

CENTER FOR ECOLOGY & NATURAL RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY



SITE 10

ODOT Property

Franklin Township
Portage County, OH

*Report Written By: Stephanie Deibel
Date of Site Visit: 21 November 2012
Date Finalized: 18 December 2012*

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SECTION 1: NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Introduction

Stephanie Deibel, conservation undergraduate student, visited the ODOT property to establish a baseline documentation report of the property. During the visit, I walked the entire property and took photos at the property corners and at other significant locations.

Surrounding Land Use

The ODOT property is approximately 63 acres and is located south of 261 in Brimfield and Franklin Township in Portage County, OH. The property is within the Cuyahoga watershed. The property is bordered by PARTA and 261. Burnett Rd dead-ends along the southern boundary line.

Land Cover and Habitats

Mixed Hardwood Forest

Approximately 38 acres of the ODOT property is hardwood forest. A mixture of dominant species can be found throughout the area including Oak, Maple, American Beech, and Shagbark Hickory. Early/Mid-Successional best summarizes the age range of trees throughout this area, however, some mature trees with DBH greater than 30" can be found. The understory throughout the area is open, however, some areas becoming dense with shrub and brush growth.

Wetland

Numerous wetland areas are located on the property. The one located in the northern portion of the property is dominated with cattail growth. Open water is located in the center of the marsh, depth unknown. Another wetland area is located west of Burnett Rd and the gate used to access the property. Cattails and common reeds are present in the area. Little standing water was present at the time of visit, just covering the feet. South of PARTA is a wetland that runs along a mowed path, most likely used by the gas/oil company.

An open water pond is located east of the entrance point to the property. The area is surrounded by what seems to be canary reed growth. Geese were seen in the water at time of visit.

A wet area is located in the western old-field area. Water reached depths of 1.5'-2' with both common reed and cattails present.

Open-Field

A maintained mowed grass area is located north of Burnett Rd. It appears this area is mowed by the State. Old-field habitat is located in two different locations separated by a wooded strip. Both are dominated by a monoculture and are surrounded by forest or crop field habitat.

Creek

A small creek is located near the mowed grass area mentioned above. Leaf litter and muck make up the stream bottom. The riparian zone is made up of shrub and tree growth.

Land Cover Summary

Land Cover Type	Description
Wetland	3.5 acres
Open-field	18.5 acres

Creek	68 meters
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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

SITE 10 has significant educational, research, and natural conservation values. The natural succession process in the open-field areas allows for students to see and understand the process of succession and study which plants come in first, second, etc. The forested areas can be used for timber management education and forest ecology understanding. Looking at past aerial photos, the wetland areas can be used to understand drainage and how developing an area changes the hydrology of the area.

Site History

2 Parcels:

04-007-00-00-011-001

12-003-00-00-002-001

Transaction:

Sale Date	Seller	Buyer	Sale Price
12/11/2008		Kent State Univ Board of Trustees	\$0.00

SECTION 2: SOILS INFORMATION

MAP UNIT	SOIL SERIES	SOIL TEXTURE	DRAINAGE CLASS	EROSION RATING	SLOPE
CdB	<i>Canfield</i>	<i>Silt Loam</i>	<i>Moderately Well</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>2-6%</i>
CdC	<i>Canfield</i>	<i>Silt</i>	<i>Moderately Well</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>6-12%</i>
Cg	<i>Carlisle</i>	<i>Muck</i>	<i>Very Poorly</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>0-2%</i>
CnC	<i>Chili</i>	<i>Loam</i>	<i>Well Drained</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>6-12%</i>
CpC	<i>Chili</i>	<i>Silt Loam</i>	<i>Well Drained</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>6-12%</i>
Da	<i>Damascus</i>	<i>Loam</i>	<i>Poorly Drained</i>		<i>0-2%</i>
JtB	<i>Jimtown</i>	<i>Loam</i>	<i>Somewhat Poorly</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>2-6%</i>
LaB	<i>Lakin</i>	<i>Loamy Sand</i>	<i>Excessively Drained</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>2-6%</i>
LaC	<i>Lakin</i>	<i>Loamy Sand</i>	<i>Excessively Drained</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>6-12%</i>
MgA	<i>Mahoning</i>	<i>Silt Loam</i>	<i>Somewhat Poorly</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>0-2%</i>
Od	<i>Olmsted</i>	<i>Loam</i>	<i>Very Poorly Drained</i>		<i>0-2%</i>
OsB	<i>Oshtemo</i>	<i>Sandy Loam</i>	<i>Well Drained</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>2-6%</i>

