

Update on Some Rare Plants of the Black River State Forest

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Sand Violet (*Viola sagittata* Aiton var. *ovata*)-During a hike I stumbled across this deep blue violet in the Wildcat Mound area. More searching found even more plants of this “Endangered” plant. Sand violet growing in this vicinity has previously been written about by Dr. Judziewicz. This past summer I also found this plant growing along a path in the Battle Point Flowage refuge. I would like to know if a Botanist has theorized why this “Rare” violet prefers the sands of the BRSF. <http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/scripts/detail.asp?SpCode=VIOSAGvOVA>



(Bob Freckman photo)

Rock club-moss (*Huperzia porophila*)-I located a population of this “Special Concern” fern ally along the Morrison Creek. It occurs in several disjunct areas of the United States, and in Wisconsin it is primarily found in the southwest driftless area. I believe it prefers to grow along sandstone cliffs, however, the population I found was growing on a moist, granitic ledge over the creek.

<http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/scripts/detail.asp?SpCode=HUPPOR>



Golden-pert (*Gratiola aurea*)-Although not considered “Rare” in Wisconsin, I believe this semi-aquatic little plant is not common in Wisconsin, and certainly not in central Wisconsin. I located a population in a drying pond southeast of Hatfield. I believe the only other location of this plant discovered in Central Wisconsin is in Silver Lake in Adams County. <http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/scripts/detail.asp?SpCode=GRAAUR>

(Kitty Kohout photo)

Trempealeau River Meadow Botany Blitz Report (continued from pg. 1)

Recommendations

This initial plant inventory is a starting point for what should be a continued plant assessment of the Trempealeau River Meadow State Natural Area. Future assessments should include plant inventories during different times of the growing season and for different areas of the SNA. Trempealeau River Meadow State Natural Area is large in size and this initial assessment covered the western side of the SNA. It will be important in future botany blitzes to include areas on the eastern side of the site and along the Trempealeau River. The SNA also needs continued assessment and monitoring for invasive species. A portion of the SNA has been used for agriculture which is a likely disturbance area for invasives.

The full 2007 Trempealeau River Meadow report, including methodology and plant species list is available on the BCW website.

<http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/BCW/PLANTS%20OF%20Trempealeau%20River%20Meadows.pdf>

Literature cited

Wetter, M. A., et al. 2001. *Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Wisconsin*. Wisconsin Dept. Nat. Resources Techn. Bull. 192. 258 pp.