



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

# Powderhorn Lake & Prairie, Cook County, IL

## Great Lakes Fishery & Ecosystem Restoration Habitat Focus Area

**Project Location:** The Powderhorn Lake and Prairie restoration area is located in northeast Illinois in Cook County, primarily in the Village of Burnham and partially within the boundary of the City of Chicago.

**Project Description:** The project area is one of the few remaining examples of the dune and swale topography that once characterized the Calumet Region along the south shore of Lake Michigan. A feasibility study would lead to a better understanding of the site’s hydrology and soil chemistry and explore ways to improve the lake and restore the site’s unique ridge and swale communities. The project design would seek to restore high quality wet-mesic sand prairie, dry-mesic sand prairie, sand savannas and marshes by removing unnatural runoff, eliminating invasive species, and reestablishing native plant communities.

**Nonfederal Partner:** Forest Preserve District of Cook County

**Ecosystem Benefits:** This 192-acre project will seek to reclaim former groundwater levels, restore natural hydrologic regimes, increase species richness and abundance of native plants, and restore habitat for migratory birds, fishes, amphibians, reptiles, and insects. One hundred and thirty acres of this preserve have been designated as an Illinois Nature Preserve.

**Status:** FY12 GLRI funds are being used to complete feasibility. With optimal GLRI funding, construction can be initiated in 2014.



Proposed restoration site

<b>Estimated Project Costs</b>	
Federal	\$2,600,000
Nonfederal	\$1,400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>

<b>Project Milestones</b>	
Approve feasibility study	Mar 2014
Award construction contract	Mar 2015

<b>Point of Contact</b>	
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