

Embarras River Bottoms State Habitat Area

Management-Monitoring-Restoration update
Winter 2017

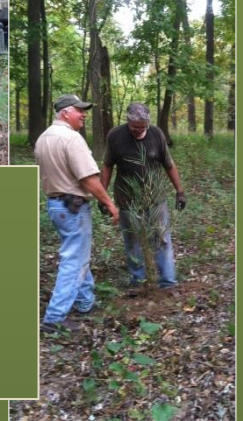


Year in review

Timber stand improvement actions occurred in November to encourage the growth of native and ecologically valuable species. This involved tree thinning and removal of undesirable species.



In October IDNR staff planted 600 **giant cane** plants in an effort to establish a canebrake community native to southern Illinois.



A **prescribed burn** was conducted in the Sand Prairie area in December, followed by supplemental **reseeding** in January. Continued vegetation monitoring indicates that these actions encourage growth, increase diversity, and improve the structure of this native plant community.



Grinding was completed in November to open sedge meadows and wetlands overgrown with undesirable woody species.



Pipe gates have been installed to prevent unauthorized vehicle access.



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

- Continued monitoring of plant and animal communities
- Brushing cutting and mowing activities
- Wetland, vernal pond, and timber stand enhancements
- Additional parking area on Billet Road

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