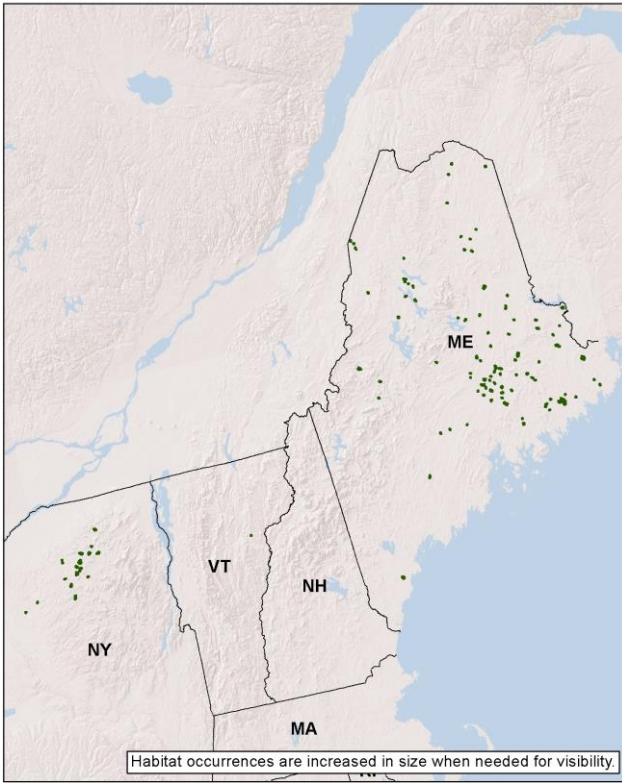




Macrogroup: Northern Peatland

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 raised peatland of near-boreal latitudes of the glaciated northeastern and north-central United States and adjacent Canada. Often more than 500 meters in diameter, they are dominated by low heath shrubs (sheep laurel, bog laurel, Labrador tea, leatherleaf) and patches of sedge and bryophyte lawns. Sparse to patchy black spruce and larch are also characteristic, with tree cover usually less than 25%. Typical forbs include sundews, pitcher plants, and several orchids. The accumulated peat forms a central surface that typically is over the water table (ombrotrophic) and displays concentric patterning. While the raised portion defines these bogs, fen vegetation is often present along the wetter perimeter.

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

Raised peatlands are found at northern latitudes, where climate allows the rate of peat accumulation to exceed its decomposition. They are acidic and nutrient poor. Their remoteness ensures that most examples are in intact landscapes, but a changing climate threatens their longer term viability.

Similar Habitat Types:

Nutrient poor fens, marshes, and acidic swamps often occur as inclusions within or adjacent to these bogs. Their distance from the coast, morphology, and peat depth distinguish them from Acadian Maritime Bogs.

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Peatlands (ME), Open Acidic Peatlands (NY), Open Peatlands - Black Spruce Woodland Bog (VT), Open Peatlands - Dwarf Shrub Bog (VT)

State Distribution: ME, NY, VT

Total Habitat Acreage: 45,394

Percent Conserved: 40.6%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
ME	82%	37,385	7,667	4,629	25,089
NY	17%	7,856	3,251	2,708	1,897
VT	0%	153	0	153	0

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Sheep Laurel Dwarf Shrub Bog (ME), Dwarf Shrub Bog (NY), Black Spruce Woodland Bog (VT)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

Great Heath Public Reserved Land | ME
 Saco Heath Preserve | ME
 Sunkhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge | ME
 Debar Mountain Wild Forest | NY
 Frank E. Jadwin Memorial State Forest | NY

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

BIRDS: boreal chickadee, canada warbler, lincoln's sparrow, mourning warbler, nashville warbler, olive-sided flycatcher, palm warbler, spruce grouse, american three-toed woodpecker, yellow-bellied flycatcher

MAMMALS: big brown bat, eastern pipistrelle, little brown myotis, masked shrew, northern bog lemming, northern long-eared bat, raccoon, red bat, silver-haired bat, smoky shrew, snowshoe hare, water shrew

HERPTILES: four-toed salamander

INSECTS: jutta Arctic, mantled Baskettail, ringed boghaunter

PLANTS: bog aster (*Oclemena nemoralis*), boreal bog sedge (*Carex magellanica*), ink-berry (*Ilex glabra*), livid sedge (*Carex livida*), mountain alder (*Alnus viridis*), mountain cranberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*), twining bartonia (*Bartonia paniculata*), swamp birch (*Betula pumila*)

