Document Spring project protocol 2019

Figure 1. Student from Wrenshall High School on 2018 safari - Carlton Trail trailhead - JCSP . Photograph 2:15 pm, May 10, 2018 by G. Swanson.

Quick reference guide:

1. Project title
2. Project goals
3. Project partners
4. Sampling year
5. Equipment
6. Data to collect
7. Geographic scope
8. Seasonal scope
9. Data storage/record keeping
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Appendix 1: Weather Observation Protocol

1. Project Title:

Document Spring 2019

2. Project goals:

The primary goal of the Document Spring project is to photographically document seasonal events of spring within Carlton County, Minnesota using curiosity, photography, and creativity. The secondary goal is to improve students' ability to observe and photographically document their surroundings.

This protocol establishes project baselines to promote consistency from one year to the next. The protocol outlines broad project boundaries and adds geospatial and temporal data to the photographical data. Both of these will help to track seasonal and annual change for our area of interest. Additionally, including space and time data with each photo will ensure our data can be added to larger citizen science projects, such as iNaturalist, Nature's Notebook, and others.

3. Project sponsors

Oldenburg House, Minnesota Power, City of Carlton, Magnolia Cafe

4. Project partners

Oldenburg House, Jay Cooke State Park (JCSP), Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, Superior Hiking Trail Association,

5. Sampling year:

This protocol is intended for sampling year 2019.

The intent of the project is to continue as long as possible. If necessary, update the protocol with any changes for subsequent sampling years. Maintain old protocols for the life of the project in order to document protocol changes.

6. Equipment:

- Camera (ideal to have one that can collect metadata, including geolocation, with photo)
- GPS (if location data collection not available on camera)

7. Data to collect:

- Photograph
- Metadata about each photograph collected
    - Location (northing and easting GPS coordinates ideal; e.g. 46.663734N, -92.418188E)
    - Name of sampling area may be okay (e.g. Oldenburg House, Oldenburg point)
    - Time photo was collected – include day, month, year
    - Name of photographer

Additional data

Whenever possible, record additional data for each photograph that can be added as a caption. These data may include weather conditions, such as temperature (degrees Fahrenheit), cloudiness, precipitation (See Appendix 1), at time when photograph was collected and the focal species in photograph.

8. Geographic scope:

The general area in which data should be collected is Carlton County MN with a focus on Jay Cooke State Park (see Figure 2). Data will be collected at four focus areas within Jay Cooke State Park to be determined during scheduled nature safaris occuring on the following dates and times:

1. April 22, 9:00 am - 11:00 am | Jay Cooke State Park - River Inn / HQ area
2. April 26, 9:00 am - 11:00 am | Jay Cooke State Park TBD
3. May 3, 9:00 am - 11:00 am | Jay Cooke State Park TBD
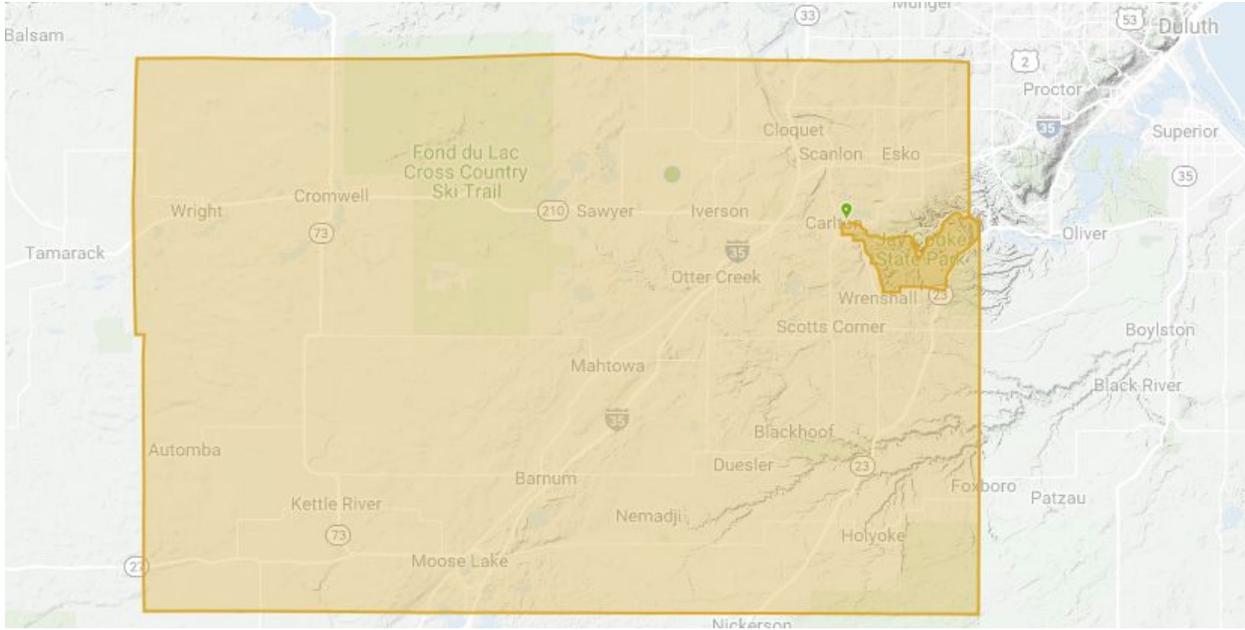4. May 10, 9:00 am - 11:00 am | Jay Cooke State Park TBD

