



BLOMBERG LAKE WETLAND TYPES

Open bog example — David Schwaegler

Open bog, coniferous bog, marsh

BURNETT COUNTY



BLOMBERG LAKE

Property Owner: WDNR

Recognitions & Designations: WI State Natural Area, WI Land Legacy Place, WI Wildlife Action Plan Reference Site

Funding for this project provided by The McKnight Foundation, which seeks to improve the quality of life for present and future generations through grantmaking, coalition-building and encouragement of strategic policy reform.

ECOLOGY & SIGNIFICANCE

This Wetland Gem features a northern bog lake surrounded by a few hundred acres of coniferous bog and other wetland habitats within the Amsterdam Sloughs State Wildlife Area in northern Wisconsin. The site is part of a sandy glacial plain that was once the bottom of a huge glacial lake occupying the area 10,000 years ago. The small (68-acre), shallow Blomberg Lake has a maximum depth of four feet and is covered in some areas by marsh vegetation. The high quality wetlands at Blomberg Lake provide exceptional wildlife habitats for a variety of birds, amphibians, mammals and more.

FLORA & FAUNA

Marsh habitats on the lake are characterized by white and yellow water lily and large-leaved pondweed. Coniferous bog surrounding the lake is dominated by tamarack with a few black spruce trees. The understory varies from Labrador tea to bog rosemary to three-seeded sedge to alder. Pitcher plant and small

cranberry are also present. The groundlayer changes moving away from the lakeshore towards the upland edge of these wetlands, shifting to plants like bluejoint grass, drooping wood reed, bristly sedge, woollyfruit sedge, yellow bluebead lily, sweet gale, marsh skullcap, and American starflower.

Blomberg Lake supports abundant and rich wildlife. Migratory waterfowl and shorebirds, in particular, are attracted to these high quality wetlands. Birds common here include ring-necked duck, common yellowthroat, yellow-headed blackbird, and common loon. A number of trumpeter swans, a species that has been the focus of intensive recovery efforts, also use these wetlands.

THREATS

Increased recreation, and infrastructure construction to support new recreation in the Amsterdam State Wildlife Area, may affect sensitive habitats at this site. Heavy deer browsing pressure threatens the regeneration of the site's conifer trees.

ACCESS

Visit the Wisconsin State Natural Areas Program website: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/sna.



Common loon — Patrick Ready

Sources:

Wisconsin State Natural Areas Program (WDNR)
Wisconsin Land Legacy Report (WDNR)
Wisconsin's Strategy for Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need (WDNR)