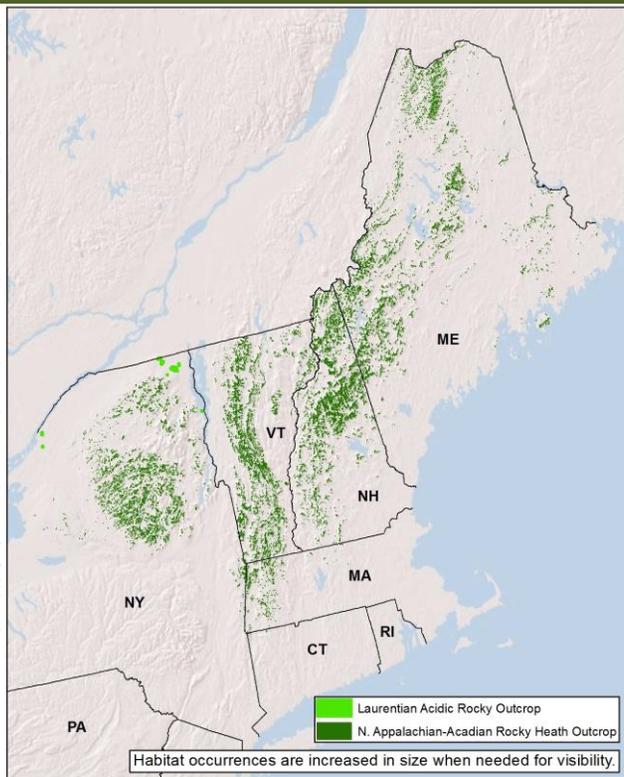




Macrogroup: Outcrop & Summit Scrub

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 sparsely vegetated system on resistant acidic bedrock such as sandstone, quartzite, or granite. The vegetation is a mosaic of woodlands and open glades reflecting the proportion of rock surface to thin soil. At higher elevation or in northern regions characteristic trees, sometimes stunted, include black spruce, red pine, red oak, and scarlet oak. Carpets of low heath shrubs or reindeer lichens are typical. At low to mid elevation stunted red oak, white pine, and red spruce are characteristic over low heath shrubs such as lowbush blueberry, huckleberry, and chokeberry. An open jack pine/heath shrub woodland community on nearly level sandstone pavement in northeastern New York falls into this system. Lichens, mosses, and scattered herbs dominate the ground cover.

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

Ridge, summit, dome, or flat plain of resistant acidic bedrock like sandstone or granite. The surface is largely bare rock widths thin soil mats around the edges and in other patches. Exposure, thin soils, and occasional fire are the major factors in keeping the vegetation open. This system is distributed throughout the Northern Appalachian region with a distinct variant in the St Lawrence -Champlain Valley. small patch

Similar Habitat Types:

Similar to the glade and barrens systems farther south, in which environmental stresses and lithochemical factors restrict some vegetation types and promote others. The northern New York flat rock variant is analogous to the Southern Piedmont Granite Flatrock and Outcrop in Virginia.

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Upland Herbaceous - Grassy Glades and Balds (CT), Rocky Cliffs, Ridgetops, Talus Slopes, and Other Similar Habitats (MA), Cliff Face and Rocky Outcrops (ME), Talus Slopes and Rocky Ridges - Rocky Ridges (NH), Rocky Outcrop (NY), Outcrops and Upland Meadows - Boreal Outcrop (VT)

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

Total Habitat Acreage: 197,404

Percent Conserved: 55.9%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
ME	27%	53,689	8,884	9,303	35,502
NH	25%	50,310	27,817	9,761	12,732
NY	22%	44,370	25,713	7,866	10,791
VT	22%	43,939	7,341	11,061	25,537
MA	3%	5,005	1,107	1,433	2,466
CT	0%	91	0	6	84

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Upland Herbaceous - Grassy Glades And Balds (CT), Rocky Cliffs, Ridgetops, Talus Slopes, And Other Similar Habitats (MA), Rocky Summit Heath (ME), Red Spruce - Heath - Cinquefoil Rocky Ridge (NH), Red Pine Rocky Summit (NY), Red Pine Forest Or Woodland (VT)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

Baxter State Park | ME
 Appalachian Trail | NH
 White Mountain National Forest | NH
 West Canada Lake | NY
 Green Mountain National Forest | VT

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

BIRDS: blackpoll warbler

PLANTS: alpine bilberry (*vaccinium uliginosum*), alpine sweet grass (*hierochloa alpina*), bigelow's sedge (*carex bigelowii*), canada mountain ricegrass (*piptatherum canadense*), douglas' knotweed (*polygonum douglasii*), mountain sandwort (*minuartia groenlandica*)

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

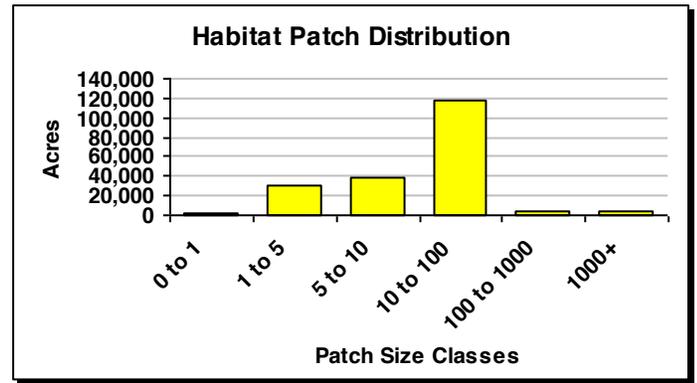
BIRDS: Bicknell's thrush, three-toed woodpecker

INSECTS: early hairstreak

PLANTS: appalachian sandwort (*minuartia glabra*)



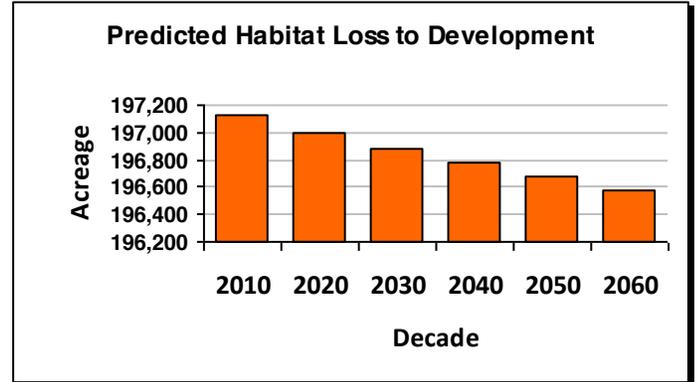
© George Gress (The Nature Conservancy, Pennsylvania)



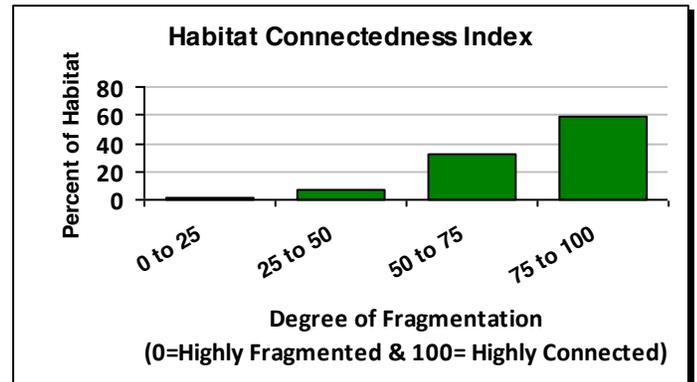
The average patch size for this habitat is 7 acres and the largest single patch is 4,555 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (547 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.