



September 2025

To the Members of the General Assembly:

Please accept the attached written report of the number of acres of IDNR-managed lands that were open to hunting and/or trapping during calendar year 2024. The Illinois Hunting Heritage Protection Act (520 ILCS 30/) requires that the Director of the Department of Natural Resources provide the General Assembly with a report each year of the number of acres of IDNR-managed lands that have been either closed or opened to hunting and/or trapping.

The attached spreadsheet lists the sites and acreage open to hunting and/or trapping during calendar year 2024. A column is also included for the benchmark year of 2004 hunting season that illustrates any net loss or gain of the number of acres open to hunting and/or trapping on IDNR-managed lands during this past hunting and trapping season. An additional sheet includes a figure showing the trend in total acres open to hunting and/or trapping since 2004.

I am pleased to report that there has been a **net gain of 69,755 acres** on IDNR managed lands open to hunting and/or trapping since the bill passed in **2004 through the end of 2024**. Additions and deletions are summarized within the spreadsheet. The **3,829 acre increase in 2024** was the result of opening formerly closed areas and new properties.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about the attached report.

Sincerely,

Natalie Phelps Finnie
Director

cc: Governor Pritzker

cc: Mike Wefer
Nathan Grider
Mich Oswald