

**Inventory of Roadside Prairies
Illinois Department of Transportation
District 2**

**Illinois Natural History Survey
Center for Biodiversity
Technical Report (5) 2004**

**William C. Handel
Technical Scientist**

May 2004

**Prepared for:
Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Design and Environment
2300 South Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, Illinois 62764**

INTRODUCTION

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has been interested in mapping roadside prairie since 1992. A formal request was made in 1998 by Rich Nowack to map prairie while traveling to other IDOT project areas, and as time allowed. IDOT's justification for this project was to preserve prairie habitat, and limit accidental mowing and herbicide spraying of native prairie remnants. In 2000, IDOT made this project a priority. In the 2001 field season, a more detailed and systematic approach was taken to survey prairies in Illinois. This report and final GIS map is the result of the information gathered during the 2003 field season in IDOT District 2.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A significant amount of remaining prairie in Illinois is located in joint rights-of-way of railroads and roads. This is due to the protection from cultivation and other disturbances. Using the Geographic Information System (GIS), a map of IDOT District 2 was generated for field use. This map has all areas marked where a road and railroad were within 400 ft of each other. Using this map, these areas were systematically checked for native prairie and savanna remnants. For the majority of the remnants, a limited survey was warranted. This consisted of stopping at regular intervals to generate species lists and gather data needed to characterize each site. If a remnant was higher quality, more time was spent surveying the remnant; however, the large scale of this project made detailed surveys of each remnant impractical.

During 2001, IDOT District 5 was surveyed throughout the growing season (Handel 2002). Early surveys resulted in better recording of spring and early summer flora. The disadvantage of early sampling was that it was slower, and identification of warm-season grasses and forbs was more difficult. Warm-season grasses at this time often needed a close examination to identify species and abundance. Late surveys, especially September to October, allow for quick identification of remnants because the native grasses are the most visible at this time. The drawback of late surveys, is that spring and summer flora are overlooked because they have gone dormant or they are obscured by the taller fall vegetation. A similar roadside survey conducted in Minnesota was conducted in late summer and fall (Bolin et al. 1988). To cover more area in

2003, surveying was done in two phases, April to July and then again in August to October. The first phase was to eliminate from further consideration areas of roadsides that were destroyed or were very low quality. This saved valuable time during the peak summer and fall survey period when attention was focused on surveying extant remnants.

The following data were recorded on each remnant. The evaluator(s), date, and county were recorded for each site. GPS readings for starting and ending points were taken at the majority sites. At a few small sites only a central point was taken. The location was relative to reference points such as local roads. A quality rating of 1, 2, or 3 was assigned to the remnants, with number 1 being the highest quality and 3 being the poorest quality. Some remnants included two or more quality classes. For example, there could be one small high-quality section (1) within a larger degraded remnant (3). I was very lenient with the class 3 (lowest quality) prairies, because it is my opinion with active management these prairies could vastly improve. Active management, such as controlled burning, probably has not occurred on these remnants for a long period. Vast improvement of similar degraded prairie habitat has been demonstrated after active management was implemented (Handel 2000). In other highway prairie studies after active management was implemented, prairie improved and some rare species were maintained or slightly increased in abundance (Bolin et al. 1988). The type of plant community or communities that were present was noted, for example dry-mesic prairie. Width, distance to edge of pavement, and length of each remnant were recorded. Evidence of management or signs indicating management of prairie vegetation were noted. The status of the railroad and presence of prairie habitat on the side away from the highway also were recorded. Threats to each remnant were recorded. This included exotics, woody invasion, or man-made disturbances such as mowing, cultivation, or spraying. Finally, a species list was generated for each remnant. Species were excluded if they occurred just in the roadside ditch or in the railroad ballast. Exotics were only counted if they were found in the remnant. Relative abundance was recorded for each species observed on a 1 to 5 scale. Botanical nomenclature follows Mohlenbrock (1986). Community classification follows White (1978).

TERMS USED IN SITE DESCRIPTIONS

Relative Abundance Values (RAV):

1. Rare
2. Occasional
3. Common
4. Abundant
5. Dominant

Quality Classes

1. This class was reserved for highest quality prairie remnants. These sites have a low abundance of exotic species. Forb diversity and density is high. In class 1, conservative prairie species are present. These sites roughly parallel a rating of Illinois Natural Area Inventory (INAI) grade A or B (White 1978). A more detailed survey, including quantitative data, would be needed to determine if they truly qualify for INAI status.
2. These remnants still have a matrix of native forbs and grasses remaining. The prairie is somewhat degraded, however there is still some resemblance of a prairie community. Class 2 remnants are characterized by presence of the major warm-season grasses and disturbance-tolerant forbs. In some cases conservative species occur in low abundance. Class 2 prairie would roughly parallel an INAI rating of grade C.
3. Highly degraded prairie was ranked as Class 3. In class 3 remnants, prairie species were present but the community was highly disturbed. Exotic species usually dominate portions of the remnant. There can be some conservative species present, but the majority of the species are common prairie grasses and a few disturbance-tolerant forbs. Class 3 has also been reserved for areas that are solid stands of prairie grasses. This would be roughly parallel an INAI rating of grade D.

PRAIRIE COMMUNITIES IN ILLINOIS

Because of their rarity, species diversity, and vulnerability to habitat degradation, prairie communities are of special concern in Illinois. Prairie was the dominant community type in the state before 1820 (Iverson et al. 1989). After the invention of the steel plow, areas of prairie were quickly converted to agricultural crops. Of the estimated 22,000,000 acres of prairie that

occurred in the state, only 2,352 acres of high-quality prairie remained by 1976, about 1/100th of 1% (White 1978). The amount of prairie in District 2 in 1820 was approximately 2,709,700 acres. In 1976, the total acreage of high quality prairie (A or B) remaining in District 2 was 356.5 acres or 0.013% (White 1978). There are no specific data on the amount of grade C - D prairie remaining in IDOT District 2. It is known that there has been a significant decline in prairie throughout the state since the Natural Areas Inventory was completed in 1976. Encroachment by woody vegetation, conversion to agricultural crops in railroad rights-of-way, and lack of management all have contributed to the decline of prairie communities statewide. The remaining grade C or D quality prairie remnants are an extremely important biological and economic resource. They may not be as floristically diverse as grade A or B remnants, but they serve important functions in the Illinois landscape:

1. They provide cover and dispersal corridors for prairie flora and fauna.
2. With the decrease in prairie habitat and the increased need for habitat reconstruction and restoration, remnants provide an invaluable source of seed of local ecotypes.
3. They provide refugia for species that have been eliminated from the nearby landscape and they sometimes link areas of higher quality prairies, allowing for the dispersal of species and genetic exchange from one remnant to another.
4. Because they are often linear in shape, they may cross several soil types and moisture gradients, creating a community of high floristic and faunistic diversity throughout a given landscape.
5. Practical benefits to highway departments include the potential for a reduction in the cost of roadside maintenance, and increased erosion control when native vegetation communities are present (USDT 1975a).
6. Native prairie remnants that are managed correctly can also reduce the presence of exotic and noxious weeds along highway corridors.

7. Prairie remnants provide habitat for game species. Millions of dollars are spent each year on creating habitat for species such Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) and Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*). Often this artificial habitat consists of one or two prairie grass species. These plantings may provide emergency cover from harsh winter weather, but they are inferior to the native remnants that provide not only cover, but also high concentrations of food from plant seeds and insects that exist in these natural remnants.
8. In areas of the state where habitat has disappeared because of development or intensive agriculture these remnants are often the only natural communities of any type that remain on a regional scale.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

General Information and Quality

Prairies are marked in **yellow** and numbered (1 to 50) on the map. This number corresponds to a data sheet in the report. Information describing prairie remnants is summarized in Tables 1 - 3. No mowed prairies were identified in District 2. According to the GIS mapping, there were approximately 387 miles of joint roadway and railroad rights-of-way in District 2. Fifty prairie and savanna remnants were located in these joint rights-of-ways in District 2 during the 2003-growing season, totaling 63.39 miles or (16.3%). The general trend found during the statewide prairie survey was that there was significantly less prairie left on the opposite side of the tracks (Table 1). However, District 2 like Districts 1 and 3 had substantially more prairies on the opposite side of the tracks compared to other IDOT districts. Thirty-two of 50 (64%) of the prairie remnants had prairie vegetation present on the far side of the tracks. Still, most of the prairie appeared to be lower quality than the prairie adjacent to the road. The majority of the prairie remnants, 31 of 50 (62%), were class 3 (the lowest quality prairie). Sixteen of 50 (32%) were in class 2 (medium quality) category. Nine of 50 (18%) prairie remnants were considered class 1 (highest quality) category. Eight of 50 (16%) of the remnants surveyed had signs indicating prairie management. Three of these were dedicated Illinois nature preserves. Dry-mesic prairie was the community most frequently encountered. Wet-mesic prairie was extremely rare with only 3 of 50 (6%) located in District 2. This trend occurred statewide, and is probably due to the intense effort to drain areas adjacent to roads and tiling throughout Illinois. A

substantial portion of the State's sand prairie habitat occurs in District 2. Sand prairie communities comprised 10 of 50 (20%) in District 2.

Table 1. General information on prairie remnants in joint Illinois Department of Transportation and railroad rights-of-way in District 2 including: quality, communities, evidence of management or signage, and railroad activity. The percentage in the quality class and natural communities may exceed 100%, because some sites had more than one quality class or natural community present.

