



September 2023

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 2022. 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 2022. 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 61,757 acres** on IDNR managed lands open to hunting and/or trapping since the bill passed in **2004 through the end of 2022**. Additions and deletions are summarized within the spreadsheet. The **1,163 acre increase in 2022** was the result of opening formerly closed areas, recent acquisitions of property, and correcting errors in previously reported acreage.

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

Sincerely,

Natalie Phelps Finnie
Director

cc: Governor Pritzker

cc: Don Kahl
Mike Wefer
Chris Young