**Section 4020.260 Exceptions: Discounts and Waivers**

a) No fees shall be charged to the Department, Commission or Board for requests that fulfill the day-to-day operational needs of the Department, Commission or Board, including land management planning, status assessment and land owner contact.

b) Fees may be waived or reduced in writing under select circumstances, including:

1) Written agreements with the Department, Commission or Board in which Department, Commission or Board costs are reimbursed or offset and/or in which the request furthers Department, Commission or Board missions.

2) Requests for college students actively working on a thesis or dissertation research project determined by Department, Commission or Board to further Department, Commission or Board missions.

c) Requesters shall be assessed the base fee even when a discount or waiver is given.

d) No waiver or reduction of fees shall, in any way, impair the State of Illinois' ownership or licensing rights to the natural heritage data provided.