

Office of Resource Conservation

State of Illinois

Grant Narrative

Project Number: T-84-D-1

Program Code: tba

Project Title:

Statewide Public Lands Native Forest & Woodland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project

Background:

Forests and woodlands were and are to this day a dominant feature on the Illinois landscape. Forests are defined as natural communities that are (or at least once were) dominated by trees with a heavy multiple-layered overstory and understory. Canopy cover is typically greater than 80% and they are generally located in landscape positions that offered protection at some level from frequent and/or intense fire. Tree growth forms in forests are mostly erect with relatively few low and/or horizontally spreading branches. Oaks are common species in the overstory, but other species may be common, especially in the sub-canopy and understory. Upland forests range in moisture class from dry to wet-mesic, though the latter is quite rare.

Woodlands are natural communities that are intermediate between forest and prairie. Canopy cover ranges from approximately 50% – 80% and the sub-canopy and understory ranges from open to almost non-existent depending on natural fire frequency and/or edaphic conditions which limit woody vegetation development. Woodlands typically were present on sites with shallow to moderately well-developed soils – the greater the soil development, the more important fire is in sustaining these communities.

Within the woodland natural community framework, 3 other natural community types are separately recognized based on edaphic conditions – flatwoods, barrens, and glades. Flatwoods occur on level or nearly level terrain and are underlain by a subsurface layer that limits permeability (hardpan). Soils are low in nutrients, and seasonally poor drainage results in perched water tables that limit drainage and plant root development. Ponding is common, especially in late winter and spring. Barrens are woodland openings resulting from edaphic conditions such as nutrient-poor soils, south-to southwest slope exposures, as well as fire. They are characterized by shallow, droughty soils, developed in thin loess and weathered bedrock or exposed glacial till. Glades are openings in forest or woodland habitats, caused by bedrock at or near the surface and typically a steep southern or western exposure. Soil is thin or absent entirely in parts and support a mosaic of stunted trees, shrubs, patches of herbaceous vegetation and open areas.

Statewide, forests accounted for approximately 40% of Illinois' original land cover; estimates are in the neighborhood of 14 million acres. Forests were especially prominent in three zones, the northern 1/6 of the state, west-central Illinois between the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, and southern Illinois. It is likely that these acreages also include the communities we now recognize as woodlands (including flatwoods, barrens, and glades). The former extent of woodlands and related habitats is poorly understood. As a whole, woodlands were probably one of the most widespread and characteristic habitats on the Illinois landscape. Likely many acres called 'forest' by early surveyors and land agents were what we would call woodlands today.

Currently, about 12% of Illinois is covered by forest, or approximately 4.5 million acres. An estimated 1.1 million acres of this is floodplain or bottomland forest and is treated in another restoration project (see below). The current acreage of woodlands, flatwoods, barrens and glades is much harder to specify. The Land Cover of Illinois (1999-2000) classified 615,000 acres as 'partial canopy / open woodland' but clearly many acres of these habitats have historically been converted to more closed stands through past land use and changes in fire frequencies. Degraded but restorable tracts of woodland habitats are likely classed as 'forest' by analysis of satellite imagery or ground-truthing.

About 7,000 acres (0.2%) of upland forest and woodland habitats are of high quality. Of the forests remaining in Illinois, most have been degraded, some extremely so, due to a variety of factors including historic grazing, past forestry practices, and altered fire regimes. Many formerly and currently oak-dominated forest and woodlands have been or are converting to stands of more mesophytic, fire-sensitive woody species such as sugar maple, ash, and elm. Between 1962 and 1985, sugar maples increased 41-fold while oaks decreased 14%. While oak and hickory are currently the major forest and woodland dominants in the state, the long term outlook for these vegetation types is problematic without restoration of the ecological processes to maintain these dominants in the future.

Of woodlands remaining in Illinois, many have been cleared, grazed, and harvested. More importantly, fire suppression has allowed remnant woodlands to convert to forest and second growth forests to arise from formerly degraded or destroyed woodlands. Indeed, some community ecologists suggest that there are more acres of 'forest' land cover in Illinois today than ever before, if the contribution of woodlands and woodland-type stands is removed from the historic estimates of 'forest cover'. Conversely, woodlands may be one of the most imperiled wooded land covers with vast acreages already cleared or converted to forest via fire suppression.

