

Minutes of the RPF 4 April 2009, Bald Eagle State Park

Present:

Jim Bissell, Tim Block, Mark Bowers, Lucy Boyce, Emilee Boyer, Eric Burkhart, Allison Cusick, Tim Draude, Carol Dunlap, Janet Ebert, Chris Firestone, Carrie Gilbert, Debra Grim, Steve Grund, Robert Gruver, Chris Hardy, Jason Harkcom, Sara Helm, Jack Holt, Bonnie Isaac, Joe Isaac, Joan King, Ken Klemow, Larry Klotz, John Kunsman, Stephen Leitkam, Darlene Madarish, April Moore, Norman Deno, William Paxton, Barry Poglein, Ann Rhoads, Helen Roback, Cindy Rogers, Ellen Singleton, Kelly Sitch, Loree Speedy, Jennifer Stingelin Keefer, Christopher Tracey, Joy VanDervort-Sneed, and Oliver Wallace.

Called to order at 10 AM by Grund

Rare plant forum has been going on for 25 or so years. The primary purpose has been to update the conservation status of plants. We advise the state as to whether plants should be listed as endangered, threatened, rare, or tentatively undetermined. The VPTC gives us an option to make a final recommendation if we can't come to a consensus at this meeting (RPF). We get broad input & a variety of opinions & viewpoints from this meeting.

Announcements:

The Pennsylvania Native Plant Society has flyers for upcoming talks & walks.

Darlene Madarish is looking for information on *Andropogon glomeratus*. She has been finding it in Indiana Co. at 2 locations with more in Westmoreland Co. If anyone finds these plants please let Darlene know. See the flyer. Historically it is known as a wetland plant but it is being found in mine spoil, on powerlines etc. Steve Grund looked at the specimens, hoping to be able to tell a varietal difference between the plants from different habitats, but as far as he can tell we only have one variety in PA.

Chris Firestone – new electronic system for WRCP grants. The wild plant management program has a new botanist; Carrie Gilbert started in January. Carrie wants to meet people & get in the field looking for plants. This year we added 3 new environmental review people in Harrisburg. We now have 5.5 people dedicated to environmental review in Harrisburg. The number of reviews has increased a lot. They are up to their eyeballs doing a lot of oil, gas & pipeline work. Chris is working on updating the plant regulations. She is looking at what is legally threatened, endangered & rare; we are making recommendations for the legal process moving forward as fast as possible. Need to take 1.5 year process to get lists out of regs. The regs now have a list, we are hoping to take the list out & not list the species but say the list will be on the natural heritage website. They are taking the VPTC recommendations. This way we can make changes that don't take a year & half for the initial process. Chris is looking forward to getting that done.

Everyone needs a Wild Plant Management permit in PA to be collecting Endangered or Threatened species. It's a \$5 yearly permit. The application asks what species you will be collecting, you can say in the whole state, all PE & PT. Grund – this probably pertains mostly to consultants that don't come to these meetings. You should be collecting a specimen to document the species if you can without compromising the population. Firestone - will be including info on collecting voucher specimens, so we can better document PT & PE plants we're finding. Wild Plant Management Permit is to have PT or PE plants in your possession. Money for permits does not go to BOF. It goes to WRCP.

The plant regulations say we can establish private wild plant sanctuaries. These can be on private land. The program is focusing on areas on state lands, such as parks, game lands, forest land & other public lands. Due to budget constraints we are not doing a mass printing. Currently we must print brochures one at a time. If you are interested in having a private wild plant sanctuary you can write and ask for an application form. The application

asks for a map and other details of the property. To make the landowner aware of what is on their property. (see the brochure) They are not actively seeking people, but if you are interested you can contact via e-mail & they will send an application. There are no tax breaks; there is no monetary incentive to have a private land sanctuary designated. It's just a feel good thing. They hope to build a network for workshops etc. Private Plant Sanctuaries can include municipal lands.

