

PRAIRIE-WOODS ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION

113 S. Cherry Street, Galesburg, Illinois 61401

August 15, 1990

Mr. Don McFall  
Natural Heritage Division  
524 South Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62701-1787

Re: Inventory of Remnant Prairie Sites, Knox County, IL

Dear Don:

It is a pleasure to mail you the summation of the work on the Prairie-Woods Environmental Coalition Project, an Inventory of the Prairie Remnants of Knox County, Illinois.

Enclosed is a map marked with significant sites. Also marked on the map are other sites that thrilled our members who scouted out the prairie areas. We found large areas and then we found small exquisite places that had to be marked for later observation and encouragement. We found prairie flowers where we had never observed any growing in years before.

People have remarked that this was the most stunning summer yet for color and variety. One couple who moved here from Kentucky told us that there wasn't anything like the prairie where they came from!

We are all able to name the prairie grasses with ease so the fun and surprise of the project was finding the flowers in such profusion. Everyone who participated in the discovery and identification is now "hooked."

One of the results we had hoped for with the project was to stir up a continuing interest for more study of these sites in the years to come. Now it's like we can't wait for next June and July.

We are going to keep very accurate records for referral and the public is welcome to our field notes and analysis.

We are not sure if you want us to send you each individual site notation or not. If it is ever on your itinerary, you

could meet with our group and we can set up more of a scientific analysis of this county for your department. Please advise us.

We enclose a county map marked with numbered sites and a list of the exact locations inventoried.

We are satisfied that the prairie grasses are making a very good recovery here in Knox County. Based on our observations noted in the inventory, our real push will be to interest landowners and the public about the value and uniqueness of the prairie forbs.

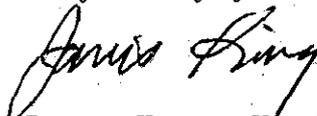
Where the majority of the townships have been surface mined for coal, we found fewer varieties of flowers. It is as if not much drifts in there from other places or that that nature sows doesn't catch. Multiflora and thistle are the predominant species on those abandoned lands.

We are very much interested in expanding and promoting the inventory. We believe that we can use it to protect what we have found. Systematically we plan to pay return visits to the sites marked.

An added bonus of this work is a lease agreement the Coalition signed with the Burlington Northern Railroad for the management of ten acres of prairie land at the edge of the City of Galesburg, in Galesburg Township.

I certainly hope that the enclosures meet with your approval. If there are additions or corrections to be made please advise me. The Coalition wants to thank the Non-Game Wildlife Check-Off Fund for the opportunity it gave us to inventory the remnant prairie sites in Knox County.

Very truly yours,



Janis King, Vendor  
Prairie-Woods Environmental Coalition.

RR #1, Knoxville, IL

REMNANT PRAIRIE SITES

in

Knox County, Illinois

August 15, 1990

Compiled by members of the Prairie-Woods Environmental Coalition,  
Janis King, Vendor.

<u>Site #</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Co.Hwy. Mark. Sys.</u>	<u>Location</u>
1	Persifer	25	1800E & 1300N	Trenton Cemetery
2	Truro	24	2300E & 1450 N	Santa Fe Railroad
3	Truro	8	1900E & 1650N	Snake Den Hollow Rd.
4	Knox	15 & 16	800E & 1500N	Knox Station Prairie
5	Sparta	21,30 & 31	600-800E-1850-2100N	Burlington RR Rtwy.
6	Copley	14	1600E & 2100N	Copley Cemetery
7	Sparta	27	900E & 2000N	Wataga Prairie
8	Lynn	11	2200E & 2800N	NE Knox Prairies
9	Truro	31	800E & 1200N	R.E. Johnson Rdside
10	Persifer	3	1500E & 1700N	Oak Run Prairie
11	Rio	3	300E & 2900N	Gerald Gamel Savanna
12	Truro	31	1900E & 1200N	Spoon River Bank
13	Truro	32 & 33	1900E & 1200N	N. Side Co. Hwy. 11
14	Elba	9	2100E & 1000N	Old Shane Home
15	Elba	16	2000E & 1000N	Near Russ Davis Home
16	Elba	17	2000E & 100N	Rd. Going to 1900E
17	Elba	28 & 29	2000E & 750N	Section Roadside
18	Elba	14	2200E & 900N	Abandoned Roadway
19	Elba	23	2200E & 850N	Timber
20	Elba	18	1800-1900E & 900N	Roadside Between
21	Elba	15	2100E & 950N	Dalton-Jones Cemetery
22	Elba	17	1900E & 900N	Abandoned Roadway
23	Cedar	26	450E & 800N	Road and Pasture
24	Cedar	26	450E & 700N	Pastures

