



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

January 19, 2016

Caitlin Burke
Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc.
625 Forest Edge Drive
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

RE: Everett Road Trail Connection
Project Number(s): 1605015 [4906.000]
County: Lake

Dear Ms. Burke:

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above-mentioned project involving construction of a trail from the intersection of Riverwoods and Everett to an existing Forest Preserve trail in the Captain Daniel Wright Woods. Pursuant to the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act, the Department provides the following comments:

The natural resource review identified protected resources in the area. The Elm Road Woods, Grainger Woods, and Lloyd's Woods Nature Preserves exist in the project vicinity. However, it appears that the proposed trail will not be constructed within any of the dedicated Nature Preserves. Impacts to these resources appear to be unlikely. However, the Department has copied the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (INPC) in the event they have further comment on the proposal.

Records for the state and federally-threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) exist in the project area. If tree clearing is necessary, the Department recommends trees only are felled from October 1 through March 31. Otherwise, a survey should be conducted by a qualified biologist to determine potential impacts to this species and further consultation with the Department should be initiated.

Records for the state-threatened pale vetchling (*Lathyrus ochroleucus*) also occur in the area and this species has the potential to be present in the project footprint. State-listed plant species belong to the landowner and their fate resides with the landowner's conservation decisions. Pursuant to the Illinois *Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/] written permission from the landowner should be obtained, if applicable, to "take" state-listed plants. The Department recommends the area be surveyed for this plant by a qualified biologist before construction. If discovered, the plant should be flagged and avoided, if possible, or relocated to appropriate habitat in the vicinity. Other measures may include seed collection and planting, and conservation of surface soil as it may contain the seed bank.

The Department requests notification if these recommendations can be accommodated. Please note that this review is separate and distinct from any other action or regulatory authority of the Department. This review does not satisfy consultation requirements under Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Part 1075.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Grider". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N' and a long, sweeping underline.

Nathan Grider
Impact Assessment Section
217-785-5500

cc: Melyssa Navis – USACE
Steven Byers & Kelly Neal - INPC