

# The Habitat HERALD

April 2012

Volume 13, Issue 2

## Bartel Grassland after 10 Years

By Karen Glennemeier and Judy Pollock

In 2001 expert birder Marianne Hahn brought the Bird Conservation Network (BCN) a plan drafted by Thorn Creek Audubon to save a remarkable grassland in southern Cook County that was host to hundreds of grassland birds, including Bobolinks, Eastern Meadowlarks, and Grasshopper Sparrows. The grassland was a hayfield dissected by hedgerows from prior farming days, and Marianne suggested the BCN work with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (FPDCC) to remove the hedgerows and thus increase grassland bird habitat on the site.

And so, a partnership to restore Bartel Grassland was formed among the FPDCC, Audubon, BCN, and citizen scientists, as well as Openlands, the Army Corps of Engineers, contractors, and interns over time. This partnership set out to transform this hayfield into a native prairie, with maintenance of grassland bird habitat as the primary goal.

“Bartel is providing important habitat for grassland birds.”

To do this, partners disabled drain tiles, seeded and plugged with native species, conducted controlled burns, herbicided aggressive invasive species, and mowed tall goldenrod and sweet clover.



Photo: Karen Glennemeier

Stephanie Frischie and Ron Milnarik collected vegetation data in 2011 to help evaluate the health of Bartel Grassland ten years into its restoration.

Audubon worked with the Bartel Volunteers to set up permanent bird monitoring points and plant monitoring locations, so that we could keep careful track of the effects of our management on the site's birds and plants. Ten years into the project, it's possible to draw some initial conclusions about what is working and what needs to be adjusted.

### Monitoring methods

In 2002 and again in 2010-11, we recorded all vegetation species and their percent of cover within 120 quadrats across the site. (A quadrat is a square frame, in this case 1/2 meter per side, that monitors lay on the ground to get a sample of the vegetation in that area.) We divided the site into six 40-acre plots, each with 20 vegetation quadrats, so that we could draw conclusions about management strategies or on-the-ground conditions that might differ across the site.

Within each of the six plots, we established four bird point count locations of 75-m radius. Annually since 2002, at least two points from each plot have been visited by bird monitors Marlys Oosting, Penny Kneisler, and others. In addition, Marianne Hahn's careful monitoring of 23 other points at Bartel provided data for three years prior to the beginning of the restoration project as well as several subsequent years.



Swamp milkweed and Black-eyed Susan are among the native plants that are increasing in number at Bartel.

Photos: John Denk

## Grassroots Opportunities

The future of nature in Chicago Wilderness depends very much on the thousands of stewards, advocates, other volunteers, and staff who work for the wellness of wildlife and habitat.

### Weekend Workdays

<http://www.habitatproject.org/opportunity/restore.html>

### Site Stewards

Train to supervise volunteer restoration of a prairie, woodland, or wetland preserve. Contact Karen Glennemeier 847-328-1250, [kglennemeier@audubon.org](mailto:kglennemeier@audubon.org) for help finding the volunteer coordinator of your county forest preserve district or other landowner.

### Habitat 2030

A new generation of stewards devoted to making friends, having fun, and restoring habitat.

Don Parker, [donparker13@gmail.com](mailto:donparker13@gmail.com)

### Bird Conservation Network and Bird Monitoring

Lee Ramsey 847-501-4683, [leeramsey@comcast.net](mailto:leeramsey@comcast.net);  
Judy Pollock 847-328-1250, [jpollock@audubon.org](mailto:jpollock@audubon.org)

### Calling Frog Survey

[www.habitatproject.org/frogsurvey](http://www.habitatproject.org/frogsurvey)

### Illinois Butterfly Monitoring Network

[www.bfly.org](http://www.bfly.org)  
Tom Peterson  
[ibmn-TomPeterson@comcast.net](mailto:ibmn-TomPeterson@comcast.net)

### Dragonfly Monitoring Network

Gareth Blakesley 708-361-1873,  
[IllinoisOdontologicalSurvey@gmail.com](mailto:IllinoisOdontologicalSurvey@gmail.com),  
facebook: Search: Illinois Odontological Survey

