

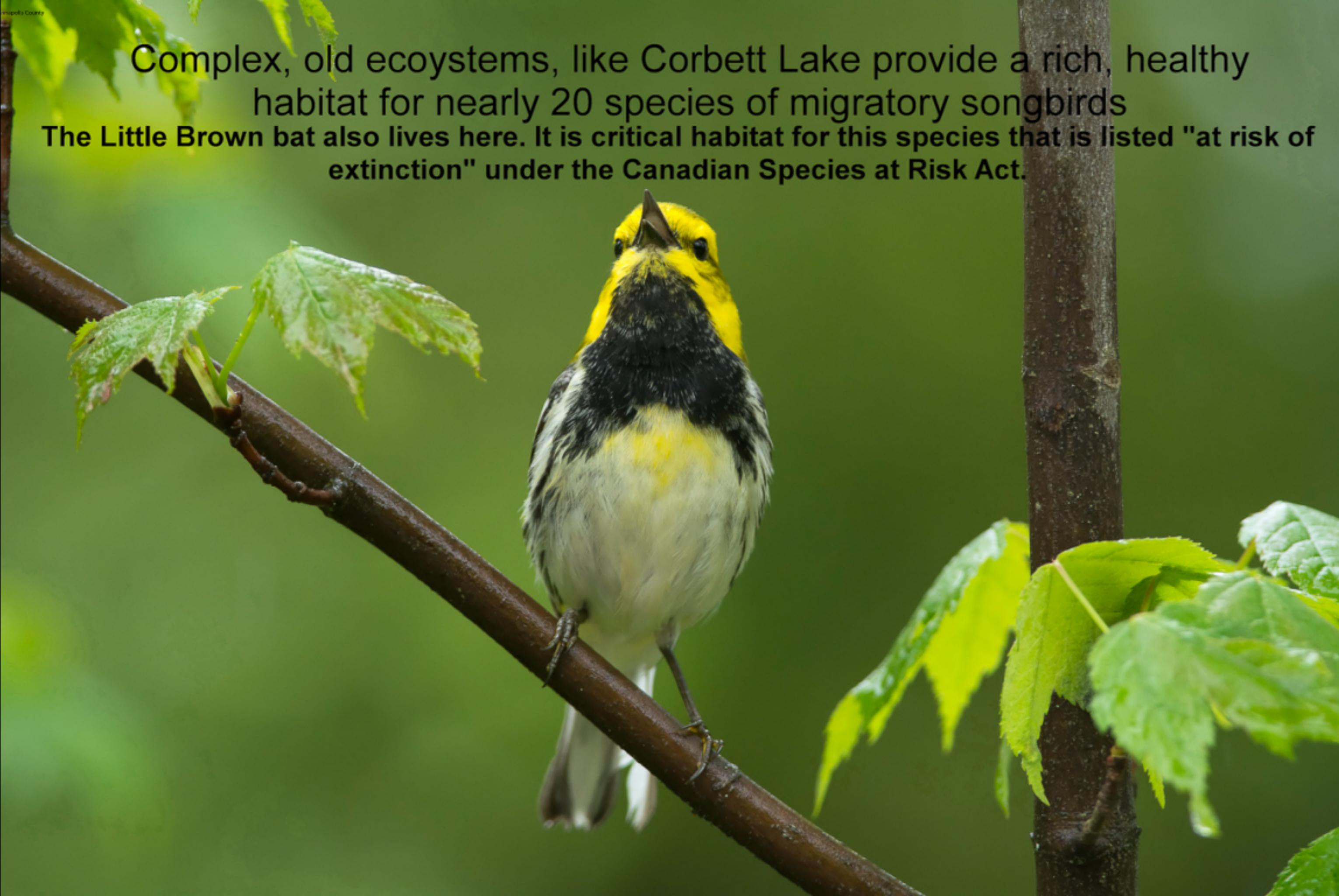
Corbett Lake Old Growth Forest Annapolis County (please pause video when necessary for reading)





Complex, old ecosystems, like Corbett Lake provide a rich, healthy habitat for nearly 20 species of migratory songbirds

The Little Brown bat also lives here. It is critical habitat for this species that is listed "at risk of extinction" under the Canadian Species at Risk Act.



