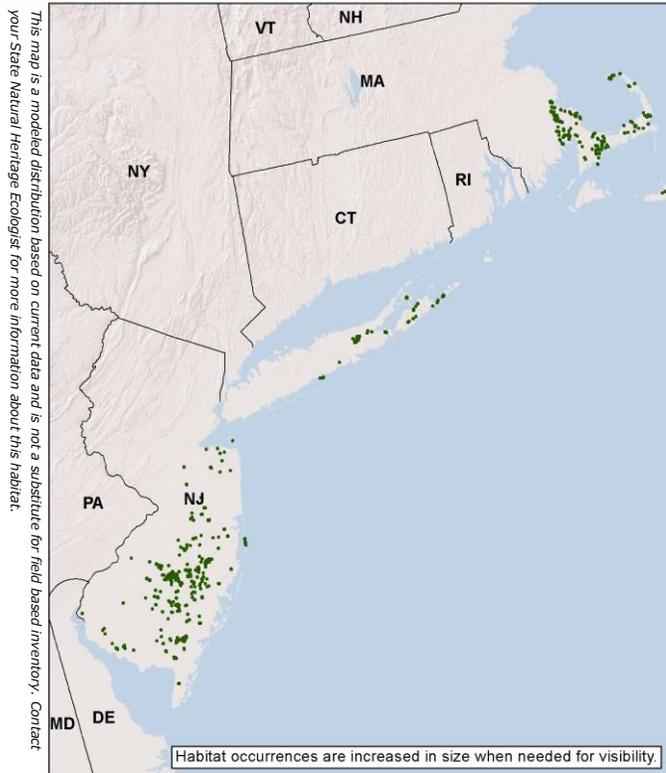




## Macrogroup: Coastal Plain Peatland



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### Description:

A small bog dominated by dwarf-shrubs that occur in the heart of the northern coastal plain, often in conjunction with pine barrens. They develop on acidic, tannic water supporting a floating or grounded peat mat over which leatherleaf, dwarf huckleberry, and other dwarf-shrubs have rooted. Taller shrubs such as highbush blueberry may occur at the periphery of the bog, and swamp loosestrife (water willow) often forms a distinct zone adjacent to open water. Aquatic plants such as water lily occur in open water.

**State Distribution:** MA, NJ, NY

**Total Habitat Acreage:** 5,260

**Percent Conserved:** 71.6%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
NJ	77%	4,039	635	2,648	756
MA	18%	936	131	206	598
NY	5%	285	51	96	137

### Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

These bogs form in isolated glacial kettleholes in deep sand deposits on the coastal plain, or similar isolated basins south of the glacial boundary. Acidic, nutrient-poor waters, and saturated conditions create a low-oxygen environment that slows the decomposition of sphagnum and other mosses. The decayed plant matter ("peat") accumulates over time to form an organic soil, sometimes to great depth.

### Similar Habitat Types:

Usually occurs adjacent to upland or wetland pine barrens, in a landscape mosaic that often includes North Atlantic Coastal Plain (NACP) Basin Peat Swamp. The latter is a peatland system dominated by Atlantic white cedar. ACP Peatland Pocosin is a shrub-dominated system of the Central Atlantic with a different suite of species and different ecological dynamics.

### Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Peatlands - Bogs (MA), Forested wetlands - cranberry bogs (NJ), Open Alkaline Peatlands (NY)

### Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Atlantic White Cedar Bog (MA), Coastal Plain Poor Fen (NY)

## Places to Visit this Habitat:

Cape Cod National Seashore | MA  
 Bass River State Forest | NJ  
 Makepeace Lake | NJ  
 Wharton State Forest | NJ  
 Mashomack Preserve | NY

## Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

**BIRDS:** common yellowthroat, great blue heron, green heron, northern waterthrush, pine warbler, prairie warbler

**MAMMALS:** masked shrew, meadow jumping mouse, southern bog lemming

**HERPTILES:** bull frog, green frog, spotted turtle, wood frog

**INSECTS:** double-ringed pennant

**PLANTS:** boreal bog sedge (*Carex magellanica*), bog rosemary (*Andromeda polifolia*), horned bladderwort (*Utricularia cornuta*), labrador tea (*Ledum groenlandicum*), mud sedge (*Carex limosa*), northern yellow-eyed-grass (*Xyris montana*), pod grass (*Scheuchzeria palustris*), rose pogonia (*Pogonia ophioglossoides*), rough cotton-grass (*Eriophorum tenellum*), sheep laurel (*Kalmia angustifolia*), smooth winterberry holly (*Ilex laevigata*), twig-rush (*Cladium mariscoides*), white-fringe orchis (*Platanthera blephariglottis*)

