Significant Habitats in a Hyde Park Study Area, Dutchess County, NY

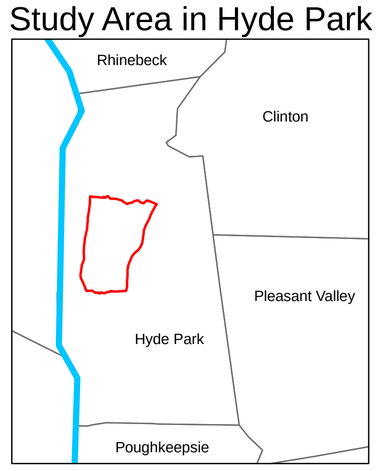
South Cross Road

Route 9

Route 9G

Mill Road

Study Area in Hyde Park



- Study area boundary
- Road
- ? Habitat identification uncertain
- Developed area/ non-significant habitat

Upland Habitats

- Upland hardwood forest (uhf)
- Upland mixed forest (umf)
- Upland conifer forest (ucf)
- Red cedar woodland (rcw)
- Upland shrubland (us)
- Upland meadow (um)
- Cultural (c)
- Waste ground (wg)

Wetland and Stream Habitats

- Hardwood & shrub swamp (hs)
- Mixed forest swamp (ms)
- Intermittent woodland pool (iwp)
- Marsh (ma)
- Wet meadow (wm)
- Wet clay meadow (wcm)
- Open water (ow)
- Constructed pond (cp)
- Stream
- Stream

N

W E

S

1:6,000

0 0.25 0.5 1 Kilometers

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

An important caution:

This map is suitable for general land use planning, but is not suitable for detailed planning and site design, or for jurisdictional determinations (e.g., for wetlands). Boundaries of wetlands and other habitats depicted here are only approximate.

Habitats were identified through remote sensing and field observations by a Hyde Park community team engaged in a Biodiversity Assessment Training program led by Hudsonia in 2008. The training project was carried out in partnership with the Hudson River Estuary Program, and funded by the New York State Environmental Protection Fund through the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. A hand-drawn habitat map was digitized (using ArcView 9.2) by Jamie Deppen onscreen over color infrared orthophoto images taken in spring 2004, and the digitized map was reviewed remotely and corrected by Hudsonia. The companion report: *Hyde Park Biodiversity Assessment--Final Report* (Bickford et al. 2008)—explains the habitat identification and mapping methods, describes the ecological significance of each habitat type, and offers conservation and management recommendations.

Special Notes

Wetlands: Much of the study area is characterized by low north-south oriented ledges and narrow wetlands in the low areas between ledges. Remote mapping of wetlands was very difficult in this terrain, so we expect that some wetlands were unintentionally omitted from this map and that wetland boundaries may be inaccurate. We strongly recommend that field surveys be conducted to accurately identify wetlands and other important habitats prior to planning any significant land use changes.

Ledges: Crest and ledge habitats occurred throughout the study area, mainly in low outcrops of graywacke and shale bedrock. These bedrock types tend to be somewhat calcareous, and the team identified calcicolous plants on ledges at several locations. The biodiversity values of crests and ledges are described in the habitat report. Because of their ubiquity, however, we did not show these ledgy habitats explicitly on the habitat map, but instead ask map users to assume that ledges are abundant in most parts of the study area, and to conduct site-specific field surveys when necessary to determine the actual configuration and character of bedrock outcrops.

For more information on the habitat map contact the Town of Hyde Park Zoning Administrator or Planning Board, 845-229-5111 ext.2, or Andrew Meyer or Gretchen Stevens at Hudsonia Ltd., 845-758-0600.