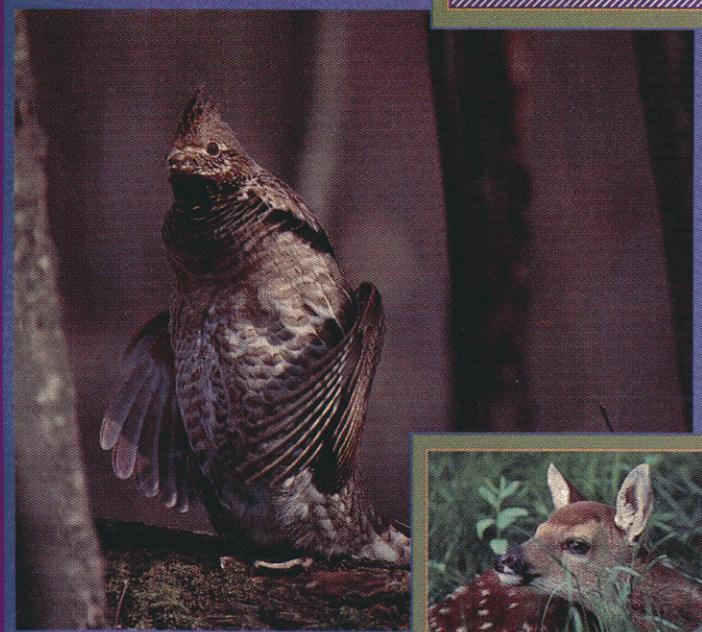


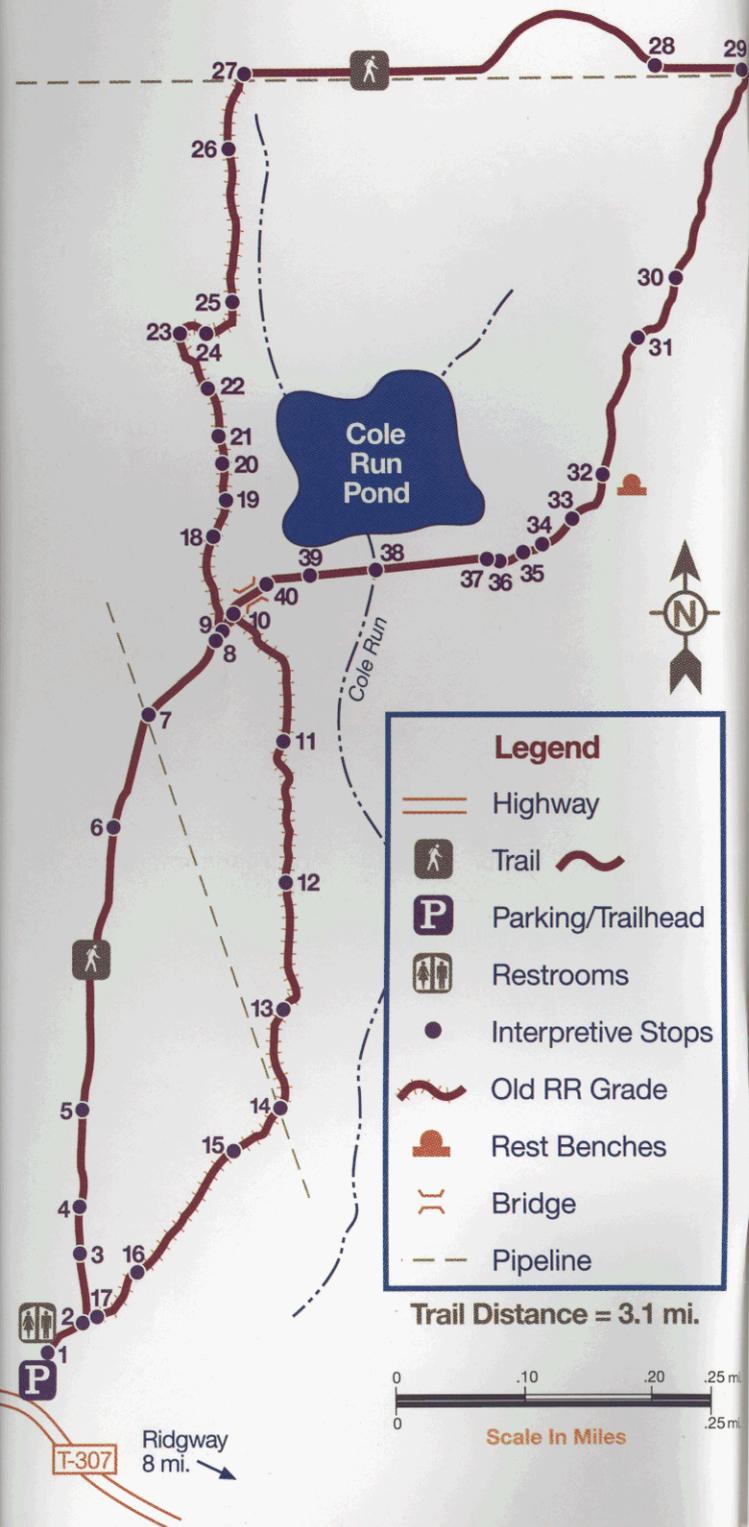


**LITTLE  
DRUMMER  
HISTORICAL  
PATHWAY**

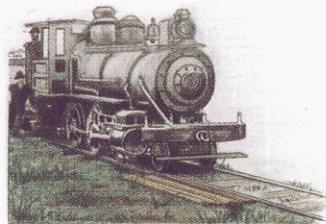


Cover Photos by Larry Holjencin

# LITTLE DRUMMER HISTORICAL PATHWAY INTERPRETIVE TRAIL



## LITTLE DRUMMER HISTORICAL PATHWAY INTERPRETIVE TRAIL



**W**ELCOME to the Little Drummer Historical Pathway, a journey through managed wildlife habitats consisting of two loops. The short loop is 1.0 miles, and the longer loop is 2.1 miles. This pathway is located within the Owl's Nest Ecosystem Management Demonstration Area of the Allegheny National Forest. You will hike through one of the areas on the Forest managed for a

roadless environment, but at the same time you will learn of the importance of the historical means of transportation in the development of this area around the turn of the century. This area is also a Watchable Wildlife Area.

