

Indiana DNR Division of Nature Preserves

2024 ANNUAL REPORT





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DIRECTOR ADDRESS

Ron Hellmich



There are several highlights for 2024. First, there were five dedications, with four new nature preserves at Wea Creek Gravel Hill Prairie, Eagle Lake, Barnes-Seng and Fern Station, while adding an addition to Granville Sand Barrens, the Roy Whistler Addition. These dedications provide protection to 926 acres at these preserves.

Another highlight was working with partners. Granville Sand Barrens Nature Preserve is owned by NICHES Land Trust and adding to the preserve is exciting. Eagle Land and Barnes-Seng nature preserves are state owned and managed by the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife. There are several ongoing land acquisition projects partnering with organizations such as ACRES Land Trust, CILTI, the Sam Shine Foundation, the Natural Resources Foundation and The Nature Conservancy to make these happen. Finally, the Hoosier Hikers Council is helping us renovate a trail at Moraine Nature Preserve in Porter County.

The Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center worked to get a better understanding of Indiana's rich natural heritage by working with bryophyte experts and entomologists. Several interesting finds resulted.

The Lake Michigan Coastal Program launched seven grant projects in 2024 that were financed by NOAA funds and matched with cash or in-kind funds. These included land acquisition projects, educational experience projects and funds allocated for applied research and planning measures.

The Natural Resource Damages Program continues to work in the Grand Calumet Area of Concern, working on restoration projects. Staff are working with the Division of Fish & Wildlife on a mussel propagation project to introduce mussel species by into Indiana waterways.

New to our staff this year is Adam Balzer, northeast regional ecologist. Adam takes over the position after Rich Dunbar's retirement. While Rich is truly missed, we look forward to Adam's contribution to natural area conservation in northeastern Indiana.

Thanks to all who are involved in Indiana's nature preserve system. It is the intent of Indiana's Nature Preserve Act to include many partners to make natural areas preservation as effective as possible.

HERITAGE PROGRAM

Dawn Johnson, *Coordinator*

Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center



Founded in 1978, the Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center (INHDC) was created to identify and catalog the state's most significant natural areas through a comprehensive statewide inventory. As a member of the Natural Heritage Network, led by NatureServe, we manage the most extensive and up-to-date biological data repository in Indiana, now encompassing over 22,000 species occurrence records.

In 2024, INHDC staff continued our work to update and expand our database of occurrences of rare, threatened, and endangered plants, animals, and insects. Sand barrens and Posey County flatwoods are two natural communities that were extensively monitored in 2024. We updated subnational conservation status ranks for over 50 plant species, and we have contracted with a consultant to complete another 100 updates in 2025. The Division of Nature Preserves and INHDC's work resulted in significant additions of landowners to our Registry Program and protection of natural areas through our coordination with land trust partners.

In order to learn more about mosses, liverworts, and hornworts, which are collectively known as bryophytes, INHDC contracted with an expert bryologist to provide a list of bryophytes known from the state. The information provided also includes descriptions for identification and threats to species. INHDC also collaborated with an expert entomologist to learn more about firefly species in Indiana. Notably, Indiana's state insect, the Say's firefly (*Pyractomena angulata*) was recorded at two sites in Indiana during the 2024 field season. Both occurrences are the first in the counties where they were recorded and are the first records of the species in the state in 12 years. INHDC's support of this project also contributed to monitoring of the Cypress firefly (*Photuris walldoxeyi*), the most threatened firefly in the state, at one of the only two sites where it occurs in Indiana.

In 2024, the Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center made significant strides in enhancing the Division of Nature Preserves' understanding of Indiana's rare species, playing a role in shaping the conservation of the state's natural areas. We remain dedicated to expanding our knowledge as we progress into 2025 and beyond.



NEW STAFF

Adam Balzer – Northeast Regional

I am based out of Columbia City within the Crooked Lake Nature Preserve. I am a lifelong Hoosier originally from northwest Indiana. After leaving the automotive industry, I returned to college and graduated from Purdue University North Central (now Purdue University Northwest) with a B.S. in Biology with a concentration in Ecology. I have approximately 10 years of professional experience between Indiana Dunes National Park and environmental consulting. My work has been largely focused on ecological restoration planning and implementation and botanical surveys in the Midwest with additional skills learned from coworkers with different areas of expertise. Some of my hobbies/interests include auto repair and modification, cultivating carnivorous plants, motorcycle riding, hiking, and traveling when possible. I look forward to seeing how the preserves in the northeast region develop over the years and working to better understand and document each of them.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 1967 the General Assembly passed the Nature Preserves Act, creating the Division of Nature Preserves and charging it with finding, protecting, and managing Indiana's remaining natural areas. Since then, working with partners, 306 nature preserves have been dedicated, encompassing 56,894.13 acres. Nature preserves are owned by numerous DNR divisions, land trusts, city/county park boards, and colleges and universities.

DNP comprises four primary components: nature preserve protection, nature preserve management, the Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center, and the Lake Michigan Coastal Program (LMCP). The division is funded by a variety of sources, including trust funds, grants, and General Funds. Approximately 90% of staff time is paid by non-General Fund sources. Division staff work from nine locations scattered around the state, including the central office in Indianapolis.

There is at least one nature preserve in every natural region in Indiana. Nature preserves contain at least one example of all but two of the 81 natural community types known to occur in the state. Of the 251 state-endangered plants, there is at least one protected example of 235 of them.

Nature preserves protect some of Indiana's most diverse landscapes including dunes, sand prairies and savanna, wetland complexes, lakes, rivers, forested ecosystems, glades, karst features, prairies, fens, bogs, swamps, and geologic features. four new nature preserves and one addition were dedicated, adding a total of 924.68 acres.

Regional ecologists managed and performed habitat restoration and invasive species control at numerous sites across the state. This year featured a productive prescribed burn season, as regional ecologists performed prescribed burns on high-priority sites across the state with the help of the efficient mobilization of crews and assistance from

partners and other divisions. Habitat restoration and invasive species control were continued in 2024. A total of 9,731 acres were treated, including prescribed-burn acres and contracts.

Division staff were involved with numerous publications and outreach activities. These included more than 20 presentations, 72 technical assists to partner projects, 26 interagency projects, 23 outreach activities, and numerous projects to improve access and trails for visitors. The division hosted 15 hikes at nature preserves throughout the state. DNP staff also attended more than 150 meetings and wrote several articles.

