

Lake Station Wetland Mitigation Bank *Northwest Indiana*



Lake Erie Land Company and J.F. New & Associates have developed the first full-scale private wetland bank in Indiana. New completed the wetland design and obtained permits from the Corps of Engineers, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and other state and federal agencies. New also prepared a banking prospectus and restoration/construction plan for the 202-acre site. Restoration activities, beginning with removal of over 31,000 linear feet of subsurface tile, plugging of interior ditch and exotic control, began in 1998 and were largely completed in 2000. The project included water budgets, wetland design, construction management, and planting with local genotype native plants. Site management included exotic species control, prescribed burning, and monitoring the hydrology and wetland community development at the site following construction and planting to assess goal achievement. An agreement is in place for the property to be transferred to National Park Service. Additionally maintenance funding is available from the National Parks Foundation. A portion of the proceeds from each credit sold will be placed in the interest bearing maintenance fund managed by the National Parks Foundation with a limitation that the principle remain in perpetuity to support long-term maintenance.



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