

CREP Easement #20000248

29.4 Cropland Acres

10.6 Additional Acres

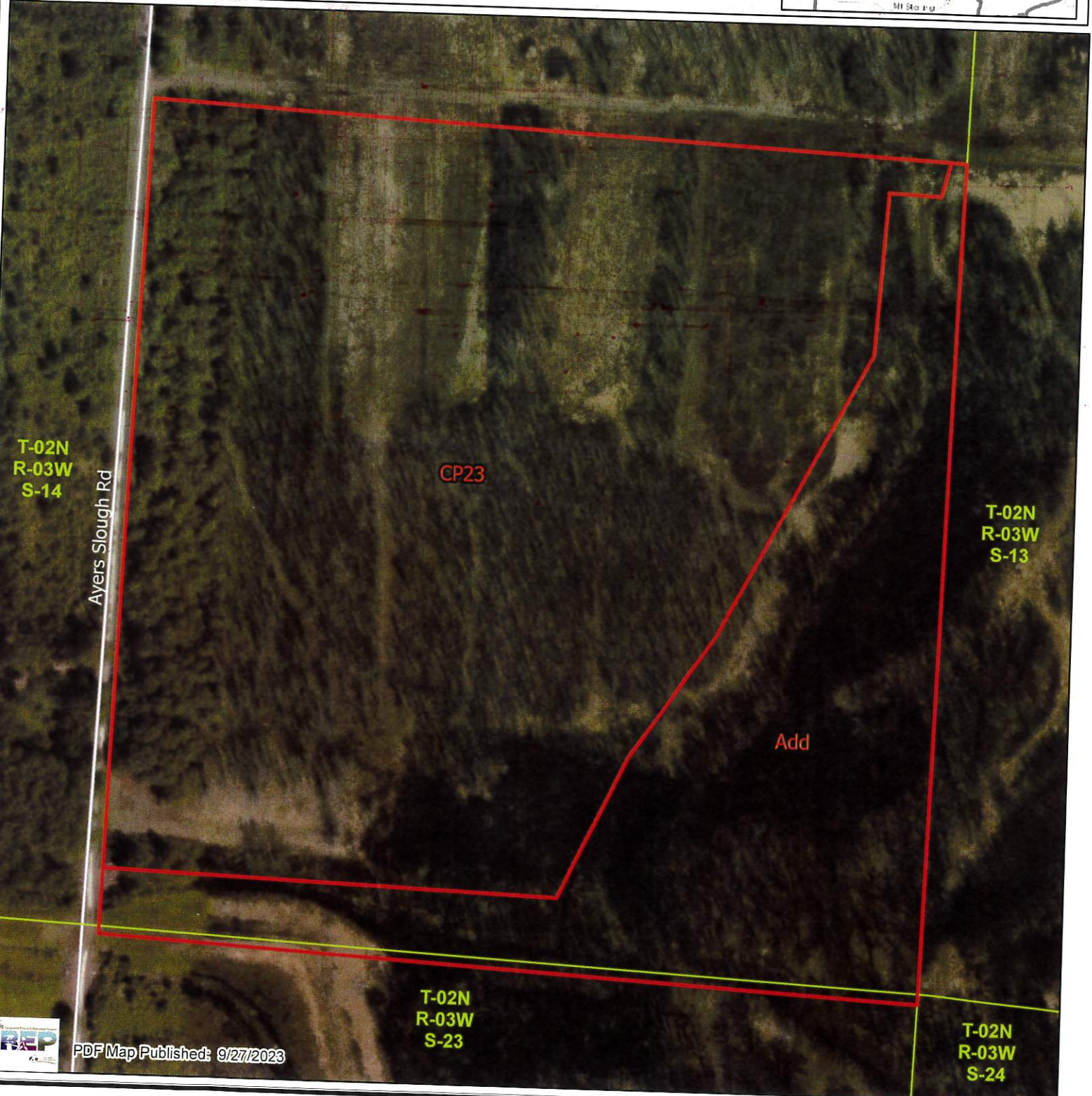
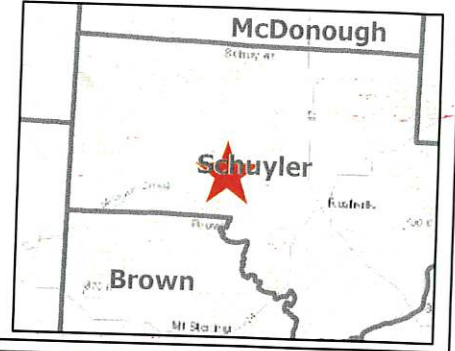
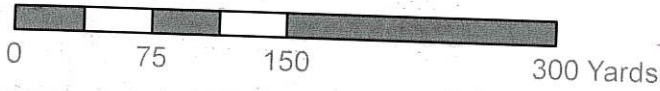
40.0 Total acres in CREP Permanent Easement

29.4 Natural Regeneration

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY: SCHUYLER
EASEMENT ID: 20000248 - 40 Acres

40.149623, -90.701275

-  Add
-  PLSS
-  CP23
-  Roads



NOT FOR SALE
(2000) F5



1071
T871
CRP14
NHEL
18204

3

1000

CRP14
NHEL
8815

NHEL
CRP05
7514


CRP14
NHEL
18331

NHEL
CRP05
6211

18417

3005

CRP14
NHEL
1307

 = CROPLAND ACRES
 = ADDITIONAL ACREAGE
 = EXEMPT ACREAGE

NHEL
CRP14
5A172

CRP14
NHEL
5A171

CRP14
NHEL
6111

334

CRP14
NHEL
7202

CRP09
NHEL
2107

CRP14
NHEL
421

NHEL
CRP09
3114

CRP09
1211

CRP09
3202

CRP14
1800

13

State of Illinois
Conservation Reserve
Enhancement Program
State Number: 20000248

STATE OF ILLINOIS } ss No. 260158
Schuyler County }

FILED FOR RECORD the 29th day of
February A.D., 2000 at 10:00 o'clock
A.M. and recorded in book 332
of Records on page 1
James P. Reiman
RECORDER

GRANT OF CONSERVATION RIGHT AND EASEMENT

Be it known that this Grant of Conservation Right and Easement pursuant to the Real Property Conservation Rights Act, 765 ILCS 120, as amended, is made this 28 day of February, 2000.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Ted Artis and Beatrice Artis, whose address is RR 1, Box 57, Camden, Illinois (hereinafter with (his, her, their, its) heirs and assigns, called the "Grantor(s)"), is the owner in fee simple of certain real property (hereinafter called "Property") which has been restored, enhanced or protected in the Illinois Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) through practices agreed to in a CREP Conservation Plan, has significant ecological value, and is enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Contract number 647. The property being situated in Section (s) 14, T. 2N, R. 3W, in Schuyler County, Illinois, described in the attached Exhibit A.

WHEREAS, Schuyler County SWCD (hereinafter with its successors and assigns, called "Grantee"), is a unit of local government with offices at RR 4, PO Box 290, Rushville, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The Grantor and Grantee, by this Conveyance to the Grantee of Conservation Right and Easement on, over, and across the Property desire to conserve the ecological value thereof and prevent the use or development of the Property for any purpose or in any manner that would conflict with the maintenance of the practices agreed to in the CREP Conservation Plan, and

WHEREAS, The Grantee is willing to accept this Grant of Conservation Right and Easement to extend the environmental benefits of the CRP contract subject to the reservations and to the covenants, terms, conditions, and restrictions set out herein and imposed hereby; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Grantor, for and in consideration of \$ 19,341.17, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged by the Grantor, does hereby convey and grant unto the Grantee and to its successors and assigns, forever, a Conservation Right and Easement (hereafter "Easement") in perpetuity on, over, and across the Property consisting of the following:

Section 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Easement is to preserve, enhance, restore and maintain the natural features and ecological value of the Property, to provide habitat for native plants and animals, to improve and maintain water quality, and to control runoff of sediments.

Section 2 AFFIRMATIVE RIGHTS

2.1 The Grantee is granted the right of ingress and egress to the Easement area to inspect the same to determine compliance with the terms of the conservation easement. This includes the right to take Global Positioning measurements and to record measurements in a conservation practices database.

2.2 The Grantee shall have the right to enforce by proceedings at law or in equity the covenants set forth below, it being agreed that there shall be no waiver or forfeiture of the Grantee's right to ensure compliance with the covenants and conditions of this grant by reason of any prior failure to act.

Section 3 RESTRICTIONS AND COVENANTS

And in furtherance of the above affirmative rights of the Grantee, the Grantor makes the following covenants which shall run with and bind the Property:

3.1 There shall be no commercial, industrial or multiple dwelling activity undertaken or allowed on the Property, nor shall any right of passage across or upon the Property be allowed or granted.

3.2 There shall be no construction or placement of temporary or permanent buildings, docks or other structures. There shall be no mobile homes, trailers or recreational vehicles providing living quarters placed on the Property by either the Grantor or Grantee. Existing structures may be maintained, but may not be used for living quarters. This restriction does not apply to the construction of duck blinds or deer stands.

3.3 The Grantor shall not construct or allow the construction of billboards, privacy fences, lighted signage, or other forms of advertising or promotion on the Property that would detract from the ecological value of the Property.

3.4 There shall be no building of new roads or widening of existing roads. However, access to deer stands and duck blinds is allowed, if they are of temporary nature.

3.5 There shall be no filling, excavating, mining or drilling; no removal of topsoil, sand, gravel, rock, minerals, gas, oil or other products that result in the alteration of surface topography of the Property, disturbance of natural (uncultivated) vegetation OTHER THAN WHAT IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE CONSERVATION PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE PROPERTY, or installation of mechanical devices upon the Property. Tillage for planting wildlife food in food plot areas and in shallow water areas when dry during summer months is allowed.

3.6 There shall be no timber harvest or livestock grazing unless provided for in the CREP Conservation Plan as a management tool after the CRP contract expires. Any timber harvest or grazing must follow specifications in the CREP Conservation Plan.

3.7 There shall be no use of the of the Property for sanitary landfill, for underground storage tanks, for the installation and use of an incinerator nor dumping of refuse, trash, garbage, rubbish, junk, ashes, or waste material. Dredge material from an adjacent water body may be placed on Property, either temporarily or permanently, according to a Plan agreed upon by the Grantor, Grantee, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Any use of dredge spoil may not in any way alter the ecological significance of the Property and the Grantor will be reimbursed in full for any restoration that may be required because of such a use for dredge spoil upon the Property.

BY THEIR ACCEPTANCE HEREOF, the Grantee also agrees to be bound by the covenants binding on the Grantor as set forth above.

Section 4 RESERVED RIGHTS

EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY LIMITED HEREIN, the Grantor reserves for himself all rights as owner of the Property, including the right to use the Property for purposes not inconsistent with the Easement providing that these uses shall be in full accordance with all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations.

THE GRANTOR FURTHER RESERVES the following specific rights:

4.1 The right to maintain and replace existing structures and roads.

4.2 The right to maintain waterways and drainage ditches per agreements with any Drainage or Levee District and to allow pumping through these waterways into shallow water areas.

4.3 The right of the Grantor, Grantor's family members and guests to hunt, fish, temporarily camp, and any recreational use on the Property that does not impact ecological significance and value provided all such activity is conducted in accordance with state and federal regulations. The Grantor also reserves the right to charge a fee to guests for all such activities.

4.4 The rights to all minerals, gas, oil and other hydrocarbons currently held by the Grantor, shall remain with the Grantor and are not conveyed by this Easement.

Section 5

THE FOLLOWING GENERAL PROVISIONS SHALL ALSO be binding upon both the grantor and grantee:

5.1 The Grantor, for himself and for his heirs, successors and assigns, shall pay any real estate taxes or assessments levied by competent authority on the Property.

5.2 No right of access to the general public to any portion of the Property is conveyed by this Easement.

5.3 The Grantor agrees that the terms, conditions, restrictions and purpose of this Conservation Easement will be referenced in any subsequent deed or other legal instrument by which the Grantor divests itself of the Property.

5.4 Any notices or approval requests required in this easement shall be sent by registered or certified mail to the following addresses below or to such address as may be hereafter specified by notice in writing.

Grantee:

Schuyler County SWCD
RR 4, PO Box 290
Rushville, Illinois 62681

Grantor:

Ted Artis & Beatrice Artis
RR 1, Box 57
Camden, Illinois 62319

FURTHER, BOTH GRANTOR AND GRANTEE RECOGNIZE that this document cannot address every circumstance that may arise in the life of this Easement. The parties agree that the Purpose of this Easement is to preserve, enhance, restore and maintain the natural features and ecological value of the Property. Any use or activity not reserved in this agreement which is inconsistent with the Purposes of this Easement or which materially threatens the Purpose of this Easement is prohibited.

