

APPENDIX

Focus Group Summaries

NOTE: Campus Natural Areas (CNA) is used throughout this summary due to the timing of the input sessions prior to the revision of the name to the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

Administration

29 November 2004, 9:00 a.m.

- Turf North of Lakeshore dorms looks gnarly, but consequences of using fertilizers/herbicides adjacent to the lake are enormous.
- There is no concrete definition of what CNA is—we need a good delineation.
 - What does CNA mean?
 - How can areas within that definitive boundary be managed and maintained?
- CNA Master Plan should give campus the tools to allow the rest of campus to join in. Friends and CNA Committee should not be seen as the enforcers, but rather the facilitators.
 - The overall UW Master Plan talks about four key areas: buildings in the future, utility connections, transportation planning (multimodal) and greenspace.
 - There's a spectrum of greenspaces and open spaces on campus and the CNA falls somewhere within that broad boundary.
 - CNA could link itself to, or relate to other green spaces within campus – courtyards, terraces, urban spaces.
 - It is important to look at the CNA from a campus user and community viewpoint. We want to welcome and define the campus to people, while at the same time maintaining porosity.
 - We should not be afraid to define what we want and don't want to do, especially in key areas i.e. Lakeshore Path, Picnic Point.
 - The University has neglected Picnic Point out of fear of change.
 - Tree removal may be controversial but necessary.
 - Historic pictures show open views.
 - Plan should embrace debates where they are to be had i.e. Lakeshore Path.
 - Erosion control is an issue and needs to be addressed.
 - UW Madison, like the rest of the city, has its back to the lake. When leaves are out, 90% of the view to the lake is blocked.
 - Should we consider creating “test plots” along the Lakeshore Path where a 50' section is cleared to the lake by removing buckthorn and selective trees? Elicit campus feedback.
 - To North of Tripp and Adams dorms may be a good pilot area.
- A swimming dock used to be located near the Kronshage dorm—is there a push to bring that back?
- Bringing back the views and physical access to the lake may be sufficient. Provide seating near lake edge.
- View of the lake from North patio of Liz Water's Hall is completely obscured.
- Safety/Security Issues
 - Need to remove some shrub/understory layer for security purposes.
 - Historically Muir Woods and Muir Knoll a bad spot for incidents.
 - Have assaults and exposures that happen on Picnic Point.
 - Need emergency access to areas in the CNA
- The UW Arboretum as a model
 - Planners worked with police staff, cleared out undergrowth, posted signs.
 - There were no lighting (or over-lighting) solutions at the Arboretum.
 - What are the security expectations of the users?
 - District squads try to get out to Picnic Point at least once per day, often during the night shift.
- Eagle Heights gardens should be better connected to the rest of CNA w/ walkways, sidewalks, etc.
- Design elements and areas have to be manageable by university staff, otherwise they begin to decline in appearance (i.e. Limnology garden West of Limnology building along Lakeshore Path)
- 1918 Marsh
 - First lake, then farm, then restored to a marsh.
 - What makes sense ecologically?
 - What can be maintainable w/in a sustainable framework?
 - Recreational Fields to the West.
 - There has been some thought about expanding the marsh and reducing the rec. field area because they are prone to flooding.
 - However, rec. space is already hard pressed and the comprehensive stormwater plan already removes rec. fields where Co-Gen plant laydown/staging area is currently. These are not going to be added.
 - Rec sports will be doing an inventory of existing facilities and weighing that against current and future use and needs.
- A goal should be to identify areas within the CNA as well as buffer zones that are fragile, irreparable, unique, etc.
 - Create a filter for individual projects to go up against in the future in terms of growth management and weighing pros and cons.
 - Future building space: nothing will be more than 6 stories around CNA or campus in general. Parking will likely go up (ramps) rather than out whenever possible.
- Willow Creek
 - A lost resource. Replacing 6' storm w/ 8' storm b/c it provides an outlet for all stormwater from Hilldale Shopping Center to campus.
 - Can we make it a feature and provide access to it like the lake? Overall campus master plan is looking at this area as well.
- GOAL: To stress the economic and cultural benefits of Campus Natural Areas rather than create a defensible boundary. Use language in the Master Plan to support the consensus building and advocacy of these areas, rather than physically staking out boundaries. Create allies out of all user groups.

