1996 S. Kirk Rd. Suite 320
Geneva, IL 60134

Kane County

Forest Preserve District, Planning and Utilization Committee

Agenda

Chair Cherryl Strathmann, President Christopher Kious, President Pro Tem, Mavis Bates, Executive Director Benjamin Haberthur
Ron Ford, Michelle Gumz, Mike Kenyon, Anita Lewis, Mike Linder, Vern Tepe

Thursday, August 24, 2023 **9:30 AM** **3rd Floor Board Room**

I. Call To Order

II. Approval of Minutes from July 27, 2023

III. Public Comment (Each Speaker is limited to three minutes)

IV. Bids and Proposals

V. New or Unfinished Business

A. **TMP-23-1115** Resolution Approving Bids for Tree and Brush Clearing at Portions of Three Forest Preserves

B. **TMP-23-1127** Presentation and Discussion of the Structures Subcommittee Tour

VI. Closed Session to Discuss Land Acquisition, License Agreements, Potential Litigation and Personnel

VII. Communications

VIII. Chairman's Comments

IX. Adjournment
Adjournment until: Thursday September 28, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in person at the Forest Preserve District Administration Offices 1996 S. Kirk Road, Suite 320 Geneva, Illinois and via zoom https://zoom.us/j/6302325980?pwd=aURTSGJoRlVJNDRCcHJXd3dvaVVrUT09 Meeting ID: 630 232 5980 Password: 24680 The Request to Speak Form on our website must still be completed for guests to speak at the meeting.

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
SS.
COUNTY OF KANE)

FP RESOLUTION NO. TMP-23-1115

RESOLUTION APPROVING BIDS FOR TREE AND BRUSH CLEARING AT PORTIONS OF THREE FOREST PRESERVES

WHEREAS, bids have been solicited and received for tree and brush clearing at portions of three preserves; Hampshire, Burnidge, and Grunwald Farms Forest Preserves; and

WHEREAS, woody invasive species, such as bittersweet, common buckthorn, and bush honeysuckle, are one of the primary threats to biodiversity in Kane County's forests; and

WHEREAS, mechanical removal of these invasive species, combined with chemical follow-up, will help to restore the woods to a healthier condition; and

WHEREAS, bids were sought from qualified firms for tree and brush removal across six (6) project areas, with five (5) project areas being selected for award. The qualified lowest bids for each option were as follows:

Project 1 - Hampshire Forest Preserve (49.7 acres): Bid of $109,340, submitted by Pizzo, Inc. of Leland, IL;

Project 2 - Hampshire Forest Preserve (26.4 acres): Bid of $51,480, submitted by Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LLC of Pingree Grove, IL;

Project 3 - Burnidge Forest Preserve (12.2 acres): Bid of $33,245, submitted by Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LL of Pingree Grove, IL;

Project 5 - Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve (12.8 acres): Bid of $30,720, submitted by Encap, Inc. of DeKalb, IL;

Project 6 - Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve (9.8 acres): Bid of $25,235, submitted by Encap, Inc. of DeKalb, IL; and

WHEREAS, the total for the above five (5) projects is $250,020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners of the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, Illinois, that the qualified lowest bids for thinning of trees and cutting of brush by Pizzo, Inc. of Leland, Illinois, for a total contract cost of $109,340 for project 1, by Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LLC, of Pingree Grove, Illinois, for a total contract cost of $84,725 for projects 2 and 3, and by Encap, Inc., of DeKalb, Illinois, for a total contract cost of $55,955 for projects 5 and 6; as listed above, in the total amount of $250,020 be, and hereby is, accepted and approved.

APPROVED AND PASSED on this 12th day of September, 2023

_____	_____
Christopher Kious	Myrna Molina
President, Kane Forest Preserve	Secretary, Kane Forest Preserve
Kane County, Illinois	Kane County, Illinois

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 24, 2023

TO: Forest Preserve District Planning and Utilization Committee

FROM: Patrick Chess, Director of Natural Resources
Ben Haberthur, Executive Director

VIA: Dave Petschke, Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: Presentation and Approval of Bids for Tree and Brush Clearing at Hampshire, Burnidge, and Grunwald Farms Forest Preserves

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with information to consider the approval of bids for invasive brush and tree clearing at portions of Hampshire, Burnidge, and Grunwald Farms Forest Preserves.

