

IL Department of Natural Resources



To manage, conserve and protect Illinois' natural, recreational and cultural resources, further the public's understanding and appreciation of those resources, and promote the education, science and public safety of Illinois' natural resources for present and future generations.



IL Department of Natural Resources

IDNR is made up of 15 offices and two unique programs.

The Office of Communications

The Office of Community Outreach

The Office of Fiscal Management

The Office of Grant Management and Assistance

The Office of Human Resources

The Illinois State Museum

The Office of Land Management

The Office of Law Enforcement

The Office of Legal Counsel

The Office of Mines and Minerals

The Office of Realty & Capital Planning

The Office of Oil & Gas Resource Mgmt

The Office of Resource Conservation

The Office of Strategic Services

The Office of Water Resources

The World Shooting Complex

The Coastal Management Program



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Responsible to ensure the safety of persons utilizing state resources and with full police powers, statewide jurisdiction, commissioned by the USFWS as Deputy Fish and Wildlife Agents, active member of IL Terrorism Task Force and homeland security

Manages Illinois wildlife, fish and forest resources, and stewardship and restoration of natural lands and regulates “incidental take” of state-endangered and threatened species.

Manage 56 Historic sites, monuments and memorials

Responsible for Illinois’ mining industry

Manages 1,600 acre world shooting complex in southwestern Illinois and the undeveloped shoreline in Cook and Lake counties

Manages state’s rivers, lakes, streams, public waters and dams. Administers the National Flood Program, serves as technical liaison to IL Emergency Management Agency

Manage 329 state-owned and leased parks, fish and wildlife areas, forests, trails, natural areas and recreational sites with 39 Millions visits annually

Manage a multitude of grant programs for habitat, land acquisition, trails, boat ramps, park improvements, educators and more.

1,192
Employees

Regulates oil production and natural gas storage; administers USEPA Underground Injection Control Program and Safe Drinking Water Act

Responsible for the agency’s land acquisitions and concessionaire leases, site –planning, project design, engineering, and environmental, archaeological, and cultural assessment.



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- Federal Endangered Species Act – federally listed species
- Illinois Endangered Species Act – state listed species
 - Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board – Responsible for Listing Decisions
 - *9 member, appointed by the Governor*
 - Illinois Department of Natural Resources – Implements Protection and Recovery Efforts

The Office of Resource Conservation

- Conducts surveys and monitors Endangered and Threatened Species
- Consultation Program – reviews for potential impact to Endangered and Threatened Species
- Incidental Take Process – authorizes the “take” of Endangered and Threatened Species
- Recovery Program – Develops recovery plans, works with partners and public



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Why do we care before they may be listed?

If a species does reach critically low levels and are listed as endangered or threatened in Illinois, IDNR then must regulate the “take” of those species and dedicates effort to recovery

For all species of concern, including pollinators, we look at them before they reach critically low levels and need protection under IL Endangered Species Act, the state has a strategy to direct conservation actions ...

Illinois Wildlife Action Plan

- 2005 Illinois Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy
- Renamed IL Wildlife Action Plan
 - Every 10 years a review and revision is required to maintain eligibility for federal funding
 - Comprehensive strategy vs implementation guide





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Species in Greatest Conservation Need

- Threatened or endangered
- Rare populations
- Declining populations
- Vulnerable habitat
- Vulnerable characteristics





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Species in Greatest Conservation Need

BIRDS	82
FISH	80
HERPTILES	
Amphibians	15
Reptiles	25
Non-MUSSEL INVERTEBRATES	172
MAMMALS	12
MUSSELS	37
total	423





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Campaigns

Farmland and Prairie

Forest and Woodland

Green Cities

Invasive Species

Streams

Wetlands

Lake Michigan





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Why do we care about pollinator conservation?

Pollinators are vital to creating and maintaining habitats and ecosystems that many animals rely on for food and shelter balance and 2/3 of our food source depend on pollinators. IDNR directs efforts toward conserving them and managing their habitat in Illinois.