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

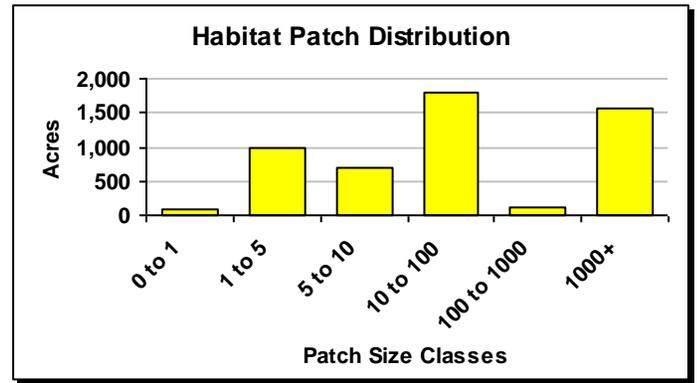
**HERPTILES:** blue-spotted salamander, jefferson salamander

**INSECTS:** Buchholz's dart moth, Buchholz's gray, Hessel's hairstreak, pitcher plant borer moth, ringed boghaunter

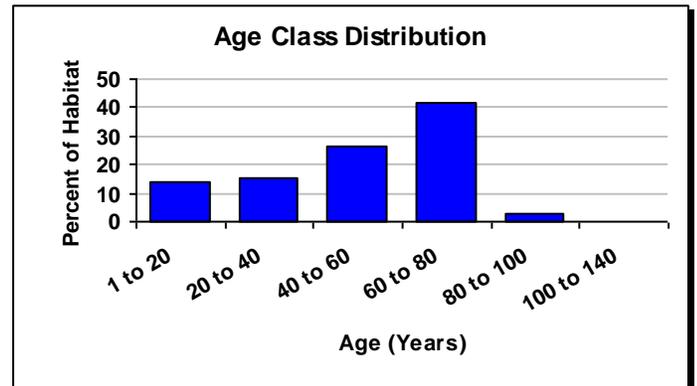
**PLANTS:** walter's sedge (*Carex striata*)



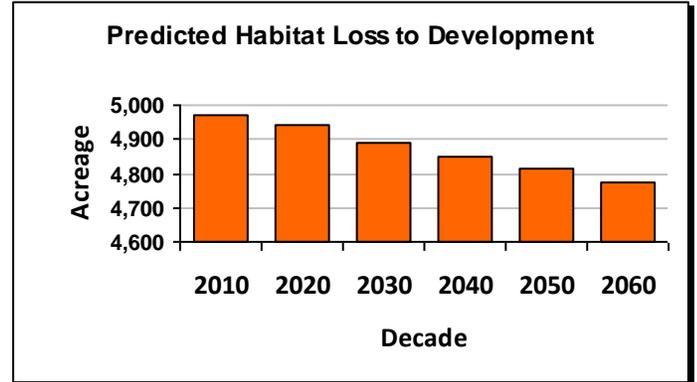
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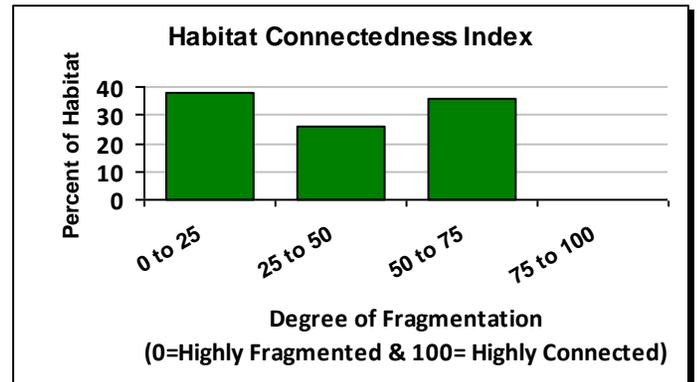
The average patch size for this habitat is 6 acres and the largest single patch is 1,349 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (197 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 4 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.