The Natural Heritage Database now contains 20,424 element occurrences (rare plants, animals, natural communities), and during 2024 a total of 1,246 new records were entered, and 684 more were updated. Staff answered 1,215 information requests, conducted 801 environmental reviews, and reviewed 104 floodway permit applications, 89 public lake permit applications, 90 research and collecting permits, and 12 coal permit applications.

The Lake Michigan Coastal Program launched seven coastal grant projects in the 2024 funding cycle. Activities focused on a variety of projects across, Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties.

The 2024 ginseng selling season closed on March 31, 2025, while the harvesting season ended Dec. 31, 2024. A total of 17 ginseng dealers were active. Preliminary results have the ginseng harvest in excess of 1,100 pounds during 2024. These numbers will be confirmed with the Harvest Summary report due in June.



INTRODUCTION

The Division of Nature Preserves (DNP) is made up of four components: the nature preserve program, preserve management program, the Natural Heritage Data Center, and the Lake Michigan Coastal Program (LMCP). The nature preserve program works with numerous partners to protect natural areas through acquisition and other protection actions and dedicate them into the state nature preserve system. The preserve management program takes care of DNP-owned nature preserves and assists partners with them by using many restoration and management activities, including prescribed burning and control of invasive species. The program also provides access to DNP-managed nature preserves by providing parking and trails, where appropriate. The Natural Heritage Data Center collects and manages statewide biodiversity data and tracks occurrences of rare species and high-quality natural communities. These information resources are used to guide conservation in multiple ways and aid both governmental agencies and private enterprises in their decision making. The species and community data provide a basis to inform projects during the planning phase by providing information for environmental reviews and permit applications. The LMCP is responsible for coastal activities, including natural, cultural, and historic resource activities in the Indiana Lake Michigan Coastal Zone, providing grant funding for a variety of projects, and serving as a central clearinghouse for natural resource conservation and planning.

MISSION

The Indiana Legislature passed the Nature Preserves Act in 1967, creating the DNP and charging it to work with partners to set aside and preserve areas of unusual natural significance for the benefit of present and future generations. Since that time, DNP staff has worked with DNR colleagues as well as partners throughout Indiana to catalog Indiana's flora, fauna, and natural areas, striving to set up a system of nature preserves that includes examples of all of the natural areas and rare species habitats that occur in Indiana. While not complete, much progress has been made. A total of 360 of the 438 plants considered endangered or threatened have viable populations in Indiana nature preserves.

The DNP's mission is to identify, protect, and manage an array of nature preserves and natural areas in sufficient numbers and sufficient sizes to maintain viable examples of all of Indiana's natural communities. DNP also manages and maintains viable populations of endangered, threatened, and rare species. These activities are conducted for the benefit of the natural communities and their representative species, as well as for the benefit of present and future generations.

The purpose of the Indiana LMCP is to enhance the state's role in planning for and managing natural and cultural resources in the coastal region and to support partnerships between federal, state, and local agencies and organizations. The LMCP relies upon existing laws and programs as the basis for achieving its purposes.

FUNDING

For many years the division's operating budget was funded solely through Indiana's General Fund, and its capital funds alternately were either from the Cigarette Tax or the General Fund. Starting in the 1980s, as new staff positions were added to meet increasing demands, they were paid for with alternate funding sources. Currently, roughly 90% of division staff time is paid through a variety of non-General Fund sources: INHPC Endowment, Coastal Program, Natural Resources Damages Account, Lands Unsuitable, and the Pittman-Robertson Act. The remaining 10% are paid with General Fund monies. These funds come from Office of Surface Mining, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and other sources, since a portion of the work done by these employees is for projects desired by both the Division of Nature Preserves and those entities. A portion of the time these employees work also serves as match for employees paid for with NOAA Coastal Program funds.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Divisional public relations efforts are divided into six broad categories: presentations, partner projects, technical support, interagency projects, public access projects, and outreach activities.

Nature Preserves staff made more than 20 presentations to a variety of partners with the majority made for nonprofit environmental groups. Those groups included our partner land trusts, wildflower groups, and community organizations. Topics included conservation design, multi-use trail design, Indiana wildflowers, and invasive species control.

Nature Preserves regional ecologists were involved in 72 partner projects, providing technical assistance to land trusts, counties, park boards, nonprofit groups, and commercial entities. There were a wide variety of projects, including habitat restoration, public dedications of nature preserves, trail construction and maintenance, invasive species management, and monitoring of endangered, threatened, or rare species.

There were 26 interagency projects.

DNP staff also worked with various state agency personnel on invasive species control, placement of trails, rare plant surveys, forestry inventory, prescribed burns, breeding bird counts, deer monitoring and reduction, and storm damage clean-up on several properties.

There were 23 outreach activities and events throughout the year.

DNP staff led 15 hikes on nature preserves, attended more than 150 meetings, wrote several articles, answered numerous public requests for information, and participated in the State Fair.

Planning for multiple public access projects started in 2024 with work expected to start in early 2025. These projects encourage activities that most directly affect a visitor's experience in a nature preserve and include improvement to trails systems, parking lots, and installation of signs at several preserves. Trail structures, boardwalk systems, and access roads were maintained, hunter registration stations were staffed, and deer management hunts were held.

Many nature preserves are open and have trails that provide excellent opportunities for nature study and outdoor recreation. See our website for more information on [IN.gov/naturepreserves](https://www.in.gov/naturepreserves).

PARTNER HIGHLIGHT: 18 STATE NATURE PRESERVES TO BE HIGHLIGHTED IN NATIONAL OLD-GROWTH FOREST NETWORK



Diverse, mighty and protected, 18 old-growth forests are being highlighted as great places for the public to hike and explore in Indiana. The division is working in partnership with the national Old-Growth Forest Network to showcase these incredible forests found within Indiana State Nature Preserves. These

rare, protected forests are preserved and stewarded for the benefit of wildlife and future generations.

Spanning the country, the Old-Growth Forest Network is working to connect people with nature and build partnerships to protect and care for old-growth and future old-growth forests. To date, more than 250 forests have been recognized across 38 states, including five in Indiana. The network's recognition celebrates the value of protected





old forests, deepening appreciation, understanding and engaging people in publicly owned forests.

A series of interpretive hikes will celebrate the incoming Indiana forests over the next three years. Be on the lookout for the next hike announcement.

INDIANA NATURAL HERITAGE DATA CENTER

The Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center collects and manages biodiversity information concerning rare plants and animals and high-quality natural communities throughout the state. In order to continually update our knowledge base, our division botanist and ecologists conduct field surveys to locate and monitor these imperiled plants and communities. Additional biologists, conservation groups, and citizen scientists submit species records that are vetted and then managed using the program’s Biotics software. The products of the biodiversity data are used to inform and assist conservation activities throughout the state by public and private entities. One of the ways the data are used is in the DNR environmental regulatory process to help avoid or minimize impacts to significant natural communities, state-ranked species, and nature preserves.