continued -

25	Cedar Twp.	25	450E & 650N	Pastures
26	Cedar	35	450E & 650N	South of 450-650
27	Cedar	36	500E & 600N	Camperstown
28	Cedar	30	000E & 700N	Warren/KC Co. Line
29	Cedar	13	500E & 1000N	
30	Cedar	1	055E & 1100N	Along Co. Hwy. 26
31	Cedar	13	500E & 900N	Smith Farmground
32	Cedar	3	400E & 1100N	Bower Timber
33	Persifer	36	1800E & 1250N	Abandoned Corner Lot
34	Persifer	36	1800E & 1200N	Burned off Pasture N/Hs.
35	Persifer	14	1700E & 1500N	Pastures
36	Persifer	9	1450E & 1700N	Pastures
37	Persifer	26	1700E & 1350N	Bradford Cemetery
38	Chestnut	3	950E & 500N	Kramer Cemetery Hwy. 20
39	Knox	3	1100E & 1800N	Van Guilder Cemetery
40	Maquon	21	1500E & 200N	Lde(?) Cemetery, Platt.
41	Cedar	17	150E & 1000N	Unnamed Cemetery
42	Sparta	22	1000E & 2000N	All along angling road
43	Sparta	11	1100E & 2200N	James Wenstrom Roadside
44	Orange	1	1200E & 1150N	1/3 Mi. Railroad Rtwy.
45	Orange	11 & 12	1100E & 1050N	1/2 Mi. Road & Cemetery
46	Orange	5 & 8	800E & 1100N	1/2 mile roadside
47	Orange	32	800E & 600N	1/2 & 1/4 mile roadside
48	Orange	31	600E & 600N	1/2 mile roadside
49	Orange	30	600E & 800N	1/2 mile roadside
50	Orange	19	700E & 800N	20 acre pasture
51	Orange	13	1200E & 950N	10-15 ac. pasture
52	Orange	36	1100E & 700N	6-10 ac. pasture

continued -

## Rem. Prairie Sites, KC

- 3 -

53	Orange Twp.	27 & 34	1000E & 700N	3/4 mi. road
54	Orange	5	800E & 1100N	Very old Cem. Brown Res.
55	Indian Point	6	050E & 500N	Roadside
56	Indian Point	8	170E & 450N	Roadside
57	Indian Point		200N	Campground Road
58	Indian Point	32	125E & R 116	Very old cemetery
59	Indian Point	13 & 14	500E & 300N	Roadside
60	Galesburg	22	300E & 1400N	10 acres BN RR Rt.wy.
61	Henderson	19	000E & 2100N	Dirt Rd. Co. Line
62	Galesburg	19	100E & 1400N	Abandoned Pasture
63	Enter Cedar	31	000E & 600N	Abandoned Chi. & NW
	Exits Chestnut	33	800E & 000N	Railroad

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## Seminars offered 199

Community College will offer three hunting seminars in October.

"Hunter Education Seminar" will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. on Oct. 10. This fast-paced, two-hour seminar for hunters covers basic safety, proper use of firearms, seasons and Illinois hunting laws. This seminar

will be held Sept. 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. for beginning sportsmen can benefit from this seminar in 7 aspects, information on fall and spring hunting laws. Also included will be an audiovisual presentation on deer hunting activities.

On Sept. 27 to 10 p.m. each evening, "Deer Hunting Seminar" will be offered in Alden I. This seminar stresses the importance of being a successful deer hunter. The seminar will help hunters to improve their techniques and understand basic practices. Knowledge of deer and proper selection of equipment, will be included in the seminar. The cost for the seminar is \$15.

Due to limited and some sessions may suggest parterners, so pre-registration is recommended; to register, call the L&C Continuing Education at 444.

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101 S. Grand Ave. West  
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Galesburg  
Register Mail  
20326

### Help needed on nature inventory

**Editor, The Register-Mail:** Recently the Prairie-Woods Environmental Coalition, a local regional group of educators and conservationists, received a grant from the Illinois Department of Conservation's Non-game Check-off Program to conduct a comprehensive Knox County-wide survey of the remaining remnants of native prairie vegetation. We are quite proud to be one of the top 10 projects selected from hundreds of proposals submitted from around the entire state.

Since this is basically a volunteer project and a labor of love for those already involved, we are asking that if anyone is interested in helping us out with the inventory — scouting out potential sites in various townships, contacting landowners or just to offer moral support — to come join us. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated and the experience in this local "treasure hunt" promises to be an exciting learning experience.

We are also trying to locate sites within Knox County, of which we are presently unaware, that may turn out to be significant natural areas. These areas may be found in an odd corner or a remote open hillside of someone's property that has never been plowed or intensely used. Recently abandoned pastures or savannas with scattered oak and hickory trees that have never been plowed, even though they are "brushy", may harbor native prairie. Railroad right-of-ways and early pioneer cemeteries are often excellent spots to find prairie.

We are also attempting to inventory (and ultimately protect by encouraging proper management) the last remaining populations of rare, threatened or endangered species of such plants as Prairie White Fringed Orchid, which was once documented as occurring in the county, but has not been verified for decades.

Between now and Aug. 31, 1990, we will be scouting the Knox County countryside. We are presently doing the fall inventory and are especially interested in finding volunteers to scout Salem, Maquon and Copley townships.

If you would like to help with what we feel is a significant project, and perhaps the last opportunity to discover and to inventory the last fragments of our valuable prairie resource, please contact us at 289-4770 or 639-2254.

— Christopher Bronny, Galva Route 1

*Route*

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News Sun  
Waukegan  
38,300

## The big fish scare 199

THE CHILLY winds of September are bringing lunker Chinook salmon closer to Lake County's Lake Michigan shore. It's a time when the snagging season gets under way and shore anglers have a chance for a trophy fish. It's a time perchmen have one of their last open water flings before their thoughts turn to ice fishing on the inland lakes. It's a time to take the kids to the shore or on a charter boat for a morning or afternoon of traditional family fun.

It's also the time the National Wildlife Federation would have us believe eating only one meal of any Lake