**T**his pathway was named for the breeding grouse (called "drummers") living in this area and for the extensive number of historic railroads, pipelines, and camps located here.

**T**he interior portion (away from the road) of this area is managed to provide habitat for wildlife species associated with early successional stages of forest habitat, such as ruffed grouse, woodcock, common yellowthroats, chestnut-sided warblers, and young turkey. Through this management we also expect to produce high quality wood fiber.

The portion of this area near the road is managed to provide habitat for wildlife species associated with mature hardwood forests, such as turkey, bear, and cavity-nesting birds and mammals. Through this management we also expect to enhance scenic quality and provide recreation opportunities.

**The habitat management you will learn about as you hike the Little Drummer Historical Pathway was funded by the Ruffed Grouse Society and the National Wild Turkey Federation through their fund-raising banquets. The trailhead and pathway improvements were funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation through the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. This brochure was funded by the Eastern National Forest Interpretive Association.**

### **FINDING THE AREA**

The trailhead parking lot is located 8.0 miles west of Ridgway on Laurel Mill Road (Township Road T-307) in Elk County, Pennsylvania.

### **HIKING THE AREA**

The short loop of the Little Drummer Historical Pathway leads to Cole Run Pond and then returns to the parking lot. The longer loop goes all the way around Cole

Run Pond, and you can return on one of the legs of the smaller loop. Plan an hour's walk if you do the short loop. Plan 3-4 hours if you do the long loop. **Wear rubber-bottomed boots if you hike the long loop.**

Opportunities to view upland wildlife—deer, squirrel, grouse, songbirds, and turkey are plentiful on the pathway. Wildlife associated with wetlands and riparian areas—such as turtles, frogs, snakes, waterfowl, and beaver can be seen near Cole Run Pond.

### **ACCESSIBILITY**

The restroom adjacent to the parking lot is easily accessible to persons with disabilities. The part of the forest you are in now has a semi-primitive recreation classification which offers a "difficult" level of accessibility.

### **REGULATIONS**

The trail is clearly marked with off-white diamond-shaped markers on trees or with decals on brown plastic posts. Walk-in camping is permitted along the trail. Campfires are permitted as long as they are maintained in a fire ring and are fully extinguished upon departing. Return the site to its natural appearance. Forest trails policy prohibits the use of saddle, pack, or draft animals on hiking or cross-country ski trails.

### **SAFETY**

The skill level of this hiking area is moderate. Areas of this pathway are often wet; waterproof footwear is recommended. We encourage you to hike with at least one other person and to leave your itinerary with friends so they'll know where to look if you don't return on time or need assistance. This pathway is open for winter hiking. Remember to dress in layers appropriate for the weather conditions. Be aware that this area is used heavily in the late fall and spring by hunters. It is a good idea to wear bright fluorescent colored clothing if hiking during these time periods. Practice LEAVE NO TRACE ETHICS—PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT... and for sanitary disposal of wastes, dig a pit on flat ground at least 6 inches deep and at least 200 feet from water.

The nearest hospital and telephone are located in Ridgway, 8.0 miles east of the trailhead. Water should be boiled before consumption. Please report any unsafe trail conditions such as downed trees and missing signs or trail markers directly to the Ranger District.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

These trails are maintained by the Boot Jack Snow Gliders and the U.S. Forest Service. The Elk County Visitors

Bureau supported production of this brochure. If you, a friend, or your club are interested in volunteering to help maintain this trail or any other in the Forest, please contact the Ranger District.

### **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

The Ridgway area offers food, lodging, gasoline, and medical facilities. We would like to hear about your trail experience, your likes and dislikes, and any unsafe trail conditions. We appreciate all information.

# LITTLE DRUMMER HISTORICAL PATHWAY INTERPRETIVE STOPS

## STOP 1 WELCOME

Welcome to the Little Drummer Historical Pathway. This pathway will show you some of the forest and wildlife habitat management techniques that are not obvious to the casual observer. The Forest Service has a role in ecosystem management to Care for the Land and Serve People.

## STOP 2 RAILROADS WERE HERE

The right fork follows the old railroad grade once operated in the early 1900s by the Tionesta Valley RR to move lumber. The left fork provides access to Cole Run Pond, constructed in the 1960s

to improve habitat for waterfowl, such as ducks and geese. Take the left fork.

## STOP 3 PLANTING SHRUBS FOR WILDLIFE

The white tubes you see protect seedlings that produce fruit-bearing shrubs that hold their fruit throughout the winter. A primary weakness for wildlife in this area is shortage of winter foods. The tubes insure that the shrubs survive to fruit-bearing age.

## STOP 4 PLANTING TREES FOR JOBS

This spruce planting was done by the Work Projects Administration crews prior to WW II.



Spruce are conifers, or needle-bearing trees.

Conifers provide habitat for some migratory songbirds and small mammals such as red squirrels. Songbirds that spend their summers in North America and migrate to South America in winter are called **neotropical migrants**.

The Bluebird box was built by volunteers to provide a nesting box next to an open area. Bluebird boxes have a small size hole to prevent predators from entering the nest box.

## STOP 5 PROVIDING SUNLIGHT FOR SHRUBS

The trees lying on the ground were felled for a reason; they were blocking out the sun to the shrubs in the understory. This **release** allows more sunlight so the shrubs can produce a greater

amount of seeds and fruit for wildlife to eat in the fall and winter.

