Fieldwork plan

Birds
General observations made throughout the year (Sept 1999 – Sept 2000) are to be recorded onto field dataforms (Figures A. and B.). Surveys of waterbirds have been conducted several days a week since last fall and will continue until the fall of 2000.

Spring Migration: A walking route (see Map 2, Route 1) has been established at Asylum Lake for comparison with spring migration data from Kleinstuck Preserve. Record birds seen or heard onto field dataforms. Route 1 should be walked twice a week during April and May. Be sure to keep data from Route 1 separate so that it can be used to compare with Kleinstuck data, but record data by area onto field data form.

Summer Breeding Season: Continue to survey all areas of the preserve throughout the summer and fall. In addition, 10 points have been established (Map 2) for ten-minute point counts. For these point counts, use the point count data form (attached) and be sure to record vegetation/habitat information. These 10 points will be surveyed twice during June with at least two weeks between visits.

Reptiles
All miscellaneous observations of snakes and turtles are to be recorded onto field data forms. Especially document turtles around the lake margins where they are often quietly sunning themselves. Keep an eye out for Eastern Box Turtles in the forests and adjacent fields and keep an eye out for Blandings Turtles around the water. Mark the locations of any reptile sightings onto a copy of the field map and document on field data form.

Amphibians
All miscellaneous observations of frogs, toads and salamanders are to be recorded onto field data forms. Mark locations of salamanders onto a copy of the field map.

Drift fences and live traps: Several drift fences with pitfall live-traps will be setup near the lakes and stream in order to capture and document amphibians on the property, particularly salamanders.

Record information onto data form.

Mammals
All miscellaneous observations of mammals are to be recorded onto field data forms

Live-traps for small mammals will be setup in several areas of the property. The setup will consist of a pair of trap lines each with 20 Sherman live-traps set along 2 parallel straight lines 100 meters apart. Each trap should be 10 meters apart and baited with ¼
of a bar of peanut butter granola and a crushed soda cracker. Once a trap line is set, it must be checked the following morning. Use the Small Mammal Live Trap Data Form (attached) to record data. Each mammal caught will be marked on top of the lower back with a green permanent marker and released.

Invertebrates:
Aquatics:
Fresh-water Invertebrates: Samples of freshwater invertebrates will be collected from the stream inlet and the stream outlet once a month from April through the end of the project. These will be collected with a D-Loop aquatic net, stored in clean jars and preserved with either Isopropyl Alcohol or Ethanol, and taken back to the office for sorting and identification. Each jar should be labeled with: the date collected, the location (e.g. north end of stream outlet), and collector’s name. These labels should be written clearly with pencil (ink dissolves in the alcohol) and placed inside the jars. Macro-invertebrates from the littoral zone of the two lakes will also be collected. Freshwater invertebrates in deeper waters, both benthic organisms and zooplankton, will also be sampled once equipment has been purchased. Water sampling will also be conducted once approval to purchase equipment is granted.

Terrestrial:
Adult Odonata and Butterflies: As with other organisms, casual observations are helpful in creating a complete list of species for the site. Record all observations onto field data forms. More intensive surveys with butterfly nets will be conducted in all survey areas of the preserve. Those species that cannot be identified alive in the field will be either photographed or collected.

Vascular Plants
We need to make complete list of all vascular plants for each area (e.g. Forest A, Forest B, etc.) of the preserve. Observations are to be recorded onto field data forms. Quantitative data about forest composition will be collected in 100 square-meter circular plots selected randomly along transects in forested areas (especially Forest A).

Non-vascular Plants
As with vascular plants, a complete list of all non-vascular plants needs to be compiled for each area of the preserve. The help of an expert in lichen and moss identification is needed to complete this portion of the contract.