THE TERMS HEREOF shall be deemed to run with the land and be binding upon all successors and assigns of both the Grantor and the Grantee. If the Grantee is no longer capable of holding

this Conservation Easement, the Grantee shall be permitted to transfer or assign the rights herein, to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Conservation Easement unto the Grantee forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Grant of Conservation Right and Easement this 28 day of February, 2000, ~~1999~~

GRANTOR: Ted L. Curtis (Owner)

Beatrice T. Curtis (Owner)

ACCEPTANCE BY GRANTEE:

Randy Skibbe, Resource Conservationist 2/28/00
(Name & Title) Date

SCHUYLER COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF Illinois

COUNTY OF Schuyler

SS:

I, Doris J. Agans A notary public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that Above persons personally known to me to be the same person(s) whose name(s) subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person acknowledged that he/she signed, sealed and delivered the said instruments as the free and voluntary act of the United States of America, for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

Given under my hand and official seal this 27 day of February, 2000
My commission expires: 01/29/2003

Doris J. Agans
Notary Public

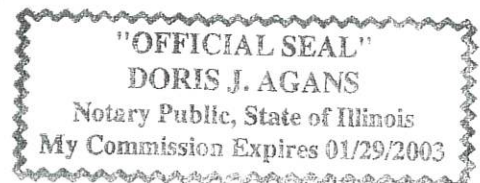


EXHIBIT "A"

Easement under the ILLINOIS CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) over and across the following lands:

The Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 14, Township 2 North of the Base Line, Range 3 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Schuyler County, Illinois.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

NATURAL REGENERATION OF BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FOREST

Ted & Beatrice Artis
RR 1, Box 57
Camden, IL 62319

Farm #: 1071
Tract #: 871
Contract #: 647

Date: 02/07/00

Acres: 29.4

Location: The SE 1/4 of Section 14, T2N-R3W (Camden Twp.), Schuyler County, Illinois (See map, page 4).

Goal: To re-establish bottomland hardwood forest production on acreage removed from cultivation under the Conservation Reserve Program.

DESCRIPTION OF NATURAL REGENERATION SITE

Field #: 1B Acreage: 29.4

Soil Types: Thorp silt loam (#206)
Tice silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3284)
Kendall silt loam, 0-2% slopes (#242A)
See soils map, page 5.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The site covered by these instructions is very wet for most of the growing season during many years. These types of conditions are generally suitable primarily to a few bottomland soft hardwood species such as Cottonwood, Silver maple, Sycamore, River birch and Willow. In addition, Green ash, a hard bottomland species can often flourish under these conditions, particularly after the preceding species have become established.

All of the species listed above have seed which have wings, bristles, or other adaptations to allow them to be spread by wind. Most can also be spread by water if those conditions exist at the time of fruit dispersal. Since seed-producing trees of species

adapted to this site occur within reasonable distance, fairly rapid natural regeneration of these species can be expected to occur.

NATURAL REGENERATION PROCEDURE

In order to provide conditions for natural regeneration to occur, all mowing, tillage or other cultural activities should cease immediately. Vehicular traffic of any kind should be confined to trails as described in the Natural Resources Conservation Service portion of the plan.

If a problem with noxious weeds occurs, treat only by spot treating with the appropriate herbicide in affected areas. Do not mow or disturb the soil.

Hard mast species such as Pin oak, Pecan, and Bur oak generally require dryer sites than the conditions presented by the natural regeneration area. Establishment of these species may be enhanced by the drying effect of the established stand of soft hardwood species. To establish hard mast species, wait until the soft hardwood reproduction is established at least to the sapling stage. The hard mast species should be planted on elevated areas of 18 to 24 inches made by mounding the soil or plowing up a ridge. Use of older transplanted seedlings is recommended.

OTHER PROVISIONS

Food plots may be established and maintained according to NRCS acreage allowances and established criteria.

Water/wetland management may be carried out as specified by NRCS and/or the IL Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Biologist.

Trails and/or access may be established and maintained as described by NRCS.

Commercial timber harvest or timber stand improvement may be carried out under the approval and direction of the Illinois Department of Natural Resource District forester or by a private consulting forester approved by the district forester.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

Protecting your natural regeneration area to ensure survival of new growth is required at all times. Livestock grazing and wildfire must be excluded from the area. Browsing damage from wildlife or insect and disease attacks may occur. These incidences should be brought to the attention of the District Forester. Remedial steps may be recommended if appropriate.

Periodic inspections should be made by the District Forester to evaluate the success of natural regeneration on the site. The use of tree planting and/or direct seeding may be used in subsequent years if the attempt of natural regeneration fails.

CONCLUSION

I have enjoyed developing this management plan for you, and I hope to do more work with you in the future. If you have any questions about this plan, or any questions about your forests, please don't hesitate to call. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark Rathman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Rathman
Illinois Forestry Consulting

NOT TO SCALE
(1998) H5-4

Scale:
1" = 660'

Natural Regen. Area

23

1074J
3005
T864
NH&L
1307

29

NH&L
261.1

NH&L
14.1

048

NH&L
3885.5

NH&L
3A 13.5

NH&L
582.5

NH&L
5A172
5B154

11071
T871
NH&L
18294

2128

NH&L
11727

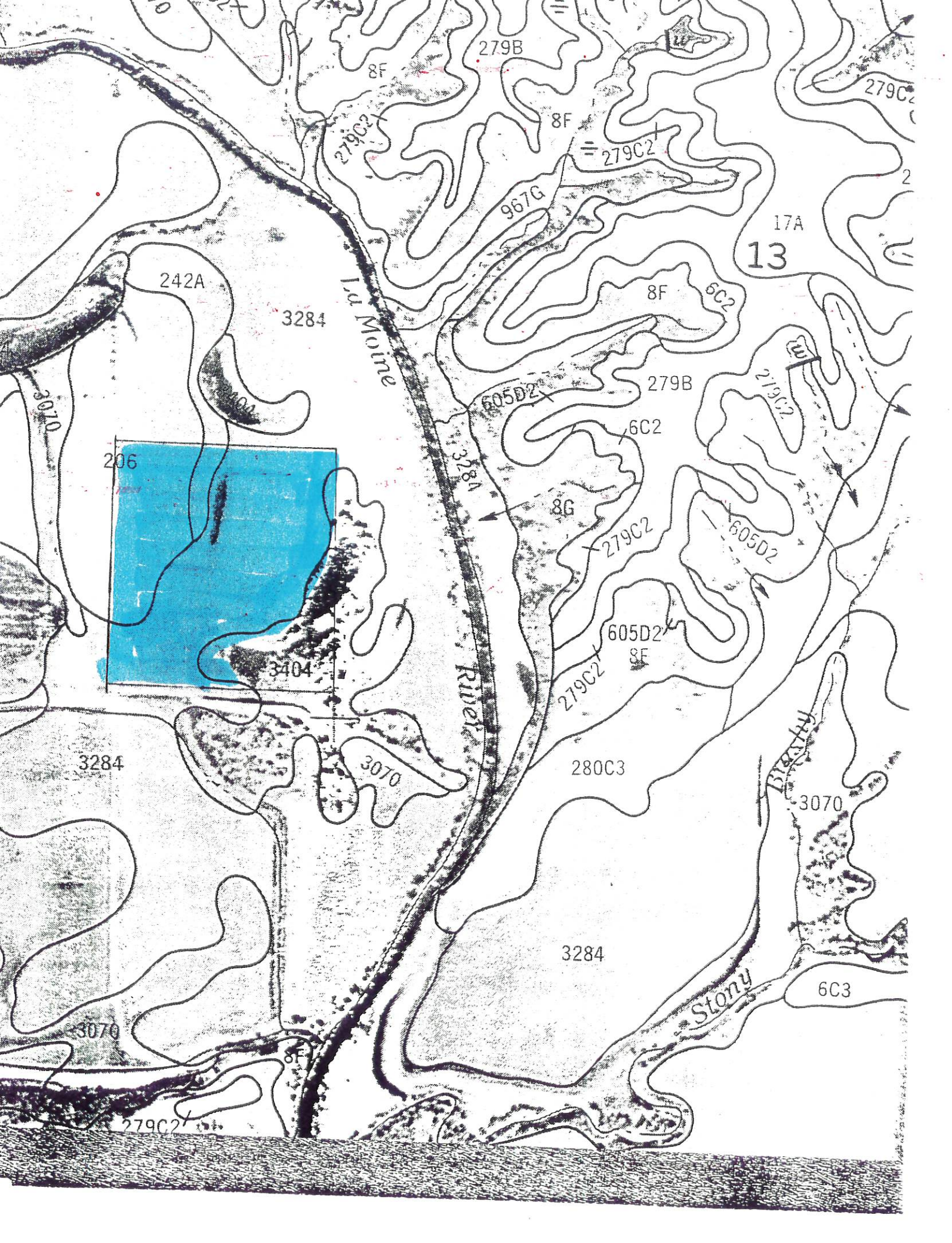
NH&L
2815

NH&L
7254

NH&L
15331

N

3



CREP Easement #20000317

230.7 Cropland Acres

94.3 Additional Acres

325.0 Total acres in CREP Permanent Easement

2

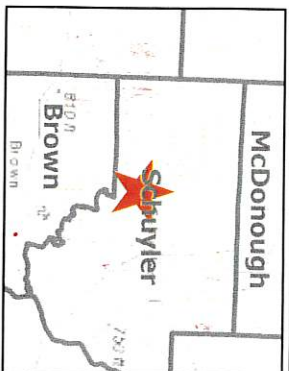
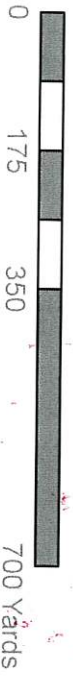
150.6 Natural Regeneration

74.1 Tree Planting

6.0 Warm Season Grasses

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY: SCHUYLER
EASEMENT ID: 20000317 - 325 Acres

COORDINATES: 40.145082, -90.706364



- Add
- CP23
- Roads
- PLSS



T-02N
R-03W
S-22

T-02N
R-03W
S-15

CP23
Add

T-02N
R-03W
S-14

T-02N
R-03W
S-23

Ayers Slough Rd

CP23

Add

CP23

Add

CP23

T-02N
R-03W
S-24

T-02N
R-03W
S-13



NOT TO SCALE

(1998) H5.4



- = CROPLAND ACREAGE
- = ADDITIONAL ACREAGE
- = EXEMPT ACREAGE

State of Illinois
Conservation Reserve
Enhancement Program
State Number: 20000317

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
Schuyler County) SS NO. 260237
FILED FOR RECORD the 14th day of
March A.D., 2000 at 2:40 o'clock
P.M. and recorded in book 223
of Records on page 11
James P. Belman
RECORDER

GRANT OF CONSERVATION RIGHT AND EASEMENT

Be it known that this Grant of Conservation Right and Easement pursuant to the Real Property Conservation Rights Act, 765 ILCS 120, as amended, is made this 7 day of MARCH, ~~###~~ 2000

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Ted & Beatrice Artis, whose address is R#1 Box 57 Camden Illinois (hereinafter with (his, her, their, its) heirs and assigns, called the "Grantor(s)"), is the owner in fee simple of certain real property (hereinafter called "Property") which has been restored, enhanced or protected in the Illinois Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) through practices agreed to in a CREP Conservation Plan, has significant ecological value, and is enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Contract number 649. The property being situated in Section (s) 23, T. 2N, R. 3W in Schuyler County, Illinois, described in the attached Exhibit A.

WHEREAS, Schuyler County SWCD (hereinafter with its successors and assigns, called "Grantee"), is a unit of local government with offices at RR 4, PO Box 290, Rushville, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, The Grantor and Grantee, by this Conveyance to the Grantee of Conservation Right and Easement on, over, and across the Property desire to conserve the ecological value thereof and prevent the use or development of the Property for any purpose or in any manner that would conflict with the maintenance of the practices agreed to in the CREP Conservation Plan, and

WHEREAS, The Grantee is willing to accept this Grant of Conservation Right and Easement to extend the environmental benefits of the CRP contract subject to the reservations and to the covenants, terms, conditions, and restrictions set out herein and imposed hereby; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Grantor, for and in consideration of \$ 152,897.54, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged by the Grantor, does hereby convey and grant unto the Grantee and to its successors and assigns, forever, a Conservation Right and Easement (hereafter "Easement") in perpetuity on, over, and across the Property consisting of the following:

Section 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Easement is to preserve, enhance, restore and maintain the natural features and ecological value of the Property, to provide habitat for native plants and animals, to improve and maintain water quality, and to control runoff of sediments.

