



Environmental Review Form for Argonne National Laboratory

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Creator

Badge:	45884	Name:	Sydelko, Thomas G.
Cost Center:	208	Division:	FMS
Job Title:	Consultant	Employee Type:	Non-Regular Full-Time Non-Exempt
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General Information

Project/Activity Title: Site-Wide Categorical Exclusion - Habitat Maintenance Activities	
ASO NEPA Tracking No.: 2552	Type of Funding: Operating
B & R Code:	Identifying Number: 01641
SPP Proposal Number:	CRADA Proposal Number:
Work Project Number:	ANL Accounting Number: (Item 3a in Field Work Proposal)
Other (explain):	
List appropriate NEPA Owners:	
Division: FMS NEPA Owner:	

Financial Plans

To select a Financial Plan, click the magnifying glass icon to open a search window.

Cost Center: **208** Project: **PRJ1003416 Wetland NEPA Cultural Resource** Phase: **PH01 General** Task: **PT2166: NEPA**

Description of Proposed Action

SCOPE: This Environmental Review Form (ERF) will serve as a Site-Wide Generic Categorical Exclusion (CX) to replace Department of Energy (DOE)-Argonne Site Office (ASO) CX 232 (Habitat Maintenance Activities), dated November 17, 2008, for actions needed to improve habitat quality in undeveloped areas of the laboratory. DOE-ASO and Argonne National Laboratory (Argonne) are committed to implementing habitat stewardship practices in accordance with Federal directives including the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1919, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, Executive Order 13112 (Invasive Species), and DOE Order 450.1A, (Environmental Protection Program) plus additional executive orders related to sustainability and the environment discussed below. Argonne will conduct habitat maintenance activities on the Argonne site to protect and enhance biodiversity, improve water quality in area streams and ponds, and stabilize soil and reduce erosion by conducting the activities described below. Habitats to be managed include woodlands, savannas (i.e., open woodlands), prairies, old fields, wetlands, forested wetlands, stream banks, and floodplains. This site wide generic CX is directed to the vegetation management of habitats. Habitat maintenance activities will include targeted removal and control of non-native and invasive plants plus planting regionally native plant species. The methods will include selective mowing, hand clearing, cutting and herbicide application, and controlled burning. Endangered species management will take place under specific plans and guidance from DOE-ASO and/or other agencies, as appropriate. Argonne management plans will also be used to implement habitat management strategies. Invasive species control will result in habitat improvement by causing an increase of plant species diversity through native plant and seed bank release, inter-site plant (most often seed) distribution between fragmented habitats, and importation of plant species from external sites within the Chicago region. RESTRICTIONS: 1) The activities described in this site wide generic CX will not adversely impact wetlands, flood plains, streams, historical/cultural sites, threatened and endangered species or habitat. A map indicating locations of these restricted areas is maintained by and available from the Argonne NEPA Reviewer. 2) All actions that impact the regulated condition of wetland and floodplain areas are not within the scope of this CX. A separate ERF and approval by DOE-ASO/or the US Army Corps of Engineers, if appropriate, will be required prior to starting any wetland or floodplain work. 3) All actions that impact threatened and endangered species or their habitat are not within the scope of this CX. A separate ERF and approval by DOE-ASO and consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service will be required for any action that may have adverse impacts. 4) A Categorical Exclusion that disturbs the earth surface or otherwise creates the potential for uncontrolled soil erosion must have an approved Erosion Control Plan prior to starting work. 5) No debris will be left unmanaged from any work. All debris shall be recycled where possible. Wood from trees may be chipped and reused as mulch. Trees and shrubs may be cut and dropped in place if it is managed for added habitat diversity or if coordinated with prescribed burns or burn piles. If the material is not managed it will be

removed for disposal. Standard debris from seed bags and equipment operation will be appropriately disposed at Argonne refuse containers. 6) The removal of native live trees greater than six inches in diameter at breast height will require a separate ERF and approval by DOE-ASO. In forested areas, invasive tree specimens of any size may be selected for removal. Removal of all sizes of dead trees, fallen trees, bushes, or associated trimming of damaged or dead limbs, is allowed.

Description of Affected Environment

Approximately 1,000 acres of the Argonne site include deciduous and coniferous woodlands, oak savannas, old fields, tall-grass prairies, marshes, forested wetlands, streams, ponds, and wetlands. These areas occur as interspersed parcels across the entire site and have been maintained in a fairly natural state to serve as buffers, provide visual interest, and provide opportunities for outdoor recreation and ecological research. Without appropriate management actions, the woodland and savanna areas gradually become overgrown with shrubby native and non-native species such as common buckthorn, oriental bittersweet, honeysuckle, multi-flora rose, and gray dogwood. Prairies and old field areas contain an abundance of native and non-native shrubby and herbaceous species such as crown vetch, teasel, and alien grasses. Wetlands contain weedy native and non-native species such as reed canary grass, cattails, common reed, and purple loosestrife. Stream bank areas tend to be invaded by common buckthorn and honeysuckle which reduce ground cover plants and can lead to severe erosion.

