

# Carlton Pond North

Troy, Detroit, Plymouth

A SECONDARY PRIORITY SITE

## Description

An extensive wetland complex featuring bogs, emergent marshes, and habitat for at least two rare species, the black tern and the warpaint emerald. The bog north of Carlton Pond (at least a portion of which is also known as Detroit Bog) is a mid-size peatland complex including both raised level bog and unpatterned stream drainage fen, and has been described as having one coalesced dome lacking concentric pattern and secondary pools to the east and individual domes of the same type to the west. Stretches of unpatterned geogenous and transitional peatlands are in the stream valleys. Peatland communities include leatherleaf boggy fen, sedge – leatherleaf fen lawn, sheep laurel dwarf shrub bog, spruce – larch wooded bog, mountain holly – alder woodland fen, red maple woodland fen, and low sedge – buckbean fen lawn. Also noted from here is the rare odonate, the incurvate emerald.

Southward, Carlton Pond itself (which is locally referred to as a “bog”, but which is more of a fen in this impounded lake) features extensive waterfowl habitat. The black tern colony here is well established, having been consistently documented for the last 20 years. Carlton Pond is very productive waterfowl habitat.

The area is also noteworthy as a large unfragmented block of habitat.

## Rare Species and Natural Communities Summary Table

Common Name	Latin Name	EO Rank	Global Rank	State Rank
Level Bog Ecosystem	--	B	--	S4
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	C	G4	S2B
Warpaint Emerald	<i>Somatochlora incurvata</i>	--	G4	S3?

## Other Resources Mapped by MDIFW

Carlton Pond is mapped as wading bird – waterfowl habitat, with additional areas mapped along streams to the northwest. A large deer wintering area abuts the east side of Carlton Bog

## Protection Status

Several areas around and north of Carlton Pond are federally owned as a National Wildlife Refuge managed by the Sunhaze NWR office.

### *Conservation Considerations*

Willing-seller expansion of the national wildlife refuge, through conservation easements or fee acquisition, could help fill in some of the pieces in the somewhat patchy ownership. A priority would be conservation of the bog north of Carlton Pond. Otherwise, on lands where timber harvest or development continues, buffers should be maintained around all wetlands and ponds. While different species can have different buffering requirements, wider buffers provide better protection for riparian and wetland-dependent species. The state minimum shoreland zoning standards specify a minimum 75' buffer in which very little harvest or clearing is allowed, with less stringent restrictions within 250' of the wetland border. Better protection will be afforded to the wetlands and ponds if as little alteration as possible occurs within 250' of the wetland/upland border. Any timber harvesting within and adjacent to wetlands or adjacent to ponds should be implemented with strict adherence to Shoreland Zoning guidelines and Maine Forest Service Best Management Practices.