Quality	# Sites (out of 50)	% of sites
Class 3	31	62%
Class 2	16	32%
Class 1	9	18%
Natural Communities		
Dry-mesic prairie	31	62%
Mesic prairie	10	20%
Dry-mesic sand prairie	6	12%
Wet-mesic prairie	3	6%
Dry-mesic sand prairie	2	4%
Dry sand prairie	1	2%
Wet-mesic sand prairie	1	2%
Dry-mesic gravel prairie	1	2%
Dry-mesic savanna	1	2%
Signage or evidence of management (Burning)		
No	42	84%
Yes	8	16%
Railroad Activity		
Active	32	64%
Abandoned	17	34%
Other (Roadside)	1	2%

Presence of prairie on RR R-O-W opposite tracks

Yes	32	64%
No	17	34%
Other (Roadside)	1	2%

Threats to Remnants

Roadside rights-of-way are affected by a multitude of human disturbances: mowing, salt, car emissions, ditch maintenance, herbicide application from both the roadside and railways, and the installation of communication and utility lines. These disturbances keep the structure and composition of these remnants in a constant state of fluctuation. The remnants that were found during this survey all show some form of disturbance. Exotic species threatened 50 of 50 (100%) of the prairie remnants in District 2 (Table 2). Twenty-eight of 50 prairies (56%) were partially mowed. Woody invasion from both exotics and native species was a threat in 12 of 50 remnants (24%). Digging of plants might be a greater problem than indicated in this report, because evidence of digging easily could be overlooked during the assessment.

Table 2. Type of threat and frequency among prairie remnants in IDOT District 2.

Threats	# Sites (out of 50)	% of sites
Exotics	50	100%
Mowing	28	56%
Woody invasion	12	24%
Development	3	6%
Cultivation	3	6%
Tree planting	1	2%

Exotics

If exotics were limited to the railroad ballast or roadside ditch they were not considered a threat. Generally, if an exotic species occurred in the remnant and had an abundance rating of 3 or above it was considered a threat. The cool season grass *Bromus inermis* (smooth brome grass) was the most common exotic encountered occurring in 38 of 50 (76%) of the prairie remnants (Table 3).

Pastinaca sativa (wild parsnip) and *Phalaris arundinacea* (reed canary grass) were also prevalent in remnants. Smooth brome grass is often planted when seeding roadsides. Reed canary grass is often used in erosion control and stream filter strips. They can also invade from adjoining pastures and hayfields.

Table 3. List of exotics that were a threat to prairie remnants in IDOT District 2.

Scientific Name	Common Name	# Sites (out of 50)	% of Occurrence
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	38	76%
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	22	44%
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	reed canary grass	20	40%
<i>Melilotus</i> spp.	sweet clovers	12	24%
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	common red reed	10	20%
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	bouncing bet	6	12%
<i>Agropyron repens</i>	wheat grass	2	4%
<i>Festuca pratensis</i>	meadow fescue	2	8%
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	amur honeysuckle	2	4%
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	common buckthorn	2	4%
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	black locust	2	4%
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian elm	2	4%
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	garlic mustard	1	2%
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada thistle	1	2%
<i>Coronilla varia</i>	crown vetch	1	2%

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Site: District 2

N# 1

Date: 10/14/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: West Blanding Road to Blanding

County: Jo Daviess

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0715492- 4683636

GPS Data Ending UTM 15T 0714248- 4684837

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic sand prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Lonicera maackii

amur honeysuckle

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 5 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.7 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Several areas were mowed during the time of the survey. This remnant appeared to be higher quality several years ago.

Plant List for Site N#1

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Agastache nepetoides

yellow giant hyssop

2

Ambrosia trifida

giant ragweed

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

3

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Cornus racemosa

gray dogwood

2

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

2

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

3

Lonicera maackii

amur honeysuckle

3

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

3

Populus deltoides

cottonwood

3

Rubus occidentalis

black raspberry

3

Silphium perfoliatum

cup plant

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Solidago gigantea

late goldenrod

2

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

3

Veronicastrum virginicum

Culver's root

2

Site: District 2

N# 2

Date: 10/14/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: West Buck Hill Road

County: Jo Daviess

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0715531- 4703299

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 35-40 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 0 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: Some conservative species present

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#2

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Anemone canadensis

meadow anemone

2

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Corylus americana

hazelnut

2

Desmodium canadense

showy tick trefoil

2

Desmodium illinoense

Illinois tick trefoil

2

Lespedeza capitata

bush clover

3

Lithospermum canescens

hoary puccoon

2

Panicum leibergii

prairie panic grass

1

Panicum oligoanthos var. *scribnerianum*

panic grass

2

Parthenium integrifolium

American feverfew

2

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

2

Polygonatum commutatum

great solomon seal

2

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

2

Rhus glabra

smooth sumac

2

Rosa carolina

pasture rose

2

Schizachyrium scoparium

little bluestem

3

Silphium integrifolium

rosinweed

3

Silphium perfoliatum

cup plant

2

Smilacina racemosa

false solomon seal

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

Solidago missouriensis

Missouri goldenrod

2

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

3

Tradescantia ohioensis

Ohio spiderwort

1

Veronicastrum virginicum

Culver's root

2

Zizia aurea

golden alexanders

1

Site: District 2

N# 3

Date: 10/14/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Posey Hollow Road

County: Jo Daviess

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0717915- 4704925

GPS Data Ending UTM 15T 0717809- 4704887

Quality Class: 1

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic savanna/prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Pastinaca sativa
Rhamnus cathartica

Common Name

wild parsnip
common buckthorn

Prairie Width: 25 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 0 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: There are several conservative species at this site.

Comments: Most of this remnant occurs away from the road.

Plant List for Site N#3

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	3
<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>	spreading dogbane	2
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	2
<i>Aster praealtus</i>	willow-leaved aster	2
<i>Astragalus canadensis</i>	Canadian milkvetch	1
<i>Bromus kalmii</i>	prairie brome	1
<i>Bromus purgans</i>	brome grass	2
<i>Carex sp.</i>	sedge	2
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey tea	3
<i>Cinna arundinacea</i>	stoutwood reed	2
<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>	shooting star	2
<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	bottlebrush grass	3
<i>Erigeron pulchellus</i>	woodland fleabane	2
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	flowering spurge	3
<i>Gentiana alba</i>	pale gentian	3
<i>Gentiana quinquefolia</i>	stiff gentian	2
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	wild geranium	3
<i>Heracleum lanatum</i>	cow parsnip	2
<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>	prairie alum root	1
<i>Lilium michiganense</i>	Michigan lilly	1
<i>Lithospermum canescens</i>	hoary puccoon	2
<i>Lonicera prolifera</i>	honeysuckle	2
<i>Lysimachia ciliata</i>	fringed loosestrife	1
<i>Melic nitens</i>	melic grass	1
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	prairie switch grass	1
<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	prairie phlox	1
<i>Polemonium reptans</i>	Jacob's ladder	1
<i>Polygala senega</i>	seneca snakeroot	1

<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>	solomon seal	1
<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	big-tooth aspen	2
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	quaking aspen	3
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	bur oak	2
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	yellow coneflower	2
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	common buckthorn	3
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed susan	2

Plant List for Site N#3

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Salix humilis</i>	prairie willow	1
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	3
<i>Scrophularia marilandica</i>	late figwort	2
<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	false solomon seal	2
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	3
<i>Sphenopholis obtusata</i>	shining wedge grass	2
<i>Thalictrum dioicum</i>	early meadow rue	2
<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i>	Ohio spiderwort	2
<i>Valeriana edulis</i> var. <i>ciliata</i>	valerian	1
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	3
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden alexanders	2

Site: District 2

N# 4

Date: 10/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Stage Coach Trail to Warren

County: Jo Daviess

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0256030 - 4706854

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0255511- 4708288

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 15 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#4

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Apocynum cannabinum

dogbane

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

3

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

3

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

3

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

3

Spiraea alba

meadow-sweet

1

Site: District 2

N# 5

Date: 10/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Stage Coach Trail, 0.2 miles from Waddams Grove Road to the town of Waddams Grove

County: Stephenson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0262322 - 4700511

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0261684 - 4701015

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Bromus inermis

Pastinaca sativa

Common Name

smooth brome grass

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.5 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#5

Scientific Name

Andropogon gerardii

Aster ericoides

Aster laevis

Bromus inermis

Eupatorium altissimum

Helianthus grosseserratus

Monarda fistulosa

Pastinaca sativa

Ratibida pinnata

Rosa carolina

Salix humilis

Silphium laciniatum

Solidago canadensis

Solidago rigida

Common Name

big bluestem

heath aster

smooth aster

smooth brome grass

tall boneset

tall sunflower

wild bergamot

wild parsnip

drooping coneflower

pasture rose

prairie willow

compass plant

Canada goldenrod

rigid goldenrod

RAV

4

4

3

3

2

3

2

3

2

2

1

3

4

3

Site: District 2

N# 6

Date: 10/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: US 20 at Eleroy from roadside rest area to Salem Road 1035 N

County: Stephenson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0271851 - 4690759

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0270524 - 4692197

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Bromus inermis
Phalaris arundinacea
Pastinaca sativa

Common Name

smooth brome grass
reed canary grass
wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#6

Scientific Name

Andropogon gerardii
Aster pilosus
Bromus inermis
Cornus racemosa
Desmodium canadense
Euphorbia corollata
Helianthus grosseserratus
Helianthus rigidus
Helianthus strumosus
Pastinaca sativa
Phalaris arundinacea
Prunus americana
Pycnanthemum virginianum
Quercus macrocarpa
Rhus glabra
Solidago canadensis
Solidago rigida
Sorghastrum nutans
Spartina pectinata
Teucrium canadense
Veronicastrum virginicum

Common Name

big bluestem
hairy aster
smooth brome grass
gray dogwood
showy tick trefoil
flowering spurge
tall sunflower
prairie sunflower
pale-leaved sunflower
wild parsnip
reed canary grass
American plum
mountain mint
burr oak
smooth sumac
Canada goldenrod
rigid goldenrod
Indian grass
prairie cord grass
American germander
Culver's root

RAV

3
2
3
3
3
2
3
1
3
3
2
2
2
4
4
3
1
2
2
1

Site: District 2

N# 7

Date: 10/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 75 (0.55 miles west of Church Road)

County: Stephenson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0298646 - 4698903

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0298160 - 4698760

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion

Scientific Name

Bromus inermis

Melilotus spp.

Pastinaca sativa

Common Name

smooth brome grass

sweet clovers

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.3 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This species list was generated from IDOT memo (Edwards and Handel 2002).

