

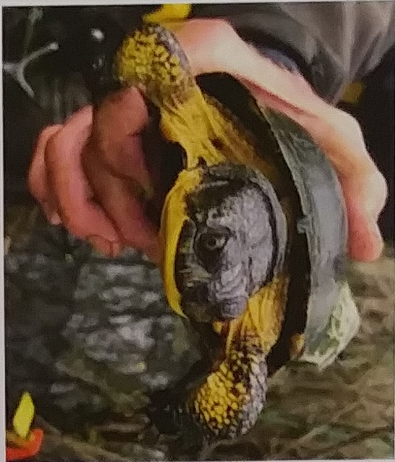
Promoting Blanding's Turtle Recovery at Nachusa Grasslands

Rich King¹, Dave Mauer², Tom Anton³, and Jessica Fliginger¹
¹Northern Illinois University, ²Natural Resource Resource Consulting, ³Ecological Consulting Group, LLC

Monitoring

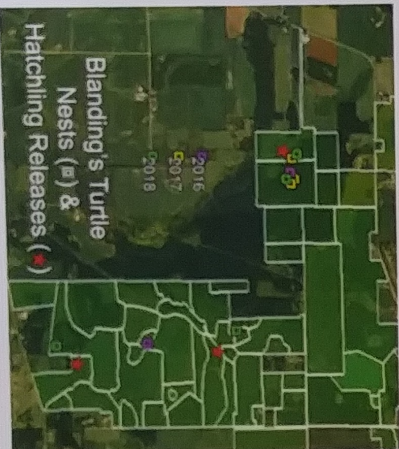
Trapping has been conducted in suitable habitat annually since 2014 and has resulted in the capture of ten individual adult and two juvenile Blanding's Turtles.

ID	Sex	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1L1R	Female	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1L2R	Female	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1L3R	Female	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1R8R	Female	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1R9R	Male	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1L8R	Female	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1L9R	Female	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1L10R	Male	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1L11R	Male	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1L12R	Juvenile	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2L1R	Juvenile	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2L2R	Female	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



Nesting Habitat

By following females during their nesting excursions, Blanding's Turtle nesting habitat has been identified within the Tellabs West, Tellabs Center, Doug's Knob, Coyote Point, and East Heinke units of Nachusa Grasslands.



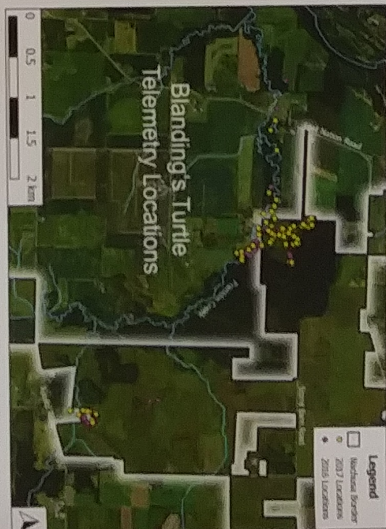
Nest Failure Mitigation

The most of one female yielded just one hatchling and eight undeveloped eggs in 2018, possibly because no adult males reside within the wetland she utilizes; mitigation strategies to ensure she mates prior to the 2019 nesting season are under consideration.



Movements and Habitat Use

Radio telemetry of seven adult Blanding's Turtles from 2016-2018 has demonstrated use of wetlands and adjacent uplands within the Franklin Creek corridor, including both TNC and adjacent properties.



Nest Protection

Nine Blanding's Turtle nests, protected from predators by hardware cloth cages, have yielded 59 hatchlings for release in wetlands within the Tellabs West, Bivins, and Bluestem Bottoms units of Nachusa Grasslands.

- 2016: 11 hatchlings from 2 nests
- 2017: 22 hatchlings from 3 nests
- 2018: 26 hatchlings from 4 nests



Acknowledgments

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