PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS

SITE NAME CALLEN RUN RESEARCH AREA **COUNTY** JEFFERSON SITE # 20

APPROX. SIZE 2,500 ACRES **OWNERSHIP** PUBLIC (DCNR) **LAT.** 41°20' **LONG.** 78°59'

DESCRIPTION

Callen Run Research Area, at the northern edge of Jefferson County, makes up a small portion of the 13,000-acre Kittanning State Forest. It consists of continuous second-growth deciduous forests of three types – oak-dominated, mixed hardwoods, and Eastern Hemlock. The topography is typical of a high, maturely dissected plateau of the Allegheny High Plateaus. Most of the area is drained by Callen Run, a tributary to the Clarion River. The streams are bordered in many places by steep slopes. Secondary forest exists in patches of many different ages due to timber harvests. Archeological remains may be present. The Red-spotted Newt, Slimy Salamander and Timber Rattlesnake are found in the area.

Directions: From I-80 in Brookville, north on 36. Turn right onto 949 in Sigel. Turn right on Callen Run Rd.

BIRDS - SUMMARY

This site is part of a large area of continuous second-growth forest and has been the subject of long-term baseline studies on bird populations in a typical hardwood forest. the research is conducted by the DCNR Bureau of Forestry and Clarion University with support form the National Gas Fuel Corporation. A total of 176 bird species have been inventoried, with up to 60 breeding. Characteristic breeding species include Eastern Screech-Owl (5+pairs), Whip-poor-will (1+pair), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (4+pairs), Black-billed Cuckoo (2+pairs), Ruby-throated Hummingbird (6+pairs), and a variety of warblers.

REPRESENTATIVE BIRDS - BY CRITERIA

4a Density and diversity of forest interior birds, 60+ breeding species.

5 Long-term (10+ years) research and monitoring of baseline breeding bird populations.

CONSERVATION / ADDITIONAL NOTES

Mineral rights are owned by the National Gas Fuels Corporation, which has proposed an underground gas storage facility that would necessitate the clear cutting of an estimated 12% of the forest in the research area. In order to understand the potential effects of such logging and to design construction to minimize impacts, the company has supported long-term research on breeding bird populations in different-age stand at the site. Natural pests (e/g Elm Spanworm) and recreational overuse have been identified as potential threats. The state forest as a whole is managed for multiple uses, including conservation.

LOCAL CONTACTS

Herb Landes, DCNR, (814) 226-1901

Merlin Benner, DCNR, (717) 787-3706

SUBMITTED BY:

Ian Hartzler

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