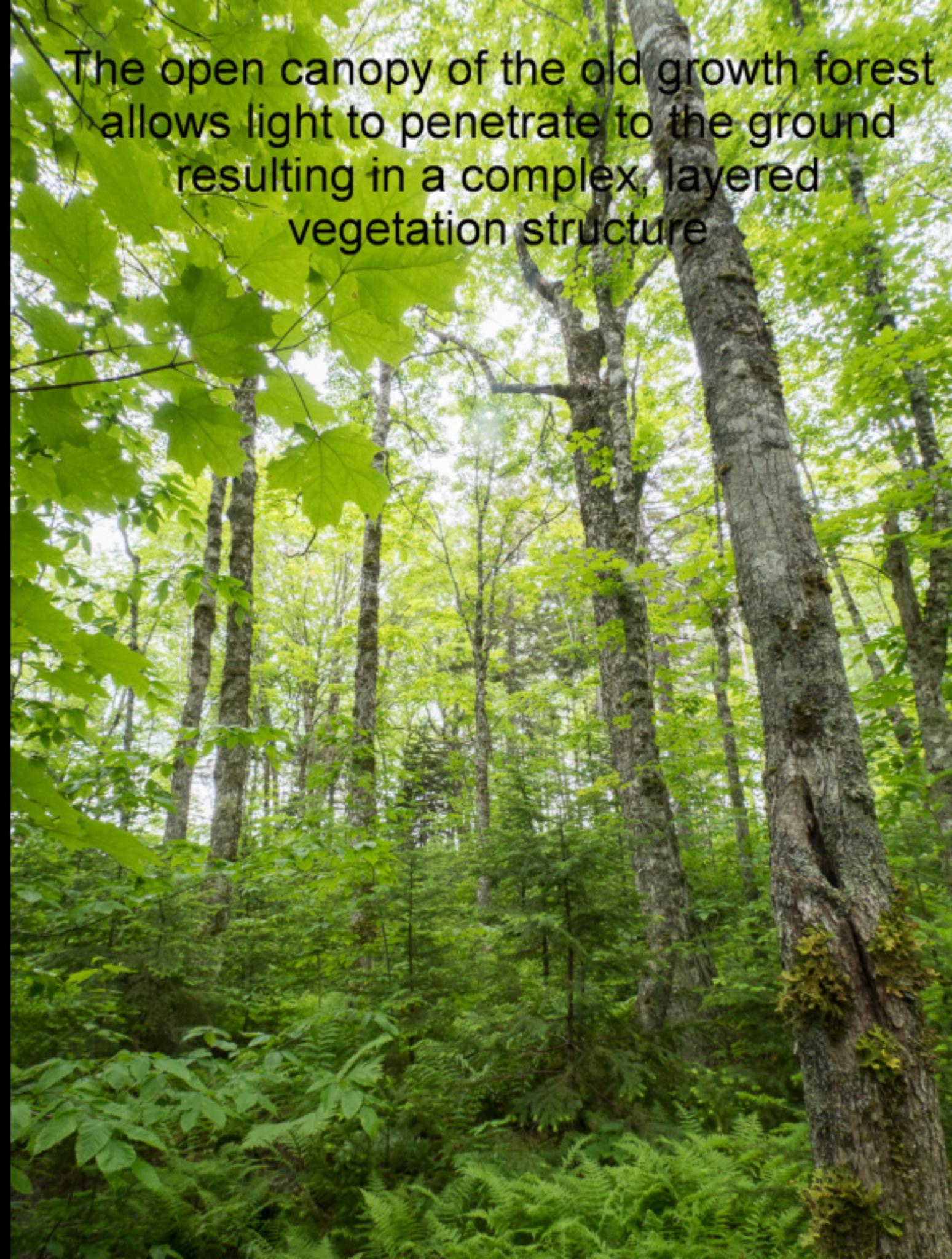
A seasonal stream runs through the centre of the 19 hectare site. This kind of habitat enhances the biodiversity of the forest.



