NATURAL COMMUNITY SURVEY PART I: RECONNAISSANCE

Maine Natural Areas Program

IDENTIFIERS / LOCATION

Survey area: Housatonic River [C3] = Small Mammal trapsite 15			Date: 2 September 1998
(Site name:)		(Quadcode:)	Airphoto (#, scale, date):
Surveyors: Arthur Haines, Eugenie Moore	Town: Lenox County: Berkshire, MA (Biophysical Region:)	USGS 7.5' Quad: X15' 1:25,000 East Lee, MA	

Mark all observation points on a copy of the topo. Add any comments or sketches here if necessary to clarify the topo.	Directions (if not obvious from topo or Maine Atlas): From parking lot, north of mill on Willow Creek Rd, walk to RR tracks and head north 1950 meters, turning right (east) and into forest 25 meters.

VEGETATION / HABITAT

Observation Point 1	Observation Point 2	Observation Point 3
Community type: Circumneutral hardwood Swamp - Bur Oak Association	Community type: Floodplain Forest - Silver Maple - False nettle - Sensitive fern association	Community type:
Soil: Primarily mineral	Soil: Alluvial	Soil:
Slope, aspect, topography: Flat, plain	Slope, aspect, topography: Flat, small island shelves	Slope, aspect, topography:
STRATA*: cover & 1-2 dominant spp. for each	STRATA*: cover & 1-2 dominant spp. for each	STRATA*: cover & 1-2 dominant spp. for each
Tree layer: Total cover (%): 65 Quercus macrocarpa Acer rubrum Fraxinus nigra	Tree layer: Total cover (%): 70 Acer saccharinum	Tree layer: Total cover (%):
Sapling / tall shrub layer: Total cover (%) 35 Carpinus caroliniana	Sapling / tall shrub layer: Total cover (%) 5 Acer saccharinum	Sapling / tall shrub layer: Total cover (%)
Shrub (1-2 m) layer: Total cover (%) 10 Spiraea alba Lindera benzoin	Shrub (1-2 m) layer: Total cover (%) 40 Cornus amomum	Shrub (1-2 m) layer: Total cover (%)
Herb layer: Total cover (%) 80 Osmunda regalis Onoclea sensibilis	Herb layer: Total cover (%) 90 Laportea canadensis Urtica dioica Impatiens capensis Matteuccia struthiopteris Pilea pumila	Herb layer: Total cover (%)
Bryoid layer: Total cover (%) virtually absent	Bryoid layer: Total cover (%) essentially absent	Bryoid layer: Total cover (%)
Other diagnostic or notable species:	Other diagnostic or notable species:	Other diagnostic or notable species:
Condition / evidence of human use: none	Condition / evidence of human use: none	Condition / evidence of human use:
Additional data collected / COMMENTS plots (size)? tree cores? photos?	Additional data collected / COMMENTS plots (size)? tree cores? photos?	Additional data collected / COMMENTS plots (size)? tree cores? photos?

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OMMUNITY SURVEY — PART II: DESCRIPTION

separate description forms for each notable natural community on reconnaissance page.

IFIERS / LOCATION

rea (specific/general):	Housatonic River [C3]		Obs. Pt. #
Community type:	Circumneutral Hardwood Swamp — Bur Oak Association		Adjacent communities: Circumneutral shrub swamp, floodplain forest
Quad: East Lee	~~(lat.)~~ Northing 4692700	Size (acres) of community EO (not site):	BE SURE TO MAP EXTENT OF COMMUNITY ON TOPO. Distinguish between portions ground-truthed vs. portions presumed to be part of community based solely on photo/map interpretation, where applicable.
Quadcode:)	~~(long.)~~ Easting 0644400		

LASSIFICATION HIERARCHY

Physiognomy (Class)	Phenology (Subclass)	Leaf type (Group)
forest	evergreen woody	broad-leaf woody
woodland	deciduous woody	needle-leaf woody
shrubland	mixed woody	graminoid
dwarf shrubland	perennial	forb
herbaceous	annual	pteridophyte
sparse vascular/nonvascular		non-vascular

(ALLIANCE:)

DDITIONAL DATA FOR FORESTS

Tree canopy height:	Core data:	Deadwood (describe distribution, abundance, degree of decay):	
85 feet	ring counts (~ 5 cores) of larger trees (give sp. & dbh) ① Quercus macrocarpa 32 in on dbh, >170 years before present	Some large downed wood	
subcanopy trees? yes, a few Pinus strobus,			

ISTORY (describe evidence or lack thereof: please do not leave boxes blank. Indicate approximately how recent where possible.)

Fire:	Wind:	Cutting:	Agriculture:	Impoundment:
No	no	No	NO	Woods Pond has been impounded and flooded back into some areas that were forested.

