



2009 Wisconsin Envirothon Wildlife Exam

1. The wood frog (*Rana sylvatica*) is a common woodland amphibian in Wisconsin. What are the four components of wood frog habitat and how do they use each one?

<u>Component</u>	<u>Use</u>
a.	
b.	
c.	
d.	

Team Code: _____

2. One factor affecting species diversity in a given habitat is the number of ecological niches that are available. In order to fill a specific ecological niche, an animal needs the right physical tools to most efficiently utilize it. You will be shown five birds. Match the bird to the correct food source.

Bird	Food Type
a.	
b.	
c.	
d.	
e.	

3. Look at the assorted birds. List those that naturally nest in tree cavities.

4. What is the most common reason for an animal species to become extinct?

5. Aquatic organisms are useful to conservationists as “biological indicators.” Finding which of these five (5) species would best indicate a healthy trout stream?

6. Looking at the mammal skins on display, which of these species regularly climb trees?

7. As a group, what class of vertebrates has the greatest biomass per acre in a healthy mesic deciduous forest?

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8. The complexity of a given habitat has a major impact on its biodiversity. Why does *Phragmites australis* impact the wildlife in areas of Wisconsin where it is found?

9. What is the difference between species biodiversity and genetic biodiversity?

10. Habitat fragmentation is a major factor affecting biodiversity and has allowed this mounted bird to negatively impact other native bird species. What is this bird and how does it affect other birds?

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11. Water temperature, pH, and turbidity can impact aquatic life. How can each of these criteria impact fish?

12. Looking at the sample mammal skulls, which species best fits the categories of carnivore, herbivore and omnivore?

Carnivore: _____

Herbivore: _____

Omnivore: _____

13. Listen to the song of one of the most common Neotropical migrant birds of Wisconsin forests. What bird is it, what is its gender, and why do so many birds sing during the breeding season?

14. What are four ways clear-cutting a square mile of upland forest could impact biodiversity?

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15. The area where we stand is a meeting place of two different forest types. What is the ecological term for this area between two adjacent ecological communities? Why is this area defined as one of these? Why is it important to wildlife?

16. Many scientists point to the extinct passenger pigeon, once the most common bird in North America, as an example of ecosystem collapse. What were three factors causing the complete extinction of this species?

TIE BREAKER

What is the name of Wisconsin's only venomous mammal?