Cultural Resources Presentation

29 November 2004, 10:00 a.m.

- Brenda Williams (Quinn Evans Architects) and George Christiansen (Archaeologist, Great Lakes Archaeological Research Center).
- Cultural Landscape Resources—study applies professional standards to identify cultural landscapes.
 - *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports* (1998, NPS).
 - J. Paul Getty Campus Heritage Program (funding source)

- Project team: UW Department of LA, UW FPM, UW Library Archives, Steering Committee, Brenda Williams, George Christiansen.
- Project Products: Cultural landscape report, archaeological report, historic photograph & database & website, public outreach and staff training, coordinating with other campus planning efforts.
 - First draft will be prepared in March, 2005.
- There are archaeological sites on almost every single high point in CNA and especially at the base of Picnic Point.
- Resources start at 10,000 BC and go up to present.
 - Greatest number of mounds on the UW Campus/CNA in the US and perhaps the world.
 - A remarkable number of these campus sites w/in the CNA.
- Observatory Hill Cultural Landscape
 - Significance through prehistoric and historic uses and period of significance hasn't ended.
 - Is the significance what you can see or what is there? (i.e. parking lot 34 in the CNA and adjacent to Observatory Hill—it's there, but most of the year you can't see it because of vegetative screening—do you leave it there or remove, regrade, and revegetate hill).
- Coordinate w/ Cultural Master Plan group.
- Is it appropriate for C.N.A. to manage the Aust Rock Garden at Ag Hall and Marlatt Rock Garden/Euthenics Oak at SOHE? Other none-contiguous natural garden spaces? How to manage non-contiguous natural gardens?
- Cultural Resources Plan identified 5 significant landscapes within C.N.A. but these fell out of their focus plans (Picnic Point, Eagle Heights Gardens, Lakeshore Path, Class of 1918 Marsh, Muir Woods) – does this become our charge?

The Preserve Committee

29 November 2004, 11:00 a.m.

- A zoned approach is a successful way to view and plan/preserve CNA.
 - Intensity of use and management of the level of intensity.
- GOAL: Create a “collective resource for campus and community that is highly valued and vigorously supported”.
 - Articulate the institutional value of CNA and preservation of areas.
- Create a marketing package that forms alliances all over campus so that if a move is made to develop a part of CNA there is a broad-based outcry from across campus.
- GOAL: To articulate and consolidate the IDEA of the CNA, which is just as important as articulating and consolidating the physical aspects.
 - Look at zones of impact that are not directly w/in the CNA i.e. viewsheds, stormwater.
- GOAL: To make sure that the creation of a master plan does not “pocket” things i.e. classroom experiences/experiments in a specific place and thus detract from the educational benefits.
- GOAL: To connect stories of this landscape with campus and to pass on

- these stories (in the form of signage, presentations, newsletters, etc).
- Recognize the C.N.A. landscapes as “profoundly storied” – what opportunities and methods exist to tell these stories?
- GOAL: To create a biological plan and identify processes and practices that need to be put into place in order to create/foster/maintain the biological community plan.
- Do we target and delineate specific biological communities – i.e. prairie, savannah, mesic woodland – or allow for a spectrum of characteristics, less rigorous definition (jerry)
- GOAL: To create design guidelines for infrastructure and administration in terms of what types of activities are allowed and not allowed as well as what materials to use for different areas.
- GOAL: To create different areas for high vs. low impact users
- Concentrate some effort of specific planned areas i.e. shorelines.
- GOAL: To develop the CNA Master Plan with long-range vision of 50-100 years. Ask ourselves “What are we leaving for next generation?”
- “How do you integrate the disparate patches of CNA into an entity—a unified whole?”
- Should Big Woods be a focus for future acquisition efforts to include and protect in the CNA? Are there other areas that may be included in future acquisition discussions by expanding the CNA boundaries?
- Three treatment areas:
 - Picnic Point Entrance—the main entry point for groups into CNA, the “historic front door”, create some sort of gathering space and informational area.
 - Picnic Point Tip—management/erosion issues. How do you manage large groups in this area? How do people get to the lake (visually, physically)?
 - Frautschi Point—management/erosion issues. Huge donors of this piece of land that would like to see a more intentional use and connection.
- Campsites/Firepits are heavily used and it may be beneficial to create a large group gathering space at one of these.
- Importance of direct connection and access to water – part of experiencing the C.N.A. is getting to the water's edge – need to recognize and manage these impacts
- Question: What do different users/stakeholders value about CNA—can we create a dialogue that brings forth these values?
- Importance of recognizing the expertise on the C.N.A.C. and tapping into their collective knowledge for appropriate management
- Preservation of natural biological communities important.
 - Distant viewsheds of biological communities (a wooded area) are just as important to some people as the underfoot view (what's growing around the trail).
- There is a need to look beyond the shoreline and understand the aquatic and hydrologic processes and systems. University Bay and 1918 Marsh used to be connected.
- Interface b/w Lakeshore Path and rest of campus (Observatory Hill, Lakeshore Dorms, Natural Areas)...there seems to be a hard, distinct line between these and perhaps the lines should be softened, blurred, blended. Give

thought to transition between spaces both w/in and adjacent to CNA.

