



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Pat Quinn, Governor  
Marc Miller, Director

July 23, 2014  
City of DeKalb  
ATTN: John Laskowski  
223 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
DeKalb, Illinois 60115

DeKalb Park District  
ATTN: Brad Garrison  
1403 Sycamore Road  
DeKalb, Illinois 60115

**RE: Kishwaukee Bike Path**  
**Project Number(s): 1500202 (OWR S20140122)**  
**County: DeKalb**

Gentlemen:

This letter is in reference to the Kishwaukee Bike Path project recently submitted by the IDNR, Office of Water Resources (OWR) for consultation in accordance with Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Part 1075, the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and the *Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act* [20 ILCS 3420/4].

The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT indicated the state-endangered **Blanding's turtle** may be present in the project area. To mitigate any potential impacts, the Department recommends the following measures be implemented:

- All on-site personnel should be educated about this species before construction begins.
- If work must be done during their active period (mid-March to late October), search work areas before construction begins each day and install and maintain exclusionary fencing around any excavations that may trap wildlife. Trained personnel should check the exclusionary fence and excavations daily for the first two weeks and weekly thereafter. Search the area ahead of equipment in transport to further avoid the chance of harming a Blanding's turtle.
- If a Blanding's turtle is encountered on site:
  - ✓ Stop work immediately.
  - ✓ Do not move or touch the turtle; it is a criminal act to handle a threatened or endangered species without the appropriate permit.
  - ✓ Call an IDNR, District Heritage Biologist immediately at 815-313-9306.
  - ✓ Monitor the turtle until the appropriate personnel arrive.

The project was reviewed for cultural resource impacts and was determined to be in compliance with the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act. Consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is terminated. This consultation 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.

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 "Nathan Grider". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nathan Grider  
Division of Ecosystems and Environment  
217-524-0501

cc: Jerry Bishoff, IDNR/OWR