ILLINOIS CHORUS FROG MONITORING NORTHERN MENARD AND MASON COUNTIES ILLINOIS

FINAL REPORT

CONTRACT # RO4110039

2010 THROUGH 2012

VERNON LAGESSE
1619 S. PASFIELD
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704
217-525-1410
VLAGESSE@FGI.NET

Illinois Chorus Frog Monitoring for Northern Menard and Mason Counties in Illinois
Illinois Department of Natural Resources Contract # RO4110039

Objectives of the contract:

1. Three years ICF monitoring- Ground-truthing of the IDNR ICF Habitat Model Survey 10 random sections of land from the model each year.

2. Continue landowner contacts for Mason County Frog Incentive Program.

3. Monitor ICF's in existing Mason County Frog Incentive Program Landowner Contracts.

4. Lead Public Relations Campaign promoting the Mason County Frog Incentive Program.

IDNR ICF HABITAT MODEL

The IDNR ICF Habitat Model has worked out to be a very reliable tool to use in predicting where ICF will be breeding during a wet cycle. I believe the habitat model can be used to judge ICF impacts in areas that ICF have occurred. The only type of breeding pool habitat that the model does not take into consideration is roadside ditch or agricultural ditches. These areas provide nearly 25% of all ICF breeding pool occurrences. Over the years surveys have taken place through Cass, Morgan, Adams, Pike, Green, Lee, Mason and Menard Counties in Illinois using the habitat model as groundtruthing of the model.

MASON COUNTY FROG INCENTIVE PROGRAM

During the three year period of this program, 18 landowner contracts were executed, through the Mason County NRCS/FSA Office. Using the Farm Bill Programs CP-23 and CP-9 we were able to signup 19 different temporary sand ponds and farmed wetlands totaling 182.2 acres in Mason County.

MONITORING LANDOWNER CONTRACTS SITES AND OTHER ICF SITES 2012

Seven different nights were monitored for presence/absence of calling ICF's at Landowner sites and other reference sites in Menard, Cass and Mason Counties. Audible surveys were conducted from 19:30 through 01:30 during the night or until temperatures drop below 45 degrees. This year was the strangest season of the five years I have been involved with. Due to the early high temperatures and drought conditions ICF's were only heard from five different sites in Mason County and for only two consistent nights. After those days the weather reached 85 degrees and water temperatures must have raised also, enough to end the breeding season for this year. With the continued drought this spring most all breeding pools did not hold water long enough to have a successful breeding year. Calling males were also down from previous years, with five being the highest number of individuals in all populations encounter. After this year, I have realized how important breeding pool water temperatures are for all spring frog species. During the evening out, even Western Chorus frogs stopped calling due to the high water temperatures. During this season most breeding pool sites from past years were dry and did not have water. Some areas had water but due to low water levels, no vegetation and only a few places had water and vegetation and not even all of those had frogs.

This season no ICF's were documented in Menard County or Conn Pond or any of the other northeast Cass County sites. No ICF's were documented at Sparks Pond this year although conditions looked good and only the wetland restoration along the north side of County Road 2400N had ICF's and for only two evenings. No ICF's were documented from the rubber liner wetland on the Rollo tract.

There is a sand mining operation that operates east of Mason City. This operation obtains sand for Caterpillar steel cast molds in Peoria, Illinois. This operation moves from one farm to another for a few years removing sand and then finally regrading that tract. This year they were operating right next to one of our ICF Incentive contracts. This activity could have a hydrological effect on the surrounding areas. This activity could have a negative impact on our ICF Landowner Program and ICF's. This should be studied to see if this does or does not impact ICF's in that area.

PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGN PROMOTING THE MASON COUNTY FROG INCENTIVE PROGRAM
Below are some of the accomplishments that were implemented during the three years of this contract to promote this program:

- Meet regularly with Project leaders (IDNR & NRCS)
- Establish historic Mason County ICF landowner contact list
- Create a CRP Farm Bill Program Mason County ICF brochure
- Create a CREP Farm Bill Program Mason County ICF brochure
- Assist with Outdoor Illinois Staff on article March 2011 article
- Coordinate with Mason County Democrat Newspaper for two separate news articles about ICF program
- Coordinate with State Journal Register for newspaper article and video that was picked up by the Associated Press and ran throughout 28 newspapers
- Work with IDNR GIS staff to record all ICF occurrence data for 2010 through 2012

