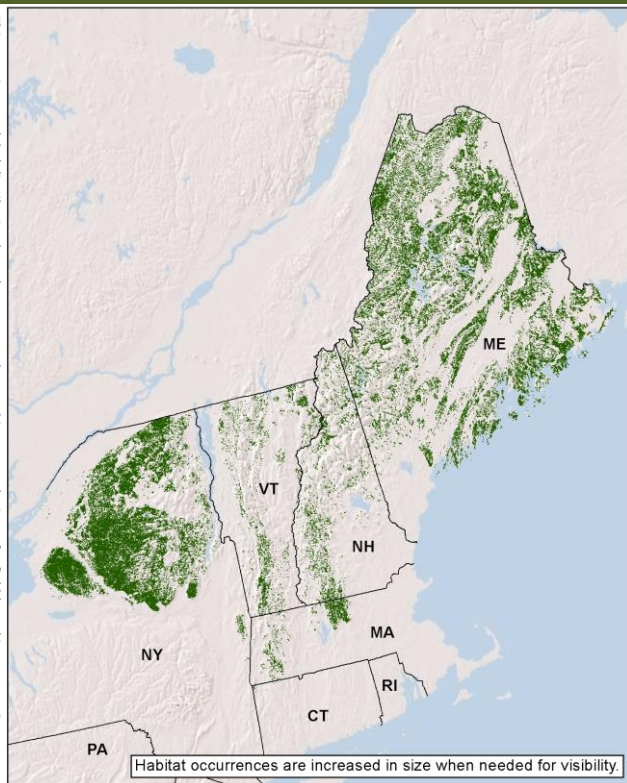


Northern Appalachian-Acadian Conifer-Hardwood Acidic Swamp



Macrogroup: Northern 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 conifer or mixed forested swamp of permanently saturated basins with seasonal standing water. Characteristic of the glaciated Northeast, this habitat may develop in peat moss or mineral soil. In peat, trees form a partial to full cover and stunted to well-developed black spruce and larch are dominant. Heath shrubs and sedges are common in the understory, although the dwarf-shrub layer is less well-developed than in open acidic peatlands. In mineral soil, red maple, red spruce, and balsam fir are the most typical trees; ash may be common in some locations. The herbaceous and shrub layers tend to be fairly species-poor; catberry, tall ferns (cinnamon, interrupted, sensitive), and wetland sedges are typical.

State Distribution: CT, MA, ME, NH, NY, PA, VT

Total Habitat Acreage: 1,311,922

Percent Conserved: 38.0%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
ME	49%	640,892	25,658	112,701	502,534
NY	42%	549,248	208,194	105,359	235,695
VT	4%	48,793	6,774	14,499	27,520
NH	3%	45,828	4,220	10,134	31,474
MA	2%	26,938	2,217	9,049	15,672
CT	0%	220	1	14	205
PA	0%	2	0	0	2

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

Occurs in permanently saturated basins and depressions that may have standing water seasonally. Peat moss or mineral soil is the primary substrate, but many examples are associated with streamways, and the more minerotrophic conditions (groundwater contact) yield nutrient levels somewhat higher than in a true bog.

Similar Habitat Types:

Similar to North-Central Appalachian Acidic Swamp, but with a flora characteristic of a cooler climate. Occurs in much of the same area as Laurentian-Acadian Alkaline Conifer-Hardwood Swamp, but experiences less groundwater nutrient enrichment and a generally less diverse flora. Small patch poor fens are often embedded within the larger swamp complex.

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Forested Inland Wetland - Red/Black Spruce Swamps (CT), Red Spruce Swamp (MA), Hemlock - Hardwood Pocket Swamp (ME), Black Spruce Swamp (NH), Spruce-Fir Swamp (NY), Red Maple - Mixed Shrub Palustrine Woodland (PA), Spruce-Fir-Tamarack Swamp (VT)

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Forested Inland Wetland - Red/Black Spruce Swamps (CT), Forested Swamps (MA), Forested Wetland (ME), Peatlands - Forested Peatlands (NH), Mixed Hardwood Swamp (NY), Wetlands - Forested Wetlands and Bogs (PA), Hardwood Swamps - Red Maple-Sphagnum Acidic Basin Swamp (VT)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

October Mountain State Forest | MA
 Acadia National Park | ME
 White Mountain National Forest | NH
 Debar Mountain Wild Forest | NY
 Green Mountain National Forest | VT

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

BIRDS: black-backed woodpecker, blackburnian warbler, blackpoll warbler, gray jay, green heron, lincoln's sparrow, nashville warbler, northern parula, northern waterthrush, swamp sparrow, wilson's warbler, wood duck

