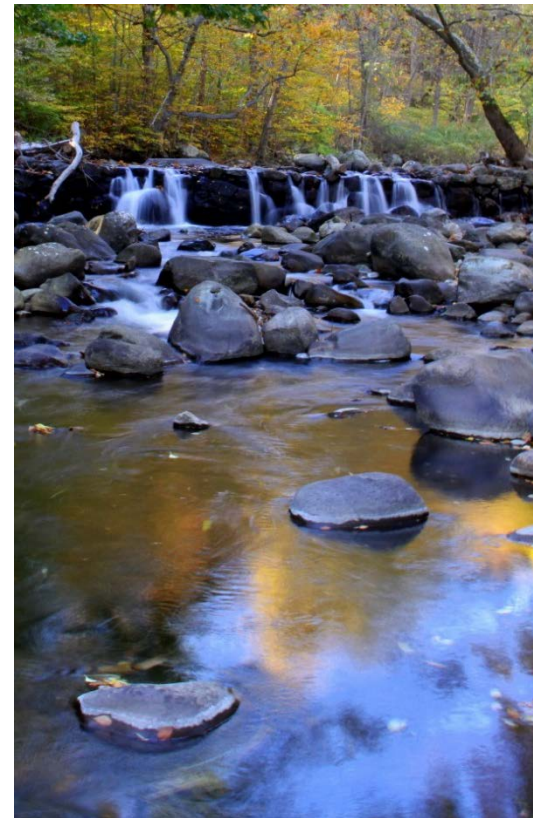




Highlands Council Meeting

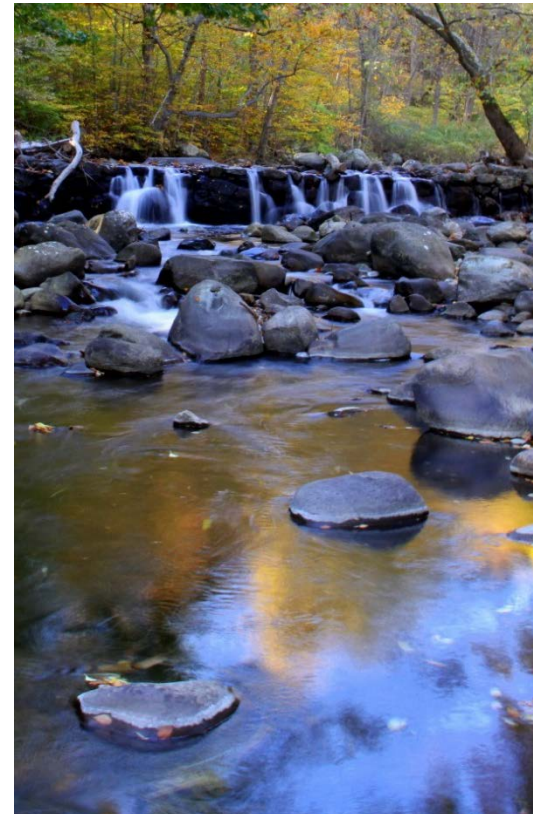
Thursday, October 17, 2019





Functional Ecosystem Valuation Model & Forest Conservation Guidance

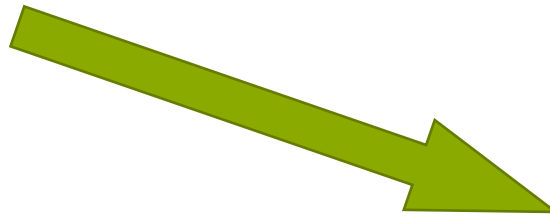
Thursday, October 17, 2019



Unique Needs of NJ Highlands Habitats

- The Highlands Region hosts unique and protected habitats. Upland Forests are highly protected in the Highlands Region.
- RMP Objective: *1F5b: No Net Loss of Habitat Values.*
- BUT not all habitats and forests are equal.

High Quality:
Functional/Intact



Low Quality:
Fragmented/Degraded

- How do you value a complex habitat and establish standards to implement *No Net Loss*? How do you know what it is worth?

Unique Needs of NJ Highlands Habitats

Highlands Council NJ Highlands Council Interactive Map

Basemaps

- Utilities (NJDEP)
- NJ Highlands Data
 - Administrative
 - Agricultural Resources
 - Critical Habitat
 - Confirmed Vernal Pool 1000' Buffer
 - Critical Wildlife Habitat
 - Freshwater Mussels
 - Significant Natural Areas
- Forest Resources
- Geology
- Open Water
- Preservation Priority
- Preserved Open Space
- Riparian
- Topography
- Transportation
- Utilities

Address Search


1:9,028 Lat: 40.797 Long: -74.656

NJ Highlands Council; NJ Office of Info

<input type="checkbox"/>	pcl_mun	mun_name	county	pclblock	pcllot	gis_pin
<input type="checkbox"/>	1407	CHESTER TWP	MORRIS	26	78.02	1407_26_78.02

1 - 1 of 1 results

100



Unique Needs of NJ Highlands Habitats

Highlands Council NJ Highlands Council Interactive Map

Basemaps

- Utilities (NJDEP)
- NJ Highlands Data
 - Administrative
 - Agricultural Resources
 - Critical Habitat
 - Forest Resources
 - Forest Resource Area
 - Total Forest Area
 - Forest Integrity Score
 - Geology
 - Open Water
 - Preservation Priority
 - Preserved Open Space
 - Riparian
 - Topography
 - Transportation
 - Utilities
 - Water Quality
 - Water Quantity
 - Zoning

Address Search

1:9,028 Lat: 40.797 Long: -74.67

NJ Highlands Council; NJ Office of Info

<input type="checkbox"/>	pcl_mun	mun_name	county	pclblock	pcllot	gis_pin
<input type="checkbox"/>	1407	CHESTER TWP	MORRIS	26	78.02	1407_26_78.02

1 - 1 of 1 results

Export Create Property Report

Functional Ecosystem Valuation (FEV)

Why, How and Who will use it?

- **Habitat Valuation Models:** limited availability/complex systems have not been modelled.
- **Highlands FEV Model** developed to assess ecosystem values.
 - A **Site Score** is compiled from site assessment, fieldwork-derived index of biological integrity, and GIS analysis.
- **Uses of FEV:**
 - Guiding the location of a development footprint & quantifying mitigation
 - Monitoring ecological responses to forestry and land stewardship practices
 - Identify and prioritize natural habitats of high value for preservation

Where we are

- **Draft FEV Methodology** has been prepared by consulting team and evaluated by staff.
- **Field Testing and Validation RFP** to be issued shortly, with anticipated award in early 2020.
- **Completion of Forest Conservation Guidance**
 - Intended users: Conforming Municipalities, conservation land managers, private landowners.

Questions?