Some pollinators, such as the Rusty Patch Bumble Bee, are listed under the IL Endangered Species Act.



IDNR works hard to prevent species from being listed through various programs



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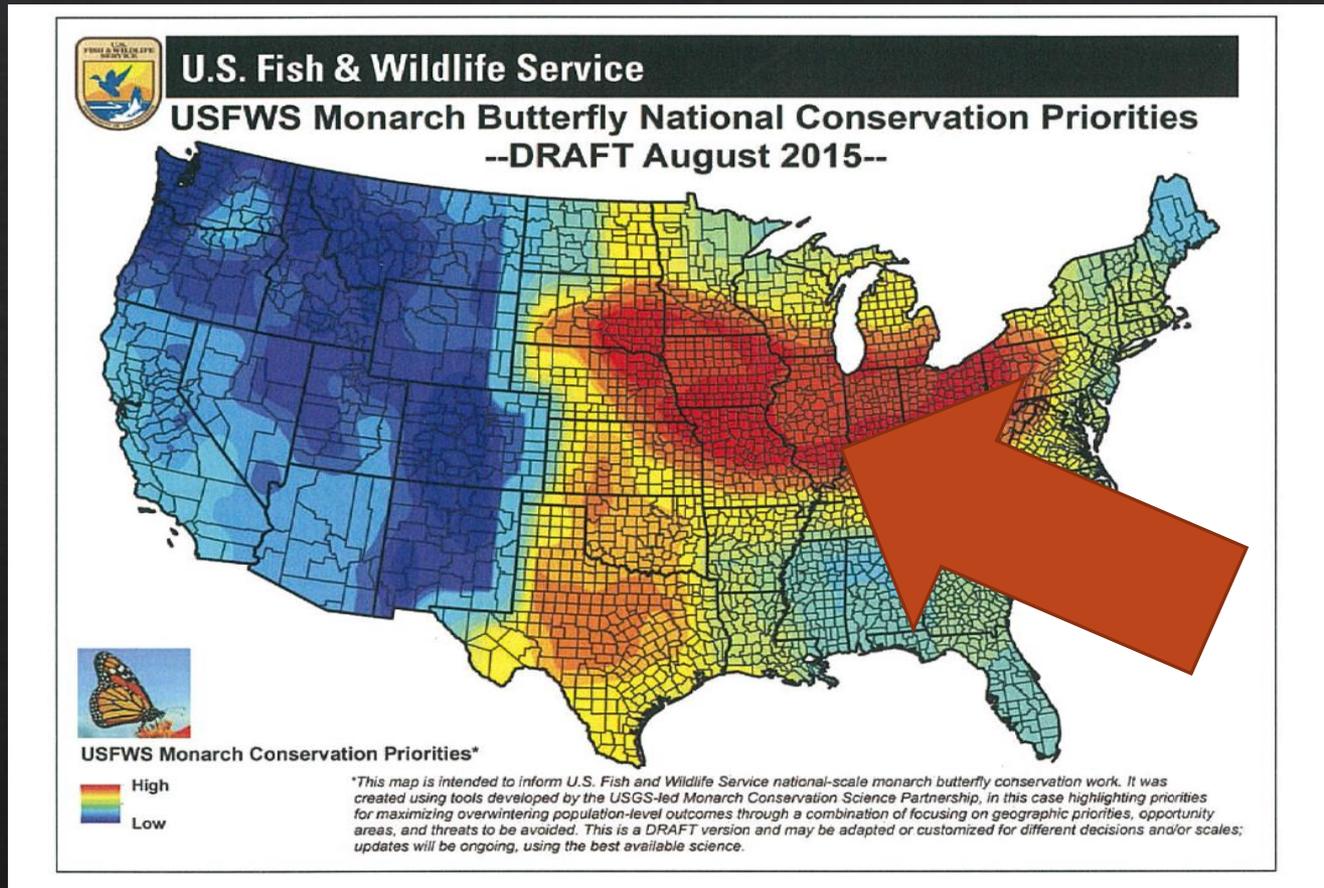
- The Monarch butterfly is one such example and is listed as a species in greatest conservation need.
- The Monarch butterfly is also being considered by USFWS for listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act.
- IDNR is working with partners such as the IL Farm Bureau, IL Dept. of Agriculture, IL Dept. of Transportation, many NGO's and others to prevent listing the Monarch butterfly.
- When we work at improving habitat for the Monarch, we are also increasing habitat for many pollinator species and various grassland birds.



