

Title: Long-Term Data and Outcomes from the Nachusa Grasslands Restoration

Presentation Abstract: Ecosystem restoration provides potential to reverse losses in biodiversity and ecosystem functioning. Long-term monitoring is essential to understanding if restoration projects deliver on this potential. Such datasets also provide important insights into ecological mechanisms. In this talk, Elizabeth Bach will present long-term, multi-trophic data collected across the 35-year history of the Nachusa Grasslands preserve in north-central Illinois.



Photo provided by Elizabeth Bach

Dr. Elizabeth Bach Ecosystem Restoration Scientist The Nature Conservancy

Dr. Elizabeth Bach is the Ecosystem Restoration Scientist with The Nature Conservancy in Illinois at the Nachusa Grasslands preserve where she works with scientists, land managers, and volunteer stewards to investigate questions about tallgrass prairie restoration ecology. Her own research expertise focuses on soil ecology, exploring how belowground biology supports tallgrass prairie ecosystems through plant-soil interactions and nutrient and carbon cycling. Prior to joining The Nature Conservancy, Elizabeth served as Executive Director for the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative and continues to contribute to global science-policy work. She has a MSc in Plant Biology from Southern Illinois University Carbondale and PhD in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology from Iowa State University. She was a post-doc with INHS in 2015/16.