



## ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR TRANSLOCATION OF ANIMAL SPECIES

### **SECTION I – GENERAL POLICY**

For the purposes of this policy statement and review of proposals, the term “translocation” will include the intentional movement of animals from one location to another either within the State of Illinois or from out-of-state locations into Illinois for the purposes of population restoration, enhancement or rescue. For purposes of this policy, rescue would mean relocation of native animal populations (whole populations or portions of) at risk from negative impacts due to human caused adverse modifications to habitat.

For sites in the Illinois Nature Preserves system, it will be the policy of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (INPC) to give consideration to proposals for translocation of animal populations in need of rescue or to reintroduce a species to Illinois which has been extirpated in the state or will move animals from within Illinois to areas in which they formerly occurred but have been locally extirpated.

Consideration by INPC of animal translocation requests will require a detailed proposal which provides information addressing the “Basic Criteria” and factors in the “Detailed Review” in Section III. A simple statement that the proposal meets these criteria will not be considered adequate evidence.

INPC staff will consult with and seek reviews for the proposed translocation from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board (for species listed as threatened or endangered). Review from other biologists or specialists will also be requested as appropriate. INPC will consider reviewer comments if available. INPC approval of translocations at INPC sites does **NOT** confer any other approvals or permits that may be required by local, State or Federal agencies.

### **SECTION II – ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES COMMISSION - LEGAL AUTHORITIES**

All activities taking place at sites in the **Illinois Nature Preserves Commission** system are under the authority of the:

- **Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act** (525 ILCS 30/)
  - <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1739&ChapAct=525%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B30%2F&ChapterID=44&ChapterName=CONSERVATION&ActName=Illinois%2BNatural%2BAreas%2BPreservation%2BAct%2E%20> and
- **Administrative Rules** for Nature Preserves and Land and Water Reserves including:
  - Rules for Management 17 ILL. ADM. CODE CH. V, SEC. 4000, <http://dnr.state.il.us/legal/Adopted/4000.pdf>
  - Register of Land and Water Reserves 17 ILL. ADM. CODE CH. V, SEC. 4010 <http://dnr.state.il.us/legal/Adopted/4010.pdf>
  - Regulation of Public Use 17 ILL. ADM. CODE CH. V, SEC. 4015 <http://dnr.state.il.us/legal/Adopted/4015.pdf>
- As well as any restrictions outlined in the **Nature Preserve Dedication** or **Land and Water Reserve Registration** document for the site.



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### **SECTION III – PROCEDURES – INPC REVIEW CRITERIA**

**Basic Criteria** – translocation proposals MUST include information on all of the following criteria to be considered by the INPC:

1. What species is/are being proposed for translocation?
2. Is the species listed as endangered or threatened?
3. What is the purpose of the proposed translocation?  
\_\_\_ Recovery      \_\_\_ Research      \_\_\_ Rescue
4. **Site Information** – Information on all locations that animals will be translocated from or to, including the names of the INPC sites involved (nature preserves or land and water reserves).
5. **Habitat Information** - proposals must document that habitat suitable for the species in both quality and quantity is present in the area of the proposed translocation.
6. **Impacts to Extant Populations** – scientific documentation indicating that the translocation of the species will not have negative effects on extant Illinois populations of the same species or other native species.
  - Individuals to be translocated must be of the same subspecies and/or race as those animals which inhabit or have historically inhabited the target site unless: the native subspecies or race is extinct or; there is no information about the genetics of historic populations.
  - The translocation must not introduce pathogens, parasites, or other factors which may negatively affect existing animal populations. Quarantine or other disease prevention measures must be described in detail.
7. **Compatibility with Recovery Plan** - if a State or Federal recovery plan for the species has been developed, the translocation should be compatible with the goals, objectives, and methods of the recovery plan.
8. **Monitoring and Management Procedures** - the proposal should include adequate methods and procedures for monitoring and management of translocated individuals after release at the INPC site(s).
9. **Historical Occupancy** – information indicating that the target area for the translocation effort is known to have been inhabited historically by the species.
10. **Landowner Approvals** - both the landowner(s) of the site(s) the animals will be removed from must agree in writing to allow access to their property for the removal and the landowner(s) of the site(s) that the animals will be translocated to must agree in writing to allow the animals to be translocated to their property.
11. **Other Approvals** - documentation that all other required approvals and permits from appropriate local, State and Federal agencies are being secured. INPC approvals will be contingent on all other permits having been approved.

