

**COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

**Between**

**THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
TENNESSEE FIELD OFFICE  
COOKEVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**And**

**CITY OF NASHVILLE  
DEPARTMENT PARKS AND RECREATION  
A. G. BEAMAN PARK**

**For**

**THE MANAGEMENT OF  
EGGERT'S SUNFLOWER (*HELIANTHUS EGGERTII*)**

**Purpose**

This Cooperative Management Agreement (Agreement) is entered into between the U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the City of Nashville, Tennessee. The purpose of the Agreement is to provide long-term protection of the Eggert's sunflower populations that occur in A. G. Beaman Park, which is owned by the City and managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation (Metro Parks), by implementing habitat management activities that will sustain these populations. To achieve this, the parties jointly commit to the management and protection of the species in A. G. Beaman Park. This will be accomplished by implementing the protection and management measures identified later in this Agreement. These measures are designed to further the recovery and protection of Eggert's sunflower by improving and maintaining its habitat within A. G. Beaman Park. The role that Metro Parks can serve in the long-term conservation and recovery of Eggert's sunflower is an important one and is hereby recognized by both parties.

**Description of the Species**

Eggert's sunflower is a perennial herb with a colonial tendency. Numerous related plants can arise from an individual parent plant through extensive rhizomes. Individual stems can reach heights of over two meters and are smooth and waxy with a distinct blue cast. Leaves are opposite (in 7-15 pairs), entire, sessile, taper at the base, and they are scabrous (rough) above and white-glaucous and smooth below. Flowering is primarily in August and September, and there are typically few flower heads composed of both yellow ray and disk flowers. Flower heads are

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2.0-2.5 cm across the disk and up to 8.0 cm across the rays. Seeds generally mature during September and October. Since individuals can be established via seed germination or vegetative growth through rhizomatous extensions, genetic composition of clusters of plants is difficult to determine.

Eggert's sunflower typically occurs on rolling-to-flat uplands and in full sun or partial shade. It is often found in open fields or in thickets along woodland borders and with other tall herbs and small trees. It persists in, and may even invade, roadsides, power line rights-of-way, or fields that have suitable open habitat. The distribution of this species shows a strong correlation with the barrens (and similar habitats) of the Interior Low Plateau Physiographic Province, with some records from the Cumberland Plateau Section of the Appalachian Plateau Physiographic Province. Historically, barrens communities were probably maintained by periodic fires, drought, soil conditions, and grazing resulting in a semi-open canopy and herbaceous understory.

### **Management Strategies for Eggert's Sunflower Sites at A. G. Beaman Park**

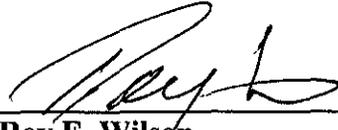
There are 11 known Eggert's sunflower sites located in A. G. Beaman Park. Metro Parks is in the process of developing this newly acquired park. The following are management strategies that can improve Eggert's sunflower populations as well as its habitat in the Park.

1. Conduct prescribed burns on sites containing Eggert's sunflowers as necessary to maintain habitat quality for the species.
2. Perform structural alterations of the forest canopy as necessary to improve habitat conditions for Eggert's sunflower.
3. Identify and remove invasive pest plants within areas where Eggert's sunflower is present.
4. Monitor existing Eggert's sunflower sites for signs of disease, excessive herbivory, or stress caused by degradation of habitat quality.
5. Monitor existing and future Eggert's sunflower sites to determine the success of the management strategies. If appropriate, adjust management strategies to increase success rate.

This Agreement and the management strategies therein will be re-evaluated as needed and amended as appropriate by mutual consent based on the status of populations. Any additional management specifications will be attached as an appendix to this Agreement.

This Agreement does not obligate the USFWS or Metro Parks to the provision of resources to the other, or to the expenditure of any funds. This Agreement shall become effective beginning on the date of the last signature below and shall remain in force for a period of ten years.

**Department of Parks and Recreation**



7/27/04

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**Roy E. Wilson**  
**Director**

**Date**

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

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**Lee A. Barclay**  
**Field Supervisor, Cookeville Field Office**

**Date**

