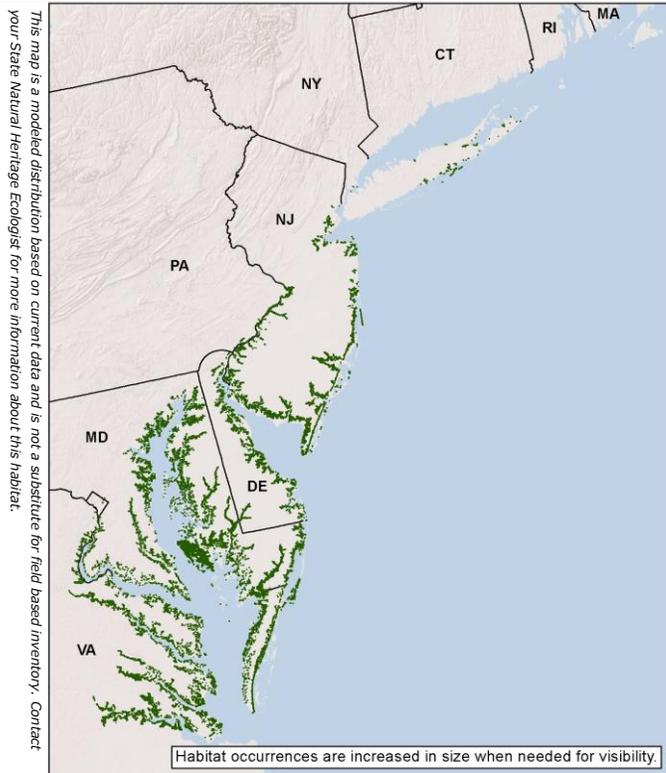




Macrogroup: Coastal Plain Swamp



© Gary P. Fleming (Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation Natural Heritage Program)

Description:

A tidally flooded hardwood forest and shrubland in lower river floodplains and estuaries of the North Atlantic Coastal Plain. Deciduous hardwood species predominate, especially ash (green or pumpkin), black gum, or water tupelo, along with red maple, American elm, and black willow. Alder and silky dogwood are common shrubs. Lianas and vines are common: poison ivy, greenbrier, and Virginia creeper. Species richness in the herbaceous layer is exceptionally high due to microtopographic features. Regularly flooded hollows primarily support flood-tolerant swamp species such as orange jewelweed, arrow arum, and various smartweeds. Water hemlock, and smallspike false nettle are typical of elevated hummocks.

State Distribution: DC, DE, MA, MD, NJ, NY, PA, VA

Total Habitat Acreage: 196,233

Percent Conserved: 30.0%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
MD	43%	84,026	13,139	16,589	54,299
VA	29%	56,049	2,686	6,496	46,867
NJ	21%	41,724	13,129	2,827	25,768
DE	6%	11,564	807	2,514	8,243
NY	1%	1,507	384	104	1,020
PA	1%	1,278	221	8	1,050
DC	0%	83	0	3	79
MA	0%	2	0	0	2

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

Occurs as small patches in the uppermost portions of tidal rivers that have sufficiently fresh water and short enough flooding to support trees. Stands form distinct pockets and fringes on poorly-drained, slightly acidic tidal muck with high silt and clay content. Most common in the Chesapeake Bay region, but reaching as far up as the lower Hudson River.

Similar Habitat Types:

In Chesapeake and Delaware Bays, found usually at the upper limit of brackish or fresh and oligohaline tidal marshes. Southern Atlantic Coastal Plain Tidal Wooded Swamp is similar, with a different (but overlapping) suite of species due to biogeographic differences.

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Wind-Tidal Cypress-Gum Swamp (DE), Tidal Hardwood Swamp (MD), Freshwater Tidal Swamp (NJ), Freshwater Tidal Swamp (NY), Northern Coastal Plain Tidal Bald Cypress Forest (VA)

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Places to Visit this Habitat:

Cape Henlopen State Park | DE
 Blackwater Wildlife Refuge | MD
 Cape May National Wildlife Refuge | NJ
 Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge | NJ
 Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge | VA

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

BIRDS: barred owl, chuck-will's widow, prothonotary warbler, red-shouldered hawk, white-eyed vireo, willow flycatcher, wood duck

