

Thesis

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Hypothesis

- the small mammal species composition in different cover types of Seneey National Wildlife Refuge can be predicted by specific habitat characteristics, which I will determine in this study
- I expect some of the variables most important to small mammals are coarse woody debris, basal area, and tree density
- my findings will allow refuge managers to identify ecosystem variables that influence the composition of small mammal communities
- the identification of these variables will allow more effective restoration activities

The Study Site

- Seney National Wildlife Refuge,
 - established in 1935
 - consists of 95,212 acres of a forest-wetland mosaic
 - 25,150 acres of Seney Wilderness Area
 - Great Manistique Swamp
 - forested areas of spruce, pine, tamarack, fir, and hardwoods
- Refuge's objectives are
 - to maintain biodiversity
 - to provide habitat for native wildlife