DATABASE STATISTICS

Lands Unsuitable Database
Element Occurances

EOs in the INHDC Database ..	20,424
New Records Entered	1,246
EO records updated	684

The Natural Heritage Database serves as DNR’s Lands Unsuitable Database, for the Division of Reclamation. We continuously update and quality control the database.

Natural Heritage Database Usage

Information Requests	1,215
Environmental Reviews	801
Coal Mine Permit Reviews	12
Floodway Permit Applications	104
Public Lake Applications	89
Research & Collecting Permits	90

The database is used for permit reviews in several DNR Programs and aids in planning and site development, while minimizing impacts to sensitive natural resource features.

NatureServe is an international organization that serves as an umbrella for the network of natural heritage programs and conservation data centers in the United States, Canada, Central and South America. It helps to ensure data consistency across the network and serves to provide natural heritage data to clients who need it across state and county boundaries. NatureServe’s Explorer website is broadly recognized as the best source of summary data on plant associations, plant, animal and insect species, and their global significance.

RARE PLANT INVENTORY AND MONITORING HIGHLIGHTS

Indiana Natural Heritage Data Center staff submitted over 300 Element Occurrence reports for rare plant species in 2024. We monitored at least one population of all the federally endangered and threatened plant species known to occur in Indiana. We also continued to focus on monitoring occurrences of rare plants that have not been updated in the Heritage database in at least 20 years. We worked with our incredible partners to locate and monitor several rare plant species. In addition, 2024 saw the discovery of several new Element Occurrences for plant species that are very rare in Indiana. These discoveries are both informative and can drive conservation

efforts, as they give a better understanding of the natural history of Indiana and lead to excitement that can drive discussions about protection of privately owned lands.

Updates on our Federal listed plant species and our most exciting 2024 rare plant finds are highlighted below.

Federal Listed Plants

Asclepias meadii (Mead's Milkweed): Federally Threatened

The only naturally occurring population of this species in Indiana was documented through a collection from Crown Point in 1888; the exact location of the collection has never been determined but is expected to have been destroyed. The species was reintroduced in a nearby nature preserve in 1994, and that remains our only extant occurrence today. It typically blooms in July, and Heritage Program staff were surprised to observe two plants in flower during an unrelated visit in early/mid-June. During the scheduled July visit, 10 vegetative plants were observed, and it was noted that the plants that had flowered in June did not produce fruit. This was the highest number of individuals of this species observed at the site in several years.

Cirsium pitcheri (Dune Thistle): Federally Threatened

This Great Lakes endemic is known from over 20 occurrences in Indiana in dunes along Lake Michigan, but the number of individuals and extant occurrences in the state are thought to be decreasing due to a number of threats. Heritage Program and other Division of Nature Preserves staff monitored two Element Occurrences of this rare thistle in June 2024. At one that was last monitored in 2017, a total of 191 individuals (including 16 mature plants) were observed in several colonies. At the other, last monitored in 2019, 25 individuals (including 10 mature plants) were tallied. Both of these occurrences are continuing to decline in numbers of plants present. Later in the year, while conducting surveys for other rare species, Heritage Program and Indiana Dunes National Park staff were in an area that had been seeded with pitcher's thistle seed in 2022 or 2023 and found and documented six vegetative plants. This was a new location for the species in the Heritage database. The Heritage Program continues to try to work more closely with partners to regularly update information on this species in the database.

Helenium virginicum (Virginia Sneezeweed): Federally Threatened

The only known Indiana population of Virginia sneezeweed is in a former mitigation wetland in Hamilton County. The population seems to be increasing and becoming more viable, as a total of 180 individuals (including mature and rosettes) were observed in 2024. Heritage Program staff hope to find this rare species elsewhere in Indiana. Note: This species is in the process of being removed from the Federal list of Threatened and Endangered species.

Physaria globosa (Globe Bladderpod): Federally Endangered

Globe Bladderpod is only known from Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and in Indiana it is known from just a single site in the far southwestern corner of the state where recent surveys have shown that the population seems to fluctuate in numbers annually. The site has been managed for a number of years in an attempt to maintain the population. It has generally responded well to management efforts that result in removing vegetation competition through mechanical scraping. The population was monitored in 2024, but due to an earlier than normal growing season the timing was not ideal for a population census. Although globe bladderpod was observed at the site, the number of individuals appeared to be much lower than in the past few years. Management of the population has not taken place in several years due to ongoing research being conducted on the population by students at Tennessee Tech University and due to equipment malfunction. Management was expected to continue later in 2024.

Platanthera leucophaea (Eastern Prairie White-Fringed Orchid): Federally Threatened

This rare orchid is known from 21 Element Occurrences in Indiana, but it is currently considered extant at just one of these. At this site, the number of above-ground plants fluctuates from year to year, with no individuals being present in some years. Based on research in Illinois, it seems that populations across the range of the species fluctuate based in part on annual precipitation amounts and timing. A single individual was observed at the extant Indiana site in 2024, and this plant produced flowers. Division of Nature Preserves staff acted quickly and obtained pollen of the species from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Illinois and conducted hand-pollination of the single blooming plant. Later in the year, the plant produced seemingly viable seed, and the seed was collected and spread within the known area of the population. This effort to increase genetic diversity may lead to a more robust population of Eastern prairie white-fringed orchid at this site in the future. One site where the species was known to occur historically was searched in 2024, but the site has been effectively drained and no longer had appropriate habitat.

Solidago shortii (Short's Goldenrod): Federally Endangered

Indiana's only population of this Indiana/Kentucky endemic was monitored by Heritage Program staff in 2024. The Indiana population occurs on a unique limestone ledge river scour. A population census revealed that the population appears to be stable. More individuals were tallied in 2024 than in 2023 or 2022, with 284 multi-stemmed clumps observed. The population area was comparable to that of past years.

State Listed Plants

Carex aureolensis (Land of Gold Sedge): State Endangered

This southern coastal plain and Mississippi Embayment sedge barely reaches into the southwestern corner of Indiana, known only ever to occur in Posey and Vanderburgh counties. A small, new population was discovered by Heritage Program staff in a Posey County flatwoods in 2024, bringing the total number of extant occurrences of this species in Indiana to three.

