

**2007 ANNUAL MEETING IN REVIEW:**

**Huiras Lake field trip report**

*Report by Theodore Cochrane*

After walking through a field we entered the kettle basin, passing through successive zones of dry-mesic forest, mixed conifer and hardwood swamp, and very near the lake, an especially narrow band of large tamarack and white cedar trees before reaching the lush growth of cat-tail marsh and shrub-carr



*Emmet Judziewicz leads the Huiras Lake field trip*



*James Halbeck (l.) and Ken Lange (r.) identify a plant*

skirting the lake itself. This is a large area (121 acres), especially the swamps along the east shore and beyond the west end of the lake, and we covered only a small portion of it, spending most of our time in the rich moist terrain of the tamarack-white cedar and hardwood swamps. In the upland hardwoods many of the species commonly to be expected were found. The groundlayer of the forested lowlands was patchier and contained both southern and northern

species, the latter sometimes venturing farther south in the state near the Lake Michigan shoreline or on moist shaded cliffs. American star-flower, Canada mayflower, partridgeberry, and yellow blue-bead-lily were among these, growing under the conifers together with jack-in-the-pulpit, marsh fern, and the most robust clumps of swamp betony any of us had ever seen. The more extensive hardwood swamp was dominated by black and green ash, red and silver maple, yellow birch, paper birch, and basswood. Shrubs and herbs were represented by numerous species, including interrupted and sensitive fern, skunk-cabbage, wild sarsaparilla, rough-leaved golden



*Emmet Judziewicz points out an aquatic species to field trip participants. In the background: Barbara Cochrane (l.) and Merel Black (r.).*

rod, and wild honeysuckle. Several graminoids, including fowl manna grass, crested oval sedge, and common hop sedge grew in mucky depressions.



*Huiras Lake  
Photos by  
Tom Underwood*