Most of the present day upland forests have been fragmented into small tracts, and the abundance of animal species that require large contiguous forested tracts to survive have declined. Small wooded parcels are also more susceptible to intrusion by invasive species of plants and animals (e.g. bush honeysuckle, brown-headed cowbirds). Available evidence suggests that few, if any, forested lands in Illinois are large enough to function as biological 'sources' for many (but not all) Neotropical migratory birds. It should also be noted that small forests and wooded lots as

well as narrow wooded riparian corridors are critical migratory stop-over habitat during spring and fall migrations.

For the purposes of this project, forest and woodlands refer to natural communities such as upland forests, sand forests, open woodlands, flatwoods, glades, and barrens. Floodplain or bottomland forest and savannas are not addressed by this project. Floodplain forests are currently being treated within the Public Lands Wetland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project T-81-D-1. Additionally, savannas, which the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan includes within the Forest Campaign, are included in the Public Lands Prairie and Savanna Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project T-76-D-1.

The General Assembly defines Illinois Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) powers and duties in Article 805 of the Civil Administrative Code 20 ILCS 805/805-1 et seq. which provides the framework for IDNR operations. Article 805 states that "the Department has the power to take all measures necessary for the conservation, preservation, distribution, introduction, propagation, and restoration of fish, mussels, frogs, turtles, game, wild animals, wild fowls and birds" (20 ILCS 805-805-100). Section 805-225 authorizes the conservation of natural and scenic areas, and Section 805-225 authorizes the development of recreational areas and facilities.

The Illinois Wildlife Action Plan (IWAP) was approved by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2005 (<http://dnr.state.il.us/orc/wildliferesources/theplan/home.htm>). The Plan is organized around Campaigns - sets of conservation actions, programs and strategies that seek to address the most widespread and the most urgent issues affecting wildlife and habitats, in an efficient, effective, and comprehensive manner. Four of these Campaigns are habitat-based to achieve both broad and specific conservation goals for Forests, Prairies, Wetlands, and Streams. The Plan identifies habitat areas that demonstrate the greatest conservation need and potential and establishes specific conservation goals for the enhancement and protection of these habitats and associated wildlife. Further, the Plan outlines 654 Species in Greatest Need of Conservation (SGNC), including, 433 invertebrates, 79 fish, 14 amphibians, 23 reptiles, 85 birds, and 20 mammals.

Need:

The Statewide Public Lands Native Forest and Woodlands Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project addresses conservation needs of the IWAP Forest Campaign. The purpose of this project is to enhance and increase native forest and woodland habitats on IDNR-owned public lands in Illinois in order to maintain and secure associated and characteristic native wildlife populations in these habitats with emphasis on Species in Greatest Need of Conservation (Illinois Wildlife Action Plan, 2005).

In addition to these species- and habitat-specific benefits, the project addresses the following Goals and Actions of the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan (IWAP pages listed):

1. Habitats Goals (pp. 46 – 48)
 - a. Forest Habitat Goals 1, 2, 3

- b. Open Woodland / Savanna / Barrens Habitat Goals 1, 2, 4
- 2. Campaigns Actions (pp. 67 – 87)
 - a. Forest Campaign Actions 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 2b, 2c, 7 (pp. 68-69)
 - b. Streams Campaign Actions 3a, 6 (p. 60-65)
 - c. Invasive Species Campaign Actions 3b (p. 81-83)
 - d. Land & Water Stewardship Campaign Actions 2a, 2b, 2c, 6 (p. 84-87)

This project will further address habitat-specific actions on most Natural Divisions in Illinois (IWAP, 2005; p. 119), especially those listed below:

- 1. Coastal Plain (p. 121)
- 2. Grand Prairie (p. 130)
- 3. Middle Mississippi Border (p. 160)
- 4. Shawnee Hills (p. 195)
- 5. Wabash Border (p. 221)
- 6. Western Forest-Prairie (p. 231)

Finally, the project will enhance and increase habitat for Species in Greatest Need of Conservation and state-endangered or threatened species listed in Appendix A.

Objectives:

By the end of this grant period, this project will maintain, enhance and develop 6,366 acres of forest and woodland habitats and their adjacent buffers using ecosystem-based natural community and habitat management practices on 15 IDNR-owned and -managed lands statewide (Figure 1, Table 1 below). These lands will include State Parks (SP), State Natural Areas (SNA), Illinois Nature Preserves under IDNR ownership (NP) and Land and Water Reserves under IDNR ownership (LWR).

