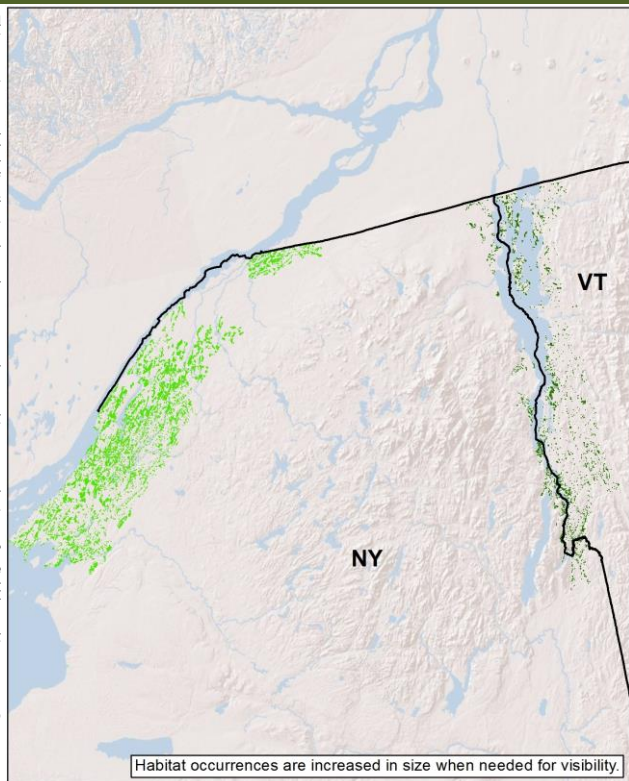




Macrogroup: Central Hardwood Swamp

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 wetland variant of the mesic clayplain forest system, and like that system dominated by a shifting mix of oaks and maples, a number of hardwood associates, and hemlock and white pine. The two types occur in a tight mosaic on the landscape. Swamp white oak, green ash, red maple, black ash, and musclewood tend to be more common in these forests due to the high water table. Moisture-loving sedges and wetland plants such as sensitive fern and water hemlock are characteristic. The shrub layer can be dense, and often includes non-native invasives like buckthorns, honeysuckles, and Japanese barberry. It is not known to what extent occurrences mapped in northwestern New York (light green) may differ in ecological character from those in the Champlaine Valley (dark green).

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

Common in presettlement clayplain landscapes, but very rare today. These diverse wet woods occur as small to medium sized inclusions in more mesic clayplain forests, in deep, fine-grained soils with impeded drainage in low relief lake and marine plains. Vernal pools are common in the forest, with their high diversity of amphibians and macroinvertebrates. Trees are typically shallow-rooted, and wind is the primary disturbance factor.

Similar Habitat Types:

Could be viewed as a sub-type of the more generally defined North-Central Interior and Appalachian Rich Swamp. Similar to the North-Central Interior Wet Flatwoods system; it also often forms in clayey soils, but as a small basin wetland with its core distribution in the glaciated landscapes of the northern Midwest, and has a somewhat different suite of species.

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

State Distribution: NY, VT

Total Habitat Acreage: 88,168

Percent Conserved: 9.3%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
NY	84%	74,082	467	6,128	67,488
VT	16%	14,086	488	1,116	12,481

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Valley Clayplain Forest (VT)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

Beaver Creek State Forest | NY
 Pulpit Rock State Forest | NY
 Upper and Lower Lakes Wildlife Management Area | NY
 East Creek Natural Area | VT
 Hubbardton River Clayplain Preserve | VT

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

BIRDS: wood thrush, eastern wood pewee, ovenbird, northern oriole, downy woodpecker