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEM
AIS-13

DATE: 06/08/12

OPERATOR NAME: JOE MUCCIANTE

TYPE: DR

FY	FUND	AGCY	DIV	LINE	SQ/TYP	SUBA	PROJ FY	PROJ	DEPTC
2012	909	422	20	1900	0011	0000	2012	0020	9000

CONTROL #: 0000072486 DOC: 1245 GOODS ACPT DATE: 06052012 AGE DAYS: 3

FEIN: 0435929246270401 1264/TYPE: V INVOICE RECPT DATE: 06052012

VENDOR INV #: 0000072486 AMT: 6000.00 INV DATE: 05272012

REF DOC: _____ CONTRACT #: R04110039 BUREAU APPROVAL DATE: 06082012

OB: R04110039 EXPEND: _____ DESC 1: _____
CNTY/REP DIST: 000-000 DESC 2: _____

CFDA:	CFDA:	CFDA:	CFDA:	CFDA:
DOC:	DOC:	DOC:	DOC:	DOC:
AMOUNT:	AMOUNT:	AMOUNT:	AMOUNT:	AMOUNT:
DEPT: 9000	DEPT:	DEPT:	DEPT:	DEPT:
AMOUNT: 6000.00	AMOUNT:	AMOUNT:	AMOUNT:	AMOUNT:

SERVICE DATES: 07012011 THRU 05312012 GAAP CD: 5300 BILLING ACCT #: _____
REMITTANCE:
COMPLETION OF ANNUAL RANDOM SURVEYS T-62-D

Split - 09-L09W $500 (complete) / 11-L09W $5,500

VENDOR NAME: LAGESSE VERNE BEP: NONE
ADDRESS: DBA LAGESSE & ASSOCIATES INC
1619 S PASFIELD
CITY: SPRINGFIELD STATE: IL ZIP CODE: 62704 3713

DESC: N PROG: Y C-02: N C-14: N A/R: N C/A: N JRNL: N

PROG: 3826	PROG:	PROG:	PROG:	PROG:
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BUREAU AUTHORIZATION: _____

BUREAU COPY

Copy for 11-L09W 7/25/12 [illegible]

Additional copies made for 09-L09W & T-62-D [illegible]

VENDOR PAYMENT

Re-approp

tm

AIS CONTROL NUMBER:

FY	FUND	DIV	LINE	SQ/TYPE	SUBA
2012	909	20	1900	0011	0000

FEIN: 04-3592924

DOC#	Amount
1245	$6,000.00
	$
	$
	$
	$

GOODS ACCEPT DATE: 6/5/2012

VENDOR INV#: ---

INVOICE RECIEPT DATE: 6/5/2012

NAME: LaGesse, Verne
d/b/a LaGesse & Associates, Inc.

AMOUNT: $6,000.00

INVOICE DATE: 5/27/2012

ADDRESS 1619 Pasfield
CITY: Springfield
STATE: IL ZIP: 62704-3713

DNR#:

OBLIGATION #:
R04110039

SERVICE DATES: 7/1/11 THRU: 5/31/12 GAAP CODE: 5300

DESCRIPTION: (Include multiple invocie #'s and/or vendor account #'s)

Completion of annual random surveys, 2012 signup monitoring and reporting services.

EQUIPMENT LOCATION CODE, if diiferent than Cost Center:

COST CENTER:

Number	Amount
9000	$6,000.00
	$
	$
	$
	$

PROGRAM CODE:

Number	Amount
3826	$6,000.00
	$
	$
	$
	$

RECEIVING OFFICE SIGNATURE: [signature] DATE: 6/5/12

HEAD OF UNIT SIGNATURE: James Herkert aaa DATE: 6-6-12

Reg. Posting #: Site Posting #:

5-27-2012

Bob Bluett
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Bob,
I have completed the 2012FY portions of Contract # RO4110039. I coordinated with Mark Jacobs, Mason County NRCS, Andrew Hulin, IDNR and yourself throughout this Illinois Chorus Frog (ICF) 2010 through 2012 seasons. Below is a list of accomplishments for this seasons work.

- Complete annual random surveys- 10 sections $3000
- Complete 2012 signup monitoring- 15-Sites $2000
- Complete ½ of reporting $1000
- Turn in ICF data sheets to IDNR
- Meet regularly with Project leaders (IDNR & NRCS)
- Establish historic Mason County ICF landowner contact list
- Create New CREP Mason County ICF brochure
- Assist IDNR and NRCS establish Mason County ICF Incentive Program
- Assist NRCS with possible wetland designs
- Survey Landowner sites that enrolled in program and determine possible designs present and status of project
- Establish management guidelines
- Assist with Outdoor Illinois Staff on article March 2011 article
- Coordinate with Mason County Democrat Newspaper for two separate news articles about ICF program
- Coordinate with State Journal Register for newspaper article and video that was picked up by the Associate Press and ran throughout 28 newspapers
- Work with IDNR GIS staff to record all ICF occurrence data for 2010 through 2012

Amount due: $6000.00

Please make check payable to: Vernon LaGesse

SS# 353-62-5449

Approved
Robert D Bluett 6/5/2012

T-62-D

Thank you for the opportunity to work for your Department. If you have any questions on this invoice please call me at my office.

Vernon LaGesse
1619 S. Pasfield
Springfield, IL 62704
217-525-1410
vlagesse@fgi.net