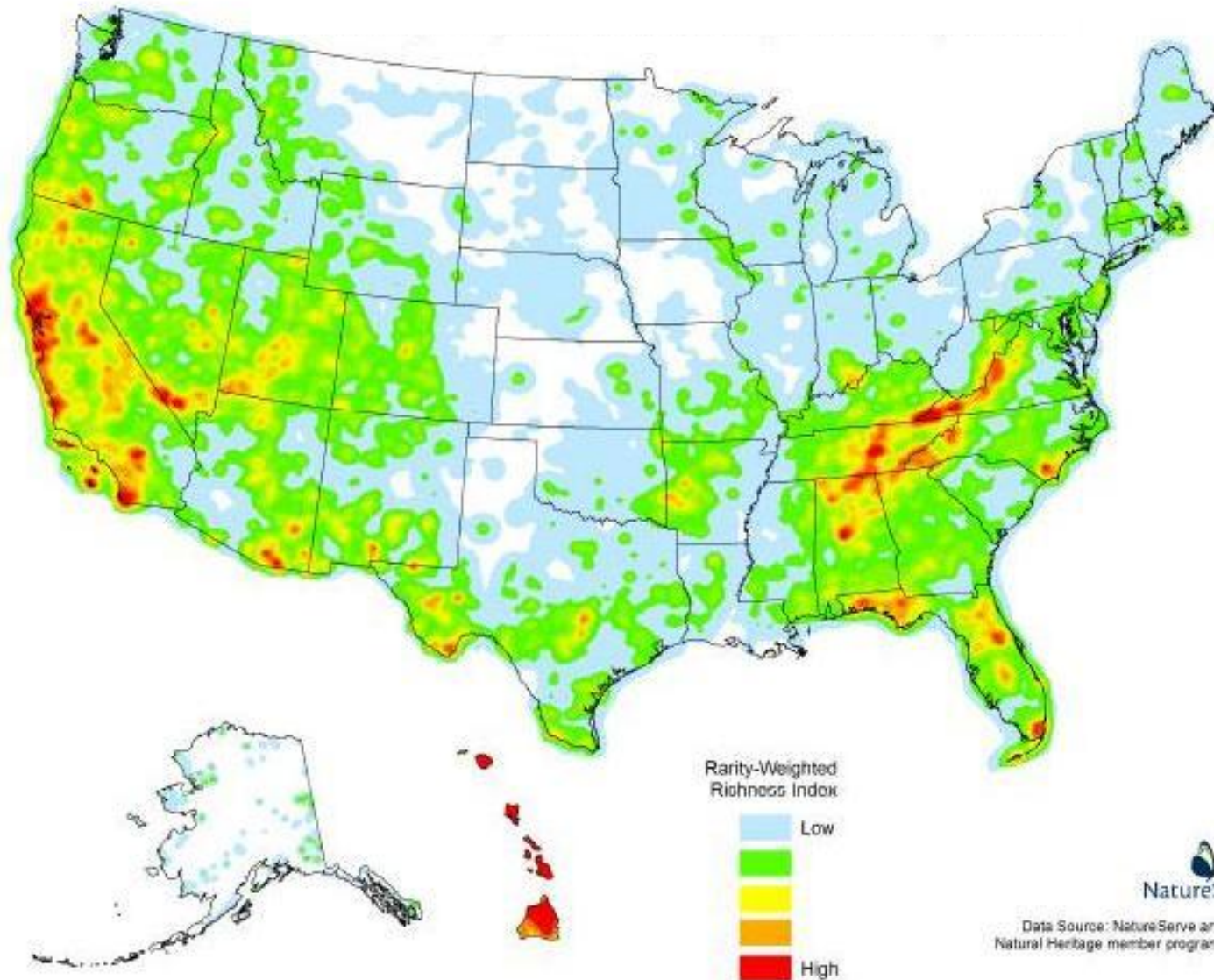


Rare Plant Conservation in the Cumberlands

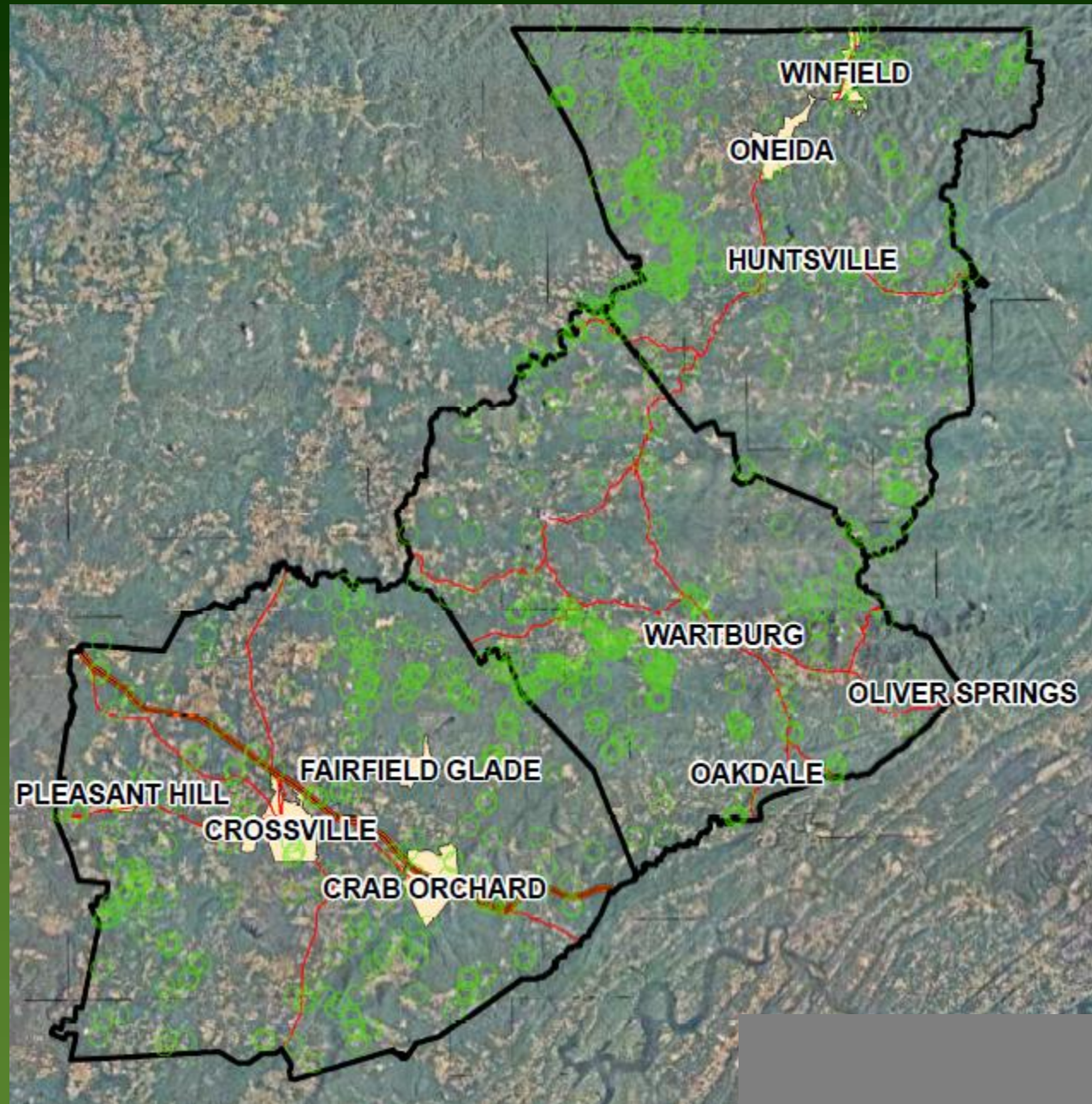
<INSERT NAME & TITLE>



What's special about the Cumberlands?



Many rare species call the Cumberlands “home.”



Plant Diversity in the Northern Cumberlands

- Cumberland species diversity comparable to Great Smoky Mountains
- Cumberland Plateau has 271 native woody species, Blue Ridge of TN has 261
- Cumberland rosemary, Cumberland sandwort, Eastern featherbells



Cumberland Rosemary

Conradina verticillata

- Endemic to the Plateau river sandbars
- Federally threatened
- Closest relative found in Florida



Cumberland sandwort

Minuartia cumberlandensis

- Endemic to Big South Fork rockhouses
- Only 49 known plants in existence
- Federally endangered