Plant List for Site N#7

Scientific Name

Andropogon gerardii

Anemone quinquefolia

Anemone virginiana

Apocynum sibiricum

Asclepias syriaca

Asparagus officinalis

Aster ericoides

Aster pilosus

Bouteloua curtipendula

Bromus inermis

Calystegia sepium

Carex grvida

Carex pensylvanica

Cirsium discolor

Comandra umbellata

Conyza canadensis

Coreopsis tripteris

Cornus drummondii

Corylus americana

Dodecatheon meadia

Echinacea pallida

Elymus canadensis

Erigeron strigosus

Eupatorium altissimum

Euphorbia corollata

Fragaria virginiana

Galium aparine

Common Name

big bluestem

wood anemone

tall anemone

Indian hemp

common milkweed

asparagus

heath aster

hairy aster

sideoats grama

smooth brome grass

American bindweed

sedge

penn sedge

field thistle

bastard toadflax

horseweed

tall coreopsis

rough-leaved dogwood

hazelnut

shooting star

pale purple coneflower

Canada wild rye

daisy fleabane

tall boneset

flowering spurge

wild strawberry

annual bedstraw

RAV

2

3

3

1

2

1

2

1

2

3

1

2

3

2

2

1

1

1

2

2

1

2

2

2

2

2

1

<i>Gentiana alba</i>	pale gentian	1
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	wild geranium	2
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	tall sunflower	3
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	eastern red cedar	2
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	bush clover	2
<i>Melilotus</i> spp.	sweet clovers	3

Plant List for Site N#7

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	evening primrose	2
<i>Panicum leibergii</i>	prairie panic grass	2
<i>Panicum villosissimum</i>	hairy panic grass	2
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	prairie switch grass	2
<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>	great solomon seal	2
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia creeper	2
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	northern red oak	1
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	common chokecherry	2
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	2
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	smooth sumac	2
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	1
<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	common blackberry	3
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed susan	2
<i>Ruellia humilis</i>	hairy ruellia	2
<i>Salix humilis</i>	prairie willow	2
<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	elderberry	1
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	3
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	1
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	cup plant	1
<i>Smilacina stellata</i>	starry false solomon sea	2
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	1
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	2
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	2
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	3
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	drop seed	2
<i>Stipa spartea</i>	needle grass	2
<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i>	Ohio spiderwort	2
<i>Trillium recurvatum</i>	red trillium	1
<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>	bellwort	2
<i>Vitis riparia</i>	river grape	2
<i>Verbena urticifolia</i>	white vervain	1

Site: District 2

N# 8

Date: 10/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 75 on either side of Church Road 2500 E

County: Stephenson

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0299456 - 4699145

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 15 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This species list was generated from IDOT memo (Edwards and Handel 2002).

Plant List for Site N#8

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Achillea millefolium

yarrow

1

Ambrosia artemisiifolia

ragweed

1

Ambrosia trifida

giant ragweed

1

Anemone quinquefoila

wood anemone

2

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

1

Aster laevis

smooth aster

1

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

2

Aster shortii

short's aster

1

Bouteloua curtipendula

sideoats grama

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Carex grvida

sedge

1

Carex normalis

sedge

1

Carex pensylvanica

penn sedge

3

Carya cordiformis

bitternut hickory

1

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

1

Corylus americana

hazelnut

2

Dodecatheon meadia

shooting star

1

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

2

Erigeron annuus

annual fleabane

1

Erigeron pulchellus

robin's plantain

2

Erigeron strigosus

daisy fleabane

2

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

1

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

1

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

2

Helianthus strumosus

pale-leaved sunflower

2

Juniperus virginiana

eastern red cedar

1

Monarda fistulosa

wild bergamot

1

Panicum villosissimum

hairy panic grass

2

Parthenocissus quinquefolia

Virginia creeper

2

<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	3
<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>	great solomon seal	1
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	smooth sumac	3
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	2
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed susan	2
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	2

Plant List for Site N#8

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	1
<i>Smilacina stellata</i>	starry false solomon seal	1
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	3
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	1
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	2
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	2
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	Ohio spiderwort	3
<i>Trillium recurvatum</i>	red trillium	1

Site: District 2

N# 9

Date: 10/21/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Yale Bridge Prairie

County: Winnebago

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0313396 - 4704453

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0314479 - 4704450

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic to wet-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 10 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes
(Natural Area Management sign)

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: NA

Prairie Length: 0.7 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: NA

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#9

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Aster ericoides

heath aster

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

1

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

3

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Calamagrostis canadensis

bluejoint grass

3

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Cornus stolonifera

red osier dogwood

2

Epilobium coloratum

willow herb

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

3

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

3

Polygonum amphibium

water smartweed

2

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

2

Salix exigua

sandbar willow

2

Salix humilis

prairie willow

2

Salix sp.

willow

2

Scirpus cyperinus

wool grass

2

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Solidago gigantea

late goldenrod

3

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

2

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

3

Vernonia fasciculata

common ironweed

2

Site: District 2

N# 10

Date: 10/21/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 173 Capron

County: Boone

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0355889 - 4694826

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0352905 - 4692580

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic to wet-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Phragmites australis

common red reed

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes

(Do Not Mow the *Phragmites* sign)

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 2.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Some good quality prairie remains. Approximately 1.5 miles is wet-mesic prairie with the remaining 0.9 miles being dry-mesic prairie. For some undetermined reason someone does not want the *Phragmites australis* (common red reed) mowed on the site.

Plant List for Site N#10

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Anemone virginiana

tall anemone

1

Aster ericoides

heath aster

3

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

3

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

2

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

2

Calamagrostis canadensis

bluejoint grass

2

Carya ovata

shagbark hickory

2

Coreopsis palmata

prairie coreopsis

2

Cornus racemosa

gray dogwood

2

Corylus americana

hazelnut

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

3

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

2

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

3

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

3

Lespedeza capitata

bush clover

2

Liatris aspera

rough blazing star

1

Lilium michiganense

Michigan lily

1

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

3

Monarda fistulosa

wild bergamot

3

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

3

Phragmites australis

common red reed

3

<i>Prunus americana</i>	American plum	2
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	mountain mint	3
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	burr oak	2
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	3
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	2
<i>Salix exigua</i>	sandbar willow	1
<i>Salix humilis</i>	prairie willow	1

Plant List for Site N#10

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	2
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	4
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	3
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	2
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	2
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	drop seed	3
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	northern drop seed	1
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	cattail	2
<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>	common ironweed	1

Site: District 2

N# 11

Date: 10/10/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 84 south of Savanna

County: Carroll

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0738424 - 4660260

GPS Data Ending UTM 15T 0738729 - 4659561

Quality Class: 1

Natural Community Type(s): Dry to Dry-mesic sand prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing, construction

Scientific Name

Common Name

Agropyron repens

wheat grass

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Ulmus pumila

Siberian elm

Prairie Width: 50 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.6 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: This is a very high quality remnant but is in desperate need of active management. *Orobanche ludoviciana* (broomrape) an Illinois threatened species occurs at this site.

Comments: This remnant has good quality sand prairie with some conservative plant and insect species. Species list from Handel (1997).

Plant List for Site N#11

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Acer negundo</i>	box elder	1
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	yarrow	2
<i>Agropyron repens</i>	wheat grass	3
<i>Agropyron smithii</i>	Colorado bluestem	1
<i>Agrostis alba</i>	red top	3
<i>Allaria petiolata</i>	garlic mustard	1
<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	lead plant	3
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	4
<i>Androsace occidentalis</i>	rock jasmine	2
<i>Antennaria plantaginifolia</i>	cat's foot	2
<i>Apocynum sibiricum</i>	Indian-hemp	3
<i>Arabis lyrata</i>	rock cress	2
<i>Artemisia campestris</i>	beach wormwood	3
<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	sagebrush	1
<i>Asclepias amplexicaulis</i>	sand milkweed	2
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	common milkweed	2
<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	whorled milkweed	2
<i>Asclepias viridiflora</i>	green milkweed	1
<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	asparagus	1
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	heath aster	2
<i>Aster pilosus</i>	hairy aster	1
<i>Aster sericeus</i>	silky aster	1
<i>Baptisia leucophaea</i>	cream wild indigo	2
<i>Brickellia eupatorioides</i>	false boneset	3
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	2

<i>Bromus tectorum</i>	hairy chess	2
<i>Callirhoe triangulata</i>	poppy mallow	2
<i>Carex bicknellii</i>	sedge	1
<i>Carex brevior</i>	sedge	1
<i>Carex meadii</i>	sedge	1
<i>Carex muhlenbergii</i>	sedge	3
Plant List for Site N#11		
Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Carex tonsa</i>	sedge	1
<i>Cassia fasciculata</i>	partridge-pea	3
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	New Jersey tea	2
<i>Cirsium altissimum</i>	tall thistle	1
<i>Cirsium discolor</i>	field thistle	1
<i>Clematis pitcheri</i>	leather flower	1
<i>Comandra umbellata</i>	bastard toad-flax	3
<i>Conyza canadensis</i>	horseweed	2
<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>	prairie coreopsis	3
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	gray dogwood	2
<i>Coronilla varia</i>	crown vetch	3
<i>Corydalis micrantha</i>	slender corydalis	1
<i>Croton glandulosus</i> var. <i>septentrionalis</i>	croton	1
<i>Cyperus filiculmis</i>	nut sedge	2
<i>Cyperus schweinitzii</i>	nut sedge	2
<i>Dalea candida</i>	white prairie clover	2
<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	purple prairie clover	2
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	wild rye	4
<i>Equisetum laevigatum</i>	scouring rush	1
<i>Erechtites hieracifolia</i>	fire weed	2
<i>Erigeon strigosus</i>	daisy fleabane	1
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	flowering spurge	3
<i>Festuca pratensis</i>	tall fescue	1
<i>Froelichia floridana</i> var. <i>campestris</i>	cottonweed	2
<i>Gentiana puberulenta</i>	downy gentian	2
<i>Gleditsia tricanthos</i>	honey locust	1
<i>Gnaphalium obtusifolium</i>	cudweed	2
<i>Hackelia virginiana</i>	stickseed	2
<i>Hedeoma hispida</i>	rough pennyroyal	4
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	common sunflower	1
<i>Helianthus occidentalis</i>	western sunflower	3
<i>Helianthus rigidus</i>	prairie sunflower	3
<i>Heterotheca camporum</i>	golden aster	3
<i>Krigia virginica</i>	dwarf dandelion	3
<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	June grass	4
<i>Lactuca canadensis</i>	wild lettuce	2
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	prickly lettuce	1
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	bush lespedeza	2
<i>Liatris aspera</i>	rough blazing star	3
<i>Linaria canadensis</i>	blue toadflax	3
<i>Lithospermum canescens</i>	hoary puccoon	2
<i>Lithospermum carolinense</i>	hairy puccoon	3
<i>Lithospermum incisum</i>	yellow puccoon	1
<i>Lonicera macckii</i>	amur honeysuckle	2
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	yellow sweet clover	2
<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i>	wild four-o'clock	2
<i>Monarda punctata</i>	horsemint	3

