



# Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

1021 North Grand Avenue East • P.O. Box 19276 • Springfield • Illinois • 62794-9276 • (217)782-2027

## ILLINOIS EPA GRANTEE ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST & CERTIFICATION FORM

**\*NOTE: If your project will be utilizing SRF Loan Program funds OR grant funds from a federal source, please use the Illinois EPA Loan Applicant Environmental Checklist which can be found on our website under SRF Loan Forms.\***

**GRANTEE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **C17#:** \_\_\_\_\_

This form must be signed by the grantee’s Authorized Representative. All grantees must provide items 1 and 2 below. The information which may need to be provided for items 3-5 are specific to conditions of the project. **Please see the attached instructions which explain the requirements and provides contact information.** If you believe an item is not required for your project, enter N/A and provide an explanation. For checklist items marked as N/A, indicate the page number of the planning report where the explanation is located.

### DATE OF RESPONSE

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SHPO

\_\_\_\_\_

ECOCAT

\_\_\_\_\_

INDR FOLLOW-UP LETTER  
(WHEN PROTECTED RESOURCES  
ARE IDENTIFIED)

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USACE

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IDNR-OWR

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IDOA

- ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (IDNR), STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (SHPO)** – Provide records of consultation with IDNR SHPO for the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act, Section 707 sign-off.
- IDNR’S IMPACT ASSESSMENT SECTION** – Provide records of consultation with IDNR’s Impact Assessment Section for evaluation pursuant to the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act [520 ILCS 10/11], the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act [525 ILCS 30/17], Title 17 Illinois Administrative Code, Part 1075, and Interagency Wetlands Policy Act of 1989 (Illinois Administrative Code, Part 1090). Include both the EcoCAT printout and, if applicable, the IDNR follow-up letter.
- U.S. ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS (USACE)** – For projects located within any wetland, river, stream, flood plain, floodway, waterway, any body of water, or construction located within 250 feet of a wetland; provide records of consultation from the USACE. All grantees must include an official wetlands map with this checklist to show the presence or absence of wetlands in or around the project area. See instructions for further details.
- IDNR OFFICE OF WATER (OWR)** – For projects located within a flood plain or floodway, or along a jurisdictional river, lake, or stream without a mapped floodway or flood plain, provide records of consultation from OWR. All grantees must include an official floodway map with this checklist to show the presence or absence of a floodway in the project area. See instructions for further details.
- ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (IDOA)** – If the project involves conversion of prime agricultural land to other uses, provide records of consultation from IDOA.

**CERTIFICATION:** By signing this form, the grantee certifies that the applicable environmental evaluations were conducted for the proposed project locations, and if the review results for any of these environmental evaluations include recommendations, conditions, certifications, and/or permits, the grantee agrees to comply.

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

GRANTEE’S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

# ILLINOIS EPA GRANTEE ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST & CERTIFICATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

To complete a project plan under a Planning Grant or to begin construction under a Construction Grant, a grantee must demonstrate to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) that the project will comply with various State and Federal enactments for protection of historical/cultural resources, recreational areas, rivers, streams wetlands, any body of water, floodplains, river and stream banks, rare and endangered species, prime agricultural land, air and water quality and other sensitive environmental areas. These required certifications are intended to ensure compliance with all applicable State of Illinois environmental requirements that must be met for the proposed project to move forward towards funding. Please note that in Illinois, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requirements only apply to a designated 17.1-mile part of the middle fork of the Vermilion River, which is located west of Danville, Illinois, in Vermilion County.

These requirements can be satisfied by providing the information noted on this checklist. This checklist itemizes the project conditions that determine which environmental evaluations are required. The grantee must ask the identified regulating entities to evaluate their proposed project and then provide records of consultation to the Illinois EPA. Records of consultation consist of copies of the grantee's request for consultation; all correspondence to document the evaluation of the project; and the final review results. If the final environmental review results include recommendations, conditions, certifications, or if permits are issued, copies must be provided as part of the records of consultation. Depending on the site-specific project conditions, the required environmental evaluations can take two or more months to complete. If your project meets any listed conditions, it is suggested that you submit the project information to the regulating entity as soon as possible.

To determine whether evaluations by USACE (Item 3) and IDNR-OWR (Item 4) are required, grantees must provide the Illinois EPA Grant Program a minimum of two maps that show the project location and the specified environmentally sensitive areas. One map must be an official floodway location map as described in Item 4 to determine whether IDNR-OWR evaluation must be conducted. One or more other maps that show wetlands, rivers, streams, and any body of water as described in Item 3 must be provided to determine whether USACE evaluation must be conducted. If the project is in any one of the specified areas, the grantee must submit a joint application form to IDNR-OWR and/or USACE and provide records of consultation to Illinois EPA. If the provided maps demonstrate that project is not located in the specified areas, further evaluation is not required for Items 3 and 4.

