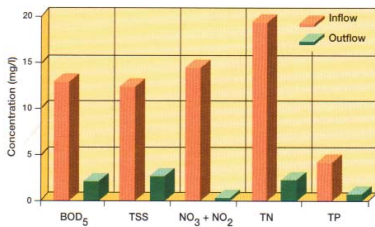


SCOPE OF PROJECT



A Clean Water Act Section 404 permit authorizing construction of the Iowa Highway 163 Monroe Bypass project required annual monitoring of the wetland mitigation area to ensure successful replacement of wetland functions. To meet permit requirements, the site was to be monitored twice during the growing season to confirm the presence and anticipated size of wetlands. Criteria to be considered included an assessment of the vegetative communities, the development of hydric soils, and the documentation of adequate hydrology to support wetland characteristics. Finally, this information was to be communicated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to satisfy the permit conditions.



IMPLEMENTATION

Monitoring of this wetland mitigation site was completed by first collecting and reviewing the Section 404 permit, mitigation design plans, post-construction report, current aerial photography, and other related project data.



The mitigation site was inspected in the spring to document the presence of sufficient wetland hydrology. The site was visited again in late summer to characterize the vegetative communities and describe the development of hydric soils. Photographs from established photo points were recorded during both visits. Data collected was reviewed, interpreted, and reported according to the Iowa Department of Transportation's mitigation monitoring protocol. Following a review of the draft materials, a final report was compiled and submitted to Corps and IDNR. Review of the report has confirmed the success of the site.

SERVICES

Collection and interpretation of wetland mitigation guidance, permits, and design plans; wetland delineation skills; report preparation; communication with the regulatory agencies.

TIMELINE

Project Start Date: April 2002

Project Completed: December 2002

CONTINUED-

**WETLAND MITIGATION MONITORING -
BRUSH CREEK MITIGATION SITE -
JASPER COUNTY, IOWA**