WRCP grants this year will be harder to obtain. There will be money, but the executive director says not as much money as in past years. The Growing Greener money will be going away next year. License plates sales & tax check off money is how WRCP is funded. The DCNR has put money in it the past. DCNR spent a lot of money to put all grant applications, including WRCP, online. So all grant applications must be done online through the e-grants program. This is how it must be submitted. June 30 is the deadline. It's not an easy process. WRCP is still not listed. It will be in a few weeks. They are just finalizing priorities. They are interested in global climate change issues. Plants are interested in inventory of species of special concern, issues of TU species, & in grassland restoration with native species. These are the 3 priorities of the plant program. WRCP money is split between conservation and the fish & game commissions. Much money is used as match money for state wildlife grant money. E-grants, if you've not applied before, you need an SAP number (state number). Everyone who applies for a state grant needs an SAP number; it takes up to 2 weeks to get number. With the E-grants system you can attach photos & other documents just like with paper applications. The system will tell you what you still need before you are finished. The E-grant application talks through how to get an SAP number. You must set up an account & log in etc. The grants get reviewed in Sep & Oct. Then the advisory board meets. The Secretary of the DCNR must then approve everything. So February is usually when you get the answer yes or no. WRCP is who sends the letters out.

WRCP – secretary of DCNR is out of here, this is his last week. The administrative assistant is retiring. DCNR is not hiring people. So there will be no administrative assistant at DCNR. There is a new DVD on fungi; there is also a program for 3-5 graders called Cosmo's world. They have addressed 4 issues: invasives, endangered species, global climate change, & biodiversity. Its 5 minute cartoons with educational blurbs for kids. You can download them on the internet at the wild resources website.

John Kunsman announced a bryophyte identification workshop in Highlands NC next month. Susan Munch will be involved & is looking to share a ride.

Proposals:

Bartonia paniculata current URF proposed PT decision PR

Proposed by Rhoads & Block

Rhoads – this is probably the most controversial of proposals we've submitted. It's not a very conspicuous plant. It comes up in mid to late summer and looks a lot like the other *Bartonia*. It grows in bogs, swamps wet woods, & barrens; there's probably more than the documented sites. In trying to clean up the TU list, we decided to include a recommendation. The number of sites & plants fall under the guidelines to suggest it should be listed as threatened. Kunsman – I agree to take it out of TU, but I would propose rare instead. Reasons being all of the old atlas sites are in the SE, the last few years we have really expanded the known range. It has a much larger range than we thought. There are a wide range of wetlands that it grows in. The populations are small, but there are enough & with enough range extension that should just be PR. It's so easy to overlook. Holt – It's almost cryptic to ID & is easy to miss. We may be losing it due to stilt grass problems though. Kunsman – it's in just about every boggy beaver swamp. It grows with *B. virginica* so it's easy to miss. Grund – There are a number of occurrences but they are all small. There may be decline due to invasives. **Goes to PR**

Bidens laevis – current UTFH proposed PE decision PE

Proposed by Daeschler, Rhoads & Block

Rhoads – This is a very showy plant, it's conspicuous when blooming, late in summer, early fall. Sep. and early Oct. We find it in two places currently, in intertidal marshes along the Delaware River estuary; it persists in some of the degraded marshes, but only a few nice populations. We also find it along streams in diabase geology areas. There seems to be a connection with nutrient availability in the water. We find that although there are many streams in diabase, this plant is mainly along Ridge Valley Creek, in shallow areas of impoundments. We don't find it downstream in Unami or Perkiomen. It's very localized, historically there are other locations but we haven't found it anywhere except in Ridge Valley Creek & the intertidals. Grund – there is a historic specimen from Conneaut Lake, and a recent specimen from Jim Bissell, we decided that its not it. The historic at Presque Isle may or may not be good. The keys don't work in NW PA, in NW PA flowers of *Bidens cernua* can be big enough to key to *laevis*. Rhoads – the inflorescence bracts are the best character. Nodding can be variable. Grund - FNA accepted the species but with trepidation, they said it may be one big complex. Bissell – there is no Michigan material in Ann Arbor, that's a false report. Rhoads - We are suggesting PE, the number of occurrences is usually more than PE, but there are signs that the species is in decline. That may be questionable because many of the early records may not have been correctly identified. The habitat seems to be so specialized and the habitat is very vulnerable with dam removal, storms or invasives. Grund - Many occurrences are on the same river system. The way occurrences are now counted, the number of occurrences would be less. Rhoads – They are all within a 3 mile stretch. Holt – has seen it at the Philly airport. **Goes to PE**