An abundance of lichens growing throughout the site
is a sign of a healthy, vibrant ecosystem.



The open canopy of the old growth forest allows light to penetrate to the ground resulting in a complex, layered vegetation structure



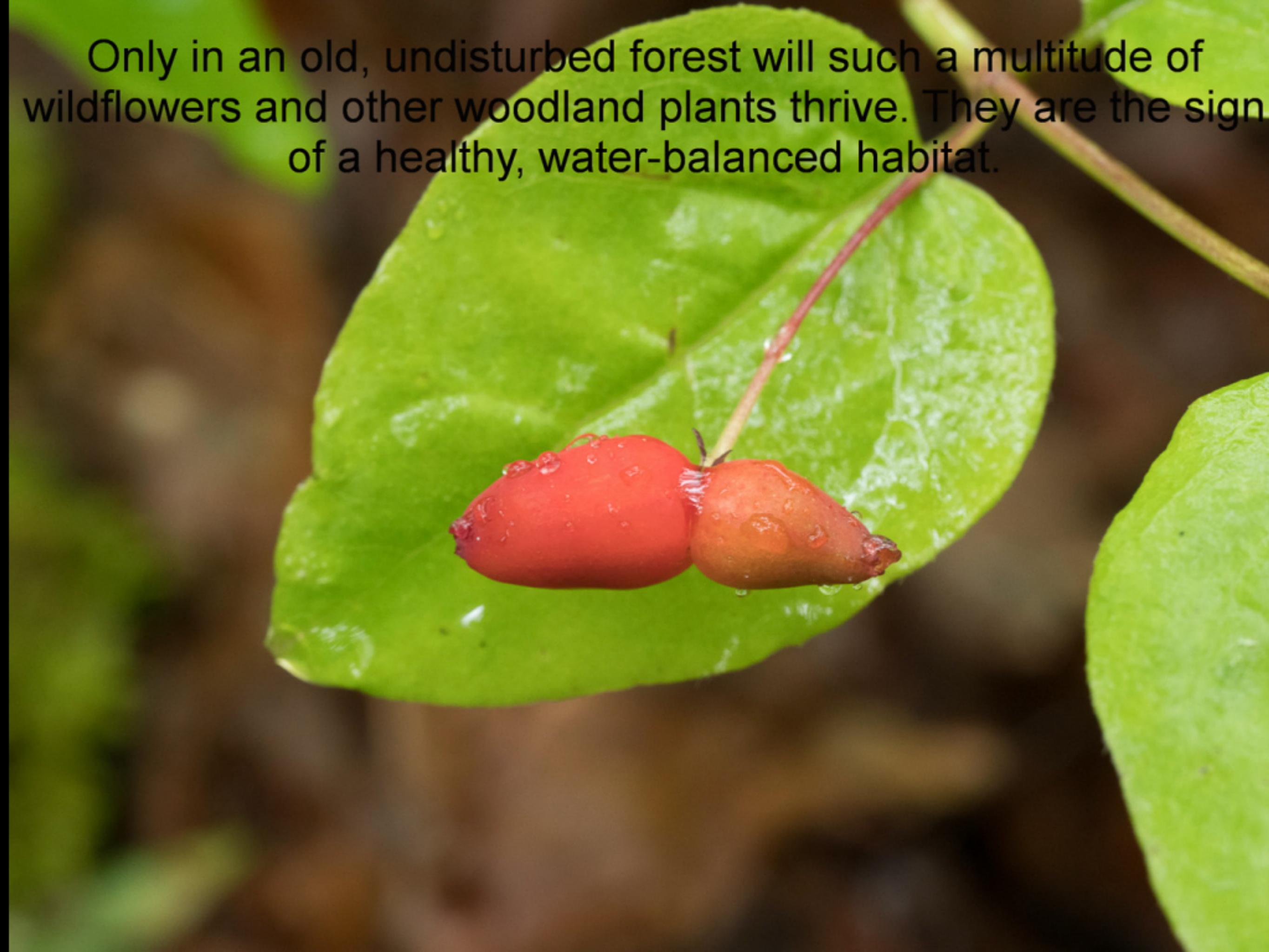
Because the old growth forest is bordered by Corbett Lake, amphibian species such as threatened salamanders, American toads and the familiar spring peeper tree frog are found here in abundance.



