

A Proposal from the Friends of Cherry Valley

**CHERRY VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

**SIGNIFICANCE**

Cherry Valley is one of America's most significant wildlife areas. Located along the base of Blue Mountain (Kittatinny Ridge) in Monroe County, PA, Cherry Valley is a spectacular scenic area as well. Here, in part, is what makes Cherry Valley so special:

- **80 species and natural communities of conservation concern**
- **Home to several federally listed species such as northeastern bulrush, dwarf wedge mussel, bog turtle, and bald eagle**
- **Breeding populations of cerulean warbler and other Neo-tropical migrants**
- **Key link in the globally important raptor flyway along Kittatinny Ridge**
- **Contiguous to Wolf Rocks, a renowned segment of the Appalachian Trail, and to the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area**
- **An important scenic asset to the Pocono Mountains vacation industry, the biggest economic sector in the Pocono region**

**PROGRESS TO DATE**

- One-fourth of the Cherry Valley area's 30,000 acres already protected by private landowners, local and state governments, land trusts, and National Park Service.
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service preliminary assessment confirmed the conclusions of previous studies that Cherry Valley is a globally significant wildlife area.
- Friends of Cherry Valley (a coalition of local landowners, civic and business leaders, public officials and organizations) has been taking the pulse of the local communities -- finds strong support for a National Wildlife Refuge to complement existing local conservation efforts.
- Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge Study Act (key sponsors Congressmen Kanjorski and Dent) passed by Congress and signed by the president in 2006

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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