BACKGROUND:

The objectives of these projects are to remove non-native brush and small mesic trees in degraded oak woodlands, with an emphasis on bittersweet, and to greatly reduce their ability to reinvade the area via seed or re-sprouting. Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) is a woody, perennial vine that grows as a climbing vine, up to 60 feet. As it climbs, the bittersweet overtakes native trees and shrubs, girdling trunks and branches. Dense vines weigh down tree canopies, leading to breakage.

Other woody invasive species, such as Common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) and Bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*), are some of the other primary threats to biodiversity in Kane County's forests. These species create a thick mid-story cover that prevents light from reaching native understory plants. They also grow very well in shade; oak saplings do not. This adaptation prevents the regeneration of native trees.

Mechanical removal of these invasive species, combined with chemical follow-up, will help to restore the woods to a healthier condition. This, in turn, will provide better habitat quality for the entire suite of wildlife that these preserves support. In particular, the habitat value for birds is greatly enhanced with the removal of these invasive shrubs. Native insects don't feed on buckthorn, so their coverage decreases the concentration of caterpillars across the sites. Additionally, their plentiful berries are nutrient poor and cause a laxative effect that makes them a starvation food.

Contractors were sought to bid on clearing projects across three heavily infested forest preserves. Projects are as follows:

- **Project 1 – Hampshire Forest Preserve in Hampshire.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 49.7 acres, north of the main parking lot.

- **Project 2 – Hampshire Forest Preserve in Hampshire.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 26.4 acres, surrounding the south parking lot.
- **Project 3 – Burnidge Forest Preserve in Elgin.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 12.2 acres, east of the Coombs Road parking lot.
- ~~**Project 4 – Burnidge Forest Preserve in Elgin.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 25 acres, to the east of the previously cleared block of woods.~~
- **Project 5 – Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve in Elburn.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 12.8 acres, west of the trail loop.
- **Project 6 – Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve in Elburn.** Tree and brush clearing will focus on approximately 9.8 acres, within the trail loop.

The District advertised and sent bids to 33 vendors, with 9 responding. The qualified, lowest bids for each option were as follows:

- **Project 1 – Hampshire Forest Preserve (49.7 acres):** Bid of $109,340, submitted by Pizzo, Inc. of Leland, IL.
- **Project 2 – Hampshire Forest Preserve (26.4 acres):** Bid of $51,480, submitted by Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LLC of Pingree Grove, IL.
- **Project 3 – Burnidge Forest Preserve (12.2 acres):** Bid of $33,245, submitted by Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LLC of Pingree Grove, IL.
- ~~**Project 4 – Burnidge Forest Preserve (25 acres):** Bid of $59,000, submitted by Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LLC of Pingree Grove, IL.~~
- **Project 5 – Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve (12.8 acres):** Bid of $30,720, submitted by Encap, Inc. of DeKalb, IL.
- **Project 6 – Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve (9.8 acres):** Bid of $25,235, submitted by Encap, Inc. of DeKalb, IL.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funds totaling $180,000 were budgeted in Fiscal Year 2023/24 for the Fiddlehead Woodland Restoration project. Sufficient funds totaling $180,000 are available in the Fiddlehead Woodland Restoration project, Account #03-31-31-7060 Project #21008, to cover projects 1 and 2 at a total expense of $160,820.

Funds totaling $100,000 were budgeted in Fiscal Year 2023/24 for tree-thinning projects at several preserves. Funds totaling $100,000 are available in the Natural Resource Management Tree and Brush Thinning budget, Account #01-31-31-7063, to cover all of project 3 ($33,245), project 5 ($30,720)and project 6 ($25,235) at a total expense of $89,200.

Sufficient funds are not available to cover the cost of project 4 at $59,000. Staff will address this area later, possibly in-house.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Committee approve the contracts for invasive tree and brush removal at portions of Hampshire, Burnidge, and Grunwald Farms Forest Preserves to the three separate qualified, lowest bidders as follows:

- Project 1 – Pizzo, Inc., of Leland, IL for a total contract cost of $109,340
- Projects 2 and 3– Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LLC of Pingree Grove, IL for a total contract cost of $84,725; and
- Projects 5 and 6 – Encap, Inc. of DeKalb, IL for a total contract cost of $55,955;

The total cost for all five projects is $250,020.