HERPTILES: eastern narrow-mouthed toad

INSECTS: bar-winged skimmer, blue-faced meadowhawk, brown spiketail, fine-lined emerald, golden-winged skimmer, sparkling jewelwing

PLANTS: bayonet rush (*Juncus militaris*), maidencane (*Panicum hemitomon*), seaside alder (*Alnus maritima*), southern bladderwort (*Utricularia juncea*), catchfly-grass (*Leersia lenticularis*), clustered beakrush (*Rhynchospora glomerata*), cuckoo-flower (*Cardamine pratensis*), erect coinleaf (*Centella erecta*), gibbous panic-grass (*Sacciolepis striata*), red bay (*Persea palustris*), showy tick-trefoil (*Desmodium canadense*), star duckweed (*Lemna trisulca*)

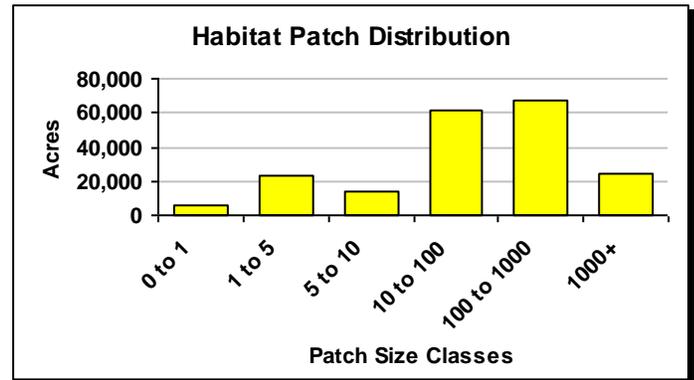
Species of Concern (G1-G4): *Appendix lists scientific names*

INSECTS: Bethany beach firefly, blackwater bluet, Lemmer's noctuid moth, palamedes swallowtail

PLANTS: American frog's-bit (*Limnobia spongia*), american waterwort (*Elatine americana*), awned mountainmint (*Pycnanthemum setosum*), giant peatmoss (*Sphagnum torreyanum*), marsh rattlesnake master (*Eryngium aquaticum*), Nuttall's lobelia (*Lobelia nuttallii*), pale false foxglove (*Agalinis skinneriana*), reniform sedge (*Carex reniformis*), shoreline sedge (*Carex hyalinolepis*), sweet pinesap (*Monotropsis odorata*), tropical water-hyssop (*Bacopa inominata*), watermeal (*Wolffia papulifera*)



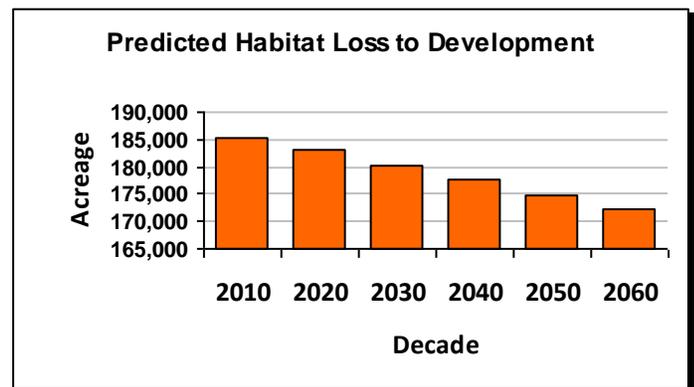
© Gary P. Fleming (Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation Natural Heritage Program)



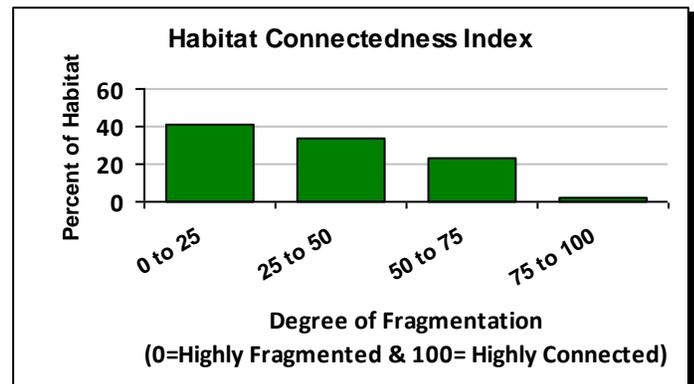
The average patch size for this habitat is 6 acres and the largest single patch is 3,555 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (13,082 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 262 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.