

Tri-Creek Land Use Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 11 – 1:00 PM
Monroe County Land Conservation Department, Sparta, WI

Those in attendance were: Eric Epstein, Dick Thiel, Bob Micheel, George Johnston, and Ron Luethe.

Introductions were made. Agenda items were reviewed. Ron Luethe suggested we discuss agenda item 2. Additional resource inventories if needed first. Discussion led to the following resource inventory needs/updates.

1. Basic inventory of the lands surrounding the Norwalk Dam and impoundment to address any management issues if needed.
2. Mapping of spring areas within Tri-Creek. Bob Micheel stated that inventory is being worked on.
3. Distribution of invasive species, especially in the sensitive areas (creek and springs - alders, scouring rushes areas).
4. Archeological inventory. This has not been completed. The Epstein's will continue trying to contact Bill Quackenbush and possibly another contact at the Ho-Chunk Nation.
5. Review of active gullies within and adjacent to Tri-Creek.
6. Review potential land swaps with adjacent landowners to develop buffers along tri-Creek boundary.
7. Eric will continue the bird surveys within Tri-Creek.

Eric Epstein and Dick Thiel will be conducting a wood turtle and invasive species survey on April 23 (Monday) or alternative date April 26 (Thursday) – weather permitting.

The committee would like to wrap up the resource inventories by this spring/early summer.

Agenda item 1. Continue discussion on goals for the Tri-Creek property was briefly discussed and no additional goals were needed at this time.

Agenda item 3. Discuss options for plan writing. Several options were discussed and it was determined the best option would be to hire a plan writer. The process is the plan writer takes our information and provides drafts for the experts to review to ensure we include all resource inventories and managements needs for the property. Eric Epstein will contact Armund Bartz for suggestions of potential plan writers.

In order to incorporate our management goals and develop a plan it was decided to use current management plans as templates to develop our own plan. Two plans were suggested for review: Coulee Experimental State Forest Master Plan and Kickapoo Valley Reserve Master Plan. Committee members are asked to review the two plans and suggest what we should include in the Tri-Creek plan. The links to the plans are: <http://kickapoovalley.wi.gov/About-Us/Publication-Documents/KVR-Master-Plan>
<http://dnr.wi.gov/about/nrb/2009/May/05-09-3B4.pdf>

The next meeting of the Tri-Creek Land Use Planning Committee is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 6, 2018 beginning at 1:00 PM** in the conference room at the Monroe County Land Conservation Department, 820 Industrial Drive, Suite 3, Sparta, WI.

At the next meeting we will determine what we want included in the Tri-Creek plan from the review of the Coulee Experimental State Forest Master Plan and Kickapoo Valley Reserve Master Plan templates.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ron Luethe