Rotting logs and other decaying material on the forest floor provide food for a diversity of fungi and moss species, such as this cluster of yellow mushrooms.



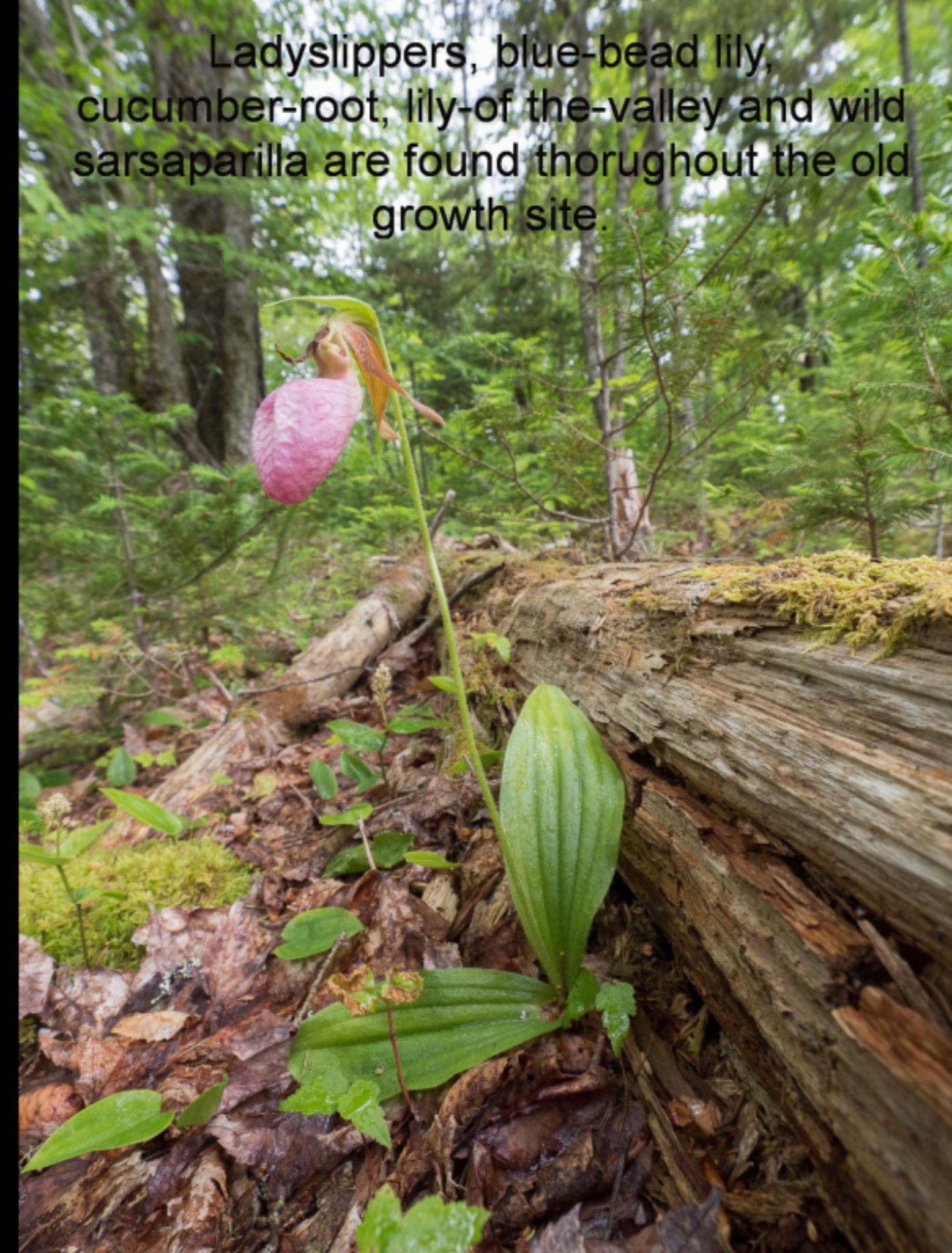
Only in an old, undisturbed forest will such a multitude of wildflowers and other woodland plants thrive. They are the sign of a healthy, water-balanced habitat.