The grassy pathway you also see here goes to an opening created in the woods for wildlife. This opening provides a change in habitats, for more **biodiversity**.

## STOP 6 PROVIDING WINTER COVER

Off the pathway approximately 20 feet to the west (left) you can see how the larger trees were removed to "release" the conifers. They



will grow better now that they have more sunlight. Conifers are good for winter thermal cover because they provide a place for wildlife to get away from the wind and cold.

### STOP 7 GAS FOR YOUR HOME

The pathway has now intersected with the National Fuel Gas (NFG) transmission line. This is a primary artery to transport gas to a pump station so it can be distributed to your home for heat and cooking. This grassy area also increases edge habitat for wildlife.

### STOP 8 CLEARCUTTING ENCOURAGES ASPEN

This young aspen was regenerated by cutting all the old aspen; the new aspen developed from the roots of the old aspen. This is called “suckering” and is one of the best ways

to get young aspen to start growing. Aspen will not regenerate unless the young aspen is exposed to full sunlight.

This type of aspen is called “quaking aspen” because the leaves quake in the slightest breeze.

All of the wildlife habitat improvements that you have seen so far on this pathway were funded by the **RUFFED GROUSE SOCIETY**. Their mission is to “improve the environment for ruffed grouse and other forest wildlife”. If you



would like to support the **RUFFED GROUSE SOCIETY'S** conservation efforts you can join with the membership application on the back of this brochure. Junior memberships are also available. Your membership supports these type of projects!

### STOP 9 SOILS NEED PROTECTION

To better protect the soil and water, we have moved the pathway up here away from the pond. The railroad grade by the pond is wet and would erode easily from foot traffic. It is important that we conserve our soil and water resources.

### DIRECTIONS -

You can take this pathway here at Stop 9, and go around the pond in about 2.1 miles. This is the long loop. Go to Stop 18 (page 32) in this brochure if you take the long loop. Or, you can go down to the pond, and enjoy the water's edge, and then come back up to Stop 10 which will take you back to the Little Drummer Trailhead Parking Lot. It is about another 1/2 mile back to the parking lot.

### STOP 10 ASPEN PROVIDES WILD- LIFE HABITAT

This aspen clearcut provides excellent food and cover for grouse, woodcock, deer, and rabbits, and will be used by the beaver in maintenance of their dam, and for food, in the winter.



GROUSE



WOODCOCK

## STOP 11 RELEASE HELPS SHRUBS



On the east side of the pathway, a **release** has been performed. Larger, older trees that had overtopped blue beech, Juneberry, nannyberry, and ironwood have been removed to increase the production of food crops for wildlife. On the west side of the pathway, no work has been done. (Can you see the difference?)

## STOP 12 OPENINGS PROVIDE ANOTHER WILDLIFE HABITAT

This opening is important for small mammals and birds that require sunlight and low dense vegetation. This opening promotes high insect populations that are important food for turkey and grouse broods. Typical birds that nest here are vesper sparrows and bluebirds.

## STOP 13 CONIFERS PROVIDE ANOTHER WILDLIFE HABITAT

These trees provide winter **thermal** cover. Younger evergreens provide habitat for songbirds, such as magnolia warbler, and snowshoe hare, a larger version of the familiar cottontail rabbit that turns white in the winter.



## STOP 14 BRUSH PROVIDES HABITAT, TOO

This brush pile could provide winter cover for cottontails, mice, and voles, and might even provide a home for a weasel.

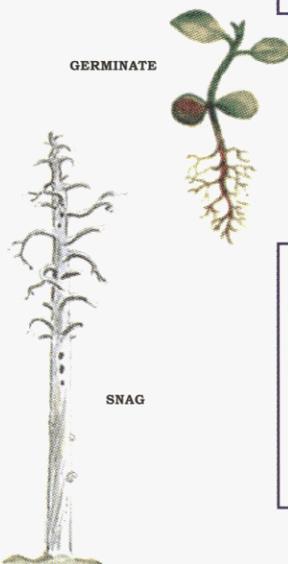
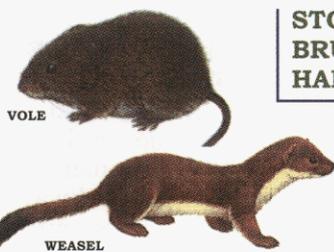
This National Fuel Gas transmission line that you are crossing is the same transmission line that you crossed earlier on the pathway.

## STOP 15 REGENERATION OF THE FOREST

Deciduous trees typically lose their leaves every year, and are sometimes called **hardwoods**. These hardwood trees were regenerated by cutting the old trees to allow the seeds in the soil the sunlight they need to **germinate**, or sprout up through the soil.

## STOP 16 DEAD TREES PROVIDE FOOD

This **snag** was man-made. Notice the **girdling**, or cut line, all the way around the tree. This cut line interrupted the flow of sugars and sap. This tree has been used by downy woodpeckers and hairy woodpeckers (round holes) to feed on insects. Pileated woodpeckers make square holes.



## **STOP 17** **HUMANS AFFECT THE** **ECOSYSTEM**



We hope you have enjoyed the Little Drummer Historical Pathway! We also hope you have a better appreciation of the parts of our ecosystem, and how we, as humans, can affect our ecosystem. Ecosystem management for the Forest Service means Caring for the Land and Serving People.

**IF YOU DESIRE  
MORE INFORMATION  
ABOUT THE ALLEGHENY  
NATIONAL FOREST  
ECOSYSTEM, READ ON.**

## **How DO WE ACHIEVE A DIVERSE FOREST?**

The Allegheny National Forest is steeped in history, and rich in wildlife habitats. Habitats are areas with distinct combinations of plants and animals.

Habitats provide food, cover, clean water, and areas to raise young for wildlife. It is important that we recognize these different habitats and manage

them for their unique capabilities. Through many forest management practices we can improve the habitat for wildlife. The Forest Plan for the Allegheny National Forest has guidelines to help us manage these habitats.

