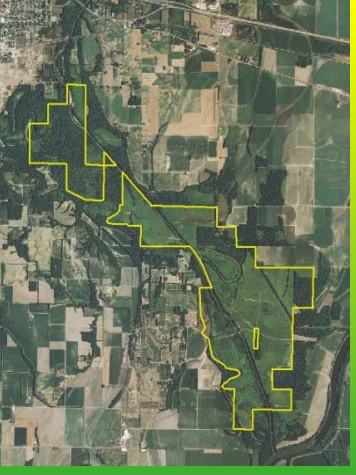

Embarras River Bottoms State Habitat Area

Management-Monitoring-Restoration update

Spring 2015

What's happening now

Reseeding of the sand prairie occurred in March. Native species such as lead plant, smooth aster and plains coreopsis were included in the mix.

Prescribed burning continues in areas of the site. Prescribed burning will encourage the re-establishment of native communities and will maintain desired community structure. Prescribed burning will reduce encroachment by undesirable vegetation.

Monitoring activities have begun for the season: surveys for mammals (using trail cameras) and dragonflies are ongoing. Photos are being taken to visually track the habitat changes over time. Vegetation surveys are planned for August.

White fiberglass boundary markers inscribed with the IDNR logo are gradually being placed at least every 300 ft along the perimeter of the property.

pipe gates are to be installed and locked at 7 additional locations. A **parking area** is being constructed along Billett Road.

For additional information: A site Management-Monitoring Plan and a Restoration Plan describing the terms of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment settlement and a phased approach to restoration are available at the Lawrence Public Library and http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/NRDA/Pages/ERBSHA.aspx.

What's happening next

- Monitoring plant and animal communities
- Brushing cutting and mowing activities
- Billett Road parking area
- Look for the Fall update

IDNR contact:
Beth Whetsell
(217) 557-7816
Beth.Whetsell@illinois.gov