CENTER FOR ECOLOGY & NATURAL RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY



SITE 1

Battaglia

Franklin Township
Portage County, OH

Report Written By: Stephanie Deibel
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SECTION 1: NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Introduction

Stephanie Deibel, conservation undergraduate student, and Jonathan Kirk, geography graduate student, visited the Battaglia property to establish a baseline documentation report of the property. During the visit, we walked the entire property and took photos at the property corners and at other significant locations.

Surrounding Land Use

The Battaglia property is approximately 104 acres and is located above Summit Rd in Franklin Township in Portage County, OH. The property is within the Cuyahoga watershed. The property is bordered by residential land use on the lowest northern property line and second most eastern property line. The Portage Hike and Bike trail cuts through the property diagonally through the southern portion of the property. Horning Rd runs through the property on the eastern side. 261 borders the property at the eastern boundary line.

Land Cover and Habitats

Mixed Hardwood Forest

Approximately 27.5 acres of mixed hardwood forests can be found throughout the site. Old growth forest can be found between the second most eastern property line and the large pond. The understory is open with little growth and a dirt path walking trail is visible. Common hardwood species can be found in this area including Red Oak, White Oak, Black Cherry, American Beech, Black Oak, and various Maples. The remaining hardwood forested areas are Mid-Successional and Mature forest, none of which have evidence of past logging. The same species mentioned above can be found throughout the entire hardwood forested areas.

Pine Forest

Planted pine forests make up approximately 13.5 acres of the property. White pine and Red pine have been identified. These trees range from 8”-12” in DBH.

Pond

Two ponds can be found on this property. The smaller of the two is controlled by a damming structure. The dam also controls the water level of the larger pond, located to the left of the old growth forested area. Occasionally, the larger pond is drained allowing new vegetation to grow and new habitats to form. The existing larger pond has some woody debris such as logs and fallen trees as well as aquatic plant growth. Mallards were seen while inventorying the site. Duck boxes have been placed in the old growth area.

Creek

A small creek runs along the western side of the lower half of the property. The northwest portion of the stream has very little substrate variety with boulder slabs as the dominant type. The water flow is slow to nonexistent. At the southeast end of the stream the substrate is a mixture of gravel and sand. The water is moving a bit faster yet still at a slow pace. There are few good access points at this end, however, it’s hard to navigate through due to heavy riparian growth.

Land Cover Summary

Land Cover Type	Description
Mixed Hardwood Forest	27.5 acres
Pine Forest	13.5 acres
Pond	2.3 acres
Paved Parking Lot	6.0 acres
Creek	385.7 meters

Note: The above descriptions are estimated values calculated from an aerial map of the area. The values are in no way exact measures of these land cover types.

Summary of Conservation Values

The Battaglia property has significant educational, research, and natural conservation values. The diverse habitats for aquatic life and wildlife includes various successional stages of hardwood forest, planted pine forest, open water ponds, a creek, and some small, open field habitats mixed with the forested areas. These habitats offer food and shelter for fish, birds, and various sized mammals.

Site History

10 Parcels:

17-003-00-00-032-000

17-015-00-00-001-000

17-016-00-00-018-000

17-003-00-00-031-000

17-015-00-00-002-000

17-016-00-00-011-000

17-015-00-00-003-000

17-003-00-00-031-000

17-015-00-00-001-000

17-003-00-00-032-000

Transaction:

Sale Date	Seller	Buyer	Sale Price
7/11/2002	Unknown	Kent State Board of Trustees	$0.00

