

Rights-of-Way as Habitat: WORKING GROUP UPDATE

July 27, 2016

**THE
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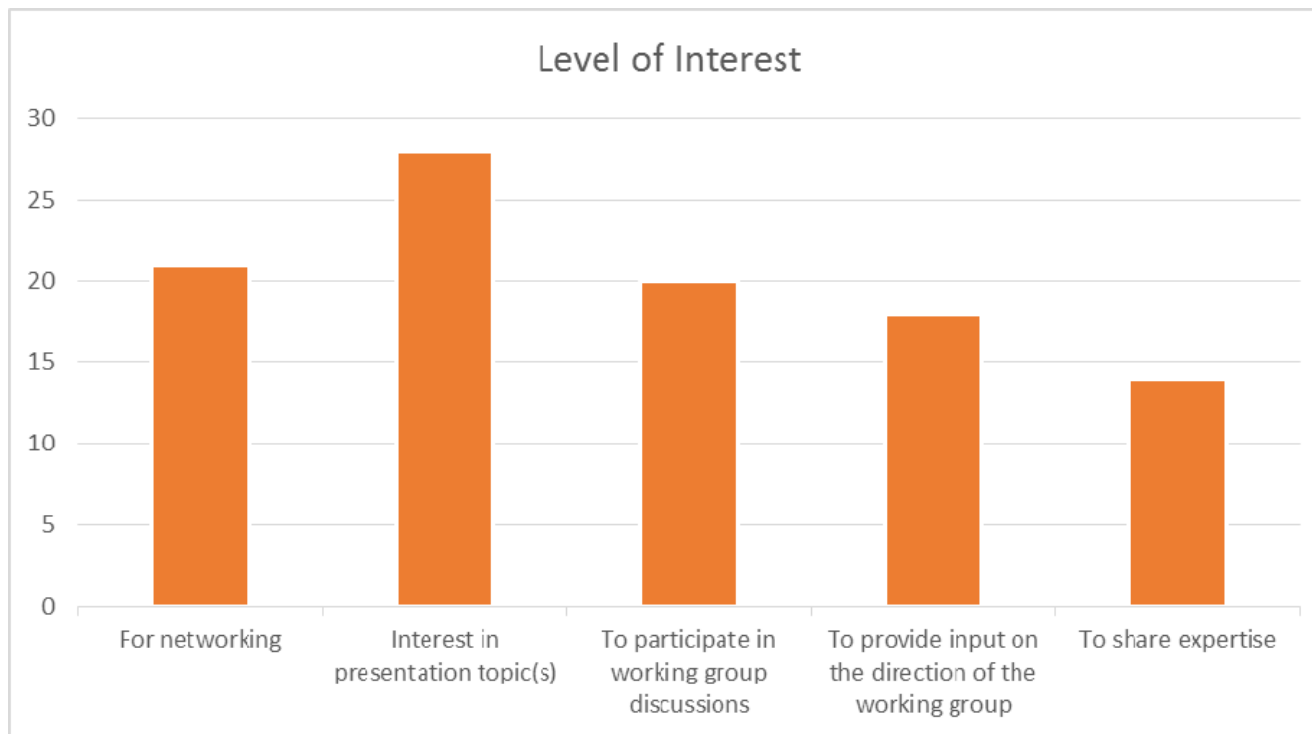
Working Group Snapshot

- Formed in 2015
- Semi-annual working group meetings
- Technical webinars
- Online resource library and discussion board
- 160+ organizations
- Cross-sector collaboration and knowledge-sharing