<i>Opuntia macrorhiza</i>	prickly-pear	3
<i>Orobanche ludoviciana</i>	broomrape	2
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	switch grass	2
<i>Panicum oligosanthos</i> var. <i>scribnerianum</i>	Scribner's panic grass	3
<i>Panicum villosissimum</i>	hairy panic grass	3
<i>Penstemon pallidus</i>	pale beard-tongue	2
<i>Physalis virginiana</i>	ground cherry	1
<i>Plantago patagonica</i> var. <i>breicarpa</i>	salt and pepper grass	2
<i>Poa compressa</i>	Canadian bluegrass	1
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Kentucky bluegrass	1
<i>Poinsettia dentata</i>	wild poinsettia	1
<i>Potentilla arguta</i>	prairie cinquefoil	2
<i>Potentilla recta</i>	sulfer cinquefoil	1
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	black cherry	2

Plant List for Site N#11

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	yellow coneflower	1
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	black locust	2
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	meadow rose	2
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	multiflora rose	2
<i>Ruellia humilis</i>	wild petunia	4
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	common sorrel	2
<i>Salix humilis</i>	prairie willow	1
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	bouncing bet	2
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	4
<i>Solanum carolinense</i>	horse nettle	2
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	2
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	dyersweed	3
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	stiff goldenrod	2
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	2
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cordgrass	2
<i>Spermolepis inermis</i>	sand carrot	1
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	tall dropseed	3
<i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>	sand dropseed	1
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	northern dropseed	5
<i>Stipa spartea</i>	needle grass	3
<i>Strophostyles helvola</i>	wild bean	1
<i>Tephrosia virginiana</i>	goat's rue	3
<i>Teucrium canadense</i>	American germander	2
<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	posion ivy	2
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	Ohio spiderwort	2
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	common goat's beard	1
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian elm	2
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	woolly mullein	2
<i>Verbena stricta</i>	hoary vervain	2

Site: District 2

N# 12

Date: 10/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: I 72 (0.1 mile west of Mt. Morris Road)

County: Ogle

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0299005 - 4666210

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0298035 - 4666411

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic gravel prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Agropyron repens

couch grass

Alliaria petiolata

garlic mustard

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Centaurea maculosa

spotted centaurea

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 22 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.7 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant has some conservative species.

Comments: The species list is from an IDOT memo (Taft 2001). Some the prairie was mown at the time of the survey.

Plant List for Site N#12

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Agropyron repens

couch grass

3

Alliaria petiolata

garlic mustard

3

Ambrosia trifida

giant ragweed

3

Amorpha canescens

lead plant

2

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Apocynum cannabinum

dogbane

2

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

2

Bouteloua curtipendula

sideoats grama

2

Brickellia eupatorioides

false boneset

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

4

Centaurea maculosa

spotted centaurea

3

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

3

Conyza canadensis

horseweed

3

Cornus racemosa

gray dogwood

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

2

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

2

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

3

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

2

Lespedeza capitata

bush clover

1

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

3

Napaea dioica

glade mallow

2

<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	evening primrose	3
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	4
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Kentucky bluegrass	2
<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	wafer ash	2
<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i>	slender mountain mint	1
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	1
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	smooth sumac	3
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	2
Plant List for Site N#12		
Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	common blackberry	2
<i>Setaria faberi</i>	giant foxtail	2
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	1
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	4
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	drop seed	3
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	northern drop seed	2
<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	Ohio spiderwort	2
<i>Verbena urticifolia</i>	white vervain	2

Site: District 2

N# 13

Date: 10/9/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Caron Road (Steward Road to I 88 overpass)

County: Ogle

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0330578 - 4640498

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0330450 - 4640888

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing, construction

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Prairie Width: 25 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.3 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#13

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Aster ericoides

heath aster

3

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

4

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

3

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

4

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

2

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

3

Rosa carolina

pasture rose

3

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

2

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

3

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

4

Sporobolus asper

drop seed

4

Site: District 2

N# 14

Date: 10/9/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Gibson Road to Woodland Road, west of Esmond

County: Ogle

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0337825 - 4655722

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0337645 - 4655721

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing, construction

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 40 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: A higher quality wet-mesic prairie occurs on the other side of Woodland Road and extends away from the roadside.

Plant List for Site N#14

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	3
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>	candle anemone	3
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	heath aster	3
<i>Aster laevis</i>	smooth aster	3
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	2
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	3
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	grassleaf goldenrod	4
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	wild strawberry	3
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	closed gentian	1
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	tall sunflower	2
<i>Melilotus</i> spp.	sweet clovers	3
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	2
<i>Panicum oligosanthes</i> var. <i>scribnerianum</i>	panic grass	3
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	prairie switch grass	3
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	3
<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>	smooth phlox	2
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	mountain mint	3
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	3
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	3
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	4
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	1
<i>Stachys palustris</i>	woundwort	2
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	4
<i>Zanthoxylum americanum</i>	prickly ash	1
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden alexanders	4

Site: District 2

N# 15

Date: 10/10/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 84, beginning at 266 Street and extending south along IL 84

County: Rock Island

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0726173- 4625878

GPS Data Ending UTM 15T 0727711- 4627018

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic sand prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Robinia pseudoacacia

black locust

Saponaria officinalis

bouncing bet

Prairie Width: 26 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 1.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Higher quality sand prairie occurs along the other side of IL 84 on private land.

Plant List for Site N#15

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Artemisia ludoviciana

sagebrush

3

Bouteloua curtipendula

sideoats grama

2

Brickellia eupatorioides

false boneset

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Desmodium illinoense

Illinois tick trefoil

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

2

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

3

Gleditsia triacanthos

honey locust

2

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

3

Lespedeza capitata

bush clover

2

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

3

Prunus americana

American plum

2

Robinia pseudoacacia

black locust

3

Rosa carolina

pasture rose

3

Rubus allegheniensis

common blackberry

3

Saponaria officinalis

bouncing bet

3

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

2

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

2

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

2

Tridens flavus

false red top

3

Site: District 2

N# 16

Date: 10/10/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 84

County: Rock Island

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0725482- 4624735

GPS Data Ending UTM 15T 0714328- 4620836

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic sand prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Saponaria officinalis

bouncing bet

Prairie Width: 18 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 4 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 2.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: This area was higher quality before the remnant was disturbed by the construction of the bike trail.

Plant List for Site N#16

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Ambrosia artemisiifolia

ragweed

3

Apocynum cannabinum

dogbane

1

Asclepias verticillata

whorled milkweed

2

Aster ericoides

heath aster

3

Aster linariifolius

flax-leaved aster

2

Brickellia eupatorioides

false boneset

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Conyza canadensis

horseweed

4

Coreopsis palmata

prairie coreopsis

2

Dalea candida

white prairie clover

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

3

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Heterotheca camporum

golden aster

2

Lespedeza capitata

bush clover

2

Lithospermum caroliniense

hairy puccoon

2

Panicum virgatum

prairie switch grass

2

Ptelea trifoliata

wafer ash

2

Saponaria officinalis

bouncing bet

4

Schizachyrium scoparium

little bluestem

4

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

Solidago missouriensis

Missouri goldenrod

2

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

3

Sporobolus asper

drop seed

3

Tridens flavus

false red top

2

Site: District 2

N# 17

Date: 10/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Hillside Road at Union Grove

County: Whiteside

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0746146 - 4636387

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 36 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Appeared to be better quality when I visited the site in earlier in the season.

Plant List for Site N#17

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Calamagrostis canadensis

bluejoint grass

4

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Desmodium illinoense

Illinois tick trefoil

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

4

Glycyrrhiza lepidota

wild licorice

1

Heliopsis helianthoides

false sunflower

3

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

4

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

3

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

3

Typha latifolia

cattail

3

Site: District 2

N# 18

Date: 10/17/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Moline Road (Whiteside County line to Erie)

County: Whiteside

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0736541- 4611572

GPS Data Ending UTM 15T 0742483- 4615269

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic to mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis
Phalaris arundinacea
Phragmites australis
Saponaria officinalis

smooth brome grass
reed canary grass
common red reed
bouncing bet

Prairie Width: 15 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 4.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#18

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Acer saccharinum
Andropogon gerardii
Asclepias sullivantii
Asclepias syriaca
Aster pilosus
Bromus inermis
Calamagrostis canadensis
Eupatorium altissimum
Euthamia graminifolia
Helianthus rigidus
Panicum virgatum
Phalaris arundinacea
Phragmites australis
Saponaria officinalis
Schizachyrium scoparium
Scirpus atrovirens
Setaria faberi
Sorghastrum nutans
Spartina pectinata
Typha latifolia
Veronicastrum virginicum

silver maple
big bluestem
prairie milkweed
common milkweed
hairy aster
smooth brome grass
bluejoint grass
tall boneset
grassleaf goldenrod
prairie sunflower
prairie switch grass
reed canary grass
common red reed
bouncing bet
little bluestem
dark green rush
giant foxtail
Indian grass
prairie cord grass
cattail
Culver's root

