



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

October 19, 2015

Rosanna Lee Morales
9575 W. Higgins Road, Suite 500
Rosemont, IL 60018

RE: Traffic Control & Protection - Blue Heron Business Park
Project Number(s): 1603010
County: Kane

Dear Ms. Morales:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the project noted above, located in Kane County, Township 41 North, Range 8 East, Section 36. 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 9.47-ac site will ultimately be developed as a light industrial site with associated earthwork, underground utilities, pavement and landscaping improvements. The subject property is currently being reclaimed from mining operations. The anticipated full development of the subject property is projected to have 5.25 acres (55%) of pervious area and 4.22 acres (45%) of impervious. There are no anticipated adverse impacts to the existing downstream drainage system from the improvements.

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

The project is located within **Class 3 Groundwater Site Bluff Springs Fen Nature Preserve** which provides essential habitat to the local biological and aquatic communities. To avoid changes to natural hydrology and groundwater flow within the Bluff Springs Fen, the Department recommends you take precautions against water diversion along a sewer line by installing 10 foot long hand-packed clay plugs outside of the pipe. The plugs should be installed every 500 feet.

Also, the state-endangered **Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*)** 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 be incorporated into the project:

- Educate personnel working on the site 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 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.
- Exclusionary 6-inch curbing around entire parking lot areas should be incorporated into projects plans to prevent any turtles from entering parking lots and being crushed by vehicles.
- If Blanding's Turtles are encountered, crews should stop work and allow the turtle to move out of the way or contact IDNR at 630-553-1372.

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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