# Southern Atlantic Coastal Plain Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland

Macrogroup: Central Oak-Pine/Longleaf Pine

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.

Habitat occurrences are increased in size when needed for visibility
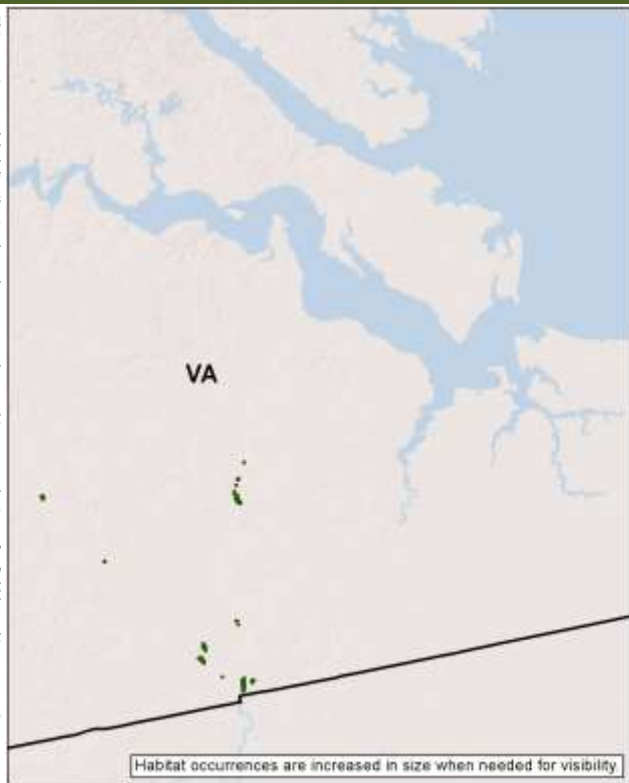
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Description:
A conifer or hardwood woodland of dry to dry-mesic sandy sites on the southern coastal plain down to Georgia. Oaks (southern red, post, blackjack, turkey) dominate in areas somewhat protected from natural fires by steeper topography, isolation from fire spread, or limited flammability. When fire is more frequent, the vegetation is replaced by more fire-tolerant southern pines, especially longleaf pine. An understory of scrub oaks and/or a well-developed heath shrub layer may be present. The herb layer is often sparse, and may be almost eliminated by canopy closure and accumulations of thick leaf litter. Once perhaps the most extensive system on the outer coastal plain, it is now confined in our region to a few sites in southeastern Virginia.

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:
Upper to mid slopes on bluffs, occasionally on broader uplands or the highest parts of river terraces, on a variety of well- to excessively-drained soils. Extant examples have been altered by heavy cutting and decades of fire exclusion, and longleaf pine woodlands have been almost entirely replaced by more closed canopy loblolly pine stands. Remaining occurrences are in critical need of protection and restoration.

Similar Habitat Types:
The Southern Atlantic Coastal Plain Dry and Dry-Mesic Oak Forest and Atlantic Coastal Plain Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland systems were combined for mapping purposes. They occur in close proximity to one another are tightly related ecologically. Southern Atlantic Coastal Plain Mesic Hardwood Forest is most often the adjacent downslope wooded system.

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:
Forest Habitat - Coniferous Forest (VA)

State Distribution: VA

Total Habitat Acreage: 579

Percent Conserved: 28.4%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
VA	100%	579	164	0	415

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:
Longleaf Pine / Scrub Oak Sandhill Woodland (VA)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

Chub Sandhill State Natural Area Preserve | VA

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

BIRDS: brown-headed nuthatch, pine warbler, summer tanager

HERPTILES: southeastern crowned snake

INSECTS: eastern pinebarrens tiger beetle, robust baskettail, southeastern myotis bat fly

PLANTS: blood witchgrass (Dichanthelium consanguineum), blue jack oak (Quercus incana), cottony golden-aster (Chrysopsis gossypina), darlington's oak (Quercus hemisphaerica), Eustis lake beardtongue (Penstemon australis), grass-like roselings (Callisia graminea), large-flowered camas (Zigadenus glaberrimus), longleaf pine (Pinus palustris), purple pitcherplant (Sarracenia purpurea), southern purple pitcherplant (Sarracenia purpurea ssp. venosa), Well's pixie-moss (Pyxidanthera barbulata)

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

MAMMALS: southeastern myotis

INSECTS: eastern pinebarrens tiger beetle, robust baskettail, southeastern myotis bat fly