SECTION 2: SOILS INFORMATION

MAP UNIT	SOIL SERIES	SOIL TEXTURE	DRAINAGE CLASS	EROSION RATING	SLOPE
BgB	*Bogart*	*Silt Loam*	*Moderately Well*	*Slight*	*2-6%*
CdB	*Canfield*	*Silt Loam*	*Moderately Well*	*Slight*	*2-6%*
CdC2	*Canfield*	*Silt Loam*	*Moderately Well*	*Moderately*	*6-12%*
Cg	*Carlisle*	*Muck*	*Very Poor*	*Slight*	*0-2%*
CnB	*Chili*	*Loam*	*Well Drained*	*Slight*	*2-6%*
CtD	*Chili-Oshtemo*	*Complex*	*Well Drained*	*Slight*	*12-18%*
Da	*Damascus*	*Loam*	*Poorly Drained*	*Slight*	*0-2%*
JtA	*Jimtown*	*Loam*	*Somewhat Poorly*	*Slight*	*0-2%*
LaB	*Lakin*	*Loamy Sand*	*Well Drained*	*Slight*	*2-6%*
LaC	*Lakin*	*Loamy Sand*	*Well Drained*	*Slight*	*6-12%*
Ld	*Linwood*	*Muck*	*Very Poor*	*Slight*	*0-2%*
Od	*Olmsted*	*Loam*	*Very Poor*	*Slight*	*0-2%*
OsC	*Oshtemo*	*Sandy Loam*	*Well Drained*	*Slight*	*6-12%*
WuC2	*Silt Loam*	*Well Draind*	*Moderately*	*Moderately*	*6-12%*

This information was gathered from the Web Soil Survey, provided by the USDA NRCS and the Soil Survey of Portage County, provided by the USDA SCS in cooperation with NRCS.

SECTION 3: SOILS MAP



SECTION 4: PROPERTY INVENTORY

4.1 Structures, Improvements, and/or Noted Features

- A Paved Parking Lot – Photo Point S1-17- with electrical is located at the southern part of the property.
- A bike shelter is located just above the parking lot near the start of the walking trail.
- A bus stop with shelter is located above Summit Rd.
- Numerous KSU management buildings can be found on the site, mainly near the bottom left of the property line.
- A wooden bridge, part of the paved walking trail, crosses over a small creek near the bottom left corner of the northwest portion of the property.
- A White Pine Stand – Photo Point S1-01 – is an even aged forest with no understory growth and is adjacent to a wetland area – Photo Point S1-02.
- A Burrow – Photo Point S1-03 – was observed at this location.
- Maple trees – Photo Point S1-04 – seem to be infected. Brown spots, small red bumps, and holes were visible. Maple trees throughout the property have the same appearance.
- A Small Dried Creek – Photo Point S1-06 – runs through a mixed aged forest. At time of visit no standing water was visible and horsetails were present.
- An Old Growth Forest – Photo Point S1-07 – has trees with DBH ≥32". The understory is non-existent due to the large canopies of these trees. White Oak, Black Oak, Black Cherry, American Beech, Red Oak were identified while inventorying. Chipmunks, Black Squirrels, American Robins, and Mallards were seen on site along with wooden duck boxes near the biological research pond's edge.
- Biological Research Pond – Photo Point S1-08 – is adjacent to the old growth forested area. Duckweed was dominant at time of visit and Mallards were seen in pond.
- A Restricted Access Sign – Photo Point S1-11 – prohibited us from further inventorying the site. The area is used by KSU for recycling and compost.
- A Wetland Area – Photo Point S1-12 – is near a bridge, part of the portage hike and bike trail. Orange film on the water and duckweed were visible at time of visit. Geese, Green frogs, and a turtle were spotted.
- A Small Creek – Photo Point S1-13 – has a sand and silt bed with no large substrates. Pools were present and seem to be no greater than 20cm in depth. A film was present on top of water at time of visit.
- A Small pond – Photo Point S1-14 – seems to be perennial. Water levels looked to be much lower than normal, probably due to the low rainfall experienced this summer.
- A Small Creek – Photo Point S1-15 – with little substrate variety is dominated by sand. The water flow was very little at time of visit. The end of this creek – Photo Point S1-16 – has a gravel and sand substrate bottom with few good points of access.
- A White Pine Stand – Photo Point S1-18 – is even aged with no understory.
- Two Burrows – Photo Point S1-19 – are on either side of a dirt mound with a cherry tree growing in the middle.
- Pond Overlook – Photo Point S1-21 – is made of wood and looks over the large pond located on the White Hall Terrace property.
- A Wetland Area – Photo Point S1-22 – has heavy cattail growth throughout with some small shrub growth. Leaf litter and debris has accumulated in this area. Red-winged Blackbird and an Eastern Garter snake were seen while in the area.

4.2 Access Roads and Trails/Parking

- Foot Trail - Photo Point S1-05 – A small dirt path runs through the forested area between the pine stand (north of trail) and the mixed hardwood forest (south of trail).
- A paved walking path starts at the parking lot, near the bike shelter, and runs through the property on the eastern side near Horning Rd which crosses over Horning Rd and stops at a bridge over 261, and through the property towards the large pond and wooded bridge.
- A dirt path can be used to walk through the old growth wooded area.
- The site can be accessed through the walking trail off of the parking lot, off of Horning Rd, and through the maintenance and management buildings and roads near the southern edge of the property.