<i>Cuscuta campestris</i> - current UTT	proposed PE	decision	PT	Daeschler, Rhoads & Block
<i>Cuscuta pentagona</i> (treated by many recent works as synonymous with <i>campestris</i>)				
[<i>Cuscuta cephalanthi</i> – current UEFH	proposed PE	decision	PT	Rhoads & Block
<i>Cuscuta compacta</i> – current UTF	proposed PE	decision	PT	Rhoads & Block
<i>Cuscuta coryli</i> – current UXFH	proposed PX	decision	PT	Rhoads & Block
<i>Cuscuta pentagona</i> – current UTTF	proposed PE	decision	PT	Rhoads & Block
<i>Cuscuta polygonorum</i> – current UEF	proposed PE	decision	PT	Rhoads & Block]

Rhoads – these can be very conspicuous, if in big mass, *gronovii* can cover several square meters at once. There are few characters, they are parasitic plants, non photosynthetic, do have plastids, don't have leaves or roots, they do have stems, flowers & seed capsules. They can be very cryptic to tell one from the other. You must look at the shape of petals, & fruits. They are a lot easier with fresh material. Forget dried stuff. The flowers are important, you need flowers. Cusick – you can be more successful if you don't press specimens tightly. You can dry some flowers & fruits in packets without pressing them. Rhoads – most people don't bother with *Cuscuta*. They are too difficult. There are a lot of dots on the map in the 1993 atlas. Mostly *gronovii*. The other species are at scattered areas in the Delaware River & Lehigh River corridors. One thought might be that there must be more of these out there. We decided to try & take a look at these. Our field work in last few years focused in Montgomery, Bucks & Northampton Co. & on the major drainages in SE PA and Ridley Creek & French Creek State Parks. We came to the conclusion that these really are rare. Most of what is out there is *gronovii*. You do find scattered occurrences of the other species. There is a large population of *C. polygonorum* in the Delaware Canal where there is no water right now. This species is the only parasitic species that is known to have spread to the old world. Kunsman- most of the historic are clustered around the western Philadelphia suburbs. Is that because that's mostly where they are, or where Philadelphia botanists mostly collected? Rhoads – there has been a lot of *Cuscuta* collected throughout the state, just these species are mostly clustered around Philadelphia. Holt

– We have seen *campestris* 6 times in the last 10 years; & *pentagona* 4 times. We have not seen any of the other species in our botanical careers in PA. We have seen them on the Delmarva but not in PA. *C. pentagona* likes waste ground; *campestris* grows in riparian areas, quite different habitats. Grund - do we recognize both species? Rhoads - Joel McNeal in his systematic treatment thought *pentagona* was a good species. Holt - how would you defend the habitat for *pentagona*? It's always in recently abandoned land. *C. campestre* is in open riparian wetland areas. Grund –I would be hesitant to suggest it as a mitigation area. Rhoads - they are an annual & don't necessarily come up in the same area every year. Grund - may be like other things we find along riverine corridors, they may be seed bankers, & we must consider the seed bank as part of this whole thing. Kunsman – how would you handle this with an environmental review? Bissell - explain seed banking to the developer. Boyer –we would want to explain that the potential is there because the habitat is there. Bowers – sometimes you run into accidental wetlands, like ditches & things like that. Kunsman - since PT & PE are basically the same thing, if we put them all in PT if they turn out to be more common then we don't look bad. We always have this problem with successional things & things that show up in ugly habitats. As a group they are difficult compared to things that are in pristine habitats. Grund - I encourage environmental review to consider these things. How much of a consequence is this particular site? Rhoads - these tend to move around. Holt - don't think of any of these as being site specific. Klotz - some years they just may not show up. Kunsman –I'm suggesting PT only because they are treated the same for environmental review. Block – I suggest whatever we do for one, we do for all of them. We don't need to spend all this time on them. Hardy – if PT is treated the same what do we gain by not listing them as PE? Grund – I'd be more comfortable with PT because of under collecting & them moving around. There probably is more out there. Boyer - put it in the category that you really think it is in, not based on how you think we would review for it. Grund –the rules are the same for PT & PE but in actual practice are you more likely to ask for more mitigation if they are PE. Boyer – not necessarily, but PE does carry more clout. Hardy – could we put our reasons down for this so that we can defend our reasons in the future. Grund – these reasons are being recorded in the minutes.