### Plant Community Monitoring of woods, prairies, or wetlands

Karen Glennemeier 847-328-1250,  
[kglennemeier@audubon.org](mailto:kglennemeier@audubon.org)

### Plants of Concern

#### Rare Plant Monitoring

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### Advocacy and policy work

[www.sierraclub.org/il/](http://www.sierraclub.org/il/) or  
[www.fotfp.org](http://www.fotfp.org) (Cook County)

### Check us out on facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/wildthingscommunity>

## McHenry County People and Nature Certificate Programs

*for Homeowners, Natural Areas Stewards, and Nature Interpreters*



Natural areas are under constant threat from exotic weeds, pollution, and development. Learning about the problems, talking to others about them, and making our home and business landscapes more nature-friendly is the best way to protect and enjoy nature.

McHenry County Conservation District and McHenry County College invite you to a new and expanded series of workshops designed for people who enjoy living in, working with, and talking about nature.

Three separate tracks are offered: Landscaping with Nature; Ecological Restoration; and Natural Interpretation. Courses can be taken by themselves in your area of interest or taken as a series to earn a certificate.

- **Landscaping with Nature**— geared toward homeowners, focuses on recognizing native plants, observing how they are used in the residential landscape, and learning how to put together a design for their garden.
- **Ecological Restoration**— designed for those interested in natural areas stewardship. Workshops will focus on prescribed burning, controlling weeds, and the ecology of Illinois landscapes.
- **Nature Interpretation**— geared for those who want a deeper connection with their surrounding world and nature interpretation. Workshops focus on the basic techniques of interpretation, developing a historical character for first-person interpretation, and more.

### Upcoming class schedule (cost \$40):

#### Prescribed Fire in Ecological Restoration

April 7, 9am–4 pm, Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park

#### Developing a Historical Character

April 14, 9am–4 pm, Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park

#### Illinois Landscapes

April 21, 9am–4 pm, Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park

#### Plants of Forests and Woodlands

May 5, 9am–4 pm, Coral Wood Conservation Area

#### Wildlife Neighbors

May 19, 9am–4 pm, Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park

### Summer & Fall Courses:

Communicating Ecological Restoration to the Public, Plants of Wetlands, Bringing Conservation to the Home Landscape, Plants of Prairies and Savannas, Geology and Soil, Restoring Vegetation, Woody Plants I, Weeds and What We Do About Them, Getting to Know Your Land: Soil and Hydrology, Designing a Home Garden Using Native Plants, Woody Plants II: Tree and Shrub, Identification in Winter

To learn more about the People and Nature Certificate Program, contact Tom Simpson, Research Field Station Ecologist, [tsimpson@mccdDistrict.org](mailto:tsimpson@mccdDistrict.org) or call (815) 678-4532 x 8218. Register for courses through McHenry County College at [www.mchenry.edu/coneducation](http://www.mchenry.edu/coneducation) or call (815) 455-8588.

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We welcome to our newsletter team  
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graphic artists, and anyone else  
who would enjoy getting involved.

To learn more, contact Karen  
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Photo: Jim Keenan

*Dave and Dottie Wege of Crystal Lake proudly share their native garden with residents of McHenry County. Dave and Dottie got their native gardening start through the Natural Yard in Your Garden program.*

Carol visited the suburban yard of Sandy Sjoblom-Voss and was delighted by Sandy's ability to create an attractive, native garden in a suburban setting. Carol wanted to help spread this kind of expertise around, and so in 2005 she initiated a mentoring program through the WPPC, called A Natural Garden in Your Yard.

Now in its eighth year, this program will reach the milestone of its first 100 yards with this spring's plantings. To celebrate "The First 100 Yards," a self-guided tour of native gardens planted through the program will be held August 18, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The tour will be open to the public at no charge. The WPPC website ([www.theWPPC.org](http://www.theWPPC.org)) will post the tour addresses in early July. This tour provides area residents with an opportunity to see yards landscaped with native gardens planted as part of the WPPC mentoring program.