Comment:

DDITIONAL SPECIES LIST

List additional plant species in community not included in the plot data that follows.	Species list sketchy or basically complete? Comment:
A.H. Field Book 8.27.98 pg. 7 Helenium autumnale Boehmeria cylindrica Bromus kalmii Ribes americanum Lysimachia nummularia	Relatively complete

VEGETATION PLOT DATA

Area: Housatonic River [C 3]	Obs. pt. #:
Community type: Bur oak association	(Regional alliance/community:)

LAYER	plot # 1A	1B	1C	1D
TREE list species and dbh for all trees >= 5 cm dbh; count standing dead as 1 species. note units: QUAD SIZE: note which size used 5.64 m radius for 1/100th ha 7.98 m radius for 2/100th ha use same size throughout!	Quercus macrocarpa 15 Standing Dead 7 Acer rubrum 18	Quercus macrocarpa 10, 6 Acer rubrum 5 Fraxinus nigra 7, 7, 10	Acer rubrum 27, 6 Tsuga canadensis 9, 10	Quercus macrocarpa 16 Acer rubrum 5, 8, 9, 10, 14
SAPLING / TALL SHRUB cover class by species of: trees > 2 m tall but < 5 cm dbh; and shrubs > 2 m tall QUAD SIZE: 2.8 m radius or 25 m²	Carpinus cardinian 9	Carpinus c. 63	Acer rubrum 9 Carpinus c. 19	Carpinus caroli? 37 Ulmus americana 1
SHRUB cover class* by species of shrubs/trees 1 - 2 m tall. QUAD SIZE: 2.8 m radius or 25 m²	Lindera benzoin 1	NA	Fraxinus nigra 1 Ilex verticellata 3	NA
HERB cover class* by species for all herbaceous plants plus any woodies < 1 m tall QUAD SIZE: 1 m², 2-4 herb quads per tree plot. Enter individual values in left-hand column and average in right-hand column. Remember the zeros for spp present in some but not all herb quads when figuring averages!	① Onoclea sens. 3 Equisetum sylvaticum 9 Smilax 1 Rubus pubescens 3 Elymus virginicus 1 ② Carex bromoides 1 Symphyotrichum lateriflorum 1 Onoclea sen. 9 Athyrium felix-f. 3 Taxicodendron radicans 3 Geum canadense 1	① Osmunda regalis 37 Onoclea sensibilis 1 ② Equisetum syl. 3 Fraxinus nigra 1 Osmunda cinn. 3 Onoclea sen. 1 Thalictrum pub. 1	① Carex projecta 3 Onoclea sen. 3 Symphyotrichum lateriflorum 1 Chelone glabra 1 Equisetum sylv. 3 Carex cf. brom. 3 Athyrium felix-f. 3 ② Carex cf. brom. 3 Athyrium felix-f. 1 Onoclea sens. 3 Equisetum sylva. 3	① Onoclea s. 9 Athyrium f.-f. 3 Osmunda reg. 9 Carex projecta 3 ② Osmunda reg. 63 Onoclea s. 1
BRYOID ground-layer mosses, liverwort, lichens in herb quads. resolution (check one): X "moss"/"liverwort"/"lichen" only; __identified to major group; __identified to genus; __identified to species.	NA	NA	① Moss 3 ② Moss 0	① Moss 19 ② Moss 1
REMARKS				

In box on previous page, list plant spp. present in the community but not in the sample plots so we have a complete species list.

* cover classes (record midpoint): < 2 1 2-5% 3 6-12% 9 13-24% 19 25-49% 37 50-74% 63 75-100% 87

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Housatonic River [C3]

Pages 5-7 are observations that do not pertain to this exact site

Community type: Bur Oak association		(Regional alliance/community:)	Obs. pt. #:
Elevation: 294 meters	Aspect: NA magnetic or true?	Slope: 0° measured or estimated?	Microtopography: Slightly uneven ground with shallow pits and low mounds.
pH (note kit or meter type)	Topographic position: (P) low plain, level T toe of slope LS lower slope MS middle slope TB hillside terrace/bench US upper slope E cliff/ledge C crest M high plateau N narrow valley D drainage channel		Habitat patchiness (describe zones or patches if present): Relatively uniform

Mineral Soil Profile:

horizon	depth (cm)	color	mottling	other
O				
A				
E				
B				
C				

Organic Soil Profile:

peat depth: _____ cm OR > 1 m _____

vonPost decomposition: _____

ALL SOILS:

DEPTH TO WATER TABLE: _____

DEPTH to OBSTRUCTION: _____

soil temperature reading _____ F/C at _____ (depth)

Surficial deposit:
- bedrock
- talus slope
- glacial till
- moraine
- esker/outwash
- glacial delta
- (lacustrine/fluvial) alluvial
- marine
- aeolian
- other:

Surface:
- ____% Bedrock
- ____% Boulders (>50 cm)
- ____% Cobbles/Gravel
- ____% Bare mineral soil
- ____% Organic soil
- 40 % Litter (note type) broadleaf tree and fern
- ____% Water
- 60 % Total vegetation
- ____ Other:

Average Texture:
- gravel
- sand
- loamy sand / sandy loam
- loam
- silt loam
- clay loams
- sandy clay / clay
- peat
- muck

