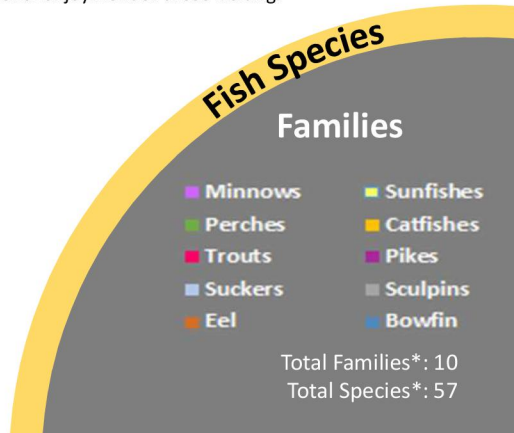


BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity, commonly conceptualized as the number and variety of species within a given area of interest, can be defined in many different ways. One can consider taxonomic diversity (i.e., the number of different species present), functional diversity (i.e., the number of different functions performed by the species present), or even morphological diversity (i.e., the number of different phenotypes of each species present). Regardless of how biodiversity is being assessed, ecologists generally agree that increased biodiversity leads to greater ecological health and stability for both the site and the surrounding area. For this project, we considered taxonomic diversity of fish species and functional diversity of bird species at the nine Centred Outdoors sites. The infographics above show the number of species in each of the respective groups below as a proportion of the total number of species observed at each site. Those sites possessing the greatest diversity of habitat types, furthest from intense human activity, were generally found to contain a greater diversity of species. This is important both for the ecological health of the site itself, and for the recreational enjoyment of those visiting.

Bird Diversity %

Fish Diversity %



Diversifying Your Options

Wildlife Biodiversity and Recreation Activities

Pennsylvania State University – Created for Centred Outdoors

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