

November 28, 2006

Ben Dolbeare
Conservation Coordinator
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Office of Resource Conservation/Operations
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271

Re: Wildlife Preservation Fund Project #RC07L07Wa
Updating Historical Plant Species Records

Dear Mr. Dolbeare,

Thanks for the wonderful opportunity to work on the task of updating historical records of threatened and endangered plants in Illinois. The fieldwork for this project was conducted in 2006 and during this time period sites were visited in six different counties in west-central and southern Illinois. Per our discussions from early on in the planning of the field activities, the work focused primarily on locating and documenting threatened and endangered species associated with loess hill prairies along the Mississippi and Illinois River bluffs. Approximately two hundred hours were logged working on this project. The activities conducted included collection and review of known historical data, preparation of maps and field logs, locating and meeting with private landowners, meeting with other individuals who have knowledge of past land uses of the sites, exploration and documentation of the sites visited, and preparation of the project report. A total of eighteen current or past hill prairie sites were visited and documented and thirty-one element occurrence records are provided. Numerous additional sites were identified; however, either due to time constraints or lack of access these additional sites were not explored (specific location data was provided for two of the additional sites in the project report). Five of the sites were found to have succeeded into forest communities and no longer contained a hill prairie community. Five of the sites were undocumented by IDNR records and were provided as new element occurrences. The following three species (from the Illinois threatened and endangered list) were observed at one or more of the sites: *Agalinis tenuifolia* (Foxglove), *Asclepias stenophylla* (Narrow-leaved Green Milkweed), and *Mentzelia oligosperma* (Stickleaf). Please refer to the full project report for the specific details of each site. If you have any questions regarding the information provided please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Bryan Cross
Environmental Scientist

From: BEN DOLBEARE
To: BARKER, KATHY
Date: 1/12/2007 10:10:48 AM
Subject: Bryan Cross EOR project

Kathy,

All of the EOR records from the research of Bryan Cross has been transferred to the Department of Natural Resources EOR database.

Ben L. Dolbeare

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