Bedrock type:
Igneous
- granite
- dioritic
- gabbroic
- other igneous

Sedimentary
- limestone
- other sedimentary

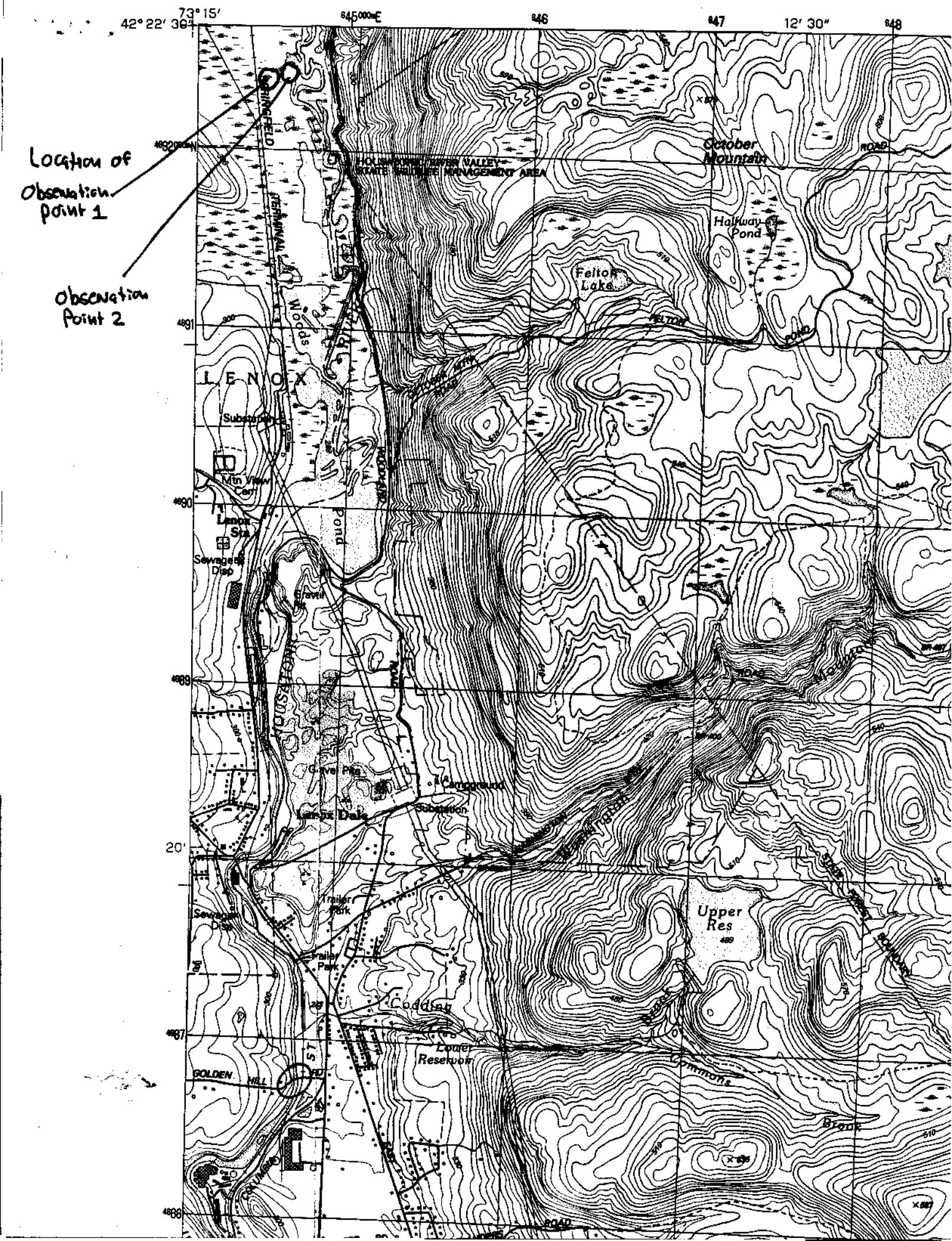
Metamorphic
- slate/phyllite
- schist/gneiss
- other metamorphic

details?

Soil stoniness:
- v. little (< 1%)
- moderate (2-25%)
- very (25-100%)

Drainage & moisture regime (see MAPPSS key):
- very poorly drained
- poorly drained
- somewhat poorly drained
- moderately well drained
- well drained
- somewhat excessively drained
- excessively drained

Hydrologic regime:
- upland
- nontidal wetland:
  - permanently flooded
  - semiperm'ly flooded
  - (seasonally flooded)
  - saturated
- tidal - irregularly
- tidal - regularly
  - saltwater
  - brackish
  - freshwater
- unknown



Location of Observation point 1
Observation Point 2
73° 15'
42° 22' 30"
12' 30"
October Mountain
Halfway Pond
Felton Lake
LENOX
Substation
Mtn View Cem
Lenox Sta
Sewage Disp
Gravel Pits
Campground
Lenox Dale
Trailer Park
Upper Res
Codding
Lower Reservoir
GOLDEN HILL
Commons
Brook