



# ILLINOIS NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY

## INAI Checklist for Site Nomination

Site Name \_\_\_\_\_ INAI # \_\_\_\_\_

### General Requirements for all nominations

For more details on the INAI Nomination Procedure, please see INAI Standards and Guidelines (S&G) Forms in **BOLD** can be found [HERE](#)

- INAI Nomination and Approval Form** (containing IDNR Natural Heritage Biologist Sign-off)
- INAI Site Evaluation Form**
- GIS Map of proposed Site Boundaries with Qualifying Features Delineated
  - Delineate ALL Community Types within site boundary with Grades associated with the types outlined in the **INAI Site Evaluation Form** to document baseline conditions of site.
  - Notify IDNR GIS Specialist for site mapping. Provide any available GIS data.
- Site Photos representative of the nomination

Optional:

- Aerial Survey Photography
- Historic Aerial Photography
- Photo Point Map
- Additional support to the INAI nomination is recommended, including species lists of any taxa, research reports, photos, historical accounts, or any relevant information.

### Specific Category Requirements

#### *Category I*

- INAI Stream Grading Form** (qualifying feature)  
or
- INAI Grading Form** (qualifying feature)
- INAI Qualitative Vegetation Sampling** (plant list of woody and herbaceous species encountered in each community that is being nominated as the qualifying feature)
- FQA list created from Universal FQA Calculator <https://universalfqa.org/> using the “Flora of the Chicago Region, 2017” database for Boone, Cook, Dekalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties. For the rest of the state use the “Illinois (IL), 2020” database.
- Quantitative Vegetation Sampling Data
  - INAI Overstory Sampling**
  - Understory Sampling**
  - Groundlayer Sampling**
    - To identify the sampling forms required for each qualifying Community Type, see S&G, Appendix C.1., Table 7
    - Quantitative Vegetation Sampling is only required for the highest quality natural community within each Community Class for Category I sites, S&G, Appendix C.1.
- Transect Maps (if applicable)



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For Category I Natural Community Reconstructions the following are also required:

- Documentation for reconstruction in accordance with the IDNR Plant Translocation Policy
- Provide evidence of a plan for how the site will be protected and managed long term, per the IDNR Plant Translocation Policy. (See S&G, Appendix D)

### Category II

- Element Occurrence Record (EOR)**(< 10 years old)
- INAI Specific Suitable Habitat Form**
- Specific Suitable Habitat Map
  - Notify IDNR GIS Specialist for site mapping, provide GIS data

For Category II Endangered and Threatened Plant Species Translocations, the following are also required:

- Source Documentation (source site and recipient site landowner permission, per Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act)
- Documentation for translocation in accordance with the IDNR Plant Translocation Policy or IDNR approved Recovery Plan for the listed species
  - Provide Evidence of a plan for how the site will be protected and managed long term, per the IDNR Plant Translocations Policy. (See S&G, Appendix D,. Plant Translocation – long-term protection and site mgmt. requirement)

For Category II Endangered and Threatened Animal Species Translocations, the following are also required:

- Source Documentation (source site and recipient site landowner permission, per Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act)
- Documentation for animal translocation in accordance with an IDNR-approved Recovery Plan for the listed species.

### Category III

- Evidence of Site's dedication registration, or enrollment at INPC meeting
- Provide Master Plan and Agenda or Meeting Number

### Category IV

- Illinois State Geological Survey Approval
- Photo with date stamp

### Category V

Category currently unused

### Category VI

- Appropriate EORs (e.g. Rattlesnake Maternity or Hibernacula)



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- Species List for Unusual Concentration
- Appropriate Map (Notify IDNR GIS Specialist for site mapping. Provide any available GIS data.)
  - 1 mile buffer for rattlesnake maternity or hibernacula
  - Specific Suitable Habitat Map for Unusual Concentration
  - Critical habitat for fish or mussel Species of Greatest Conservation Need
- Documentation of historical extent of species presence.
- Supporting Documentation (i.e. surveys, research reports, photos, habitat description, etc.)