## A Natural Garden in Your Yard: A Mentoring Program in McHenry County

*By Kris Hall*

It started with a newspaper article, a phone call, and an invitation. It led Carol Rice, already interested in native plants, on a new journey. At her first meetings of the Wildflower Preservation and Propagation Committee (WPPC) of McHenry County, Carol was inspired by the members she met, speakers she heard, and yards she visited. She became interested in ways for smaller yards to be transformed with native plantings and was convinced that many small yards could have an impact on the larger community. And she knew that there was no substitute for a good teacher.

Carol visited the suburban yard of Sandy Sjoblom-Voss and was delighted by Sandy's ability to create an attractive, native garden in a suburban setting. Carol wanted to help spread this kind of expertise around, and so in 2005 she initiated a mentoring program through the WPPC, called A Natural Garden in Your Yard.

*The Wildflower Preservation and Propagation Committee of McHenry County is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting native species through preservation, propagation, and education. Visit [www.theWPPC.org](http://www.theWPPC.org) for additional information on programs and yard walks.*



## Plants of Concern



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

### Sunday, April 1st

Lost Valley Visitor Center, Glacial Park  
Ringwood, McHenry County, IL

### Saturday, April 14th

Brewster Creek Lodge, St. Charles, Kane County, IL

## 2012 Plants of Concern Workshops

Volunteer Citizen Scientists Needed for Monitoring  
Endangered and Threatened Native Plants

**Please join us for one of our 2012 POC Workshops**

### Wednesday, April 18th

Bowen Park (Jack Benny Center), Waukegan, IL

### Saturday, April 28th

Sand Ridge Nature Center,  
South Holland, Cook County, IL

**All workshops will be held from 9:30am to 3pm.**

Join this exciting citizen science program entering its 12th year. More than 600 volunteers have worked with this program region-wide, monitoring 225 species at 275 sites! Receive training in Plants of Concern monitoring techniques, meet land managers, talk with seasoned monitors, or refresh your skills for the new season.

One workshop is required for all new POC monitors and we ask any former monitors who have never been to a workshop to attend. Morning refreshments will be served, but **bring a lunch. Registration is required.**

A confirmation will be sent after registration, and directions will follow shortly before the workshop date. Please visit [www.plantsofconcern.org](http://www.plantsofconcern.org) to register, or contact Greg Hitzroth at [ghitzroth@chicagobotanic.org](mailto:ghitzroth@chicagobotanic.org); 847-835-6856. Plants of Concern is coordinated through the Chicago Botanic Garden by Susanne Masi.

Photo: John Deink



Numbers of bobolinks and other grassland birds have remained high at Bartel throughout the ten-year restoration project.

### Grassland Bird Results

One of the challenges currently facing restoration ecologists is to establish high quality prairies that provide good grassland bird habitat. Most of the region's best grassland bird habitat currently is found in old fields dominated by cool-season grasses, with little native plant diversity. At Bartel, the goal is to maintain the high numbers of grassland birds that inhabited the site prior to the restoration, while also establishing a high quality native grassland.

Figure 1 shows that Bartel has continued to provide habitat for large numbers of grassland birds since the project's inception. Bird numbers have fluctuated widely but have remained at or above pre-management levels in most years.

Looking at regionwide trends for grassland birds (see Fig. 1), we see roughly the same pattern of fluctuations as at Bartel. Thus, it seems likely that Bartel's year-to-year fluctuations are due to factors beyond the site, possibly including regional weather, food availability, or winter habitat conditions the prior year.

The average number of grassland birds at Bartel was 10 birds per point, which was much higher than the regionwide average of two birds per point (see Fig. 1). Even when we included only those regionwide sites that are considered good grassland bird habitat, Bartel still ranks higher, with the regionwide average being seven birds per point (data not shown here). Total numbers at Bartel ranged from 150 to 350 grassland birds per year. These results provide strong evidence that Bartel is providing important habitat for grassland birds.