Funds approved through this grant will be used to expand the restoration and stewardship of high quality wildlife habitats on these publically-owned lands to meet the goals and objectives set forth in the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan (IWAP). The focus of this initiative is suitable IDNR-owned sites. This primarily includes sites that 1) are listed on the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory, 2) provide suitable habitat for threatened and endangered species, 3) provide suitable habitat for multiple species in greatest need of conservation, 4) are protected in perpetuity through an Illinois Nature Preserve program, or 5) are within a designated Conservation Opportunity Area.

Types of activities to be accomplished under this project include habitat protection, habitat management, surveys to locate extant populations, monitoring effects of management practices and improving natural resource databases. The management and restoration of rare habitat types that contain unique assemblages of wildlife will also be targeted among different Natural Divisions and Section – Illinois’ equivalent of physiographic divisions (IWAP, 2005 p.119).

Expected Results or Benefits:

Focused natural resource management on publically-owned lands will insure that long-term IWAP and IDNR goals can be achieved, resulting in permanently-improved habitat conditions and enhanced wildlife populations for rare and declining forest and woodland species. Such lands will be critical components of any effort to recover rare species as well as to prevent declining species from reaching perilously low numbers, necessitating more intensive and expensive conservation efforts.

Improving forest and woodland habitat conditions on project sites will maintain and enhance targeted wildlife species populations, achieving the primary goal of the IWAP. Large land holdings in the public trust are the most important component of any long-term conservation action.

Benefits of this project will include:

- Maintained and enhanced forest and woodland habitat types and the associated Species in Greatest Need of Conservation to ensure their long-term survival in Illinois.
- Maintained and improved habitat structure, forest and woodland complexes, and large habitat blocks that support area-sensitive wildlife species; benefits that, with rare exception, are best achieved on public lands.
- Enhanced habitat for various non-target species of wildlife that will benefit from implemented conservation actions. Many wildlife species that are not Species in Greatest Need of Conservation will also benefit from habitat conditions created and maintained under this project.
- Actions taken under this project will implement effective and efficient practices for improving habitat conditions on the ground and will serve as models for other public landowners, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners state-wide.

Approach:

Programmatically, the IDNR Public Lands – Forest and Woodland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project will be modeled after its siblings “Public Lands Prairie and Savanna Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project” (T-76-D) and “Public Lands Wetland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project” (T-81-D). Both these efforts are modeled on the highly successfully federal aid project "Statewide Public Lands Wildlife Habitat Development Project" (W-76-D). This is a departure from older IDNR Public Lands SWG projects (pre-2010) and is designed to more efficiently and comprehensively address wildlife management concerns and needs based on the IWAP Habitat Campaigns. This revised structure will also permit more focused efforts on forest and woodland Conservation Opportunity Areas (COA) as well as facilitate necessary monitoring and follow-up management.

The Project will implement management actions on entire sites or major areas of sites that are focused specifically on forest and woodland habitats and associated Species in Greatest Need of Conservation. Many of these sites are currently part of forest and woodland COAs as defined in the Illinois Wildlife Action Plan (e.g. Siloam Springs State Park). It is anticipated as this project is amended, more sites will be included in the project, including the remainder of the forest and woodland COAs. This will create a single federal aid project that addresses the habitat needs of forest and woodland wildlife, especially SGNC, on public lands statewide.

Sentinel and implementation monitoring (sensu IWAP, 2005; p.98-99) will be carried out on a regular basis as part of overall project management. Effectiveness monitoring will be more efficiently and effectively carried out under agency-wide protocols which are beyond the scope of this single project and are more appropriately addressed in conjunction with the larger IWAP implementation and coordinated with conservation partners.

Within this project, IDNR and its partners will use the following conservation practices to maintain existing and realize improved high-quality forest and woodland habitats and associated wildlife benefits (Table 2). The IDNR's annual plan of work process, which includes site staff from the Office of Land Management and biologists from the Office of Resource Conservation, will be used for each of the sites listed in Table 1 to annually define the site specifics (i.e. location, timing, design, construction schedule, funding, workforce, etc.) for the following conservation practices.

- Hydrology Restoration

Details – The restoration of natural or manageable hydrologic conditions can correct degradation in wetlands and the loss of wetland features (e.g. ephemeral pools) important to some Species in Greatest Need of Conservation, most notably amphibians, crayfish, and some invertebrates (all within applicable laws and with necessary permits; see section “Compliance”, paragraph 4). All planning, implementation, and monitoring/evaluation activities will be included in this practice including groundwater monitoring.

Until any projects are designed, we will not know the extent of the permits required. Our budget and time frame puts significant limits on the magnitude of any such projects. We are not thinking about major projects; we are primarily addressing very local hydrological conditions to improve site-specific hydrology such as small ephemeral pools (see below).

