



Illinois Raptor Center

Jane Seitz, Executive Director

Jacques Nuzzo, Program Director

5695 W. Hill Road, Decatur, IL 62522

217-963-6909 illinoisraptorcenter@comcast.net

Final Report for Grant Agreement #09-R01W

Special Wildlife Fund Grant

Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund Maintenance of Wildlife Rehabilitation
Facilities That Take Care of Threatened and Endangered Species

December 8, 2008 through July 30, 2009

Running Water to Mews

Grant Agreement #09-R01W

Installing a serviceable water line and faucet at the barn and mew area at the Illinois Raptor Center.

Objectives:

1. Provide water for cleaning mews, weathering yards, barn, lofts and cages
2. Provide water for rehabilitating and permanent resident birds in mews.
3. Provide water for bath pans in mews, weathering yards, barn, lofts and cages
4. Provide water for showering birds to cool them during hot weather
5. Provide a more efficient way for staff and volunteers to perform their jobs
6. Provide a less physically challenging way for volunteers to perform their jobs
7. Provide savings of replacing and repairing hundreds of feet of worn hoses and hose nozzles because of their constantly being pulled and moved around and deterioration from weather
8. Provide better water pressure for cleaning with a direct line from the well
9. Provide additional faucet allowing two volunteers to use the outside water at the same time
10. Provide a cost savings as water for outdoor use would bypass the water filtering tank inside the main building and come directly from the well

Project Description:

The Illinois Raptor Center is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit wildlife rehabilitation and conservation education facility located on 15 acres along the Sangamon River in Macon County. There are now 13 steel sided complexes housing 26 mews (raptor cages), 3 weathering yard/flight cages, 2 lofts, 3 wood constructed buildings housing 5 mews and a barn on the property. In addition to admissions for rehab, the IRC has 27 birds in its educational program including 2 Bald Eagles, 2 Golden Eagles, 2 Barn Owls, and 2 Peregrine Falcons. The original underground water line that went to the barn and the area where raptors are now housed in mews is not serviceable. At the present time volunteers must pull some 100 to 200 feet of water hoses to each cage for cleaning and to fill water and bath pans. All hoses must be gathered up each week in the summer for mowing and then laid out again. This is not only time consuming but costly having to replace and repair hoses and nozzles that are worn from constant moving and deteriorating in the weather. Installing a serviceable water line and faucet at the barn and mew area was greatly needed.

Project Accomplishments

Introduction: Because of rain and bad weather, the project planning and estimate for this project was postponed many times. The route the water line had to take runs through a very low area and through the back part of a prairie. The contractor was doing the best he could to get the project planned, started and completed by the grant deadline of June 30, 2009. The project was finally started on June 22 and completed on June 23. The project was inspected by directors and the contractor was presented his check on June 24, 2009.

Methods and Materials: The water line that was laid by the contractors is much larger in diameter and gives much more water pressure than we have ever had before. The new faucet is freeze proof and very easy to use. It also has the capability of being locked so the no unauthorized person can turn the water on and run the well dry.

Results: The larger water line diameter is saving lots of time in filling up water bowls, bath pans and in being able to hose out the mews quickly. This will allow volunteers to keep the birds in a fresher, cleaner

environment than we have ever been able to before. The faucet has the capability of being locked so the no unauthorized person can turn the water on and run the well dry.

Discussion and Summary: The Illinois Raptor Center is funded by donations from a caring public and from fees for our Education on the Wing Programs. The Illinois Raptor Center is also build on many Eagle Scout Projects that have been done here since 1994, the year the IRC purchased the property. Many groups and individuals have broadened our mission capabilities through volunteering and donations. This generous grant has relieved our organization of a problem that we could not fully fund at the present time. "Running Water to Mews" will help us to free up some time doing maintenance and cleaning so that we can fulfill our true mission of caring for orphaned and injured wildlife and educating the public about the wildlife that lives in their back yard.

ILLINOIS RAPTOR CENTER
Wildlife that benefit from this grant....

**List of threatened or endangered wildlife species cared for in rehabilitation
over the last few years:**

2005

American Bittern
Peregrine Falcon
Short-eared Owl

2006

Short-eared Owl
Osprey
Bald Eagle

2007

Peregrine Falcon

2008

2 Bald Eagles
American Bittern
Barn Owl
Short-eared Owl

2009 (as of 3:30 pm, June 30, 2009)

Peregrine Falcon

List of all permanent resident birds used for conservation education at the present time:

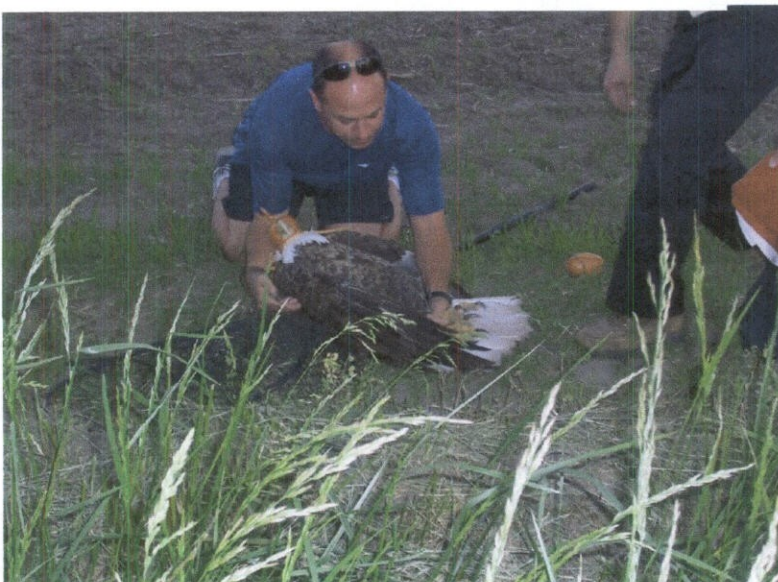
2 Golden Eagles
2 Bald Eagles
2 Barn Owls
2 Peregrine Falcons
1 Hybrid Falcon
1 Prairie Falcon
1 Snowy Owl
1 Great Horned Owl
1 Barred Owl
1 Long-eared Owl
2 Eastern Screech Owls
1 Turkey Vulture
1 Red-tailed Hawk
2 Red-shouldered Hawks
2 American Kestrels
2 Merlins
1 Rose-breasted Grosbeak
1 Wood Duck

List of birds in rehabilitation as of 3:30 PM, June 30, 2009

- 5 Barred Owl chicks
- 2 Great Horned Owl chicks
- 1 Eastern Screech chick
- 2 Red-tailed Hawk chicks
- 1 Red-tailed Hawk adult
- 1 Cooper's Hawk chick
- 1 Bald Eagle adult
- 5 American Kestrel chicks
- 1 American Kestrel Adult
- 1 Mourning Dove
- 1 Blue jay

“Rehabilitation and Education”

Illinois Raptor Center's Wildlife Ambassadors



“Water to the Mews”



