

FINAL REPORT

"LET'S LEARN ABOUT PRAIRIES" #5-011W

Project Objectives:

To develop a teaching materials kit which will promote better understanding of the prairie ecosystem and its importance in Illinois.

To highlight the unique animals and plants of the prairie.

To provide materials for more on-site educational programming at Prairie Ridge SNA.

To make such materials available on loan to educators in and around the Prairie Ridge SNA project area.

Methodology:


A tri-fold table-top display (see photos enclosed) on the Prairie Ridge SNA ecosystem was developed using photos taken at the site by Richard Day, Daybreak Imagery. Text for the display was based on the latest information on prairie birds and other wildlife determined from studies at Prairie Ridge SNA and nearby areas. The completed display will be housed at the Prairie Ridge SNA headquarters.

A teaching kit was assembled using materials from several sources. These include the attached list of items purchased from three agencies/companies, as well as materials which were available through the IDNR. This kit will be housed with the display mentioned above and available for teachers at no charge.

Budget:

Contributed time, materials and photos	\$300.00
Invoices for purchased educational items as per attached list	865.17
Total	\$1165.17
Grant money requested	\$1,000.00

My signature guarantees that the above project has been completed and will be available at Prairie Ridge SNA in the immediate future.

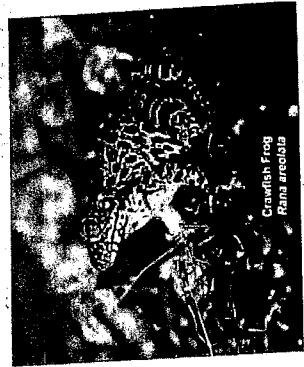

Marilyn F. Campbell, Exec. Director
Illinois Audubon Society

31 August 2005



Eastern Meadowlark
Sturnella magna

WHILE EASTERN MEADOWLARKE STILL APPEARS TO BE COMMON IN PRAIRIE AREAS, IT HAS DECREASED BY 50% IN THE LAST 10 YEARS. THIS IS PRIMARILY BECAUSE THE HABITAT THEY DEPEND ON HAS BEEN CHANGED TO ROWCROPS. IN THESE COUNTRY HOMELANDS, THE BLACKBIRD FAMILY ARE STILL COMMON IN GRASSLAND AREAS SUCH AS PRAIRIE RIDGE, WHERE THEY FEED ON INSECTS



Chorus Frog
Pseudacris sibilans

THE CHORUS FROG LOVES TO CHIRP. BARKING YELLOW AND WOODRUM IN HIS MOST OF THEIR LEVEL UNDERGROUND, OFTEN IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHAMPAGNE BUBBLES. THEY GATHER AT PONDS AND WETLAND AREAS TO BREED AND LAY EGGS EACH SPRING, WHEN THEIR LOUD CHIRPS CAN BE HEARD FOR LONG DISTANCES.



Greater Prairie-Chicken
Tympanuchus phasianellus

GREATER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN THIS NATIVE GROUSE WAS ONCE FOUND OVER MOST OF OUR STATE. IN THE 1950S, THERE WERE 10 TO 14 MILLION OF THEM. ON 21 MILLION ACRES, THE GREATER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN WAS CONFINED TO JUST A FEW HUNDRED THOUSAND ACRES. BY 1984, THEIR NUMBERS WERE DOWN TO 100. WILDLIFE BIOLOGISTS AND CONSERVATION GROUPS SUCH AS THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, BEGAN TO TAKE ACTION TO SAVE LAND IN WHAT IS NOW PRAIRIE RIDGE STATE NATURAL AREA. PRAIRIE-CHICKEN HUNTING INCREASED IN AND THE BIRD WAS ENCOURAGED, BUT THE BATTLE TO SAVE OUR MOST ENDANGERED BIRD CONTINUES.

THE ORNATE BOX TURTLE IS RARE OVER MOST OF THE RANGE IN ILLINOIS. THIS IS BECAUSE ITS OPEN HATCHES ARE MAINLY CANNIBOLES, BIRD WHERE BARNACLES, EARTHWORMS, TADPOLES AND EVEN BIRD EGGS ARE COMMON. LIKE OTHER TURTLES, THEY HIBERNATE DURING THE WINTER MONTHS AND REAPPEAR IN SPRING TO MATE AND LAY EGGS.