4.3 Dumps, Disturbances, or Environmental Hazards

- Grassy Mound – Photo Point S1-20 – The most southern part of the eastern boundary line was once a dirt and rock debris pile. This area is now recovering with some small tree and shrub growth as well as a variety of different grasses.

4.4 Encroachments/Trespassing

- No signs of encroachment were seen while inventorying the site.

SECTION 5: LIST OF PHOTO POINTS

S1-01: *White Pine Stand*
S1-02: *Wetland*
S1-03: *Burrow*
S1-04: *Infected Maple Trees*
S1-05: *Small, dried, creek*
S1-06: *Brush pile found in Old Growth Wooded Area*
S1-07: *Mallards enjoying the Biological Research Pond*
S1-08: *Duck Box*
S1-09: *Small Pond*
S1-10: *Restricted Access*
S1-11: *Large pond and wetland area.*
S1-12: *Small creek*
S1-13: *Small pooling area*
S1-14: *Small Creek 2 Start*
S1-15: *Foot-trail*
S1-16: *Small Creek 2 End*
S1-17: *Parking Lot*
S1-18: *White Pine Stand Two*
S1-19: *Two Burrows*
S1-20: *Grassy Mound*
S1-21: *Pond Overlook*
S1-22: *Pond Three*

SECTION 6: MAP OF PHOTO POINTS



SECTION 7: PHOTO POINT COORDINATES

Coordinate System: UTM UPS, NAD83, (meters)
GPS Points taken on June 6, 2012; using a Garmin eTrex Legend HCx GPS

Point Number	Latitude (°N)	Longitude (°W)	Elevation (ft)
S1-01	41 08.450	81 23.632	1070
S1-02	41 08.476	81 19.296	1051
S1-03	41 08.467	81 19.308	1085
S1-04	41 08.509	81 19.357	1068
S1-05	41 08.494	81 19.510	1111
S1-06	41 08.587	81 19.663	1089
S1-07	41 08.604	81 19.650	1111
S1-08	41 08.613	81 19.650	1106
S1-09	41 08.541	81 19.711	1089
S1-10	41 08.615	81 19.767	1097
S1-11	41 08.577	81 19.846	1092
S1-12	41 08.552	81 19.890	1100
S1-13	41 08.509	81 19.637	1087
S1-14	41 08.498	81 19.658	1081
S1-15	41 08.496	81 19.572	1088
S1-16	41 08.394	81 19.608	1065
S1-17	41 08.376	81 19.511	1067
S1-18	41 08.389	81 19.406	1062
S1-19	41 08.391	81 19.386	1068
S1-20	41 08.364	81 19.302	1070
S1-21	41 08.528	81 19.896	1092
S1-22	41 08.542	81 19.967	1104

Note: The longitude and latitude values were determined by a GPS unit. It should be noted that there is a small amount of error inherent with GPS readings.

SECTION 8: PHOTO POINT PHOTOS

S1-01
XX
White Pine Stand

S1-02
XX
Wetland

S1-03
XX
Burrow

S1-04
XX
Infected Maple Trees

S1-05
XX
Small, dried, creek

S1-06



Brush pile found in Old Growth Wooded Area

S1-07



Mallards enjoying the Biological Research Pond

S1-08

XX
Duck Box

S1-09
XX
Small Pond

S1-10
XX
Restricted Access

S1-11
(have pics)
Large pond and wetland area.

S1-12



Small creek

S1-13
XX
Small pooling area

S1-14
XX
Small Creek 2 Start

S1-15
XX
Foot-trail

S1-16
XX
Small Creek 2 End

S1-17
XX
Parking Lot

S1-18

XX
White Pine Stand Two

S1-19
XX
Two Burrows

S1-20
XX
Grassy Mound

S1-21
XX
Pond Overlook

S1-22
XX
Pond Three

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: MAPS





0 250 500 Meters

Kent State University
Center for Ecology & Natural Resource Sustainability
Image: 2/2012 (Bing)
Topography: Portage County Auditor (2ft)

Topography Map

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