

land species, some of which are endangered or threatened in the state.

Clearly, DPRWDP has greatly improved habitat quality for birds, particularly for wetland species. These successes occurred virtually immediately upon completion of the construction of DPRWDP wetlands. The positive response of birds to DPRWDP indicates that in addition to diligently protecting Illinois' remaining natural

wetlands, we should also support wetland restoration along our rivers as a means of purifying our waters, controlling floods, and providing habitat to migrating and breeding avian species.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Financial support for this research was provided through public and private funds administered by Wetlands Research, Inc. Jim Neal provided insight in determining which areas to include in the pre-restoration censusing of waterfowl.

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