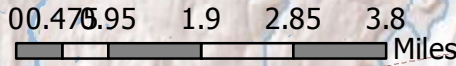


Important forest blocks are characterized by relatively road-less areas larger than ~1000 acres that contain native vegetation typical of the landscape throughout a high percentage of the block. The blocks are important landscape conservation features because they support intact ecological communities and processes. On the Plateau, these blocks have been prioritized for conservation based on their size, condition, and the density and nature of the roads surrounding and within them (paved, dirt, town, county...). Many of the high priority blocks on the Plateau are considered to be large examples within the Eastern New York bioregion and even within the larger 7-state Lower New England Ecoregion. Collectively the forest blocks form a core that can support viable populations of disturbance-sensitive animals and those that require large territories.



DRAFT



**Important Large Forest Blocks**

**Legend**

Town Boundaries

Rensselaer Plateau Boundary

**Importance Level**

>= 10,000 acres

>= 5000 acres

>= 2000 acres

>= 1000 acres

>= 700 acres

**Fragmented Forest Areas**

**Interior Roads**

Line width reflects general impact of intruding roads