- Create experience for outside non-academic user that adds some element of education to their interaction.
 - Bird watching as a means of interacting with the general public and educational outreach.
- Connectivity and corridors for wildlife are important.
- LAKESHORE NATURE PRESERVE (leading candidate for re-naming of CNA). This would help to unite the areas from a psychological viewpoint. Need to think about unity from a physical standpoint as well.
- Create an observatory platform somewhere? At the end of Picnic Point?
 - If we do decide on an observation tower or a constructed approach to the water, can we use models already developed and tested in this area i.e. from the WI DNR?
 - 1918 Marsh viewing stand not useable from May-mid October because of height of cattails. There is no way to see ducks or the inner bay from Picnic Point.
- CNA as an "Important Bird Area"—an international designation/recognition. Each state makes a list that integrates into the statewide bird plan, which goes into the statewide animal plan, which will feed into a nation-wide list in 2006. Roma is working to get the bay area this designation.
- Can we create fingers of green between the more formal campus greenspaces and the CNA?
- STORY: Class of 1918 Marsh: The challenges of creating a reconstructed wetland where there once was a natural one; why it doesn't work as well; use historical photos, portraits throughout history to support the narrative.

The most important aspect of this meeting stressed the fact that there is no good access to the water, either visually or physically. This is very much in line with other group discussions.

Site Services

29 November 2004, 1:00 p.m.

- There was no proactive management of CNA until Cathie's position was created in 2000.
 - Arboretum was in charge of management up until that point and they didn't do much management at all after 1980 because of staffing issues.
 - Site Services received conflicting views about type of management to be completed. Looking for compatible direction from all parties involved.
 - Work is now being done by Facilities Management staff and volunteers.
 - Hazardous tree removal still Karen's responsibility.
- Staging Area:
 - Functions as a holding area for wood chips, soil, gravel, building rubble etc.
 - Temporary equipment storage
 - Staging area not ideal because of access point (vehicles have to go through main entrance at base of Picnic Point), steepness of access terrain, eyesore potential.
 - Explore other sites within C.N.A. for staging area
 - Bill's Woods – Gary Brown preferred option, less ideal for access and would require removal of trees
 - Near Water Utility Bldg. in Base Field – already degraded (formerly farmed), easily accessible
 - Wood chipper is loud; trucks are large and make noise when they back up.
 - Would need 1-2 acres and could be more aesthetic.
 - *Discussion of remnant farm idea where staging w/in red barn and barnyard used

as well in an agrarian-feeling way – why shouldn't this function be acknowledged?

- Snow pile—used to be piled on parking lot near 1918 Marsh, but transportation wants to use that space.
- Grounds also stores smaller tools/equipment at the Beachhouse on the North shore of Picnic Point.
- Move Beachhouse near 1918 Marsh to serve as a shelter? Utilize Beachhouse as learning center – field station function for class and research activities?
- Willow Drive – formerly Park and Pleasure Drive – opportunity to once again have auto access to lakeshore? Provide another level of access for potential donors.
- Need to tie management policies and guidelines to landscape – C.N.A. in flux, lack of clear direction for Physical Plant managers and crews

PLAN OF ATTACK:

- Identify location of remnant vegetation communities and areas of undisturbed native soils – check for original 1840 survey notes.
 - Build in zones for expansion of those communities once they're nourished and tended to.
- Identify archaeological and landscape icons.
- Uncover the history and tell it as a story (aboriginal, post-settlement, modern uses.)
 - Use old section maps, photographs, agricultural records for the farms, courthouse records for plat and use.
- Use "other" areas for pathways, gathering spaces, FP&M staging area, etc.

Planning/Housing

29 November 2004, 2:00 p.m.

- Interaction of students with CNA is important.
- Many of the resident halls are directly adjacent to CNA, need more input at these areas.
- How do students understand what the CNA is? Uses within CNA are an issue with students – bike, trails, materials of trails, accessibility.
- A degraded landscape exists North of Liz Waters Hall.
 - Some safety concerns raised: clearing out wooded area may invite more people up to the dorm from the Lakeshore Path. Perhaps look at more of a terraced landform on the North of the dorm.
 - Lighting may provide a false sense of security to some of these areas.
- Housing would ideally like more flat, open greenspace...can be informal, unprogrammed areas.
 - Liz Waters has no usable outdoor greenspace.
- A deck space out over the lake i.e. Union Terrace would be nice down by the Lakeshore Dorm community.
- Opportunities to develop Willow Beach as a gathering space near the Lakeshore Dorms? – goals to re-establish beach, though frequently closed due to bacterial counts; possible Union boat storage location
- Ideal large group gathering area:
 - Closer to base of Picnic Point.

