



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

August 6, 2013

Ms. Sharon Pepin
Community Planner
City of Savanna
333 Chicago Ave
Savanna, IL 61074

**Re: Sanitary Sewer Rehab Project - Additional Work Location #3
Endangered Species Consultation Program
Project Number(s): 1401197 [1310385]
County: Carroll**

Dear Ms. Pepin:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for this project located in Section 11, Township 24N, Range 3E, submitted by City of Savanna, for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Part 1075 and 1090.

The project entails: “the City of Savanna was awarded a Public Infrastructure grant from DCEO for the lining of sanitary sewer mains. Environmental clearance was awarded from the required State Agencies and the project was bid out and came in under budget. The City is looking to do more sanitary sewer lining throughout town with the remaining grant funds. This project will entail the lining of roughly 9,800 L.F. of deteriorated and cracked sanitary sewer main. The project will also include smoke testing and the grouting of service laterals and some point repairs where excess water is entering the sewer main.”

The project, which is located north of Jackson Street, and lies between Eaton and Hickory Streets, involves the lining of deteriorated and cracked sanitary sewer main, the grouting of service laterals, and point repairs where excess water is entering the sewer main.

The project site is in the vicinity of Spring Lake – Carroll Illinois Natural Area Inventory (INAI) Site and it is east of a large record for the State-listed threatened **Least Bittern** (*Ixobrychus exilis*), and north of two State-listed endangered **Blanding’s Turtle** (*Emydoidea blandingii*) records.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the action is likely to have an adverse impact on the natural area and the Blanding's Turtle. To minimize potential impacts, the Department recommends the City of Savanna incorporate the following measures in its project authorization.

INAI Site

- Use special care to direct water away from high quality areas to the west, if any pumping is necessary.
- Over-seed exposed soil with a cover crop.
- Use Best Management Practices to prevent sedimentation outside work zones and monitor them diligently; silt fences, soil stabilization and runoff control measures should be incorporated throughout the entire construction site and during the entire construction period. These should be inspected on a daily basis to ensure they are working properly and keeping all siltation from the INAI site.

Blanding's Turtles

1. Work crews and on-site personnel should be educated and informed about Blanding's Turtles before any work begins. Photos (both adult and juvenile) of the turtle should be distributed and a site management plan for responding to encounters with these turtles should be discussed at the preconstruction site meeting. If a turtle is encountered on site, inform crews to immediately stop all work in the area and contact the District Heritage Biologist, Michelle Simone (309/446-9181) - keeping in mind it is a criminal act to handle one. Personnel on site should watch the turtle until the proper authority arrives to alleviate the situation, keeping at a respectable distance. If the turtle moves, crews should mark the spot they first saw the turtle and the last spot it was seen. If a Blanding's Turtle is encountered, Incidental Take Authorization from the Department's Office of Resource Conservation may be needed, which would result in a Conservation Management Plan for the species.

2. Silt, exclusionary fencing should be installed and in place, from the end of March and remain until the end of October, to prevent turtles from entering the construction areas. Daily inspections by qualified personnel should occur for the first two weeks and then be maintained weekly throughout the project timeframe to ensure the exclusionary fencing has been properly installed and to check if any turtles are present on either side of the fence.

3. Trenches can trap turtles (and other reptiles & amphibians), therefore trenches and excavations should be routinely inspected throughout the day. Trenches should also be inspected before being backfilled, covered at the end of the work day, and returned to original grade when project is done.

Consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 and 1090 is terminated. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), the City of Savanna must notify the Department of its decision regarding these recommendations, whether they will:

- Allow the action to proceed as originally planned;
- Require the action to be modified per Department recommendations (please specify which measures, if not all, will be required); or
- Forgo the action.

Consultation for Part 1075 is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary. Consultation for Part 1090 (Interagency Wetland Policy Act) is valid for three years.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheldon R. Fairfield". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the first name being the most prominent.

Sheldon R. Fairfield
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Division of Ecosystems & Environment
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