



## **Summary of Progress for Eau Claire County Forest Barrens Inventory 2009 Citizen-Based Monitoring Grant**

In June 2009, the Beaver Creek Reserve Citizen Science Center, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), and the Eau Claire County Parks and Forest Department (ECCF) partnered together to conduct a modified BioBlitz (henceforth referred to as BioBlitz) of the Coon Fork Barrens and South Fork Barrens State Natural Areas (SNA 313 and SNA 314 respectively). The purpose of the BioBlitzes was to provide Eau Claire County with a current list of species occurrences on the properties for a variety of different taxonomic groups. A secondary purpose was to report any species of Special Conservation Need, as indicated in the Wisconsin Wildlife Action Plan, and third, to provide data that the County and State could use to determine where new barrens restoration opportunities might exist. The Coon Fork Barrens property is 580 acres and the South Fork Barrens Property is 120 acres. The following taxonomic groups were sampled: mammals, birds, terrestrial plants, bats, worms, and butterflies. A report is being compiled that details how each of these groups were monitored and what species were found. Student volunteers attempted to sample reptiles and amphibians but data from their sampling was never recovered. Three SGCN bird species were documented at the Coon Fork Barrens SNA, including: black-billed cuckoo, brown thrasher, and field sparrow. One plant species of special concern was documented, Azure Bluet (*Houstonia caerulea*) and a new county record was documented for each of the following: Canadian St. John's Wort (*Hypericum canadense*), upland white goldenrod (*Solidago ptarmicoides*), roadside sand-spurry (*Spergularia rubra*), and western poison-ivy (*Toxicodendron rydbergii*) (all from Coon Fork Barrens SNA). All four bat SGCN species were documented on both Coon Fork Barrens SNA and South Fork Barrens SNA, including: eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), and silver-haired bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*). The small mammal species of special concern, prairie vole, was NOT found during this study. Butterflies are in the process of being sampled and their data will be compiled at the end of May 2010. The full report for the bioblitzes will be completed at the end of May 2010 and sent to the WDNR, Eau Claire County, and posted on the Beaver Creek Reserve website ([www.beavercreekreserve.org](http://www.beavercreekreserve.org)).

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