- Partially wooded for a feeling of escape and enclosure
- Plan for groups of 50-100, esp. at beginning of school year (August-October).
- No other spaces on campus that are planned for large group gathering areas.
- Students would use a shelter w/ picnic tables
- Restrooms at Carson Gulley used during Lakeshore Dorm gatherings; vault toilets at Picnic Point – if upgraded, need to be accessible
- Fish boil pit to north of Tripp/Adams used by conferences in summer.
- Woods feel unsafe for University Apt. and garden users because of people living in them and people exposing themselves.
 - Perception that any improvements (i.e. toilets) would draw more outside people into the area and increase safety concerns. Minimize development for less appeal to marginal users
- A sidewalk along Lake Mendota Drive would make it much safer for Eagle Heights residents to move back and forth to gardens and CNA and even just walk around w/ young children. Need walking paths outside of traffic areas, surfaced to accommodate strollers.
- Moorings:
 - Area 1, off of Union Terrace
 - Area 2, near Willow Creek
 - Area 4, to East of Willow Beach
 - 64 Total, waiting list, have to be a member of the Union or a student/faculty/staff to rent these out.
 - Waiting list of 25 – 30 last summer, with 5 or so accommodated
- Canoe Posts:
 - Installed 8 years ago along Lakeshore Path, now painted green.
 - Posts can be rented w/o UW affiliation or Union membership
 - Posts outside Mooring Field 2 are used for dories/dinghies to access sailboats – if Willow Beach had a pier, could provide common boats for use
 - \$42/season (season is April 1-November 15)
 - Roughly 32-40 posts
 - A few complaints of boats strewn along shoreline as an eyesore and erosion problem.
 - Could consolidate this area and get boats off of shoreline—a rack of some sort w/ graded access to lake.

Permit Holders

29 November 2004, 3:00 p.m.

- Naval ROTC—use Picnic Point and trail connections for running, a bit of land navigation, would like to continue their use of the area.
- Army ROTC—use CNA for off-trail navigation by small groups of 4-5 people.
 - Total off-trail usage about 15 hrs per semester.
 - Can only go to Fort McCoy 2x per year because of cost, so having a space on campus to train is extremely valuable.
 - This is a regularly scheduled class (lab) that meets at a specified time and day (Thursdays 4-6 p.m.)
 - Like the wooded areas w/ thick understory and Frautschi Point in particular for identification of land features (spur, draw, ridgeline, valley, etc) – use roughly a diagonal from Caretaker's Woods to Second Point
- Chadbourne Residential College-Muir Mentors

- 5th graders from Lincoln Elementary school in mentorship program w/ first-year college students from Chadbourne.
- Many students see this as an “undergraduate woods”.
- University Health Services (UHS)
 - Promote CNA as a restorative and contemplative space
 - Active uses conflict with this function – noise issues with Lot 60 rallies and loud music
- Birding
 - Bird Project identifies a baseline for birds inhabiting C.N.A. at different times of the year. Roughly twenty years of data has been collected.
 - Picnic Point is a fallout (shelter area in inclement weather) in spring and Frautschi Point in autumn. Need to maintain spectrum of vertical plant presence – birds move toward ground following insects, can't have only canopy.
 - Would like to see motor boat speed limit enforced on both sides of Picnic Point.
 - An important link is formed along the North Shoreline between Frautschi Point and Picnic Point and all vegetation layers are important – need corridor north of Biocore Prairie.
 - Free, leash-less dogs are a problem for birds and people.
 - Need to retain buffer around Class of 1918 Marsh – Issues with tall, hybrid cattails
 - Snow storage area – avoid regarding, need pools from variable topography to accommodate terns and sandpipers
- Archaeology
 - Main trail from base to tip of Picnic Point infringes on a 5' buffer for mounds—an illegal alignment. The back trail does not encroach. Some mounds have been hit by maintenance vehicles due to this proximity. Boulders have been set along mounds to keep trucks away.
 - All mounds have varying degrees of vegetation on them.
 - Recreational uses near mounds must be reviewed in regards to their potential for mound disturbance.
 - Some of the fire pits were placed on top of archaeological sites and their use as such is contributing to erosion.
 - Story of tent colony not well documented or told: period of use was 1912-1962.
 - Evidence of 5 residences and 7-8 outbuildings within C.N.A.

