Minutes from the SAB Ecological Processes Subcommittee (October 18th Meeting)

1.) Concentrate resources on Issue No. 1.: Examine CWH documents and critique
   - Define CWH and develop using existing definition, in addition to all NJDEP available resources (e.g. Landscape Project Mapping, NHP maps of plants and unique ecological communities – Natural Heritage Priority Sites, Other). Dave Golden to provide 1.) Landscape Project Map, 2.) NHP Maps (Bob Cartica or Kathleen Walz – DEP-ONLM), 3.) Natural Heritage Priority Sites, 4.) Supporting Documents (?)
   - Need to prioritize areas that should be included statewide, such as look at areas that, if developed/disturbed, would not result in negative impacts to species populations, or no net losses in habitat value.
   - Need State’s definitions of “endangered”, “threatened”, and “special concern”
   - Should examine broad approach to protect animal and plant communities; rules are heavily weighted to bird and vertebrate protection
   - Examine how Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) is delineated; find case law where definitions are challenged

2.) Mitigation: When the above issue is resolved, this issue can be examined.
   - Bring in NJDEP Land Use Mitigation Unit to discuss how state operates with respect to the above

3.) ORV (Issue No. 2):
   - Examine technical criteria on how sites should be selected, on State Lands, for legal ORV use
   - Need position statement that supports/does NOT support legal ORV activity on State Lands

4.) Meeting Dates: Early December for discussion of preliminary findings; Dr. DeVito to coordinate with SAB and NJDEP

SAB Members in Attendance:
   - Emile DeVito, Chair
   - Carolyn Bentivegna
   - Paul Bologna
   - Paul Bovitz
   - Robert Hoke
   - Jonathan Kennen
   - Nai-chia Luke
   - Peter Morin
   - Zeyuan Qui
   - Michael Weinstein