### Vegetation Results

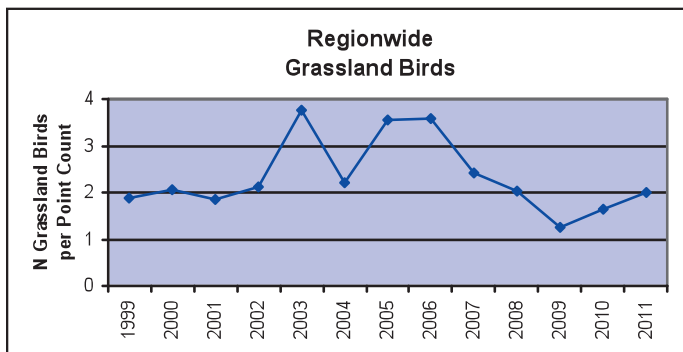
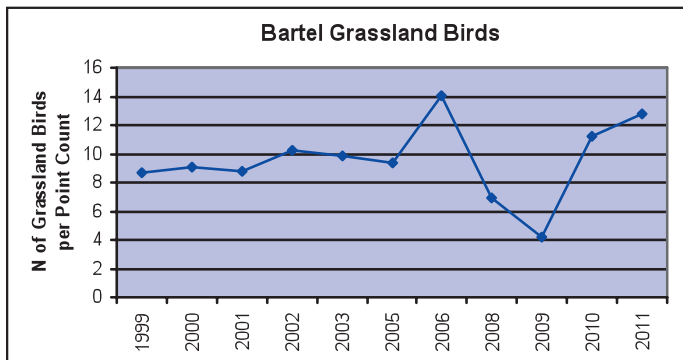
The quality of the native vegetation at Bartel has gradually improved since 2002, with an increase in both the number of native plant species and the Floristic Quality Index (FQI) (see Fig. 2, below and "Understanding Floristic Quality" on pg. 5). The Native Mean C (see "Understanding Floristic Quality") at Bartel has not changed much since 2002, but this value changes more slowly over time than does species number or FQI. Bartel's FQI ranks in the "fair" category and is moving in the right direction. Other restoration projects that have gone from old field to native prairie have taken decades to reach high quality status and have required a good burn regimen. With patience and an increased emphasis on regular, effective burns, we hope to see continued floristic quality improvement at Bartel.

### Invasive Species

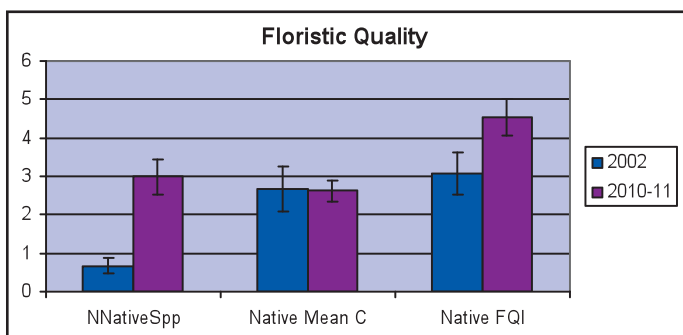
The aggressive invasive species of greatest concern at Bartel are tall goldenrod, reed canary grass, cattails, sweet clover, and leafy spurge. With the exception of tall goldenrod, all of these species appear to be well under control, covering less than 2% of the sample area (minus tall goldenrod).

The success in controlling reed canary grass deserves to be celebrated as an especially significant triumph. Most wetland restorations are immediately overwhelmed by reed canary grass, which continues to spread and suppress native species for many years. At Bartel, considerable resources were focused on controlling this weed from the start and every year. May and October are key times to herbicide this grass. Weed scouts have walked the site regularly and reported even a single plant of reed canary grass to the stewards, who then sent the interns to spot-herbicide the grass. Interns have spent approximately 1,260 hours controlling reed canary grass at Bartel since 2002. The result has been that this species is well under control on the site, even in the wettest areas.

