



Illinois Audubon Society

Annual Prescribed Fire Summary

Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

By Kaleb Baker, Land Steward, Illinois Audubon Society



Igniting a growing season burn at H & B Bremer Wildlife Sanctuary

[illegible]

While not glamorous, preparing firebreaks is critical for a successful burn season. Below you can see a mowed firebreak that could carry fire followed by a firebreak with the thatch removed by a leaf blower that is unlikely to carry fire.



Mowed firebreak



Mowed and blown firebreak with thatch blown mostly into burn unit.



Mowed and blown firebreak held well

We administered a growing season burn at H & B Bremer Wildlife Sanctuary to control sericea. It was burned as sericea was finishing flower and before seeding. No resprouts of sericea were found after burning. Below is a photo series of the burn. More info can be found at the Illinois Prescribed Fire Council's Blog (<https://ilprescribedfirecouncil.wordpress.com/2021/11/09/summer-burn-for-sericea/>).



Before burn



During burn



Immediately after burn



Two months later, November 30



Bob Schwander and Jim Hefley ensure a trail sign does not burn on a woodland burn at H & B Bremer Wildlife Sanctuary



Crew ready to burn at Gremel Wildlife Sanctuary with Middle Rock Conservation Partners
 Back left to right: Bryon Walters, Greg Hunter, Dave Brewer, Elizabeth Bach, Teresa Smith, Tim Smith;
 Front: Kaleb Baker, Randy Singleton; Not Pictured: Deb Carey



Another happy crew, ready to burn at Amboy Marsh Nature Preserve with MRCP. The trailer in the background held a UTV pump unit overnight in 20F with a plug-in oil heater and no frozen hoses!
 Bryon Walters, Tim Smith, Dave Brewer, Teresa Smith, Kaleb Baker; Not Pictured: Randy Singleton



Stan Korza ignites head fire as Krystle Adams puts down a wetline and wet down fenceposts.



After burning at Adams Wildlife Sanctuary, Marilyn Robins, Mary Grundle, and Donna Holinga spread locally collected prairie seed to increase diversity and better carry fire across the prairie.

Partner Burns

Date	Owner	Site	Unit Name	Crew Size	Burn Boss	Acres
4/10/2022	Dixon Park District	The Meadows	East side to River incl Damien's Prairie	9	Tim Smith	95
4/10/2022	Dixon Park District	The Meadows	Pheasants Forever unit	9	Tim Smith	66
4/9/2022	Franklin Creek Conservation Association	Franklin Creek Headwaters	Headwaters S 38, W of Farm Fields	6	Kaleb Baker	10.1
3/5/2022	Friends of Sangamon Valley	Nipper Wildlife Sanctuary	Visitor's Center	15+	Vern LaGessee	1.8
4/12/2022	Illinois Department of Natural Resources	George B Fell Nature Preserve (Castle Rock State Park)	N of Wilderness Rd	10+	Melissa Grycan	675
4/16/2022	Illinois Department of Natural Resources	Franklin Creek State Natural Area	N of creek, W of Twist	7	Bill Kleiman	55
11/23/2021	The Nature Conservancy	Nachusa Grasslands	Clear Creek W	10+	Bill Kleiman	140
4/11/2022	The Nature Conservancy	Nachusa Grasslands	Tellabs/Walgreens	10+	Bill Kleiman	670
3/3/2022	City of Litchfield	Shoal Creek Conservation Area	Rocky Hollow	7	Andy Furman	35
3/3/2022	City of Litchfield	Shoal Creek Conservation Area	Below Lake Lou Yaeger	9	Andy Furman	36
					TOTAL	1783.9



Henry Eilers igniting head fire at Shoal Creek Conservation Area as part of the Shoal Creek volunteers. Henry was awarded the 2022 Leadership Award from the Illinois Prescribed Fire Council. He has been using prescribed fire at this site for 32 years.



Excited MRCP crew ready to burn at Dixon Park District, taking advantage of high winds to get fire to carry well through some poor fuels.



Long flame lengths looking downhill at Dixon Park District where there was some slope and good fuels.



Franklin Creek Conservation Association burn crew internally igniting as the sun sets.



Franklin Creek Conservation Association burn crew finishing the after-action review.

End.