Rhoads – we should do the same for all the others. Grund – anyone interested in any of the others individually? Cusick – I'm interested in the records for *C. corylii*. Why is it proposed extirpated? Grund – the records are over 50 years old.

all proposed CUSCUTA'S go to PT.

Myriophyllum heterophyllum current PE proposed N decision SP

Proposed by Grund

Grund - many are aware of the issues at Harveys Lake. This was tracked but started showing up in the NE acting as an invasive. It was believed to be showing up in NE as invasive & introduced. Several NE states list it as introduced. We were doing plots in Edinboro Lake, it was found in plots where it wasn't the year before. So we suspect that it was expanding there. Rhoads – it exploded at Pecks Pond where it wasn't 5 years ago. Rhoads had an intern 2 years ago that went around the state, & got material from NH she extracted DNA & found the material from PA was not the aggressive hybrid that Don West was describing. There was no genetic difference between the western “native” & eastern invasive populations. There is also a guy in Michigan that's looking at these. He has had several population samples sent to him. At Harvey's Lake while looking for a *Bidens beckii* population, they found *Myriophyllum heterophyllum* and Penn Future pushed for protection of the population. The regs did not state any qualifications, so the judge decided that it needs to be protected. Grund - will new definitions help? Firestone – we are not proposing new definitions right now. Grund – it has been at the mouth of the Cheat for a long time. The northern dot in Greene was misidentified. Bissell - At Presque Isle, it's in ponds & is robust. It was there in 1899, collected by Miller. The ponds are protected by a dense thicket of buttonbush. Grund – I'm thinking maybe we shouldn't track it, it doesn't need our help. Holt –It's doing the same thing & being aggressive in Delmarva. Grund - anyone think we should continue to track it? Madarish –

it's also at Deer Lake in Fayette Co. Grund – we probably need to control it there, it's a threat to the *Potamogeton tennesseensis* at Deer Lake. Rhoads – I'm thinking that it may be being moved by recreational boaters? Klemow- If we delist it, what does that do for environmental review? Grund - if it already has a hit, what then? Boyer - it takes a while for the list to be updated. Grund – it's typically updated within a couple of months. Kunsman -I will give her the changes Monday morning. Grund - if its already half way through the process that could be sticky. Kunsman – I'm suggesting the new SP. That's voluntary protection. Grund – people would be told that its there, but nothing is mandatory. We could suggest it to the landowner or land manager (many people are interested in protecting things when there are no legal requirements.) B. Isaac- for all intents & purposes it's still a delisting, but it remains in the database for land managers to protect if they so choose. They will still be notified but can choose whether to protect. Grund –that is correct. **Goes to SP**

Najas marina current PE proposed N decision N
Proposed by Grund

Grund – John discovered this species new to the state in a limestone quarry. Rhoads - we had it in a mudflat in Philadelphia in an old dock area. Grund - is this native? There aren't any new records. I found a paper by Ron Stuckey (1985). Ron probably started looking into this expecting to say where it was native & where it had expanded from & to, like the narrow leaved cattail. He found a more complicated situation, core samples from peat cores found seeds from before glaciations from Wisconsin & other areas. So he, without coming to definite conclusions, came to the conclusion that it was a more northern species that got pushed south due to glaciations & is moving back north. Stuckey thinks it may be introduced in the Finger Lakes of NY, but they believe that it is getting pushed out due to pollution. Kunsman - some people may have issues with that. Grund -Stuckey didn't want to make any more definite conclusions than the evidence supported. He says it's native in Minnesota & Wisconsin; Michigan is reporting that it's aggressive. It likes alkaline waters, calcareous or brackish; it's a very distinctive submersed aquatic. This one is not difficult to distinguish. Cusick -I would whole heartedly list it as introduced based on my experience with it in Ohio. It has not spread, but it's in artificial areas in the state in calcareous water. We in Ohio have considered it as non-native for a long time. Grund - anyone want to argue the case that this may be native & is just coming back & needs to be protected? **Goes to N**