Potential Environmental Effects

- Attach explanation for each "yes" response near bottom of form.
- **See Instructions for Completing Environmental Review Form.**

Section A (Complete For All Projects)		Yes	No	Explanation
1.	Project evaluated for Pollution Prevention and Waste Minimization opportunities and details provided under items 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 16, and 20 below, as applicable	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Pollution prevention and waste minimization opportunities described below.
2.	Air Pollutant Emissions	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Minor emissions from cars, light-duty vehicles, gas powered pumps and generators will occur during the normal activities under this site wide generic categorical exclusion. Controlled burns of selected habitat areas will be conducted in compliance with IEPA permits and ANL LMS-PROC-46 (Clear Air Act and Air Pollution Control Compliance), and an Argonne Open Flame Permit issued by the Argonne Fire Department.
3.	Noise	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Most activities will not exceed decibel limits permitted by ANL LMS-PROC-231 (Noise Control and Hearing Conservation). When noise levels are expected to exceed permitted limits, appropriate hearing protection will be required.
4.	Chemical/Oil Storage/Use	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
5.	Pesticide Use	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Herbicides such as Garlon and Roundup may be applied by operators that possess an appropriate license issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Only the minimal amounts needed to accomplish the desired task will be applied. In general, ultra low pressure, large droplet hand sprayers, or wick applicators will be used to minimize herbicide usage. Contractors will not store pesticides on site, however, the Argonne Grounds department may store herbicides in accordance with ANL LMS-PROC-281 (Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act Compliance).
6.	Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Substances			
6a.	Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
6b.	Asbestos or Asbestos Containing Materials	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
6c.	Other TSCA Regulated Substances	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
6d.	Import or Export of Chemical Substances	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
7.	Biohazards	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
	Effluent/Wastewater (If yes,			

8.	see question #12 and contact Peter Lynch (FMS-SEP) at 2-4582 or lynch@anl.gov)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
9.	Waste Management			
9a.	Construction or Demolition Waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
9b.	Hazardous Waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
9c.	Radioactive Mixed Waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
9d.	Radioactive Waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
9e.	Asbestos Waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
9f.	Biological Waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
9g.	No Path to Disposal Waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
9h.	Nano-material Waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
10.	Radiation	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
11.	Threatened Violation of ES&H Regulations or Permit Requirement	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
12.	New or Modified Federal or State Permits	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
13.	Siting, Construction, or Major Modification of Facility to Recover, Treat, Store, or Dispose of Waste	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
14.	Public Controversy	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Actions conducted under this site wide generic CX may be of interest to the public, other agencies, and Argonne staff. Prior to controlled burns, Argonne staff plus neighboring agencies and communities will be notified in accordance with ANL LMS-POL-7 (Communications with the Public, News Media, and Government Agencies).
15.	Historic Structures and Objects	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
16.	Disturbance of Pre-existing Contamination	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
17.	Energy Efficiency, Resource Conserving, and Sustainable Design Features	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Section B (For Projects that Occur Outdoors)		Yes	No	
18.	Threatened or Endangered Species, Critical Habitats, and/or other Protected Species	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	At least one threatened or endangered species and its habitat is known to exist at Argonne. The activities described in this site wide generic CX will not adversely impact threatened and endangered species or critical habitat. A map indicating locations of these restricted areas is maintained by and available from the Argonne NEPA Reviewer. A separate ERF and approval by DOE-ASO and consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service be required for any action that may have adverse impacts.
19.	Wetlands	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Controlled burning, invasive plant removal, and planting activities will be conducted in wetland areas. No excavation or permanent water level changes will be conducted. Some temporary lowering of water levels may be necessary to facilitate vegetation and habitat maintenance. A separate ERF and approval by DOE-ASO/or the US Army Corps of Engineers, if appropriate, will be required prior to starting any wetland work.
20.	Floodplain	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Controlled burning, invasive plant removal, and planting will be conducted in floodplains. No excavation or flow disturbances will occur. No soil or fill will be deposited in floodplains unless explicitly authorized by permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers and DOE-ASO.
21.	Landscaping	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Landscaping activities will be performed by the Argonne Grounds Department and by outside contractors. The activities include planting, weeding, herbicide application, watering, and gardening. Those activities will be conducted in accordance with