Carex viridistellata (Green Star Sedge): State Endangered

This rare sedge, endemic to fens in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio, was only known from one extant occurrence in Henry County and one historical (and presumed extirpated) occurrence in Wabash County prior to 2024 surveys. Heritage Program staff discovered a new population of this species consisting of 139 individuals in a Steuben County fen this year.

Conioselinum chinense (Hemlock Parsley) State Endangered

A species of northeastern North America, in the Great Lakes region this species reaches its southern extent in Indiana fens. Of the eight occurrences in the state, only five are thought to be extant. A new occurrence consisting of 10 individuals in a shrubby fen was discovered by Heritage Program staff on private property in LaPorte County in 2024. In addition, a population of this species in LaGrange County not monitored since 1997 was monitored in 2024, with a total of 210 individuals tallied (up from 50-100 when last monitored in 1997).

Crepidomanes intricatum (Weft Fern): State Endangered

Until 2024, this inconspicuous fern gametophyte of sandstone cliffs was only known from Crawford, Martin, Montgomery, and Perry counties in Indiana. With a better understanding of its microhabitat requirements, targeted surveys documented it in the additional counties of Fountain, Greene, Harrison, Orange, Parke, Putnam, and Warren, creating a nearly contiguous distribution in appropriate habitats from the Shawnee Hills region of southern Indiana through the Entrenched Valley region of west-central Indiana.

Dichanthelium yadkinense (Yadkin Panic-grass): State Endangered

All eight of Indiana's known occurrences of this mostly southeastern United States grass are within the Shawnee Hills region of the state. Seven of the eight occurrences are considered historical, with the only extant occurrence last being observed in 1989. In 2024, Heritage Program staff discovered a new occurrence of this species in Perry County.

Echinodorus cordifolius (Creeping Bur-head): State Endangered

Having an affinity to the coastal plain and Mississippi Embayment regions of the United States, this species is only present in the southwestern portion of Indiana. Of the five occurrences in the state, only three are considered extant. In 2024, Heritage Program staff discovered a new occurrence of this wetland species on a private property in Knox County.

Fimbristylis annua (Annual Fimbry): State Endangered

This annual sedge, more common in the southeastern United States, has only been documented in a Spencer County clay barrens in Indiana. Although annual surveys have been conducted to relocate it the past five years, the plant had not been seen since Mike Homoya's original discovery in 1998. In 2024, Heritage Program staff were excited to rediscover the population in a small depression within the clay barrens, where it had originally been seen. As an annual species, this sedge can be absent above ground for many years until conditions are appropriate for germination.

Glyceria borealis (Small Floating Manna-grass): State Endangered

This grass, which is generally found in cooler climates north of Indiana, has only five occurrences in the Heritage Program database. Three of the occurrences are considered historical, with the only extant occurrences being in Lake County, last updated in 1985. In 2024, Heritage Program and Indiana Dunes National Park staff visited the site of the extant occurrences in Lake County and relocated and monitored the species in three interdunal ponds.

Leptochloa panicoides (Amazon Sprangle-top): State Endangered

Found primarily within the Mississippi Embayment, this unique grass reaches the southwestern tip of Indiana where the Wabash and Ohio rivers intersect. All four of the occurrences in Indiana's Heritage database are in Posey County. Three are considered extant. In 2024, Heritage Program staff documented an expansive new occurrence of this mudflat grass in Knox County, its northernmost population in Indiana.

Salix cordata (Heartleaf Willow): State Endangered

Found on sand dunes bordering the Great Lakes, this shrub is known from eight occurrences along Lake Michigan in Indiana, with five of the occurrences considered historical. One of the extant locations, which was last monitored in 1980, was visited by Heritage Program and Indiana Dunes National Park staff in 2024 so that the population could be relocated and monitored.

Schoenoplectus subterminalis (Water Bulrush): State Threatened

This wetland sedge has an interesting distribution, as it is found along the coastal plain in the southeastern United States, around the Great Lakes and in northeastern North America, and scattered throughout the western part of North America. In Indiana there are 14 occurrences, but most of those are historical or extirpated. In 2024, Heritage Program and other division staff relocated and documented a population in a Lake County interdunal swale near the site of a collection of the species from 1878.

Taxus canadensis (American Yew): State Endangered

This shrub has a northern distribution in the United States, but in Indiana it is disjunct and restricted to difficult to access steep slopes and bluffs over streams and rivers in the Entrenched Valley region of west-central Indiana. There are 12 occurrences of this species in the Heritage Program database. Eleven of those are extant. In 2024, Heritage Program staff discovered a single, small individual of this species at a new location on a bluff over Sugar Creek in Montgomery County. This population is within a few kilometers of a population last seen by Charles Deam in 1932.

Viola baxteri (Baxter's Violet): State Endangered

After becoming aware of the presence of this violet in Indiana after a new taxonomic treatment of the genus by Harvey Ballard, several new populations have been discovered by botanists in Allen County. In 2024, all known populations of the species were monitored, in part by Heritage Program staff and in part by volunteers, to get a better understanding of the current distribution and status of the species. In addition, a new population was discovered by Division of Nature Preserves staff in Jay County.

Wisteria frutescens (American Wisteria): State Threatened

There are 13 occurrences of this attractive, vining species, which is more common to the south of Indiana, in the Heritage Program database. Nine of these occurrences are considered extant. One of the nine was last documented in 1991 at a site in Posey County without accurate location information. Searches for the species at that site in 2022 and 2023 were unsuccessful. In 2024, Heritage Program staff relocated and monitored a large population of this species at the Posey County site.

Ginseng

The 2024 ginseng selling season closed on March 31, 2025, while the harvesting season ended Dec. 31, 2024. There were 17 ginseng dealer licenses issued with 13 having reported sales. Preliminary results are that over 1,100 pounds of wild American ginseng have been transacted in Indiana, averaging 85 pounds per dealer. Numbers will be confirmed with the Harvest Summary report due in June. The 2023 and

2024 seasons were both significantly lower than is typical due to spring weather being wet and unfavorable. The price per pound has dropped for the first time since the pandemic and are currently near \$600 per pound.

Reflecting on my time with DNP and the opportunities it was able to give me.

If I'm being honest with myself, I think the culmination of my life experiences before I started working with DNP prepared me to hit the ground running when I stepped into a field in which I had little background. After all, I had a lot of catch-up work to do since I was 31 with a work history in parking garage management and construction permitting. My new colleagues had gone to school with a natural resources career path in mind—then went on to gain several decades of cumulative experience.