Friends of the Campus Natural Areas (FCNA)

29 November 2004, 4:00 p.m.

- FCNA Background:
 - In round numbers:
 - 200+ members who support the C.N.A. with their energies, ideas, finances and enthusiasm.
 - 10% + very active workers.
 - 20% + good contributors and volunteers as needed.
 - Substantial sources of expertise in C.N.A.-related disciplines
 - Extensive and long-term field experience in the C.N.A.
 - Excellent links to the community and other organizations
 - How C.N.A. came to be:
 - Informal, but effective work groups volunteering in the C.N.A. were...
 - Influenced by UW establishment of separate C.N.A. responsibility and ...
 - Organized formally 3+ years ago and registered as a 501c3.
 - Members and Board Members include:

- UW personnel – active and retired faculty/staff – Many Alumni
- “Neighbors” – including many from Shorewood Hills
- Regular and long-term C.N.A. users
- Members of related organizations (e.g. Friends of the Arboretum)
- Key goals from the C.N.A. Mission Statement:
 - Assuring Preservation and Protection in Perpetuity
 - Supporting the UW’s efforts for “Biodiversity – Education – Appropriate Use – Support” (see appended “Statement of Goals”)
- Ongoing Activities and Publishing
 - Newsletter – Website
 - Annual Meeting – Field Trips
 - Substantial Work Projects and Cooperation with others in field work
 - Participation in CNAC meetings and as subcommittee members
 - Liaison with Alumni Assn. – UW Foundation.
 - Fund Raising Activities
- Special Things the FCNA can contribute:
 - Encouraging the broad base of support essential to long term protection
 - Providing a community viewpoint in CNA planning
 - Encouraging the support of UW Alums and groups with related interests
 - Mobilizing volunteers and supporting CNA projects
 - Contributing to C.N.A. – related education and to “brand recognition”
 - Raising funds (perhaps in a major way as planning advances), etc.
- FCNA would like to see signs or markers that delineate the boundaries. Should go beyond boundaries, needs to address views to and from water, as well as sounds and light.
- Include viewscape, soundscape, and lightscape within the master planning process— just as important as landscape.
- Boundary vs. non-boundary issues.
- Hindrances:
 - ROTC navigation classes
 - Mountain bikers
 - Dogs
- Angler’s Cove as an example of a successful restoration project that enhances access and visibility to the CNA.
- Lakeshore Path as perhaps the best-known of the CNA components.
- Glenda’s Trail at Frautschi Point is a successful clearing of exotic understory and introduction of human foot traffic.
- GOAL: To create a vision for the landscape through stories.
 - If we tell the stories in a compelling way, there are major fundraising opportunities.
- Tom Brock – FCNA historian and founder with wife, Kathy
- Fundraising important function of FCNA - \$250K gift from Class of 1955 cited related to tent colony site
- Importance of “signature landscapes”
- Balancing of volunteer efforts and fundraising
- User groups that FCNA feel are important – gardeners, kiln-users, people looking for solace/contemplation.
- Big picture – emphasize importance of area on both national and international level. This is a place for people unlike any other place they have ever seen.

This big picture could be important to future donors.

- Have people take away multiple memories of the area. Recognize that uses we see as undesirable now may well become the memories of C.N.A. for future generations of students (future alumni). How can we avoid creating a negative image of C.N.A. by too much restriction of use?

Eagle Heights Listening Session
15 March 2005, 6:00 p.m.

Summary (by Ken Keeley, Ken Saiki Design)

Cathie Bruner (UW FP&M), Laura Schere (University Housing) and I facilitated an information and listening session on the UW Campus Natural Areas with the Eagle Heights Assembly. We had 45-50 people in attendance, many of whom were Eagle Heights Community Garden users. Not surprisingly, the bulk of comments received pertained to preserving and possibly expanding the Community Gardens as a valued amenity for Eagle Heights residents and the University Community.

We provided a brief overview of the Campus Natural Areas, discussing some of the historic uses, current uses, landscape units, and the planning process in general. Following this introduction, four prompting questions were posed to generate discussion:

1. What are your favorite places within the Campus Natural Areas: what characteristics of these places appeal to you?
2. What changes in the Campus Natural Areas would enhance your enjoyment of this landscape?
3. Have you experienced conflicts with other users or uses in the Campus Natural Areas?
4. What is your most treasured memory of a place or moment within the Campus Natural Areas?

Our discussion was weighted most heavily on question 1 which generated some lively participation. We also asked participants to write responses on notecards which were collected after the event. Following are tables indicating responses and the frequency each response was cited by participants, listed in order of magnitude. Respondents were able to list multiple entries.

What are your favorite places within the Campus Natural Areas?