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

- Open-field – Photo Point S10-01 – is a maintained, mowed grass monoculture with few shrubs and trees in scattered about.
- Cattail Marsh – Photo Point S10-02 – has reed canary grass growth mixed in. This area is surrounded by shrub growth.
- Creek – Photo Point S10-03 – has perennial flow. The habitat is recovering with channelized banks and muck substrate. The riparian zone is narrow; stream right is new field, stream left is immature forest and shrubs. The water flows towards a drainpipe located near the northern boundary line.
- Brush Pile – Photo Point S10-04 – is located near the creek mentioned above.
- Forested Area – Photo Point S10-05 – is natural and uneven aged. The age range is Early/Mid-Successional with DBH ranging from 6"-16". This hardwood forest is dominated by Black Cherry. The understory is open with diverse sapling growth.
- Open Area – Photo Point S10-06 – is dominated with shrub and briar growth.
- Forested Area – Photo Point S10-07 – is natural and uneven aged. The age range is Early/Mid-Successional with DBH ranging from 6"-16". This hardwood forest is a mix of Oak, Maple, and Black Cherry. The understory is open with sapling growth.
- Boundary Marker – Photo Point S10-08 – is a right of way marker put in place by the State of Ohio.
- Broken Fence – Photo Point S10-09 – was caused by a large tree that has fallen. Part of the tree is located in the neighbor's yard.
- Corner – Photo Point S10-10 – is not clearly marked. There is a fence located on the southern side.
- Corner – Photo Point S10-11 – is not clearly mowed. This point is about 30ft away from the mowed area near 261.
- Boundary Marker – Photo Point S10-12 – is a right of way marker put in place by the State of Ohio.
- Forested Area – Photo Point S10-13 – is natural and uneven aged. The age range is Mid-Successional with DBH ranging from 8"-16" with some trees reaching DBH of +40". This hardwood forest is dominated by American Beech. The understory is open with sapling growth.
- Boundary Marker – Photo Point S10-14 – is a right of way marker put in place by the State of Ohio.
- Forested Area – Photo Point S10-15 – is natural and uneven aged. The age range is Early/Mid-Successional with DBH ranging from 6"-16". This forest is mixed with Red Pine as the dominate species with Oak and Maple growth. The understory is open with diverse sapling growth.
- Boundary Line – Photo Point S10-16 – follows 261. Red Pine growth is along the boundary.
- Pond – Photo Point S10-17 – is large, larger than 1 acre in size. Geese were seen in the pond at time of visit. Immature forest and field habitat surround the area.
- Forested Area – Photo Point S10-18 – is natural and uneven. The age range is Mid-Successional with DBH ranging from 8"-16". This hardwood forest is dominated by Maple with some spruce. The understory is open with diverse sapling growth and ivory floor growth.

