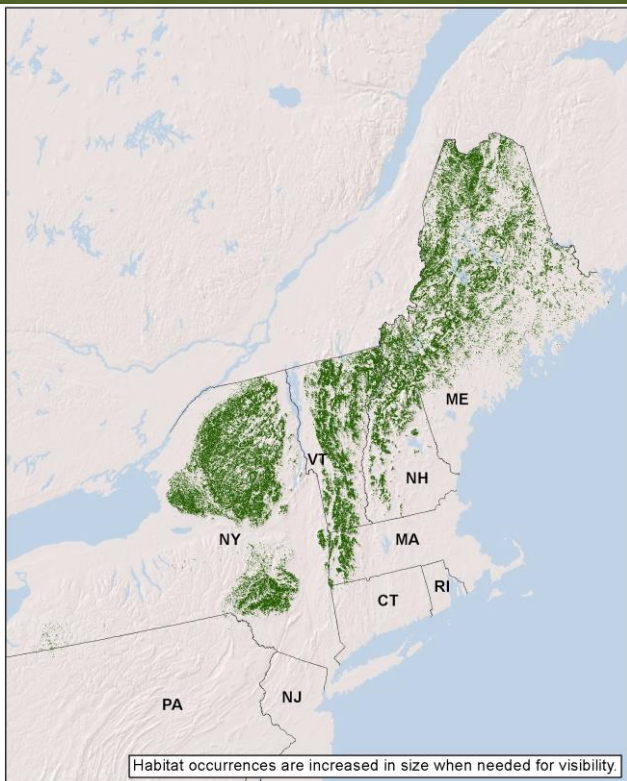


Laurentian-Acadian Northern Hardwood Forest



Macrogroup: Northern Hardwood & Conifer

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 hardwood forest dominated by sugar maple, American beech, and yellow birch; white ash is common on some sites, and hemlock and red spruce are frequent but minor canopy associates. Paper birch, red maple, aspen, and white pine are common in successional stands. This is the "matrix" forest in the northern part of our region, within which upland and wetland systems that occur at smaller scale are embedded. Rich expressions of this habitat type, with herb, shrub, and canopy layers of high diversity, occur over areas of calcium-rich bedrock and in cool, moist sites; forests on acidic till or in areas of granitic (or similar) bedrock are relatively poor floristically. Variability in climate, substrate, and exposure, can lead to stands proportionally higher in conifers or red oak.

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

A broadly defined ecological generalist, this system is found on slopes, hills, and flats, on a wide variety of bedrocks and tills. It occurs at low to moderate elevations that vary with latitude, but generally from 800 to 2200 feet. Blowdowns of small and relatively large scale, or snow and ice loading, are the most frequent forms of natural disturbance; these forests do not easily ignite easily and burn. Old growth examples are rare in the Northeast.

Similar Habitat Types:

Grades into Laurentian-Acadian Pine-Hemlock-Hardwood Forest or Appalachian (Hemlock-)Northern Hardwoods at lower elevation; and into a yellow birch-red spruce variant, then Acadian-Appalachian Montane Spruce-Fir-Hardwood Forest, on slopes and ridges above. Red Oak-Northern Hardwood Forests are sometimes in small to large patches in warmer settings within this system.

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Upland Forest (MA), Deciduous and Mixed Forest (ME), Northern Hardwood – Conifer Forest (NH), Mixed Northern Hardwoods (NY), Deciduous/Mixed Forest (upland) (PA), Northern Hardwood Forest - Northern Hardwood Forest (VT)

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

Total Habitat Acreage: 12,740,118

Percent Conserved: 37.8%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
ME	37%	4,652,650	149,125	908,508	3,595,017
NY	35%	4,476,027	1,668,902	750,974	2,056,151
VT	17%	2,147,101	142,060	437,587	1,567,455
NH	9%	1,148,087	173,100	446,228	528,759
MA	2%	304,979	36,880	100,186	167,913
PA	0%	6,236	276	1,672	4,287
CT	0%	4,924	441	662	3,822
NJ	0%	114	51	28	35

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Spruce Fir Northern Hardwoods Forest (MA), Beech - Birch - Maple Forest (ME), Sugar Maple - Beech - Yellow Birch Forest (NH), Beech-Maple Mesic Forest (NY), Deciduous/Mixed Forest (Upland) (PA), Northern Hardwood Forest (VT)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

October Mountain State Forest | MA
 Baxter State Park | ME
 White Mountain National Forest | NH
 Ferris Lake | NY
 Green Mountain National Forest | VT

Associated Species: *Appendix lists scientific names*

BIRDS: black-and-white warbler, blackburnian warbler, black-throated blue warbler, black-throated green warbler, eastern wood pewee, hermit thrush, northern saw-whet owl, ovenbird, pine warbler, ruffed grouse, scarlet tanager, veery, wood thrush