Favorite Place	#Responses
Eagle Heights Community Gardens	26
Lakeshore Path	24
Picnic Point	9
Frautschi Point	6
Woods (general)	6
Angler's Cove	5
Trails (general)	5
Eagle Heights Woods	4
North Shore Woods	4
Old Orchard Field	3
Caretaker's Woods	2
Muir Woods	2
Old Beach House	2
University Houses Gardens	2
University Bay	2
Class of 1918 Marsh	2
Path: to Picnic Point	2
Anyplace with solitude	2
Path: Frautschi Point to Angler's Cove	1
Stone Entrance Gate (Picnic Point)	1
Road: Main Gate to Evergreens and Owls	1
Path: Wally Bauman Woods & North Shore Woods	1
Carriage Road off Lakeshore Path	1
Whole Setting	1
Tip of Picnic Point	1
Lake Mendota Drive (views)	1
Biocore Prairie	1
Beside Lake (general)	1
Secluded Clearings (general)	1
Wally Bauman Woods	1
300 Year Old Oak @ Hilltop	1

What conflicts have you experienced with other users or uses?

Conflicts	#Responses
Plans to reduce # of garden plots	4
Use of herbicides near organic gardens	3
Stealing from gardens	2
Off-leash Dogs	1
Bikes ignoring regulations	1
Biocore Field – weeds, land could be used better	1
Bikes/Cars/Pedestrians on Lake Mendota Drive	1
Different Rules for CALS gardeners	1
Trucks in gardens	1
Lakeshore Path Construction	1
Glass on Beaches	1

What changes would enhance your experience in the Campus Natural Areas?

Desired Changes	#Responses
More Garden Plots in E.H. Community Gardens	11
Reduce Herbicide Use	5
More Informational Signs	2
Path along Lake Mendota Drive/Woods	2
Better Established Trails	1
Discourage Off-Trail Use	1
No Paved Paths	1
Retain Old Carriage Path	1
Bring Tennis Courts Back to Univ. Bay Drive	1
More Native landscape, less lawn around E.H.	1
Leave Woods Alone	1
(Re)Create Orchard	1
Drain or designate wet areas in gardens	1
Reduce mosquitoes	1
Reduce or mark poison ivy	1
Replace every tree removed for developm't with 2-3 more	1
Add paths – Angler's Cove area	1
More wild flowers	1
Keep It natural – use natural means to esta. prairie	1
Some Maintained park-like areas	1
Benches along paths	1
Flower gardens	1

What is your most treasured memory within the Campus Natural Areas?

Treasured Memory	#Responses
Gardening (general)	6
Being part of gardening community	2
Participating in tradition of gardening	2
Watching a hawk catch prey near gardens	2
Seeing baby turtles	1
Seeing indigo buntings	1
Seeing orioles in the marsh	1
Exploring woods with family	1
Seeing a swan on Class of 1918 marsh	1
Watching sunset from top of E.H. gardens	1
Seeing 2 eagles @ Frautschi Point	1
Biking along the Lakeshore	1
First time driving into Eagle Heights	1
Seeing a person sitting & reading in midst of open field	1
Walking 'home' along lakeshore when living in dorms	1

Study Group Discussion Summary

Class of 1918 Marsh

10 August 2005

1. Introductions:

- a. Attendees: Kathy Kalscheur (DSF); Kris Anderson (Ayres Assoc.); Evelyn Howell (UW-Madison Dept. of Landscape Architecture); Joy Zedler (UW-Madison Dept. of Botany); Ken Potter (UW-Madison Dept of Civil & Environmental Engineering); Gary Brown (UW-Madison FP&M); Steve Harman (UW-Madison FP&M); John Harrod (UW Physical Plant); Cathie Bruner (Lakeshore Nature Preserve Manager); Tom Price (Conservation Design Forum); Ken Keeley (Ken Saiki Design – recorder)