**S**ome habitats have animals that need areas of young trees and shrubs. A good example is ruffed grouse in aspen forests.

**O**ther habitats have animals and plants which dislike being disturbed. An example of this is goshawks in mature, unbroken forests.

**L**et's discuss these basic habitats within the ecosystem of the Allegheny National Forest Region, and their importance in our Forest Plan.

## **ECOSYSTEM OF THE ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST REGION**



HAWK



TRILLIUM



FLY  
CATCHER



## HARDWOOD FORESTS



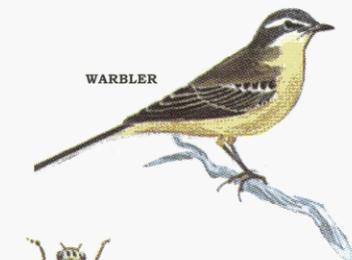
DEER



NODDING  
BEGONIA



PURPLE-FRINGED  
ORCHID



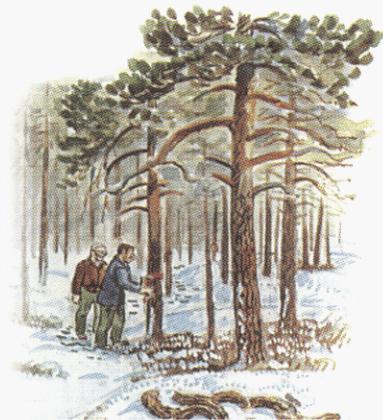
WARBLER



LEAFHOPPER

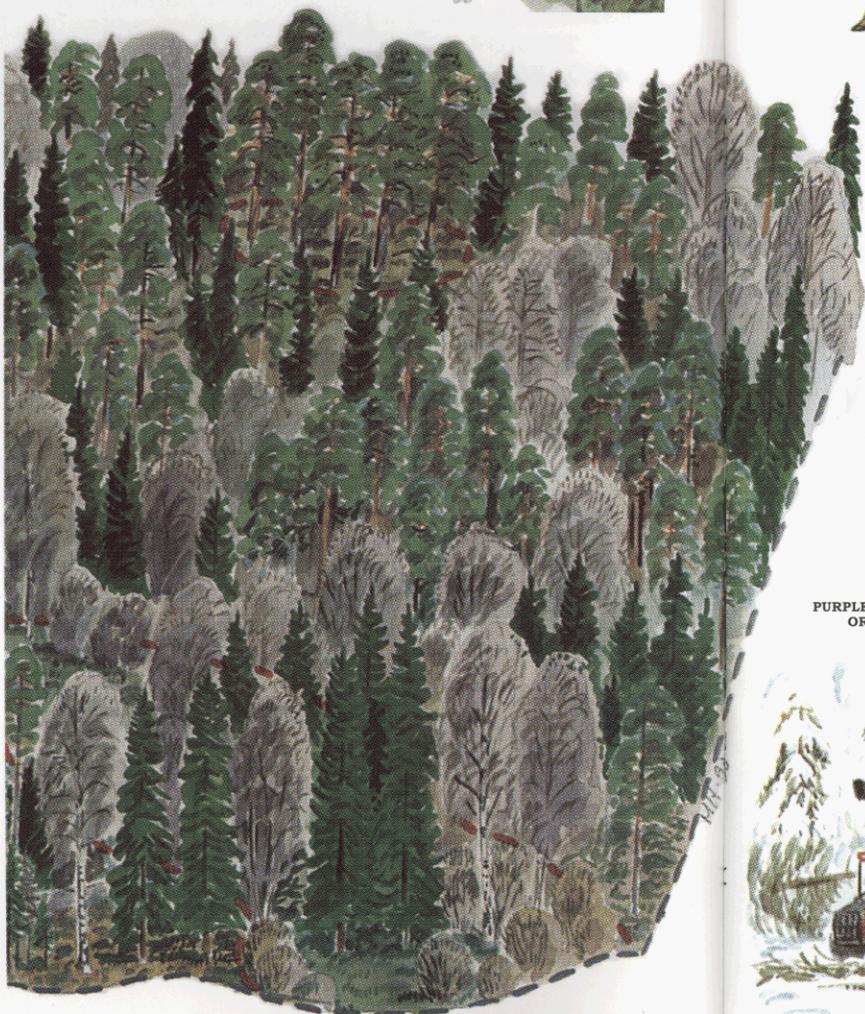


TIMBER MACHINE



TREE MARKERS

Most of the ecosystems around the Forest contain hardwood trees—cherry, ash, maple, beech, and birch trees. This hardwood forest provides habitat for common mammals and birds, and supports a thriving wood industry recognized worldwide. Veneer, a special type of wood from black cherry trees, is in demand in Europe and Japan.





LEAF HOPPER



DANDELION

## OPENINGS

Openings (sometimes called meadows) and savannas (grassy openings with a small amount of trees) are left over from

previous man-made disturbances to the forest or created by natural disturbances such as fire, wind, or beaver activity.

The Forest Service also constructs and maintains openings. We do this by bulldozing stumps and rocks from an area and planting grasses, legumes, and shrubs. These meadows support a rich abundance of low-growing plants.

Turkeys bring their young to these openings to feed on insects. Many openings have old trees in them. These large, old trees are favorite places for cavity-nesting birds and insects. More than 53 different kinds of animals use openings on the forest.



KESTREL



EASTERN COTTONTAIL



CLOVER



LEGUME



BLUEBIRD



SPARROW



CRICKET



MEADOW VOLE



OX-EYE DAISY

PINE SAWYER



MAGNOLIA WARBLER



WINTERGREEN



## CONIFERS



BUNCHBERRY

Conifers provide a unique habitat in the Allegheny ecosystem. Before this forest, large white pine and hemlock covered the hillsides. Now, only scattered pockets of these trees remain.