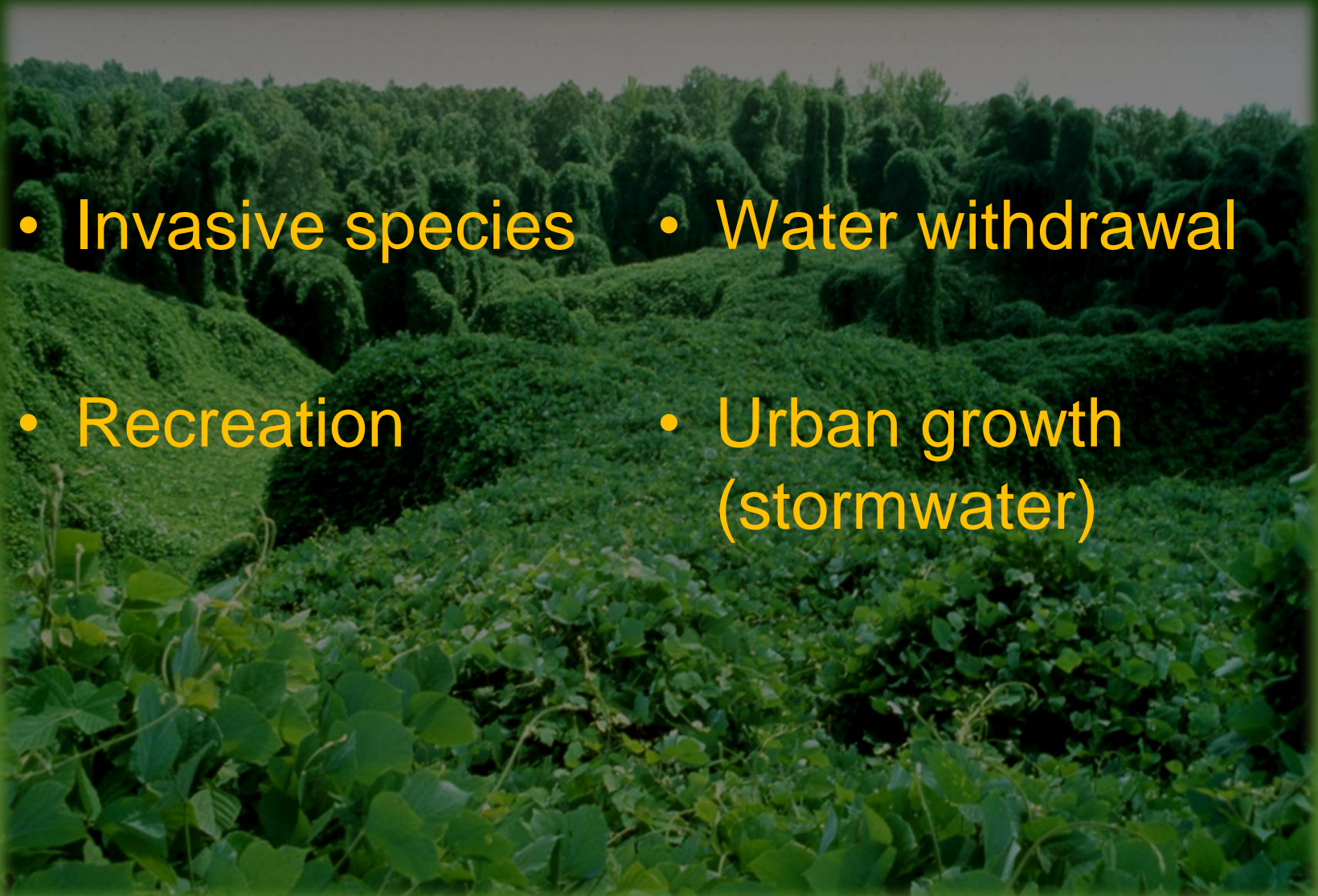
Rockhouse featherbells

Stenanthium diffusum

- Endemic to Cumberland Plateau rockhouses
- New species found in 2006!



Impacts to Native Species



- Invasive species
- Water withdrawal
- Recreation
- Urban growth (stormwater)

Managing Impacts

Invasive Species

- TN Citizens for Wilderness Planning
invasive species
workdays (2-3/year)
- Oak Ridge Cedar
Barren, North Ridge
Trail, & other areas
- National Park Service, TWRA, TDOT,
other cooperative efforts



Managing Impacts

Recreation in Pickett State Park: Cumberland sandwort

- Constructed boardwalks, fences, and informational signs
- Closed trails & camping in rockhouses
- Results have been very positive and the plant appears to be rebounding significantly in these areas.



Managing Impacts

The Cumberland Habitat Conservation Plan

joins economic development and rare
species protection in the Cumberlandands.



Rare Plants in the Cumberland HCP

Over 50 threatened and endangered plants in the HCP

Protection measures:

- Riparian & rockhouse buffers
- Enhanced stormwater management
- Limits on impervious areas upstream
- Surveys



www.cumberlandhcp.org

Cumberland Habitat Conservation Plan

- Cooperative effort, scientifically based
- Identify best management practices to protect rare plant and animal species
- Approval & implementation by local governments



www.cumberlandhcp.org

You can help by...

LEARNING MORE

- Tennessee Native Plant Society
- The Tennessee Exotic Pest Plan Council
- The Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council
- Cumberland County Master Gardeners

You can help by...

SEEING MORE

- Big South Fork National Recreation Area
- Pickett State Park
- Frozen Head State Park
- Cumberland Mountain State Park
- Black Mountain (Cumberland Trail)

You can help by...

WORKING IN YOUR YARD

- Identify & remove invasive species
- Install a rain barrel or rain garden
- Use lawn chemicals wisely
- Follow practices outlined in the Tennessee Yards and Neighborhoods program



You can help by...

STAYING INFORMED

- Wildland Weeds newsletter
- Obed Watershed Association newsletter
- ***Habitat Conservation Plan newsletter***

You can help by...

SUPPORTING OTHERS

- Friends of Pickett State Park
- Obed Watershed Community Association
- Emory River Watershed Association
- Alliance for the Cumberlands
- TN Native Plant Society
- ***Cumberland Habitat Conservation Plan***

Continue our community's legacy by supporting conservation for our future.



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