



ROY H. PARK PRESERVE

LINKING OPEN SPACES

The Roy H. Park Preserve is located along Irish Settlement Road on more than 215 biologically diverse acres that strategically connect Yellow Barn and Hammond Hill State Forests, and Cornell University's Old 600 Natural Area. The boardwalk passes through old field, wet meadow, occasional beaver ponds, marshy stream, and upland forest habitats. Bear, coyote, fisher, beaver, mink and river otter range among the habitats. Nearly 50 species of birds have been reported, including the rare cerulean warbler and Bicknell's thrush, along with at least 8 species of amphibians.



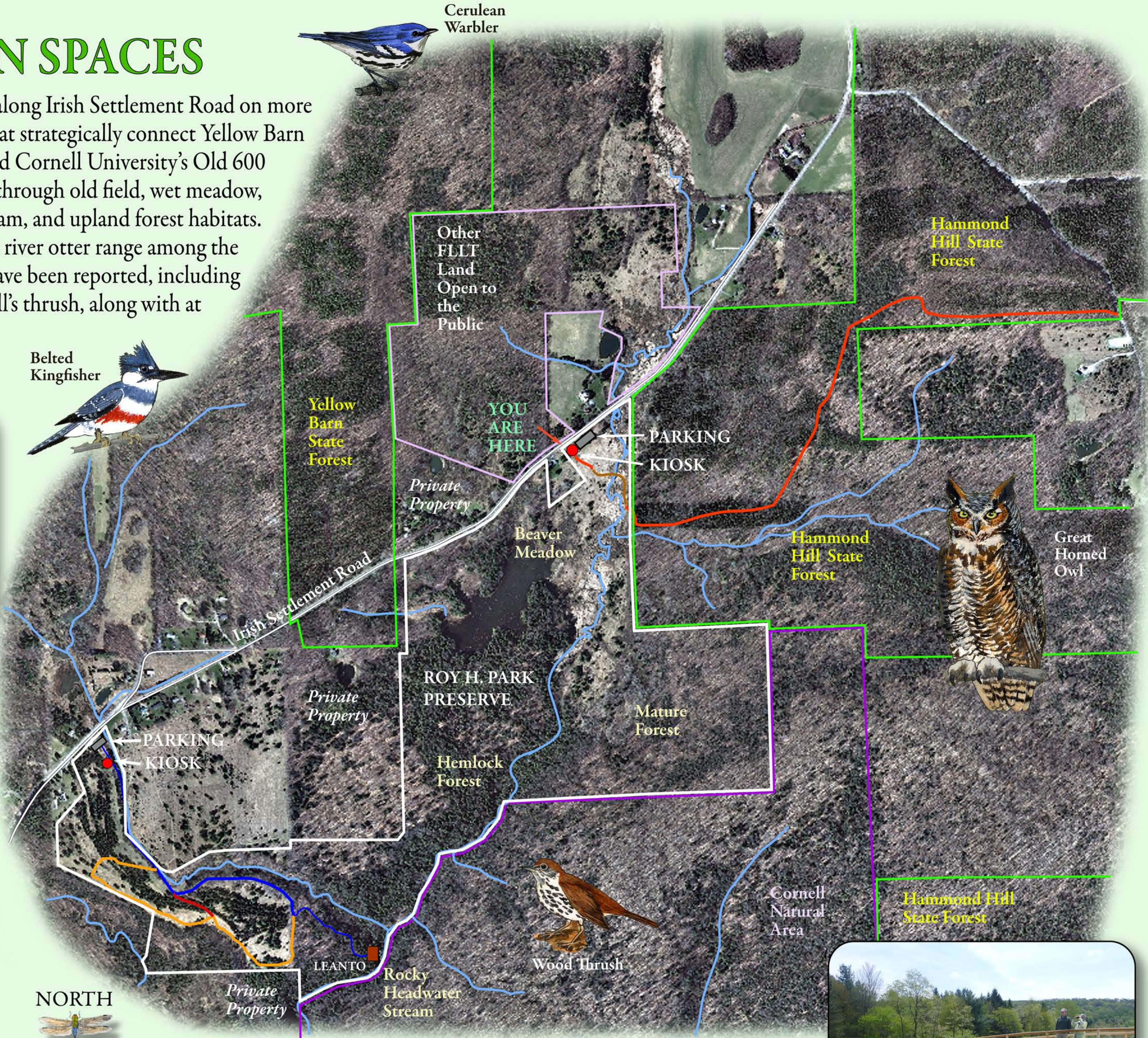
Lush vegetation covers the meadow when beavers are absent.



Belted Kingfisher



Cerulean Warbler



Hammond Hill State Forest

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Great Horned Owl



Wood Thrush

LEGEND

- Streams
- Trails
- Boardwalk
- Preserve Boundary
- Roads

Oak Hickory Forest - Uplands feature mature forests of red and white oak, shagbark and pignut hickory with a diverse spring wildflower display. Mast crops support turkey, gray squirrel, chipmunk and perhaps black bear. Great horned owl, hermit thrush, and ovenbird may breed there.

