

LA 302 – Highway 65 Impact Assessment Work Day

Friday, March 5, 2004

Our study of the Engeldinger Marsh includes a four square mile area equally split between Polk and Jasper Counties. This assignment is a quick study project designed to identify site conditions and, eventually, identify potential impacts that highway reconstruction may have on the Marsh.

- ALL TEAMS DEVELOP TRACE OVERLAYS OF THE FOLLOWING INVENTORY ITEMS;
- ADD ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS YOU FIND APPROPRIATE;
- YOU SELECT THE SCALE YOUR TEAM WORKS AT

Soils Team (4 people—2 per county): Classify the following soil characteristics in our study area; create an overlay for each of the following:

- Drainage Class: Hydric and non-hydric soils
- Agricultural suitability: low, moderate, high (you choose the criteria)
- Road construction suitability: low, moderate, high

Wetlands Team (2 people—1 county each): Define the four types of wetlands identified by the NWI in our study area, create an overlay locating them, and prepare a narrative-type description of each type based on your/the class experience and travel.

Landform Team (8 people—1/2 section each): Produce an overlay of our study area with slope steepness for all portions of the site in the following classes:

- 0-5%
- 5-10%
- >10%

Land Cover Team (19 people): Complete photo interpretation and classification for our study area on separate overlays for 2000 and 2002. We provide the 2000 photos; you must print out the 2002 color ir photos at the same scale for our study area. Use the following classification descriptions:

- Open Surface Water (streams, ponds, wetlands)
- Row Crop Agriculture
- Grassland (Pasture, highway right of ways, grass waterways)
- Forest 10-25% canopy cover
- Forest >25% canopy cover
- Transportation

Produce a third overlay identifying (only) changes between the two years. Choose a transparent shade to represent these changed areas.