus tenellus*), northern st. john's-wort (*Hypericum boreale*), pretty dodder (*Cuscuta indecora*), seven-angle pipewort (*Eriocaulon aquaticum*)

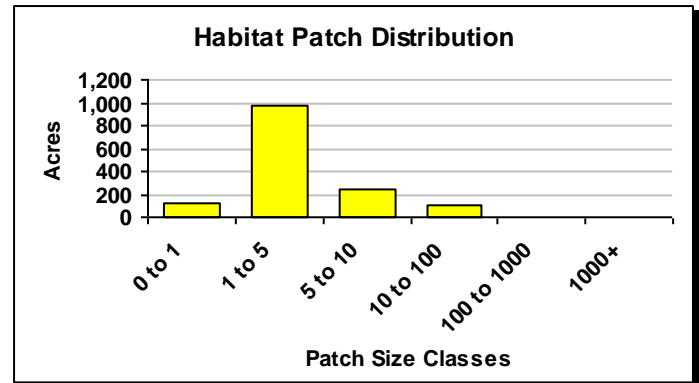
Species of Concern (G1-G4): *Appendix lists scientific names*

INSECTS: *Nannaria ericacea* (a millipede)

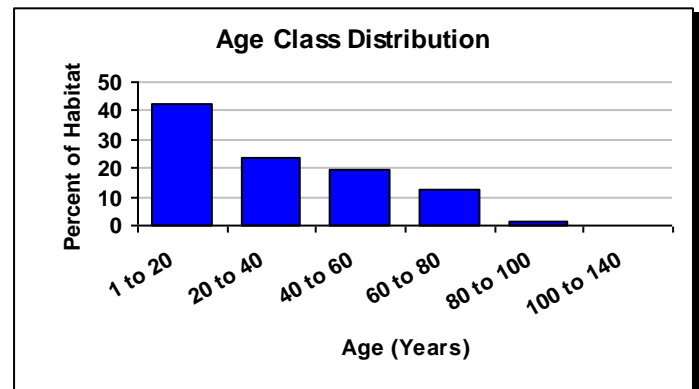
PLANTS: northeastern Bulrush (*Scirpus ancistrochaetus*), Virginia Sneezeweed (*Helenium virginicum*)



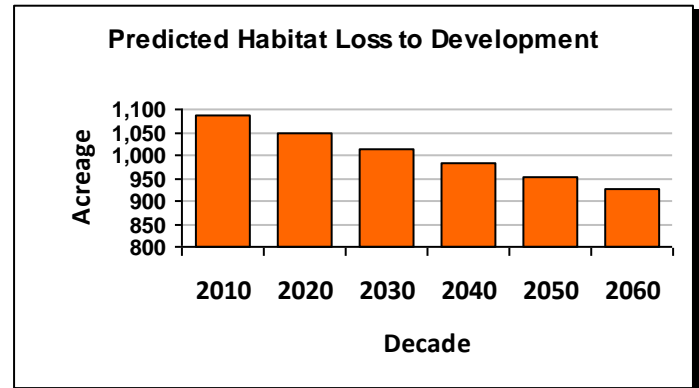
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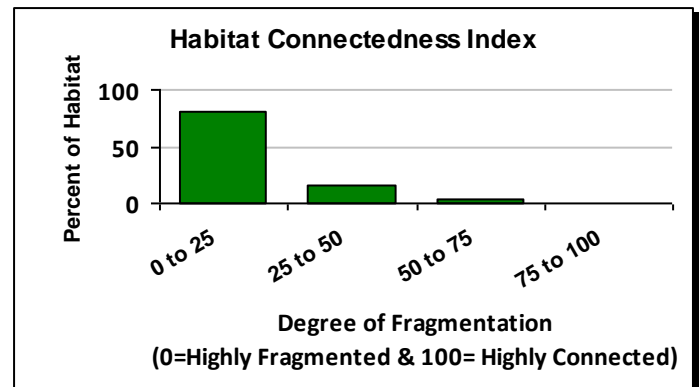
The average patch size for this habitat is 2 acres and the largest single patch is 15 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (159 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 3 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.