Quercus michauxii – current UEF proposed PE decision PE
Proposed by Kunsman

Kunsman –This was reported from literature in PA. It was found in Bucks Co. in a nature preserve. It's found with other coastal plain species like *Clethra*, willow oak & sweetgum. Found the population in 2008 in Bucks Co. just where literature map showed. Rhoads –it's abundant in Cumberland Co., NJ in Bear Swamp. Kunsman - it's found within Delaware within 3 miles of the PA line. Holt - the habitat sounds reasonable. We found chestnut oak like leaves but the bark is wrong. Kunsman - acorns, bark etc. are wrong for chestnut oak. Grund - no issues about nativity etc. Tracey what was population structure like? Kunsman - saplings & older trees present. Firestone- was this on private land? Rhoads - no its part of a county park, Delhaas Woods. **Goes to PE**

Symphotrichum dumosum current TU proposed PE decision PE
Proposed by Helm, Rhoads, and Block

Helm – In the last 150 years there have been several sites according to herbarium specimens. In the last season we only found 3 occurrences, there is also an EO at Presque Isle. That's an 86% decline in the last 150 years. It's currently undetermined & we are now proposing that it be endangered for that reason. There are a couple sites that we didn't get to visit, but due to humans, building etc. it's probably not still there. Holt – this has an ephemeral habitat, that's in definite decline. Bissell – we had lots before *Phragmites*. It's declining there

(Presque Isle) too. Not a lot of EO's, not a lot of individuals, & evidence of decline. Rhoads - its one of those damn little white asters, most easily confused with *lateriflorum*, but not if you look closely. Grund - anyone think anything other than PE? Bissell - the data suggests it should be PE. **Goes to PE**

<i>Solidago purshii</i> current UEHF	proposed N	decision N
<i>Solidago uliginosa</i> current URF	proposed PT	decision PT

Proposed by Grund

Grund – FNA is suggesting that these are the same thing. Cusick - I annotated specimens in 1990, trying to separate *purshii* out from *uliginosa*. Grund - it's a very variable species. Cusick - my annotations from 1990 are not necessarily how I think today. They look the same. Grund –the FNA Asteraceae experts have determined this as well. So they are synonymous in FNA. The question is what is the appropriate status for this entity? I'm suggesting PT. The populations that we know of tend to be small populations. It's generally in pretty high quality wetlands in Mich (nods from others indicating that this is also the case in PA). Kunsman - we have another 3 sites with 500 ramets that aren't in the database because they were from fens rather than bogs & we were uncertain which taxa to list it under, so they weren't listed in either. This has been moved around between listing & delisting over time. Are we dealing with different entities physiologically even if they are the same morphologically? If they have different habitats? I don't have a problem with what you're proposing. Rhoads - 3 more sites won't make a difference in the status **Goes to PT as *S. uliginosa***

<i>Trillium cernuum</i> current URF	proposed PT	decision PT
-------------------------------------	-------------	-------------

