

Illinois Natural Areas Stewardship Grant Program

Application Project Narrative

Instructions: Your complete narrative should not exceed five (5) pages, plus additional pages for maps. Use the numbered section headings, 1 – 5 in bold font below, as headings in your narrative. Do not change the order of the headings. Use a font size of 11 or 12, a single color, and font styles: Times New Roman, Arial, or Calibri.

- 1) **Proposed Project Summary:** (200 word limit): Summarize your project. Use the full, official site name(s) from the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission Documents. 1-2 sentences on project background and need, 4-5 sentences on activities, and 1-2 sentences on how the outcomes support the goals of the site management plan or the activities in the approved site management schedule.
- 2) **Need/Context:** What problem(s) will your project address? Describe the project context in terms of current conditions and opportunities. Please provide a list of work locations and a 1-page maps (separate from this document) of each site with the location(s) of the project activities marked if it is less than the entire site.
- 3) **Activities and Methods:**
 - a. Describe how your project will be carried out. What activities will be completed and how will they be accomplished? Who will do the work? What is the timeframe or timeline for activities to be completed? All work that is in the project budget, including work that is match, should be included in this section of the narrative.
 - b. Describe the methods that will be used to complete these activities and confirm that these are approved in the current management schedule and consistent with the Rules for the Management of Nature Preserves (17 Ill Adm. Code 4000) or Register of Land and Water Reserves (17 Ill Adm. Code 4010) .
 - c. Briefly describe the anticipated outcome of the project and how the project will be maintained. Who will do the maintenance, and how will it be funded?
- 4) **Alignment with statewide efforts:** Describe how the project contributes to or aligns with the collective and overlapping goals of the : [Illinois Natural Areas Plan](#) , [Illinois Sustainable Natural Areas Vision](#), and the [Illinois Wildlife Action Plan](#) (only respond to those that apply).
 - a. Ecological processes: How does the project prevent unnatural disturbances or promote/restore natural-disturbance regimes for the benefit of native species or the natural community?
 - b. Natural areas condition: How does the project address the restoration of natural conditions, hydrology alterations, habitat fragmentation, invasive species, adaptation/resilience to climate change.
 - c. Species in Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN): How does the project contribute to the desired number and distribution of viable populations for SGCN and target Focal Species (listed in appendices for each Campaign).
- 5) **Additional factors:** Other information will be considered as the Department reviews applications. Information on the following will aid the review process (address only those that

apply). The rarity the resource, the severity/urgency of need, the ability of applicant to complete the project, the increased in stewardship capacity provide by the grant, and matching funds.