MAMMALS: canada lynx, masked shrew, red-backed vole, silver-haired bat

HERPTILES: blue-spotted salamander, spotted salamander

INSECTS: hoary comma, spicebush swallowtail butterfly, water-willow stem borer

PLANTS: large water-starwort (*Callitriche heterophylla*), largeleaf avens (*Geum macrophyllum*), spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), swamp lousewort (*Pedicularis lanceolata*), swamp saxifrage (*Saxifraga pensylvanica*), swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*)

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

BIRDS: olive-sided flycatcher, rusty blackbird, american three-toed woodpecker

MAMMALS: water shrew

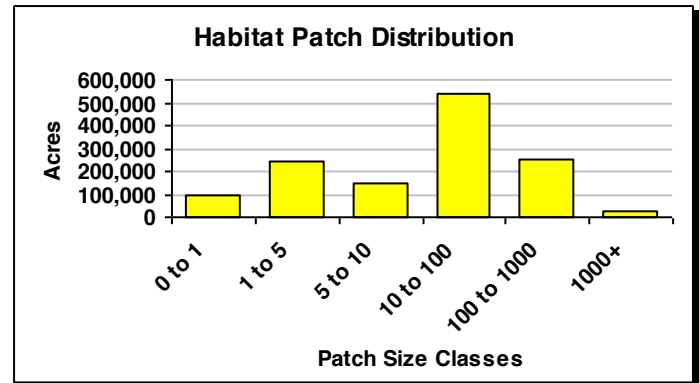
HERPTILES: Blanding's turtle, bog turtle, jefferson salamander, spring salamander, wood turtle

INSECTS: beaverpond clubtail, bird dropping moth, bog elfin, Clayton's copper butterfly, pygmy snaketail, twilight moth

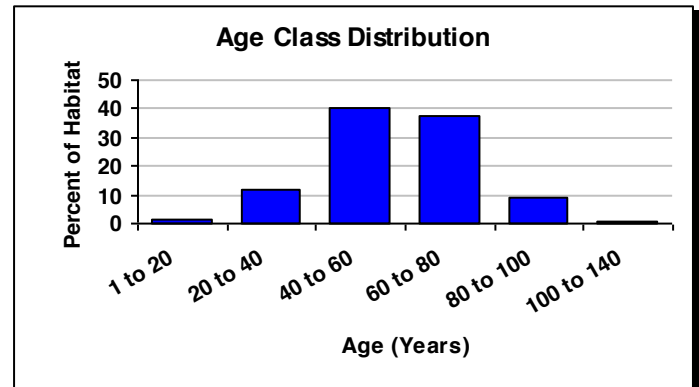
PLANTS: mosses (*Calliergon obtusifolium*, *Calliergon richardsonii*), creeping rush (*Juncus subtilis*), marsh valerian (*Valeriana uliginosa*), nova scotia false foxglove (*Agalinis neoscotica*), slender spikerush (*Eleocharis nitida*)



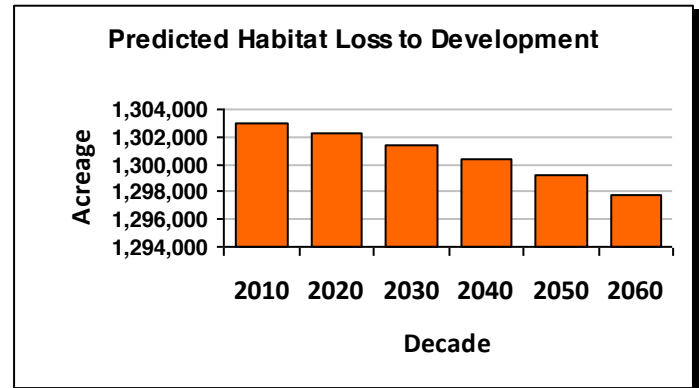
© Maine Natural Areas Program



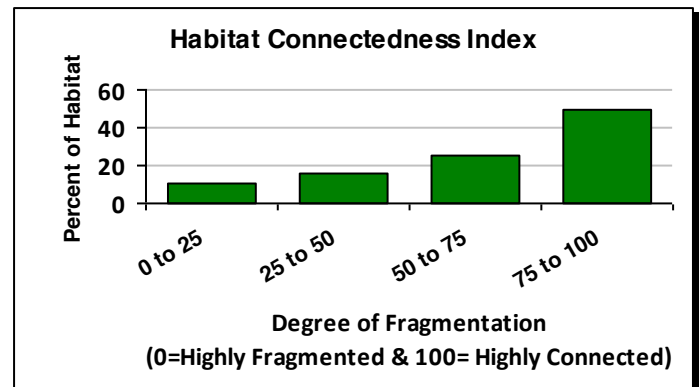
The average patch size for this habitat is 3 acres and the largest single patch is 1,976 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (5,190 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 104 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.