

Embarras River Bottoms State Habitat Area



Management-Monitoring-RESTORATION update

Winter 2014



After a 30-day public comment period, a restoration plan has been finalized. The plan describes the restoration measures proposed to be implemented at the Embarras River Bottoms State Habitat Area in an effort to restore and replace the natural resources injured as a result of the releases of hazardous substances and/or oil from the former Indian Refinery, Lawrenceville, IL. The plan is available at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/NRDA/Pages/ERBSHA.aspx> and the Lawrence Public Library.

A Management-Monitoring Plan describing baseline monitoring efforts and site preparation activities is available at the above website address and the Lawrence Public Library.

What's happening now

Groundwater conservation funds were utilized by the City of Lawrenceville. The City SCADA system was upgraded and modern water meters were installed for 2,000 households in the area. This new equipment will prevent water loss by allowing leaks to be detected much sooner.



Grinding was completed to open wetlands overgrown with undesirable woody species.

Monitoring of vegetation, insects and birds was conducted across the site.



A **prescribed burn** was conducted in August. Prescribed burning will encourage the re-establishment of native communities and will maintain desired community structure. Prescribed burning will reduce encroachment by undesirable vegetation.

White fiberglass boundary markers inscribed with the IDNR logo continue to be placed at least every 300 ft along the perimeter of the property.



What's happening next

Monitoring wintering animal communities
Spring burning, brushing cutting and mowing activities
Primitive parking area along Billet Rd.
Look for the Spring update in May 2015

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