Clearly the tall goldenrod strategy needs to be revised, as the prevalence of this invasive plant on the site has increased over time, although its density in any one quadrat remains low, at under 10% (see Fig. 3). Suggested management changes include the use of scything by volunteers to control small patches of goldenrod, combined with more regular mowing of large patches in early August.



**Figure 1:** The number of grassland birds at Bartel and regionwide over time. Numbers are expressed as the average number of birds per point count, to allow for comparison. Grassland birds are: Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Sedge Wren, and Dickcissel.



**Figure 2:** Sitewide averages of per-quadrat variables. "NNativeSpp" is the number of native species. Please see "Understanding Floristic Quality" on pg. 5 for definitions of "Native Mean C" and "Native FQI".

## Adaptive Management

The purpose of monitoring plants and animals at Bartel is to provide feedback on the management strategies being used on the site. This “adaptive management” should result in ever-increasing effectiveness of the work as the plan is adjusted according to the responses of the plants and animals to management activities.

“The native floristic quality of Bartel has gradually improved.”

Two primary means of establishing native grassland at Bartel have been overseeding with prairie species (or planting plugs in wetter areas) and conducting controlled burns. Our data show that the more often an area was seeded and burned, the more the floristic quality has improved (see Fig. 4). These results suggest that continued emphasis on introduction of native species and on fire is important for the success of the restoration.

## Conclusions

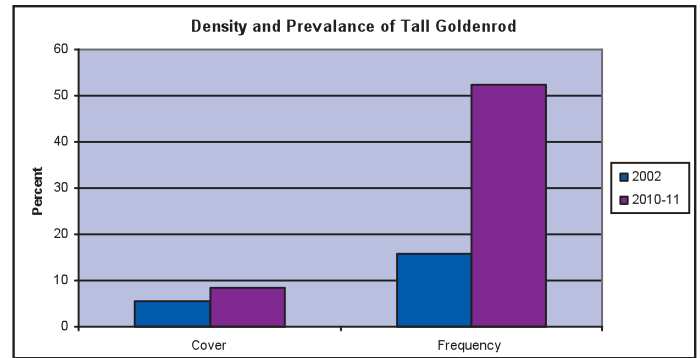
The Bartel Grassland restoration has thus far been a success. Floristic quality is slowly improving, and most aggressive weeds are under control. Most importantly, grassland bird numbers remain among the highest for any grassland in the Chicago Wilderness region.

Bird and plant monitoring have pointed the way for continued improvement in management strategies. More frequent and stronger burns are important, as are continued frequent seeding and plugging with native species. Partners should continue to aggressively target invasive species, including possible scything of tall goldenrod and more regular August mowing of large patches. We will continue to collect consistent, regular monitoring data so that we may continue to track the birds and plants closely over time.

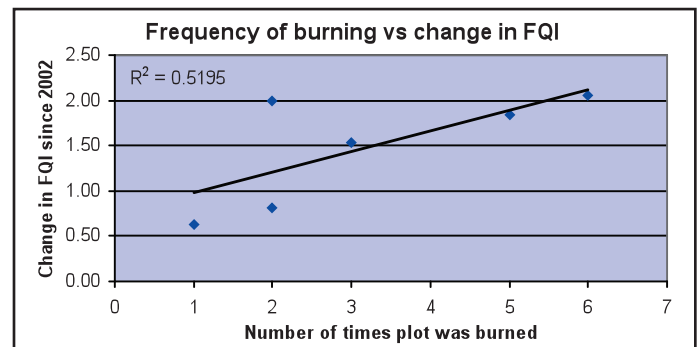
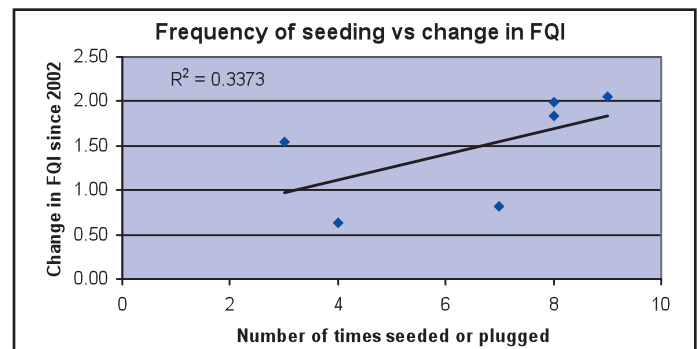
The Bartel project has shown us the power of strategic monitoring to improve wildlife habitat and the quality of our natural areas. The adaptive management described in this story is the best way to identify effective management strategies and to change course where actions have been ineffective. We'll continue to monitor Bartel's birds and plants and look forward to sharing the results again in a few years.

