

Fisheries surveys of Greenwoods Conservancy, 2006

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INTRODUCTION

Greenwoods Nature Conservancy is located in the town of Burlington, New York. The property is a 1,200 + acre nature preserve owned by the Peterson Family Trust and is protected through conservation easements held by the Otsego Land Trust. Cranberry Bog, a 70 acre bog/fen (Saba 2001), a 7 acre man made pond named Paradise Pond, and a number of small ponds are found on this property. In the summer of 2006 Paradise Pond, Cranberry Bog, and one of the small ponds near the Zakow farm entrance to the conservancy was seined in order to provide preliminary descriptions of the fish communities there.

In order to seine the larger Paradise Pond, a 200' haul seine was used. The pond was sampled at four different locations in order to get a better representation of the entire pond. A 25' shore seine was used on Cranberry Bog and the "Little Pond".

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Paradise Pond

Paradise Pond, a 7 acre manmade pond was seined for species richness on 28 July 2006. Seining was done on the southeast corner of the pond, the middle of the south shore, the southwest corner, and the northeast corner (Figure 1).

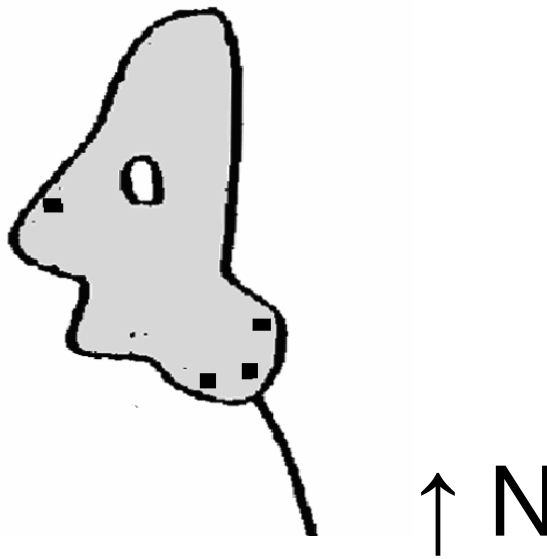


Figure 1. Paradise Pond, with the four seining locations indicated by black boxes.

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Cranberry Bog

Cranberry Bog is located on the Greenwoods Conservancy. The bog receives runoff from a 600 acre area. It is protected under conservation easement by the Otsego Land Trust, and is protected under the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Law for protection of water quality and fragile and important wetland ecosystems (Pagan, 1995). The bog was seined using a shore seine at two different locations in late July. Both samplings were done at the southern end of the bog near the dam. The sampling locations are shown on the map in Figure 2.

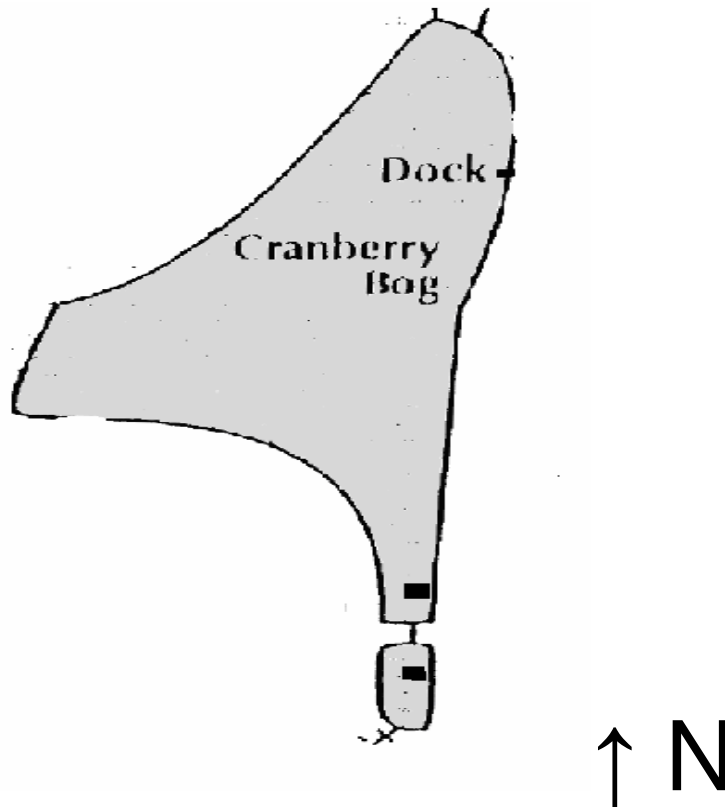


Figure 2. Cranberry Bog, with the two seining locations indicated by the black boxes.

Little Pond

In addition to Paradise Pond and Cranberry Bog, a small pond off of Zakow road was sampled. This pond was sampled with a shore seine using the same technique used in Cranberry Bog.

RESULTS

Five different species of fish were found in the seining of Paradise Pond. Bluegill, pumpkinseed, largemouth bass, yellow perch, and golden shiners were all found. The densities of those fish greater than 1 year of age are presented in Table 1. In addition to those presented there, 344 young of the year Centrachids (not identified to species) and 214 young of the year Largemouth Bass were collected.

Species	Number Seined
<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i> (Bluegill)	41
<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i> (Pumpkinseed)	19
<i>Micropterus salmoides</i> (Largemouth Bass)	11
<i>Perca flavescens</i> (Yellow Perch)	7
<i>Notemigonus crysoleucas</i> (Golden Shiner)	5

Table 1. The numbers of fish species seined from Paradise Pond (young of the year fish were not included in this table).

Three different species of fish were caught in the seining of Cranberry Bog. Yellow perch, chain pickerel, and pumpkinseed were all caught using the shore seine. The densities of the fish caught can be found in Table 2.

Species	Number Seined
<i>Perca flavescens</i> (Yellow Perch)	3
<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i> (Pumpkinseed)	16
<i>Esox Niger</i> (Chain Pickerel)	8

Table 2. Shows the numbers of fish caught in the shore seine during the sampling of Cranberry Bog.

Seining efforts in Little Pond produced only one species of fish, brown bullhead (*Ictalurus nebulosus*), with 13 being caught.

REFERENCES

- Pagan, Rick. 1995. A study of Cranberry Bog, Greenwoods Conservancy. SUNY Oneonta Bio. Fld. Sta., Oneonta, NY.
- Saba, Alexis 2001. The effects of leather-leaf (*Chamaedaphne calyculata*) and speckled alder (*Alnus rugosa*) on plant biodiversity on Cranberry Bog. SUNY Oneonta Bio. Fld. Sta., Oneonta, NY.