



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271  
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Bruce Rauner, Governor  
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

April 13, 2015

Thomas McArdle  
Burke Engineering  
9575 W. Higgins  
Rosemont, IL 60018

**RE: Keystone Road Improvement Project**  
**Project Number(s): 1510672**  
**County: McHenry**

Dear Applicant:

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above-mentioned project involving roadway resurfacing, stormwater culvert lining, and the installation of a small rock cofferdam to complete the culvert lining in the dry.

The Genoa City Sedge Meadow - Illinois Natural Area Inventory (INAI) site and state-endangered rainbow (*Villosa iris*) mussel exists downstream of the proposed project. The Department recommends the work be done in late summer during low flow conditions and strict adherence to sediment and erosion control BMP's to mitigate potential impacts to these resources.

Records of the state-endangered Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) exist in the project area. To avoid impacts to this species, the Department recommends the following:

- Educate personnel working onsite about the Blanding's turtle. Post photos of juvenile and adult Blanding's at a central location.
- Install exclusionary fencing by the end of March and maintain it through October (if needed) to prevent turtles from entering the construction area.
- Conduct daily inspections during construction to ensure that exclusionary fencing is properly installed (dug into the ground) and to check if turtles are present.
- Trenches and excavations 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.

- If Blanding's Turtles are encountered, contact our District Heritage Biologist, Brad Semel, at 815-675-2386 (ext 216).

Records of the state-listed plant, small yellow lady's slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum var. makasin*), also exist in the project area. While listed plant species are the property of the landowner, it would be beneficial to conserve the genetic material of the plant through translocation, seed collection, or stockpiling and replacing the surface soils containing the seed bank. Further, be aware that written permission from a landowner should be obtained by contractors to disturb or relocate a listed plant in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11].

Given these recommendations are adopted, the Department has no objection to issuance of an USACE permit. Please notify the Department if Burke Engineering will accept these recommendations or proceed as planned.

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

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this review.



Nathan Grider  
Impact Assessment Section  
217-785-5500

cc: Julie Rimbault – USACE, Chicago District

