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LD 1882

Vernal pools, because they are only wet in the winter and spring, can easily be discarded as not really a pool. Yet, they provide critical breeding habitat to amphibians and invertebrates. Since vernal pools cannot support predators such as fish, these pools provide a predator-free environment. I am sure you can understand how rare this is in the natural world. Should vernal pools disappear, various species of salamanders and frogs would likely disappear as well. A small vernal pool can support as many as 10,000 froglets. As these animals grow, they will eat thousands of insects. Vernal pools also contribute to carbon sequestration. Salamanders fix 179 pounds of carbon per acre into the soil by eating of "shredders" in the leaf litter (Best and Walsh, Jr. 2014)

It is a proven scientific fact loss of habitat leads to the loss of species. And as the old expression goes, "Extinct is Forever."

In Brunswick, a developer is planning a concentrated housing development that should their plans be approved would encroach on wetlands and vernal pools, ruining them forever.

This legislation will help better protect the terrestrial habitat surrounding vernal pools. Please support LD 1882.

Thank you for your attention.