



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 8, 2015

Julie Rimbault
USACE, Chicago
231 S. LaSalle St, Suite 1500
Chicago, IL 60604

RE: North Plant Wastewater Facility Ditch Stabilization
Project Number(s): 1511169 [LRC-2015-00179, 1400867]
County: Will

Dear Ms. Rimbault:

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above-mentioned project requesting USACE authorization under Category II of Regional Permit 10 to stabilize a ditched tributary of the Des Plaines River. The Department previously reviewed this project and provided recommendations in a letter dated November 13, 2013 (attached). The protected resources in the project vicinity include the **Romeoville Prairie Nature Preserve**, the federally-listed endangered **Hine's Emerald Dragonfly** (HED, *Somatochlora hineana*), federally-listed plants **Lakeside Daisy** (*Tetraneuris herbacea*) and **Leafy Prairie Clover** (*Dalea foliosa*), state-listed threatened plants **Slender Sandwort** (*Minuartia patula*) and the **Ear-Leaved Foxglove** (*Tomanthera auriculata*), as well as the state-listed endangered **Blanding's Turtle** (*Emydoidea blandingii*) and **Spotted Turtle** (*Clemmys guttata*).

The Department contacted the Village of Romeoville's authorized agent, V3 Companies, Ltd, on April 7, 2015 to inquire about the status of the previous recommendations made to mitigate impacts to these protected resources. The Department updates it's recommendations based on the results of that correspondence below:

1. No crayfish burrows that may house HED larvae were found in the project area during a survey in July of 2013. Given the amount of time that has past since the field survey, the Department recommends further coordination with the USFWS on potential impacts to this species. Please include the Department in future correspondence concerning this species as rules under the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11] would also apply.
2. The project is proposed to be conducted in late summer while water levels in the ditch are low and the chance of negative impacts to state-listed turtles are less likely. An ecologist will also be onsite to check for turtles and stop work and contact the Department if one is discovered in the work area. The Department agrees with this and recommends exclusionary silt fence also be installed and inspected for turtles daily.

3. The Department recommends the project area be inspected for state-listed plants by a qualified biologist prior to work beginning. While state-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 if the species are found in the work area. Further, be aware that written permission from the 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].
4. Given the close proximity of work to the Romeoville Prairie Nature Preserve, the Department recommends the Village of Romeoville contact and coordinate the project with the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (INPC). Please contact Kim Roman (kim.roman@illinois.gov) and Kelly Neal (kelly.neal) with the INPC for further action on this matter.

Given these recommendations are adopted, the Department has no objection to issuance of an USACE permit. Please notify the Department if The Village of Romeoville accepts these recommendations or will 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: Shawn Cirton – USFWS
Kim Roman & Kelly Neal – INPC