

Why Study the Bluff Alignments West of Hopewell and Sparland?

- Public land used for parks, recreational areas or wildlife and waterfowl refuges have special protection under Federal Law*.
- The Marshall State Fish and Wildlife Area owned by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) falls under the protection of this Federal Law.
- Near Hopewell and Sparland the Marshall State Fish and Wildlife Area borders IL 29 on the east and the west.
- Therefore, IL 29 cannot be widened without using IDNR land.

In order to comply with the law, an alternative that completely avoids this IDNR property must be identified and evaluated.

- The alternative being studied, that would avoid the Marshall State Fish and Wildlife Area, runs along the bluff west of Hopewell and Sparland.

* The Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), Section 4(f)