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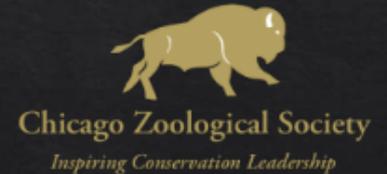
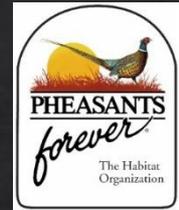
Illinois is at the heart of the Monarch Migration



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ILLINOIS
MONARCH
PROJECT



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The State of Illinois continues to promote monarch butterfly conservation through initiating the Illinois Monarch Project, participating in collaborative planning efforts with other Midwestern states, and encouraging monarch conservation during events...



WHEREAS, the monarch butterfly is the official state insect of the State of Illinois; and,
WHEREAS, monarch butterflies, as well as other pollinating species such as bees and bats, help move pollen from one plant to another, fertilizing flowers and making it possible for plants to produce food needed to feed people and wildlife; and,
WHEREAS, the population of the monarch butterfly has declined at an alarming rate, a decrease of more than 90 percent in the past 20 years; Illinois has been designated as a high-priority area for monarch conservation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Resources Conservation Service; and,
WHEREAS, the monarch was identified as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the most recent Illinois Wildlife Action Plan, created by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR); and,
WHEREAS, many factors contributed to the decline of monarchs and other pollinators, such as habitat loss, pesticides, and climate change; and,
WHEREAS, the State of Illinois continues to promote monarch butterfly conservation through initiating the Illinois Monarch Project, participating in collaborative planning efforts with other Midwestern states, and encouraging monarch conservation during events such as Conservation Week at the Illinois State Fair; and,
WHEREAS, every citizen has the ability to make a difference and restore the monarch butterfly population by planting milkweed and other nectar-producing plants; reducing pesticides, herbicides, and mowing; educating others; establishing monarch waystations; and supporting other monarch conservation efforts;
THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim May 2018 as **MONARCH BUTTERFLY MONTH** in Illinois, and encourage all Illinoisans to value and recognize the importance of the monarch butterfly and help restore the monarch butterfly population.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed,



Deese V. Diaz
SECRETARY OF STATE

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this SIXTH day of APRIL, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
EIGHTEEN, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundredth.

Bruce Rauner
GOVERNOR



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The Office of Resource Conservation

Private Land Division

- Illinois is 97% privately owned
- Many landowners don't have the knowledge, expertise or funds to implement needed habitat improvement practices
- Programs:
 - Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
 - Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
 - IL Recreational Access Programs



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IL Recreational Access Program

- Recommendation from the 2008 Conservation Congress
- Developed in 2011
- Funded through the Federal Farm Bill and managed by NRCS
- Semi-controlled public access
- Assist with and help landowners with Habitat Restoration
- Partner with:
 - Sangamon County Soil and Water Conservation District
 - National Wild Turkey Federation
 - Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever
 - National Great Rivers Research and Educational Center





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Tony Kloppenborg

How IRAP Works

- Landowner contacts IDNR
- Site Visit with IRAP Coordinator
- 4-year lease agreement - landowner chooses IRAP activities.
- IRAP pays for liability insurance for IRAP activities
- IRAP develops forest/habitat management plan
- Access maps created, property boundaries marked, parking sign installed
- Landowners are payed annually
- IRAP pays up to 75% cost-share for habitat projects.