ATTACHMENTS: *Bid Abstract*
County Locator Map
Project Area Maps

ABSTRACT OF BIDS

SB-FP-02-2324

TREE & BRUSH REMOVAL FOR SIX (6) FOREST PRESERVES

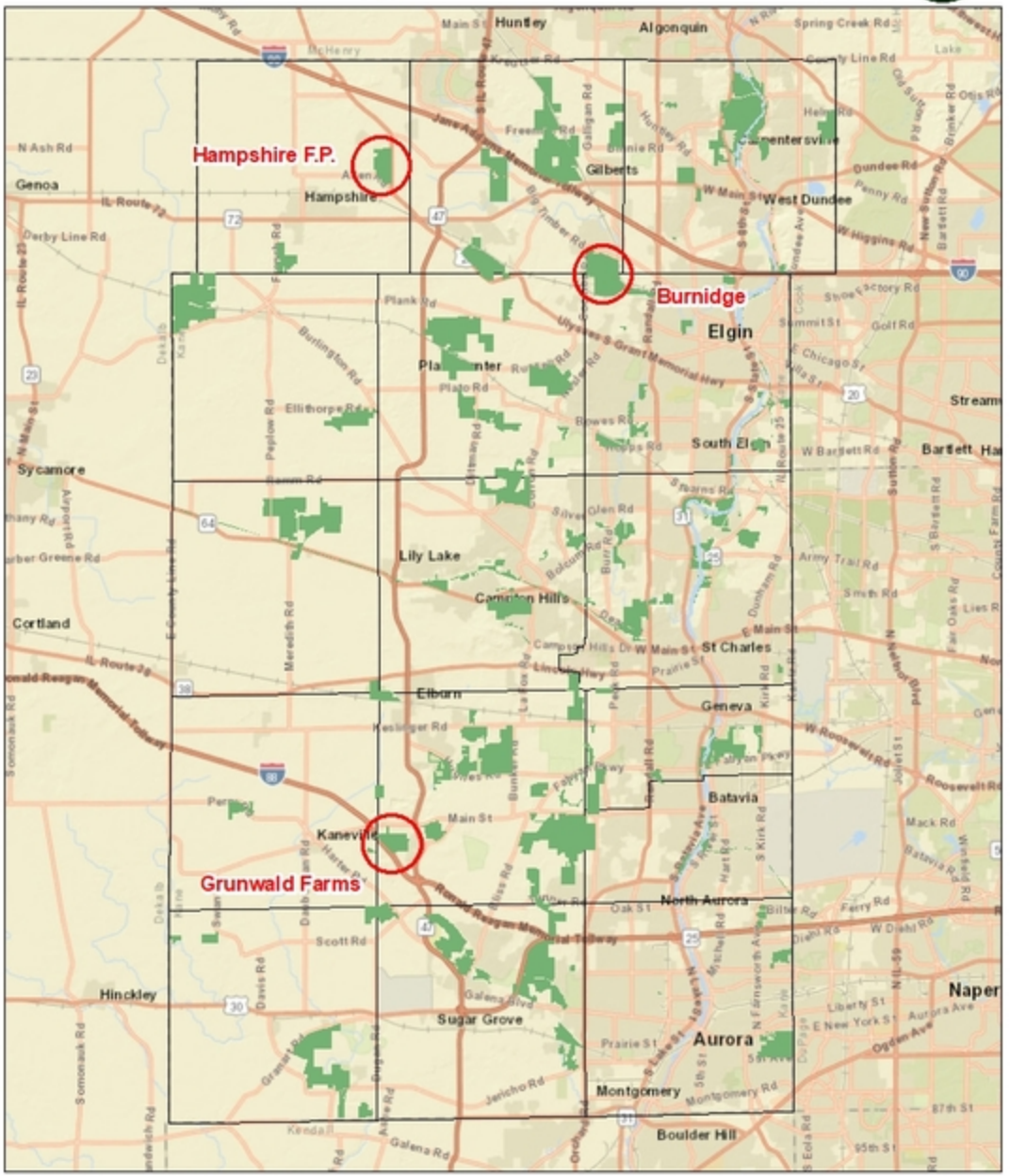
Sent to 33 Vendors, 9 Responding

Bidders Name	Pizzo & Associates, Ltd.	Central Tree & Landscape Mulch, LLC	Encap, Inc.	McGinty Bros., Inc.	Homer Tree Service, Inc.	Integrated Lakes Management	Trees "R" Us, Inc.	HGS, LLC dba RES Environmental Operating Company	Bluestem Ecological Services
City, State	Leland, IL	Pingree Grove, IL	Dekalb, WI	Long Grove, IL	Lockport, IL	Waukegan, IL	Ingleside, IL	Chicago, IL	Marengo, IL
Project 1. 49.7 acres Hampshire Forest Preserve, Hampshire, IL	$109,340.00	$123,500.00	$144,130.00	$249,870.00	$238,560.00	No bid	$237,436.00	$214,100.00	No bid
