



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES  
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

**DATE:** February 2, 2015

**MEMO TO:** Bonnie Thomson Carter, Chair  
Planning and Restoration Committee

S. Michael Rummel, Chair  
Finance and Administrative Committee

**FROM:** Randall L. Seebach, Director  
Planning, Conservation and Development

**SUBJECT:** 2015 Ecological Assessment of District Lands

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract for the 2015 Ecological Assessment of District Lands to Northern Illinois University, Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability & Energy, DeKalb, Illinois in the Contract Price of \$40,663.00.

**BACKGROUND:** In order to identify wildlife species within our preserves, prepare master plans, and implement capital improvement projects, an ecological assessment of District lands is necessary. This is accomplished through the Wildlife Monitoring Program, by which staff is able to: 1) detect species' presence/absence, 2) detect long-term population changes, and 3) provide reliable standardized biological information that can be used to develop site management goals.

During the 2015 monitoring season, 91 locations will be inventoried at 21 preserves. Wildlife species monitored will include: amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles. Staff wildlife biologists will oversee and coordinate this assessment, and incorporate the data received into District data files for analysis.

In an attempt to reach out to local academic institutions who might be interested in the work, a request for Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) was advertised in December 2014 and the District individually notified seven (7) academic institutions with two (2) institutions registering for the information: Northern Illinois University (NIU) and Loyola University. Only one academic institution (NIU) submitted an SOQ and, after review, met all the required qualifications. Therefore, staff recommends entering into a Contract with NIU for completion of the 2015 Ecological Assessment.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:** Committee recommendation and Board approval are required in accordance with District policy.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** Director of Operations and Public Safety, Director of Finance, Legal Counsel

**FINANCIAL DATA:** This item was approved as part of the adopted FY2015/2016 Budget's Capital Improvement Plan for Habitat Restoration in the amount of \$500,000.00. From the actual cost of \$40,663.00, \$30,651.00 will be charged to the Habitat Restoration Fund account 20104100-803200-60004 and \$10,012.00 will be charged to the USFWS Spring Bluff Coastal Habitat Grant account 69644100-803200-56052.

**PRESENTER:** Randall L. Seebach



**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE 2015 ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF  
DISTRICT LANDS TO NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the "District") has successfully undertaken extensive restoration activities to create and preserve important habitat for wildlife species; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to assess forest preserves and develop habitat restoration projects, the District desires to identify wildlife species within its forest preserves; and

**WHEREAS**, the District desires to purchase services to detect species' presence or absence, detect long-term population changes, and provide standardized biological information to develop site management goals and objectives (the "Services"); and

**WHEREAS**, the District's Purchasing Manager and Director of Planning, Conservation and Development have determined that the Services require personal confidence; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has conducted a competitive Request for Statements of Qualifications process to select a qualified academic institution to provide ecological assessment services; and

**WHEREAS**, Northern Illinois University ("NIU") has submitted a proposal for the Services (the "Proposal"), and the Purchasing Manager; Director of Planning, Conservation and Development; and the Planning and Restoration Committee and Finance and Administrative Committee have recommended that the Board of Commissioners (i) find the Proposal to be the proposal that is most advantageous to the District, and (ii) award a contract for the Services to NIU; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners hereby finds that the proposal for the Services submitted by NIU is the proposal that is most advantageous to the District; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County, Illinois THAT:

Section 1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Award of Contract. A contract for the Services in substantially the form attached hereto (the "Contract") in the amount of \$40,663.00 (the "Contract Price") is hereby awarded to NIU.

Section 3. Execution of Contract. The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract for the Services in the amount of the Contract Price.

Section 4. Payments. The Treasurer shall make payments under the Contract only pursuant to and in accordance with the Contract terms.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann B. Maine, President  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie A. Gagnani, Secretary  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_