Proposed by Rhoads & Block

Rhoads – the main problem here is deer. There are a lot of small scattered populations, small is the operative word & getting smaller. In SE Pennsylvania over browsing is a major threat to this plant. We find it on diabase geology & on gneiss. It's not on the most acidic sites; there are a lot of historic locations. Jack & Janet have documented it in Chester Co. all small populations, in small forest tracts. These threats are what concern us the most. Ebert - you won't see it in late summer, you must see it in the spring. They've all been eaten by summer. Rhoads - when you find a population, it's mostly in juvenile state due to browsing. Holt - what is the largest population that you've seen? Rhoads - maybe on the order of 100 plants. Holt - the sheer numbers of ramets are threatened. The deer population is threatening this species. Rhoads - we have some sites in the Lehigh valley. Kunsman – it's in Montgomery Co. at Spring Mt. Grund - I'm a big advocate of using trend data when we have it. Ebert - how is it pollinated? Boyer - According to a PhD thesis I saw, it said native fruit flies. Due to humans the native fruit flies where not able to get there to pollinate. **Goes to PT**

<i>Trillium flexipes</i> current TU	proposed PT	decision PT
-------------------------------------	-------------	-------------

<i>Trillium erectum</i> × <i>flexipes</i> current N	proposed N	decision PT
---	------------	-------------

Proposed by Loree Speedy

Speedy -We need to discuss hybrids of *flexipes*. The numbers are based on the EO's in the database. They do not take into account the hybrid swarms. There are several dozen sites along the lower Susquehanna primarily in Lancaster & York Co's. My concern is about the number of true *flexipes*, there are specimens determined by Patrick as true *flexipes*. Grund - Susan Farmer says most if not all of our *flexipes* has *erectum* in it. *T. flexipes* has very cup shaped flowers. True *flexipes* is very rare to find & is probably an ancient hybrid issue. Do we need more work? There is a specimen in PH that is determined by Patrick as true *flexipes*. We went back to the site & couldn't find any with pure white ovaries. Grund – we're not talking about just F1 hybrids, it's a complex. this This hybrid this meets our criteria as a trackable taxa. We could track the hybrid & the species separately. We could just track it as the species if the specimen has been identified as such by a *Trillium* expert & track everything else as the hybrid. The problem we could be bringing up is with the hybrids that look like *erectum*.

Draude – we just had a *Trillium* conference come up to Schenks Ferry to look at the Trilliums, there was not a lot of agreement, but the consensus was they thought it was mostly good *flexipes*. Kunsman - we can all agree that these populations along the lower Susquehanna need some sort of protection. We can quibble over what the taxa is, but I think we can all agree that they need some sort of protection. Grund - if we include hybrids with *erectum* does that make a good argument for PT? I'm suggesting that we track the hybrids of *erectum* & *flexipes* and also track *flexipes* but only consider it to be *flexipes* if the most recent *Trillium* expert to annotate the specimen annotates it as *flexipes*. Bowers - in SW PA there was one decent population that I thought was pretty pure *flexipes* & one valley over it looked like there were a lot of strange things happening in the population. I'm concurring with the proposed status. Grund - anyone think it's not a good idea to track the hybrid? Firestone - is there a proposed status? Grund – we are suggesting PT for the hybrid, & probably PE for *flexipes*. But I don't know how good of information we have for that. How many specimens do we have that are determined by a *Trillium* expert as good *flexipes*? Speedy - I don't have that information. Grund - how about if we make them both threatened? If later we get more information, than we can change the status to endangered. We could track all as the hybrid unless we have a good idea that we have true *flexipes*. Kunsman - we need to decide which are which for database reasons. Grund - based on information from Susan Farmer, most if not all have hybrid origin. So assume they are hybrid unless otherwise noted. What name do we give it? Grund – *Trillium erectum* × *flexipes* hybrid. ***T. flexipes* & *T. erectum* × *flexipes* go to PT**

Veratrum virginicum current UTF proposed PE decision PE

Proposed by Rhoads and Block

Rhoads – this plant is a meter high. Very few get to flower, deer are the culprit. It's at French Creek State Park. Kunsman has sites in Michaux State Forest & Jack & Janet have some sites. Tracey - we have found some this past year in Butler Co. There are historic sites in Butler Co. and we found 2 new sites in Butler. There is another new population mixed with *Stenanthium*, a similar looking species. I suspect there could be more. It's coming up in areas with active massasauga habitat restoration, in prairie habitats. There are 50 – 100 stems in Butler Co. found by Pete Woods. Rhoads - we found many stems bitten off by deer. Grund –we found that *Stenanthium* usually does not set fruit. Holt- one population is being mowed. Kunsman - the number of flowering plants varies from year to year. Some years there are many flowering stems & other years there are not a lot. Rhoads - this has a bulb and probably takes a few years to recover. Many populations are small, threatened by deer & ATV's. The map shows a lot of historical sites in SE Pennsylvania, but they are not there now. **Goes to PE**