Section 2 AFFIRMATIVE RIGHTS

2.1 The Grantee is granted the right of ingress and egress to the Easement area to inspect the same to determine compliance with the terms of the conservation easement. This includes the right to take Global Positioning measurements and to record measurements in a conservation practices database.

2.2 The Grantee shall have the right to enforce by proceedings at law or in equity the covenants set forth below, it being agreed that there shall be no waiver or forfeiture of the Grantee's right to ensure compliance with the covenants and conditions of this grant by reason of any prior failure to act.

Section 3 RESTRICTIONS AND COVENANTS

And in furtherance of the above affirmative rights of the Grantee, the Grantor makes the following covenants which shall run with and bind the Property:

3.1 There shall be no commercial, industrial or multiple dwelling activity undertaken or allowed on the Property, nor shall any right of passage across or upon the Property be allowed or granted.

3.2 There shall be no construction or placement of temporary or permanent buildings, docks or other structures. There shall be no mobile homes, trailers or recreational vehicles providing living quarters placed on the Property by either the Grantor or Grantee. Existing structures may be maintained, but may not be used for living quarters. This restriction does not apply to the construction of duck blinds or deer stands.

3.3 The Grantor shall not construct or allow the construction of billboards, privacy fences, lighted signage, or other forms of advertising or promotion on the Property that would detract from the ecological value of the Property.

3.4 There shall be no building of new roads or widening of existing roads. However, access to deer stands and duck blinds is allowed, if they are of temporary nature.

3.5 There shall be no filling, excavating, mining or drilling; no removal of topsoil, sand, gravel, rock, minerals, gas, oil or other products that result in the alteration of surface topography of the Property, disturbance of natural (uncultivated) vegetation OTHER THAN WHAT IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE CONSERVATION PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE PROPERTY, or installation of mechanical devices upon the Property. Tillage for planting wildlife food in food plot areas and in shallow water areas when dry during summer months is allowed.

3.6 There shall be no timber harvest or livestock grazing unless provided for in the CREP Conservation Plan as a management tool after the CRP contract expires. Any timber harvest or grazing must follow specifications in the CREP Conservation Plan.

3.7 There shall be no use of the of the Property for sanitary landfill, for underground storage tanks, for the installation and use of an incinerator nor dumping of refuse, trash, garbage, rubbish, junk, ashes, or waste material. Dredge material from an adjacent water body may be placed on Property, either temporarily or permanently, according to a Plan agreed upon by the Grantor, Grantee, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Any use of dredge spoil may not in any way alter the ecological significance of the Property and the Grantor will be reimbursed in full for any restoration that may be required because of such a use for dredge spoil upon the Property.

BY THEIR ACCEPTANCE HEREOF, the Grantee also agrees to be bound by the covenants binding on the Grantor as set forth above.

Section 4 RESERVED RIGHTS

EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY LIMITED HEREIN, the Grantor reserves for himself all rights as owner of the Property, including the right to use the Property for purposes not inconsistent with the Easement providing that these uses shall be in full accordance with all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations.

THE GRANTOR FURTHER RESERVES the following specific rights:

4.1 The right to maintain and replace existing structures and roads.

4.2 The right to maintain waterways and drainage ditches per agreements with any Drainage or Levee District and to allow pumping through these waterways into shallow water areas.

4.3 The right of the Grantor, Grantor's family members and guests to hunt, fish, temporarily camp, and any recreational use on the Property that does not impact ecological significance and value provided all such activity is conducted in accordance with state and federal regulations. The Grantor also reserves the right to charge a fee to guests for all such activities.

4.4 The rights to all minerals, gas, oil and other hydrocarbons currently held by the Grantor, shall remain with the Grantor and are not conveyed by this Easement.

Section 5

THE FOLLOWING GENERAL PROVISIONS SHALL ALSO be binding upon both the grantor and grantee:

5.1 The Grantor, for himself and for his heirs, successors and assigns, shall pay any real estate taxes or assessments levied by competent authority on the Property.

5.2 No right of access to the general public to any portion of the Property is conveyed by this Easement.

5.3 The Grantor agrees that the terms, conditions, restrictions and purpose of this Conservation Easement will be referenced in any subsequent deed or other legal instrument by which the Grantor divests itself of the Property.

5.4 Any notices or approval requests required in this easement shall be sent by registered or certified mail to the following addresses below or to such address as may be hereafter specified by notice in writing.

Grantee:

Schuyler County SWCD
RR 4, PO Box 290
Rushville, Illinois 62681

Grantor:

Ted Artis & Beatrice Artis
RR 1, Box 57
Camden, Illinois 62319

FURTHER, BOTH GRANTOR AND GRANTEE RECOGNIZE that this document cannot address every circumstance that may arise in the life of this Easement. The parties agree that the Purpose of this Easement is to preserve, enhance, restore and maintain the natural features and ecological value of the Property. Any use or activity not reserved in this agreement which is inconsistent with the Purposes of this Easement or which materially threatens the Purpose of this Easement is prohibited.

THE TERMS HEREOF shall be deemed to run with the land and be binding upon all successors and assigns of both the Grantor and the Grantee. If the Grantee is no longer capable of holding this Conservation Easement, the Grantee shall be permitted to transfer or assign the rights herein, to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Conservation Easement unto the Grantee forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Grant of Conservation Right and Easement this 7 day of March, 2000.

GRANTOR: Ted Artis (Owner)

Beatrice Artis (Owner)

ACCEPTANCE BY GRANTEE:

Hany Skelt Resource Conservationist (Name & Title) 3/7/00 Date

SCHUYLER COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF Illinois

COUNTY OF Schuyler

SS:

I, Doris J. Agans A notary public in and for said County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that above persons personally known to me to be the same person(s) whose name(s) subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person acknowledged that he/she signed, sealed and delivered the said instruments as the free and voluntary act of the United States of America, for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

Given under my hand and official seal this 7 day of March, 2000.
My commission expires: 01/29/2003

Doris J. Agans
Notary Public

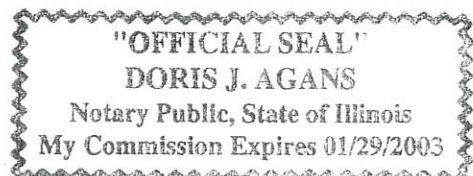


EXHIBIT "A"

Easement under the ILLINOIS CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) over and across the following lands:

The West Half of the Northeast Quarter, AND the East Half of the Northwest Quarter, AND the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 23, in Township 2 North of the Base Line, Range 3 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, EXCEPTING therefrom a right-of-way over a triangular tract of land in the Northwest corner of the Northwest quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 23, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the West line of said Section 23, 15 feet South of the Northwest corner of said Quarter Section, thence North 15 feet to the said Northwest corner, thence East on the North line of said Quarter Section 15 feet, thence in a Southwesterly direction to the point of beginning, in Township 2 North of the Base Line, Range 3 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian;

All that part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 24, lying West of Crooked Creek, containing 20 acres, more or less; ALSO that part of the South Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 13 lying West of Crooked Creek, containing 25 acres, more or less; The East Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 23; all in Township 2 North of the Base Line, Range 3 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, situated in Schuyler County, Illinois.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

TREE PLANTING AND NATURAL REGENERATION PLAN FOR BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FOREST

Date: February 2, 2000

Ted & Beatrice Artis
RR1, Box 57
Camden, IL 62319
217-322-6372

Farm #: 2129
Tract #: 2305
Contract #: 649

Acres: 201.5

Location: The N 1/2 of Section 23, T2N-R3W (Camden Twp.), Schuyler County, Illinois (See map, page 7).

Goal: To re-establish bottomland hardwood forest production on acreage removed from cultivation under the Conservation Reserve Program.

DESCRIPTION OF TREE PLANTING SITES

(All tree planting areas are highlighted blue on the enclosed photo)

Field #: 1 Acreage: 14.1 (8.1 acres tree planting, 6.0 acres warm season grasses)

Soil Types: Rozetta silt loam, 5-10 % slopes, eroded (#279C2)
Beaucoup silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3070)
See soils map, page 8.

Field #: 2 Acreage: 35.0 acres tree plant, 26.1 acres natural regen.

Soil Types: Tice silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3284)
Beaucoup silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3070)
See soils map, page 8.

Field #: 3B Acreage: 31.0 acres tree plant, 47.6 acres natural regen.

Soil Types: Tice silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3284)
Beaucoup silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3070)
See soils map, page 8.

The following recommendations apply to all tree planting areas:

Total tree planting acres: 74.1

PREPLANTING

If competing vegetation is 6 inches or higher over 75% of the soil surface, mow strips at least 4 feet wide on the contour spaced to be centered on the seedling rows when they are planted; or mow the whole planting area.

Apply a pre-emergence herbicide such as Princep, Oust, or Surflan in a 3 foot wide band, according to label directions before, during, or soon after planting. Be sure that Princep, if used, is labeled for tree use.

PLANTING

Planting should be done between March 1 and May 15. The species planted should be distributed evenly over the site. This can be accomplished by planting the trees at random (shotgun mix), or by planting them in a pattern that distributes all trees evenly over the site. The "shotgun mix" can be made by placing seedling bundles into the planting tub or bucket in the same ratio as the species ratio in the whole planting. Seedlings are then removed for planting at random. Since it is difficult to get a homogeneous mix of seedlings because the roots tend to cling together, the result will be a mix of singles and clumps of various species of trees in a mix at various ratios.

Planting rows should always be on the contour. That is, the rows should always be parallel to the slope.

The seedlings may be planted by hand or machine. Hand planting requires approx. 2 man days per 1000 seedlings. Up to 5,000 seedlings per day can be planted with a tree planting machine, tractor, and 3 individuals.

All tree planting must meet the specifications outlined in Appendix 1.

SPECIES AND SPACING

Seedlings should be planted on a 10 foot by 10 foot spacing. This means ten feet apart between rows and ten feet apart within the row. This will require 435 trees/acre. You are required to plant ~~80.1~~ acres, so you will need 32,233 seedlings.

74.1

The following trees must be ordered for field 1 (3,525 trees required): 705 white oak, 705 red oak, 705 black walnut, 705 black oak.

You may substitute the following species, if necessary: bur oak, green ash, white ash, sugar maple, shagbark hickory, and black cherry. The number and type of seedlings

substituted must be approved by the district forester. *All substitutions must be approved in writing by the district forester.*

The following species must be ordered for the remaining areas (28,710 trees required): 1,800 swamp white oak, 7,180 Pin oak, 7,180 black walnut, 7,180 green ash, 1,790 pecan, 1,790 sycamore, and 1,790 Bald cypress.

You may substitute the following species, if necessary: bur oak, hackberry, and river birch. The number and type of seedlings substituted must be approved by the district forester. *All substitutions must be approved in writing by the district forester.*

This practice is not eligible for no-cost seedlings from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Nurseries.

You should strongly consider engaging the services of a tree planting contractor to plant your seedlings and apply required herbicide. Their experience in planting and possession of specialized equipment will ensure a greater possibility of success for your planting. The cost share assistance as discussed later will apply to contractor-planted seedlings as well as ones planted by your operator. For a list of private nurseries, see Appendix 2.

POST-PLANTING

If a pre-emergence herbicide was not applied before or during planting as outlined under PRE-PLANTING above, it should be applied immediately after planting according to label instructions.

The primary effectiveness of the pre-emergence herbicide is on ungerminated weed seedlings. If pre-emergence herbicides are applied alone, it must be to an area that is free of live vegetation. If green vegetation is present when the pre-emergence herbicide is applied, Roundup must be applied in conjunction with it. However, Roundup cannot be applied over trees that are no longer dormant (i.e. buds are swelling or leaves are present). Roundup will tank mix with Princep; check label instructions for guidelines on compatibility of Roundup with Surflan or Oust and tank mixing instructions.

MOWING

Mowing will help increase seedling survival by controlling the height of competing vegetation and reducing rodent habitat in the fall and winter. It will also keep the tree rows easily visible, which will help with the maintenance of the planting. Mow between rows of trees the first year as follows: after June 1st as often as needed to keep vegetation from growing over and choking seedlings, and once after September 30 to reduce fall and winter cover for rodents.

You may mow the second growing season as described above if there is minimal deer browsing damage. If browsing is a problem, letting the weeds go unmowed may reduce browsing damage. After the second growing season, the trees will have become well-established enough that mowing will no longer be necessary. Leaving the tree planting unmowed at this point will benefit wildlife habitat and natural tree reproduction.