*Bartel's partners include Audubon Chicago Region, the FPDCC, the Bartel Grassland Volunteers, Thorn Creek Audubon, Openlands, and the Army Corps of Engineers.*

*Bird monitors were Marianne Hahn, Marlys Oosting, Penny Kneisler, Dick Riner, and Robert Sliwinski. Plant monitors and data recorders were Pat Brownlow, John Denk, Stephanie Frischie, Karen Glennemeier, David Johannesen, Alan Kawaters, Anne Kawaters, Mary Anne McLean, Ron Milnarik, Keith Nowakowski, and Paul Strand.*



**Figure 3:** Cover, or density, is the percent of a quadrat's area that was covered by tall goldenrod. Frequency is the percentage of quadrats, out of 120, that contained tall goldenrod in any amount.



**Figure 4:** Each point represents one of the six plots. The average change in FQI within each plot is graphed against the number of times seeds or plugs were introduced within that plot (above) or the number of times the plot was burned (below) since 2002.

## Understanding Floristic Quality

**Native Mean C:** provides a measure of the quality of a site's vegetation, using a number called a C-value. Species that are more restricted to undisturbed habitats have high C-values (10 is the maximum), and we refer to these species as very “conservative.” Species that are less restricted have low C-values. The average C-values for all native species within a quadrat is called the Native Mean C. Even having a tiny sprig of a single conservative plant in the quadrat can boost the quadrat's Mean C considerably, so the quadrat's Mean C can be viewed as a measure of the area's potential – these little sprigs could spread if given the chance. The highest quality sites in our region have Mean C values of 4 to 5.

**Floristic Quality Index (FQI):** is calculated with a formula that combines Mean C with the number of native species. This helps distinguish between the quadrat that just has one species of, say, C-value 4, versus the quadrat that has ten species, all with C-value 4. The latter is clearly better from a biodiversity standpoint. The highest quality sites in our region have quadrat-level FQI scores greater than nine.

# Plants of Concern: Eleven Years and 630 Volunteers Later - What Are We Learning?

By Susanne Masi and Greg Hitzroth



Photo: Bob Meyer

*Plants of Concern monitors work hard to collect the data that tell us how rare plant populations are doing.*

The year 2011 marked the eleventh year for Plants of Concern (POC) – the program that monitors endangered, threatened, and rare plants in Chicago Wilderness. All told, about 630 volunteers (more than 200 per year in recent years) have carefully counted individual plants of 265 species year after year. POC aims not only to track shifts in numbers of plants, but to learn about changes in threats and invasive species that result from management activities by the 111 landowners who have partnered with POC.

We are often asked what we are learning from the cumulative 16,000 hours of careful work logged by POC citizen scientists. One of the most important outcomes of the POC program are the many instances where managers and stewards have responded to monitors' reports of threats to rare plant populations. For example, at Dixie Briggs Fromm Nature Preserve, owned and managed by Dundee Township, three hills support remnant gravel hill prairies. A threatened plant was discovered on two of the hills in 2001, and POC quickly began monitoring, involving township staff and several volunteers. Extensive management has been done since that time by staff and volunteers – brush clearing, invasive species removal, burning – to expand and improve the hill prairie habitat.

Since the first year of monitoring in 2002, the 450 plants in two subpopulations have almost doubled to 876 plants in four subpopulations as new plants were discovered and the original populations expanded.

