



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 15, 2015

Albert M. Schmitt
John Fuhler
1134 North Main St.
Algonquin, IL 60102

RE: Ackman & Randall Road Project
Project Number(s): 1511263 [0803286]
County: McHenry

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the Ackman & Randall Road Project noted above, located in McHenry County, Township 43 North, Range 8 East, Sections 17 & 18. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act [520 ILCS 10/11], the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 Illinois Administrative Code Part 1075.

The project involves soil filling and grading to prepare the site for future unknown development.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that with exception below, the resources identified by EcoCAT as in the vicinity are unlikely to be affected.

The State-endangered Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) is known to occur in this area. These turtles hibernate in wetlands and, depending on the temperature, generally emerge in the spring with upland nesting occurring in June. The Department recommends the following protective measures in case turtles are present in the immediate vicinity:

- Educate personnel working on site about Blanding's Turtle. Post photos of juvenile and adult Blanding's at a central location.
- Install exclusionary fencing (making sure it is dug into the ground) to prevent turtles from entering construction areas. Females start basking in April and hatchlings can still be active and traveling back to wetlands until October.
- Inspect the fencing daily to ensure it remains properly installed and to check if turtles are present.
- If Blanding's Turtles are encountered, crews should stop work and allow the turtle to move out of the way or contact IDNR at 815-675-2386.

Please note, the project should be submitted for the Endangered Species Consultation when specific development plans are available.

Consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is completed. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), please notify the Department of your decision regarding these recommendations.

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,

Natalia Jones
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