

Broad Incidental Take Permit/Authorization for Grassland and Savanna Management

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Background: The Broad Incidental Take Permit/Authorization for Grassland and Savanna Management, as provided for under s. 29.604 Wis. Stats., allows for the incidental taking (mortality) of certain endangered and threatened species that may occur as a result of specific grassland and savanna management activities. These species are dependent upon management to set back natural succession, and although the disturbance may result in some mortality, take will be minimized by following protocols designed for each species.

An incidental take permit or authorization is typically issued on a project-by-project basis, however a broad incidental permit and authorization were created for this situation so that neither an application nor a permit fee are required. An individual or organization covered by this permit or authorization (see *Coverage* below) is automatically covered. Additionally, an annual report is not required.

Process: The project lead and/or landowner for each management activity must compile a list of species likely to be present on site prior to conducting any on-the-ground disturbance. If the DNR is conducting, funding or approving the management activity, this list will be created by DNR staff during the permit/approval/review process using the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) database. If the DNR is not conducting, funding or approving the project, an [Endangered Resources Review Request](#) should be submitted to the Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation to determine which, if any, species are present.

Coverage: This Broad Incidental Take Permit/Authorization for Grassland and Savanna Management legally covers an individual or organization (Section A) for any take that may occur if:

- 1) The management activity is occurring in a grassland or savanna habitat as defined in Section B,
- 2) The management activity involved is listed in Section C,
- 3) The management activity will impact a grassland or savanna species listed in Section D, and
- 4) The management activity follows the appropriate species protocols found at: [Grassland and Savanna Management](#).

If the management activity does not meet all of criteria listed above and detailed below, the property owner and/or project applicant are liable for any and all take that may occur.

A. Agencies/Organizations/Individuals Covered

The Grassland and Savanna Management Protocols are now both a broad incidental take permit and a broad incidental take authorization, thus covering DNR staff, other state agency staff, as well as all other agencies, organizations and individuals.

B. Habitat Types Covered

In this permit/authorization for incidental taking, the term “grassland” is used very broadly to include prairie (from wet- to dry-), sedge meadow, shrub-wetland, fen, brush prairie, sand barrens, bracken grassland, and sphagnum bog. Also included are pastures and fields dominated by non-native grasses and forbs with or without shrubby invasion, and plantings of native grasses and forbs.

The term “savanna” here includes oak and pine barrens (savannas on sandy, well-drained soils), glades, oak openings (savannas on richer, mesic to wet-mesic soils), open oak woodland (closed-canopy oak forest with an open understory), and all phases in between. Areas in a more forested, agricultural or degraded state that are targeted for grassland or savanna restoration also are included under this authorization.

C. Activities Covered

This permit/authorization is not a blanket approval for all activities that may occur in a grassland and savanna habitat; only the following management activities are covered:

- Prescribed burning
- Mowing/haying
- Selective tree or brush cutting and harvesting
- Herbicide Application
- Grazing

D. Species Covered

Taxa Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Wisconsin Status
Birds	Bell’s vireo	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	Threatened
	Henslow’s sparrow	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>	Threatened
	Kirtland’s warbler	<i>Dendroica kirtlandii</i>	Endangered
	Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Endangered
	Prairie chicken	<i>Tympanuchus cupido</i>	Threatened
	Upland sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	Threatened
Amphibians/Reptiles	Yellow rail	<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>	Threatened
	Blanchard’s cricket frog	<i>Acris blanchardi</i>	Endangered
	Ornate box turtle	<i>Terrapene ornata</i>	Endangered
Terrestrial Invertebrates	Slender glass lizard	<i>Ophisaurus attenuatus</i>	Endangered
	Frosted elfin	<i>Incisalia irus</i>	Threatened
	Northern blue butterfly	<i>Lycaeides idas nabokovi</i>	Endangered
	Ottoo skipper	<i>Hesperia ottoe</i>	Endangered
	Phlox flower moth	<i>Schinia Indiana</i>	Endangered
	Prairie (net-veined) leafhopper	<i>Polyamia dilata</i>	Threatened
	Red-tailed leafhopper	<i>Aflexia rubranura</i>	Endangered
	Regal fritillary	<i>Speyera idalia</i>	Endangered
	Robertson’s planthopper	<i>Fitchiella roberstoni</i>	Threatened
	Silphium borer moth	<i>Papaipema silphii</i>	Endangered
	Slender shovel-headed leafhopper	<i>Attenuipyga vanduzeei</i>	Threatened
	Swamp metalmark	<i>Calephelis mutica</i>	Endangered
Winged snaggletooth snail	<i>Gastrocopta procera</i>	Threatened	

D. Species Covered (cont.)

Taxa Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Wisconsin Status
Plants	Round-stemmed false foxglove	<i>Agalinis gattingeri</i>	Threatened
	Pale false foxglove	<i>A. skinneriana</i>	Endangered
	Carolina anemone	<i>Anemone caroliniana</i>	Endangered
	Hudson Bay anemone	<i>A. multifida</i>	Endangered
	Woolly milkweed	<i>Asclepias lanuginosa</i>	Threatened
	Dwarf milkweed	<i>A. ovalifolia</i>	Threatened
	Purple milkweed	<i>A. purpurascens</i>	Endangered
	Prairie milkweed	<i>A. sullivantii</i>	Threatened
	Ground plum	<i>Astragalus crassicaarpus</i>	Endangered
	Kitten tails	<i>Besseya bullii</i>	Threatened
	Wild hyacinth	<i>Camassia scilloides</i>	Endangered
	Hill's thistle	<i>Cirsium hillii</i>	Threatened
	Small white lady's-slipper	<i>Cypripedium candidum</i>	Threatened
	Pale purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>	Threatened
	Hairy Fimbristylis	<i>Fimbristylis puberula</i>	Endangered
	Round-seed St. John's wort	<i>Hypericum sphaerocarpum</i>	Threatened
	Prairie bushclover	<i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i>	Endangered
	Slender bushclover	<i>L. virginica</i>	Threatened
	Silver bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella ludoviciana</i>	Threatened
	Dotted blazingstar	<i>Liatris punctata</i>	Endangered
	Brittle pricklypear	<i>Opuntia fragilis</i>	Threatened
	Clustered broomrape	<i>Orobanche fasciculata</i>	Threatened
	Smooth phlox	<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>	Endangered
	Pale green orchid	<i>Platanthera flava</i>	Threatened
	Prairie white-fringed orchid	<i>P. leucophaea</i>	Endangered
	Pink milkwort	<i>Polygala incarnata</i>	Endangered
	Prairie parsley	<i>Polytaenia nuttallii</i>	Threatened
	Rough rattlesnake-root	<i>Prenanthes aspera</i>	Endangered
	Nodding rattlesnake-root	<i>P. crepidinea</i>	Endangered
	Hairy wild petunia	<i>Ruellia humilis</i>	Endangered
	Small skullcap	<i>Scutellaria parvula</i> var. <i>parvula</i>	Endangered
	Dwarf huckleberry	<i>Vaccinium caespitosum</i>	Endangered
	Sand violet	<i>Viola fimbriatula</i>	Endangered

For additional information on the Broad Incidental Take Permit and Authorization for Grassland and Savanna Management, please visit the DNR's [Grassland and Savanna Management](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ERReview/ItGrasslands.html) (<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ERReview/ItGrasslands.html>) webpage or contact the Endangered Resources Review Program at DNRERReview@wi.gov.