Project 2. 26.4 acres Hampshire Forest Preserve, Hampshire, IL	$58,080.00	$51,480.00	$69,960.00	$185,250.00	$126,720.00	No bid	$131,680.00	$114,900.00	$176,200.00
Project 3. 12.2 acres Burnidge Forest Preserve, Elgin, IL	$53,680.00	$33,245.00	$35,380.00	No bid	$58,560.00	$148,410.00	$63,480.00	$57,300.00	$96,000.00
Project 4. 25 acres Burnidge Forest Preserve, Elgin, IL	$110,000.00	$59,000.00	$72,500.00	No bid	$120,000.00	$294,350.00	$121,635.00	$113,800.00	No bid
Project 5. 12.8 acres of Grunwald Forest Preserve, Elburn, IL	$42,240.00	$36,480.00	$30,720.00	$90,025.00	$61,440.00	$70,656.00	$64,285.00	No Bid	No bid
Project 6. 9.8 acres Grunwald Forest Preserve, Elburn, IL	$32,340.00	$27,930.00	$25,235.00	$53,250.00	$47,040.00	$49,970.00	$48,392.00	No Bid	No bid

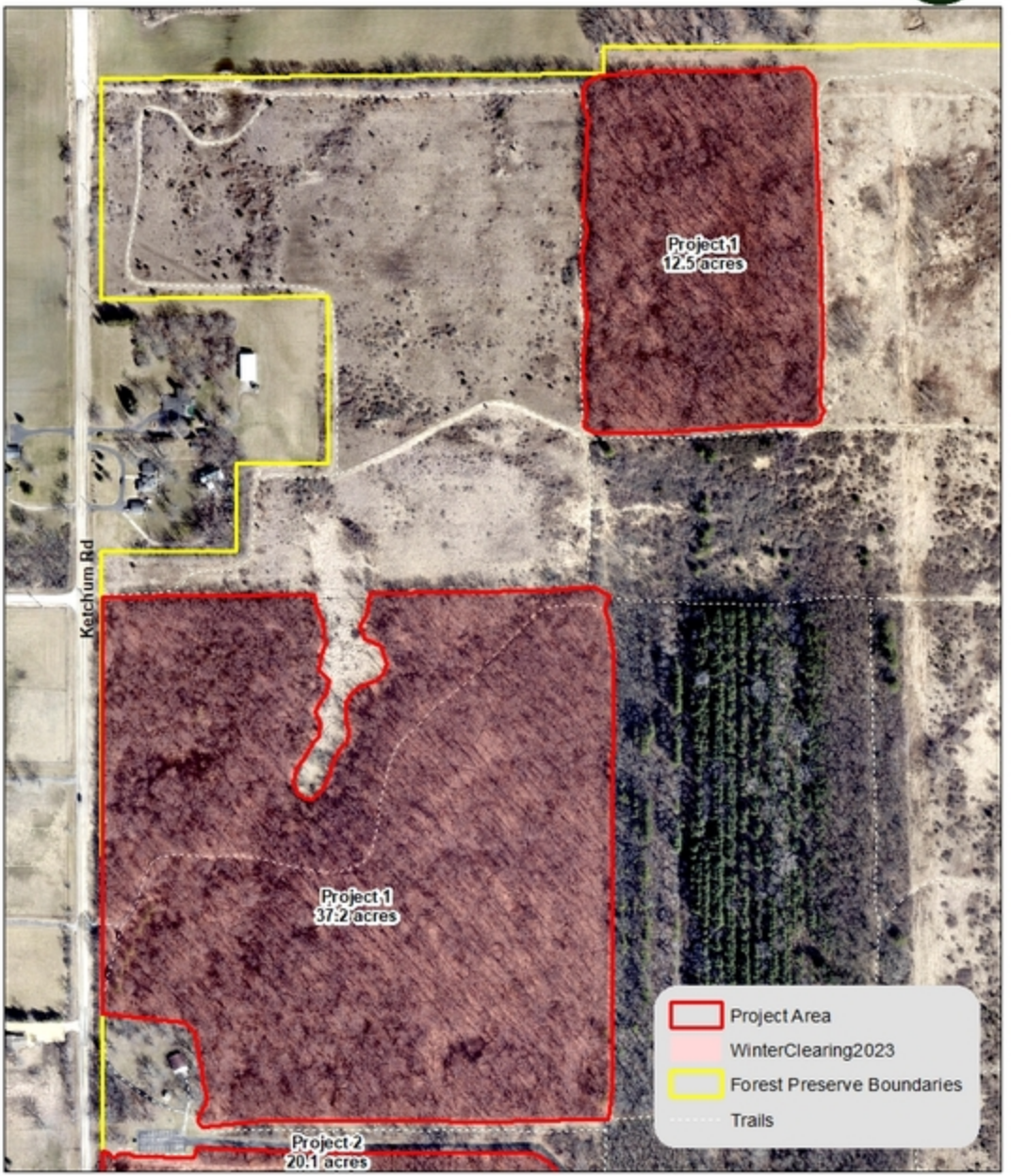
I have certified that I have opened, read and recorded all bids received in response to the invitation.