MAMMALS: black bear, fisher, gray fox, northern flying squirrel, porcupine, smoky shrew, southern flying squirrel, white-footed mouse, woodland jumping mouse

HERPTILES: northern red-bellied snake, smooth greensnake, spring salamander

PLANTS: bristly black currant (*Ribes lacustre*), broad beech fern (*Phegopteris hexagonoptera*), mountain woodfern (*Dryopteris campyloptera*), pale jewel-weed (*Impatiens pallida*), squirrel-corn (*Dicentra canadensis*), swamp red currant (*Ribes triste*), twinflower (*Linnaea borealis*)

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

BIRDS: olive-sided flycatcher

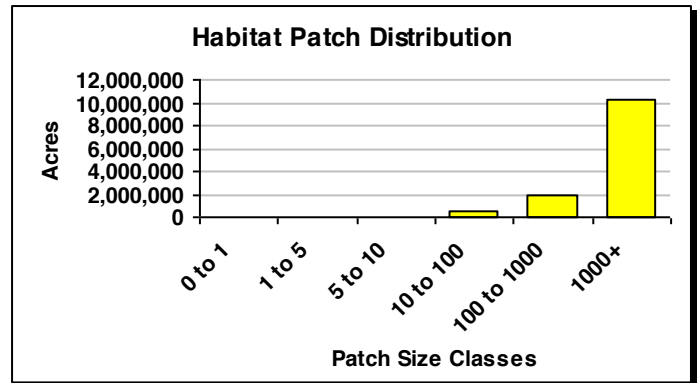
HERPTILES: jefferson salamander, wood turtle

INSECTS: early hairstreak (*Erora laeta*), eastern veined white (*Pieris oleracea*)

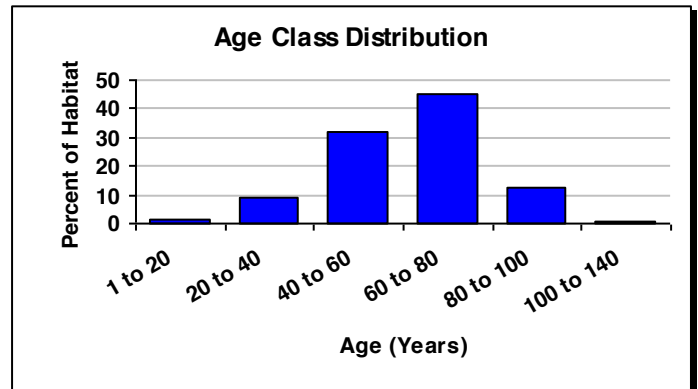
PLANTS: American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*), bailey's sedge (*Carex baileyi*), climbing fumitory (*Adlumia fungosa*), Goldie's woodfern (*Dryopteris goldiana*), hooker's orchis (*Platanthera hookeri*), nodding pogonia (*Triphora trianthophora*), northern mountain-ash (*Sorbus decora*), northern wild monkshood (*Aconitum noveboracense*), summer sedge (*Carex aestivalis*), tinged sedge (*Carex tinctoria*)



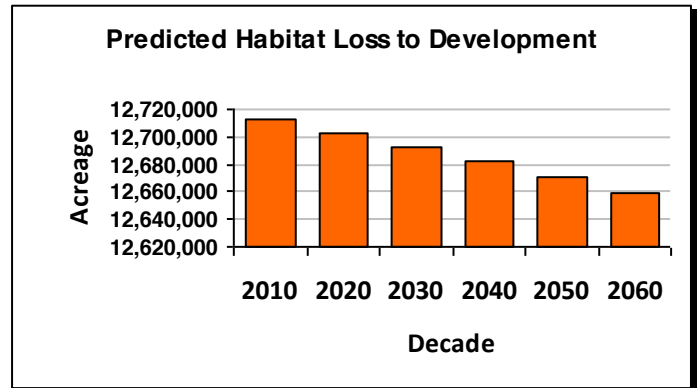
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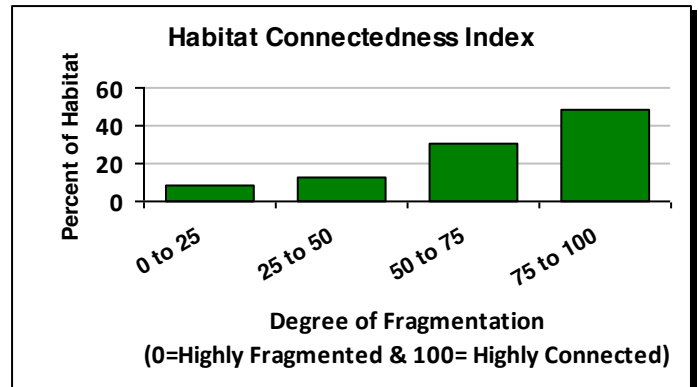
The average patch size for this habitat is 72 acres and the largest single patch is 176,448 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (54,514 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 1,090 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.