

## *Avian Studies 500 Wetlands*

*McHenry County, Illinois*



Botanical and avian surveys of 500 wetlands within McHenry County for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.



In rapidly urbanizing counties of Northern Illinois, conflicts between natural resource regulatory agencies associated with development proposals, often take far too long to reconcile. Applied Ecological Services, Inc. was hired to conduct vegetation and avian surveys for approximately 500 wetlands within eight townships of McHenry County in northern Illinois, where rapid development was posing a major threat to the planning and regulatory programs. The work involved use of remote sensing data and vegetation type maps followed by field survey and inventory methodologies to provide a basis for understanding ecological importance of each of the 500 wetlands. In addition to the botanical data collected for each site, basic hydrological data was collected, and avian studies were conducted to understand the nature of avian communities within the wetlands. A detailed technical report was provided to identify the different categories of wetland conditions found within the eight townships.



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