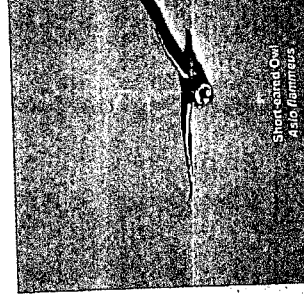
PRAIRIE RIDGE IS A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP WHICH PROTECTS HABITAT FOR SOME OF OUR RAREST WILDLIFE. THE ENTIRE AREA IS MANAGED BY THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, BUT PARTS OF IT ARE OWNED BY THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY (3 SANCTUARIES, TOTALING CLOSE TO 200 ACRES) AND BY Ametec (200 ACRES). THEY WORK TOGETHER TO PROVIDE A DIVERSITY OF HABITAT TYPES - WETLANDS, NATIVE PRAIRIE, RESTORED PRAIRIE, AND COOL-SEASON GRASSLANDS. SOME FIELDS ONCE IN ROWCROPS ARE BEING RESTORED TO GRASSES. THE GOAL AT PRSMA IS TO DEVELOP A LARGE GRASSLAND ECOSYSTEM WHICH CAN PROVIDE HABITAT TO ENSURE THAT OUR PRAIRIE BIRDS AND OTHER WILDLIFE WILL SURVIVE FAR INTO THE FUTURE.

THE NORTHERN HARRIER CAN BE SEEN GLIDING OVER THE WINDY AND FIELDS IN HABITAT AS THE SHORT-EARED OWL. IT NESTS ON THE GROUND AND FEEDS ON MANY OF THE SAME PREY SPECIES AS THE NOCTURNAL OWL. THE HARRIER'S FACE EVEN RESEMBLES THAT OF AN OWL, BUT IT HAS FACIAL DISKS THAT IMPROVE ITS HEARING.

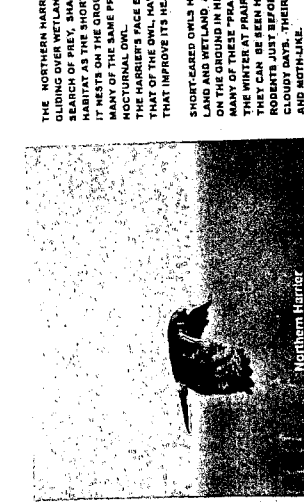
LACK RECES STILT - THIS SHOREBIRD HAS ONLY RECENTLY BEGUN ILLINOIS, AS MOST ARE FOUND IN MARSHES AND WETLANDS OF THE GREAT PLAINS AND WESTERN UNITED STATES. THIS STILT WAS PHOTOGRAPHED AT THE KARL BARTHEL SANCTUARY, A PART OF PRSMA OWNED BY THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY. GREY PAIRS OF BIRDS ATTEMPTED TO NEST IN THE SPRINGS OF 2004.



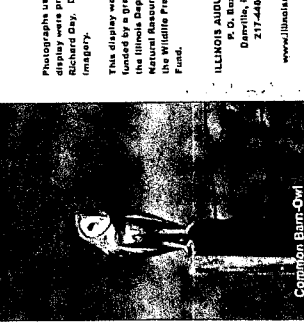
Ornate Box Turtle
Cryptotestudo omaha



Short-eared Owl
Siostrum blythii



Northern Harrier
Circus cyaneus



Common Barn Owl
Tyto alba

PHOTOGRAPHS USED IN THIS DISPLAY WERE PROVIDED BY THE ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

THIS DISPLAY WAS PARTIALLY FUNDED BY A GRANT FROM THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES THROUGH THE WILDLIFE PRESERVATION FUND.

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
1111 S. WASHINGTON ST.
DECATUR, IL 62524
217-445-3003
www.illinoisaudubon.org

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Order Form for INHS Publications

Title	Price*	Quantity	Total
<i>Field Guide to Reptiles + Amphibians</i>	<i>19.95</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>19.95</i>
<i>Butterflies of Illinois</i>	<i>19.95</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>19.95</i>
<i>Waterfowl of Illinois - abbrev. guide</i>	<i>14.95</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>14.95</i>

Grand Total *\$54.85*

* prices are available on the INHS Publications web site or by calling or emailing the Publications Office.

