



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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

Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

December 22, 2015

James D. Cottrell
Sangamon Drummer Drainage District
505 W. University Ave.
Suite 215
Champaign, IL 61820

RE: Ditch Maintenance Project
Project Number(s): 1605116
County: Champaign, Ford

Dear Mr. Cottrell:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the project noted above, located in Champaign and Ford Counties, Township 22 & 23 North, Range 7 & 8 East, Sections 1, 2, 3, 10-15, 18, 19, 22-27, 30, 31, 34, 35, 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.

Project will involve clearing of intermittent sandbars throughout the indicated length of Drummer Creek. Work shall be conducted with heavy equipment. Material will be removed from the streambed and spread out into adjacent farm fields. No sidecasting will be carried out. Work shall be done in coordination with landowners.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the state-threatened **Slippershell** (*Alasmidonta viridis*) and **Mudpuppy** (*Nectrurus maculosus*) identified by EcoCAT are likely to occur in the project areas.

The project's activities are likely to result in "take" of these listed species, which is a violation of the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act. "Take" means, in reference to animals and animal products, to harm, hunt, shoot, pursue, lure, wound, kill, destroy, harass, gig, spear, ensnare, trap, capture, collect, or to attempt to engage in such a conduct. Because of the likelihood of a take, the Department recommends that you apply for Incidental Take Authorization (ITA) for both of these species in accordance with 17 Ill Adm. Code Part 1080. Be advised, the ITA process can take up to four months to complete. Communication concerning the ITA application should be directed to Jenny Skufca, Office of Resource Conservation, 217-557-8243 or Jenny.Skufca@illinois.gov.

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 this recommendation.

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
217-785-5500
natalia.jones@illinois.gov