



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

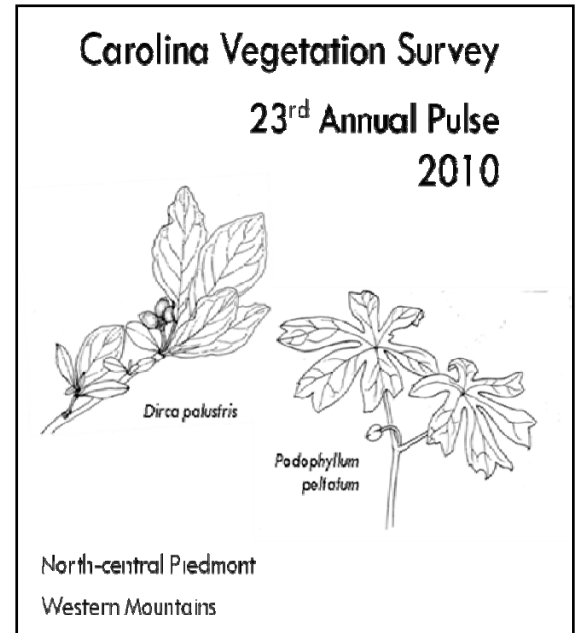
THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY
THE CAROLINA VEGETATION SURVEY

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DATE: 12 April 2009
TO: Prospective PULSE-2010 Participants
FROM: The Carolina Vegetation Survey
SUBJECT: AN INVITATION!

The Carolina Vegetation Survey cordially invites you to attend PULSE-2010, the 23rd Annual Carolina Vegetation Survey Field Foray. To our many friends from past pulse events, we extend our thanks for your support and invite you to work with us again. To those who have not attended a Pulse, we hope you'll consider joining us for the first time this year. In either case, please read on. . .



Candidate image for the 2010 Pulse T-shirt

Please note: There will be **two** Pulse events in 2010. This invitation covers in detail the **first event**, and provides preliminary information about the second.

1. The first Pulse event, PULSE2010A, will be held **May 15-May 22 throughout the north-central Piedmont of North Carolina (Rockingham - Vance Counties)**. Our principal objective for the May 2010 Pulse will be to inventory a wide variety of northern Piedmont sites. We have arranged lodging (at no cost to you) at the Hyco Lake Camp Site outside of Roxboro, NC. Details about this Pulse follow below.
2. The second Pulse event, PULSE2010B, will be held **June 13-June 20 throughout North Carolina's undersampled western mountains**. We will focus our efforts during the first half of the event in the vicinity of Madison and northern Buncombe Counties; we have arranged lodging (June 12PM-June 16AM) at Mars Hill College, in Mars Hill, NC. During the second half of the event, we will focus our efforts in Cherokee County; we have arranged lodging at Peace Valley Campground, in Marble, NC (between Murphy and Andrews, NC) (June 16PM-June 20AM). Details will be forthcoming...

Now, for more about PULSE2010A...

WHAT IS PULSE?

For those of you not familiar with the Pulse events, each year the Carolina Vegetation Survey organizes one or more group efforts to study intensively the vegetation of some natural region within North and/or South Carolina. All persons interested in vegetation and/or field botany are invited to participate for as many days as is convenient. Any level of experience is appropriate; the only requirement is that you bring your enthusiasm for field work. The annual "Pulses" of the CVS have become established as special events for those interested in the natural history of the Carolinas. We sample a wide variety of natural communities in areas well known for their biological diversity. Many of these areas are not readily accessible without special arrangements with landowners/managers. This is an ideal way to see new and exciting areas, meet others interested in botany and ecology, and to share knowledge and experience. (Descriptions of past Pulses have ranged from "Boot Camp for Botanists" to "Woodstock for Botanists" to "Extreme Botany".)

References:

- 1) <http://cvs.bio.unc.edu/press.htm> (press coverage)
- 2) <http://cvs.bio.unc.edu/pulse/PulsePix.pdf> (photos)
- 3) <http://cvs.bio.unc.edu/PULSE2006-9.ppt> (slide show)
- 4) <http://cvs.bio.unc.edu/pulses.htm> (general info.)

PULSE 2010A

Pulse 2010A will focus on plant communities throughout the north-central Piedmont of North Carolina. Our sampling range will include Rockingham, Caswell, Person, and northern Granville, and Vance Counties. We have rented facilities at Hyco Lake Camp Site for lodging and as our headquarters. Please see the following website for more information (<http://www.hycolake.com/Camping.htm>). **The dates will be Saturday, May 15 through Saturday, May 22.**

We anticipate visiting a broad range of vegetation types. You can expect mixed mesic hardwood forests, basic mesic forests, dry-mesic oak-hickory forests, dry oak-hickory forests, xeric hardpan forests, Piedmont monadnock forests, acidic and basic glades, Piedmont levee forests, heath bluffs, Piedmont alluvial swamps, and upland depression swamps. **If you have nominations of particular places we should visit, please send them our way.**