The Forest actively protects

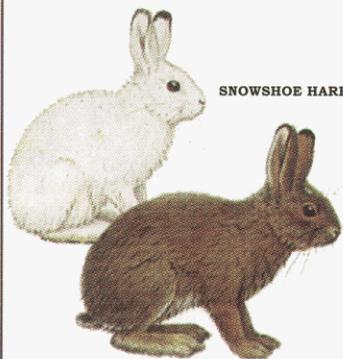
these conifers and also plants conifers. This habitat provides protection from harsh winter weather for turkey and deer, and other wildlife. They provide important nesting habitat for some songbirds, such as Magnolia Warbler. Snowshoe hares like the ground-touching branches of young trees.



RED SQUIRREL



CHIPMUNK



SNOWSHOE HARE





CEDAR  
WAXWINGS



RUFFED GROUSE



WOODCOCK

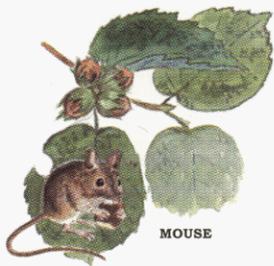
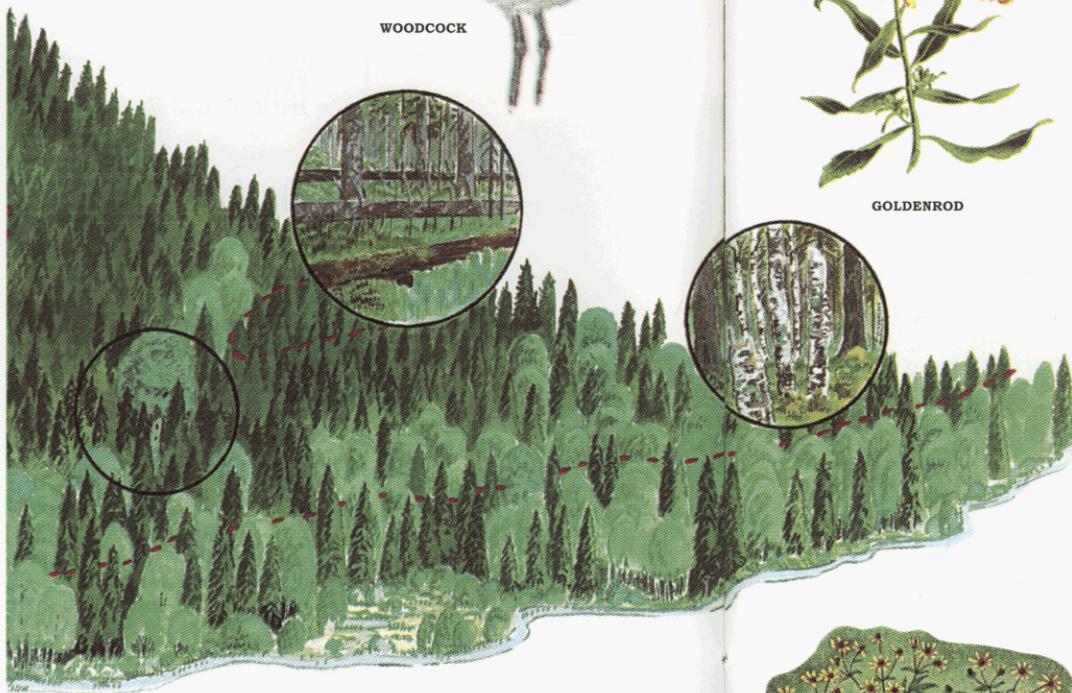


GOLDENROD

## ASPEN

Aspen are critical to wildlife species, such as ruffed grouse and woodcock, that require thick, brushy cover. Aspen also provides nutritious buds during the winter months. Rabbits, deer, small mammals, and birds also find this tree to their liking.

Beaver depend largely upon aspen for winter food. Aspen can often be encouraged in this Allegheny ecosystem by a natural process called root suckering. The Forest Service sometimes promotes root suckering by cutting large, old aspen trees. This disturbance causes the roots of these old trees to send up thousands of new aspen trees. These young trees continue to grow and produce a new aspen forest. Aspen originally became part of the Allegheny ecosystem after the large fires of the 1920s and 1930s.



MOUSE

QUAKING  
ASPEN



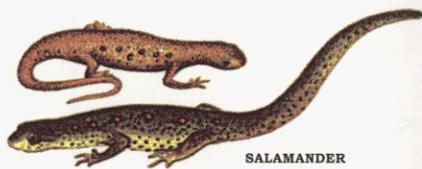
ANT



BEAVER



STICKTIGHTS



SALAMANDER

FLYING SQUIRREL



WOOD BORER



DEER MOUSE

## OLD GROWTH

Old growth forests contain large old trees, large logs and snags, and openings in the forest where trees have fallen

over. These old trees provide homes for bats that roost in holes in the trees, woodpeckers that

feed on insects living in the dead wood, salamanders living in the deep layers of fallen leaves and needles, and owls nesting in the large trees.



WOODPECKER



SPRUCE BEETLE



BARRED OWL



HAWK



WOODPECKER

WOODPECKER

EARLY PURPLE ORCHID



GREEN ORCHIS



LYCOPODIUM



SNAIL



TREE HOPPER





CANADA MAY FLOWER



BLACK BEAR



SAW-WHET



BAT



TRILLIUM



NUTHATCH



SQUIRREL

## OAK FOREST

The oak forest grows on well-drained hillsides along the Clarion and Allegheny Rivers. The oak forest developed after the extensive clearcutting at the turn of the century, and is now ready for harvest.

But, too many deer eat the young oak seedlings as they sprout. We do not harvest much oak because young oak trees aren't available to grow into the next forest.

