



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Pat Quinn, Governor  
Marc Miller, Director

November 26, 2013

Mr. Dan Lynch  
Village Engineer  
Village of Wayne  
PO Box 532  
Wayne, IL60184, 14 60184

Ms. Patricia Hughes  
DCEO  
Legislative Grants Unit  
500 E Monroe St  
Springfield, IL 62701

**Re: Village of Wayne Public Works Garage  
Endangered Species Consultation Program  
Project Number(s): 1406209  
County: DuPage**

Dear Mr. Lynch and Ms. Hughes:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for this project located in Section 18, Township 40N, Range 9E, submitted by Village of Wayne, on behalf of DCEO, 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 involves the construction of a new garage for the storage of vehicles and equipment. The state-listed endangered **Blanding's Turtle** (*Emydoidea blandingii*) is known to occur in the vicinity of your project area. There are records north, northeast, east, southeast, and south of this project site. This project is also within the vicinity of the **Pratts Wayne Woods Illinois Natural Area Inventory (INAI) Site** and the **Brewster Creek Marsh Nature Preserve**.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the action may have an adverse impact on Blanding's Turtles. To avoid and minimize impacts to this species and the other

identified listed resources, the Department recommends the following measures be implemented by the Village of Wayne and incorporated in DCEO's project authorization.

### **Blanding's Turtles**

The Department is concerned with the effect that trenching, boring, excavating, machinery, and vehicles could have on this species within the vicinity of this project. Since the Department has records less than one thousand feet of the project site, turtles could traverse the area as they travel between wetland and upland areas. Construction activities could cause turtles to be trapped in trenches or excavations, or crushed by equipment or vehicles.

1. Educate and inform construction crews and all on-site personnel about Blanding's Turtles before work begins. Distribute photos (adult and juvenile) of the species and discuss the site management plan for responding to encounters in a training session and at the preconstruction site meeting. If a turtle is encountered on site, inform crews to immediately stop construction in the surrounding area and contact the Department's Heritage Biologist, Dan Kirk, 815/476-6741; keeping in mind it is a criminal act to handle a listed species. Personnel on site should watch the turtle until the proper authority arrives to resolve 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.
2. The project area may contain the route to a nesting site. Therefore, potential harm to transiting turtles is a concern. The Department recommends limiting work to between late October and late March, when this species is hibernating, to prevent construction activities from crushing or injuring juvenile or adult turtles.
3. If construction cannot be limited to the recommended time frame, exclusionary fencing should be installed and in place from the end of March through October to prevent turtles from entering the construction areas. Daily inspections should occur for the first two weeks and then be maintained weekly throughout the construction period to ensure the exclusionary fencing has been properly installed (dug into the ground) and to check if any turtles are present on either side of the fence.
4. Trenches should be covered at the end of each work day. Before starting each work day, trenches and excavations should be routinely inspected to ensure no turtles (or other amphibians and reptiles) have become trapped within them.
5. Exclusionary 6" curbing around entire parking lot areas should be incorporated into project plans to prevent any turtles from entering parking lots and being crushed by vehicles.
6. Mowing concerns – commercial sites often have maintenance plans that include mowing regimes, to control weedy growth, which present an added risk of injury or death to turtles as they travel to and from wetlands during spring, summer, and fall. Anyone that will be mowing should also be educated about the species and be aware that they may be present within the project footprint.

### **INAI's and Nature Preserves**

Because nature preserves are protected by law, no adverse impact is allowed to **Brewster Creek Marsh Nature Preserve**, including changes to current hydrology. Please monitor erosion control

measures to ensure they are keeping all siltation out of the nature preserve and **Pratts Wayne Woods INAI**. Locate staging areas away from the nature preserve and INAI boundary, and power-wash equipment off-site to reduce the chance of introducing invasive species into the preserve and INAI.

### **Wetlands Review**

The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified protected resources that may be in the vicinity of the proposed action. The Department has evaluated this information and concluded that adverse effects are unlikely.

Consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 and 1090 is terminated. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), the DCEO 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,



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