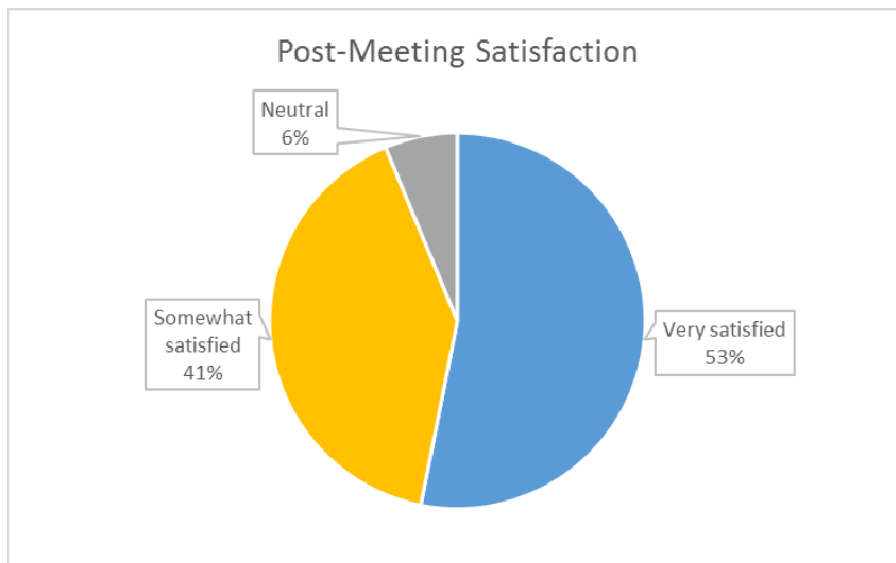
Key Feedback

Reasons for participation:

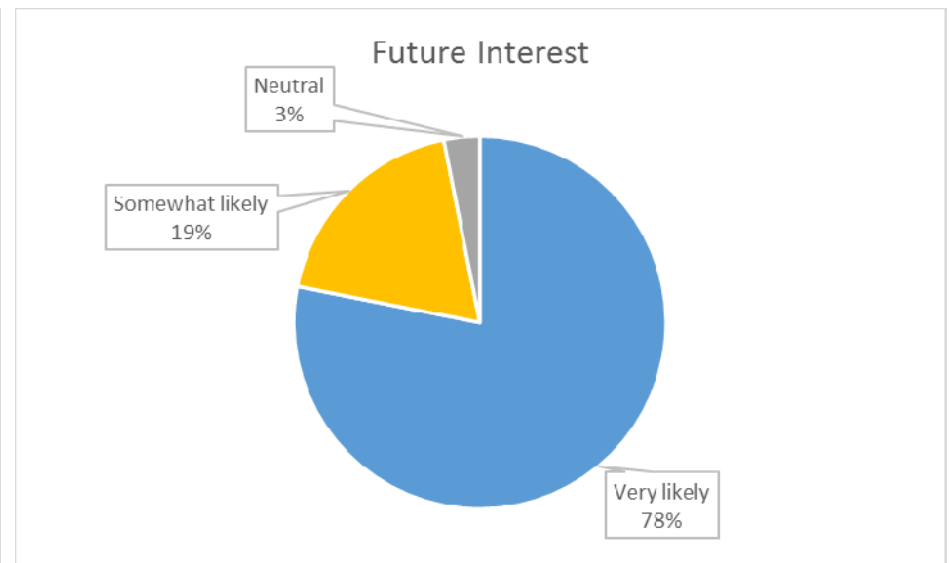


Key Feedback

Level of satisfaction:



Plans to attend in future:



Current Efforts



Working Group Resources Page

Available at: <http://rightofway.erc.uic.edu>

Rights-of-Way as Habitat Working Group

Providing a forum to collaborate and share ideas, best practices, and other information to promote successful habitat projects along rights-of-way