Restoration of vernal ephemeral pools will be limited to the removal of previously placed fill or drain tiles in existing wetland basins, placement of water control structures, and/or development of ephemeral or vernal pools (*A Guide to Creating Vernal Ponds* (Biebighauser 2002), *Habitat Management Guidelines for Amphibians and Reptiles of the Midwest* (Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation 2002) and the *Illinois Landowner's Guide to Amphibian Conservation* (Szafoni et al. 2002). The maximum surface area of disturbance for the restoration of ephemeral pools will be less than 5 acres with no more than 5 wetlands restored by the removal of fill at any project site.

- Prescribed Fire

Details - Prescribed fire involves the planned application of fire to meet specific management goals. Prescribed fire may be used to control the invasion or spread of exotic and/or invasive species, control succession, maintain forest and woodland habitat structure, and promote the regeneration of associated plant species. The prescribed burning activities include planning, preparation, implementation and monitoring/evaluation of the prescribed burn and its impacts. All DNR-led prescribed fires will be conducted under the Department's Prescribed Burn Policy (IDNR Policy and Procedure Manual Chapter 5D, Section 2) and all Burn Bosses will be State Certified under the Illinois Prescribed Burn Act (525 ILCS 37) and its Administrative Rules (Title 17 Chapter 1d part 1565).

- Invasive Woody Plant Control

Details - Invasive woody plant control is the planned mechanical removal, elimination or thinning of woody plant material that has invaded a project area. Such control frequently, but not exclusively, includes follow-up application of appropriate herbicides to control resprouting, preparation and monitoring/evaluation of efforts. Control methods will include removal or thinning of target invasive and/or exotic woody plants depending on the management goals. Techniques will include cut-stump, basal bark, and foliar applications using approved herbicides and state-licensed applicators. The control methods applied shall be those that are most effective in meeting the desired goal, have a minimal adverse impact on non-target species and are most cost efficient. Those methods may include mechanical cutting or removal of brush with tractor mounted mowers, bulldozer, hand operated brush cutters, and chainsaws. Application of appropriate herbicides using cut stem, injection, basal bark and foliar methods, or a combination of methods. All activities, supplies and equipment needed to plan, implement and evaluate a woody plant control effort at a project site will be included. All invasive woody plant control on state owned land will be approved through the annual site resource planning process and included on the site's annual plan of work.

- Invasive Exotic Species Control

Details - Invasive exotic species control is the planned removal, elimination or reduction of invasive exotic species. Invasive exotic species include woody and herbaceous plants. Such control frequently, but not exclusively, includes follow-up application of appropriate herbicides to control resprouting, preparation and monitoring/evaluation of efforts. Control methods will include removal or thinning of target invasive and/or exotic woody plants depending on the management goals. Techniques will include cut-stump, basal bark, and foliar applications using approved herbicides and state-licensed applicators. The control methods applied in a specific project site shall be those that will be effective in meeting the desired goal, have a minimal adverse impact on non-target species, and are cost efficient. Application of appropriate herbicides using cut stem, injection, basal bark and foliar methods, or a combination of methods. All activities, supplies and equipment needed to plan, implement and monitor/evaluate an invasive exotic species control effort at a project site will be included. All invasive exotic species control will be approved through the annual site resource planning process and included on the site's annual plan of work.

- Erosion/sedimentation control

Details - The control of erosion or sedimentation resulting from unnatural disturbances may be undertaken at some project sites. Erosion and sedimentation can lead to the direct elimination of habitat for at-risk species. The erosion control methods applied in a project site shall be those that will be effective in meeting the desired goal, have a minimal adverse impact on native species, and are cost efficient. Methods to be employed may include a combination of planting of native covers and installation of appropriate structures (e.g. check dams, Dozier valves, etc). Such control measures will be developed to site-specific needs based on an assessment of the biotic and abiotic conditions by geomorphologists and/or erosion specialists and NRCS Technical Guidelines when appropriate. All necessary local, state, and federal permits will be obtained as required by each projects specification (see Section “Compliance”, paragraph 4). All activities and materials needed to plan, implement and monitor/evaluate erosion/sedimentation control projects may be included in this practice.