2. Class of 1918 as an Urban Marsh Field Station

- a. Faculty summary, current conditions of the marsh
 1. Class of 1918 Marsh reconstruction begun in 1970s. The wetland restoration was undertaken for educational purposes as well as enjoyment as a natural feature on campus. At the time restoration commenced, the approach was digging a pond with a weir outlet to the lake and planting the periphery with prairie. Historically it was a sedge meadow complex with tamaracks (though drained in the early 1900s for agricultural use). Invasion by exotic wetland species has been recent. Cattails were kept in check over many years by muskrats, though they are now gone so hybrid cattails have proliferated. Concern with Marsh functioning as a stormwater management facility.
 2. Little management – Marsh was left to reach its own outcome, and is now of low educational, aesthetic and ecological value
 3. Currently 3 sources of input to marsh: rainwater, runoff from playing fields, runoff from the hospital complex - flows into marsh when lake level is high or during big storm events. Stormwater from hospital complex is infrequent – every few years with big event.
 1. Snowpile – most debris is left at the snow storage site.
 2. Silt input – not much currently
 3. Sediment from muck/peat buildup of decomposing cattails
 4. Pump station is well-maintained
 5. Weir station – water level was previously higher
 - b. Vision for the Class of 1918 Marsh as a laboratory and teaching facility
 1. (Evelyn) Manage as a conservation area. Diversify plant communities, support a variety of wildlife.
 2. (Joy) Opportunities for students to learn while restoring 'target communities'. Iterative process to reach goals. Desire for long-term and short-term research studies – currently lacks quality necessary for educational opportunities. As lab – can generate research funding.
 3. Historic condition cannot realistically be achieved – interaction with lake is no longer possible
 4. Desire to partition wetland: develop as lab by controlling water flow to different compartments within marsh – provides ability to experiment in temporal and spatial scales.
 1. Plumbed system with range of community types from fen-like to basin marsh to deep pool
 5. Remove circular parking lot, develop trail head and educational center:
 1. need about 20 stalls on-site, site near bus-stop
 2. center – wet lab facility desired, class space to accommodate 25-30 students: Urban Ecology Field Station as an example
 6. Dredge for deep pool
 7. Reconfigure shoreline

8. Acquire flooded (unplayable) areas of rec. fields
9. Relocate snowpile to north side of marsh
10. Raise athletic fields and underdrain to encourage groundwater flow
11. University Bay boardwalks & platforms

c. Goals

1. Variety of marsh/wetland communities represented for education/research
2. Ability to control water quantity for experimentation
3. Improve overall quality of marsh
4. Provide greater access to marsh
5. Compartmentalize marsh communities
6. Encourage multidisciplinary experimentation
7. Work toward restoration goals as part of The Preserve
8. High quality water in and out of marsh

3. FP&M and DSF summary

a. Status & coordination of building projects

1. West Campus Stormwater Plan
 1. Includes cisterns: though issues with above and below grade – above grade has temperature issues, below contends with high water table.
2. Interdisciplinary Research Center
3. American Family Children's Hospital

4. Discussion of engineering strategies to achieve the vision

- a. No Groundwater flow into marsh – most currently goes to lake, lake levels relatively high
 1. Opportunities for infiltration: Hospital Complex runoff; underdrain system in adjacent playfields
- b. IRC and Children's Hospital: Rain gardens planned, though function is questionable
- c. Issues with stormwater: desired plant communities sets water quantity and quality requirements
 1. Plant diversity requires clear water
- d. Resculpting of marsh bottom for better wildlife habitat
- e. Response to urban issues, water quality – must be a hydrological and biological response
- f. Source of water in drought? Ability to pump in lake water? Or drought as part of experiment – simulate natural conditions
- g. Green roofs not considered with hospital buildings
- h. Issues with limestone ballast – modifies pH of roof runoff
- i. Sump pumps at Waisman, etc.
- j. Buildings on Chilled Water lines – supplementary chillers: can harvest condensate

Master Plan Public Presentation Summary

20 September 2005

1. Introduction by William Cronon, Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee Chair:

- a. Key Points:
 - i. Reinforcing Name Recognition of Lakeshore Nature Preserve
 - ii. Establishing "The Preserve" as key feature of the 'mental map' of campus community members and local residents
 - iii. Establishing a systematic philanthropic effort:
 1. Foundation Stewardship Fund
 2. Friends of Lakeshore Nature Preserve
 - iv. Increase staffing; address management issues

2. Presentation by Gary Brown, UW-Madison Director of Planning:

- a. Presentation Notes:
 - i. Overview slide: line on left to line up text near Angler's Cove
 - ii. Take detailed text off of Archaeological/Cultural Resources slide for Powerpoint presentations
 - iii. Change text on "Willow Creek Watershed" to use verbs first
 - iv. "Sustainable Management Guidelines" slides 2 & 5 – do they say the same thing?
 - v. Clean up Proposed Circulation Map – emphasize revised path configuration for barrier free accessibility
 - vi. Discuss addition of 'lawn' to future vegetation map with Committee
 - vii. Add proposed sq. footage to Preserve Center Site Design Slide
 - viii. Picnic Point Slide out of order?