I had decided to shift my career focus and get a GIS certificate during the pandemic. This got my foot in the door with Nature Preserves, an opportunity that flourished into all that I could have hoped for.

Entering a new field can undoubtedly be intimidating. There are two sides to this coin, with opposite emotions of optimism and doubt. One side is the potential for overwhelm and self-doubt.

This showed up when my new coworkers, who were incredibly nice, talked about things like forest management and plant communities in detail. They threw around so many acronyms and scientific names that it felt silly to ask a rudimentary question. I felt like doing so would only expose my lack of knowledge. But I realized there was no shame in asking about something I didn't know about. They were happy to answer and left me with more things to consider, furthering the curiosity. All while responding with similar engagement, never making me feel like their knowledge made them superior.

The optimistic side to the coin stems from that very same experience. I was working with people with years of knowledge, coupled with field or research experience. From



the perspective of a new learner, how could I be any more fortunate? Here was an incredible opportunity to accelerate my understanding of basic principles. Even better, I could draw on real-world applications from people who have observed their own nuances and outcomes in the field.

Of the two sides of the coin, this is the one that serves us all best. It helped me be a better steward for the mission of our work by increasing my knowledge. It also strengthened relationships with coworkers and created more open, collaborative discussions. I learned that I shouldn't be afraid to show up and learn from the best.

I had started out fully in the office working on the heritage database, but my intention when I started was to incorporate field work. I was thankfully supported in this goal by my supervisor. Ultimately I found myself leaning into my curiosity and asking a lot of questions. Depending on who you talk to, the number of questions I asked will vary. But let's just say it's a large number.

I always thought listening was a good place to start too. That really guided my curiosity. It also helped determine if someone would be willing to stay and have a chat.

With people I wanted to hear more from, I eventually asked if I could join them in the field. Some days we were in groups, and I met other people who had a different perspective or background. I got to know these colleagues as well. I might set up a field day with them, possibly meeting yet another person with another specialty.

I was accumulating different perspectives on how to approach similar problems. I heard ideas I hadn't encountered before, because the person's background shaped their lens in a way I wasn't previously able to consider. These were enriching experiences that added to my ability to interpret the landscape and connect ecological dots.

Listening opened other avenues as well. If I heard about an event or activity that seemed like a good learning opportunity, I'd ask, "Hey, is it possible for me to go to this thing too?" The worst answer I could get was, "no," which cost me nothing. But by not even giving myself a chance, I might have missed the possibility of having a learning experience and meeting more new people. My attitude was, "Just ask and see what happens."

Through all of these field days and asking questions, I eventually met staff members at Central Indiana Land Trust, Inc. (CILTI). They were gracious enough to let me work with them during seasonal DNR breaks, so I got to know their team and they got to know me. I like to think that all the learning and opportunities sprouting from Nature Preserves gave me the chance to be where I am now as a stewardship specialist with CILTI.

I think I was truly lucky to an extent as well. I could have done

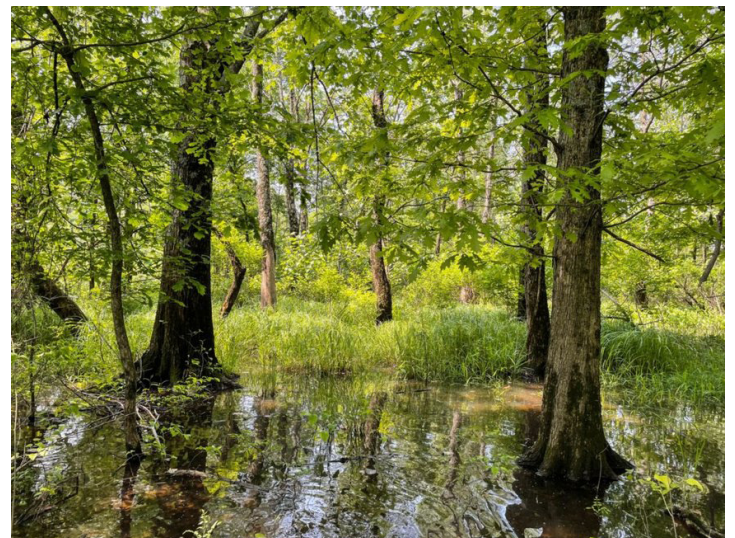
all these things, but if the people I was seeking to learn from weren't interested in sharing, spending the time, or having me in the field with them, I'd certainly not be where I am today. There are many pieces to the puzzle, but this may be the most important. Working with people who are genuinely a pleasure to be around and also passionate about what they do is something that makes the learning fun and pushes me to be better. In the end, my coworkers became friends. I'll be able to share a lifelong learning adventure in our fields with these folks. And I think that's pretty cool.

NATURE PRESERVE DEDICATIONS

At the close of 2024, there were 306 nature preserves dedicated under state law, Indiana Code 14-31-1. This represents 56,894.13 acres spread throughout Indiana. We work closely with many others in dedicating significant natural areas, including other DNR divisions, local land trusts, local county park systems, and colleges and universities. The first dedicated nature preserve was Pine Hills Nature Preserve in Shades State Park, dedicated in 1969. Since then, the nature preserves system has grown to be the most widely distributed system of protected lands in the state. Seventy-one counties contain a nature preserve. Nature preserves are set aside to protect the plants, animals, and natural communities that are found on them, providing protection in perpetuity for the benefit of future generations. Visitation is allowed to the extent that the features can tolerate it without deterioration. For a list of community types and a nature preserve example, please see on.IN.gov/naturepreserves.

Barnes-Seng Nature Preserve in Dubois County

This nature preserve contains 172 acres of southern bottomlands in Dubois County. It is mostly composed of wet-mesic floodplain forest with a diverse mix of southern trees and a large shrub swamp. It was identified as a potential natural area in 1979 using aerial imagery and recognized as a natural area after ground truthing in 1984. This site protects a portion of a remnant natural area that has been a conservation target for nearly four decades.



A survey conducted in 2022 identified 90 species of vascular plant taxa. Of these, eight were listed as endangered, threatened, or watch listed in Indiana. A copperbelly water snake was observed at this site.

It is owned by Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Eagle Lake Nature Preserve in Noble County

This nature preserve contains 144.87 acres and is in Noble county within the Northern Lakes Natural Region.

This property contains marl flat, fen, sedge meadow, and woodland natural communities. The extensive high-quality marl beach prairie found onsite is a rare community type in Indiana. It includes most of the shoreline of Eagle Lake and an island in the lake. The wetlands soils are gray in color from the high calcium concentration. Wildflowers that can tolerate the calcium and thrive include shrubby cinquefoil, brown-eyed Susan, and blazing star. Blanding's turtles are present.

