

Two Lick Creek

An occurrence of a **species of concern**, which is not named at the request of the jurisdictional agency overseeing its protection, was found along this stretch of waterway. These are heavily forested sections of creek which provide a vegetative buffer necessary to maintain high water quality. Relying on clean water to maintain healthy invertebrate prey populations, this species also uses bushy vegetation along the creek. Streamside vegetation along the creek is necessary for maintenance of the water quality and to provide critical habitat for the species of concern found at this site.

Threats and stresses

Riparian vegetation is important to this species as habitat and also as a filter for pollutants. Some portions of the riparian area have been thinned for agriculture. Removal of the remaining riparian vegetation would destroy habitat and allow runoff to enter directly into the stream. Pesticides or fertilizers used on the agricultural fields may also degrade water quality.

Conservation Recommendations

Preservation of the intact upland forest that supplies clean water to this site is necessary to maintain this population of species of concern. To accomplish this goal, landowners should be proactively engaged and educated about the value their property provides to clean water in an effort to maintain the entire Cherry Run and Two Lick watersheds. Additionally, the wetlands and forested riparian corridor present within the core of this site should be left undisturbed.