



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Bruce Rauner, Governor  
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

September 10, 2015

Tony Huemann  
McHenry Township Fire Protection District  
3610 West Elm Street  
McHenry, IL 60050

**RE: MTFPD Station #5**  
**Project Number(s): 1600827**  
**County: McHenry**

Dear Mr. Huemann:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the MTFPD Station #5 project noted above, located in McHenry County, Township 45 North, Range 8 East, Sections 16. 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 applicant intends to construct a new fire station on a previously developed site in Ringwood, Illinois.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the state-endangered Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) identified by EcoCAT as in the vicinity is likely to be affected.

This species is known to occur in the vicinity of the project area and individual turtles could be affected if they enter the construction area. To avoid any impact to this species, the Department recommends the following measures to be incorporated into the project:

- Educate personnel working on site about 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 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 have become trapped within them.
- 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.
- Exclusionary 6" curbing around entire parking lot areas should be incorporated into project plans to prevent any turtles from entering parking lots and being crushed by vehicles.

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  
Impact Assessment Section  
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