It is owned by Indiana Department of Natural Resources.



Fern Station Nature Preserve in Putnam County

This nature preserve contains 568.47 acres of unbroken forest that offers forest interior habitat for wildlife. It is dominated by white oak, beech, and hickory trees, and is rich with woodland species, including wood thrush, Acadian flycatcher, and Northern parula. Red-shouldered hawks are present, and the site is home to an abundant population of Kentucky warblers.

Rare species include cerulean, worm-eating, and hooded warblers; broad-winged hawks; and Eastern box turtles. Tributaries of Snake Creek contain amphibian life. The wooded ravines support a rich understory of native shrubs and a variety of fern species, including maiden hair, broad beech, fragile, glade, sensitive, Christmas, silvery spleenwort, and crested ferns.

In 2022, the Next Level Conservation Trust pledged \$3.1 million toward acquisition of Fern Station. CILTI donors contributed more than 1 million dollars to purchase Fern Station and protect it forever.

It is owned by Central Indiana Land Trust, Incorporated.



Granville Sand Barrens Roy Whistler Addition Nature Preserve in Tippecanoe County

This nature preserve addition adds 37.34 acres to the existing 40 acres dedicated in 2003. It is in Tippecanoe County within the Central Till Plain Natural Region.

The sandy soils on the property protect a very rare community type that was laid down at the end of the glaciers during the Maumee Torrent. The site is home to state endangered golden asters, ornate box turtles and threatened fringed puccoon and forked blue curls, as well as a host of other interesting species like six-lined racerunners, sand milkweed, and royal catchfly.

It is owned by NICHES Land Trust, INC.



Wea Creek Gravel Hill Prairie Nature Preserve in Tippecanoe County

This nature preserve contains 2 acres and is in Tippecanoe County within the Central Till Plain Natural Region.

This property protects gravel slope barrens that have formed from hillside topography and gravelly substrate. This leads to a prairie plant community that includes several species uncommon to Indiana.

Wea Creek Gravel Hill Prairie Nature Preserve protects several plant populations, including *Lithospermum incisum*, *Phlox bifida*, and *Erysimum capitatum*. There are only three remaining sites in Indiana that protect this habitat and the associated rare flora.

It is owned by Indiana Department of Natural Resources.



924.68 NEW ACRES ADDED TO THE NATURE PRESERVE SYSTEM.

NATURE PRESERVE PROGRAM

The work done to maintain the long-term viability and ecological health of the nature preserve system is one of the most important functions of the division. Toward this goal, the division maintains eight regional field offices that oversee our statewide system of preserves. (Appendix C, Map 1). They care for numerous preserves found across large geographic areas covering many counties.

Habitat restoration and invasive species control were continued in 2024. A total of 9,731 acres were treated, which includes prescribed-burn acres and contracts.

These regional field offices serve as a base of operations for our ecologists and their staff and equipment. Division regional ecologists perform an array of work, including ecological restoration, public land management, conservation planning, monitoring and inspections, environmental reviews, and botanical and natural areas



inventory. They also provide many community services, including technical consultation and environmental education. The regional ecologists also perform the important task of maintaining safe public access to the unique and growing division trail system.

New trails and parking facilities were installed at Ambler Flatwoods in partnership with Shirley Heinze Land Trust. Also, ground was broken for a complete trail re-route at Moraine Nature Preserver and an official trail implementation at Yellow Birch Ravine Nature Preserve. Trail counters were installed across the state to better track our public usage, helping to prioritize trail needs and focus. More than 480 miles of trail and 71 miles of access and firelane clearings were conducted in 2024.

Regional ecologists integrate expertise in many fields and decades of experience working in natural areas to offer innovative management to Indiana's nature preserve system. They have expertise in subjects such as conservation biology, forest health issues, wildland firefighting, public speaking, wetland restoration, and recreational trail design and installation, among others.

Regional ecologists also supervise and manage a specialized team of stewardship staff. These employees perform the daily work of property management and controlling invasive species. They are experienced with heavy equipment, chainsaws, herbicide application, wildland firefighting, trail maintenance, and safety.

This report addresses nature preserves on public lands that are owned by the DNR, as well as those owned by our private and local government partners. Regional ecologists work with the private sector to place mitigation projects on existing conservation lands, including nature preserves. Mitigation is required to replace wetlands and forests affected by development. This provides valuable restoration funding for public lands while helping the private sector fulfill the requirements of regulatory permits and settlements. This effort is resulting in significant enhancements at several nature preserves.

Regional staff are heavily involved with land protection, conservation planning, and community outreach. They provide technical assistance to their communities, partner land trusts, federal and municipal agencies, and other DNR divisions and agencies.

Invasive Species Control

Numerous invasive species continue to invade natural areas, and the list of species of concern grows every year. Control means to maintain invasive species at a level at which they do not threaten the natural communities of the preserve. It does not mean eradication, because that is practically impossible. Eradication is prohibitively expensive unless the population to be controlled is relatively small.

This year, regional ecologists aimed their invasive control efforts at garlic mustard, Canada thistle, glossy buckthorn, bush honeysuckle, Japanese honeysuckle, teasel, phragmites, white sweet clover, yellow sweet clover, autumn olive, knapweed, crown vetch, *sericea lespedeza*, Japanese stiltgrass, reed canary grass, moneywort, bouncing bet, brome grass, ground ivy, privet, purple loosestrife, oriental bittersweet, multiflora rose, amur cork tree, tall fescue, Johnson grass, scurf pea, burning bush, hybrid cattail, and Japanese chaff flower. Many of these species require years of efforts to reduce populations to monitoring and spot-treatment levels. Protecting our natural areas and native flora and faunal species is a constant and consistent battle.

Invasive Species Management

Division staff are involved across the state in leading efforts to control invasive plants. These cause extensive degradation of our natural habitats, including forests, prairies, and wetlands. With decades of experience in habitat restoration and invasive weed control, the division is a recognized authority on early detection of invasives as well as the techniques used to control them and restore healthy native habitats. In 2024, the regional ecologists and staff targeted 5,878 acres of invasive plants.



Division staff collaborate with many partner organizations seeking to develop and implement their own successful strategies and programs to control invasive weeds on nature preserves across Indiana. Technical assistance, educational materials, and site assessments promoting early detection and effective control measures are important aspects of the division's work.