2
3
1
2
1
3
4
2
2
2
2
5
3
3
2
3
2
3
3
3
2
2

Site: District 2

N# 19

Date: 10/17/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Moline Road

County: Whiteside

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0746720- 4618034

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0250555- 4619843

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Wet mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Phalaris arundinacea

Common Name

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 15 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes

IDOT (No mowing or spraying sign)

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 2.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#19

Scientific Name

Ambrosia trifida

Andropogon gerardii

Aster novae-angliae

Cirsium discolor

Helianthus grosseserratus

Napaea dioica

Panicum virgatum

Phalaris arundinacea

Spartina pectinata

Vernonia missurica

Common Name

giant ragweed

big bluestem

New England aster

field thistle

tall sunflower

glade mallow

prairie switch grass

reed canary grass

prairie cord grass

Missouri ironweed

RAV

1

3

2

1

2

1

1

3

4

2

Site: District 2

N# 20

Date: 10/22/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Lyndon Prairie Nature Preserve Along IL 88 and Sand Ridge Road

County: Whiteside (IL 88)

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0259151 – 4624386

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0262077 – 4628101

Sand Ridge Section starts at

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0263205 – 4626805

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0262058 – 4626129

Quality Class: 1-2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic to mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 40-50 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes

(Illinois Nature Preserve)

Dist. from Pavement: 5-10 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 3.8 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#20

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Amorpha canescens

lead plant

2

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Asclepias tuberosa

butterflyweed

1

Aster ericoides

heath aster

3

Aster laevis

smooth aster

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

3

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

2

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

2

Baptisia leucophaea

cream wild indigo

2

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

3

Ceanothus americanus

New Jersey tea

2

Dalea candida

white prairie clover

1

Desmodium canadense

showy tick trefoil

2

Desmodium illinoense

Illinois tick trefoil

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

2

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

2

Eragrostis spectabilis

purple love grass

2

Eryngium yuccifolium

rattlesnake master

3

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

3

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

3

Fragaria virginiana

wild strawberry

3

Gentiana andrewsii

closed gentian

2

<i>Gentiana puberulenta</i>	downy gentian	2
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	tall sunflower	3
<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>	prairie alumroot	2
<i>Liatris aspera</i>	rough blazing star	2
<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	gayfeather	3
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	2
<i>Muhlenbergia mexicana</i>	leafy satin grass	3

Plant List for Site N#20

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Oxypolis rigidior</i>	cowbane	1
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	prairie switch grass	2
<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>	American feverfew	2
<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>	smooth phlox	2
<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	downy phlox	2
<i>Polygala sanguinea</i>	field milkwort	2
<i>Potentilla arguta</i>	prairie cinquefoil	2
<i>Prunus americana</i>	American plum	2
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	wild black cherry	3
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	mountain mint	2
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	3
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	3
<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	common blackberry	2
<i>Rudbeckia subtomentosa</i>	fragrant coneflower	2
<i>Salix exigua</i>	sandbar willow	2
<i>Salix humilis</i>	prairie willow	2
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	2
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	3
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	cup plant	3
<i>Smilacina stellata</i>	starry false solomon seal	1
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	3
<i>Solidago juncea</i>	early goldenrod	2
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	2
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	4
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	3
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	4
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	2
<i>Zizia aptera</i>	heart golden alexanders	2
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden alexanders	2

Site: District 2

N# 21

Date: 9/30/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Arrow Road in Deer Grove

County: Whiteside

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0275504 – 4609756

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0275184 – 4609863

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): wet-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 18 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#21

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Anemone cylindrica

candle anemone

4

Apocynum cannabinum

dogbane

1

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

3

Aster puniceus

swamp aster

3

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Iris shrevei

southern blue flag

1

Lactuca canadensis

Canada lettuce

2

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Rosa carolina

pasture rose

2

Salix exigua

sandbar willow

3

Silphium integrifolium

rosinweed

2

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

Solidago gigantea

late goldenrod

3

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

4

Stachys palustris

woundwort

1

Tridens flavus

false red top

2

Vernonia fasciculata

common ironweed

2

Veronicastrum virginicum

Culver's root

1

Site: District 2

N# 22

Date: 9/30/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: 3200 E Road by Foley Prairie

County: Whiteside/Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0280814 - 4614141

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): wet-mesic sand prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 10 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: The best prairie is on the west side of the road opposite the railroad track on the west side of the road.

Plant List for Site N#22

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Agrimonia pubescens

soft agrimony

2

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

3

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Calamagrostis canadensis

bluejoint grass

2

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

2

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

3

Iris shrevei

southern blue flag

1

Muhlenbergia mexicana

leafy satin grass

3

Pycnanthemum virginianum

mountain mint

2

Rubus allegheniensis

common blackberry

2

Sambucus canadensis

elderberry

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

Solidago gigantea

late goldenrod

3

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

3

Vernonia fasciculata

common ironweed

3

Veronicastrum virginicum

Culver's root

3

Site: District 2

N# 23

Date: 9/30/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 38

County: Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0306694 - 4634354

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0307684 – 4634478

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes
(IDOT No Mowing sign)

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.7 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#23

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

3

Aster ericoides

heath aster

3

Aster laevis

smooth aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

2

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

3

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

3

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

2

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

3

Monarda fistulosa

wild bergamot

2

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

3

Rhus glabra

smooth sumac

3

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

3

Sporobolus asper

drop seed

5

Site: District 2

N# 24

Date: 9/30/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Track Road from Willow Road to the town of Ashton

County: Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0310852- 4635453

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0315072- 4636985

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Bromus inermis
Phalaris arundinacea
Robinia pseudoacacia

Common Name

smooth brome grass
reed canary grass
black locust

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.5 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: There may be more species present, but mowing part of prairie made the survey difficult.

Plant List for Site N#24

Scientific Name

Ambrosia trifida
Andropogon gerardii
Anemone cylindrica
Apocynum cannabinum
Aster laevis
Aster novae-angliae
Bromus inermis
Corylus americana
Desmodium canadense
Eragrostis spectabilis
Euphorbia corollata
Euthamia graminifolia
Gaura biennis
Helianthus grosseserratus
Lactuca canadensis
Muhlenbergia mexicana
Panicum virgatum
Parthenium integrifolium
Phalaris arundinacea
Pycnanthemum virginianum
Ratibida pinnata
Robinia pseudoacacia
Rosa carolina
Salix exigua
Silphium integrifolium

Common Name

giant ragweed
big bluestem
candle anemone
dogbane
smooth aster
New England aster
smooth brome grass
hazelnut
showy tick trefoil
purple love grass
flowering spurge
grassleaf goldenrod
gaura
tall sunflower
Canada lettuce
leafy satin grass
prairie switch grass
American feverfew
reed canary grass
mountain mint
drooping coneflower
black locust
pasture rose
sandbar willow
rosinweed

RAV

3
3
2
2
2
1
3
2
2
2
2
1
3
2
2
2
2
3
2
2
3
3
2
2

<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	3
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	3
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	3
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	drop seed	2
<i>Vitis riparia</i>	river grape	1

Site: District 2

N# 25

Date: 9/30/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Railway Road from Woodland Shore

County: Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0286900- 4631624

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0285401- 4631133

Quality Class: 1-2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic sand prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Saponaria officinalis

bouncing bet

Ulmus pumila

Siberian elm

Prairie Width: 10 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: Good species diversity occurs in some sections of this prairie.

Comments: One state threatened species *Orobanche ludoviciana* (broomrape) was found during the survey

Plant List for Site N#25

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Acer negundo

box elder

2

Amorpha canescens

lead plant

2

Artemisia campestris

beach wormwood

3

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

2

Baptisia lactea

white wild indigo

2

Brickellia eupatorioides

false boneset

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Carex muhlenbergii

sedge

2

Carex tonsa

sedge

2

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

1

Coreopsis tripteris

tall coreopsis

1

Dalea candida

white prairie clover

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

1

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

2

Eragrostis spectabilis

purple love grass

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

3

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

2

Helianthus occidentalis

western sunflower

3

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

2

Heterotheca camporum

golden aster

3

Koeleria macrantha

June grass

2

<i>Lactuca canadensis</i>	Canada lettuce	1
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	bush clover	2
<i>Liatis aspera</i>	rough blazing star	2
<i>Liatis spicata</i>	marsh snakeroot	1
<i>Melilotus spp.</i>	sweet clovers	3
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	2
<i>Monarda punctata</i>	horsemint	3

Plant List for Site N#25 cont.

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Orobanche ludoviciana</i>	broomrape	2
<i>Panicum villosissimum</i>	hairy panic grass	2
<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>	American feverfew	1
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	3
<i>Potentilla arguta</i>	prairie cinquefoil	1
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	3
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	2
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed susan	2
<i>Ruellia humilis</i>	hairy ruellia	2
<i>Salix humilis</i>	prairie willow	1
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	bouncing bet	3
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	2
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	2
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	3
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	dyersweed goldenrod	2
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	1
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	3
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	drop seed	3
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	northern drop seed	1
<i>Tephrosia virginiana</i>	goat's rue	2
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian elm	3
<i>Verbena stricta</i>	hoary vervain	1
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	1

Site: District 2

N# 26

Date: 10/09/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Corner of Shaw 855N and 1735E Serals Road

County: Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0308794- 4619886

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0309002- 4619874

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic sand prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Bromus inermis

Common Name

smooth brome grass

Prairie Width: 31 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 4 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.3 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Prairie extends along the roadside ditch on both sides of the road to Site 27.

Plant List for Site N#26

Scientific Name

Andropogon gerardii

Asclepias syriaca

Aster ericoides

Baptisia lactea

Bromus inermis

Coreopsis tripteris

Helianthus grosseserratus

Monarda fistulosa

Polygonatum commutatum

Pycnanthemum virginianum

Salix humilis

Silphium integrifolium

Silphium laciniatum

Solidago canadensis

Sporobolus asper

Stachys palustris

Veronicastrum virginicum

Common Name

big bluestem

common milkweed

heath aster

white wild indigo

smooth brome grass

tall coreopsis

tall sunflower

wild bergamot

great solomon seal

mountain mint

prairie willow

rosinweed

compass plant

Canada goldenrod

drop seed

woundwort

Culver's root

RAV

3

2

2

1

4

2

2

3

2

3

1

3

2

3

4

2

2

Site: District 2

N# 27

Date: 10/09/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Shaw

County: Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0310580- 4619838

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0310976- 4619831

Quality Class: 1

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic sand prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, tree planting

Scientific Name

Common Name

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 50 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes

(There was a management sign three years ago)

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.25 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** No

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant has several conservative species.