Noxious weeds should be controlled by spot treatments with post-emergence herbicides such as Roundup or other herbicides as required for specific weeds.

Pre-emergence herbicide for competition control may be applied for the next two seasons after planting. This will depend upon the amount of deer damage in the area. If a forester determines that the damage is too severe, subsequent applications of herbicide may be canceled.

COST SHARE ASSISTANCE (use on CREP)

Cost-share reimbursement for some of the costs of tree planting are available through the Federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and the State of Illinois Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Information and instructions are available from NRCS personnel.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Tree plantings may be eligible for federal reforestation tax credit (see Appendix 3).
- Eligible for continued technical assistance from the Illinois DNR.
- Stocking level of tree plantings must not fall below 300 trees per acre.
- Food plots may be established and maintained according to NRCS acreage allowances and establishment criteria.
- Water/wetland management may be carried out as specified by NRCS.
- Commercial timber harvest or timber stand improvement may be carried out under the approval and direction of the IL-DNR district forester or by a private consulting forester approved by the district forester.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

Protecting your tree planting area to ensure survival of new growth is required at all times. Livestock grazing and wildfire must be excluded from the area. Browsing damage from wildlife or insect and disease attacks may occur. These incidences should be brought to the attention of the District Forester. Remedial steps may be recommended if appropriate.

The following recommendations apply to all natural regeneration areas.

NATURAL REGENERATION OF BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FOREST

(All natural regeneration areas highlighted pink on the enclosed photo)

Field #: 2 Acreage: 26.1 acres Natural Regen., 35.0 acres tree plant

Soil Types: Tice silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3284)
Beaucoup silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3070)
See soils map, page 8.

Field #: 3B Acreage: 47.6 acres Natural Regen., 31.0 acres tree planting

Soil Types: Tice silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3284)
Beaucoup silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3070)
See soils map, page 8.

Field #: 4B Acreage: 33.1 acres Natural Regen.

Soil Types: Tice silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3284)
Beaucoup silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3070)
See soils map, page 8.

Field #: 5B Acreage: 14.6 acres Natural Regen.

Soil Types: Tice silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3284)
St. Charles silt loam, 2-5 % slopes (#243B)
See soils map, page 8.

26.1
35
31
9.1
74.1

GENERAL INFORMATION

The site covered by these instructions is very wet for most of the growing season during many years. These types of conditions are generally suitable primarily to a few bottomland soft hardwood species such as Cottonwood, Silver maple, Sycamore, River birch and Willow. In addition, Green ash, a hard bottomland species can often flourish under these conditions, particularly after the preceding species have become established.

All of the species listed above have seed which have wings, bristles, or other adaptations to allow them to be spread by wind. Most can also be spread by water if

those conditions exist at the time of fruit dispersal. Since seed-producing trees of species adapted to this site occur within reasonable distance, fairly rapid natural regeneration of these species can be expected to occur.

NATURAL REGENERATION PROCEDURE

In order to provide conditions for natural regeneration to occur, all mowing, tillage or other cultural activities should cease immediately. Vehicular traffic of any kind should be confined to trails as described in the Natural Resources Conservation Service portion of the plan.

If a problem with noxious weeds occurs, treat only by spot treating with the appropriate herbicide in affected areas. Do not mow or disturb the soil.

Hard mast species such as Pin oak, Pecan, and Bur oak generally require dryer sites than the conditions presented by the natural regeneration area. Establishment of these species may be enhanced by the drying effect of the established stand of soft hardwood species. To establish hard mast species, wait until the soft hardwood reproduction is established at least to the sapling stage. The hard mast species should be planted on elevated areas of 18 to 24 inches made by mounding the soil or plowing up a ridge. Use of older transplanted seedlings is recommended.

OTHER PROVISIONS

Food plots may be established and maintained according to NRCS acreage allowances and established criteria.

Water/wetland management may be carried out as specified by NRCS and/or the IL Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Biologist.

Trails and/or access may be established and maintained as described by NRCS.

Commercial timber harvest or timber stand improvement may be carried out under the approval and direction of the Illinois Department of Natural Resource District forester or by a private consulting forester approved by the district forester.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

Protecting your natural regeneration area to ensure survival of new growth is required at all times. Livestock grazing and wildfire must be excluded from the area. Browsing damage from wildlife or insect and disease attacks may occur. These incidences should be brought to the attention of the District Forester. Remedial steps may be recommended if appropriate.

Periodic inspections should be made by the District Forester to evaluate the success of natural regeneration on the site. The use of tree planting and/or direct seeding may be used in subsequent years if the attempt of natural regeneration fails.

WARM SEASON GRASSES

A warm season grass mixture may be established in Field 1 along the outside edges (see photo). Follow the instructions found in Appendix 4 regarding the warm season grass establishment.

CONCLUSION

I have enjoyed developing this management plan for you, and I hope to do more work with you in the future. If you have any questions about this plan, or any questions about your forests, please don't hesitate to call. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,



Mark Rathman
Illinois Forestry Consulting

PLANTING STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Division of Forest Resources requires the following standards for all tree plantings. At least 90% of the seedlings must meet these planting standards, if not, cost-sharing will not be approved.

PLANTING

Depth: Seedlings are to be planted at the same depth as grown at the nursery. In soils rated moderately well drained or better, plant trees up to 1" deeper than the nursery soil line. The nursery soil line can be distinguished by the color change on the root collar. Seedlings should not be sunk in a hole or raised in a mound. At no time should a seedling be planted with its roots exposed.

Root Pruning: Field pruning of hardwood stock must leave a minimum 8" root length. Field pruning of conifer stock must leave a minimum 6" root length.

Firmness: Soil around a seedling's roots must be packed firmly to eliminate air pockets. A properly planted tree seedling should be able to withstand a moderate tug with the thumb and index finger while remaining firmly in place.

Root Position: During planting, seedling roots must not be bunched, curled, doubled (formed into a "J"), twisted, or flattened into a plane (formed into an "L"). All roots should be pointing in a downwards direction.

Crown Position: The seedling should be planted in such a way that the top (crown/stem) is in an upright position. This position should be nearly perpendicular to the ground below. Hardwoods are not to lean more than 20 degrees off center. Conifers cannot lean more than 10 degrees off center.

Spacing: Distances within and between rows shall not be more than + 1/2 foot from recommended spacings.

Species Mixture: Must be according to the plan.

PLANTING STOCK SPECIFICATIONS

Private Nurseries: At least 80% of the hardwood stock must be in the 12-18 inch size range. The minimum acceptable root length must be 8". The height requirement can be waived if the seedlings meet or exceed a caliper of 7/32". Any variations must be approved in writing by the District Forester.

SURVIVAL SPECIFICATIONS: A minimum level of 70% of stocking must be maintained for the planted area. This minimum level cannot drop below 300 trees per acre.

Appendix V

Improper care of seedling stock is often the major cause of high initial mortality. Proper treatment of these seedlings during shipping, temporary storage, and planting will help to increase seedling survival.

TREATMENT DURING SHIPPING:

When picking up seedlings at a nursery, following these recommendations:

- Keep seedlings in cold storage (33 to 35 degrees) until the last minute if possible!
- Handle bags gently, avoid tears, and avoid trampling. If possible, try not to stack the bags greater than 3 bags high without support (like 2 x 4's, etc.). When tears occur, they should be repaired immediately.
- In order to try to minimize heat stress, the load should be covered with a tarp and moved during the coolest time of day (early morning or late evening).

The seedlings should be planted as soon as they arrive. However, if planting is delayed there are several options:

- Leave seedlings in their original, unopened shipping container if storage will be less than one week. Store packages in a cool, well drained, shaded area, with adequate ventilation.
- Opened packages should be treated as if it will be more than one week until planting.

When planting is delayed after the seedlings have left cold storage, the following is recommended:

- Try to minimize stress on seedlings by maintaining cool temperatures and keeping roots moist (not wet).
- Small quantities of seedlings may be "buried in" trenches. A trench is dug, seedling roots buried in the trench, ideally in a shaded area. Be sure to have good soil-root contact and keep seedlings in bundles!

During planting, the following is recommended:

- Only take to the field as many seedlings as can be planted that day.
- Store seedlings in a shaded area, protected from the wind, making sure roots stay as moist as possible.
- While planting, seedlings should be kept in containers (trays or bags) where roots can stay moist. There are several methods for keeping roots moist during planting.
- Ideal planting weather is cool, humid, and cloudy. Avoid planting on hot, sunny, windy days!

SEEDLING SOURCES

Appendix 2

1. Armintrout's
1156 Lincoln Road
Allegan, Michigan 49010
616/673-6627 *
2. Boyd Nursery Company
P.O. Box 71, Hwy. 55
McMinnville, Tennessee 37110
615/668-7646 ***
FAX: 615/668-7646
3. Canale's Nursery
Shelocta, Pennsylvania 15774
412/354-2500 ***
4. Cascade Forestry Service, Inc.
22033 Fillmore Road
Cascade, Iowa 52033
319/852-3042 ***
FAX: 319/852-5004
5. Carino Nurseries
P.O. Box 538
Indiana, PA 15701
412/462-3350
FAX: 412/462-3050 **
6. Fernald's Nursery
R.R. #2
Monmouth, Illinois 61462
309/734-6994 *
7. Forest Nursery Company, Inc.
R.R. #2 Box 118-A
McMinnville, Tennessee 37110
615/473-4740
FAX: 615/473-2133 ***
8. Forrest Keeling Nursery
Hwy 79 S - Box 135
Elsberry, Missouri 63343
800/356-2401
FAX: 314/898-5803 **
9. Hensler Nursery
R.R. #2 Box 52
Hamlet, Indiana 46532
219/867-4192

10. Hess' Nursery, Inc.
P. O. Box 326
Cedarville, New Jersey 08311
609/447-4213 ***
11. Illinois Forest Products
R. R. 1, Box 312
Beardstown, IL 62618
217/323-4540 ***
12. Institrees Nursery
P.O. Box 1370
Rhineland, WI 54501
715/365-8733
FAX 715/365-8737 ***
13. King Nursery
1400 South Fourth Street
Montgomery, Illinois 60538
312/851-4548 ***
14. Land O'Pines Nursery
1056 North Schoenherr Road
Custer, Michigan 49405 *
15. Lawyer Nursery, Inc.
950 Highway 200 West
Plains, Montana 59859
406/826-3881
FAX: 406/826-5700 ***
16. Mellingers Inc.
2310 W. South Range Road
North Lima, Ohio 44452
216/549-9861
FAX: 216/549-3716 ***
17. Miller Nurseries, Inc.
P. O. Box 66
Germantown, WI 53022
414/255-4360 ***
18. Mt. Arbor Nursery
400 North Center
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601
800/831-4125
FAX: 712/246-1841 ***
19. Musser Forests
P. O. Box 340, Rt. 199 North
Indiana, Pennsylvania 15701
412/465-5686
FAX: 412/465-9893 ***

20. Sherman Nursery Company
1300 Grove Street, Box 579
Charles City, Iowa 50616
515/228-1124 ***
21. Smith Nursery Company
P. O. Box 515
Charles City, Iowa 50616
515/228-3239 **
22. Vans Pines, Inc.
7550 144th Ave.
West Olive, Michigan 49460
616/399-1620
FAX: 616/399-1652 ***
23. Warren County Nursery, Inc.
R. R. #2, Box 204
McMinnville, Tennessee 37110
615/668-8941
FAX: 615/668-2245 ***
24. Western Maine Forest Nursery Co.
Fryeburg, Maine 04037
207/935-2161 *

- * Conifers & Scotch Pine
- ** Hardwoods & Shrubs
- *** Both

PLEASE NOTE: This listing is provided as a public service and is not to be construed as an endorsement, approval or guarantee of the products provided by any of the nurseries listed. This listing does not include all nurseries in Illinois, you may want to contact the Illinois Nurserymen's Association, Suite 1702, Hilton Hotel, Springfield, Illinois 62701, phone 217/525-6222.

WARNING: Carefully consider the geographic source of the seedlings you purchase. For most species do not move a seed source more than 200 miles north or south of its origin. Northern stock planted too far south will be slow growing. Southern stock planted too far north is subject to frost and dieback.

REFORESTATION EXPENSE

You can claim a 10% investment tax credit (ITC) on "qualified reforestation expenditures." It may be claimed in conjunction with amortization (see below) or independently. The credit is a direct deduction from taxes owed.

You can also elect to amortize (deduct) a certain amount of "qualified reforestation expenditures" over a 7-calendar-year period (8 tax years). The election may be made in conjunction with the ITC or independently.