Mitigation Projects on Natural Areas

The division works with diverse partners and funding sources to deliver effective conservation in Indiana. Mitigation funds are increasingly being used for habitat restoration, providing an important opportunity to further protect nature preserves in need.

When wetland, stream, or forest habitats are negatively affected or destroyed due to infrastructure needs or other development, federal law (under the Clean Water Act or United States Fish and Wildlife Service) requires that the lost habitat be mitigated through the construction and restoration of similar habitat within the geographic area. The division works closely with industry and regulators in a mutually beneficial process of performing these needed mitigations on DNR-owned public conservation lands.

Through these collaborations, the division is able to perform reforestation projects and restore and enhance impaired wetlands while providing for their future stewardship.

A number of conservation lands have benefited from significant restoration projects conducted by division staff and consultants helping private-sector entities fulfill regulatory requirements. These projects are helping to improve biodiversity at significant savings to the division. Plans were submitted and approved for more than 80 acres of wetland and stream corridor mitigation on a site in White County that borders Lake Shafer.

Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Grant

Thanks to the Division of Fish & Wildlife, the division received additional funds from the Pittman-Robertson Act grant that started in July 2023 and ended in June 2025. The grant, titled "Wildlife Restoration Activities on Natural Areas," focuses on wildlife habitat restoration activities, including prescribed burning as well as invasive species and woody-plant succession control methods on nature preserves as part of their management plans.

This grant funds divisional activities, including preserve management, surveys, and outreach efforts for the grant's two-year duration and helps the Division of Fish & Wildlife meet grant match goals. Much needed management work is being accomplished throughout the state because of this federal funding.

Burn Program

The division's prescribed-burn program is one of the oldest in the state. We have been safely and effectively using prescribed burns to manage Indiana ecosystems for more than 40 years. These fires range in size from those on tiny prairie remnants to landscape-scale fires covering hundreds of acres.

The use of prescribed burns is a land management tool that provides benefits no other technique offers. It is crucial for maintaining rare and declining habitats that depend on periodic fires. Our carefully planned and managed prescribed burns maintain natural processes such as plant germination, forest succession, and control of weedy and invasive species in Indiana's prairies, oak woodlands, and wetlands.

While healthy native habitats are the primary goal of division's prescribed-burn program, the use of prescribed burns is also an important part of reducing hazardous fuel loads of woody debris and brush on our public lands.

Division ecologists spend a lot of time training and planning for prescribed-fire operations. This effort includes several disciplines such as ecology, weather, wildland firefighting, incident command, communications, and logistics. A profound knowledge of fire ecology informs our planning and use of prescribed burns. Important ecological factors include targeted

native plant and animal communities, seasonal timing of prescribed burns, prescribed-burn return intervals, and forest regeneration (e.g., oaks). A lot of planning and consideration goes into sensitive species such as Eastern box turtle (*Terrapene c. carolina*), Eastern massasauga rattlesnake (*Sistrurus c. catenatus*), and Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*).

Crucial to the continued success and growth in our prescribed-burn program is cooperation among partners to field effective wildland fire crews. Division staff frequently works within multi-divisional DNR prescribed burn teams that include representatives from the divisions of Forestry, State Parks, and Fish & Wildlife. Collaboration with non-DNR partners such as municipalities (city and county), as well as nonprofit conservation groups (e.g., The Nature Conservancy, Shirley Heinze Land Trust, ACRES, and NICHES), enables us to assemble larger, more capable crews, and the interaction contributes to exchange of ideas and crew cohesion.

The most important work our ecologists do involves managing their staff of 20 part-time and intermittent stewardship employees who are trained and experienced in conducting prescribed burns. Having this capacity, along with our partners' support, enables us to safely conduct multiple prescribed burns simultaneously during a given window of ideal prescribed-burn weather.

A total of 1,550 acres was managed with prescribed fire in 2023. This included burning at Dunes Prairie Nature Preserve, reintroduction at Wea Gravel Hill Prairie after more than a decade, and re-establishing a prescribed-burn presence at Hoosier Prairie Nature Preserve.

Restoration

Ecological restoration is a key component to much of the natural-areas and property management conducted by the regional ecologists. Ecological restoration is intended to restore key functions and integrity to natural systems and communities through removing detrimental elements, introducing positive features, and reworking degraded systems to provide ecological lift and improve habitat role and capacity.

Restoration efforts require intensive research into the history of the site, drawing information from all available academic research, as well as from historical documentations and original survey notes. This deep dive into the history of the site helps set a benchmark and future goal for the restorationists' intent for the property's maturation. Natural systems are dynamic, requiring a dynamic approach and response to changing conditions on the site, such as hydrological fluctuations or disruptions, long term climactic influences, native floral die offs, presence and emergence of existing and new invasive species impacts, and historical land-use practices that help mold the best model for restorative approach.

Large-scale seeding restoration efforts were conducted in White County, the beginning of restoring more than 150 acres from decades of agricultural production back into a prairie and wetland mosaic. Major seed collection operations were conducted in White and Harrison counties in preparation for restorations taking place in 2025. Forty-three acres of fields recently removed from agricultural production were planted with more than 42,000 trees and hundreds of pounds of native herbaceous and county-specific seed were installed to reduce erosion, promote viable soil health and reestablishment, and promote long-term resistance to invasive encroachment.

DIVISION OF NATURE PRESERVES, NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGES PROGRAM

The Natural Resource Damages Program had a busy 2024. Staff worked together with DNR Engineering and a redesign consultant to revive the Pine Station project. While the western half of Pine Station has had significant work completed over the past several years, the eastern half is largely covered by 50-year-old fly ash. Native vegetation struggles to grow in fly ash, and simply burning or mowing the invasives would cause the fly ash to be taken up by the wind and blown into surrounding areas, including the critical habitat to the west. With the help of an EPA grant, this fly ash will be capped with sand, the North Pond bank will be stabilized, and native vegetation will be established in the cap areas, replacing the invasive species currently present. Staff plans to continue the redesign process in 2025, with construction planned for 2026.

The program also contributed to several restoration projects in the Grand Calumet River region, including the Dune and Swale project. This Natural Resource Damages and EPA funded project has included significant invasive species work on hundreds of acres of dune and swale habitat in the area. This has been part of a collaborative effort between DNR and several local partners, including The Nature Conservancy, Lake County Parks, and the Shirley Heinze Land Trust, among others. Staff have worked with these partners and IDEM on plans to continue and increase collaboration among the partners. This will ensure that the more than 1,200 acres of habitat under protection from all partners in the region continue to benefit from robust management in the future.