- Habitat Creation/Reconstruction/Enhancement: Planting and Maintenance

Details – Planting of seed, started plants, rootstock, and seedlings/whips is used to establish new habitat and restore or enhance existing habitats. Existing high quality habitats shall not be adversely impacted by such projects (e.g. over collection of seed). Restoration and enhancement of forest and woodland habitats may include appropriate native trees, shrubs, grasses and herbs. All activities included in planning, obtaining plant material, planting, maintenance of newly planted stock and monitoring/evaluating the success of habitat creation/restoration/planting will be included in this practice. All planting projects will be approved through the annual site resource planning process and included on the site’s annual plan of work.

- Boundary Protection/Fence Repair

Details - Project sites may be impacted from external intrusions from livestock, off road vehicles, and people at or near the site. These intrusions can cause direct harm to resources within a preserve or may result in degraded habitat conditions (e.g. increased erosion, spread of exotic or invasive species). Boundary protection includes the finding, delineating and marking of boundaries and the construction or repair of a fence or barrier if necessary. All activities and supplies needed to implement boundary protection may be included in this project. Land surveys will be conducted by licensed land surveyors.

Project Duration: September 1, 2013 – June 30, 2017

Location:

Table 1. Public Lands Native Forest and Woodland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project Sites and Acres. Project areas in parentheses have their acreage included within the site listed above them.

SITE NAME	ACRES	SITE NAME	ACRES
Starved Rock State Park		Pere Marquette SP	
Starved Rock NP	662	St Andrew Ridge Woods NP	300
		McAdams Peak LWR	450
Kickapoo SRA		Pere Marquette Jersey 047 NA	100
Kinney's Ford Seep LWR	35	Pere Marquette Jersey 048 NA	100
Middle Fork Woods NP	78		
Little Vermilion River LWR	1136	Ferne Clyffe State Park	
(Georgetown Addition)		Wise Ridge NA	555
(Carl Flierman's River NP)		Cedar/Draper Bluff LWR	1275
Beaver Dam SP	400	Fort Massac SP	
		Cretaceous Hills NP	230
Siloam Springs SP	900		
		Trail of Tears SF	
		Berryville Shale Glade NP	40
		Cave-in-Rock SP	
		Collier Glade NP	105
		Total Acres	6366

Legend:

- LWR – Land and Water Reserve**
- NA – Nature Area**
- NP – Nature Preserve**
- SP – State Park**
- SRA – State Recreational Area**

Figure 1. Statewide Public Lands Native Forest & Woodland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project Sites.



Table 2. Planned Activities by Site - Statewide Public Lands Native Forest & Woodland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project Sites

SITE	SRSP	KSRA	SSSP	BDSP	PMSP	FCSP	CiRSP	FMSP
						ToTSF		
FY14								
Rx Fire	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Invasive Woody Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Invasive Exotic Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Erosion Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Boundary Protection	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Planting	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Hydrologic Restoration	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N
FY15								
Rx Fire	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Invasive Woody Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Invasive Exotic Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Erosion Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Boundary Protection	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Planting	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Hydrologic Restoration	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N
FY16								
Rx Fire	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Invasive Woody Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Invasive Exotic Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Erosion Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Boundary Protection	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Planting	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Hydrologic Restoration	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N
FY17								
Rx Fire	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Invasive Woody Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Invasive Exotic Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Erosion Control	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Boundary Protection	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Planting	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Hydrologic Restoration	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N

Legend:

SRSP - Starved Rock State Park; KSRA – Kankakee State Recreational Area
SSSP - Siloam Springs State Park; BDSP – Beaver Dam State Park
PMSP - Pere Marquette State Park
FCSP to TSF - Ferne Clyffe State Park / Trail of Tears State Forest
CiRSP - Cave-in-Rock State Park
FMSP - Fort Massac State Park

APPENDICES:

- A. Benefitted 'Species in Greatest Need of Conservation' in Statewide Public Lands Native Forest & Woodland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project

Related Grants:

Starved Rock, Kickapoo SRA, Siloam Springs, Beaver Dam, Pere Marquette and Ferne Clyffe have had projects funded through past State Wildlife Grants; those projects are completed. Kickapoo SRA, Siloam Springs, Cedar/Draper Bluff, and Ferne Clyffe have projects funded through W-76-D-1 but projects within T-84-D-1 will be focused on Forest and Woodland Species in Greatest Need of Conservation, not game species and hunter access.

Compliance

The IDNR will use its CERP (Comprehensive Environmental Review Process) as a tool to aid the Department in meeting NEPA compliance for the project outlined under this grant proposal. It is the Department's policy to require CERP applications for all land disturbing activities unless those activities are covered by CERP exemptions.

All planned activities will also be in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. All determinations and documentation will be in accordance with the current established U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service protocols for section 7.