Depreciable Assets

The Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) applies to business or investment property with a limited life. MACRS replaces Accelerated Cost Recovery System (ACRS). Landowners may elect straightline depreciation instead of MACRS over the same recovery period. Rather than being depreciated, up to \$10,000 of the costs of depreciable active business (not investment) property may be expensed (deducted) from active business income in the year the costs are incurred.

How to Qualify for Best Tax Treatment

"Qualified reforestation expenditures" are direct costs paid for stand establishment. They include costs of site preparation; seeds or seedlings; and labor and tools, including depreciation on equipment. The reforested property must be located in the United States, be one acre or more, and be considered capable of commercial timber production. The maximum dollar amount that qualifies is \$10,000 per year. It applies per individual, per partnership, per controlled group, and per estate; trusts do not qualify.

"Qualified reforestation expenditures" for amortization are the same as for the ITC, above. Amortization must be elected by the taxpayer on a timely filed tax return, including extensions, for the year the expenditures were incurred. The maximum dollar amount that qualifies is \$10,000 per year. However, if the ITC is elected, the amortizable amount must be reduced by half of the credit.

The credit is computed on Form 3468, which must be attached to your tax return. Timber transactions are reported as non-recovery property on the form.

If you invest in capital assets such as buildings, fences, equipment, etc., with a useful life greater than one year, be certain to maintain an active role, versus a passive role, in the management of the business or investment.

Reporting and Tax Forms

Amortization deductions are subtracted from gross income (i.e., "above-the-line"). This means that they can be subtracted even if you do not itemize your deductions. In the year the costs were incurred, 1/14th of the qualified expenditure is deducted. For the 2nd through the 7th tax years, 1/7 is deducted, and in the 8th tax year the final 1/14th is deducted. A description of the expense must be attached to your tax return. Use Schedule E of Form T, Form 4562, or a plain piece of paper for this purpose. Then report on Form 1040 as an adjustment to income, or on Schedule C or Schedule F, whichever is appropriate to your situation.

Both real and personal property have been assigned a recovery period based on the midpoint of the properties' useful lives under the Class Life Asset Depreciation Range System (CLADR). The CLADR values are published by the IRS. Depreciation of recovery property is reported on Form 4562. The election to expense up to \$10,000 of depreciable business property is also reported on Form 4562.

ESTABLISHING NATIVE WARM-SEASON GRASSES

Establishment of native warm-season grasses can be discouraging especially if you are accustomed to working with cool-season species. The primary difference between the two types is in seedling vigor. Warm-season grasses emerge in late spring and most grow quite slowly the first season. Growth is usually very rapid in the second growing season. Many first-year stands are prematurely judged a failure by inexperienced persons. Under the right conditions, native warm-season grass stands should be obviously successful by the second growing season.

Buying Seed

Seeds of bluestems and Indiangrass are usually marketed with low purity. These seeds must normally be planted with a special native grass drill or rangeland drill. However, high purity seed processed with a debearder may be planted with a wide range of common equipment. Switchgrass seed can also be planted with various common seeders or drills.

Purchase native grass seed in Pure Live Seed (PLS) amounts. PLS is the viable seed that will grow minus the trash. PLS is calculated by multiplying the percent purity (P) by the percent germination (G) plus the percent hard seed (H)

$$PLS = \frac{P(G+H)}{100}$$

The percent PLS multiplied by the bulk weight gives the pounds of PLS.

Seeding Rate

Plant according to the rates for either pure stands or mixtures (see Table 1 below). Initial seed costs are high, but if properly seeded, one planting will last forever. The seeding rate should provide 30-50 live seeds per square foot of area seeded. Rates in the table are for seeding with a drill. Add 25 percent more seed for broadcasting. Add 50 percent to the seeding rate for winter dormant seedings.

Table 1. Seeding rates for native warm-season grasses. Rates are in pounds of Pure Live Seed (PLS) per acre planting with a grass drill.

Species	Seeds Per pound	Site Condition		
		Droughty	Well-drained	Poorly drained
Pure stands:				
Big bluestem	165,000	-	8	8
Indiangrass	175,000	8	8	-
Switchgrass	389,000	-	5	5
Little bluestem	260,000	6	6	-
Mixtures:				
Switchgrass	-	-	3	5
Big bluestem	-	-	5	5
Indiangrass	-	2	2	-
Little bluestem	-	3	2	-
Side oates	191,000	2	2	-

Wildlife Food Plots

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources offers wildlife food plot seed such as soybeans, corn, millet, milo and sunflowers on a limited basis in the spring at no cost to landowners who are interested in establishing winter food patches on their properties. Refer to the supplemental food plot seeding chart for suggested rates and planting dates. Establishing food plots at the mapped locations will provide a very valuable winter food supply for a variety of wildlife species. The recommended food plot acreage will be approximately 5.0.

Brush piles

Build a few Brush piles at several locations to provide additional winter and escape cover for an abundance of wildlife. Use old wooden pallets or larger logs as the base to elevate the brush a few inches off the ground to allow rabbits and quail to enter easily. This arrangement will also keep the brush pile from quickly rotting.

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES, WORK AND MACHINERY:

Wildlife Shrubs -1500 (hazelnut, Am. Plum, dogwood, elderberry, etc.) Approx. acreage = 2.5

Tree Planter

Native Grass Drill

The above provided by IDNR

Princep/Roundup herbicide and compressed air sprayer.

Native Grass Seed Mixture – 7# per acre x 18.5 acres = 129.5 PLS pounds

Prepare a clean seedbed and plant two bu. Per acre of spring oats and 20 lbs. Per acre of winter wheat or cereal rye in August to mid-September. Drill or broadcast the native grass seed into the standing cover crop in mid-November through December. Frost action will cover the broadcast seed. Cold weather will kill the oats, but the residue will provide a mulch. Monitor the wheat or rye carefully in spring; mow it off in the early head stage so it will not regrow. The wheat or rye will serve as a nurse crop helping to reduce some potential weed competition. Do not allow the wheat or rye to grow much beyond the early head stage as it may result in too much green mulch when mowed and smother the seedling native grasses.

This system provides excellent erosion control. Consult experienced operators for detailed advice.

Weed Control

Grassy weeds can be controlled chemically in Indiangrass, sideoats grama, little bluestem and big bluestem by applying Plateau herbicide following label directions. For new prairiegrass plantings, Plateau may be applied before, during or after planting. Do not incorporate. Plateau herbicide is an excellent brand cleared for use on native warm-season grass establishment. Reduce rates on soils below two percent organic matter; do not apply when soils are less than one percent in organic matter. *Do not use Plateau herbicide on switchgrass since this herbicide controls switchgrass. Plateau also kills some species of forbes. Be sure to check the label.*

Herbicides may also be used to control broadleaf weeds in new native grass stands. In general, broadleaf plants are not a serious problem for native grass establishment. Follow label directions and precautions. Native grass seedlings can be damaged by 2,4-D if the seedlings are not past the 4-5 leaf stage. *Some species of forbes are killed by 2,4-D herbicide. Be sure to read the label.*

Clip weeds at a height above the native grass seedlings during July of the establishment year if weeds begin to shade the seedlings. Use a rotary mower because clippings are less likely to smother the seedlings than with a sickle bar mower. Do not clip after August 1 unless you cut above the native grass seedlings. Clippings may need to be raked to avoid smothering the native grass.

Control of competing weeds is very important for successful establishment of native warm-season grasses. Do not allow weeds to grow more than one foot tall before controlling them.

Weeds may need to be controlled in the second year chemically or by clipping. Prescribed burning (before April 1) can also help reduce second year competition. Burning should only be needed about once in 3-5 years after the stand is established. Normal use and management should begin in the third year.

Evaluation of Establishment

Switchgrass: Seedlings should emerge in two weeks and should be six inches tall by mid-July. They should have seed heads by mid-August. If you have one plant per square foot at that time you will have a good stand.

Bluestems and Indiangrass: Seedlings should emerge in three weeks. They should be 4-10 inches tall by October and a few plants should have seed heads. If you have three plants per square yard in October, you will have a good stand. Make a final evaluation in June of the second year. If you have one plant per square foot at that time you will have an excellent stand.

Fertilizer

For successful establishment, test soil and apply needed phosphorus, potassium, and lime prior to seeding. Soil pH should be at least 6.0. **DO NOT APPLY NITROGEN.** Even small amounts of nitrogen stimulate weed growth and retard establishment of native warm-season grasses.

Establishment Methods

Use one of these three establishment methods for native warm-season grasses:

1. Spring clean seedbed planting
2. Spring no-till planting
3. Winter dormant planting in standing mulch

Each method will be discussed separately.

Spring Clean Seedbed Planting

The best spring seeding dates are April 15 to June 15. Seeding before May will require use of herbicides or frequent early mowings for weed control. Seeding in southern Illinois should begin and end two weeks earlier than central and northern Illinois.

Proper seedbed preparation is one of the most important aspects of establishing native grasses. Eliminate prior crop residue or sod by plowing in late fall. Disk shallow to kill each new crop of sprouted weeds until planting time. The seedbed should be clean and firm, preferably rolled or cultipacked just prior to seeding and again just after. Rolling results in better seed-to-soil contact.

Planting can be accomplished by either drilling or broadcasting. A native grass drill or rangeland drill is the most efficient tool for planting native grass seed. A grain drill or Brillion grass seeder can also be used, but bluestem and Indiangrass seed will have to be debarbed.

If seed is broadcast, be sure to roll or cultipack before and after seeding and to increase seeding rate by 25 percent. Broadcast seeding is most efficient if debarbed seed is mixed with granular fertilizer (phosphate and potash only) before spreading.

Seeds should be covered with no more than one-fourth inch of soil and some exposed seed is good. Do not harrow after seeding. Care must be used to avoid planting too deep.

Spring No-till Planting

Switchgrass and big bluestem (debarbed seed) can be planted with a no-till drill after existing vegetation has been killed or suppressed with Roundup, Paraquat, or Plateau herbicide. This system provides excellent erosion control. Consult experienced operators for detailed advice.

Winter Dormant Planting in Mulch

There have been some difficulties with establishment of native warm-season grasses planted in the late spring under certain conditions. The uncertainty of rainfall, poorly prepared seedbeds, herbicide injury, and weed competition have all created difficulties. Dormant seeding has been shown to work for switchgrass, big bluestem, Indiangrass, and little bluestem.

GENERAL WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLAN - When completed, this plan will maximize vegetational diversity by providing a variety of quality woody and herbaceous cover distributed strategically throughout the farm. Food will be available for wildlife in the form of shrub fruits, weed and grass seed, nuts from quality mast producing hardwood trees and row crop residues. Native grasses and early successional weeds will provide nesting, brood and roosting cover. Brush piles will be constructed in areas that have low winter and escape cover. It is also recommended that mowing tall grassy areas be delayed until after August 1st permitting bobwhite quail to complete nesting.

RECOMMENDATIONS & EXPLANATION

Shrub Plantations

(Refer to map) The Illinois Department of Natural Resources can provide tree and shrub seedlings, cost free, to landowners with approved management plans based on supply. Establish wildlife shrubs at the locations indicated on the map, to create winter and escape cover as well as an alternative food supply for an abundance of wildlife. All the shrubs will be planted into established grass and legumes. Plant the wildlife shrubs 5' apart in the row with rows 6' apart. All shrubs should be planted early in the spring, as soon as the first frost is out of the ground. The state nursery usually ships the tree seedlings out around March 15. Order the seedlings through the district wildlife habitat biologist by June 1st.

Ground Preparation

Mow the areas where the shrub seedlings will be planted. Heavy sod creates extreme nutrient and moisture competition with new seedlings. It is important to control this grass and grass competition for the first two years after tree planting.

If heavy sod exists at tree planting locations, spray the areas, in rows where the trees will be planted if possible with 1.5 ounces of Roundup herbicide per gallon of spray ten days prior to the planting date. Roundup kills only green, actively growing plant material; so be sure you spray after the spring "green up" period. Adding 2.5 tablespoons of Princep 80W per gallon of water in the spray mixture would also keep grass from germinating. The trees could also be spot-treated using 4 foot circles around each tree planting site. One gallon of spray will treat approximately 32 circles or tree seedlings. Be sure not to get any Roundup spray on tree seedlings.