By signing the Environmental Checklist and Certification Form, the grantee is certifying that the correct environmental evaluations were done for all proposed project construction areas and that they will comply with all environmental requirements. **The checklist and certification form must be signed and dated by the grantee's Authorized Representative (not the consulting engineer) and submitted to Illinois EPA.**

Some environmental evaluation results specify a time period that the consultation remains valid. The consultation may expire in two or three years or may be project specific. The environmental evaluations must be current and in effect when the Illinois EPA approves the project plan or construction project. If an environmental consultation expires before Illinois EPA's approval, the grantee must provide new updated records of consultation.

**If you have any questions regarding this package, please contact the Illinois EPA Infrastructure Financial Assistance Section (IFAS) Grant Section in the Bureau of Water at (217)782-2027.**

**\*REMEMBER!: If your project will be utilizing SRF Loan Program funds OR grant funds from a federal source, please use the Illinois EPA Loan Applicant Environmental Checklist which can be found on our website under SRF Loan Forms or at the link below.\***

[https://epa.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/documents/environmental\\_checklist.pdf](https://epa.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/epa/topics/grants-loans/state-revolving-fund/documents/environmental_checklist.pdf)

**1. HISTORICAL/CULTURAL RESOURCES - ILLINOIS STATE AGENCY HISTORIC RESOURCES PRESERVATION ACT, SECTION 707**

A sign-off from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) must be provided to Illinois EPA. The request for evaluation must indicate that the project will be funded through the Illinois EPA and therefore will require a state Section 707 sign-off to satisfy the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act 20 ILCS 3420. The sign-off may be unconditional, or it may be conditional upon the applicant agreeing to incorporate measures to protect or recover historic or archeological resources. If Illinois SHPO issues the sign-off as a federal release under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, this is also acceptable. For more information visit: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnrhistoric/Preserve/Pages/Resource-Protection.aspx>.

IL Historic Preservation Office phone number: (217) 782-4836

E-mail requests for SHPO review to: [SHPO.Review@Illinois.gov](mailto:SHPO.Review@Illinois.gov) .

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**2. THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES, NATURAL AREAS, WETLANDS - ILLINOIS ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTION ACT, ILLINOIS NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION ACT, ILLINOIS INTERAGENCY WETLAND POLICY ACT**

All projects, except for equipment only purchases, must be evaluated by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Impact Assessment Section (IAS) for potential adverse effects to protected natural resources pursuant to the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act [520 ILCS 10/11], the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act [525 ILCS 30/17], Title 17 Illinois Administrative Code, Part 1075, and Interagency Wetlands Policy Act of 1989 (Illinois Administrative Code, Part 1090). Grantees should submit the project via IDNR's EcoCAT website at: <https://dnr2.illinois.gov/EcoPublic/>. Applicants must then provide copies of the following records of consultation to Illinois EPA:

- An EcoCAT review report which states that consultation under Part 1075 is terminated and that the wetland review under Part 1090 is terminated. If protected resources are identified, also provide;
- A letter from IDNR terminating the Part 1075 consultation and the Part 1090 wetland review because adverse effects are unlikely, or
- A letter from IDNR detailing any recommendations or measures which must be taken to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects. All recommendations or measures must be incorporated into the project bidding and construction contract specifications.

Grantees may contact IDNR, IAS at:

Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Office of Realty and Capital Planning, Impact Assessment Section  
One Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271  
Phone: (217)785-5500  
Email: [DNR.Ecocat@Illinois.gov](mailto:DNR.Ecocat@Illinois.gov)

**Reminder: Fees are not applicable to consultations required by State or Federal Government projects. If this consultation is for an Illinois EPA funded project, do not pay the fee.**

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**3. U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE) FOR CONSTRUCTION LOCATED WITHIN A RIVER, STREAM, WETLAND, FLOOD PLAIN, FLOODWAY, WATERWAY, OR ANY BODY OF WATER; OR CONSTRUCTION WITHIN 250 FEET OF A WETLAND.**

To demonstrate compliance, all applicants must provide a copy of an area topographic or satellite image map that shows the project location and at least one-quarter mile of surrounding area and identifies all the following areas: rivers, streams, wetlands, flood plains, floodways, waterways, or any body of water or that will verify these areas are

not present. The origin of the map must be provided. It is acceptable to provide as many maps as necessary to show the listed environmentally sensitive areas. Please note that an official flood plain/floodway map must be provided separately for item 4 below. If the project is not located in the listed areas, Item 3 of the checklist can be marked N/A and further evaluation by USACE is not necessary.

