PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT MAMMAL AREA #34 SGL 129/Hickory Run State Park/Holiday Pocono/Jonathan's Point

COUNTY(IES) Carbon, Luzerne, Monroe

APPROX. SIZE 19,652 acres

OWNERSHIP Public (State), Private

REASON FOR SELECTION

• Sustains a confirmed viable local population of a Species of Greatest Conservation Need and the species or subspecies regularly occurs at the site during one or more seasons

DESCRIPTION

This area is located near White Haven southeast of Wilkes-Barre in eastern PA. Natural habitats in this IMA are dominated by mixed woods and streams, with grasslands, open water, an extensive boulder field (said to be the largest in the eastern United States), and dense thickets of rhododendron and mountain laurel. Sphagnum bog habitat is associated with a small lake.

MAMMAL NOTES

Special concern mammal species include northern flying squirrels, Allegheny woodrats, snowshoe hares, and fisher. Streams should be surveyed for northern water shrews. As of 2010, the local woodrat population may be extirpated.

CONSERVATION NOTES

The habitat threatened by development from urban sprawl. Special concern plant species include Collin's sedge, bog sedge, variable sedge, creeping snowberry, narrow-leave gentian, climbing fern, golden club, and white-fringed orchid. Hickory Run State Park, with its variety of forest interior and edge-sensitive species, is IBA #65. Conservation measures include management as a natural area and control of invasive plant species.