David Petschke, Chief Financial Officer

Tree and Brush Clearing
Kane County Locator Map



Tree and Brush Clearing
Hampshire Forest Preserve

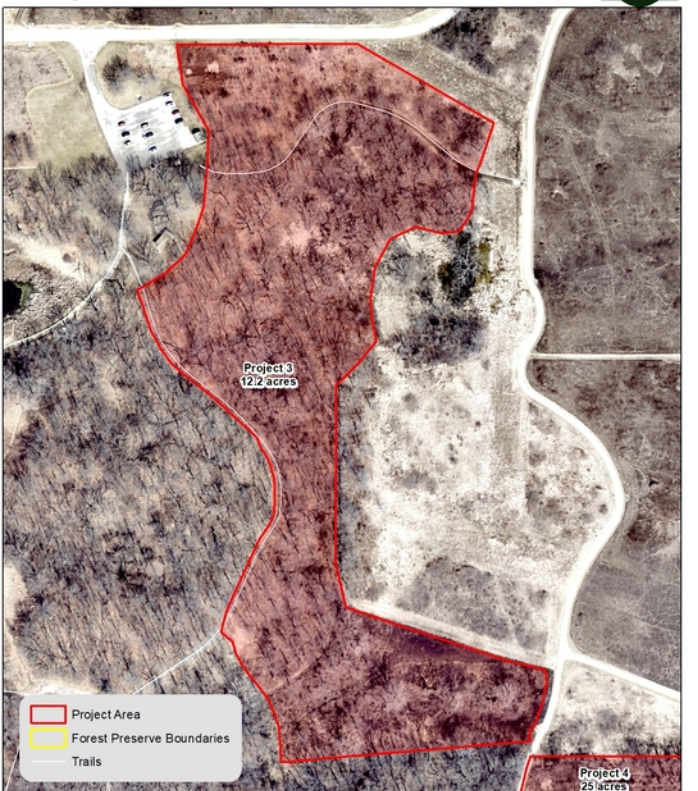


Map Created June, 2023; 2022 Air Photo

Tree and Brush Clearing
Hampshire Forest Preserve

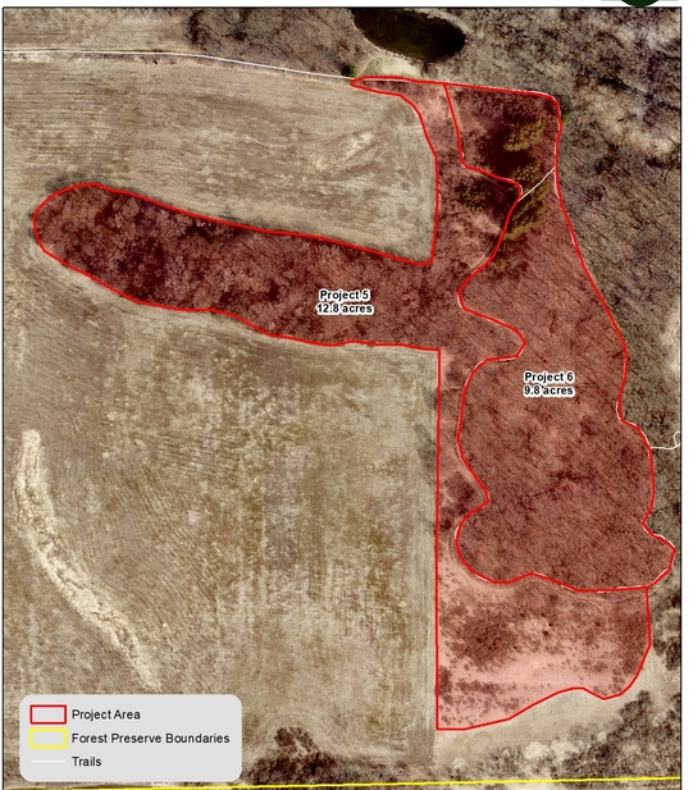
Map Created June, 2023; 2022 Air Photo

Tree and Brush Clearing
Burnidge Forest Preserve



