

Species: Allegheny woodrat (*Neotoma magister*)

Global Rank: G3G4

State Rank: S3

State Wildlife Action Plan: Species of Immediate Concern, and Pennsylvania

Responsibility Species / Pennsylvania Threatened Species

Climate Change Vulnerability: Highly Vulnerable

Confidence: Moderate

Habitat:

Allegheny woodrats typically use rocky cliffs, talus slopes, and caves (Merritt 1987).

Threats:

Major threats to the species include: loss of habitat and population isolation (NatureServe 2010). However, little is known about the current decline of the species (Merritt 1987).

Main Factors Contributing to Vulnerability Rank:

Predicted impact of land use changes designed to mitigate against climate change: Allegheny woodrats may be negatively affected by wind farm development in Pennsylvania.

Predicted micro sensitivity to changes in temperature: Allegheny woodrats are found in habitats that occupy higher elevation areas within Pennsylvania.

Physical habitat specificity: The species is moderate to highly specialized in its physical habitat requirements. Allegheny woodrats typically use rocky cliffs, talus slopes, and caves (Merritt 1987).

Migration and movements: The species lacks significant migrations or movements coupled with limited dispersal tendencies.

Literature Cited:

Merritt, J. E. 1987. Guide to the mammals of Pennsylvania. University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh, PA.

NatureServe. 2010. NatureServe central Databases. Arlington, Virginia. USA.