

PRIVATE LANDOWNER POWER- WISCONSIN'S LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

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Abstract: Since 2006, private landowners have been managing and restoring more than 2,500 acres of prairie and savanna habitat with the assistance of the Landowner Incentive Program. More than 200 at-risk species have directly benefited from this work. Despite the success of LIP in Wisconsin and across the country, the President's Administration chose to eliminate LIP from their FY 2008 budget request. As a result, state LIP programs are no longer supported by a dedicated federal funding source. Regardless of this significant set-back, Wisconsin's LIP continues to explore other sources of financial support for the Program. Recent successes include several generous gifts through the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, support from Turkey Stamp funds for habitat work that jointly benefits wild turkey populations and at-risk species, a State Wildlife Grant grant, and most recently a Federal Competitive Portion State Wildlife grant awarded jointly to Wisconsin and Iowa DNR's for work in the Driftless Region.