UIC Energy Resources Center
RIGHTS-OF-WAY AS HABITAT WORKING GROUP

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ENERGY RESOURCES CENTER

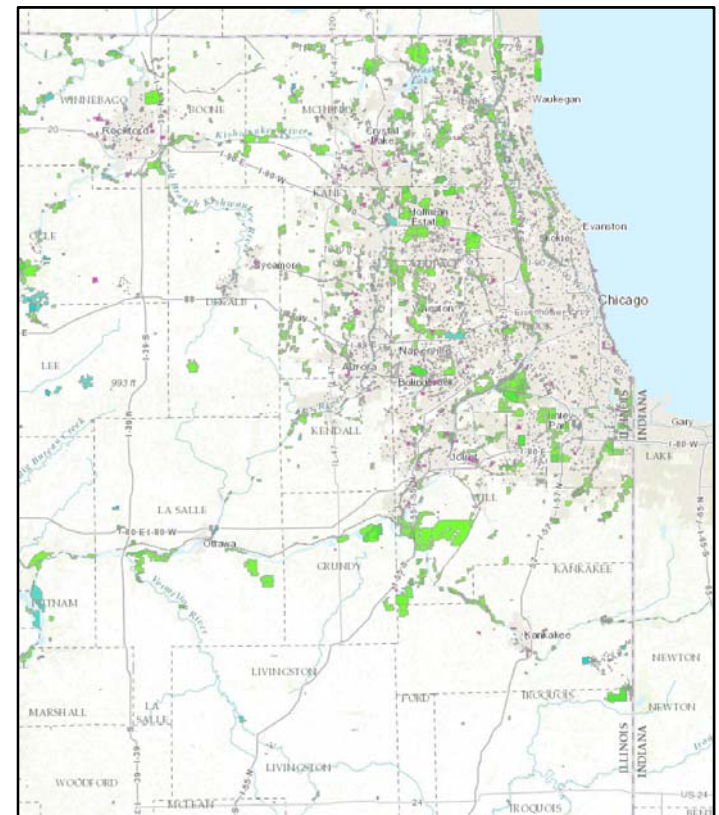
[Case Studies](#) [Planning Tools](#) [Best Management Practices](#) [Funding Opportunities](#) [Other Resources](#) [Discussion Board](#)

The Rights-of-Way as Habitat Working Group's resources page. The page is intended to assist working group participants with habitat planning, and subsequent management and maintenance activities as well as communication and engagement. Pulling from a wide range of existing data, we have assembled key resources related to vegetation management, habitat and other best practices that help address some of the unique issues facing projects along rights-of-way.

Contact
If you have information or resources to contribute to this page, please contact

Geospatial Habitat Database

- Clearinghouse for geospatial data on habitat in rights-of-way across the U.S.
 - Inventory of habitat acres
 - Opportunity to identify habitat “deserts”
 - Improved collaboration
- Initial framework design
- We welcome input!



Source: I-View, Prairie State Conservation Coalition



Steering Committee

- Luis Montgomery, **2IM Group, LLC**
- Tim Lohner, **American Electric Power**
- Sara Race and Merle Turner, **ComEd**
- Rick Loughery, **Edison Electric Institute**
- Bryan Wagner and Kelsey Musich, **Illinois Tollway**
- Rich Nowack, **Nowack Environmental**
- Neil Palmer, **Sand County Foundation**
- Louise Clemency, **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**
- Bob Toy, **Union Pacific Railroad**
- Sara Barnas, **Wildlife Habitat Council**
- Jennifer Hopwood, **Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation**



Mission

To engage diverse stakeholders in a collaborative environment that promotes pollinator habitats and healthy ecosystems along rights-of-way by providing expertise, cost-effective best management practices, and industry-driven tools and resources.



Objectives

1. **Educate** industry, government, landowners, and the public on methods and benefits of conserving and creating pollinator habitats along rights-of-way.
2. **Leverage** knowledge and resources *across* industry sectors.
3. **Provide a robust data clearinghouse** to report habitat acres, management costs, best management practice adoption rates, habitat monitoring, and industry participants and experts.
4. **Develop metrics and targets** to measure working group successes.



Small Group Discussion

Considering the objectives, identify:

- Specific recommendations for implementation
- Commitments or actions we can take as working group participants
- Important next steps for the working group