The following table includes some other good herbicide mixtures per gallon of water:

1. 1.5 ounces of Roundup
2. 2.5 tablespoons of Princep 80W
3. 3.5 tablespoons of Aatrex 80W
4. 2.0 tablespoons of Princep Caliber 90
5. 2.0 tablespoons of Aatrex Nine - 0
6. 2.0 ounces of Amizine

Warm Season Grasses

A mixture of native warm season grasses and forbs is recommended to be established in the entire CREP field except for the annual food plot area and the shrub planting area. This mixture will include big bluestem, little bluestem, Indiangrass, and side oats grama as well as a variety of native forbs. Establish the mixture at 7 pounds, pure live seed, per acre. Refer to the supplemental warm season grass job sheets for planting recommendations. Grass establishment acreage will be approximately ^{6.0}~~18.5~~ acres. A native grass seed mixture comparable to these recommendations is available through vendors such as the ones listed on the supplemental sheet; see the listing for Premium Habitat Mixture /50 point.

PREMIUM HABITAT MIX/50 POINT (Contents per Acre)

Cost = \$188 per acre

7 Pure Live Seed (PLS) lbs. Native Warm Season Grass

Big Bluestem
Little Bluestem
Indian Grass
Canada Wild Rye
Side Oats Grama

.7 Pure Live Seed (PLS) lbs. Wildflower Mix

Prairie Blazing Star	Golden Alexanders
Black-Eyed Susan	New England Aster
Partridge Pea	Showy Goldenrod
Spiderwort	Stiff Goldenrod
Purple Prairie Clover	White Prairie Clover
Pale Purple Coneflower	Blue Flag Iris
Early Sunflower	Hoary Vervain
Round-Headed Bush Clover	Canada Anemone
Yellow Coneflower	Culver's Root
Rose Milkweed	Rattlesnake Master
Blue Vervain	Showy Tick Trefoil
Butterfly Milkweed	Prairie Violets
Smooth Blue Aster	Heath Aster

This mixture is available from:

Osenbaugh Grass Seeds

R. R. 1, Box 44

Lucas, Iowa 50151

(515) 766-6792 or

1-800-LUCAS88

WILDLIFE FOODPLOTS QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

SPECIES PREFERENCE

QUAIL

millet (all)
milo
game bird peas
clovers
korean lespedeza
kobe lespedeza
bicolor lespedeza
birdsfoot trefoil
partridge pea
wheat
warm season grass mix
redtop
timothy
cow peas
soybeans
Egyptian wheat

DEER

chufa
milo
clovers
korean lesp.
kobe lesp.
bicolor lesp.
corn
alfalfa
wheat
birdsfoot
soybeans
sunflowers

TURKEY

milo
chufa
clovers
bicolor lesp.
korean lesp.
kobe lesp.
alfalfa
wheat

RABBIT

bluegrass
orchard grass
clovers
korean lesp.
kobe lesp.
clovers

DOVE

sunflowers
millets
wheat
buckwheat
Egyptian wheat

SPRING WILDLIFE PLANT SEEDING RATES AND DATES

SPECIES	PLANTING DATES	LBS/ACRE
<u>Annual Grains</u>		
WGF Sorghum	May - July	10 - 15
Atlas Sorghum	May - July	10 - 15
Orange Cane Milo	May - July	10 - 15
Hybrid Grain Sorghum	May - July	10 - 15
Corn	mid April - mid June	12 - 18
Dwarf Corn	mid April - mid June	12 - 18
Peredovik Sunflower	mid April - May	4 - 6
Sunwheat 101 Sunflower	May - mid June (drilled 35,000 / planted 25,000) (seeds per acre)	
Buckwheat	April - July	40

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

NATURAL REGENERATION OF BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FOREST

Gale Artis

c/o Ted & Beatrice Artis

RR 1, Box 57

Camden, IL 62319

Farm #: 2128

Tract #: 2306

Contract #: 650

Date: 02/07/00

Acres: 29.2

Location: The SW 1/4 of Section 13, and the NW 1/4 of Section 24, T2N-R3W
(Camden Twp.), Schuyler County, Illinois (See map, page 4).

Goal: To re-establish bottomland hardwood forest production on acreage removed from cultivation under the Conservation Reserve Program.

DESCRIPTION OF NATURAL REGENERATION SITE

Field #: 1B

Acreage: 12.7

Soil Types: Tice silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3284)
See soils map, page 5.

Field #: 2B

Acreage: 16.5

Soil Types: Beaucoup silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3070)
Tice silty clay loam, frequently flooded (#3284)
See soils map, page 5.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The site covered by these instructions is very wet for most of the growing season during many years. These types of conditions are generally suitable primarily to a few bottomland soft hardwood species such as Cottonwood, Silver maple, Sycamore, River birch and Willow. In addition, Green ash, a hard bottomland species can often flourish under these conditions, particularly after the preceding species have become established.

All of the species listed above have seed which have wings, bristles, or other adaptations to allow them to be spread by wind. Most can also be spread by water if those conditions exist at the time of fruit dispersal. Since seed-producing trees of species adapted to this site occur within reasonable distance, fairly rapid natural regeneration of these species can be expected to occur.

NATURAL REGENERATION PROCEDURE

In order to provide conditions for natural regeneration to occur, all mowing, tillage or other cultural activities should cease immediately. Vehicular traffic of any kind should be confined to trails as described in the Natural Resources Conservation Service portion of the plan.

If a problem with noxious weeds occurs, treat only by spot treating with the appropriate herbicide in affected areas. Do not mow or disturb the soil.

Hard mast species such as Pin oak, Pecan, and Bur oak generally require dryer sites than the conditions presented by the natural regeneration area. Establishment of these species may be enhanced by the drying effect of the established stand of soft hardwood species. To establish hard mast species, wait until the soft hardwood reproduction is established at least to the sapling stage. The hard mast species should be planted on elevated areas of 18 to 24 inches made by mounding the soil or plowing up a ridge. Use of older transplanted seedlings is recommended.

OTHER PROVISIONS

Food plots may be established and maintained according to NRCS acreage allowances and established criteria.

Water/wetland management may be carried out as specified by NRCS and/or the IL Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Biologist.

Trails and/or access may be established and maintained as described by NRCS.

Commercial timber harvest or timber stand improvement may be carried out under the approval and direction of the Illinois Department of Natural Resource District forester or by a private consulting forester approved by the district forester.

RESOURCE PROTECTION

Protecting your natural regeneration area to ensure survival of new growth is required at all times. Livestock grazing and wildfire must be excluded from the area.

Browsing damage from wildlife or insect and disease attacks may occur. These incidences should be brought to the attention of the District Forester . Remedial steps may be recommended if appropriate.

Periodic inspections should be made by the District Forester to evaluate the success of natural regeneration on the site. The use of tree planting and/or direct seeding may be used in subsequent years if the attempt of natural regeneration fails.

CONCLUSION

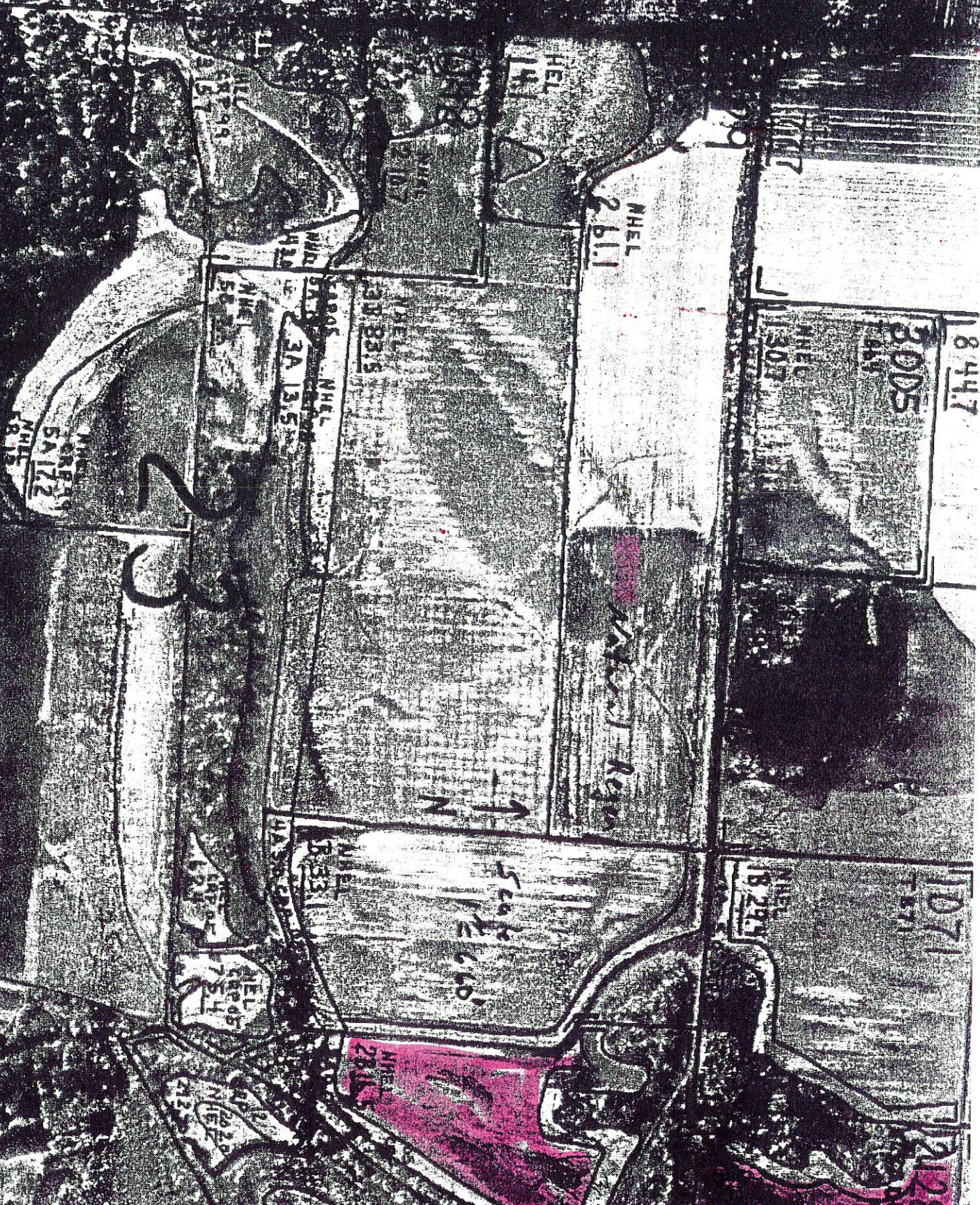
I have enjoyed developing this management plan for you, and I hope to do more work with you in the future. If you have any questions about this plan, or any questions about your forests, please don't hesitate to call. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark Rathman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Rathman
Illinois Forestry Consulting

NOT TO SCALE
(1998) H5-4





CREP Easement #20000369

52.5 Cropland Acres

68.992 Additional Acres

121.492 Total acres in CREP Permanent Easement

10.0 Acres of tree planting

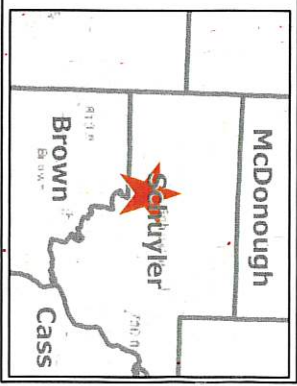
42.5 Natural Regeneration

3

- ADD
- CP23
- PLSS
- Roads

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY: SCHUYLER
 EASEMENT ID: 20000369 - 121.49 ACRES

Coordinates: 40.1379, -90.7041



23

1071
HEL T872
CRP 49
135.0

2528
T2919
HEL 128.0
NHFL 234.3
T2226
HEL 12.2
NHFL 43.0
NHFL 220.2
NHFL 53.7
NHFL 3.9

HEL 97.9
NHFL 9.8
9.8 HEL 39

165.5
NHFL CRP 49
2
NHFL 2.37
NHFL 2.37

1071
NHFL 38.70

1951
NHFL 14.1
NHFL 169.0
T2201
2072

 = CROPLAND ACRES
 = ADDITIONAL ACREAGE
 = EXEMPT ACREAGE

2148
T1677

2898
NHFL 566.9
T9485

State of Illinois
Conservation Reserve
Enhancement Program
State Number: 20000369

STATE OF ILLINOIS } ss No. 261449
Schuyler County }
FILED FOR RECORD the 24th day of
October A.D., 2000 at 11:35 o'clock
A M. and recorded in book 237
of Records on page 163
James P. Belman
RECORDER

GRANT OF CONSERVATION RIGHT AND EASEMENT

Be it known that this Grant of Conservation Right and Easement pursuant to the Real Property Conservation Rights Act, 765 ILCS 120, as amended, is made this 24 day of October, 2000.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Ted L. Artis & Beatrice T. Artis, whose address is R 1 Box 57 Camden, Illinois (hereinafter with (his, her, their, its) heirs and assigns, called the "Grantor(s)"), is the owner in fee simple of certain real property (hereinafter called "Property") which has been restored, enhanced or protected in the Illinois Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) through practices agreed to in a CREP Conservation Plan, has significant ecological value, and is enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Contract number 648. The property being situated in Section (s) 23, T. 2N, R. 3W, in Schuyler County, Illinois, described in the attached Exhibit A, which by reference is made a part hereof.

