Conservation Design, BioFinder and related web sites
7/16/24

What is the Vermont Conservation Design (VCD)?

Vision - *Vermont Conservation Design 2024 is the data and the vision that identifies features at the landscape and natural community scales that are necessary for maintaining an ecologically functional landscape – a landscape that conserves current biological diversity and allows species to move and shift in response to climate and land-use changes.*

- At the landscape scale, users can see patterns in Vermont's forests, waterways, and the places that connect both into functional networks. At the community scale appear significant natural communities, lakes representing high quality examples of different lake types, and similar important features that are vital to assemblages of plants and animals. Finally, a user can see components that support individual species—the habitats and locations on which rare and uncommon species rely, for example. On the map, community and species scale components are combined.

- At all scales, VCD identifies locations of ecological priority. These are divided into "priority" or "highest priority" areas, to allow users to make informed decisions about the locations most suitable for development and those on which to focus conservation efforts.
- What makes VCD unique, is that instead of looking at one ecological component at a time—wetlands, rare species, large forest blocks, etc.—VCD takes a holistic approach, identifying how these components work together to create a functional network of habitat that can be used by most Vermont species. In other words, all components are combined at each scale to identify overall priorities.
- BioFinder is the interactive webmap that host the Vermont Conservation Design data.

Story Map Tutorial
https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/dbf37226d46c42d2b17ca2d939a5521e

Excellent Conservation Design youtube tutorial:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-Smv2zyU88

Excellent BioFinder youtube tutorial:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYVAOXaCAkk

The BioFInder program:
https://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/BioFinder4/

Additional Information:
https://anr.vermont.gov/maps-and-mapping/biofinder
https://anr.vermont.gov/maps/biofinder/creating-and-design

<u>Additional mapping web sites</u>

<u>General:</u>
https://maps.vermont.gov/vcgi/html5viewer/?viewer=vtmapviewer
https://www.trailfinder.info/

<u>VCGI Repository:</u>
https://maps.vcgi.vermont.gov/parcelviewer/

<u>Richmond Map viewer:</u>
https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7ce182d1c7a7414a89f0974
4ab0fd2b1