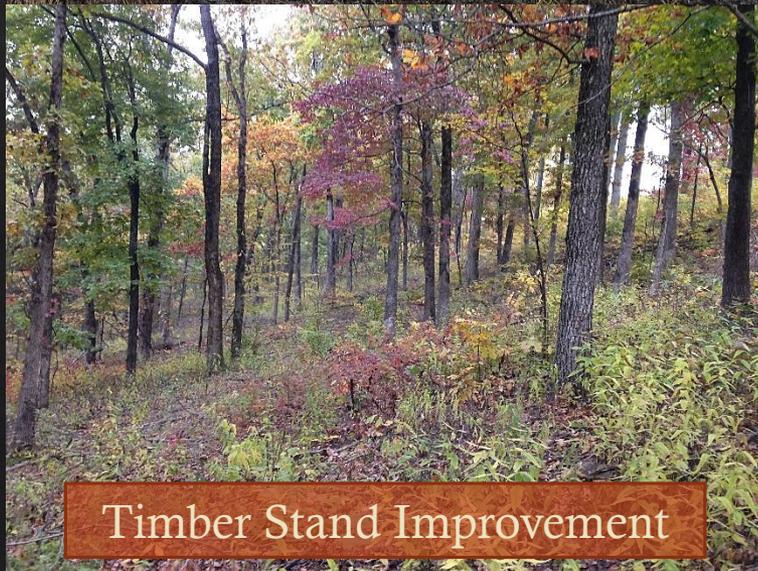


Ross Albert

IRAP Habitat Management



Prescribed Burning



Timber Stand Improvement



Aerial Spraying for
Non-Native Invasive Removal



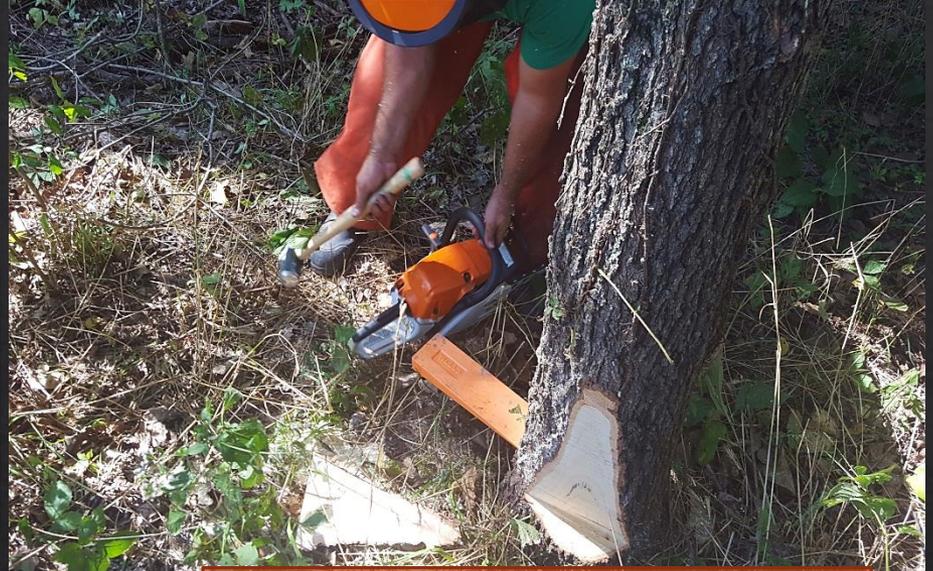


IRAP Habitat Management



Native Grass/Forb Planting

© Jake Vancil



Forest Management





IRAP Habitat Management



Private Land Management Numbers:

39 miles - Burn breaks

3,589 acres - Prescribed burning

428 acres - Native grass/forb prep and planting

1,685 acres - Timber stand improvement

6,115 acres - Non-native invasive removal



IRAP Habitat Management

Cost-Share

- Cost-share up to 75%
- Landowner use cash or in-kind match
- 10-year Management Agreement
- Habitat Strike teams available