Shrub Willows, Alders, and Gray Dogwood - Shrubs invade drier areas. Yellow warbler, common yellowthroat and catbird call from the sheltering shrubs.

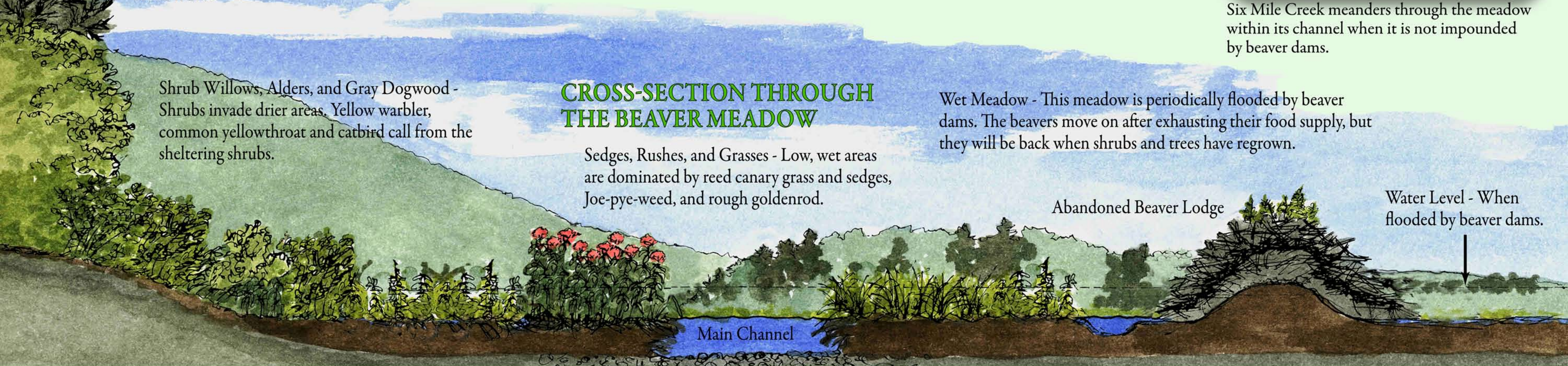
CROSS-SECTION THROUGH THE BEAVER MEADOW

Sedges, Rushes, and Grasses - Low, wet areas are dominated by reed canary grass and sedges, Joe-pye-weed, and rough goldenrod.

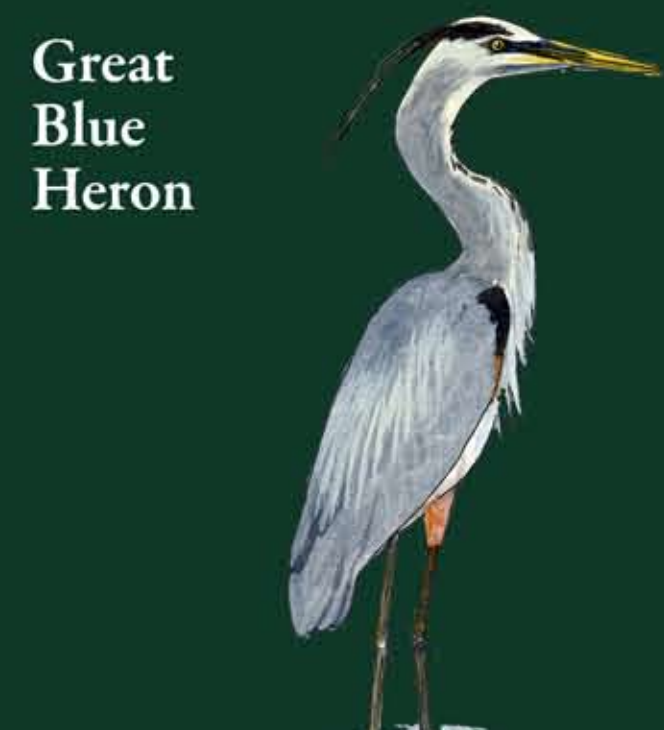
Wet Meadow - This meadow is periodically flooded by beaver dams. The beavers move on after exhausting their food supply, but they will be back when shrubs and trees have regrown.



Six Mile Creek meanders through the meadow within its channel when it is not impounded by beaver dams.



WETLAND WILD LIFE



Great Blue Heron



Cutlips Minnow

Cutlips minnows feed on insect larvae, crayfish and snails among the stones in quiet pools, where great blue herons may prey on them in turn.



Joe-pye-weed



Wool Rush



Baltimore Checkerspot

The Baltimore checkerspot caterpillar depends on the turtlehead plant, growing near the marshy shores.



Beaver

Northern Leopard Frog



Fisher

Fishers are expanding their range into this area, thanks to the large, inter-connected forests and wetlands.