Cyperus polystachyos current PX proposed PE? Decision SP

Kunsman - the only record for this species is a 1935 record from Philadelphia Co. We found a new one this year in Delaware Co. just a stones throw from Philadelphia Co. It's a weedy successional in an ugly site where we found it. There should be a qualifier. I'd be OK saying its native but it shouldn't get a lot of attention. If we find it in a better site then I would consider something. Holt – it's primarily a coastal plain species. Not in real quality habitats. Grund – there are two questions here, is there enough source material nearby that even if this disappears it may be here intermittently? And the other thing is if it's real common close by that it's not even a significant range extension if it disappears from the edge of the state? Firestone - if an extirpated species is found in the state it automatically becomes a PE. We can change it from PE to something else. Holt - it's in a National Wildlife Refuge so it's sort of protected. Grund - protected as long as it's not interfering with deicing materials for airplanes. Kunsman - we can tell the Tinicum people we're not worried about this but you should be aware of this being here. Ebert - we had some precedent for species like this before. Kunsman -but this species had a historic site. Grund – does anyone think SP is not appropriate for this? **Goes to SP**

Eleocharis tuberculosa current PX proposed PE decision PE

Proposed by Bissell

Bissell – I spoke at Morgantown & went on a field trip & went to a bog. There was an *Eleocharis* that looked different so I took some to look at. It was growing on a Sphagnum bog with pitcher plants. (Crum Bog on Crum Road) Grund – It was found in Somerset Co. This is a significantly disjunct population. Bissell - it has chestnut colored scales & a grass green tubercle. The bristles are faintly barred. Catling says it's just a form. Tony Reznicek is not sure he's right, he reviewed the article. Grund - there may be other populations discovered but it certainly looks like a PE. **Goes to PE**

Parthenium integrifolium current PX proposed PE decision PE

Proposed by Joe Isaac

J. Isaac – There were 2 populations relocated in McKean Co. Both are roadside populations. NY lists this as introduced. There is a history of fire & railroad use in the area. It may have been introduced or cultivated. Grund – this is somewhat of an enigma. Bissell what are the sites like? Isaac - roadside near a logging mill, with ATV's running all over. Moore – it's along SR 59 near where the old RR went through. It's on the ANF regional forester list to look at. When we did the update we had Joes info, so as far as management its not documented on forest service property but its on our proclamation land. There are areas within 2 miles of the population that offer suitable decent habitat. Whether it's introduced or native, the ANF is interested in anything that can be offered in terms of conservation. Grund - the oldest record from McKean Co. was 1972. Isaac - it won't cause a lot of issues either way, so it's OK with me if we track as PE. **Goes to PE**

Hypericum sphaerocarpum current Watch proposed PE/PX decision PX

Proposed by Grund

Grund – there are historic sites from the Pittsburgh area. This was put into special problems because we were unsure that the specimens were correctly identified. The CM specimens keyed out straight forward to *sphaerocarpum*. This may be disjunct, but it's not totally out of the question. The most recent record is 1921. It persisted in an area for at least five years. There may be issues of whether the specimen is native. Cusick – this sounds like a straight forward PX, why would it be a PE? Grund - the reason would be no one has been out looking for this specific occurrence. **Goes to PX**

Rhynchospora globularis current UXH proposed N decision N

Proposed by Grund

Grund - What we used to call *R. globularis* is now thought to be 2 species. *R. globularis* is not found in PA. All specimens of *R. globularis* have been reidentified to *R. recognita*. So I'm suggesting that we just take this off the list. We left *globularis* on the list on purpose because we didn't know what the eastern populations were. We now know they are also *R. recognita*. **Goes to N**