Map Created June, 2023; 2022 Air Ph

Tree and Brush Clearing
Grunwald Farms Forest Preserve



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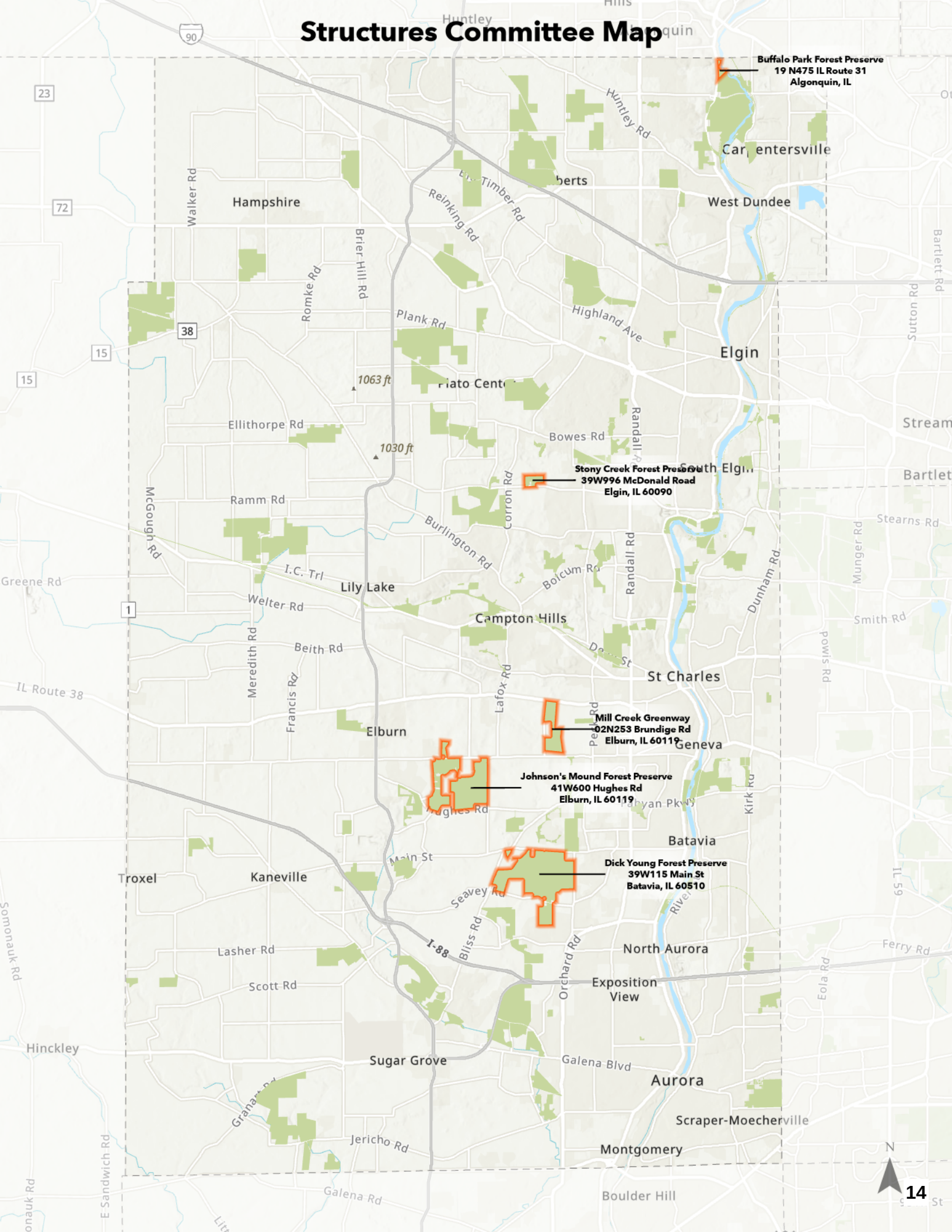
Map Created June, 2023; 2022 Air Ph

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
SS.
COUNTY OF KANE)

REPORT NO. TMP-23-1127

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE STRUCTURES SUBCOMMITTEE TOUR

Structures Committee Map