IRAP Activities

- Spring Turkey Hunting
Youth season
Seasons 3 & 4
- Pond and River Bank Fishing – April 1- Sept 30
- Canoe Access – April 1- Sept 30
- Squirrel Hunting - August 1 – September 15
- Archery Deer Hunting – October 1 – 31
- Waterfowl Hunting – November 1 – December 31
- Quail, Pheasant and Rabbit – December 10 – December 31



IRAP Accomplishments

- 149 landowners with one or more IRAP leases
- Leases in 48 counties
- 21,000 + acres leased for hunting activities
- 12,000 + acres of Habitat Management completed
- 75 Habitat Management Plans
- 1,400 + IRAP participants



For more information on IRAP

Call 217-782-0137

Email DNR.IRAP@Illinois.gov

www.dnr.Illinois.gov/conservation/IRAP



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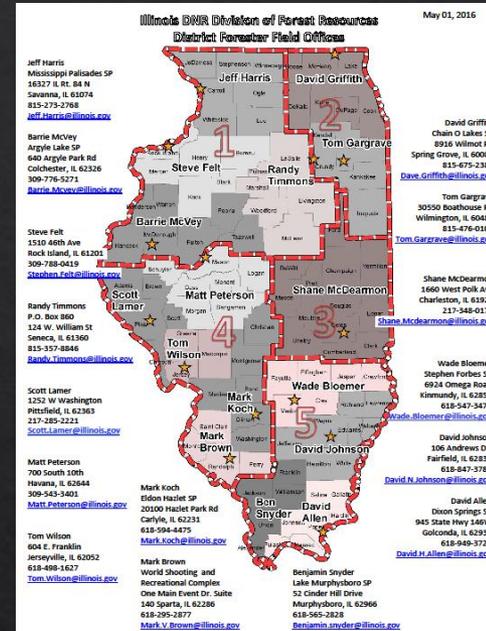
Additional Private Lands Programs

- ◆ Forest Development Act
- ◆ Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- ◆ Conservation Stewardship Program
- ◆ Mason State Tree Nursery





Forest Development Act

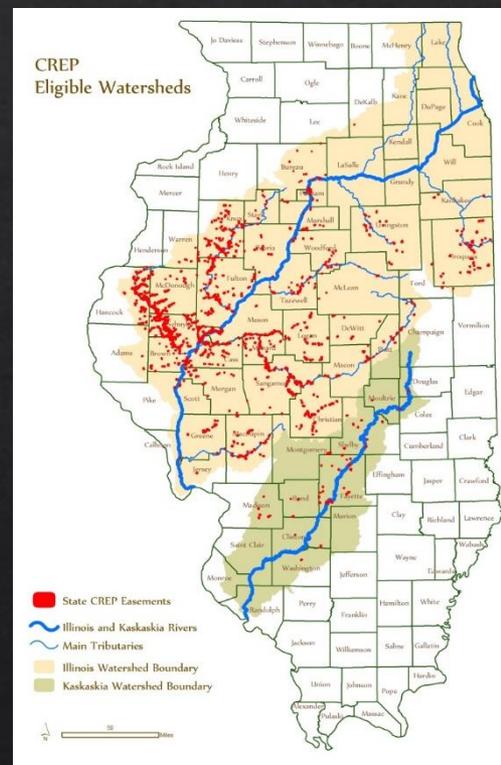


- ◇ IDNR state foresters
- ◇ Public and private land
- ◇ Foresters can give plan recommendations.
- ◇ Post harvest cost share occasionally available
- ◇ 9,700 Active Enrollments Covering over 555,000 acres



Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

- ◆ CREP is available in the Illinois and Kaskaskia Watersheds.
- ◆ IDNR CREP will start back up in a few months
- ◆ 1,400 Easements on 91,000 acres



Conservation Stewardship Program



- ◇ Landowners receive reduced tax rate for conducting management.
- ◇ Offset cost of management with tax savings.
- ◇ 2,900 enrollments on over 90,000 acres



Mason State Tree Nursery



- ◇ Illinois Eco-Type seed and potted plants
- ◇ Hand picked and produce at the nursery
- ◇ Native trees seedling and potted
- ◇ Sales to the public February - May



Thank You



Questions?