Grund – essentially because the agenda was so packed today, we sent out a list of TU lists that we assigned statuses to. Firestone - any of the ones on this list will make it into the new official list. Draude – I don't know why you would want to de-list *Adiantum aleuticum*. Grund – are you suggesting that it's premature to take it off? Draude - Cathy Paris says it is in PA, she is the author of the species. Grund - we'll leave it as TU & maybe get a proposal next year. Holt - I would like to see the populations. Grund - there is some question as to whether we have this in PA. Draude - there are specimens from Wherry & Pennell at PH. Rhoads – the Smithsonian person came & sampled the plants at Goat Hill & said that they are all the same, *A. pedatum*. Grund - I suggest we leave this as TU and revisit this next year.

Chris Tracey. – gave a presentation on “beyond environmental review” at the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

Lucy Boyce of the Clearwater Conservancy – we are looking for local genetic sources for species of wetlands & are branching out into upland species. This is funded by a grant from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation. The plants are being grown using Penn State mist benches. Last year we gave all the shrubs to Penn State, they used them near their sheep farms. This year the plants will be given to Dayton Dam. We are working with a specific list of species.

Eric Burkhart – gave a presentation on American ginseng, cohosh & goldenseal.

Chris Hardy – gave a presentation on the Wiki Plant atlas update www.wikiplantatlas.org/pawoodies

Adjourned at: 3:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie L. Isaac

Status Changes approved at the 2009 Rare Plant Forum Meeting and at the following meeting of the VPTC

Latin Name	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NEW STATE RANK	PA STATUS	PaBS STATUS	PROPOSAL	DECISION
<i>Bartonia paniculata</i>	G5	S3	S3	N	URF	PT	PR
<i>Bidens laevis</i>	G5	S3	S1	N	UTFH	PE	PE
<i>Cuscuta campestris</i>	G5T5	S2	S2	N	UTT	PE	PT
<i>Cuscuta cephalanthi</i>	G5	SU	S2	TU	UEFH	PE	PT
<i>Cuscuta compacta</i>	G5	S3	S2	N	UTF	PE	PT
<i>Cuscuta coryli</i>	G5	SU	SH	TU	UXFH	PX	PT
<i>Cuscuta pentagona</i>	G5	S3	S2	N	UTTF	PE	PT
<i>Cuscuta polygonorum</i>	G5	SU	S2	TU	UEF	PE	PT
<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>	G5	S1	S4	PE	PE	N	SP
<i>Najas marina</i>	G5	S1	SNA	PE	PE	N	N
<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	G5	SNA	S1	N	UEF	PE	PE
<i>Symphyotrichum dumosum</i>	G5	S2	S1	TU	UTF	PE	PE
<i>Solidago purshii</i>	G4G5	SH	SSYN	TU	UEHF	N	N
<i>Solidago uliginosa</i>	G4G5	S3	S2	N	URF	PT	PT

Latin Name	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	NEW STATE RANK	PA STATUS	PaBS STATUS	PROPOSAL	DECISION
<i>Trillium cernuum</i>	G5	S3	S2	N	URF	PT	PT
<i>Trillium flexipes</i>	G5	S2	S2	TU	UTT	PE	PT
<i>Trillium erectum</i> × <i>T. flexipes</i>			S2				PT
<i>Veratrum virginicum</i> (= <i>Melanthium virginicum</i> , SSYN)	G5	SU	S1	N	UTF	PE	PE
<i>Cyperus polystachyos</i>	G5	SX	S3	PX	PX	PE?	SP
<i>Eleocharis tuberculosa</i>	G5	SX	S1	PX	PX	PE	PE
<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>	G5	SH	S1	TU	PX	PE	PE
<i>Hypericum sphaerocarpum</i>	G5	SNR	SH	N	Watch	PE/PX	PX
<i>Rhynchospora globularis</i>	G5?	SU	SNA	N	UXH	N	N
<i>Adiantum aleuticum</i>	G5?	SNR		TU	N*	TU	TU

* UXH to N at VPTC subcommittee meeting in March 2009