

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Entomology
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
320 Morrill Hall
505 South Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801



April 5th, 2018

Cathy Liebowitz
Student Sustainability Committee Coordinator
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
388 National Soybean Research Center, MC-635
1101 West Peabody Drive
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Ms. Liebowitz,

I write to endorse and support a project entitled, "Student-led Census of the Trelease Woods Forest Dynamics Plot." James Dalling, Jennifer Fraterrigo, and James Ellis have applied for project funding from the Student Sustainability Committee.

The University of Illinois Natural Areas consist of approximately 1000 acres of University-owned land spanning ten sites in Champaign, Vermilion, and McLean counties managed and maintained for teaching and research in the biological, ecological, geological, and other scientific disciplines. Access is limited to these sites to protect the integrity of teaching and research projects.

The Natural Areas are overseen by the Committee on Natural Areas, consisting of faculty in the biological and ecological sciences. These professors all have a teaching or research connection to the Natural Areas. I am the current chair of the committee. Day-to-day management and maintenance is overseen by the Natural Areas Coordinator, James Ellis, and the Natural Areas Research Specialist, Nathan Hudson.

There has been a long and rich history of scientific study at Trelease Woods. This proposed project will provide additional longitudinal data about Trelease Woods to reconstruct changes in forest carbon storage as well as provide experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate students at the University of Illinois. The Committee on Natural Areas has evaluated the proposed research and it is approved to proceed.

Sincerely,

Brian F. Allan
Chair, Committee on Natural Areas
Associate Professor, Department of Entomology