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

BIRDS: black-backed woodpecker, rusty blackbird

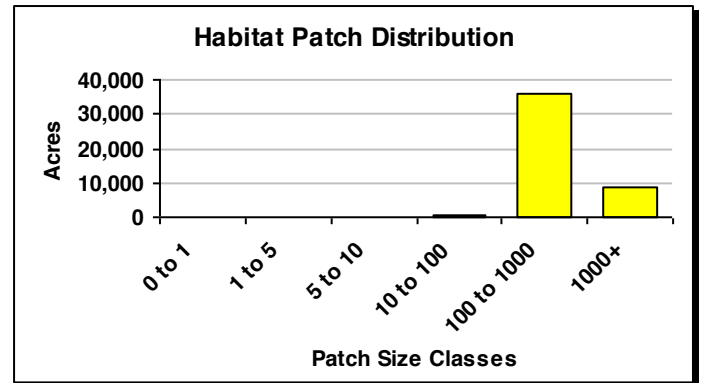
HERPTILES: bog turtle

INSECTS: bog elfin, incurvate emerald, Quebec emerald

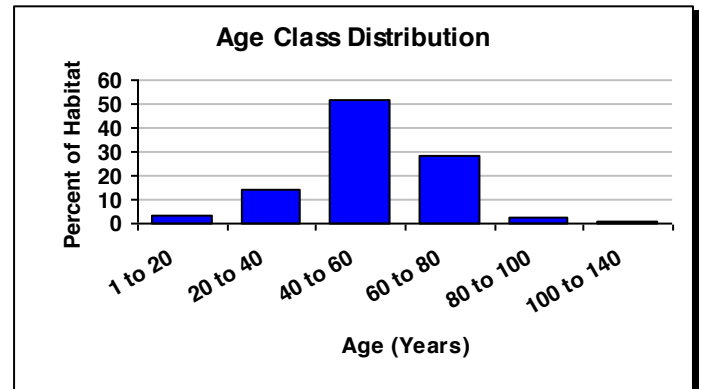
PLANTS: long's bulrush (*Scirpus longii*), slenderleaf sundew (*Drosera linearis*), southern twayblade (*Listera australis*), swamp-pink (*Arethusa bulbosa*)



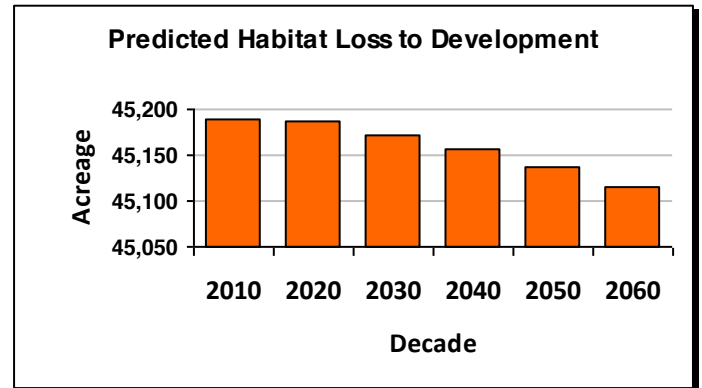
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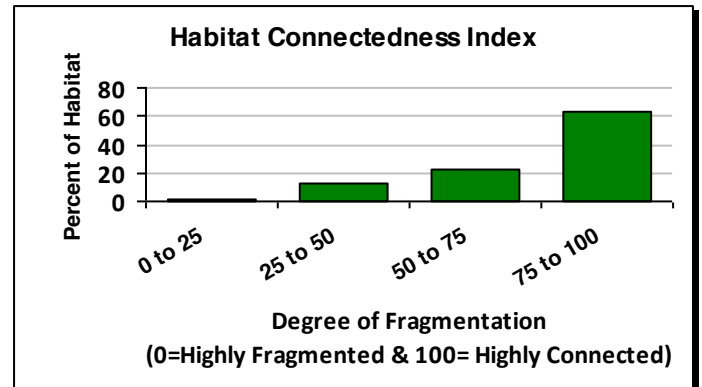
The average patch size for this habitat is 219 acres and the largest single patch is 3,173 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (73 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 1 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.