

Mr. Dugal's research findings show:

1. That the flora indicates that much of these woods should be classified as a wetland.
- 2; As well, that the woodland contains a large population of *Carex debilis*, a Regionally Significant vascular Plant species, as well as 13 species of Regionally Uncommon vascular plants.

Your knowledge of the Bowesville ponds and woodlot is important. I know that you have visited this site a number of times, can you support Mr. Dugal's research and analysis?

Are you able to offer more information on amphibians, reptiles, Molluscs, and Crayfish in this area of the chosen maintenance yard...

* Our summary of this woods was: "The Bowesville Woods are low flat big-tree Aspen/Red Maple woods with a ferny ground cover that suggests spore-borne colonization. Broad-leaved Plantain and vivid Heal-all throughout the woods are further indications of the secondary nature of the ground cover, and the older trees are spaced out as if the woods were quite heavily grazed until recently. We saw two small dark frogs that may have been Wood Frogs, a Ruffed Grouse apparently distracting us from a brood, an apparent Fox den, a Redtail Hawk acting as if it were near a nestsite, and dried-up vernal pools containing the Polished Tadpole Snail, *Aplexa hypnorum*."

All this adds to Albert's evaluation is that the presence of estivating aquatic snails removes any doubt about the wetland character of the woods. Wider sampling would be necessary to see how widespread the snails are, but they at least corroborate the botanical evidence of wet conditions.

As I said in my report, finding amphibians would take spring visits, since mid-summer is the worst time to seek them. We did, however, see frogs that looked like Wood Frogs, which would have likely bred in vernal ponds in these woods, rather than moving from the small ephemeral Pasture Pond SW of High Rd, where we found Wood Frog tadpoles.

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Snippet from Dr. Schueler's e-mail

fred.

Bishops Mills Natural History Centre
Frederick W. Schueler, Aleta Karstad, Jennifer Helene Schueler
RR#2 Bishops Mills, Ontario, Canada K0G 1T0
on the Smiths Falls Limestone Plain 44° 52'N 75° 42'W
(613)258-3107 <bckcdb@istar.ca>
<http://pinicola.ca>

subscribe to the Eastern Ontario Natural History list-serve at
http://mail.thenaturejournal.com/mailman/listinfo/naturelist_thenaturejournal.com