				DOE-ASO-CX 269 (Routine Grounds and Maintenance Activities).
22.	Navigable Air Space	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
23.	Clearing or Excavation	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Non-native and invasive shrubby vegetation and trees will be cleared without disturbing soil in order to increase ground-level vegetation. This vegetation may be removed or left in place based on the habitat maintenance requirements. Old-field areas may be tilled in order to plant prairie species. Any clearing or excavation deeper than 6 inches will require an Argonne dig permit under LMS-Proc-96.
24.	Archaeological Resources	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Some habitat maintenance activities may have superficial impact on the soil surface. Controlled burns, digging to 6 inches in depth, and tire/track disturbance may occur with habitat maintenance activity. Known archeological resources will be protected through avoidance of known archeological areas.
25.	Underground Injection	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
26.	Underground Storage Tanks	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
27.	Public Utilities or Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
28.	Depletion of a Non-Renewable Resource	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
Section C (For Projects Outside of ANL)		Yes	No	
29.	Prime, Unique, or Locally Important Farmland	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
30.	Special Sources of Groundwater (such as sole source aquifer)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
31.	Coastal Zones	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
32.	Areas with Special National Designations (such as National Forests, Parks, or Trails)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
33.	Action of a State Agency in a State with NEPA-type Law	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
34.	Class I Air Quality Control Region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

Categorical Exclusion

Habitat Maintenance Activities in Undeveloped Areas

ANL NEPA Reviewer Use Only

- My approval is the final approval necessary
 This form requires additional approval from DOE

To be Completed by DOE/ASO

Section D	Yes	No
Are there any extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Is the project connected to other actions with potentially significant impacts or related to other proposed action with cumulatively significant impacts?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
If yes, is a categorical exclusion determination precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Can the project or activity be categorically excluded from preparation of an Environment Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement under Subpart D of the DOE NEPA Regulations?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If yes, indicate the class or classes of action from Appendix A or B of Subpart D under which the project may be excluded: 10 CFR Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B 1.3 Routine maintenance. This ERF is approved as a site wide generic categorical exclusion---Habitat maintenance activities, custodial services including soil erosion control and stabilization, protection and enhancement of biodiversity, water quality, and vegetation management at Argonne site.		

Attachments

File Description: ASO-CX-344

Comments

This ERF is approved and tracked as ASO-CX-344.

Add Approver

Approver Name	Approver Badge	Reason	Delete
Sullivan, Casey J.	58262	Natural Resources Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thomas, Scott J.	221857	Grounds Foreman	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sendra, Anthony	45140	Grounds Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>

Notifications

The approval notification email will be copied to the people listed below.

Badge	Name	Division	Delete
45884	Sydelko, Thomas G.	FMS	<input type="checkbox"/>

ASO-CX Number

ASO-CX- 344

Comments:

Approval

Approver	Action	Date Routed	Action Date	Approval Reason / Comments	Approval Type
Ptak, Jill S.	APPROVED	2017-04-27	2017-04-27 13:41:29.0	Creator :	PRIMARY
Ptak, Jill S.	APPROVED	2017-04-27	2017-04-27 13:41:29.0	Allows access to the form :	PRIMARY
Sydelko, Thomas G.	APPROVED	2017-04-27	2017-04-27 14:20:50.0	Project Manager :	PRIMARY
Sendra, Anthony	APPROVED	2017-04-27	2017-04-27 14:29:19.0	Grounds Manager :	PRIMARY
Sullivan, Casey J.	APPROVED	2017-04-27	2017-04-27 16:13:35.0	Natural Resources Manager :	PRIMARY
Sendra, Anthony for Thomas, Scott J.	APPROVED	2017-04-27	2017-04-27 15:41:31.0	Grounds Foreman :	DELEGATE
Matton, Philip B.	APPROVED	2017-04-27	2017-05-03 09:48:19.0	NEPA Owner Approval for Argonne Environmental Review :	PRIMARY
Ptak, Jill S.	APPROVED	2017-05-03	2017-05-03 17:11:48.0	ANL NEPA Reviewer :	PRIMARY
Hellman, Karen B.	APPROVED	2017-05-03	2017-05-08 11:09:00.0	ANL-985 Review and Approval :	PRIMARY
Stine, Gail Y.	APPROVED	2017-05-08	2017-05-08 14:27:48.0	ANL-985 Review and Approval :	PRIMARY
Kearns, Paul K.	APPROVED	2017-05-08	2017-05-09 09:34:10.0	ANL-985 ANL COO Review and Approval :	PRIMARY

Joshi, Kaushik N.	APPROVED	2017-05-09	2017-05-15 16:32:13.0	ANL-985 DOE-ASO Review and Approval : ASO-CX-344This ERF is approved as generic site wide categorical exclusion.	PRIMARY
Siebach, Peter R.	APPROVED	2017-05-15	2017-05-19 11:52:02.0	ANL-985 DOE NEPA Compliance Officer Review and Approval :	PRIMARY
McKown, Michelle	APPROVED	2017-05-19	2017-05-22 14:46:50.0	Added: :	PRIMARY
