



DANE FOREST PARCEL PROJECT UPDATE “A Rare Find”

No. 2

October 9, 2009

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“You won’t believe what I found on the Dane parcel” spoke Russ Duncan, a biologist doing a bio-inventory last May. “Four-toad Salamanders!”

You also may never have heard of a Four-toed Salamander. This is the very first record in the Lakes Region, although they are common further south, While it’s not exactly a “spotted owl”, it does underscore the pristine condition of this land, and water.



The Four-toed Salamander is a relatively small salamander with adults typically only reaching lengths of 2 to 3.5 inches (5 to 10cm). As its name implies, the Four-toed Salamander can be readily identified from the presence of only four toes on each hind foot. Most other salamander species have five hind toes. Other distinguishing features of this species include a milk white belly that is peppered with black markings and a conspicuous constriction at the base of the tail. The dorsal surface is usually reddish-brown and its sides are typically grayish.

Four-toed Salamanders prefer forested habitats that contain suitable breeding sites, such as those forested wetlands found on the Dane parcel. Regionally, wide-spread habitat loss from land clearing has no doubt destroyed some of their native habitat, but not on the Dane parcel, thankfully.

If we are successful in conserving the Dane parcel, these locally-rare critters will continue to have a viable, and permanently protected, breeding area. Just one more reason this project is both timely, and important.

Center for Reptile & Amphibian Conservation and Management - Indiana-Purdue Univ.

Thanks to the donors listed on this page who have already made a financial commitment to protecting the region’s only known Four-toed Salamander colony.

Please help us spread the news by forwarding this document, and by adding those recipients to our email chain. Questions?
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Campaign Summary

Goal	\$ 625,000
Pledges	\$ 386,450
Remaining	\$ 238,550
	62% ...