All planned activities will be in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and the Council on Historic Preservation Act. All determinations and documentation will be in accordance with the terms of the Programmatic Agreement, as amended, effective September 23, 2002.

When applicable, those planned activities which involve a floodplain and/or jurisdiction wetlands will be done in accordance with Presidential Executive Orders 11988 and 11990.

When applicable, those planned activities which involve programs and/or site improvements will be done in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

When applicable, those planned activities which involve the use of pesticides, herbicides or other comparable chemicals will be done in accordance with current state and federal regulations to assure the safe and legal application of those chemicals. All chemicals will be applied in accordance with the manufacturers label instructions. All persons applying chemicals will be licensed by the Illinois Department of Agriculture as a chemical operator along with a licensed applicator, in accordance with Illinois state law.

Grant Proposal Support Documentation:

The following documents are attached in support of this grant proposal:

1. Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form 424)
2. Federal Aid Section 7 Evaluation Form
3. Illinois Clearinghouse Response per Federal Executive Order 12372
4. NEPA Compliance Checklist
5. Location Map (See Figure 1)

Project Budget:

Project Title: Statewide Public Lands Native Forest & Woodland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project
Project Number: T-84-D-1
Project Time Frame: Start Date - 9/1/13; End Date - 6/30/17

Budget Categories	Federal Funds	Non-Federal Funds	Totals
Salaries, Wages & Fringe Benefits	\$0.00	\$187,000.00	\$187,000.00
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Materials, Supplies & Commodities	\$74,350.00	\$0.00	\$74,350.00
Contractual Services	\$349,339.00	\$0.00	\$349,339.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Direct Costs	\$423,689.00	\$187,000.00	\$610,689.00
Indirect Rate of 21.96 %		\$41,065.00	\$41,065.20
Total Project Costs	\$423,689.00	\$228,065.00	\$651,754.00
Percentage of Total Project Cost	65.0 %	35.0 %	100.0 %

Contractual Services:

Contractual services are agreements entered into with qualified contractors to complete specific habitat management practices. These practices can include but are not limited to Prescribed Fire, Invasive Woody Plant Control, Invasive Exotic Species Control, Erosion/sedimentation control, Boundary Protection/Fence Repair, Habitat Creation/Restoration/Planting, and Hydrology Restoration.

Materials, Supplies & Commodities:

Commodity funds are used to purchase materials for projects that are generally less than \$100 each unit (herbicide is an exception) that are used to carry out habitat management practices. Examples include but are not limited to herbicide, seed and other planting stock, small hand tools, signs and sign posts, and fencing material.

Salaries, Wages & Fringe Benefits:

Personnel services will be in-kind match provided by IDNR personnel via prescribed burning, woody invasive vegetation control, exotic invasive species control, habitat creation/restoration: planting, plant and animal surveys, grant administration and project management. Personnel costs include salary, wages, fringe benefits estimated at \$187,000.00, and indirect costs estimated at \$41,065.20, based on the SFY’13 federally approved indirect rate of 21.96%.

Project Personnel:

The following IDNR personnel will be the primary staff implementing the Statewide Public Lands Native Forest & Woodland Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project. They will perform grant administration, project implementation and management, and direct contact with landowners and contractors. Other Office of Resource Conservation and Land Management staff may be involved in limited site specific project implementation.

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Appendix A.

Benefitted Species in Greatest Need of Conservation Statewide Public Lands Native
Prairie/Savanna Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project

(Status - FE/SE - Fed or State Endangered; FT/ST - Fed or State Threatened, CP – Conservation Priority / Species in Greatest Need of Conservation)

	Species Name	Scientific Name	Status
Amphibians			
	Four-toed salamander		ST, CP
	Silvery salamander		SE, CP
	Wood frog		CP
Birds			
	Red-shouldered hawk		CP
	Broad-winged hawk		CP
	Bald eagle		CP
	Chuck-wills-widow		CP
	Whip-poor-will		CP
	Yellow-billed cuckoo		CP
	Black-billed cuckoo		ST, CP
	Red-headed woodpecker		CP
	Acadian flycatcher		CP
	Wood thrush		CP
	Bewick's wren		CP
	Worm-eating warbler		CP
	Kentucky warbler		CP
	Ovenbird		CP
	Blue-winged warbler		CP
	Cerulean warbler		ST, CP
Mammals			CP
	Bobcat		CP
	Gray fox		CP
	Golden mouse		ST, CP
	Woodland vole		CP
Reptiles			
	Timber rattlesnake		ST, CP

