



Door County Land Use Forum Building a framework for conducting Biological Inventories

Supporting Solutions through Community

BUILDING A FRAMEWORK FOR BIOLOGICAL INVENTORIES

Management of natural areas and conservancy lands in Door County is inadequate, proposed the Door County Land Use Forum. The recently-published Guide to Significant Wildlife Habitat and Natural Areas of Door County identified areas where contiguous parcels of relatively intact ecosystems can be found, but there is lack of specific data needed to initiate effective conservation activities.

The INRP grant will help create a simple biological inventory strategy that can be used to select target species or natural communities for conservation and protection. The Hibbards Creek-Thorpe Pond Watershed in Northern Door and Stony Creek Watershed in Southern Door will be the pilot sites, but only the first steps in creating an extensive framework for biological monitoring, water quality assessment and measurement of ecosystem health in watersheds throughout the Door Peninsula.

Ecologists, biologists and naturalists from Northeast Wisconsin will craft protocols designed to identify species and landscape patterns that indicate ecological integrity and health. Then students from UW-Green Bay's Environmental Sciences program will collect data through field observation. Staff at the Coffrin Center for Biodiversity will assist with supervision of data collection and processing. The data and field experience will be used to update and refine the original inventory standards, which will become reference guides for future biological inventories and site conservation planning.

MID PROJECT REPORT

Five meetings were conducted resulting in the creation of the framework that allows for an evaluation of a landscapes biological integrity. Five categories are addressed: Native biodiversity, water quality, native species, hydrologic integrity and vegetative cover.

Bird surveys were conducted on project sites and entered into a database at UWGB. In 2005 habitat surveys will continue using the new framework.

At a Glance...

Project:

To create a simple biological inventory strategy that can be used to select target species or natural communities for conservation and protection.

Grant Recipient:

Door County Land Use Forum

Amount Awarded: \$4,500

Funding Cycle: 2004



The Land Use Forum conducts biological inventories to select target species or natural communities for conservation and protection in the lakeshore basin.