## **Management Reports**

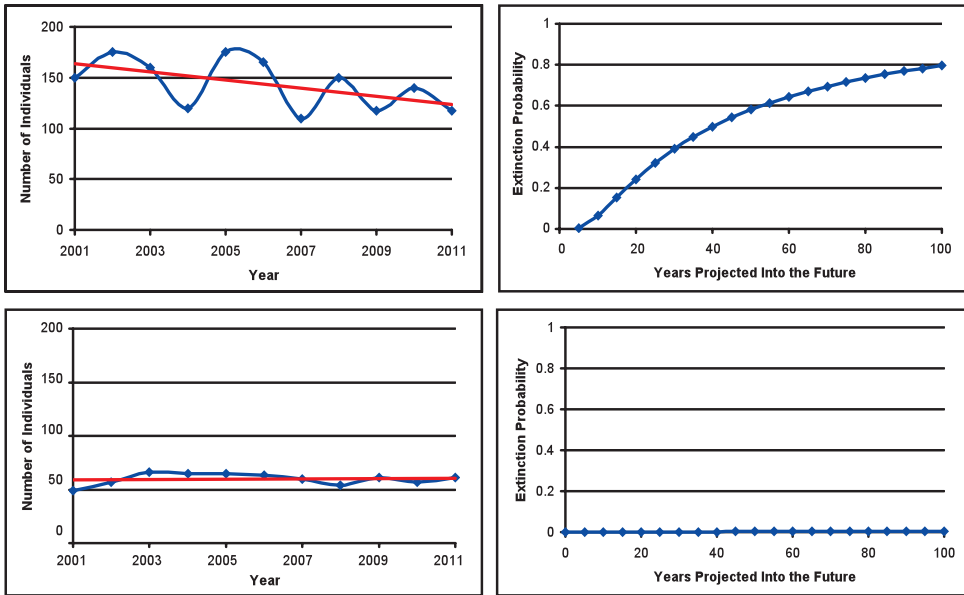
About 45% of all reports each year document some type of management near rare plant populations (burning, brush removal, herbaceous invasive removal, etc.) As of 2011, 1,073 out of 1,557 subpopulations monitored by POC (68.9 %) had been managed in some capacity, as reported by monitors. Because most populations do not need management every year, we consider this to be a fairly robust number. POC monitors' management reports are supplemented by additional management information from site stewards and land managers to provide a comprehensive picture of management of the monitored rare plant habitat. We think all partners agree these data are critical to fulfill POC program goals of tracking the success of management in sustaining and/or increasing rare plant populations.

## **What are we learning about rare plant populations?**

Here is one example of how POC data can be analyzed. We also invite researchers and graduate students to help analyze our robust, 11-year dataset.

“Population 1 has about an 80% chance of becoming extinct in 100 years.  
Population 2 has less than a 1% chance of becoming extinct in 100 years.”

Population viability analysis (PVA) describes the probability of population extinction over many years (see sidebar.) It's a way of estimating population stability, which can help guide management plans for populations. Figure 1 shows PVA results for two populations of *Cypripedium candidum* (White Lady's Slipper). Population 1 has about an 80% chance of becoming extinct in 100



**Figure 1:** Population 1 is represented by the top two graphs while population 2 is represented by the bottom two graphs. The graphs on the left show counts of individual clumps of plants in each population, each year. The graphs on the right show the probability of population extinction over the next 100 years calculated by a PVA count-based approach.

years. Population 2 has less than a 1% chance of becoming extinct in 100 years.

Even though population 1 has a larger number of individuals, it appears that the number of individuals on average is decreasing each year, as noted by the red trend line. Population 2 has a much more even count per year, suggesting population stability, and thus it has a very low probability of going extinct. These results suggest that population 1 may require additional management attention for long term viability, while the conditions under which population 2 exists may need to be maintained to keep the population stable. The more years of data that are collected for a population the clearer the picture becomes for long term population health.

“...managers and stewards have responded to monitors’ reports of threats to rare plant populations.”

