



SAVAGE-ROBAGO LAKES WETLAND TYPES

Coniferous swamp, alder thicket, fen, marsh

Jeremy Holtz



ECOLOGY & SIGNIFICANCE

This Wetland Gem site features several small lakes – Savage Lake, Robago Lake, Dorothy Lake, and Mud Lake – which collectively are considered one of the finest remaining wild lakes complexes in Wisconsin. The diverse and high quality wetland habitats that surround and connect these lakes are what give this lake complex its exceptional wild character. This Wetland Gem site includes the Haley Creek Swamp State Natural Area and is a part of the larger Pine-Popple Wild Rivers Area, a designation given by the state legislature to only three rivers. Wetlands of this site, along with many other wetlands acres in this corridor, are critical to the health and quality of these beautiful and valuable rivers.

FLORA & FAUNA

Old-growth coniferous swamp, alder thicket, fen and marsh habitats make up this undisturbed wetland complex. The canopy of the coniferous swamp habitats

is dominated by black spruce, northern white cedar, and tamarack. The site boasts a diversity of wetland plants and supports numerous rare plant species.

This Wetland Gem and the Wild Rivers Area provide excellent wildlife habitat. Notable bird species include red-shouldered hawk, bald eagle, osprey, northern goshawk, spruce grouse and many songbirds including the rare boreal chickadee. The area also supports wood turtle, mink frog and red-backed salamander.

THREATS

Recreational use may impact the site's affect sensitive wetland resources. Heavy deer browsing pressure threatens the regeneration of the site's conifer trees.

ACCESS

This area provides many exceptional opportunities for outdoor recreation. For details, visit the Florence Wild Rivers Interpretive Center website: www.florencewisconsin.com/Attractions/interpretive_center.htm.

SAVAGE-ROBAGO LAKES

Property Owner: WDNR
Recognitions & Designations: WI Land Legacy Place,
part of the Pine-Popple Wild Rivers Area, WI State
Natural Area

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.



Northern goshawk — Scott Franke



Red-backed salamander — Jerry DeBoer