All levels of a typical, complex old growth forest are apparent here, from the ferns, to balsam fir saplings to young birch up to grand yellow birch and sugar maples. Birdlife thrives in this multi-storied ecosystem.



Ladyslippers, blue-bead lily,
cucumber-root, lily-of the-valley and wild
sarsaparilla are found throughout the old
growth site.

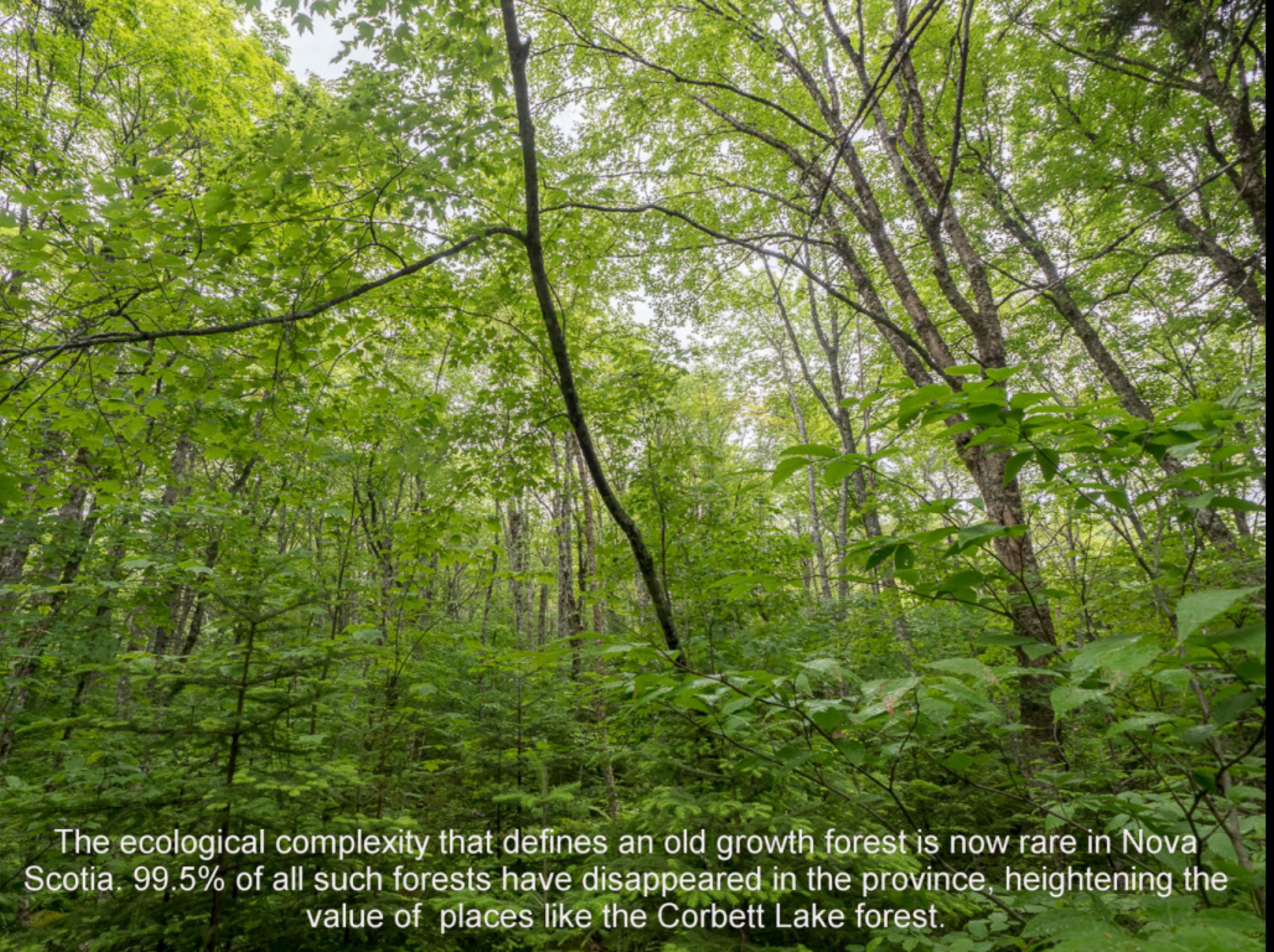


This male blue-headed vireo, a species protected under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, is singing its spring breeding song. Such behaviour is indicative of breeding, and when a female is seen nearby, a nest is also near. They are common at the Corbett Lake old growth site.