Oak forests are critical to provide food for deer, squirrels, turkey, and grouse during our harsh winters.



BROOK TROUT



JEWELWEED



MAYFLY



SNIPE



CADDIS FLY LARVAE

CADDIS FLY



BEEBLE



SHELF FUNGUS



BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE



WOODPECKER



SNAIL



## STREAMS

Flowing water, dense vegetation, cooler air, shade, and stair-step rocks create a habitat with a great amount of wildlife.

These small streams travel down the hillsides and create a change in habitat in the forest. These

small streams support insects, plants, and birds not found elsewhere. Thick undergrowth also creates another habitat for birds. Shade is important for aquatic insects, trout, and other fish. Streams are protected when tree harvesting occurs nearby.



MARSH MARIGOLD



DRAGONFLY



DAMSELFLY

BACKSWIMMER



WATER SCORPION

SANDPIPER



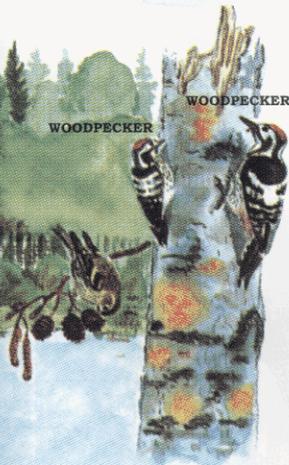
## WETLANDS



SNIPE

WOODPECKER

WOODPECKER



**CONTINUE ON IF  
YOU HIKE THE LONG  
LOOP.**

GOLDENEYE



AMERICAN MERGANSER



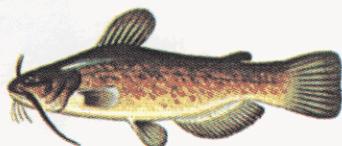
WATER STRIDER



FROG



BROWN BULLHEAD



SEDGE



DIVING BEETLE



PICKERELWEED



PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE



# OWLS NEST ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION AREA

To  
Owls  
Nest

FR 161

P

Irwin Run

FR 136.2

Crow Run

Davidson Run

Timberline  
ATV/Snowmobile  
Trail  
P

Cole Run  
Pond  
P

## Legend

- Parking/Trailhead
- Stream
- Open Water
- Old RR Grade
- Beaver Dam
- Pipeline
- Gate
- Roads (foot travel only)
- Improved Roads
- Abandoned r/w
- Little Drummer Interpretive Trail

## Tree Legend

- |  |                           |  |                       |
|--|---------------------------|--|-----------------------|
|  | Wetlands/<br>Marsh        |  | Opening               |
|  | Old Growth<br>Designation |  | EVERYWHERE<br>ELSE    |
|  | Regenerating<br>Hardwoods |  | Conifers              |
|  | Savannah/<br>Orchard      |  | Regenerating<br>Aspen |
|  | Mixed<br>Oak/Hardwoods    |  | Larch                 |

Hallton

3.5 mi.

Buehler Corner

Ridgway  
7 mi.

TR 307



Scale In Miles

## STOPS ALONG THE LONG LOOP



### STOP 18 SKIDDING LOGS WITH HORSES

You are at this stop if you decided to walk around the pond. You are on an old skid trail from the historic logging operations. Skid trails got their names because logs were “skidded” with horses. Once skidded to a central point, the logs were either shipped on narrow railroads or dumped into rivers for transportation to sawmills.



The use of railroads in this area was in its heyday from 1920 to about 1925. A spark from a narrow gauge railroad near Bear Creek in 1923 sparked

the largest, hottest forest fire in this area. Blackened stumps can still be found. The nutrients in the soils were consumed by fire, and 70 years later, the soils still lack nutrients.

### STOP 19 TIONESTA VALLEY RAILROAD GRADE

You are now on the historic, narrow gauge, Tionesta Valley RR grade that traveled north and south through this area. The boardwalk was built to protect the fragile soils and vegetation from being trampled.

Notice the sphagnum moss—this is the light green, feathery, low growing plant that you see. Sphagnum moss holds large amounts of water, even when the weather gets hot and dry. Sphagnum can do this because its cells are hollow and suck up water much like a sponge.

Can you see these other plants?

Dewberry? Hay-scented fern?

### STOP 20 MAN-MADE DUCK NESTS

Note the wood-duck nest box on the post in the pond. The Pennsylvania Game Commission and

Forest Service have erected many wood-duck boxes across Pennsylvania to encourage nesting. These boxes are maintained by the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Island Run Sportsmen of Ridgway.



HAY-SCENTED  
FERN

SPHAGNUM

DEWBERRY



### STOP 21 RIPARIAN—LAND AND WATER MEET

Notice how wet the soils are right down to the water's edge. This area of land in between high, dry land and the water's edge has a name—it is called **riparian** lands. Common vegetation here is dewberry, sphagnum, Juneberry, and bracken fern.

Old timber is buried underneath the pathway as the Tionesta Valley RR used timber to support their railroad tracks in areas where the soils were wet, such as this area.



## STOP 22 PONDS NEED SHALLOW WATER

These shallow water areas tend to heat up faster, and plants grow better. Insects feed on the plants. Larger fish feed on the insects and small fish. And finally, fish-eating birds (such as king

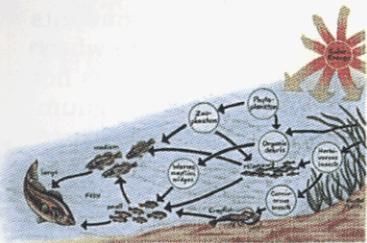
fishers and great blue herons), otters, and man feed on the larger fish. This chain of events where one animal eats another is called the **food chain**.

The old railroad grade that you have been traveling on will become wet for several hundred yards. We will be moving onto an old skid trail. The grass here is called poverty grass. The seeds that cling to your socks are from this grass.

