

CHEROKEE MARSH

MAP EXPLANATION
















Map B (for 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, see preceding discussion)

- 11) Oak forest on east side of hill, section 13, important not to develop nor to separate from the river by a road, because it provides major winter bird shelter, nest sites for hawks, and habitat for other upland wildlife using the river, as well as preserving a scenic backdrop for users of the river and the Cherokee Outdoor Education Area (for example, no light pollution at night, and no noise).
- 12) Old fields with scattered trees, in section 13. It is important to keep some of this area undeveloped and not separated from the river by a road, for use by birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and insects that need upland feeding or breeding areas, and for maintaining environmental activities noted under (11).
- 13) The portion of the Yahara River drowned when Lake Mendota was raised, with shallow turbid water, soft silt bottom, stumps of old swamp trees, inundated since 1912. The wetlands on the shores are of two sorts, either floating peat mats with cattails (Typha latifolia), bulrushes (Scirpus validus), bur reed (Sparganium eurycarpum), bur marigold (Bidens cernua), rice cutgrass (Leersia oryzoides), several sedges and rushes, and a few shrubs; or else firmer berms pushed up by ice action, with reed canary grass. Not all parts were examined in detail. The river is used now and then by migrating waterfowl; such use should greatly increase if mud from erosion in the watershed could be curtailed.
- 14) Cherokee Lake, in section 24, dredged a few years ago out of wet peaty and marly sedge meadows like (15).
- 15) Wet peaty quaky sedge meadow in section 13 south with some cattail and some fen plants and shrubs; it continues in several places on map C along the Yahara.
- 16) Hummocky disturbed fen, probably grazed once, red-osier dogwood coming in where bog birch was, shrubs becoming thicker in recent years, some fen plants persisting, some good examples of sedge meadow.
- 17) Small island knoll on shore in section 13 east, with bur oak (Quercus macrocarpa) opening, basswood (Tilia americana), shooting star (Dodecatheon meadia), turks cap lillies (Lilium michiganense), an Indian mound, with a springy spot to the north with wet elevated peat, sweetgrass (Hierochloe odorata), skunk cabbage, and some fen and river plants. Access will be limited in future by restricting the present road and boardwalk.

- 18) Very wet sedge meadow with species like Carex lacustris, C. aquatilis, and bur reed, crossed by boardwalk which is to be modified so as to provide a platform and not continue out to the island knoll (17).
- 19) Silted wet sedge meadow, section 13 NE.
- 20) Shrubs and quaking aspen (Populus tremuloides) thickets, section 13 NE.
- 21) Wet sedge meadow with small undisturbed spring ponds and springs, rare plants, will not be readily accessible with revised trail plan (in section 13 NE).
- 22) Shrubs including cathartic buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica), section 7 W.
- 23) Wet alder and willow areas, section 7 W.
- 24) Mowed sedge meadow, section 7, NE central.
- 25) Shrubby oak, cherry (Prunus serotina) and aspen woodlot; needs more study for possible relic woodland plants protected from grazing and fire (section 7, E center).
- 26) Oak-cherry woodlot, surrounded by wetlands (the cherry island) see comment on (25). Grades into fen, prairie and sedge meadow on S, SW, and W. (Section 7, W center).
- 27) Very hummocky Carex stricta sedge meadow in section 7, W center.
- 28) Three small wet-mesic prairies, with good plant diversity (one in section 13 SE, two S and W of the cherry island in center section 7). Access will be controlled.
- 29) North-sloping old field with view to north and east over the marsh; good area (with shelter house) for high-intensity youth education on hilltop, for protecting upland grassland bird nesting on slopes during April-July, and for class use in fall (section 7 NW).
- 30) Old homestead site and quarried side of limestone hill with disturbed vegetation such as reed canary grass, used by snakes, needs protection (section 7 W).
- 31) Old field in section 13 SE, mostly to be reserved for upland open country bird nesting during April-July and class use in fall, some prairie restoration, and possible future nature center site at west edge.

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MAP KEY

-  Shallow marsh; cattail, bur reed, often mixed with sedges.
-  Sedge meadow.
-  Grazed sedge meadow.
-  Sod farm.
-  Fen.
-  Shrubs.
-  Tamaracks.
-  Wetland disturbance vegetation, usually predominantly reed canary grass.
-  Old field, prairie.
-  Woods.
-  Cultivated.
-  Mowed lawns, parks.
-  Developed and developing.
-  Quarry and landfill.
-  Spring.