The luxuriant growth of ferns and other vegetation die and decay every year to create a rich soil layer, so crucial for year over year plant fertility, carbon sequestration, invertebrate, and micro-organism diversity.





The ecological complexity that defines an old growth forest is now rare in Nova Scotia. 99.5% of all such forests have disappeared in the province, heightening the value of places like the Corbett Lake forest.



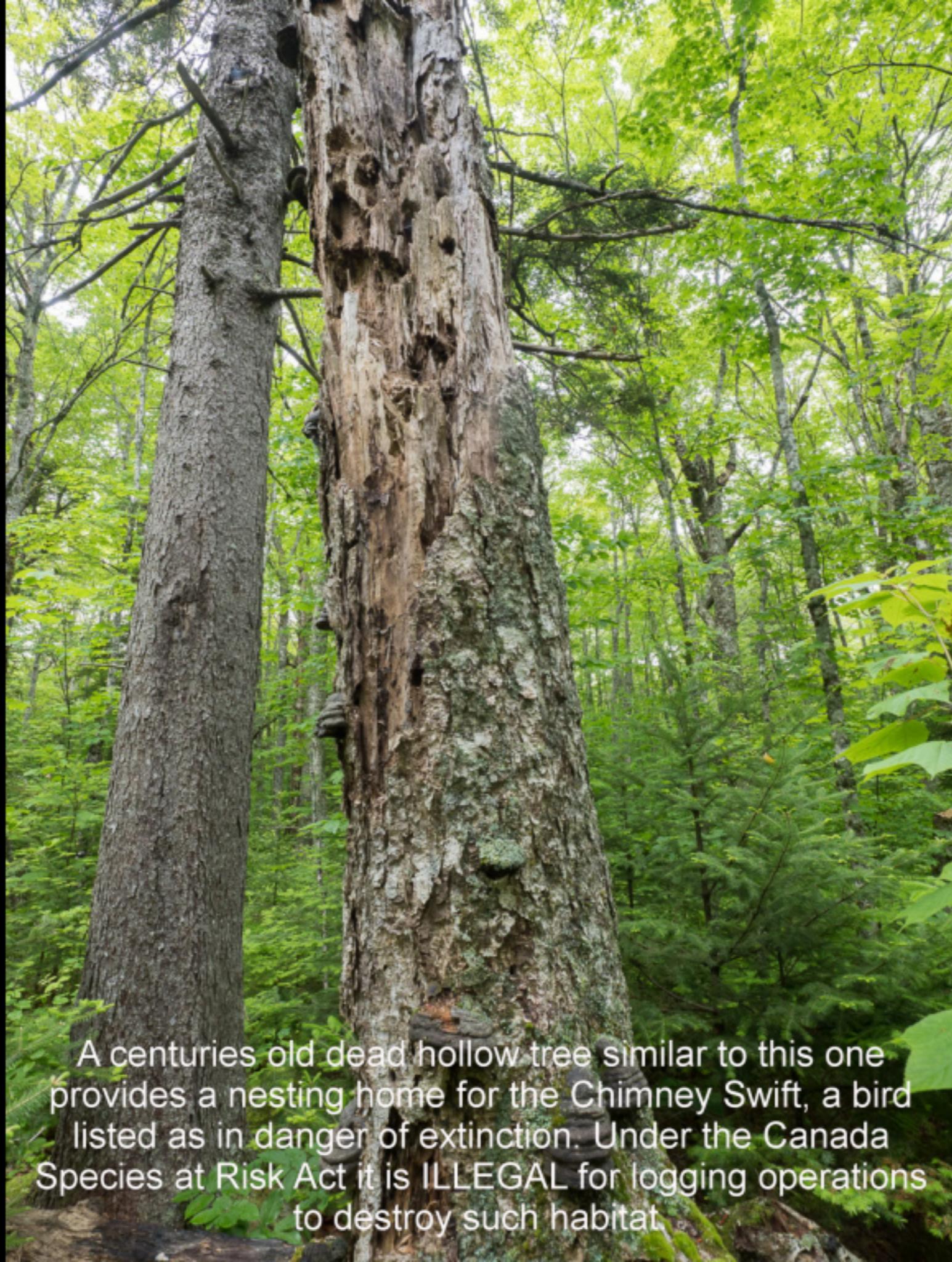
Viburnum (hobblebush) grows in the understory at Corbett Lake. Such delicate woody shrubs need such conditions to thrive.