**Detailed Review** – translocation proposals which are found to meet all the basic criteria will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Proposals should take into consideration/address, but not necessarily be limited to the following factors:

1. **Regional population trends of the species** – are the species' range and abundance diminishing in surrounding states or are there indications that the species may naturally re-inhabit the target site in the foreseeable future?

2. Available sources of animals to be imported – are animals available from areas near enough the target site to give a reasonable expectation of their being genetically suited to habitat and climate conditions at the target site? Are adequate numbers of animals available to establish a viable population?
3. What is the status of remaining suitable habitat – is it formally protected as a Nature Preserve or State Park, is it private property for which a management agreement is in place, etc?
4. Is the species likely to affect agriculture, public health, or other non-conservation interests? If so, have adequate measures to limit those effects and educate the public about the species' natural role in the ecosystem been planned and implemented?
5. Does the proposal include a review of translocation attempts for the same species in other areas? Have reasonable precautions been included in the translocation plan to avoid problems encountered in other attempts?



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**SECTION IV – PROCEDURES - PERMITS \***

This information is provided for reference only and does not necessarily list all required permits. The following describes permit reviews that should occur concurrently when a request to translocate animals is received. INPC staff will work to coordinate with other reviewers, but the submission of all appropriate permit applications is the responsibility of the person submitting the proposal to translocate.

|   | Permit Requirements for<br>Species Listed as Endangered or Threatened<br>in Illinois   | Permit Requirements for<br>Not-Listed Species  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>For Sites that are<br/>Nature Preserves (NP) or<br/>Land and Water Reserves<br/>(LWR)</p> <p>Including Illinois Department of<br/>Natural Resources (IDNR)<br/>owned NPs or LWRs</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (INPC) Special-Use Permit</li> <li>• IDNR Endangered Species Possession Permit</li> <li>• IDNR Scientific Permit</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: An IDNR General Scientific Permit is needed for all wild birds and mammals listed as protected under the Wildlife Code (520 ILCS 5/2.2) – this list includes both listed and non-listed animals. To show due diligence, researchers often request a Scientific Permit to cover research activities involving: reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates, and plants/plant products. Scientific Permits may be issued as a service to the researcher(s) and to track the types of scientific research being conducted in Illinois.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INPC Special-Use Permit</li> <li>• IDNR Scientific Permit</li> <li>• If working with amphibians or reptiles a permit under the Herptiles-Herps Act would be required.</li> </ul>  |
| <p>Illinois Department of Natural<br/>Resources (IDNR)<br/>Owned Property</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDNR Endangered Species Possession Permit</li> <li>• IDNR Scientific Permit</li> <li>• IDNR Permit for Research in Illinois State Parks, Forests and Conservation Areas</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDNR Scientific Permit</li> <li>• IDNR Permit for Research in Illinois State Parks, Forests and Conservation Areas</li> <li>• If working with amphibians or reptiles a permit under the Herptiles-Herps Act would be required.</li> </ul> |
| <p>Not INPC or IDNR<br/>(Lands may include all parcels<br/>owned by Municipalities/<br/>Townships, businesses,<br/>corporations, individuals, etc.)</p>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDNR Endangered Species Possession Permit</li> <li>• IDNR Scientific Permit</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDNR Scientific Permit</li> <li>• If working with amphibians or reptiles a permit under the Herptiles-Herps Act would be required.</li> </ul>   |

\* Permits from other agencies or entities that may be needed:  
 - Federal Fish and Wildlife Permits from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are required for:
 

- Animals listed as federally endangered or threatened
- Migratory birds

 - Forest Preserve Districts, Conservation Districts, Park Districts, other municipalities, Land Trusts and other landowning agencies may also require permits.