Comments: This remnant appears to be in private ownership.

Plant List for Site N#27

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	3
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>	candle anemone	2
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	heath aster	3
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	2
<i>Aster praealtus</i>	willow-leaved aster	3
<i>Baptisia lactea</i>	white wild indigo	3
<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>	prairie coreopsis	3
<i>Desmodium illinoense</i>	Illinois tick trefoil	2
<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	pale purple coneflower	3
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	flowering spurge	2
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	grassleaf goldenrod	3
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	closed gentian	1
<i>Helianthus rigidus</i>	prairie sunflower	2
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	false sunflower	2
<i>Lactuca canadensis</i>	Canada lettuce	2
<i>Liatris aspera</i>	rough blazing star	1
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	prairie switch grass	2
<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>	American feverfew	3
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	3
<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>	great solomon seal	2
<i>Prenanthes aspera</i>	rough white lettuce	3
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	3
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	smooth sumac	3
<i>Salix exigua</i>	sandbar willow	2
<i>Salix humilis</i>	prairie willow	1
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	4
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	3
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	3
<i>Smilacina stellata</i>	starry false solomon seal	1

<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	4
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	2
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	2
<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	purple meadow rue	2
<i>Tridens flavus</i>	false red top	3
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	3
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden alexanders	3

Site: District 2

N# 28

Date: 10/09/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: West Brooklyn Road 0.3 miles from the town of West Brooklyn

County: Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0321997 - 4617952

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0325010 - 4617916

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 1.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#28

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	4
<i>Aster laevis</i>	smooth aster	2
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	3
<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	wild rye	1
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	grassleaf goldenrod	2
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	3
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	reed canary grass	3
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	4
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	smooth sumac	2
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	2
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	2
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	4
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	1
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	3
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	5
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	3

Site: District 2

N# 29

Date: 10/09/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL -52

County: Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0307066 - 4619577

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0308225 - 4618325

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Coronilla varia

crown vetch

Phragmites australis

common red reed

Lonicera maackii

amur honeysuckle

Prairie Width: 25-50 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 1.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Most of the remnant has been scraped. The last half-mile may be a roadside planting mix.

Plant List for Site N#29

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

2

Bouteloua curtipendula

sideoats grama

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Coronilla varia

crown vetch

3

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

3

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

2

Lonicera maackii

amur honeysuckle

3

Phragmites australis

common red reed

3

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

3

Rhus glabra

smooth sumac

2

Rudbeckia hirta

black-eyed susan

5

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

4

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Solidago nemoralis

dyersweed goldenrod

3

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

2

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

2

Sporobolus asper

drop seed

5

Verbena hastata

blue vervain

2

Site: District 2

N# 30

Date: 10/09/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL -52 next to 210 N Road

County: Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0317124 - 4609525

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 5 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Most of the remnant has been scraped.

Plant List for Site N#30

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

3

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

3

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

3

Panicum virgatum

prairie switch grass

3

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

3

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

4

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

2

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

4

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

1

Site: District 2

N# 31

Date: 10/09/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL -52 at the La Salle County line

County: Lee

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0319391 - 4606875

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0318946 - 4607388

Quality Class: 1

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic sand prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Phalaris arundinacea

Common Name

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 27 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes

(Lee County Soil and Water Conservation Area)

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant has some conservative species.

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#31

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	3
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>	candle anemone	3
<i>Apocynum sibiricum</i>	Indian hemp	2
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	swamp milkweed	2
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	common milkweed	2
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	heath aster	2
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	2
<i>Aster pilosus</i>	hairy aster	2
<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>	prairie coreopsis	3
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada wild rye	1
<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	pale purple coneflower	3
<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	wild rye	1
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	closed gentian	2
<i>Helianthus rigidus</i>	prairie sunflower	3
<i>Liatris aspera</i>	rough blazing star	1
<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	gayfeather	2
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	2
<i>Panicum oligosanthos</i> var. <i>scribnerianum</i>	panic grass	2
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	prairie switch grass	3
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	reed canary grass	4
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	false dragonhead	2
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	quaking aspen	2
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	mountain mint	2
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	3
<i>Salix exigua</i>	sandbar willow	3
<i>Salix humilis</i>	prairie willow	2
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	3

<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	2
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	3
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	3
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	northern drop seed	2
<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	purple meadow rue	1
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	4
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden alexanders	4

Site: District 2

N# 32

Date: 10/07/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: US 30 0.1 mile from 500 E (University Road to Waterman)

County: DeKalb

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0346406 - 4625727

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0352008 - 4625658

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Cirsium arvense

Canada thistle

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 3.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#32

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Asclepias viridiflora

green milkweed

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Cirsium arvense

Canada thistle

3

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

3

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

3

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

3

Heliopsis helianthoides

false sunflower

2

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

3

Pycnanthemum virginianum

mountain mint

3

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

2

Rosa carolina

pasture rose

2

Salix humilis

prairie willow

1

Silphium integrifolium

rosinweed

3

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

2

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

3

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

4

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

4

Veronicastrum virginicum

Culver's root

1

Zizia aurea

golden alexanders

3

Site: District 2

N# 33

Date: 10/07/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: US 30 Waterman city limits to 0.1 mile west of Governor Beverage Highway

County: DeKalb

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0353057 - 4625643

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0360241 - 4625561

Quality Class: 1-2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic to mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 4.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: This remnant has some conservative species present. There is also relatively good quality prairie on the other side of the railroad tracks.

Comments: The best quality prairie occurs from Route 23 to Howison Road. This list is from an IDOT memo (Handel 1998). I called this remnant grade C+ in 1998, but after reviewing the list this site might qualify for higher status.

Plant List for Site N#33

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	yarrow	2
<i>Agropyron repens</i>	wheat grass	1
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	3
<i>Anemone caroliniana</i>	carolina anemone	4
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>	thimble flower	2
<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>	spreading dogbane	2
<i>Apocynum sibiricum</i>	Indian-hemp	3
<i>Arctium minus</i>	burdock	1
<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>	prairie milkweed	2
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	common milkweed	3
<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	whorled milkweed	2
<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	asparagus	1
<i>Aster laevis</i>	smooth aster	4
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	2
<i>Aster pilosus</i>	hairy aster	2
<i>Aster praealtus</i>	willow aster	1
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	3
<i>Carex scroparia</i>	sedge	2
<i>Carex tenera</i>	sedge	1
<i>Cicuta maculata</i>	water hemlock	2
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada thistle	3
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	gray dogwood	2
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	orchard grass	1
<i>Dianthus armeria</i>	deptford pink	2
<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>	shooting star	3

<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	common horsetail	3
<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	winter scouring rush	2
<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	tall boneset	2
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	flowering spurge	3
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	grass-leaved goldenrod	3
<i>Gaura biennis</i>	butterfly-weed	3
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	bottle gentian	2

Plant List for Site N#33 cont.

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	wild geranium	4
<i>Helianthus rigidus</i>	prairie sunflower	3
<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>	Jerusalem artichoke	1
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	false sunflower	3
<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>	prairie alumroot	1
<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>	Virginia waterleaf	3
<i>Hypericum sphaerocarpum</i>	prairie St. John'swort	2
<i>Hypoxis hirsuta</i>	star grass	2
<i>Iris shrevei</i>	southern blue flag	1
<i>Liatis aspera</i>	rough blazing star	2
<i>Liatis pycnostachya</i>	button blazing star	2
<i>Lithospermum canescens</i>	hoary puccoon	3
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	black medic	2
<i>Melilotus alba</i>	white sweet clover	3
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	yellow sweet clover	3
<i>Mirabilis nyctaginea</i>	wild four o'clocks	1
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	2
<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>	American feverfew	1
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	3
<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>	smooth phlox	2
<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	downy phlox	1
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	false dragonhead	1
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Kentucky bluegrass	4
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	Virginia mountain mint	3
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	yellow coneflower	2
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	meadow rose	3
<i>Salix interior</i>	sandbar willow	3
<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>	bulrush	2
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	3
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	3
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	2
<i>Sisyrinchium albidum</i>	blue-eyed grass	2
<i>Smilacina stellata</i>	starry false solomon seal	2
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	tall goldenrod	4
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	3
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	stiff goldenrod	3
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	2
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cordgrass	5
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	tall dropseed	3
<i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i>	western snowberry	2
<i>Teucrium canadense</i>	American germander	3
<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	purple meadow rue	3
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian elm	3
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	blue vervain	2
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	culver's root	2
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden alexanders	3

Site: District 2

N# 34

Date: 10/07/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: US 30 near the DeKalb and Kane County line

County: DeKalb

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0365625 - 4625264

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0366839 - 4625165

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Bromus inermis

Melilotus spp.

Common Name

smooth brome grass

sweet clovers

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.75 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: Some conservative species

Comments: List is from a IDOT memo (Handel 1998).

Plant List for Site N#34

Scientific Name

Achillea millefolium

Anemone cylindrica

Arctium minus

Asclepias sullivantii

Asclepias syriaca

Asclepias verticillata

Asparagus officinalis

Aster laevis

Aster pilosus

Bromus inermis

Carex meadii

Cirsium arvense

Cornus racemosa

Equisetum arvense

Equisetum hyemale

Gaura biennis

Helianthus grosseserratus

Linaria vulgaris

Lithospermum canescens

Melilotus spp.