MAMMALS: gray squirrel, beaver, raccoon

HERPTILES: blue spotted salamander, american toad, wood frog, grey treefrog

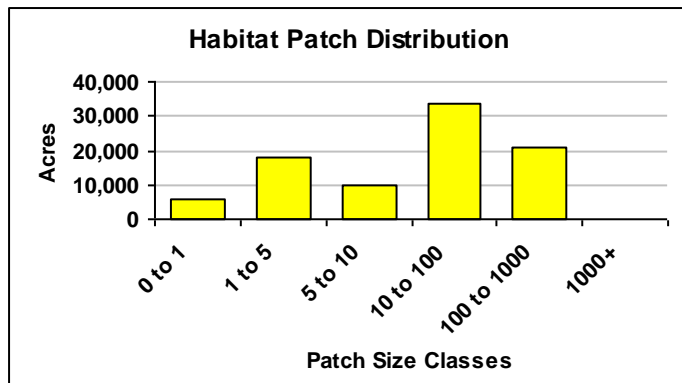
PLANTS: american hazelnut (*Corylus americana*) broad beech fern (*Phegopteris hexagonoptera*), buxbaum's sedge (*Carex buxbaumii*), drooping bluegrass (*Poa saltuensis*), folliculate sedge (*Carex folliculate*), fragrant sumac (*Rhus aromatic*), grove sandwort (*Arenaria lateriflora*), harsh sunflower (*Helianthus strumosus*), leafy bulrush (*Scirpus polyphyllus*), rough avens (*Geum laciniatum*), spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), stout woodreed (*Cinna arundinacea*), umbellate sedge (*Carex umbellate*), yellow bartonia (*Bartonia virginica*)

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

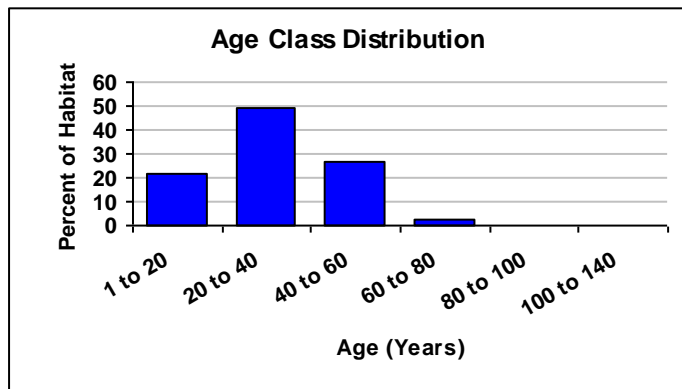
PLANTS: Handsome sedge (*Carex Formosa*)



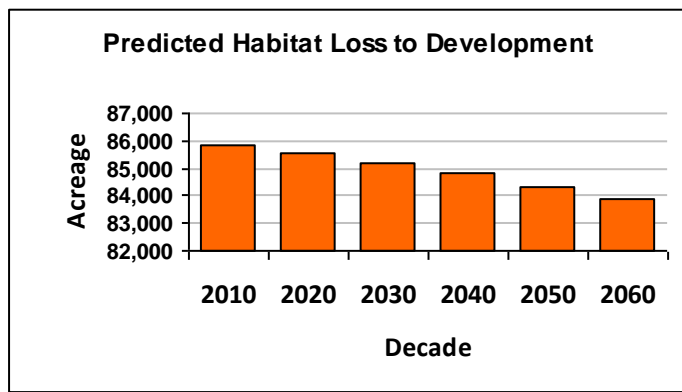
© Elizabeth Thompson (Vermont Land Trust)



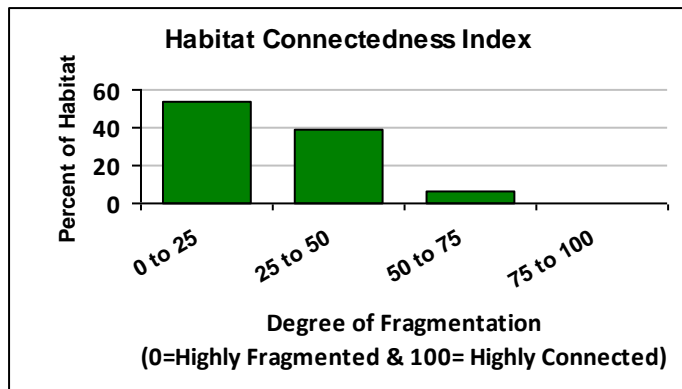
The average patch size for this habitat is 3 acres and the largest single patch is 617 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (2,003 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 40 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.