3. Q & A led by Gary Brown (gb) & William Cronon (wc):

- a. Nancy (Physical Plant – reservations): **Expanding facilities adds to reservation issues – currently short on staff. Need to develop new process for reservations – automated system, under FP&M umbrella. Opportunity to house reservation management within Preserve Center?**
 - i. (response) Labor & staffing issues are of concern to Committee but will not be resolved within this Master Plan. An online reservation system could be explored with revamped website for Preserve.
- b. Ed (concerned citizen): **Reaction to proposed development of tip of Picnic Point – need to take care not to overdevelop. Minimal impact on appearance, no structures. Anything proposed should be low-key without disrupting natural character.**
- c. Dan (Friends of Preserve): **Concern that a small Preserve Center could easily become an expansion opportunity – similar to McKay Center at the Arboretum, continuing to grow once established.**
- d. Glenda (Friends): **Need to work hard not to over-develop the Preserve; minimal build-up of Picnic Point. Is Picnic Point an appropriate place to plan for large group gatherings? Preferred development would be naturalistic in character with opportunities to reach water.**
- e. Janet (Biocore): **Biocore is in desperate need of storage for mowers, hoses and fire management equipment. Would the old Bath House or dock storage area be opportunities for Biocore equipment storage?**
 - i. (response) Perhaps there is an opportunity to introduce a small farm-like structure near the community gardens/Biocore Prairie for shared use. Bath House has limited use currently – was originally constructed to accommodate sail-boaters (?) but sewage system has been non-functional.

- f. Dan (Madison resident): **Concern with use of toxic herbicides (glyphosphates) – proliferation of invasives is considered less harmful than use of herbicides. What are long term effects of herbicide use?**
 - i. Master Plan will not get to the detail of recommended management tools, but will propose fire management as an alternate.
- g. Jim (Madison resident): **Also concern with herbicide use – won't herbicides linger in soil and threaten native plants as well?**
- h. Jim Kitchell (limnology prof.): **What is the fate of Lot 34? Also – fallen trees along the shoreline are critical habitat and should be allowed to remain where they fall.**
 - i. Current proposal is to redevelop Lot 34 with permeable pavement, though in the long-term (10 yrs. or more) it will be removed and stalls will be relocated to new underground lot at proposed building at Charter & Linden. Comprehensive Master Plan recommends movement away from surface parking altogether.
- i. Susan Slavnick (neighbor and Friend): **What is about the snow storage pile – where will it go?**
 - i. The snowpile will be relocated to the northside of the marsh, and could function as a seasonal parking area after the snow melts. As the surface parking is eliminated on campus over the next decades, less snow will need to be stored.
- j. Katrina (UW Student): **Are there opportunities to filter stormwater before it reaches the lakes?**
 - i. Stormwater is more effectively managed at the source, not the discharge point. UW will be working with City of Madison to manage storm discharge into Willow Creek.
- k. Janet (Biocore Prof): **Willow Creek serves as fish, insect and turtle habitat and was channelized in the 1920s – any opportunity to re-establish natural meander and lay back slopes? Also – flows are generally very slow, though storms result in hydrographic flashpoints – even flushing live raccoons through the system.**
 - i. There is a difficult trade-off; campus development has made realignment or expansion of the Willow Creek Corridor infeasible. Need to pursue management of stormwater upstream.
- l. Dick Dwelle (zoology prof.): **Is campus slowing growth in overall plan? Needs to slow growth or Preserve will continue to be subject to development pressure.**
 - i. We need to declare that this green space is just as important to campus life as other aspects; need to reinforce the importance of campus green space.
 - ii. Campus has 900+ acres with 300+ acres in The Preserve. Preserve area is considered off-limits to development. What is the capacity for growth in the remainder? Can potentially add 6 million sq. ft. of buildings. 96 acres of surface parking can become buildings with parking ramps or underground parking.
 - iii. Though enrollment management will keep student body around 40,000; UW-Madison is experiencing 3% annual growth in its 'research engine'.
 - iv. Importance of recognizing that land conservation is never finished, that future generations will need to continue efforts to protect The Preserve.
- m. Noah (UW Student): **Don't see much additional related to educational opportunities – as coordinator for Adventure Learning, is there a possibility of introducing a Ropes Course at the base of Picnic Point. This idea was introduced in 1995 and a location is still desired.**
 - i. There are issues with appropriate and inappropriate uses that continue to be debated, particularly when the introducing man-made structures.

- n. Kathy Brock (Friends): ***What is a green roof – is this sod/lawn?***
 - i. Not typically turf, but a vegetated rooftop with low maintenance plants such as sedum in a soil medium over a water-proof membrane.
- o. Blake (UW student): ***Should not provide parking – parking will encourage greater impacts. Encourage people to bike or use alternative transportation.***
 - i. Current parking is largely used by students that park in the lots near Picnic Point and bus into campus. University Bay lot is being removed.
- p. Ann (UW staff member, area resident): ***Accessible paths – are these paved? Picnic Point needs to have shoreline access.***
 - i. Need to allow shoreline access at Picnic Point and other areas. If it isn't provided, it will be created by users.
 - ii. Limestone screenings on Lakeshore path are considered barrier-free, accessible paths don't need to be paved with hard surface materials.