- Forested Area – Photo Point S10-19 – is natural and uneven. The age range is Early/Mid-Successional with DBH ranging 6”-16”. The understory is open with diverse sapling growth. Grapevine was seen in the area.
- Vernal Pool – Photo Point S10-20 – has heavy leaf debris and fallen trees.
- Pond – Photo Point S10-22 – is between 0.5-1.0 acre in size. Micro-topography is present due to fallen limbs. This area is surrounded by mature forest.
- Cattail Marsh – Photo Point S10-23 – is surrounded by shrub growth.
- Corner – Photo Point S10-24 – is not clearly marked. This area is wet and located near 261.
- Wet Area – Photo Point S10-25 – is dominated by shrub growth.
- Boundary Line – Photo Point S10-26 – is marked with a fence. Shrub and cattail growth extends towards 261.
- Forested Area – Photo Point S10-27 – is natural and uneven aged. The age range is Early/Mid-Successional with DBH ranging 6”-16”. The understory is open with diverse sapling growth.
- Cattail Marsh – Photo Point S10-28 – is located behind PARTA.
- Grapevine – Photo Point S10-29 – was seen in the forested area mentioned above.
- Deer Scraping – Photo Point S10-30 – on a tree branch in the forested area.
- Cattail Marsh – Photo Point S10-31 – is surrounded by reed canary grass and shrub growth. This area is located just off the mowed trail used by the oil/gas company.
- Corner – Photo Point S10-32 is clearly marked by a fence. A gas line stake is located near the corner.
- Corner – Photo Point S10-33 – is not clearly marked.
- Tree Ribbon – Photo Point S10-34 – is marked with D-2.
- Broken Fence – Photo Point S10-35 – is due to a fallen tree.
- Forested Area – Photo Point S10-36 – is natural and uneven aged. The age range is Early/Mid-Successional with DBH ranging from 6”-16”. This hardwood forest is dominated by Oaks. The understory is open with diverse sapling growth.
- Broken Fence – Photo Point S10-37 – is due to a fallen tree.
- Corner – Photo Point S10-38 – of the field area is marked by this point.
- Open-field – Photo Point S10-39 – is natural with a monoculture of tall grass plant with furry seeds.
- Open-field – Photo Point S10-40 is natural with a monoculture of tall grass plant with furry seeds.
- Forested Area – Photo Point S10-41 – is natural and uneven aged. The age range is Early/Mid-Successional with DBH ranging from 6”-16”. The understory is dense with a monoculture of shrub growth. This forested strip divides the two field areas.
- Wet Area – Photo Point S10-43 – has water depths reaching 1.5’-2’. Cattail and Common reed are growing in the area.
- Open-field – Photo Point S10-44 – is natural with a monoculture of tall grass plant with furry seeds.

4.2 Access Roads and Trails/Parking

- Mowed Strip – Photo Point S10-42 – goes through both field areas. Tire marks were visible at time of visit.

4.3 Dumps, Disturbances, or Environmental Hazards

- Old Car – Photo Point S10-21 – is located near the center of the site in a forested area.

4.4 Encroachments/Trespassing

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

SECTION 5: LIST OF PHOTO POINTS

S10-01: *Open Field*

S10-02: *Cattail Marsh*

S10-03: *Creek*

S10-04: *Brush Pile*
S10-05: *Forested Area*
S10-06: *Open Area*
S10-07: *Forested Area*
S10-08: *Boundary Marker*
S10-09: *Broken Fence*
S10-10: *Corner*
S10-11: *Corner*
S10-12: *Boundary Marker*
S10-13: *Forested Area*
S10-14: *Boundary Marker*
S10-15: *Forested Area*
S10-16: *Boundary Line*
S10-17: *Pond*
S10-18: *Forested Area*
S10-19: *Forested Area*
S10-20: *Vernal Pool*
S10-21: *Old Car*
S10-22: *Pond*
S10-23: *Cattail Marsh*
S10-24: *Corner*
S10-25: *Wet Area*
S10-26: *Boundary Line*
S10-27: *Forested Area*
S10-28: *Cattail Marsh*
S10-29: *Grapevine*
S10-30: *Deer Scraping*
S10-31: *Cattail Marsh*
S10-32: *Corner*
S10-33: *Corner*
S10-34: *Tree Ribbon*
S10-35: *Broken Fence*
S10-36: *Forested Area*
S10-37: *Broken Fence*
S10-38: *Corner*
S10-39: *Open-field*
S10-40: *Open-field*
S10-41: *Forested Area*
S10-42: *Mowed Strip*
S10-43: *Wet Area*
S10-44: *Open-field*

SECTION 6: MAP OF PHOTO POINTS

SECTION 7: PHOTO POINT COORDINATES

Coordinate System: UTM UPS, NAD83, (meters)

Point Number	Latitude (°N)	Longitude (°W)	Elevation (ft)

