





Swamp Pink Fencing Protection Project

Danielle Bara, Stewardship Technician – South, NJ Audubon Kristen Meistrell, Stewardship Project Director – South, NJ Audubon Marc Virgilio, Partners Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Swamp Pink (Helonias bullata)

- Federally Threatened
- Perennial, shade tolerant plant in the Lily Family
- Grows on hummocks within wetlands and stream corridors in much of southern and central New Jersey
- New Jersey is considered the global stronghold for this species









Two Sites

Cumberland County Population

• 0.5 acres of swamp pink habitat; 18 acres of Atlantic white cedar wetlands

Small population on state-owned land

• Deer browse is the biggest threat to this population

Camden County Population

• 16.5 acres of swamp pink habitat; 90 acres of habitat total

Previously one of the largest populations in NJ

Has seen a 70% decline since 1970s

• Long-term monitoring determined deer browse is the biggest threat to this population



Fencing

Camden County population

- Installed November 2020
- Deer drive prior to completion
- Deer drive round 2 January 2021

Cumberland County population

• To be installed soon!



Monitoring

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service & New Jersey Audubon to continue to monitor populations at both sites

Camden County population

- Surveys planned for April and June
- Camden County College biology students to assist with monitoring efforts - on hold due to covid-19
- Camden County College art students will create a large educational mural on campus