SCHEDULE

Our Pulse base camp will be the campground facilities at the Hyco Lake Public Area and Camp Sites, run by the Person-Caswell Lake Authority, and located just northeast of Osmond, NC. We have reserved rooms from the night of Friday, May 14 through the morning of Saturday, May 22. There is no charge to you for use of these accommodations. The website of the Hyco Lake facilities can be found here: <http://www.hycolake.com/Camping.htm>. Those wishing to participate in this Pulse may begin working with us on any day and stay as long as desired (any length of time from one day to the full eight days). Our first day in the field will be Saturday, May 15. The best plan would be to

arrive the night before the first day you plan to work. For those of you interested in joining us for the first day of field work, our first night at Hyco Lake base camp (see directions below) will be Friday, May 14. If you prefer to join us in the morning, please be ready to leave for the field from the base camp no later than 7:30 AM on the morning you wish to start. Our last scheduled day in the field will be Saturday, May 22, but we do not have overnight facilities rented for that night.

REGISTRATION

Although our accommodations allow us some flexibility in the number of people staying with us, we would appreciate you contacting Forbes Boyle (mboyle@unc.edu, 919-265-7505), Bob Peet (peet@unc.edu, 919-962-6942) or Tom Wentworth (tom_wentworth@ncsu.edu, 919-515-2168) in advance of the Pulse to let us know of your plans. Notifying us of your plans will also help us with advance planning for teams. However, do not let failure to notify us keep you from participating. We will be happy to have you participate, even if you did not get around to indicating your interest in advance.

THE DETAILS: LODGING, MEALS, AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Individuals are responsible for their own meals. We will have access to full kitchen facilities (large refrigerator, stove, pantry) located in the Community Building at the Hyco Lake Camp Site. Furthermore, each sleeping cabin is equipped with a small refrigerator. We'll eat breakfast at the camp, and leave promptly for the field each morning. We'll take our field lunches with us (bring plenty to drink), and then typically eat out for dinner, although those wishing to prepare their own dinner meals at the camp are welcome to do so.

You must come prepared to make up your own bed. A light sleeping bag would be a simple solution, or you can bring your own linens. Don't forget towels, pillow, pillowcase, toiletries, etc. Tent camping is welcome.

We will adhere to standard rules of conduct and state park rules (e.g., illegal conduct, illegal substances, weapons of any kind, and public nudity are not permitted). No smoking in any building (smokers are responsible for ashes and butts outdoors). Candles or other open flames are prohibited in any building. On the other hand, it is perfectly acceptable, and even encouraged, to stay up to late hours collaboratively identifying plant fragments brought back from the field.

DIRECTIONS TO HYCO LAKE CAMP SITE (map = <http://tiny.cc/wpqhc>)

Hyco Lake Camp Site is located on the Person-Caswell County line
(Address: Pointer Drive. Leasburg NC 27291; Office Phone: 336-599-4343)

Driving directions from Greensboro:

- Take US-29 North
- In Reidsville, merge onto US -158 North (towards Yanceyville, NC)
- About 10 miles east of Yanceyville and a mile east of Leasburg, take a left onto Solomon Lea Rd.
- Stay on Solomon Lea thru Osmond, NC. Road changes to Kelly Brewer Road.
- About 2 miles north of Osmond, NC, turn left onto Pointer Dr.
- Cabins are at the dead end of Pointer Drive. (loop)



Driving directions from Durham:

- Take US-501 North
- In Roxboro, NC, take NC-57 North
- About 10 miles north of Roxboro, turn left onto Kelly Brewer Road.
- In 1/10th of a mile, take right onto Pointer Dr.
- Cabins are at the dead end of Pointer Drive. (loop)



CVS CONTACTS

Website: <http://cvs.bio.unc.edu/>

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SAFETY AND PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

The Pulse events have an excellent safety record, and we ask your assistance in our efforts to make PULSE2010 safe for all participants. If you are unfamiliar with hazards associated with field work, please consult with one of the coordinators. As you plan for PULSE2010, please keep in mind the conditions we will experience. The weather this time of year in the Carolinas is generally quite warm, and rainfall may be plentiful. Please equip yourself accordingly. A daypack with the basics for fieldwork is a necessity. Keep in mind that we typically eat lunch in the field, so plan to bring lots to drink and a bag lunch. Ticks and chiggers are generally a problem during the warmer months in the Carolinas. We recommend that you come equipped with a roll of duct tape for sealing pants legs to boots, if needed. Also bring whatever insect repellent/killer you prefer to use (100% DEET products are good repellents).

Pulse includes intensive field work in small groups of 3-5 persons. It is important that all participants share the spirit of collegial inquiry and discovery, that individuals respect the rights and feelings of others, and that all data be recorded as accurately and completely as possible. Participants who are concerned about activities or performance of other participants should immediately report such concerns to one of the organizers. The organizers reserve the right to limit the level of participation of any individual so as to assure the overall well being of the other participants and the quality of the data acquired. Participants should understand that participation in the Pulse events is voluntary and may involve risks including but not limited to motor vehicle accidents and other potential personal injuries and property damage. Participants must assume responsibility for all risks. Further, participants must indemnify and hold harmless the coordinators of the pulse events and their employers from any liability arising from or proximately caused by participation. You will be asked to sign a liability waiver before participating in PULSE2010.