Monarda fistulosa

Pastinaca sativa

Poa pratensis

Ratibida pinnata

Rosa carolina

Silphium integrifolium

Silphium laciniatum

Silphium terebinthinaceum

Common Name

yarrow

thimble flower

burdock

prairie milkweed

common milkweed

whorled milkweed

asparagus

smooth aster

hairy aster

smooth brome grass

Mead's sedge

Canada thistle

gray dogwood

common horsetail

winter scouring rush

butterfly-weed

tall sunflower

butter-in-eggs

hoary puccoon

sweet clovers

wild bergamot

wild parsnip

Kentucky bluegrass

yellow coneflower

meadow rose

rosinweed

compass plant

prairie dock

RAV

2

1

1

2

3

3

2

3

2

3

2

2

2

4

2

2

2

3

1

1

3

3

2

5

1

2

2

3

1

<i>Sisyrinchium albidum</i>	blue-eyed grass	3
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	3
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	3
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	stiff goldenrod	2
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cordgrass	4
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	tall dropseed	4
<i>Teucrium canadense</i>	American germander	3
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden Alexanders	2

Site: District 2

N# 35

Date: 10/07/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Maple Park Road

County: DeKalb

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0366814 - 4640959

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0365578 - 4641213

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Phragmites australis

common red reed

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.85 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#35

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Aster laevis

smooth aster

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

2

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

4

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

2

Lactuca canadensis

Canada lettuce

1

Panicum virgatum

prairie switch grass

2

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Phragmites australis

common red reed

3

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

3

Silphium integrifolium

rosinweed

2

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

4

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

4

Symphoricarpos orbiculatus

buckbrush

1

Site: District 2

N# 36

Date: 10/08/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 64 from county line to Sycamore

County: DeKalb

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0367287 - 4647759

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0362737 - 4649383

Quality Class: 1-2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion

Scientific Name

Bromus inermis

Pastinaca sativa

Phragmites australis

Common Name

smooth brome grass

wild parsnip

common red reed

Prairie Width: 10 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: Yes

(Prairie Management Area signs present)

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 2.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: Some conservative species occur in this remnant.

Comments: Some species may have been transplanted as part of a restoration effort. The species list is from an IDOT memo (Handel 2001).

Plant List for Site N#36

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Achillea millefolium

yarrow

1

Agrostis alba

red top

2

Ambrosia trifida

giant ragweed

3

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

5

Anemone canadensis

Canada anemone

2

Anemone virginiana

tall anemone

2

Antennaria neglecta

pussytoes

1

Antennaria plantaginifolia

pussytoes

1

Apocynum cannabinum

spreading dogbane

2

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

3

Asparagus officinalis

asparagus

1

Aster ericoides

heath aster

3

Aster laevis

smooth aster

3

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

4

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

4

Aster praealtus

willow aster

2

Brickellia eupatorioides

false boneset

3

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Calamagrostis canadensis

bluejoint grass

3

Carex bicknellii

sedge

1

Carex sp.

sedge

1

Cicuta maculata

water hemlock

2

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

<i>Comandra umbellata</i>	bastard toadflax	1
<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>	prairie tickseed	1
<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>	tall coreopsis	1
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	gray dogwood	1
<i>Crataegus mollis</i>	red haw	1
<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>	shooting star	3
<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	wild rye	1
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	common horsetail	3

Plant List for Site N#36 cont.

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	tall boneset	4
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	flowering spurge	3
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	grass-leaved goldenrod	3
<i>Filipendula rubra</i>	Queen of the prairie (planted)	1
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	wild strawberry	2
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	bottle gentian	2
<i>Gentiana puberulenta</i>	downy gentian	1
<i>Geum aleppicum</i>	yellow avens	1
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	sneezeweed	1
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	sawtooth sunflower	3
<i>Helianthus rigidus</i>	showy sunflower	3
<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>	Jerusalem artichoke	1
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	false sunflower	3
<i>Heuchera richardsonii</i>	prairie alumroot	1
<i>Hypoxis hirsuta</i>	star grass	2
<i>Iris shrevei</i>	southern blue flag	1
<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	button blazing star	2
<i>Lilium michiganense</i>	Michigan lily	1
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	bush honeysuckle	2
<i>Lycopus americanus</i>	water horehound	1
<i>Lysimachia quadriflora</i>	prairie loosestrife	1
<i>Melilotus spp.</i>	white sweet clover	3
<i>Mentha arvensis</i>	wild mint	1
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	4
<i>Muhlenbergia mexicana</i>	leafy satin grass	3
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	common evening primrose	4
<i>Osmorhiza claytonii</i>	sweet cicely	1
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	switch grass	3
<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>	American feverfew	1
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	3
<i>Penthorum sedoides</i>	ditch stonecrop	1
<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>	smooth phlox	2
<i>Phlox pilosa</i>	downy phlox	1
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	false dragonhead	1
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Kentucky bluegrass	2
<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>	great solomon seal	1
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	cottonwood	1
<i>Prenanthes racemosa</i>	prairie lettuce	1
<i>Prunus americana</i>	American plum	1
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	Virginia mountain mint	3
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	yellow coneflower	3
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	meadow rose	2
<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>	raspberry	2
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	brown-eyed susan	2
<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	common arrowhead	1

<i>Salix humilis</i>	prairie pussy willow	2
<i>Salix interior</i>	sandbar willow	3
<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>	bulrush	2
<i>Scirpus pendulus</i>	red bulrush	1
<i>Scutellaria lateriflora</i>	marsh skull cap	2
<i>Silene stellata</i>	starry campion	1
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	2
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	3
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	4
<i>Sisyrinchium albidum</i>	blue-eyed grass	3
<i>Smilacina stellata</i>	starry false solomon seal	2
<i>Smilax lasioneuron</i>	common carrion flower	2
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	4
<i>Solidago gigantea</i>	late goldenrod	3
Plant List for Site N#36 cont.		
Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	stiff goldenrod	2
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	3
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cordgrass	4
<i>Teucrium canadense</i>	American germander	3
<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	purple meadow rue	3
<i>Typha latifolia</i>	cattail	3
<i>Ulmus americanus</i>	American elm	1
<i>Ulmus pumila</i>	Siberian elm	3
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	culver's root	4
<i>Zizia aptera</i>	heart-leaved alexanders	2
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden alexanders	4

Site: District 2

N# 37

Date: 10/09/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 72 just west of the East Branch of the Kishwaukee River

County: DeKalb

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0358546 - 4662122

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0358087 - 4662181

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Rhamnus cathartica

common buckthorn

Prairie Width: 12 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Abandoned

Prairie Length: 0.64 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Most of the remnant was mowed.

Plant List for Site N#37

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Allium cernuum

nodding wild onion

1

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Dodecatheon meadia

shooting star

2

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

2

Rhamnus cathartica

common buckthorn

3

Rhus glabra

smooth sumac

3

Smilacina stellata

starry false solomon seal

2

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

3

Ulmus americana

American elm

2

Site: District 2

N# 38

Date: 10/09/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: US 34 from Sandwich to La Salle County line

County: DeKalb

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0363473 - 4611332

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0361071 - 4610782

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 22 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.5 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#38

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

2

Apocynum cannabinum

dogbane

1

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Aster ericoides

heath aster

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Aster pilosus

hairy aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Conyza canadensis

horseweed

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Festuca pratensis

meadow fescue

3

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

3

Monarda fistulosa

wild bergamot

1

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

2

Rosa carolina

pasture rose

2

Silphium integrifolium

rosinweed

2

Silphium terebinthinaceum

prairie dock

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

4

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

2

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

3

Sporobolus asper

drop seed

5

Tridens flavus

false red top

3

Vernonia missurica

Missouri ironweed

1

Site: District 2

N# 39

Date: 9/30/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: 0.5 miles from Arlington, County Highway 18

County: Bureau

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0316618 - 4593332

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0310929 - 4592891

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.45 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Most of the remnant was mowed.

Plant List for Site N#39

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	3
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>	candle anemone	2
<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	tall anemone	2
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	common milkweed	2
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	heath aster	3
<i>Aster laevis</i>	smooth aster	2
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	2
<i>Aster shortii</i>	short's aster	2
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	3
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada wild rye	2
<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	tall boneset	2
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	autumn sneezeweed	2
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	tall sunflower	2
<i>Melilotus</i> spp.	sweet clovers	3
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	2
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	3
<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>	great solomon seal	1
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	2
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	smooth sumac	3
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	2
<i>Salix exigua</i>	sandbar willow	3
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	cup plant	2
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	4
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	3
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	2
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	drop seed	2

Site: District 2

N# 40

Date: 9/30/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: On 2120 N road at the corner of 2950 N

County: Bureau

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0309061 - 4591880

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0309721 - 4592203

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 18 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Some good quality prairie in the remnant.

Plant List for Site N#40

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	4
<i>Anemone cylindrica</i>	candle anemone	2
<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>	prairie milkweed	2
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	common milkweed	2
<i>Aster laevis</i>	smooth aster	4
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	1
<i>Aster pilosus</i>	hairy aster	2
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	3
<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>	prairie coreopsis	2
<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	pale purple coneflower	2
<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	tall boneset	3
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	wild strawberry	3
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	tall sunflower	2
<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>	bush clover	3
<i>Muhlenbergia mexicana</i>	leafy satin grass	3
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	wild parsnip	3
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	reed canary grass	3
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	mountain mint	3
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	2
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	2
<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	common blackberry	2
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	3
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	2
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	2
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	3
<i>Stachys palustris</i>	woundwort	1

<i>Typha latifolia</i>	cattail	2
<i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>	common ironweed	3

Site: District 2

N# 41

Date: 9/30/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: On 2060 N East of Malden to Zearing

County: Bureau

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0306512 - 4590700

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0304395 - 4589658

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 18 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.5miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#41

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Agrostis alba</i>	red top	2
<i>Ambrosia trifida</i>	giant ragweed	2
<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>	prairie milkweed	1
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	common milkweed	3
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	heath aster	3
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	3
<i>Aster praealtus</i>	willow-leaved aster	2
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	3
<i>Cirsium discolor</i>	field thistle	2
<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	tall boneset	3
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	flowering spurge	3
<i>Helianthus rigidus</i>	prairie sunflower	3
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	2
<i>Muhlenbergia mexicana</i>	leafy satin grass	3
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	prairie switch grass	2
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	reed canary grass	3
<i>Polygonatum commutatum</i>	great solomon seal	1
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	3
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	3
<i>Salix exigua</i>	sandbar willow	2
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	2
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	4
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	4
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	4
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	2
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	3
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	drop seed	3

Site: District 2

N# 42

Date: 9/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: On 1010 N Road starting at 2050 E

County: Bureau

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0294652 - 4574521

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0293801 - 4574603

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics

Scientific Name

Bromus inermis

Common Name

smooth brome grass

Prairie Width: 7 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.5 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Most of the remnant was mowed.