## STOP 23 CCCs PLANTED THESE LARCH

Larch is one of only a few conifers (needle-bearing trees) that actually loses its needles every year. These larch were planted by the Civilian Conservation Corp. The young men of the 1930s that

were enrolled in the Civilian Conservation Corps did many conservation projects such as building dams, roads, campgrounds, and planting trees.



Eco/Note



Eco/Note

These larch had not been thinned for decades, therefore we thinned this stand to promote better growth on the trees that are left. **Thinning** allows the sunlight to be shared by the trees so that overcrowding doesn't stress the trees.

## STOP 24 BLUEBERRIES AND FIRES

Note the low bush blueberry plants. The hot fires of yesteryear kept this area open and allowed the blueberries to grow in open sunlight. Shortly, you will turn to go back onto the historic RR grade.



## STOP 25 HABITAT FOR BLUEBIRDS

This bluebird box was installed by members of the Island Run Sportsmen. The abundant insects, open water, and field-type habitat make this a good spot for nesting bluebirds.

The railroad grade now runs directly north and south. Note as you walk that you are on an uneven surface. The wooden railroad ties have decomposed and the dirt deposits that accumulated between the ties remain, creating an uneven walking surface. The decomposing railroad ties are feeding **nutrients** (nitrogen and carbon) into the soil.

## STOP 26 HISTORIC LOGGING SITE

This open field is what remains of a temporary logging camp on this site.



Eco/Note



## STOP 27 HISTORIC GAS LINE

The historic RR grade continues north, and the pathway turns east. This gas line supplied the Borough of Ridgway from area wells. The line is now 'dead' meaning that gas is no longer transported in this pipeline. This line was initially constructed using crews of 40 men that hand dug 400 feet of line per day.

## STOP 28 RESTORING NATIVE SHRUBS

Mountain ash are in these tubes. It has been replanted here because over time deer have eaten most of the original shrubs. Mountain ash provides both fall and winter foods for wildlife because the berries hang on the stems throughout the fall and winter.



Look out through the forest. There is a lack of mast trees and understory shrubs that produce fruit.

Mast is nuts, seeds, and fruit. For many years, native shrubs such as Juneberry, hobblebush, and viburnums have been eaten by deer. The Forest Service is trying to reestablish these native species.



MAPLE

OAK



BEECH

## STOP 29 REGENERATION FOR BIODIVERSITY

The pathway now departs the National Fuel Gas pipeline and travels to the east side of the pond. The trees felled here are to regenerate the hardwood trees, creating young trees adjacent to an

opening and older trees—more biodiversity for wildlife.

Look for more of this activity as you travel this pathway.



## STOP 30 HISTORIC LOG LANDING SITE

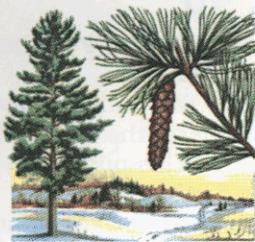
This open field produces an excellent spot for young turkeys, called **poults**, to look for insects. An old logging road came through the field ahead of you, and trees were stacked there. Heavy use compacted the soils.

Trees could not grow back into the opening. That opening then became the field that you see today.

With today's modern equipment and understanding of ecosystems, this type of abuse seldom occurs. But, even though the soils were damaged

many years ago, and have not yet recovered, the field is not a loss to the ecosystem. The grasses and low vegetation provide insect life for young turkeys and grouse (called chicks).

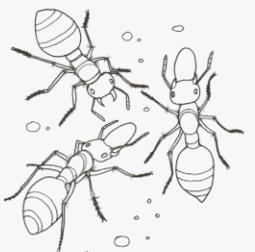




WHITE PINE



HEMLOCK



## STOP 31 HISTORICAL PLANTINGS

You are walking through a larch stand planted by the Work Projects Administration crews prior to World War II. These were planted before the Forest Service knew the value of working with native species. Today, if we were going to replant, we would use native conifers such as white pine and hemlock.

## STOP 32 SMALL ANIMALS DO BIG WORK

Notice the many "Animal Inns" (ant hills). Observe, but please preserve this animal habitat. Ants help break up logs into smaller pieces that eventually decay back to the soil.

This site has benches for a rest stop, and a fire ring. If you build a fire here, make certain your fire is out! Smokey Bear says "Only you can prevent forest fires!". This rest area provides a good view of the pond during the fall and spring seasons.

## STOP 33 HISTORIC BOUNDARY

This linear opening used to be the boundary for the waterfowl propagation area around the pond once protected by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Evidence of the old fence still remains in certain areas.



Mountain ash and viburnums planted in the tubes were planted on this higher, drier site because they provide winter food for wildlife. This plantation of winter foods occurs between the larch which provide thick cover and the pond, which provides water.

## STOP 34 LISTEN TO THE POND LIFE

In summer, you may hear the buzz of a large black and white insect that is a dragonfly. Also, you may see a brilliant blue insect called a damselfly. Listen for the honks of geese and the whistling wings of wood ducks. Young Canada geese are called goslings.

## STOP 35 MINIATURE WETLAND

The soils have remained saturated with water long enough to establish true wetland vegetation in this area. The vegetation that looks like grass with spikes on the end is called rushes.



DRAGONFLY



DAMSELFLY



BUR-REED

SAW GRASS

SPIKE RUSH

## STOP 36 WINTER COVER FOR WILDLIFE

Below the dam are cedar shrubs planted to provide winter thermal cover. Trees planted in these lower, wet areas are less prone to wind drafts and drifting snow. This plantation was particularly intended to benefit turkey, and the work was funded by the National Wild Turkey Federation.



CEDAR



All of the wildlife habitat improvements that you have seen so far on this side of the pond were funded by the NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION. Their mission is to “support the restoration and conservation of the American wild turkey”. If you would like to support the NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION’S

conservation efforts you can join with the membership application in the back of this brochure. Junior memberships are also available. Your membership supports these type of projects!

