

Embarras River Bottoms State Habitat Area

Management-Monitoring-Restoration update
Winter 2015



Year in review



Reseeding of the Sand Prairie occurred in March. Native species such as lead plant, smooth aster and plains coreopsis were included in the mix.

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.



Monitoring activities for the season included surveys for mammals (trail cameras), dragonflies, turtles, snakes, and insects. Vegetation surveys were completed in August. Photos are being taken to visually track the habitat changes over time.

White fiberglass boundary markers inscribed with the IDNR logo are gradually being placed at least every 300 ft along the perimeter of the property.

pipe gates are to be installed and locked at 7 additional locations. A **parking area** was constructed along Billett Road.



For additional information: A site Management-Monitoring Plan and a Restoration Plan describing the terms of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment settlement and a phased approach to restoration are available at the Lawrence Public Library and <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/programs/NRDA/Pages/ERBSHA.aspx>.

What's happening next

- Monitoring plant and animal communities
- Brushing cutting and mowing activities
- Wetland enhancements
- Hunting opportunities

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