Plant List for Site N#42

Scientific Name

Asclepias syriaca

Bromus inermis

Echinacea pallida

Eupatorium altissimum

Euphorbia corollata

Helianthus tuberosus

Monarda fistulosa

Napaea dioica

Ratibida pinnata

Rosa carolina

Sanicula canadensis

Silphium terebinthinaceum

Spartina pectinata

Verbesina alternifolia

Common Name

common milkweed

smooth brome grass

pale purple coneflower

tall boneset

flowering spurge

jerusalem artichoke

wild bergamot

glade mallow

drooping coneflower

pasture rose

snake root

prairie dock

prairie cord grass

wing stem

RAV

2

4

2

2

2

2

2

1

3

2

2

3

2

2

Site: District 2

N# 43

Date: 9/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: 1200 N near the Tiskilwa

County: Bureau

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0288561 - 4577358

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, woody invasion

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Prairie Width: 12 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.25 miles **Prairie present on opposite side of track:** Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#43

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Ambrosia trifida

giant ragweed

3

Amorpha fruticosa

false indigo bush

1

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Aster praealtus

willow-leaved aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Cornus racemosa

gray dogwood

3

Eupatorium serotinum

late boneset

3

Helianthus tuberosus

Jerusalem artichoke

3

Monarda fistulosa

wild bergamot

2

Napaea dioica

glade mallow

2

Salix exigua

sandbar willow

3

Sambucus canadensis

elderberry

2

Scirpus atrovirens

dark green rush

2

Silphium integrifolium

rosinweed

2

Silphium perfoliatum

cup plant

4

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

4

Solidago speciosa

showy goldenrod

1

Sorghastrum nutans

Indian grass

2

Typha latifolia

cattail

3

Site: District 2

N# 44

Date: 9/17/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 6 Sheffield from 550 E to the town of Mineral

County: Bureau

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0269826 - 4582640

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0262972 - 4584947

Quality Class: 1 - 2

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 4.5 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: High quality on elevated areas of remnants

Comments: The degraded prairie is concentrated in the swales where reed canary grass is prominent.

Plant List for Site N#44

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Amorpha canescens

lead plant

3

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Aster ericoides

heath aster

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Baptisia leucophaea

cream wild indigo

1

Brickellia eupatorioides

false boneset

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Ceanothus americanus

New Jersey tea

2

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Coreopsis palmata

prairie coreopsis

2

Cornus racemosa

gray dogwood

1

Desmodium illinoense

Illinois tick trefoil

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

4

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

3

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

3

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

1

Gentiana puberulenta

downy gentian

3

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

2

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

3

Lactuca canadensis

Canada lettuce

2

Liatis aspera

rough blazing star

2

Melilotus spp.

sweet clovers

3

Monarda fistulosa

wild bergamot

2

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

3

<i>Potentilla arguta</i>	prairie cinquefoil	3
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	mountain mint	3
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	2
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	2
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	black-eyed susan	3
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	little bluestem	3
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	2
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	3
Plant List for Site N#44 cont.		
Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	cup plant	3
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	2
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	3
<i>Solidago missouriensis</i>	Missouri goldenrod	4
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	2
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	4
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	2
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	drop seed	2
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	northern drop seed	3
<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>	purple meadow rue	2
<i>Vernonia missurica</i>	Missouri ironweed	2
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	2

Site: District 2

N# 45

Date: 9/17/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 6 Mineral to Annawan

County: Bureau/Henry

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0262192 - 4585223

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0257610 - 4586771

Quality Class: 2

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Bromus inermis

Phalaris arundinacea

Common Name

smooth brome grass

reed canary grass

Prairie Width: 15 - 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 3.1 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: More species may exist but mowing made the survey difficult.

Comments: Large section of remnant was mowed.

Plant List for Site N#45

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	4
<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	dogbane	2
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	heath aster	2
<i>Aster laevis</i>	smooth aster	1
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	3
<i>Cirsium discolor</i>	field thistle	2
<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	pale purple coneflower	2
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	flowering spurge	3
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	grassleaf goldenrod	2
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	tall sunflower	2
<i>Helianthus rigidus</i>	prairie sunflower	2
<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i>	Jerusalem artichoke	2
<i>Lactuca canadensis</i>	Canada lettuce	2
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	2
<i>Muhlenbergia mexicana</i>	leafy satin grass	2
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	prairie switch grass	2
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	reed canary grass	3
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	3
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	2
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	2
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	cup plant	2
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	4
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	2
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	4
<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's root	2

Site: District 2

N# 46

Date: 9/17/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: IL 6 Annawan to Atkinson

County: Henry

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0256324 - 4587202

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0249826 - 4589393

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 4.2 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Prairie is highly degraded after the IL 80 overpass.

Plant List for Site N#46

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

4

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

2

Aster laevis

smooth aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

4

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

2

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

3

Euthamia graminifolia

grassleaf goldenrod

3

Helenium autumnale

autumn sneezeweed

2

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

4

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

2

Monarda fistulosa

wild bergamot

3

Parthenium integrifolium

American feverfew

1

Pastinaca sativa

wild parsnip

3

Phalaris arundinacea

reed canary grass

3

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

4

Salix exigua

sandbar willow

3

Silphium perfoliatum

cup plant

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

2

Solidago missouriensis

Missouri goldenrod

4

Spartina pectinata

prairie cord grass

4

Typha latifolia

cattail

3

Site: District 2

N# 47

Date: 9/17/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Atkinson 2050 E towards Atkinson to 2120 Road

County: Henry

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0747421 - 4590485

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0748600 - 4590172

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing, woody vegetation

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Prairie Width: 20 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 2 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.5 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: Half the remnant was mowed.

Plant List for Site N#47

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	4
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	heath aster	3
<i>Cirsium discolor</i>	field thistle	2
<i>Eupatorium altissimum</i>	tall boneset	3
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	2
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	3
<i>Salix exigua</i>	sandbar willow	3
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	2
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	4
<i>Solidago rigida</i>	rigid goldenrod	3
<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	prairie cord grass	3
<i>Sporobolus asper</i>	drop seed	3
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	blue vervain	3

Site: District 2

N# 48

Date: 9/17/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Red Adams Road from 570 N to Kawanee

County: Henry

GPS Data: Starting UTM 16T 0253245 - 4569553

GPS Data Ending UTM 16T 0252280 - 4568470

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing, woody vegetation

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Prairie Width: 30 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.9 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: No

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#48

Scientific Name	Common Name	RAV
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	big bluestem	3
<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	dogbane	2
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	common milkweed	2
<i>Aster drummondii</i>	Drummond's aster	2
<i>Aster ericoides</i>	heath aster	2
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England aster	2
<i>Aster pilosus</i>	hairy aster	2
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	smooth brome grass	3
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	flowering spurge	1
<i>Helianthus grosseserratus</i>	tall sunflower	3
<i>Helianthus rigidus</i>	prairie sunflower	1
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	drooping coneflower	2
<i>Silphium integrifolium</i>	rosinweed	3
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass plant	2
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	3
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada goldenrod	2

Site: District 2

N# 49

Date: 9/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: Trolley Road from Galva to 2260 E Road

County: Henry

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0749117 - 4562100

GPS Data Ending UTM 15T 0751542 - 4563713

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Saponaria officinalis

bouncing bet

Prairie Width: 15 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 3 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 1.8 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#49

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

3

Aster ericoides

heath aster

2

Aster laevis

smooth aster

2

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

3

Cassia fasciculata

partridge pea

3

Conyza canadensis

horseweed

2

Desmodium canadense

showy tick trefoil

2

Echinacea pallida

pale purple coneflower

2

Elymus canadensis

Canada wild rye

2

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

1

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

3

Lactuca canadensis

Canada lettuce

3

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

3

Silphium intergrifolium

rosinweed

2

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

2

Silphium perfoliatum

cup plant

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

2

Site: District 2

N# 50

Date: 9/16/03

Evaluator(s): William C. Handel

Location: One mile from Galva, 1860 E Hayes Road

County: Henry

GPS Data: Starting UTM 15T 0745493 - 4559791

GPS Data Ending UTM 15T 0746013 - 4560131

Quality Class: 3

Natural Community Type(s): Dry-mesic prairie

(Quality Classes: 1=Grades A or B, 2 = C, 3=D)

Threats: exotics, mowing

Scientific Name

Common Name

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

Saponaria officinalis

bouncing bet

Prairie Width: 15 m

Signs or Evidence of Management: No

Dist. from Pavement: 1 m

Railroad Activity: Active

Prairie Length: 0.4 miles

Prairie present on opposite side of track: Yes

Significant or Exceptional Features: None

Comments: None

Plant List for Site N#50

Scientific Name

Common Name

RAV

Andropogon gerardii

big bluestem

3

Asclepias syriaca

common milkweed

1

Aster ericoides

heath aster

3

Aster novae-angliae

New England aster

2

Brickellia eupatorioides

false boneset

1

Bromus inermis

smooth brome grass

5

Cirsium discolor

field thistle

2

Conyza canadensis

horseweed

3

Daucus carota

Queen-Anne's-lace

1

Desmodium illinoense

Illinois tick trefoil

1

Eupatorium altissimum

tall boneset

1

Euphorbia corollata

flowering spurge

2

Helianthus grosseserratus

tall sunflower

2

Helianthus rigidus

prairie sunflower

2

Ratibida pinnata

drooping coneflower

2

Saponaria officinalis

bouncing bet

3

Silphium laciniatum

compass plant

2

Solidago canadensis

Canada goldenrod

3

Solidago rigida

rigid goldenrod

4