### STOP 37 FLOWERS FOR WILDLIFE

The bright yellow flowers, apparent in summer, on the bank of the dam are birds-foot trefoil. The seeds of these flowers provide excellent food for wildlife such

as grouse, turkey, birds, and small mammals. Milkweed also grows here.

### STOP 38 BEAVER-CREATED WETLANDS

Look to the south. These wetlands provide homes for aquatic vegetation, insects, birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians that we would not see elsewhere. Can you see the beaver lodge?

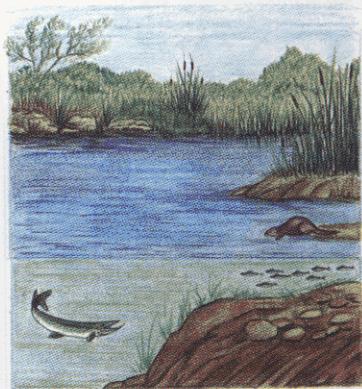
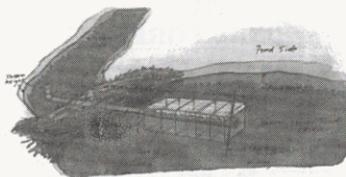


### STOP 39 “BEAVER-PROOF” OUTFLOW

In the past, the beaver blocked this outflow so the water level of the pond was higher than normal. But, in 1995, the Pennsylvania Game Commission installed a new “beaver-proof” outlet that should keep the pond at normal water level.

### STOP 40 WETLANDS

An extensive series of old beaver dams and wetlands follows the Cole Run drainage south of here. These wetlands are a unique part of the ecosystem. Enjoy their unique wildlife, but protect their sensitive resources.



**DIRECTIONS**  
GO TO STOPS 10 THROUGH 17 IF YOU ARE WALKING BACK TO THE TRAILHEAD AT THE LITTLE DRUMMER HISTORICAL PATHWAY ON THE OLD RAILROAD GRADE.

This brochure can be obtained in large print at the Allegheny National Forest, P.O. Box 847, Warren, PA 16365, 814-723-5150

#### INFORMATION

For more information about this and other recreation opportunities, contact:

**ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST**  
PO Box 847, 222 Liberty St.  
Warren, PA 16365  
814-723-5150  
814-726-2710 TTY  
[www.fs.fed.us/r9/allegHENY](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/allegHENY)

**MARIENVILLE RANGER DISTRICT**  
HC 2, Box 130  
Marienville, PA 16239  
814-927-6628  
814-927-8881 TTY

**NORTHWEST PA'S GREAT OUTDOORS VISITORS BUREAU**  
175 Main Street  
Brookville, PA 15825  
1-800-348-9393  
[www.pagreatoutdoors.com](http://www.pagreatoutdoors.com)

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Illustrations by Martin Holmer from **A Richer Forest** ©1990 The National Board of Forestry, Sweden. Used by permission.

Illustrations by Olivia Petrides and Janet Wehr from **Peterson First Guides—Trees** ©1993 by Houghton Mifflin Company. Used by permission.

Illustrations reproduced from **A Field Guide To Birds**, ©1980 by Roger Tory Peterson from **Peterson First Guides—Birds** ©1986 by Houghton Mifflin Company. Used by permission.

Illustrations by Richard P. Grossenheider from **Peterson First Guides—Mammals** ©1987 by Houghton Mifflin Company. Used by permission.

Illustrations by Sally D. Kaicher and Tom Dolan from the **Golden Guide® POND LIFE** ©1987, 1967 Western Publishing Company, Inc. Used by permission.

Illustrations by Dorothea and Sy Barlowe from the **Golden Guide® TREES** ©1956, 1952 Western Publishing Company, Inc. Used by permission.

Illustrations by James Gordon Irving from the **Golden Guide® INSECTS** ©1987, 1956, 1951 Western Publishing Company, Inc. Used by permission.

Illustrations by Jean Zallinger from the **Golden Guide® BOTANY** ©1970 Western Publishing Company, Inc. Used by permission.

Illustrations by Dorothea Barlowe, Sy Barlowe, Jack Kunz, Barbara Wolff, and Jean Zallinger from the **Golden Guide® NON-FLOWERING PLANTS** ©1967 Western Publishing Company, Inc. Used by permission.

Illustrations by Rudolf Freund from the **Golden Guide® FLOWERS** ©1987, 1950 Western Publishing Company, Inc. Used by permission.

Brochure, Maps, Illustrations by Nancy Hoffman, **Hoffman Graphics**, Ridgway, PA

Cover Photos by Larry Holjencin, Outdoor Photographer/Writer. 814-834-7767.

#### ENJOY THE TRAIL!

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

#### Ruffed Grouse Society Membership Application

Enclosed is \_\_\_\_\_ for a new twelve-month membership to the Ruffed Grouse Society:

- Regular - \$20       Conservation - \$30  
 Sustaining - \$100       Sponsor - \$200 and up  
 Junior (under 16) - \$5

(Please Print)

Mr./Mrs./Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
First Initial Last

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the **Ruffed Grouse Society**.

Mail to: **RGS**, 451 McCormick Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108

#### National Wild Turkey Federation Membership Application

**YES!** I'd like to join the NWTF, a nonprofit corporation dedicated to the conservation of the American wild turkey. Start my subscription to Turkey Call and send my decal and membership card. Sign me up as a:

- Full Voting Member - \$25       Sponsor Member - \$200

#### Payment Enclosed

Charge my       Mastercard       VISA  
# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (if charge) \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ S. S. # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **The National Wild Turkey Federation**.

Mail to: **NWTF**, P.O. Box 530, Edgefield, SC 29824-0530

Pennsylvania  
Memories last a lifetime.™