Figure 2. Carlton County, location of area in which data should be collected for Document Spring.

9. Seasonal scope:

Data should be collected anytime during April 15 through May 31. A minimum of one field data collection trip should be conducted in this window; there is no maximum number of field data collection trips.

10. Data storage/record keeping:

Data storage and record keeping will be handled by the iNaturalist app on a Personal, Organization/School-wide, and Project-wide basis. Photos made be shared by participants to the project's facebook page https://facebook.com/documentspring . OACC Document Spring Project Administrator will archive photography and data periodically on present on the web at https://oacc.us .

11. iNaturalist

Photos of specific biological species can be uploaded to the Document Spring project with iNaturalist (https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/document-spring-oacc, last accessed March 14, 2019).

To create your user account consult the iNaturalist app or webpage

To be added to the Document Spring project, register directly here: register with project admin

12. Document Spring celebration

May 18, 11 a.m. at the Oldenburg Point shelter at Jay Cooke State Park.

Oldenburg House, Document Spring project protocol
2019 March 16

Appendix 1: Weather observation protocol

Weather condition at time of protocol could be potentially useful information. Record one number from the "Sky Condition Code" (listed below) for each photograph.

Temperature

Record temperature in Fahrenheit at the time of photo collection.

Sky Condition Codes

1 – Clear or a few clouds (Less than 25% of sky has clouds)
2 – Partly cloudy (scattered) or variable sky (between 25 – 50% of sky has clouds)
3 – Cloudy or overcast (greater than 50% of sky has clouds)
4 – Fog or smoke
5 – Drizzle
6 – Snow
7 – Intermittent showers

The above codes are adapted from the National Breeding Bird Survey protocol section 12 on "Sky Condition Codes." See full protocol for more detail (available at https://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/participate/instructions.html, last accessed April 25, 2018). See the the National Weather Service forecast terms for further detail (available at https://www.weather.gov/bgm/forecast_terms, last accessed April 25, 2018).

Appendix 2: Document Spring Online Resources

Document Spring Webpage - https://oacc.us/projects/document-spring
iNaturalist project page -   https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/document-spring-oacc
Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com/documentspring/
iNaturalist teacher's guides https://www.inaturalist.org/pages/teacher's+guide
Teacher/School Registration
https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eg5049wka159016a&oseq=&c=&ch=
iNaturalist Account Signup https://www.inaturalist.org/signup
Document Spring User/Contributor Signup
https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eg5x7mz61c4b1a52&oseq=&c=&ch=

Appendix 3: Copyright - iNaturalist Profile and Account Settings

Copyright setting information relevant to images, observations and sound can be found under account and profile tab in the dropdown menu under your profile picture (desktop or laptop view) and manually reset to desired settings - default is copyright protected.