



Ohio Department of Natural Resources

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FACT SHEET
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Maumee State Forest Habitat Restoration

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to provide critical wet site habitat for rare plant and animal species by restoring areas within the Muck Farm Area in Maumee State Forest. In recent years, many of the significant wet site habitats on Maumee State Forest are being taken over by woody species such as buckthorn and red maple. These wet site habitats are home to plant and animal communities having global significance and known to be within the Oak Openings Region. Additional benefits of restoring wet site habitat include the following:

- To enhance and restore natural habitats as they existed at the time of Euro-American settlement.
- To increase plant and animal species diversity by providing a variety of successional habitats.
- Continue to maintain high water quality and soil protection. Restore localized hydrology.
- Control invasive species – especially the invasive shrub buckthorn.
- Maintain native prairie and early successional plant and animal communities.

Project Location

- On Maumee State Forest in Compartment C3 and C4 located in Washington Township, Henry County.
- Project will restore and expand existing wet site habitats in a 177-acre area in the vicinity of Road 2 between Roads U and V.

Project Treatments

- Directly treat 50-plus acres of wet sedge meadow, buttonbush swamps and wet woods by canopy reduction/removal and invasive species control.
- Initial treatments will be by mechanized equipment and chainsaw work, including the cutting and grinding of shrubby species and small trees. Native tree species such as oak and elm, will be retained.
- Follow-up treatments will include controlled burning, mowing and the application of herbicides.
- Upland oak woodland areas adjacent to wet site habitats may receive treatments to enhance rare species needs of basking, nesting, foraging, etc. These treatments would include canopy reduction or complete canopy removal through timber harvests and biomass removal projects.

Timeline

- 15 – 20 acres of initial habitat restoration will be completed annually.
- Project work dates are December 15, 2010 to December 31, 2013.

Funding

- In partnership with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), a grant was obtained from US Environmental Protection Agency through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI).
- GLRI Grant funds in the amount of \$201,531 over 3 years are available toward this restoration project.

Questions or Comments

Questions or comments pertaining to this project can be directed to Forest Manager, Don Schmenk, Maumee State Forest, 3390 County Road D, Swanton, Ohio 43558. The phone number is 419-822-3052. Forest Manager email is donald.schmenk@dnr.state.oh.us