For all projects located in any of these areas, the grantee must submit a Joint Application Form and supporting project information to USACE. If the review results obtained from the IDNR Eco-CAT, Part 1090 Wetland Protection Act evaluation identify wetlands within 250 feet of the project location, the grantee must submit the project to USACE for evaluation, regardless of whether the Eco-CAT review was terminated. If the project locations are in previously disturbed areas; or directional boring will be used, the USACE evaluation must still be conducted.

**The Joint Application Form** is available on the USACE website at this link: <https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/Obtain-a-Permit/>. Click on Applications and Application Information to see several options for District Specific Permit information. **Attachment A** to this guidance provides a map and addresses to help you determine the appropriate Army Corps of Engineers District Office for your project.

When USACE evaluation is required, the grantee must provide Illinois EPA with a copy of the evaluation request and the review results that were obtained from USACE. Acceptable review results must be from the regulating entity and may consist of a letter or email stating that the project is not regulated, and/or a permit is not required. If the review results include recommendations, conditions, and/or permits, the grantee must provide Illinois EPA with a copy of all correspondence. If recommendations, conditions and/or permits are issued, the applicant must comply. The conditions must be included within the bidding and construction contract documents before construction is authorized.

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#### **4. IDNR OFFICE OF WATER RESOURCES (OWR) FOR PROJECTS LOCATED WITHIN A FLOOD PLAIN OR FLOODWAY, OR ALONG A JURISDICTIONAL RIVER, LAKE, OR STREAM WITHOUT A MAPPED FLOODWAY OR FLOODPLAIN**

IDNR/OWR has jurisdiction on any river, lake, or stream with a drainage area greater than one square mile in an urban area, or ten square miles in a rural area. To demonstrate compliance, all applicants must provide a copy of an official floodways area map that shows the project location and at least one-quarter mile of surrounding area. Acceptable floodway location maps can be the Flood Insurance Rate Map for the project location's county or community, or from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The origin of the map must be provided. Some flood plain areas regulated by the IDNR-OWR have not been identified on flood insurance rate or FEMA mapping. If the project is in an area that is not shown on an official flood insurance rate or FEMA map, the grantee must provide a topographic or satellite image map that documents the project is not in the flood plain of any river, lake, or stream with a drainage area greater than one square mile in an urban area or ten square miles in a rural area. A printout report from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) StreamStats website that shows the square miles of the drainage area (Parameter Code DRNAREA) can be used to document flood drainage areas in unmapped locations. The StreamStats website is at: <https://water.usgs.gov/osw/streamstats/>.

If the project is not located within a flood plain or floodway or jurisdictional area, Item 4 of the checklist form can be marked as N/A and further evaluation by IDNR-OWR is not necessary.

If the project is located within any area designated as a flood plain or floodway area, or along a jurisdictional river, lake or stream without a mapped floodway or floodplain, the grantee must submit a Joint Application Form and supporting project information to IDNR-OWR. If the project locations are in previously disturbed areas; or directional boring will be used, the IDNR-OWR evaluation must still be conducted. **The Joint Application Form** is available at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/WaterResources/Pages/PermitApplicationandInstructions.aspx> When IDNR OWR evaluation is required, the grantee must provide Illinois EPA with a copy of the evaluation request and the review results that were obtained from IDNR OWR. Acceptable review results must be from the regulating entity and may consist of a letter or email stating that the project is not regulated, and/or a permit is not required. If the review results include recommendations, conditions, and/or permits, the grantee must provide Illinois EPA with a copy of all

correspondence and agree to comply. The conditions must be included within the bidding and construction contract documents before construction is authorized.

IDNR OWR contact information: <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/WaterResources/Pages/ResourceManagement.aspx>

Projects in Cook, Lake, McHenry, DuPage, Kane and Will Counties	Illinois Department of Natural Resources – Office of Water Resources Division of Resource Management 2050 West Stearns Road Bartlett, Illinois 60103	Phone: (847)608-3100
Projects in remainder of the State	Illinois Department of Natural Resources – Office of Water Resources Downstate Regulatory Programs Section One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271	Phone: (217)782-3863

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## 5. CONVERSION OF PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND TO OTHER USES (FEDERAL FARMLAND PRESERVATION POLICY ACT)

If the project involves permanent conversion of prime agricultural land to other uses, a description and map of the area to be converted along with a discussion of the necessity of utilizing prime agricultural land for the project must be provided. A copy of the evaluation request and review results must be provided to Illinois EPA. If prime agricultural land is being converted, comments should be obtained from the IL Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Land & Water Resources: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Resources/LandWater/Documents/agsitereview.pdf>

Or by writing: Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Land and Water Resources,  
P.O. Box 19281, State Fairgrounds  
Springfield, IL 62794-9281  
Phone: (217)785-4389

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# ATTACHMENT A

## REGULATORY JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES

