



CRANBERRY GLADES



DID YOU KNOW?

- The Cranberry Glades contain Sphagnum moss, better known as peatmoss. This catches and retains rainfall, soaking up to 20 times its own dry weight.
- The glades are a mosaic of acidic bog, fens, alder swamp, beaver ponds, and old growth forested swamp.
- The glades are part of the headwaters of the Cranberry River. It is also adjacent to the Cranberry Wilderness, which resides within the Monongahela National Forest.



Cranberry Glades has largely recovered from the logging and farming disturbances of its surrounding uplands between 1900-1960. Luckily, these disturbances avoided the wetland itself. This wetland complex is one of the most intact wetlands in the state. Because of the lack of stressors, it has been designated as a long-term monitoring site to assess the impacts of climate change on wetland habitats in West Virginia.

Cranberry Glades are a unique ecosystem because:



3 rare mammals, 6 rare invertebrates and 27 rare plants can be found in this wetland.



organic-rich soils and dense root mats capture pollutants and nutrients, helping to purify the water.



it is the most intact remaining wetland of its kind in the state of WV.



it is a high-elevation headwater peatland, locally known as a bog or glade.



Public use of the area includes hiking, photography, birding, and nature studies. There is a boardwalk that is maintained by the USFS.

BIRDS YOU MAY SEE:

- American woodcock
- Bank swallow
- Black-throated blue warbler
- Canada warbler
- Great blue heron
- Red-winged blackbird
- Wood duck



The wetland is located in the Cranberry Wilderness Area along Forest Road 102 in Pocahontas County, WV. 38.19787, -80.2750