Terrestrial and Wetland Team Meeting

Meeting Summary

22 April 2014

- Recommendation: use 13 terrestrial species with habitat models as representative species

- Issue for Discussion: limited dispersal species not well represented

- Recommendation: include hibernacula, cliffs, cobblestone, and pine barren habitats in landscape design (also peatlands?)

Formations/Macrogroups and Species

Ecosystem Formation – Macrogroup	Acres in Northeast U.S.*	Acres in CT River Watershed	Representative Species Being Modeled and Habitat Requirements†
Northeastern Upland Forest – Northern Hardwood and Conifer	48,500,711	4,336,888	**American Woodcock** – young forest **Black Bear** – large area requirements
Northeastern Upland Forest – Central Oak-Pine	31,275,710	363,308	**Blackburnian Warbler** - mixed forest Cerulean Warbler – mature deciduous Eastern Box Turtle – moist forest **Louisiana Waterthrush** – riparian forest **Ovenbird** – mature forest Prairie Warbler – young forest & pine barrens Red-shouldered Hawk **Ruffed Grouse** – young forest **Wood Thrush** – mature deciduous
Agriculture (pastures, grasslands, and row crops combined)	25,165,562	463,736	**Eastern Meadowlark** – pasture & grassland
Boreal Upland Forest	7,884,812	417,501	Bicknell's Thrush – high elevation forest **Blackpoll Warbler** – spruce-fir forest **Moose** – mixed forest and large areas Snowshoe Hare – young spruce-fir
Northeastern Wetland Forest	6,977,821	213,622	**Northern Waterthrush** – forested wetlands **Wood Duck** – swamps & floodplain forests **Wood Turtle** – forested streams & uplands
Freshwater Marsh	1,774,535	77,517	American Black Duck (breeding) **Marsh Wren** – fresh and salt marshes Virginia Rail – fresh and salt marshes
Grassland and Shrubland – Glades and Outcrops	2,199,639	54,759	
Cliff and Rock	668,071	40,701	
Peatland	526,795	7,738	(no species selected primarily for peatland, but used by species such as moose and black duck)
Estuarine Intertidal – Emergent (marsh)	709,735	2,426	American Black Duck (nonbreeding) Diamond-backed Terrapin – marshes & estuaries Saltmarsh Sparrow - saltmarshes Snowy Egret – marshes & estuaries
Alpine	8,166	1,385	
Coastal Scrub-Herb – Dune and Beach	46,360	12	American Oystercatcher – beaches & shellfish beds Sanderling – beaches & shorelines
Developed	20,170,987	783,320	
Water	8,652,542	359,513	

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- Issue for Discussion: balancing focus on CT River Watershed vs transferable products? (e.g., saltmarsh and pine barrens)

- Issue for Discussion: incorporate rare species/habitats “with” or “after” representative species in landscape design process?

- Issue for Discussion: for course filter landscape design (using IEI) need to determine…
  - weights/ranks of habitat types
  - what % of landscape to target
  - objectives for ecosystems (e.g., maintain x% of IEI)

Species Population Objectives

Species	Regional or State Objective	Regional Population Trend	Suggested objective (by 2030) for the Connecticut River Watershed
American Woodcock	Increase 50%	Significant Decline	Increase X%
Blackburnian Warbler	Maintain	Stable	Maintain
Blackpoll Warbler	No objective	Stable	Maintain
Eastern Meadowlark	Increase 50%	Significant Decline	Increase X%
Louisiana Waterthrush	No objective	Stable	Maintain
Marsh Wren	No objective	Stable	Maintain
Northern Waterthrush	No objective	Slight Decline	Maintain
Ruffed Grouse	Maintain	Stable or Slight Decline	Maintain
Wood Duck	Maintain	Stable or Increasing	Maintain
Wood Thrush	Increase 50%	Significant Decline	Increase X%
Black Bear	Maintain	??	Maintain
Moose	Maintain	??	Maintain
Wood Turtle	No Objective	??	Maintain

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- Issue for Discussion: population objectives for large increases might not be possible because of trade-offs among species/habitats and other landscape-scale stressors

- Issue for Discussion: different objectives for different parts of the watershed?

- Issue for Discussion: not clear how population objectives relate to place-based landscape design and how they will be used in the process
  - But have not talked yet about population -> habitat translation

Terrestrial/Wetland Team Webpage:

http://northatlanticlcc.org/groups/connecticut-river-watershed-pilot/terrestrial-and-wetland-subteam