



Michigan Department of Natural Resources & Environment Biodiversity Conservation Planning Process Implementation Summary

- **Goal:** To conserve biodiversity on DNRE-managed lands and to cooperate with other landowners to conserve, restore and protect the native biological diversity of Michigan.
- **Biodiversity Stewardship Area Network Objective:** Identify and manage a network of geographic areas that support intact functional examples of Michigan's ecosystems and best represent the significant variation of Michigan's ecosystems.
- **Implementation Process:**
 - DNRE staff worked with a Public Advisory Team to develop an implementation plan that outlines a process and defines criteria to guide selection of BSAs.
 - Potential BSAs are being identified through analysis and recommendations from DNRE staff and stakeholder organizations and through public workshops.
 - Within each ecoregion, a Core Design Team (tribal representatives, stakeholder representatives, and DNRE field staff) will develop a set of recommended BSAs that best achieve the objective. This will require assessing potential BSAs identified and seeking new information about previously unidentified areas.
 - Recommended BSAs will be reviewed by the DNRE and through public review. The final decision on approval of the BSA Network will be made by DNRE leadership (the DNRE's Statewide Council & Director).
 - Following approval, management objectives for BSAs on DNRE-administered lands will be developed on a site-by-site basis with recognition of the multiple values and unique circumstances of each site. As BSAs are assessed by Core Design Teams, some management considerations will have been captured.
 - The full network of BSAs will be reviewed and re-assessed on a 10-year cycle, linked with all-ownership Ecoregional Plans.
- **Management of BSAs:**
 - The portions of BSAs that occur on DNRE-administered land will be managed with an emphasis on biodiversity conservation. Other current and future activities that do not impact or detract from long-term management objectives will also continue.
 - Site-specific management objectives and management actions will be developed through the DNRE's normal land management planning processes, which include opportunities for public participation.
 - While owners of non-DNRE lands that occur within BSAs will be under no obligation to change what they are doing with their lands, the DNRE hopes that they will voluntarily choose to implement actions that will help to conserve biodiversity.
 - The DNRE will look for opportunities to assist and cooperate with other interested landowners, when the resources to do so are available. Some opportunities for working with other landowners may be possible through current Department outreach and private land programs

Implementation Timeline

	Initial BSA Assessment			Complete RSFMPs	Ecoregional Planning Process	Core Design Team BSA Re-assessment	BSA Public Review & MDNRE Approval Processes	Revise RSFMPs, Parks & SGA Plans
	Analysis & Organization	Initial Core Design Team Process	BSA Public Review & MDNRE Approval Processes					
NLP	Jan – Feb, 2009	Mar – Aug, 2009	Sep, 2009 – Sep, 2010	Sep 2010 – Feb, 2011	2012 – 2014	2012	2013	2015 -
WUP	Apr – May, 2009	Jun – Oct, 2009	Nov, 2009 – Nov, 2010	Nov, 2010 – Jun, 2011	2012 – 2014	2012	2013	2015 -
EUP	Jun – Jul, 2009	Aug 2009 – Mar, 2010	Apr, 2010 – Jan, 2011	Jan, 2010 – Sep, 2011	2012 – 2014	2012	2013	2015 -
SLP	Jan – Mar, 2010	Apr – Dec, 2010	Jan – Sep, 2011	N/A	2008 - 2012	N/A	N/A	2013 -

NLP=Northern Lower Peninsula, WUP=Western Upper Peninsula, EUP=Eastern Upper Peninsula, SLP=Southern Lower Peninsula

* Due to the constrained timeline of the Initial BSA Assessment in the northern regions of the state (to ensure that BSAs are incorporated into the Regional State Forest Management Plans), an early re-assessment is planned to allow for a more comprehensive review of potential BSAs in these regions.

For Up-To-Date Information:

Visit our web page: http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-30301_30505_33935---,00.html

To Nominate an Area:

Please complete a Conservation Area Recommendation Form, and in the ‘Comments’ box include a description of current uses and activities in the area: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/PR4199ConservationAreaRecommendationForm_145873_7.pdf

For Additional Questions:

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