Protected under the Migratory Bird Convention Act, a male winter wren sings to establish a territory in spring. Several pairs of this species nests in the 19Ha old-growth site at Corbett Lake.



The Corbett Lake old-growth forest hosts the tiniest ferns to massive 200 plus year old yellow birch trees. Only in such a pristine place is it possible for such a range of life to thrive.





A centuries old dead hollow tree similar to this one provides a nesting home for the Chimney Swift, a bird listed as in danger of extinction. Under the Canada Species at Risk Act it is ILLEGAL for logging operations to destroy such habitat.



More than just a biodiversity sanctuary, the Corbett Lake old growth forest not only provides a rich, abundant life for a myriad of living things, with it's amazing sights and sounds it also uplifts the human soul.

A male northern parula sings to its mate on their nearby nest. Like the other 20 or so species of migratory songbirds nesting at Corbett Lake, parulas return each spring to the same forest to breed. Tragically, if this site is logged in the fall of 2019, as is planned, these birds will return to a devastated, unliveable place next spring.
Their homes will have been destroyed.





The cycle of life continues as newly fallen leaf lies on a newly emerging fern. Nature ever renews itself when given the chance. Sadly, renewal from a clearcut is a different story.

A male black-throated blue warbler, protected under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, perches above his female mate sitting on her eggs on the nest. Is it too much for humans to consider the lives of all wild things before we destroy their homes with little thought to their future or even of the sustainability of a healthy environment for ourselves?