PLANTS: creeping blueberry (Vaccinium crassifolium), dixie broomspurge (Chamaesyce bombensis), flowering pixie-moss (Pyxidanthera barbulata), hoary scurfpea (Pediomelum canescens), october-flower (Polygonella polygama), pale grass-pink (Calopogon pallidus), pineland tick-trefoil (Desmodium strictum), sandy woods chaffhead (Carphephorus bellidifolius), white-fringe orchis (Platanthera blephariglottis), woolly chaffhead (Carphephorus tomentosus)


© Sandra Y. Erdle

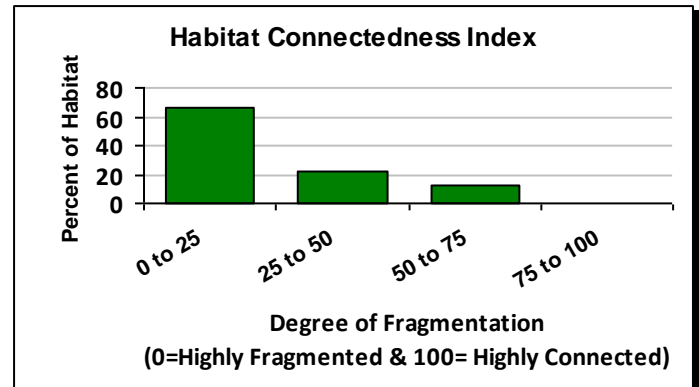**Habitat Patch Distribution**
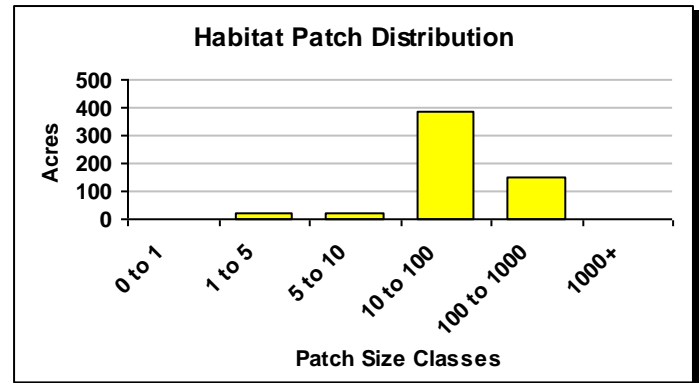
The average patch size for this habitat is 17 acres and the largest single patch is 153 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.

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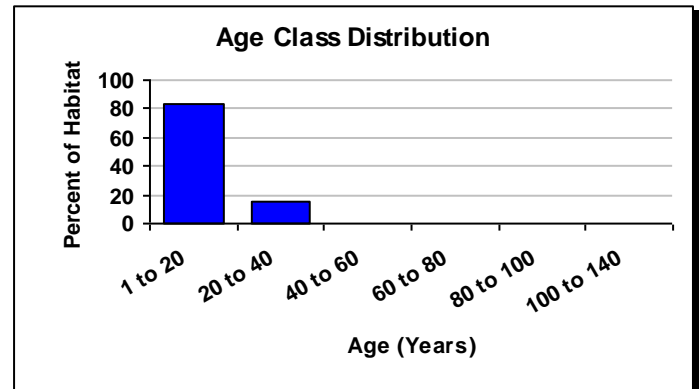
This chart shows the average age of trees associated with this habitat based on forest Inventory data. For non-forested systems or small habitats the average age is influenced by the surroundings.

Predicted Habitat Loss to Development
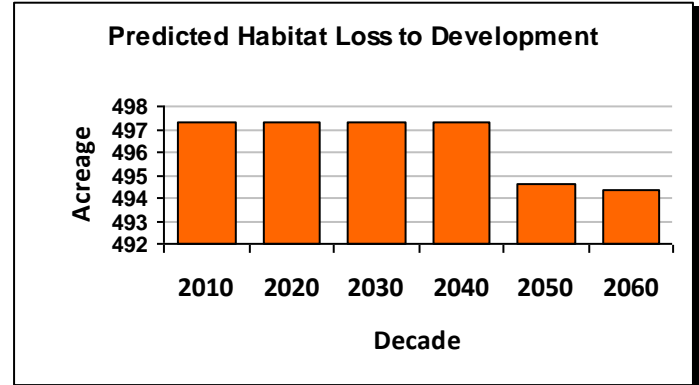
This chart shows the predicted loss of habitat over the next five decades (3 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is acres per year.

Habitat Connectedness Index

Degree of Fragmentation
(0=Highly Fragmented & 100= Highly Connected)

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.