Make check payable to Illinois Natural History Survey. Shipping and handling are included in price.

Mail to:

Ruth Johnson
 Publications Office
 Illinois Natural History Survey
 607 East Peabody Drive
 Champaign, IL 61820

rjohnson@inhs.uiuc.edu

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ship to:

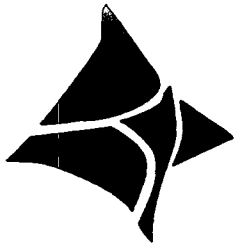
Regular mail }

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 2418
DANVILLE, IL 61834-2418

6247

UPS or FedEx }

or
 I.A.S.
 425 B N. Gilbert
 Danville, IL 61832



The Illinois Audubon Society

Established 1897

Marilyn F. Campbell

Executive Director

24 August 2005
Nature Shop
MO. Dept. of Conservation
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: Order of materials for prairie wildlife kit

We would like to order the following items from your catalog:

04-0100	Blooming Secrets video	\$7.50
03-0248 DVD	Missour's Tallgrass Prairie	10.00
04-0201	Birding for Beginners video	7.25
04-0187	Key to Duck Identification video	7.25
03-0175 CD	Missouri Bird Calls	8.00
03-0217 CD	Singing Insects of Missouri	8.00
04-0116	Snake's Tale video	7.50
03-0165 CD	Toads and Frogs in Missouri	8.00
01-0220	About Mammals and How They Live	12.50

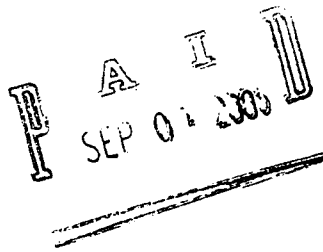
Total:	\$76.00
P&H	7.95

Amt. Enclosed	\$83.95 ✓
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Please ship to: 425B N. Gilbert St.
Danville, IL 61832

Thank you,

Marilyn F. Campbell
Exec. Director



#6246



ACORN NATURALISTS

155 El Camino Real
Tustin, CA 92780

PHONE: (800) 422-8886

FAX: (800) 452-2802

WEB: www.acornnaturalists.com

Date: 8-24-05
 Name: ILLINOIS AUDUBON
 Institution (if applicable): SOCIETY
 Street: PO BOX 2418
 City: DANVILLE State: IL Zip: 61834
 Phone #: (217) 446-5085

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 SHIPTO (if different):
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 Street: 425 B N. GILBERT
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 Up to \$50, please add \$4.95;
 \$50 - \$200, add 10%;
 over \$200, add 7%

For next, 2nd or 3rd day air and international orders, shipping costs will be added based on weight, type of delivery requested and destination. Please note any special shipping requests on the lower line of this order form. Please provide a street address for delivery.

Quantity	Item #	Description	Price each	Total
1 each		Attached List (reverse side)		678.85

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Please note any special shipping requests (we normally ship UPS ground):

Please include a copy of Acorn Naturalists catalog with this order FREE

ACORN NATURALISTS is dedicated to providing resources that inspire and empower. We are an independent bookseller, owned by teachers with decades of practical experience and a passion for education. We offer informed, personal service on our toll-free line. You may also order directly from our website or mail or fax in this order form. When in town, please visit our new Center for Science and Environmental Education in Old Town Tustin. All of our catalog products are housed here, along with a new bookstore and classroom, all set amidst native plant gardens and ponds. As always, we look forward to bringing you quality resources for the trail and classroom.

Subtotal	678.85
Shipping (please see shipping schedule)	47.52
7.25% Sales Tax (of subtotal, CA residents only, Orange County, CA residents please add 7.75%)	
TOTAL	726.37

EVERYTHING IS GUARANTEED:
 If any item does not meet your needs for any reason, let us know within 60 days of receipt. This unconditional guarantee covers everything we offer, including books, videos, replicas and kits. Simply call for a return authorization number (needed to properly track your return) and let us know if you would like a refund, replacement, or credit.

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Grasses an Identification Guide # BP 6377	\$15.95
Ecosystems of North America: The Prairie # B 7225	\$26.95
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A Walk in the Prairie # B 9187	\$23.95
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America's Prairies and Grasslands # B 10012	\$11.95
Grasslands # B 12848	\$5.95
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