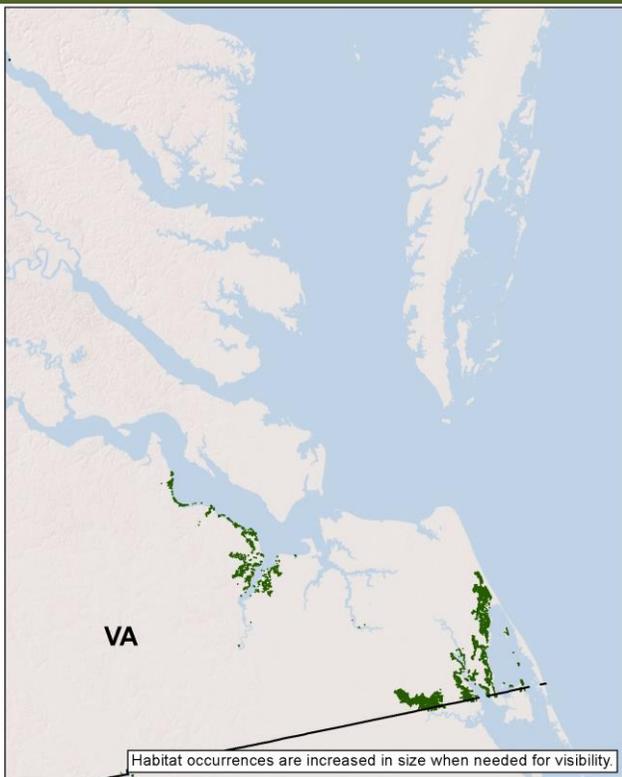


Southern Atlantic Coastal Plain Tidal Wooded Swamp



Macrogroup: Coastal Plain 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 tidal swamp of the central and southeastern coastal plain, occurring only in southeastern Virginia in our region. Bald cypress, several species of tupelo, or green ash generally dominate. Swamps may be either regularly flooded by lunar tides or irregularly flooded by wind tides. Water salinity levels are often relatively low due to distance from the ocean and substantial freshwater inputs. Lower strata of vegetation are typically more diverse than inland swamps, containing species from those systems as well as a variety of shrubs and herbs shared with freshwater marshes.

State Distribution: VA

Total Habitat Acreage: 12,564

Percent Conserved: 32.9%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
VA	100%	12,564	3,713	424	8,426

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

Occurs in the tidally flooded areas in lower river floodplains and edges of estuaries that have sufficiently fresh water and short enough flooding to support tree canopies. Stands form distinct pockets and fringes in organic soils or in poorly-drained slightly acidic tidal muck with high silt and clay content.

Similar Habitat Types:

This system appears to be in a shifting relationship with tidal freshwater marshes of the same region, and with more inland swamps. Rising sea level appears to be driving these system shifts.

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Wind-Tidal Bald Cypress - Tupelo Swamp (VA)

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Wetland Habitat - Forested (VA)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge | VA
 North Landing River Preserve | VA
 Ragged Island Wildlife Management Area | VA

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

INSECTS: two-striped forceptail (*Aphylla williamsoni*)

PLANTS: Bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), marsh rattlesnake-master (*Eryngium aquaticum*), red bay (*Persea palustris*), Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*), shoreline sedge (*Carex hyalinolepis*), silvery sedge (*Carex canescens*), southern bayberry (*Myrica cerifera*), Spanish-moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*), spikerush (*Eleocharis rostellata*), swamp tupelo (*Nyssa biflora*), Sweetbay (*Magnolia virginiana*), wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*)

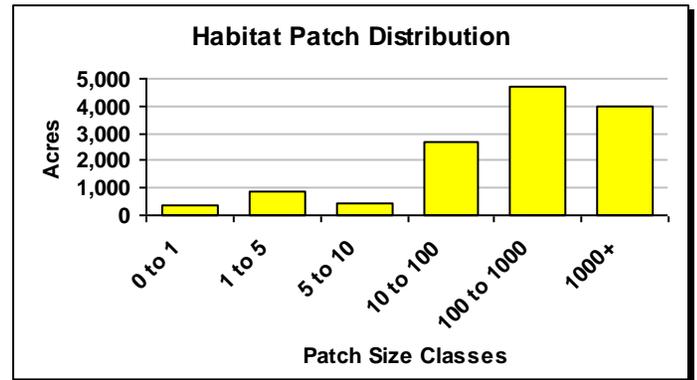
Species of Concern (G1-G4): *Appendix lists scientific names*

HERPTILES: canebrake rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus atricaudatus*)

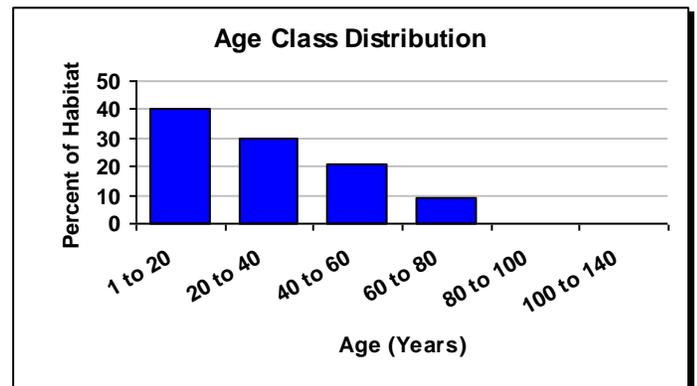
PLANTS: awned Mountainmint (*Pycnanthemum setosum*), Carolina Lilaepsis (*Lilaeopsis carolinensis*), cypress-knee Sedge (*Carex decomposita*), gritty Hedge-nettle (*Stachys aspera*)



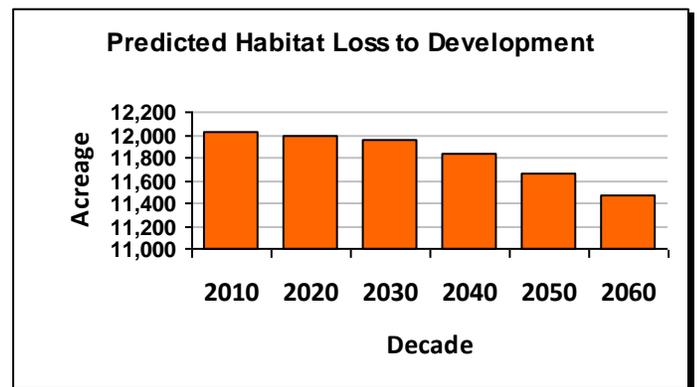
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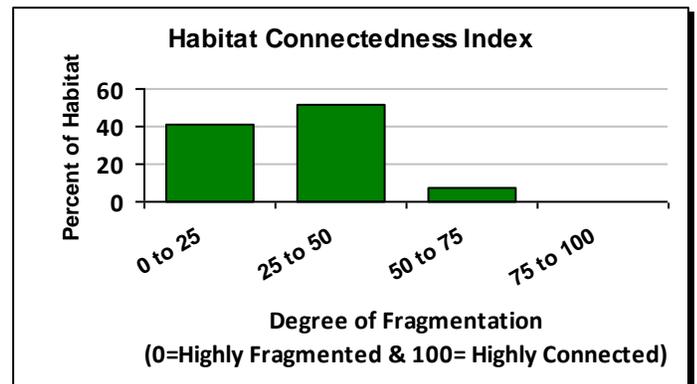
The average patch size for this habitat is 8 acres and the largest single patch is 1,140 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (548 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 11 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.