GPS Points taken on July 16, 2012; using a Garmin eTrex Legend HCx GPS

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

S10-01: *Open Field*



S10-02: *Cattail Marsh*



S10-03: *Creek*



S10-04: *Brush Pile*



S10-05: *Forested Area*



S10-06: *Open Area*



S10-07: *Forested Area*



S10-08: *Boundary Marker*



S10-09: *Broken Fence*



S10-10: *Corner*



S10-11: *Corner*



S10-12: *Boundary Marker*



S10-13: *Forested Area*



S10-14: *Boundary Marker*



S10-15: *Forested Area*



S10-16: *Boundary Line*



S10-17: *Pond*



S10-18: *Forested Area*



S10-19: *Forested Area*



S10-20: *Vernal Pool*



S10-21: *Old Car*



S10-22: *Pond*



S10-23: *Cattail Marsh*



S10-24: *Corner*



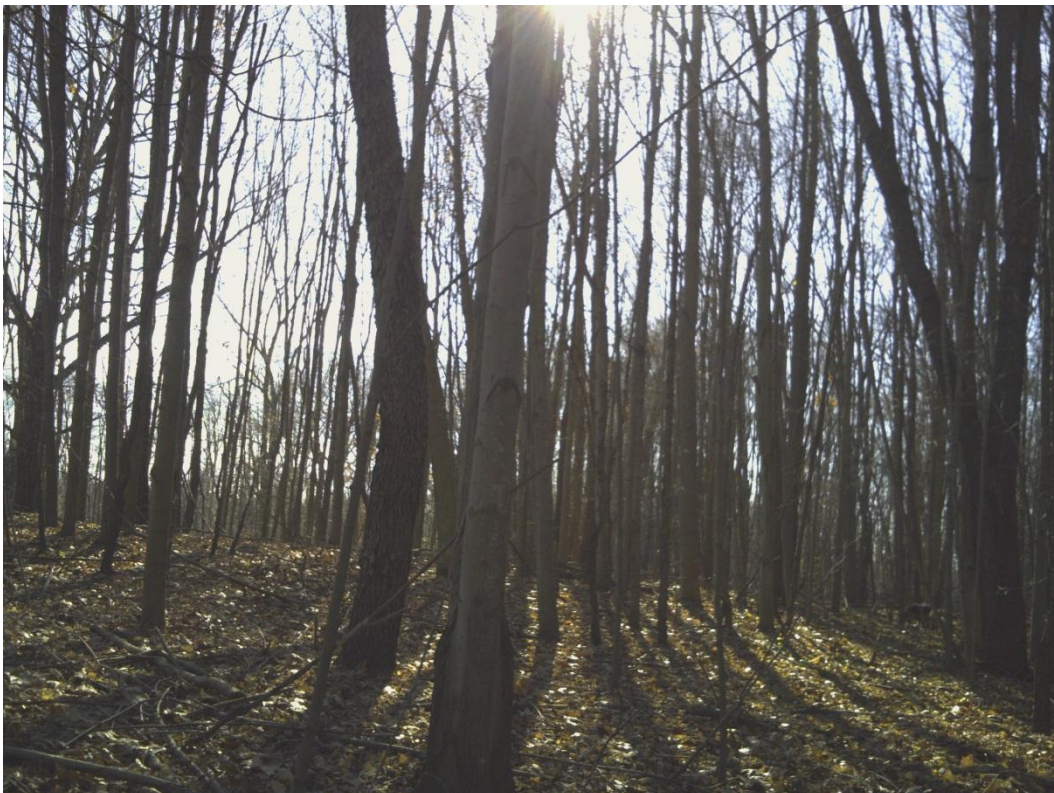
S10-25: *Wet Area*



S10-26: *Boundary Line*



S10-27: *Forested Area*



S10-28: *Cattail Marsh*



S10-29: *Grapevine*



S10-30: *Deer Scraping*



S10-31: *Cattail Marsh*



S10-32: *Corner*



S10-33: *Corner*



S10-34: *Tree Ribbon*



S10-35: *Broken Fence*



S10-36: *Forested Area*



S10-37: *Broken Fence*



S10-38: *Corner*



S10-39: *Open-field*



S10-40: *Open-field*



S10-41: *Forested Area*



S10-42: *Mowed Strip*



S10-43: *Wet Area*



S10-44:
Open-field



APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: MAPS



Image courtesy of USGS © 2012 Microsoft Corporation © 2010 NAVTEQ © AND

0 250 500 Meters



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



Topography Map