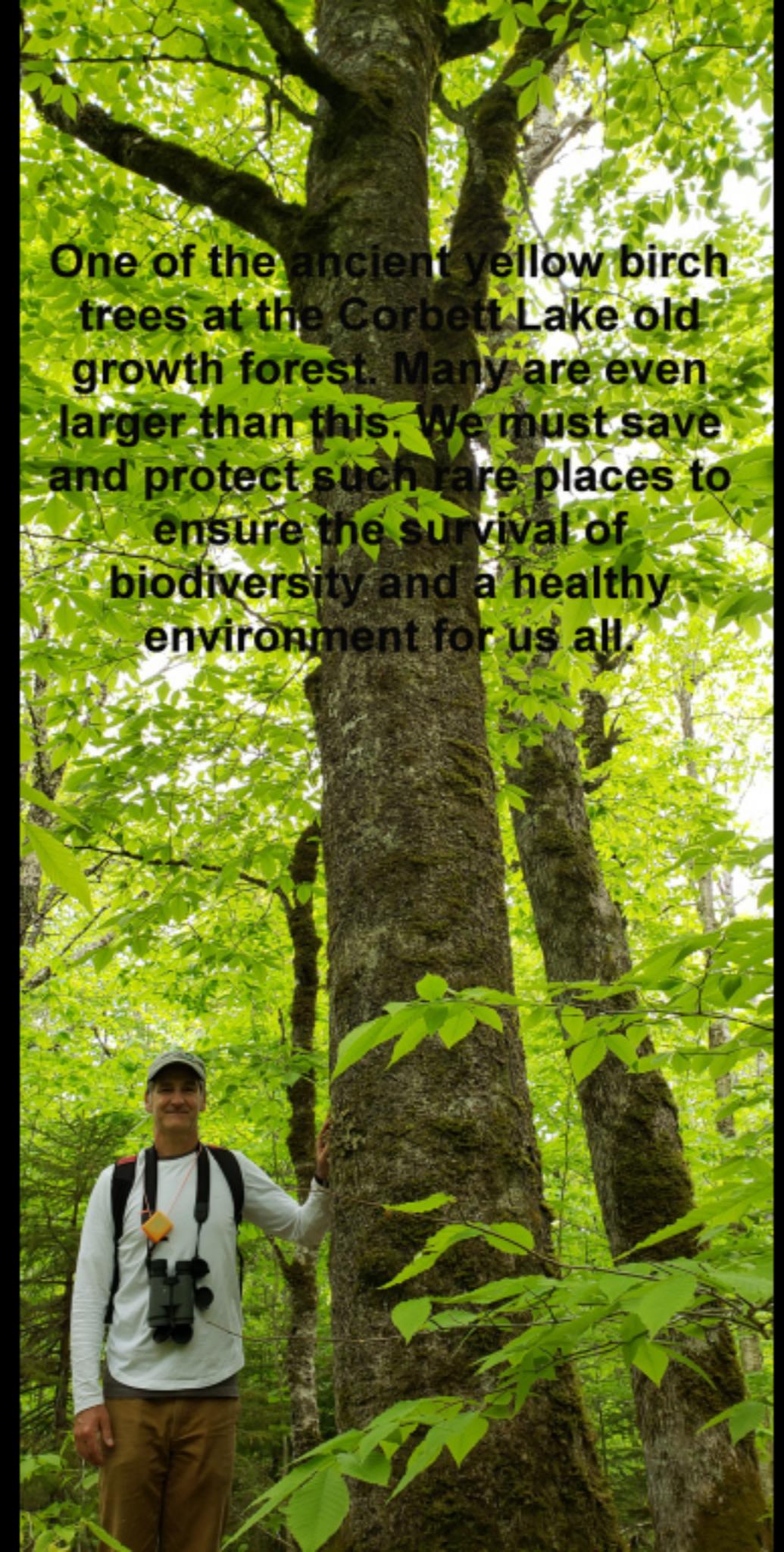
This female black-throated blue warbler sits on her nest. Will this be the last time she will raise a brood of four chicks at the Corbett Lake old growth forest? A 2013 scientific study estimated that up to 160,000 migratory bird nests are destroyed by logging in NS every year. With four chicks average per nest, the number is even more staggering.







One of the ancient yellow birch trees at the Corbett Lake old growth forest. Many are even larger than this. We must save and protect such rare places to ensure the survival of biodiversity and a healthy environment for us all.



A logging road has already been built along the border of the old growth site. It waits for the mechanical harvesters, due to begin cutting this fall. Please help us stop them.





This is what awaits the Corbett Lake old-growth site: being mowed down like a field of weeds, resulting in the destruction of hundreds of nests and other wildlife- illegal under the Migratory Birds Convention Act. Located in Annapolis County, like Corbett Lake, this younger aged forest was utterly destroyed recently. Contact Premier Stephen McNeil (Corbett Lake old-growth is in HIS riding) and Minister of Lands and Forestry Iain Rankin and tell them not to cut the Corbett Lake Old-Growth

