



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

December 30, 2014

Lailah Reich
Huff & Huff, Inc.
915 Harger Rd., Suite 330
Oak Brook, IL 60523

RE: County Line Bridge Replacement and Canoe Launch
Project Number(s): 1507134 [N20140153]
County: Boone, McHenry

Dear Ms. Reich:

This letter is in reference to the above project recently submitted for consultation regarding Office of Water Resources (OWR) permit application N20140153. Consultation for this project was previously completed and a letter issued on April 26, 2013 (attached). Consultation is only valid for two years. Therefore, this letter serves as a renewal.

In the letter dated April 26, 2013, the Department expressed concerns for the Kishwaukee River Illinois Natural Area Inventory (INAI) Site, as well as state-listed mussels, the Iowa darter (*Etheostoma exile*), and Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*). A mussel survey was conducted in August, 2013 and no state-listed mussels were found in the project area. Impacts to state-listed mussels are unlikely. Impacts to the state-listed Iowa darter were also determined to be unlikely. However, Recommendation's 2 & 3 as described in the previous consultation letter are still valid. This office recommends these mitigation measures still be employed and construction crews remain vigilant for the Blanding's turtle during the project. Exclusionary silt fencing should be used and maintained, whenever possible, to mitigate potential impacts this species.

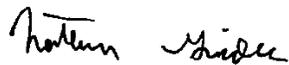
Additionally, the OWR permit application mentions the need for tree clearing. The project is within the range of the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), which is proposed for state and federal-listing as endangered in 2015. This species is known to roost in cavities, underneath bark, crevices, or hollows of both live and dead trees, and snags with a breast height diameter of typically ≥ 3 inches. The Department recommends no tree clearing from April 1 through November 1 to mitigate impacts to this species.

The project was also 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.

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
217-785-5500

cc: Heather McGowen – IDNR, OWR

ATCH. (Consultation Letter 1306165)