ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS COMPLETED

Project reviews completed from March 15 to April 15 are summarized below. These projects have been screened through the internal environmental review process for potential impacts on wetlands, threatened and endangered species, and cultural and archaeological resources, etc. Through the review process it was determined that environmental impacts have been kept to a minimum and mitigated as necessary, that they do not meet the criteria for significant actions as defined in the environmental review process, and may proceed. All of these projects are in compliance with the Endangered Species Protection Act, Natural Areas Preservation Act, Interagency Wetlands Policy Act and cultural resource statutes.

• Prairie Ridge State Natural Area
  1212206 - This project involves invasive/exotic brush grinding on Donsbach 118 and Hunt tracts. Ongoing brush removal projects will benefit endangered/threatened grassland wildlife. Project was submitted for review on 4-3-12.

• Prairie Ridge State Natural Area
  1212187 - This project involves using heavy equipment to develop grass waterways per USDA-NRCS specifications. Erosion was caused by past agricultural practices. Project was submitted for review on 4-3-12.

• Embarras River Bottoms State Habitat Area
  1212550 - This project will allow an adjacent landowner to remove trees, which were logged on adjacent property, to cross IDNR property. A temporary culvert through a low lying area will be installed. Project was submitted for review on 4-10-12.

• Kickapoo Creek
  1208389 - This project involves additions to an in-stream restoration project, which included two riffles and bank stabilization along an approximately 1,500 feet stretch of Kickapoo Creek. As a result of heavy 2011 spring floods the following components will be added: 300 feet of additional bank protection, and small amounts of rock will be added to fill in minor holes at two locations. Project was submitted for review on 3-5-12.

• Johnson-Sauk Trail State Recreation Area
  1211751 - This project involves removing grass and undesirable shrubs and small random trees in support of restoring grassland habitat in various management units. Project was submitted for review on 3-5-12.

• I&M Canal State Trail
  1211661 - This project involves rehabilitation of the CCC shelter in Ottawa. Project was submitted for review on 327-12.

• Fort Massac State Park
  1210173 - This project involves repairs to facilities damaged in the spring of 2011 flooding. Repairs consist of the following: repair asphalt roadway, resurface existing trail with aggregate, replace drinking fountains, and replace light pole. Project was submitted for review on 3-7-12.

• I&M Canal State Trail
  1108897 - This project involves construction of a new bridge over the I&M Canal, located approximately 100 feet west of the existing IL Route 178 bridge (Mill Street). The bridge will include a concrete deck on steel high beams with a span of 45 feet from abutment to abutment. Project was submitted for review on 2-24-11.

• White Pines Forest State Park
  1210136 - This project involves replacement of approximately 1,800 square feet of flagstone terrace at the White Pines Lodge. Project was submitted for review on 3-7-12.

• Pyramid State Park
  1208718 - This project involves replacement of bridges in Merrill Woods. Project was submitted for review on 2-28-12.
Questions and Comments

All questions and comments about the environmental review process or this newsletter should be directed to:

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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