WHEREAS, Schuyler County SWCD (hereinafter with its successors and assigns, called "Grantee"), is a unit of local government with offices at RR 4 PO Box 290 Rushville, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Grantor and Grantee, by this Conveyance to the Grantee of Conservation Right and Easement on, over, and across the Property desire to conserve the ecological value thereof and prevent the use or development of the Property for any purpose or in any manner that would conflict with the maintenance of the practices agreed to in the CREP Conservation Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Grantee is willing to accept this Grant of Conservation Right and Easement to extend the environmental benefits of the CRP contract subject to the reservations and to the covenants, terms, conditions, and restrictions set out herein and imposed hereby; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Grantor, for and in consideration of \$ 47,787.04, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged by the Grantor, does hereby convey and grant unto the Grantee and to its successors and assigns, forever, a Conservation Right and Easement (hereafter "Easement") in perpetuity on, over, and across the Property consisting of the following:

Section 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Easement is to preserve, enhance, restore and maintain the natural features and ecological value of the Property, to provide habitat for native plants and animals, to improve and maintain water quality, and to control runoff of sediments.

Section 2 AFFIRMATIVE RIGHTS

2.1 The Grantee is granted the right of ingress and egress to the Easement area to inspect the same to determine compliance with the terms of the conservation easement. This includes the right to take Global Positioning measurements and to record measurements in a conservation practices database.

2.2 The Grantee shall have the right to enforce by proceedings at law or in equity the covenants set forth below, it being agreed that there shall be no waiver or forfeiture of the Grantee's right to ensure compliance with the covenants and conditions of this grant by reason of any prior failure to act.

Section 3 RESTRICTIONS AND COVENANTS

And in furtherance of the above affirmative rights of the Grantee, the Grantor makes the following covenants which shall run with and bind the Property:

3.1 There shall be no commercial, industrial or multiple dwelling activity undertaken or allowed on the Property, nor shall any right of passage across or upon the Property be allowed or granted.

3.2 There shall be no construction or placement of temporary or permanent buildings, docks or other structures. There shall be no mobile homes, trailers or recreational vehicles providing living quarters placed on the Property by either the Grantor or Grantee. Existing structures may be maintained, but may not be used for living quarters. This restriction does not apply to the construction of duck blinds or deer stands.

3.3 The Grantor shall not construct or allow the construction of billboards, privacy fences, lighted signage, or other forms of advertising or promotion on the Property that would detract from the ecological value of the Property.

3.4 There shall be no building of new roads or widening of existing roads. However, access to deer stands and duck blinds is allowed, if they are of temporary nature.

3.5 There shall be no filling, excavating, mining or drilling; no removal of topsoil, sand, gravel, rock, minerals, gas, oil or other products that result in the alteration of surface topography of the Property, disturbance of natural (uncultivated) vegetation OTHER THAN WHAT IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE CONSERVATION PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE PROPERTY, or installation of mechanical devices upon the Property. Tillage for planting wildlife food in food plot areas and in shallow water areas when dry during summer months is allowed.

3.6 There shall be no timber harvest or livestock grazing unless provided for in the CREP Conservation Plan as a management tool after the CRP contract expires. Any timber harvest or grazing must follow specifications in the CREP Conservation Plan.

3.7 There shall be no use of the Property for sanitary landfill, for underground storage tanks, for the installation and use of an incinerator nor dumping of refuse, trash, garbage, rubbish, junk, ashes, or waste material. Dredge material from an adjacent water body may be placed on Property, either temporarily or permanently, according to a Plan agreed upon by the Grantor, Grantee, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, after the CRP contract expires. Any use of dredge spoil may not in any way alter the ecological significance of the Property and the Grantor will be reimbursed in full for any restoration that may be required because of such a use for dredge spoil upon the Property.

BY THEIR ACCEPTANCE HEREOF, the Grantee also agrees to be bound by the covenants binding on the Grantor as set forth above.

Section 4 RESERVED RIGHTS

EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY LIMITED HEREIN, the Grantor reserves for himself all rights as owner of the Property, including the right to use the Property for purposes not inconsistent with the Easement providing that these uses shall be in full accordance with all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations.

THE GRANTOR FURTHER RESERVES the following specific rights:

- 4.1 The right to maintain and replace existing structures and roads.
- 4.2 The right to maintain waterways and drainage ditches per agreements with any Drainage or Levee District and to allow pumping through these waterways into shallow water areas.
- 4.3 The right of the Grantor, Grantor's family members and guests to hunt, fish, temporarily camp, and any recreational use on the Property that does not impact ecological significance and value provided all such activity is conducted in accordance with state and federal regulations. The Grantor also reserves the right to charge a fee to guests for all such activities.
- 4.4 The rights to all minerals, gas, oil and other hydrocarbons currently held by the Grantor, shall remain with the Grantor and are not conveyed by this Easement.
- 4.5 The right of the Grantor to implement forestry practices and activities, including the harvest of forest products using accepted best management practices. The implementation of forestry practices shall be guided by a Forest Stewardship Plan/Reforestation Plan prepared or approved by an IDNR District Forester and accepted by the Grantor. Such practices and activities shall be implemented under the direction of an IDNR forester, or a professional forester selected by the Grantor and approved by the Grantee in consultation with the IDNR.

Section 5

THE FOLLOWING GENERAL PROVISIONS SHALL ALSO be binding upon both the Grantor and Grantee:

5.1 The Grantor, for himself and for his heirs, successors and assigns, shall pay any real estate taxes or assessments levied by competent authority on the Property.

5.2 No right of access to the general public to any portion of the Property is conveyed by this Easement.

5.3 The Grantor agrees that the terms, conditions, restrictions and purpose of this Conservation Easement will be referenced in any subsequent deed or other legal instrument by which the Grantor divests itself of the Property.

5.4 Any notices or approval requests required in this easement shall be sent by registered or certified mail to the following addresses below or to such address as may be hereafter specified by notice in writing.

Grantee:

Schuyler County SWCD
RR 4 PO Box 290
Rushville, Illinois 62681

Grantor:

Ted L. Artis & Beatrice T. Artis
RI Box 57
Camden, Illinois 62319

FURTHER, BOTH GRANTOR AND GRANTEE RECOGNIZE that this document cannot address every circumstance that may arise in the life of this Easement. The parties agree that the Purpose of this Easement is to preserve, enhance, restore and maintain the natural features and ecological value of the Property. Any use or activity not reserved in this agreement which is inconsistent with the Purposes of this Easement or which materially threatens the Purpose of this Easement is prohibited.

THE TERMS HEREOF shall be deemed to run with the land and be binding upon all successors and assigns of both the Grantor and the Grantee. If the Grantee is no longer capable of holding this Conservation Easement, the Grantee shall be permitted to transfer or assign the rights herein, to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Conservation Easement unto the Grantee forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Grant of Conservation Right and Easement this 24th day of October, 2000.

GRANTOR: Ted L. Artis (Ted L. Artis)

Beatrice T. Artis (Beatrice T. Artis)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS)

SS:

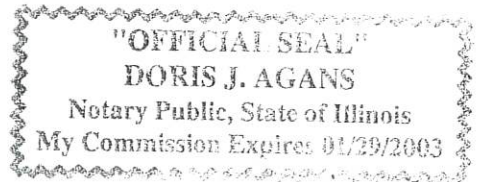
COUNTY OF SCHUYLER)

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for said County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that Ted L. Artis & Beatrice T. Artis, personally known to me to be the same person(s) whose name(s) are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as their free and voluntary act, for the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

Given under my hand and official seal this 24 day of October, 2000

My commission expires:

Doris J. Agans Notary Public



ACCEPTANCE BY GRANTEE:

Larry Shelts, Resource Conservationist 10-24-00
(Larry Shelts, Resource Conservationist) Date

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF SCHUYLER

SS:

I, the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for said County, in the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that Larry Shelts, personally known to me to be the same person(s) whose name(s) are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as their free and voluntary act, for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

Given under my hand and official seal this 24 day of October, 2000.

My commission expires: 01/29/2003

Doris J. Agans Notary Public

Easement under the ILLINOIS CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) over and across the following lands:

A Part of the Southeast Quarter of Section 23, Township 2 North, Range 3 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Schuyler County, Illinois, more particularly described as follows and bearings are for descriptive purposes only: Commencing at an iron rod in the Southeast corner of the Southeast Quarter of Section 23; thence along the East line of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 23 bearing North $01^{\circ}-12'-13''$ East, a distance of 1112.31 feet to an iron rod and the Point of Beginning of the Parcel to be described: From the Point of Beginning; thence bearing North $89^{\circ}-51'-09''$ West, a distance of 332.30 feet to an iron rod; thence bearing South $12^{\circ}-17'-40''$ West, a distance of 778.02 feet to an iron rod; thence bearing South $89^{\circ}-12'-47''$ West, a distance of 491.50 feet to an iron rod; thence bearing North $12^{\circ}-44'-53''$ East, a distance of 101.70 feet to an iron rod; thence bearing North $51^{\circ}-10'-50''$ West, a distance of 224.89 feet to an iron rod; thence bearing North $27^{\circ}-07'-12''$ East, a distance 228.93 feet to an iron rod; thence bearing North $87^{\circ}-08'-29''$ West, a distance of 1100.38 feet to the Northeast corner of Challis W. Warrington and Marjorie R. Vail Property; thence along the North line of said Challis W. Warrington and Marjorie R. Vail Property bearing North $87^{\circ}-08'-29''$ West a distance of 577.50 feet to an iron rod on the said West line of the Southeast Quarter of Section 23; thence along said West line of said Southeast Quarter of Section 23 bearing North $01^{\circ}-39'-43''$ East, a distance of 1918.20 feet to the Northwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of Section 23; thence along the North line of said Southeast Quarter of Section 23 bearing South $87^{\circ}-00'-00''$ East, a distance of 2694.18 feet to the Northeast corner of said Southeast Quarter Section 23; thence along the East line of said Southeast Quarter of Section 23 bearing South $01^{\circ}-12'-13''$ West, a distance of 1537.37 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 121.492 acres more or less.

PERMANENT INDEX NUMBER: 06-023-006-00

EXHIBIT "A"

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM
TREE PLANTING AND NATURAL REGENERATION PLAN FOR
BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FOREST

Date: 02/08/00

Ted & Beatrice Artis
RR1, Box 57
Camden, IL 62319
217-322-6372

Farm #: 1071
Tract #: 872
Contract #: 648

Acres: 52.5

Location: The SE 1/4 of Section 23, T2N-R3W (Camden Twp.), Schuyler County, Illinois (See map, page 7).

Goal: To re-establish bottomland hardwood forest production on acreage removed from cultivation under the Conservation Reserve Program.

DESCRIPTION OF TREE PLANTING SITES

(All tree planting areas are highlighted blue on the enclosed photo)

Field #: 2

Acreege: 10.0 acres tree plant, 35.5 acres natural regen.

Soil Types: Kendall silt loam, 0-2% slopes (242A)
St. Charles silt loam, 2-5% slopes (#243B)
See soils map, page 8.

The following recommendations apply to all tree planting areas:

Total tree planting acres: 10.0

PREPLANTING

If competing vegetation is 6 inches or higher over 75% of the soil surface, mow strips at least 4 feet wide on the contour spaced to be centered on the seedling rows when they are planted; or mow the whole planting area.

Apply a pre-emergence herbicide such as Princep, Oust, or Surflan in a 3 foot wide band, according to label directions before, during, or soon after planting. Be sure that Princep, if used, is labeled for tree use.

PLANTING

Planting should be done between March 1 and May 15. The species planted should be distributed evenly over the site. This can be accomplished by planting the trees at random (shotgun mix), or by planting them in a pattern that distributes all trees evenly over the site. The "shotgun mix" can be made by placing seedling bundles into the planting tub or bucket in the same ratio as the species ratio in the whole planting. Seedlings are then removed for planting at random. Since it is difficult to get a homogeneous mix of seedlings because the roots tend to cling together, the result will be a mix of singles and clumps of various species of trees in a mix at various ratios.

Planting rows should always be on the contour. That is, the rows should always be parallel to the slope.

