

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT | COMPENSATORY WETLAND MITIGATION & WETLAND BANKING - METRO WASTE AUTHORITY - MITCHELLVILLE, IOWA

SCOPE OF PROJECT

BARKER LEMAR retained by the Metro Waste Authority (MWA) to obtain a joint permit (404 from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and 401 from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources) to mitigate wetland losses that would result from expansion of the landfill. The project tasks involved delineation of the existing wetland areas including those within the proposed mitigation site, completion of necessary permit applications, design of a compensatory wetland mitigation site, and subsequent monitoring of the constructed wetlands.



IMPLEMENTATION

BARKER LEMAR completed the joint application package and developed the compensatory wetland mitigation plan. The mitigation plan was created to do more than just compensate for wetlands which were going to be lost, due to the next 40 years of landfill expansion. It also created a wetlands bank which MWA can use well into the future should impacts to the wetlands result from further development of the landfill property.



The compensatory wetland mitigation plan and permit application package were approved by the regulatory agencies and the permits were issued. Metro Park East Landfill staff constructed the wetlands and **BARKER LEMAR** prepared the report. Today, the wetland mitigation area is a thriving new wetland ecosystem that continues to develop and expand as hydric soil conditions and wetland vegetation develop and establish.

BARKER LEMAR is responsible for the ongoing quarterly monitoring of the wetland mitigation area and for the annual delineation of the wetlands which are being created, adding to the wetland bank.

SERVICES

BARKER LEMAR completed the joint permit application package; developed complex linked spreadsheets to allow evaluation in real time of projected capital improvement costs, annual operational costs, and annual revenues for multiple scenarios contemplated by the commission.

TIMELINE

Project Start Date: Summer 2004

Project Completed: Ongoing

