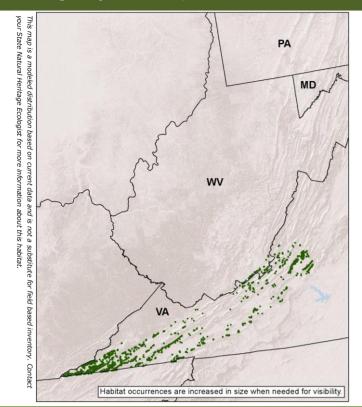
Southern Ridge and Valley Calcareous Glade and Woodland The Nature





Macrogroup: Glade, Barren and Savanna





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Description:

A mosaic of open glades and woodlands occurring on shallow, high pH, limestone soils of the Ridge and Valley region from Virginia southward. Chinquapin oak is typical where there is canopy. The flat to rolling terrain and dry soils may have been especially susceptible to periodic fires that helped maintain the prairie-like openings and savanna-like woodlands. Today, much of the system is currently more closed and brushy, suggesting fire suppression.

State Distribution: VA, WV

Total Habitat Acreage: 9,418

Percent Conserved: 9.8%

State	State Habitat %	State Acreage	GAP 1&2 (acres)	GAP 3 (acres)	Unsecured (acres)
VA	98%	9,195	513	388	8,294
WV	2%	224	1	19	204

Ecological Setting and Natural Processes:

These glades occur in broad valley bottoms, rolling basins, and adjacent lower slopes where soils are shallow over flatlying limestone strata. Patches often border remnant calcareous forests in primarily agricultural zones.

Similar Habitat Types:

Other calcareous glades of the same region (Central Appalachian Alkaline Glade and Woodland, lower canopy openings in Southern Ridge and Valley/Cumberland Dry Calcareous Forest) occur on hillslopes. They are subject to different erosional processes, zonal vegetation patterns, and generally different ecological dynamics.

Crosswalk to State Wildlife Action Plans:

Forest Habitat - Mixed Forest (VA)

Crosswalk to State Name Examples:

Southern Ridge And Valley Dry Calcareous Forest (VA)

Places to Visit this Habitat:

George Washington and Jefferson National Forest | VA Jefferson National Forest | WV

Associated Species: Appendix lists scientific names

PLANTS: Big bluestem (Andropogon gerardii), Canada bluets (Houstonia canadensis), eastern indian-paintbrush (Castilleja coccinea), ebony sedge (Carex eburnea), false aloe (Manfreda virginica), false boneset (Brickellia eupatorioides), hairy wildpetunia (Ruellia humilis), indian grass (Sorghastrum nutans), little bluestem (Schizachyrium scoparium), Pitcher's stitchwort (Minuartia patula var. patula), rough dropseed (Sporobolus clandestinus), sheathed dropseed (Sporobolus vaginiflorus), side-oats grama (Bouteloua curtipendula), stiff goldenrod (Solidago rigida), tall gay-feather (Liatris aspera), western silky aster (Aster pratensis), white blue-eyed-grass (Sisyrinchium albidum)

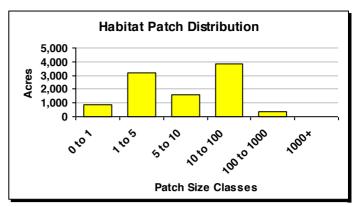
Species of Concern (G1-G4): Appendix lists scientific names

INSECTS: Cherokee Clubtail (Gomphus consanguis)

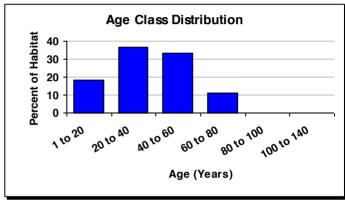
PLANTS: Wild Hyacinth (Camassia scilloides)



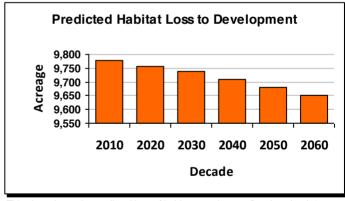
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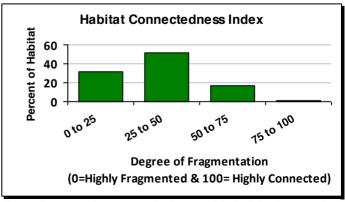
The average patch size for this habitat is 2 acres and the largest single patch is 183 acres. This chart shows the proportion of the habitat that is in each patch-size class.



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 (127 acres) if loss continues at the same rate as 1990-2000. The average rate of loss is 3 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.