The seedlings may be planted by hand or machine. Hand planting requires approx. 2 man days per 1000 seedlings. Up to 5,000 seedlings per day can be planted with a tree planting machine, tractor, and 3 individuals.

All tree planting must meet the specifications outlined in Appendix 1.

SPECIES AND SPACING

Seedlings should be planted on a 10 foot by 10 foot spacing. This means ten feet apart between rows and ten feet apart within the row. This will require 435 trees/acre. You are required to plant 10.0 acres, so you will need 4,350 seedlings.

The following species must be ordered (4,350 trees required): 1,087 red oak, 110 swamp white oak, 543 Pin oak, 1,630 black walnut, 543 green ash, 108 pecan, 110 sycamore, 110 black cherry, and 109 sugar maple.

You may substitute the following species, if necessary: bur oak, hackberry, and river birch. The number and type of seedlings substituted must be approved by the district forester. ***All substitutions must be approved in writing by the district forester.***

This practice is not eligible for no-cost seedlings from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Nurseries. See Appendix 2 for a list of private nurseries.

You should strongly consider engaging the services of a tree planting contractor to plant your seedlings and apply required herbicide. Their experience in planting and possession of specialized equipment will ensure a greater possibility of success for your

planting. The cost share assistance as discussed later will apply to contractor-planted seedlings as well as ones planted by your operator.

POST-PLANTING

If a pre-emergence herbicide was not applied before or during planting as outlined under PRE-PLANTING above, it should be applied immediately after planting according to label instructions.

The primary effectiveness of the pre-emergence herbicide is on ungerminated weed seedlings. If pre-emergence herbicides are applied alone, it must be to an area that is free of live vegetation. If green vegetation is present when the pre-emergence herbicide is applied, Roundup must be applied in conjunction with it. However, Roundup cannot be applied over trees that are no longer dormant (i.e. buds are swelling or leaves are present). Roundup will tank mix with Princep; check label instructions for guidelines on compatibility of Roundup with Surflan or Oust and tank mixing instructions.

MOWING

Mowing will help increase seedling survival by controlling the height of competing vegetation and reducing rodent habitat in the fall and winter. It will also keep the tree rows easily visible, which will help with the maintenance of the planting. Mow between rows of trees the first year as follows: after June 1st as often as needed to keep vegetation from growing over and choking seedlings, and once after September 30 to reduce fall and winter cover for rodents.

You may mow the second growing season as described above if there is minimal deer browsing damage. If browsing is a problem, letting the weeds go unmowed may reduce browsing damage. After the second growing season, the trees will have become well-established enough that mowing will no longer be necessary. Leaving the tree planting unmowed at this point will benefit wildlife habitat and natural tree reproduction.

Noxious weeds should be controlled by spot treatments with post-emergence herbicides such as Roundup or other herbicides as required for specific weeds.

Pre-emergence herbicide for competition control may be applied for the next two seasons after planting. This will depend upon the amount of deer damage in the area. If a forester determines that the damage is too severe, subsequent applications of herbicide may be canceled.

COST SHARE ASSISTANCE (use on CREP)

The site covered by these instructions is very wet for most of the growing season during many years. These types of conditions are generally suitable primarily to a few bottomland soft hardwood species such as Cottonwood, Silver maple, Sycamore, River birch and Willow. In addition, Green ash, a hard bottomland species can often flourish under these conditions, particularly after the preceding species have become established.

All of the species listed above have seed which have wings, bristles, or other adaptations to allow them to be spread by wind. Most can also be spread by water if those conditions exist at the time of fruit dispersal. Since seed-producing trees of species adapted to this site occur within reasonable distance, fairly rapid natural regeneration of these species can be expected to occur.

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Trails and/or access may be established and maintained as described by NRCS.

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Periodic inspections should be made by the District Forester to evaluate the success of natural regeneration on the site. The use of tree planting and/or direct seeding may be used in subsequent years if the attempt of natural regeneration fails.

CONCLUSION

I have enjoyed developing this management plan for you, and I hope to do more work with you in the future. If you have any questions about this plan, or any questions about your forests, please don't hesitate to call. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,



Mark Rathman
Illinois Forestry Consulting
4414 S. McCormick Road
Farmington, IL 61531

Appendix 1

Improper care of seedling stock is often the major cause of high initial mortality. Proper treatment of these new seedlings during shipping, temporary storage, and planting will help to increase seedling survival.

TREATMENT DURING SHIPPING:

When picking up seedlings at a nursery, following these recommendations:

- Keep seedlings in cold storage (33 to 35 degrees) until the last minute if possible!
- Handle bags gently, avoid tears, and avoid crushing. If possible, try not to stack the bags greater than 2 bags high without support (like 2 x 4's, etc.). When tears occur, they should be repaired immediately.
- In order to try to minimize heat stress, the load should be covered with a tarp and moved during the coolest time of day (early morning or late evening).

The seedlings should be planted as soon as they arrive, however, if planting is delayed there are several options:

- Leave seedlings in their original, unopened shipping container if storage will be less than one week. Store packages in a cool, well drained, shaded area, with adequate ventilation.
- Opened packages should be treated as if it will be more than one week until planting.

When planting is delayed after the seedlings have left cold storage, the following is recommended:

- Try to minimize stress on seedlings by maintaining cool temperatures and keeping roots moist (not wet).
- Small quantities of seedlings may be "healed in" where a trench is dug, seedling roots buried in the trench, ideally with straw area. Be sure to have good soil-root contact- don't leave seedlings in bundles!

During planting, the following is recommended:

- Only take to the field as many seedlings as can be planted that day.
- Store seedlings in a shaded area, protected from the wind, making sure roots stay as moist as possible.
- While planting, seedlings should be kept in containers (trays or bags) where roots can stay moist. There are several techniques for keeping roots moist during planting.
- Ideal planting weather is cool, humid, and cloudy. Avoid planting on hot, sunny, windy days!

PLANTING STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Division of Forest Resources requires the following standards for all tree plantings. At least 90% of the seedlings must meet these planting standards, if not, cost-sharing will not be approved.

PLANTING

Depth: Seedlings are to be planted at the same depth as grown at the nursery. In soils rated moderately well drained or better, plant trees up to 1" deeper than the nursery soil line. The nursery soil line can be distinguished by the color change on the root collar. Seedlings should not be sunk in a hole or raised in a mound. At no time should a seedling be planted with its roots exposed.

Root Pruning: Field pruning of hardwood stock must leave a minimum 8" root length. Field pruning of conifer stock must leave a minimum 6" root length.

Firmness: Soil around a seedling's roots must be packed firmly to eliminate air pockets. A properly planted tree seedling should be able to withstand a moderate tug with the thumb and index finger while remaining firmly in place.

Root Position: During planting, seedling roots must not be bunched, curled, doubled (formed into a "J"), twisted, or flattened into a plane (formed into an "L"). All roots should be pointing in a downwards direction.

Crown Position: The seedling should be planted in such a way that the top (crown/stem) is in an upright position. This position should be nearly perpendicular to the ground below. Hardwoods are not to lean more than 20 degrees off center. Conifers cannot lean more than 10 degrees off center.

Spacing: Distances within and between rows shall not be more than + 1/2 foot from recommended spacings.

Species Mixture: Must be according to the plan.

PLANTING STOCK SPECIFICATIONS

Private Nurseries: At least 80% of the hardwood stock must be in the 12-18 inch size range. The minimum acceptable root length must be 8". The height requirement can be waived if the seedlings meet or exceed a caliper of 7/32". Any variations must be approved in writing by the District Forester.

SURVIVAL SPECIFICATIONS: A minimum level of 70% of stocking must be maintained for the planted area. This minimum level cannot drop below 300 trees per acre.

SEEDLING SOURCES

Appendix Z

1. Armintrout's
1156 Lincoln Road
Allegan, Michigan 49010
616/673-6627 *
2. Boyd Nursery Company
P.O. Box 71, Hwy. 55
McMinnville, Tennessee 37110
615/668-7646 ***
FAX: 615/668-7646
3. Canale's Nursery
Shelocta, Pennsylvania 15774
412/354-2500 ***
4. Cascade Forestry Service, Inc.
22033 Fillmore Road
Cascade, Iowa 52033
319/852-3042 ***
FAX: 319/852-5004
5. Carino Nurseries
P.O. Box 538
Indiana, PA 15701
412/462-3350
FAX: 412/462-3050 **
6. Fernald's Nursery
R.R. #2
Monmouth, Illinois 61462
309/734-6994 *
7. Forest Nursery Company, Inc.
R.R. #2 Box 118-A
McMinnville, Tennessee 37110
615/473-4740
FAX: 615/473-2133 ***
8. Forrest Keeling Nursery
Hwy 79 S - Box 135
Elsberry, Missouri 63343
800/356-2401
FAX: 314/898-5803 **
9. Hensler Nursery
R.R. #2 Box 52
Hamlet, Indiana 46532
219/867-4192

20. Sherman Nursery Company
1300 Grove Street, Box 579
Charles City, Iowa 50616
515/228-1124 ***
21. Smith Nursery Company
P. O. Box 515
Charles City, Iowa 50616
515/228-3239 **
22. Vans Pines, Inc.
7550 144th Ave.
West Olive, Michigan 49460
616/399-1620
FAX: 616/399-1652 ***
23. Warren County Nursery, Inc.
R. R. #2, Box 204
McMinnville, Tennessee 37110
615/668-8941
FAX: 615/668-2245 ***
24. Western Maine Forest Nursery Co.
Fryeburg, Maine 04037
207/935-2161 *

* Conifers & Scotch Pine
** Hardwoods & Shrubs
*** Both

PLEASE NOTE: This listing is provided as a public service and is not to be construed as an endorsement, approval or guarantee of the products provided by any of the nurseries listed. This listing does not include all nurseries in Illinois, you may want to contact the Illinois Nurserymen's Association, Suite 1702, Hilton Hotel, Springfield, Illinois 62701, phone 217/525-6222.

WARNING: Carefully consider the geographic source of the seedlings you purchase. For most species do not move a seed source more than 200 miles north or south of its origin. Northern stock planted too far south will be slow growing. Southern stock planted too far north is subject to frost and dieback.

REFORESTATION EXPENSE

You can claim a 10% investment tax credit (ITC) on "qualified reforestation expenditures." It may be claimed in conjunction with amortization (see below) or independently. The credit is a direct deduction from taxes owed.

You can also elect to amortize (deduct) a certain amount of "qualified reforestation expenditures" over a 7-calendar-year period (8 tax years). The election may be made in conjunction with the ITC or independently.

Depreciable Assets

The Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) applies to business or investment property with a limited life. MACRS replaces Accelerated Cost Recovery System (ACRS). Landowners may elect straightline depreciation instead of MACRS over the same recovery period. Rather than being depreciated, up to \$10,000 of the costs of depreciable active business (not investment) property may be expensed (deducted) from active business income in the year the costs are incurred.

How to Qualify for Best Tax Treatment

"Qualified reforestation expenditures" are direct costs paid for stand establishment. They include costs of site preparation; seeds or seedlings; and labor and tools, including depreciation on equipment. The reforested property must be located in the United States, be one acre or more, and be considered capable of commercial timber production. The maximum dollar amount that qualifies is \$10,000 per year. It applies per individual, per partnership, per controlled group, and per estate; trusts do not qualify.

"Qualified reforestation expenditures" for amortization are the same as for the ITC, above. Amortization must be elected by the taxpayer on a timely filed tax return, including extensions, for the year the expenditures were incurred. The maximum dollar amount that qualifies is \$10,000 per year. However, if the ITC is elected, the amortizable amount must be reduced by half of the credit.

The credit is computed on Form 3468, which must be attached to your tax return. Timber transactions are reported as non-recovery property on the form.

If you invest in capital assets such as buildings, fences, equipment, etc., with a useful life greater than one year, be certain to maintain an active role, versus a passive role, in the management of the business or investment.



23

1071

Natural Region

NHHEL
CRP 94
1350

tree planting

Scale:
1" = 660'

N ↑

NHHEL
234.3

2863

NHHEL
43.0

NHHEL
2202

NHHEL
111.5

HEL
97.9

2073

NHHEL
CRP 94
257

NHHEL
37.3

2129

NHHEL
CRP 94
190.2

NHHEL
19.7

2148

NHHEL
310.4

NHHEL
48.4

2898

NHHEL
566.9

NOT TO SCALE
(1998) H6-1

NHHEL
169.0

NHHEL
23.2

NHHEL
247.3

NHHEL
38.20

NHHEL
11.8

NHHEL
17.1

NHHEL
126.0

T2916

NHHEL
126.0

NHHEL
5.1

NHHEL
5.37