### **POC benefits people as well as plants**

Citizen scientists feel they not only give a lot but gain much from their monitoring experiences. Midewin POC volunteer Andy Neill stated, “As a biology professor at Joliet Junior College, my time spent assisting in the field is a valuable professional development opportunity... I also find the work meaningful and satisfying, lending my skills to a worthwhile cause.”

If you would like to lend your skills to this cause, either as a monitor or a data analyzer, please contact Susanne Masi at [smasi@chicagobotanic.org](mailto:smasi@chicagobotanic.org). Please see page 3 for 2012 POC training workshops.

*Susanne Masi is the Manager and Greg Hitzroth is the Research Assistant for the Plants of Concern program, housed at the Chicago Botanic Garden.*



Populations of the white lady's slipper are stable at some sites but facing critical threats at others.

Photo: Kathy Garness

## **Population Viability Analysis (PVA)**

Population viability analysis describes the probability of population extinction over many years, using many different variables to estimate population viability. POC uses year to year changes in population counts and variance of population counts across all years to estimate viability with the PVA approach.

Any sized population will go extinct eventually given enough time (think the dinosaurs). Very small populations are more likely to become extinct in a shorter time period. Very large populations are not likely to go extinct in a short period of time. For POC's PVA, conditions under which populations are monitored are assumed to continue into the future. Things such as climate change and management are not considered in this model; however, more complex PVAs can incorporate these types of variables.

One important numerical value in this model is the minimum viable population size, the smallest size a population can be while staying successfully reproductive. Below this value the population is deemed a goner. Currently POC conservatively estimates the smallest viable population size as 20 individuals. Even when the minimum viable population size for a given species is not known, if the same number is applied to all monitored populations in a region it can create a relative picture of how populations are faring overall and which populations may need more attention either by managers or monitors to understand why some populations are doing more poorly than others. Based on their skilled insights, managers can assess a population's health and use the more robust populations as a benchmark to compare to the weaker populations.

## Chicago Wilderness Habitat Project

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**Come celebrate 10 years of restoration at Bartel**

**Sunday, May 20, 1 p.m.**

We will have a short ceremony at 1 p.m., followed by guided or unguided walks of 1/2 mile, 1 mile or 4 miles' length.

At Old St. Paul's Church, there will be a "History of Bartel" exhibit and a running slide show of images taken over the past 10 years, sponsored by the Matteson Historical Society.

Park in the Bartel Grassland parking lot on the south side of Flossmoor Road, just west of Central Ave. Or park in the Bobolink Wetland lot on the north side of the road (from here you'll need to walk carefully across Flossmoor Road to the wooden bridge).

Old St. Paul's church is located at 6200 Vollmer, at the southwest corner of Bartel, just east of Ridgeland and Vollmer.

For more information, contact Dick Riner at [dickriner@gmail.com](mailto:dickriner@gmail.com) or 708 560-5683.

### Bird Monitors' Brunch



Illustration: Lynda Wallis

**The annual Monitors' Brunch** will be held on Saturday, May 12. It will start with a guided bird walk at Waterfall Glen Forest Preserve in southern DuPage County and continue afterward to a picnic lunch at Fullersburg Woods Forest Preserve (also DuPage County). All Chicagoland bird monitors are invited. We hope to see as many of you there as possible so we can show appreciation for the skill and effort you volunteer in benefit of bird conservation.

Plan to be at Waterfall Glen at 7 a.m. to join the walk.

We expect the lunch at Fullersburg Woods to begin about 11 a.m.

There is no charge for the walk or the lunch, but, if you are attending, you must **register in advance, by May 5**. There are several parking lots at Waterfall Glen and the decision on exactly where to start won't be made until a few weeks before the event. We will send that information to those who have registered, along with directions and maps.

To register, send your name, email address, home address and phone number to Joan Bruchman: [pjbruchman@yahoo.com](mailto:pjbruchman@yahoo.com) or 847-687-3108.

*Come explore these beautiful and exciting preserves with us in the middle of spring migration!*