



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

September 12, 2014

Keith Wozniak
USACE, Chicago
231 S. LaSalle St, Suite 1500

Chicago, IL 60604

RE: Miller Riverfront Boat Launch
Project Number(s): 1502917 [LRC-2014-00282]
County: McHenry

Dear Mr. Wozniak:

This letter is in reference to the above mentioned project involving construction of a two lane boat ramp at Miller Riverfront Park. The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified protected resources in the vicinity of the proposed action. Of those resources, the Department is concerned about potential impacts to the state-endangered Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*). 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 conducted during their active period (mid-March to late October), install and maintain exclusionary silt fencing around the project area with the bottom trenched several inches into the ground. Trained personnel should check the exclusionary fence and any 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 815-675-2386.
 - ✓ Monitor the turtle until the appropriate personnel arrive.

Given these recommendations are considered, the Department has no objections to issuance of a USACE permit.

Please note that this review by the IDNR, Impact Assessment Section does not preclude permit decisions made by the IDNR, Office of Water Resources under the Illinois Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act.



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Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Nathan Grider
Division of Natural Heritage
217-785-5500

cc: Rebekah Perkins – HR Green, Inc.