Forrest H. Dutlinger Natural Area

Area Facts



The blackburnian warbler prefers coniferous forests of northcentral PA.

- ≻ Area is 1,521 acres.
- Tract is located in Clinton County, bordering Potter County.
- Tract is part of Susquehannock State Forest and is surrounded by the Hammersley Wild Area.
- Features the Beech Bottom Hollow Trail, which traverses the entire area from east to west, offering two different routes.

Susquehannock State Forest

For more information, please contact:

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Ecosystem/Terrain

- The natural area's signature feature is a 158-acre stand of old growth timber, which is chiefly comprised of eastern hemlock.
- Terrain varies from steep and rugged to the southeast, to relatively flat to the west and north, with highest elevation of about 2000 feet.



Old growth hemlock in the Dutlinger Natural Area.

- The forest community is characterized by oak-heath association, including mountain laurel thickets, huckleberry, and blueberry.
- Some of the largest hemlocks in the natural area exceed four feet in diameter. District staff take measures to protect them from the hemlock woolly adelgid.

Wildlife

The natural area supports plentiful populations of big game, including black bears, white-tailed deer, and turkeys.

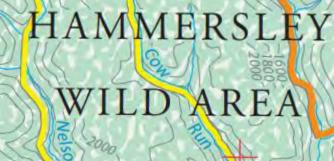


Hikers beware, timber rattlesnakes are found in the natural area.

- The natural area is a special Reptile and Amphibian Protection Area (PA Fish and Boat Commission), supporting populations of turtles and snakes.
- The natural area also provides essential habitat for a diverse array of birds of the interior forest.

Access

- Vehicle access to the area can be found at its southeastern corner where an improved dirt road dead ends off of Route 144.
- The area can also be accessed via several trails, including from Trout Run Ridge and Beech Bottom Trail.
- The natural area is unique because it offers very little developed access, and together with the Hammersley, comprises one of the largest roadless wildernesses in the state.



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