



## Fleming Glade

**Rarity Rank:** S1/G1

**Synonyms:**

**Ecological Systems:**

CES203.364 West Gulf Coastal Plain

Catahoula Barrens

CES203.379 West Gulf Coastal Plain

Southern Calcareous Prairie



**General Description:**

- A glade is an open area in an otherwise wooded landscape due to the presence of rock at or near the surface.
- Vegetation is best described as a woodland with sparse tree cover; woody vegetation has a stunted appearance.
- Endemic to the Dough Hills member of the Fleming formation in northeast Rapides Parish
- Soils are Kisatchie-Anococo, which are inclusions in the Vaiden-Watsonia association.
- Anococo soils are underlain by siltstone, and acidic and calcareous soils are interspersed
- Flora is a mix of drought-tolerant glade species, wet savannah species, species characteristic of upland longleaf pine forests, and a few calciphiles (lime-loving plants)

**Plant Community Associates**

**Common overstory species include:**

*Pinus palustris* (longleaf pine),

*P. taeda* (loblolly pine – in fire-suppressed glades)

*Q. marilandica* (blackjack oak; sub-canopy)

**Common herbaceous species include:**

*Bigelovia nuttallii* (rayless goldenrod),

*S. scoparium* (little bluestem),

*Ionactis linariifolius* (narrowleaf aster),

*Andropogon ternarius* (split-beard bluestem),

*Schyzachyrium tenerum* (slender bluestem),

*Euphorbia corollata* (flowering spurge),

*Liatris acidota* (sharp blazing star),

*Muhlenbergia expansa* (pine barren muhly)

**Federally-listed plant & animal species:**

*Picoides borealis* (red-cockaded woodpecker)

Endangered; G2; S2

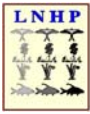
**Range:**

Currently known only from Rapides Parish.

**Threats & Management Considerations:**

The Fleming glade community is estimated to have occupied less than 2,000 acres historically and now 5-10% of that acreage is thought to remain today. Threats include fire suppression and attempts to site prep and plant trees.





# Natural Communities of Louisiana



Use of appropriate management activities and developing a compatible management plan prevents destruction or degradation of this habitat type and promotes long-term maintenance of healthy Fleming glades. Such management strategies should include:

- Prescribed burning every 3-4 years during the growing season (April-June)
- Harvesting off-site species such as loblolly pine during dry weather to prevent rutting and minimize soil damage
- Prohibiting off-road vehicle access
- Do not attempt to site prep and plant trees – the overall stunted appearance of the native woody vegetation will tell you that this community is suboptimal for timber production



Fleming glade, Kisatchie National Forest



Fleming glade with off-site loblolly pine, Kisatchie National Forest