Outside of the Grand Calumet Region, Natural Resource Damages staff have worked closely with Division of Fish & Wildlife staff, IDEM, and USFWS on a mussel propagation project. This project seeks to propagate and eventually reintroduce several endangered species of mussels into Indiana waterways. Mussel populations have declined precipitously since the 1800s, but with many factors contributing to this decline improving, staff are confident these species can be reestablished in rivers and streams throughout the state.

The LMCP launched seven coastal grant projects in the 2024 funding cycle. These activities are financed by passthrough dollars from the LMCP's federal partners at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and are supplemented by cash and/or in-kind matching funds from municipalities, state funds, and nonprofit organizations. Unlike previous cycles, the LMCP did not implement specific priorities to guide the work completed via the grants program. By the time the projects that began in 2024 are completed, the LMCP will have invested \$733,559.40 of federal funds and \$873,321.44 of matching funds into a wide array of projects occurring in the Lake Michigan watershed region, for a total investment of \$1.6 million.

Due to the lack of designated funding priorities, the 2024 cycle has generated a variety of projects across Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties. Two land acquisition projects were awarded funding, both of which are occurring in Lake County, and one of which has already been completed. The Harvest Ridge Church and Spurlock land acquisitions will protect approximately 38 total acres of upland and wetland habitats on multiple parcels of land in Lake County. Three local organizations are using LMCP funds to deliver educational experiences and enhance their organization's outreach initiatives. Dunes Learning Center is using federal grant funds to implement their Watershed Education program, giving students in the Lake Michigan watershed the opportunity to learn about water quality, water safety, and the impacts of point and nonpoint source pollution. The Save the Dunes Conservation Fund is leveraging LMCP funding to publish the third installation in their "Living in the Dunes" landscaping guides, which will provide guidance to local landowners regarding the types of native plants to be planted in their gardens to benefit the bird populations in the coastal region. Last, Shirley Heinze Land Trust is developing a series of programs focused on building a community of watershed stewards consisting of an array of activities ranging from developing new programs and educational activities, acquiring new supplies, and building a strong cohort of newly trained program volunteers.

Furthermore, a portion of the 2024 cycle's funding has been allocated to applied research and planning measures. The LMCP continues to support Indiana University Bloomington's Center for Underwater Science as they provide ongoing technical assistance in monitoring the J.D. Marshall and Muskegon shipwrecks off the coast of Indiana Dunes State Park and Mount Baldy, respectively. And one municipality in Porter County—the town of Beverly Shores—is building on what was learned about its shoreline in a previous LMCP grant by creating a plan to coordinate and facilitate the restoration of shoreline resources in the coastal area, chiefly



As a final note, four of the 11 projects that began in the 2023 grant cycle have been completed. In particular, we highlight two success stories that we have shared with NOAA. The town of Chesterton completed construction on a pond enhancement loop around the pond in Coffee Creek Park. The project consisted of the installation of three fishing piers, a limestone outcropping, and an aggregate surface trail that runs around the perimeter of the pond. And the Michigan City Parks & Recreation Department finalized the restoration of the Washington Park Bandstand, a registered historic landmark and beloved public access site in Michigan City. The LMCP is thrilled to have participated in these projects and is eager to see how our upcoming investments will benefit our communities.

Lake Michigan Coastal posters are available free of charge (shipping and handling fees apply).
Contact CSCinquiry@dnr.IN.gov



APPENDIX A: DIVISION STAFF THROUGH 2024



NATURE PRESERVES MANAGEMENT

Ronald Hellmich	<i>Division Director</i>
Andrew Reuter	<i>Assistant Director</i>
Laura Minzes	<i>Operations Director</i>
Gail Riggs	<i>Office Manager</i>
Cathy Zajdel	<i>Administrative Support</i>

NATURAL HERITAGE DATA CENTER

Dawn Johnson	<i>Natural Heritage Coordinator</i>
Taylor Davis	<i>Heritage Data Manager</i>
Matt Wyrick	<i>Protection Director</i>
Wyatt Williams	<i>Heritage Ecologist</i>
Scott Namestnik	<i>Heritage Botanist</i>

REGIONAL ECOLOGISTS

Danielle Williams	<i>Central</i>
Ryan Keller	<i>Southwest</i>
Adam Balzer*	<i>Northeast</i>
Matt Beatty	<i>Northwest</i>
Ryan Smith	<i>East Central</i>
Derek Nimetz	<i>Coastal</i>
Jason Larson	<i>Southeast</i>
Emily Stork	<i>Grand Calumet</i>

**Replaced Rich Dunbar*

LAKE MICHIGAN COASTAL PROGRAM

Jenny Orsburn	<i>Program Manager</i>
Katherine Balkema	<i>Grant Specialist</i>
Joe Exl	<i>Coastal Resource Planner</i>
Vacant*	<i>Special Projects Coordinator</i>
Kacey Alexander	<i>Operations Manager</i>

**Previously Ashley Sharkey*

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGES

Nick Males	<i>Coordinator</i>
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APPENDIX B: OWNERS OF NATURE PRESERVES

COUNTY AND CITY PARTNERS

Allen County Parks and Recreation Bartholomew County
Parks and Recreation Bloomington Parks Board

Elkhart County Parks

Evansville Park Board

Fort Wayne Park Board

Town of Fishers

Harrison County Parks and Recreation Indy Parks

Jennings County Community Foundation LaGrange County
Parks Board

Lake County Parks and Recreation LaPorte County Parks and
Recreation LaPorte County Conservation Trust Muncie YMCA

LaPorte County Parks Foundation

St. Joseph County Parks and Recreation Steuben County
Parks and Recreation Terre Haute Park Board

Town of DeMotte

Vigo County Parks and Recreation

FEDERAL PARTNERS

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

University Partners

Ball State University

Goshen College

Indiana State University

Purdue University

Wabash College

STATE PARTNERS

DNR Division of Forestry

DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife

DNR State Museum and Historic Sites

DNR Division of State Parks

State Board of Health

LAND TRUST AND NONPROFIT PARTNERS

ACRES Land Trust, Inc.

Central Indiana Land Trust (CILTI)

Indiana Karst Conservancy

Izaak Walton League

NICHES Land Trust

Red-Tail Land Conservancy, Inc.

Save the Dunes

Shirley Heinze Land Trust

Sycamore Land Trust (SLT)

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Whitewater Valley Land Trust

Oak Heritage Conservancy

Ouabache Land Conservancy

APPENDIX C: NATURE PRESERVE REGIONAL ECOLOGIST DISTRICTS

