

Species 1: barred owl

Species 2: white-tailed deer

Species 3: eastern fox squirrel

Species 4: bluegill

Your task is to choose the wildlife management practices that are appropriate for each species as if it were the **only species** considered on the site.

This is an INDIVIDUAL activity. NO talking or collaboration among team members is allowed.

You have 35 minutes to complete this activity.

Scenario

Your family recently purchased this lake-front property as a place where the whole family can get together during vacations. This 100-acre property includes the lake as well as the forested land surrounding the property. As of right now, there are no buildings on the property, but as lake owner, you are responsible for the spillway and levee. As the young biologist in the family, your family has asked that you plan out the appropriate management actions to meet the vision of the family as a whole. In particular, your grandparents are interested in birds of prey, and thus, your goal is to benefit owls and similar species. Because those birds rely on small mammals, the family is concerned about the amount of deer and how it may be impacting the vegetation. Along those lines, you are interested in increasing fox squirrels to benefit other large birds of prey such as eagles. Lastly, your family really enjoys fishing so you would like to improve the bluegill population for future fishing opportunities, however some preliminary seine sampling you just completed revealed that there are no recently hatched bluegills and lots of intermediate bluegills in poor condition. Some other information you have collected so far is that there is no sign of livestock on the property, the spillway is in good condition, however there is no current system in place to control the water levels. Given all this information, your goal is to identify management practices to incorporate over the next year to restore and/or increase native wildlife and fisheries habitat for benefit the 4 species listed above.

