

PROJECT STATEMENT

**FOR THE OPEN FORUM DESIGN PUBLIC
HEARING REGARDING THE NORTH RIVER
MITIGATION SITE, SOUTH OF NORWALK,
WHICH IS TO BE USED TO FULFILL WETLAND
MITIGATION NEEDS FOR SEVERAL PROJECTS
IN THE POLK AND WARREN COUNTY AREAS**

**PROJECT NUMBER: WARREN COUNTY
IMN-35-2(358)54--0E-91**

HEARING LOCATION:

**MARTENSDALE-ST. MARYS COMMUNITY
SCHOOL LIBRARY
390 BURLINGTON AVENUE
MARTENSDALE , IOWA**

FEBRUARY 25, 2010

**Prepared by
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION**

DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING --- FEBRUARY 25, 2010

WARREN COUNTY

IMN-35-2(358)54--0E-91

To view information concerning this project please go to the following Web site:

<http://www.iowadot.gov/pim>

The Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) wishes to thank you for attending this Design Public Hearing regarding the North River mitigation site south of Norwalk. The purpose of this meeting is to present to you details of the proposed mitigation site and to answer any questions that you may have.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The proposed North River mitigation site located south of Norwalk in Warren County is intended to fulfill the Iowa DOT's mitigation requirements under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act ⁱ and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act ⁱⁱ. Proposed roadway projects in Warren and Polk counties will result in the unavoidable discharge of fill material into wetlands and unavoidable impacts to Indiana bat summer habitat.

The mitigation objectives at the proposed North River mitigation site are intended to offset the impacts to wetlands and Indiana bat summer habitat resulting from the above projects by creating new wetlands and by planting trees. In addition, existing farmed and forested wetlands at the North River mitigation site will be enhanced.

The general concept of the mitigation is to create two wetland "cells" via shallow excavation and construct a fish-passable rock weir in an unnamed creek in order to: (1) raise the elevation of the groundwater at the entire site and, (2) inundate and maintain a shallow (<2 ft. deep) pool of water in one of the wetland cells. All excavated material will be

ⁱ 33 U.S.C. 1344 and 33 CFR 328

ⁱⁱ 50 CFR 402

relocated offsite. Areas at the site intended to be wetland will be seeded and planted with wetland plants and/or trees that are appropriate for site conditions and anticipated hydrology. Areas at the site intended to develop as Indiana bat summer habitat will be planted with tree species appropriate for site conditions and Indiana bat. Portions of the site not intended to be wetland or forest are expected to be planted with a warm-season native grass/forb mixture.

The Iowa DOT will monitor and manage the North River mitigation site in accordance with requirements under the Clean Water Act. Future development or land-use conversion of the mitigation site will be prohibited.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

If you have any comments regarding the proposed mitigation site, please make your comments known at this meeting or forward them on the attached self addressed Citizen Comment form. Deadline for receipt of comments is March 8, 2010. A comment form is also available at the following website: <http://www.iowadot.gov/pim>.

Thank you for your participation in this meeting.

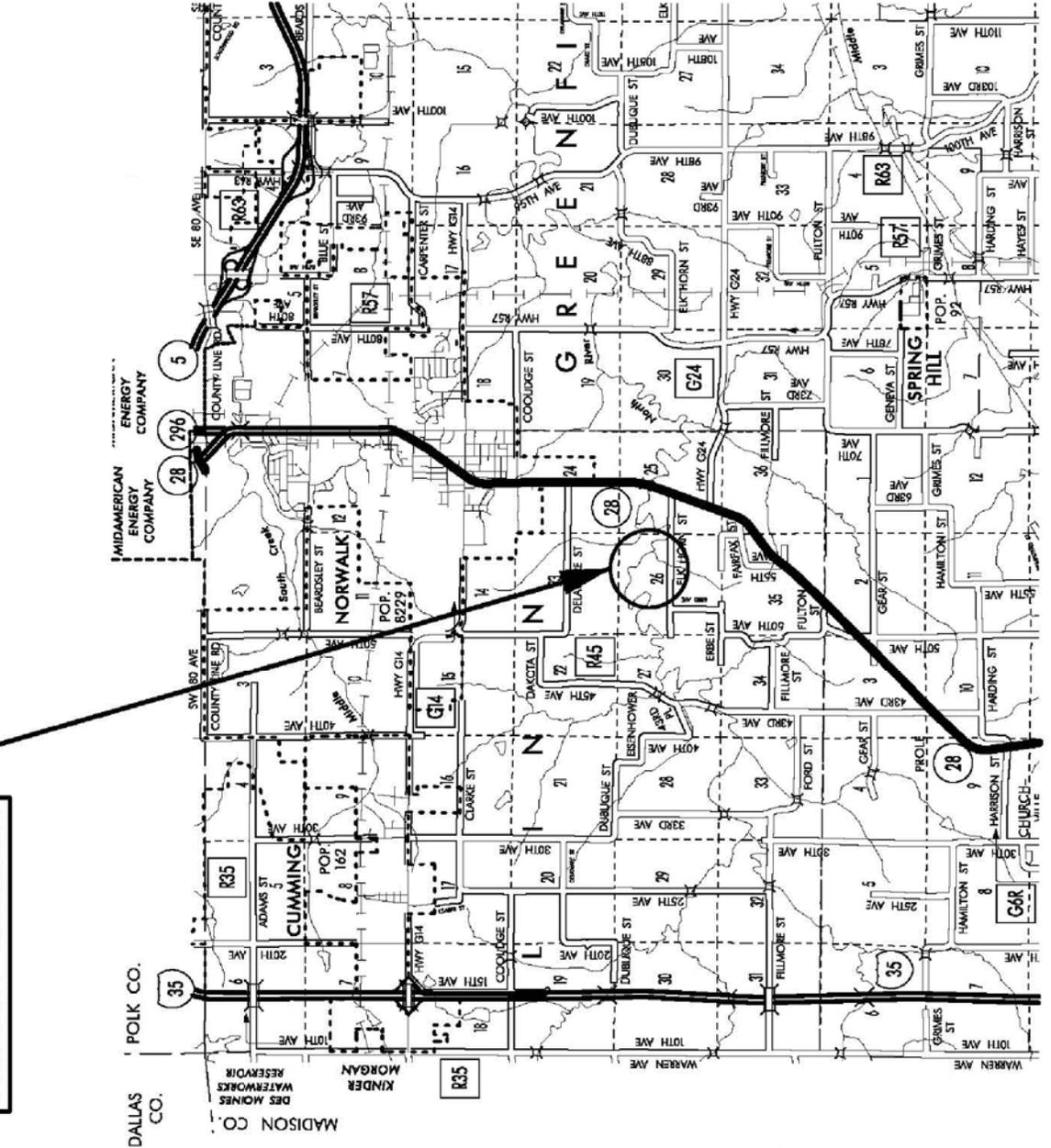
Federal and state laws prohibit employment and/or public accommodation discrimination on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, gender identity, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or veteran's status. If you believe you have been discriminated against, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission at 800-457-4416 or Iowa Department of Transportation's affirmative action officer. If you need accommodations because of a disability to access the Iowa Department of Transportation's services, contact the agency's affirmative action officer at 800-262-0003.

Proposed North River mitigation site to be used to fulfill wetland mitigation needs for several projects in the Polk and Warren county areas



Iowa Department of Transportation

PROJECT LOCATION



OPEN FORUM
PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 25, 2010

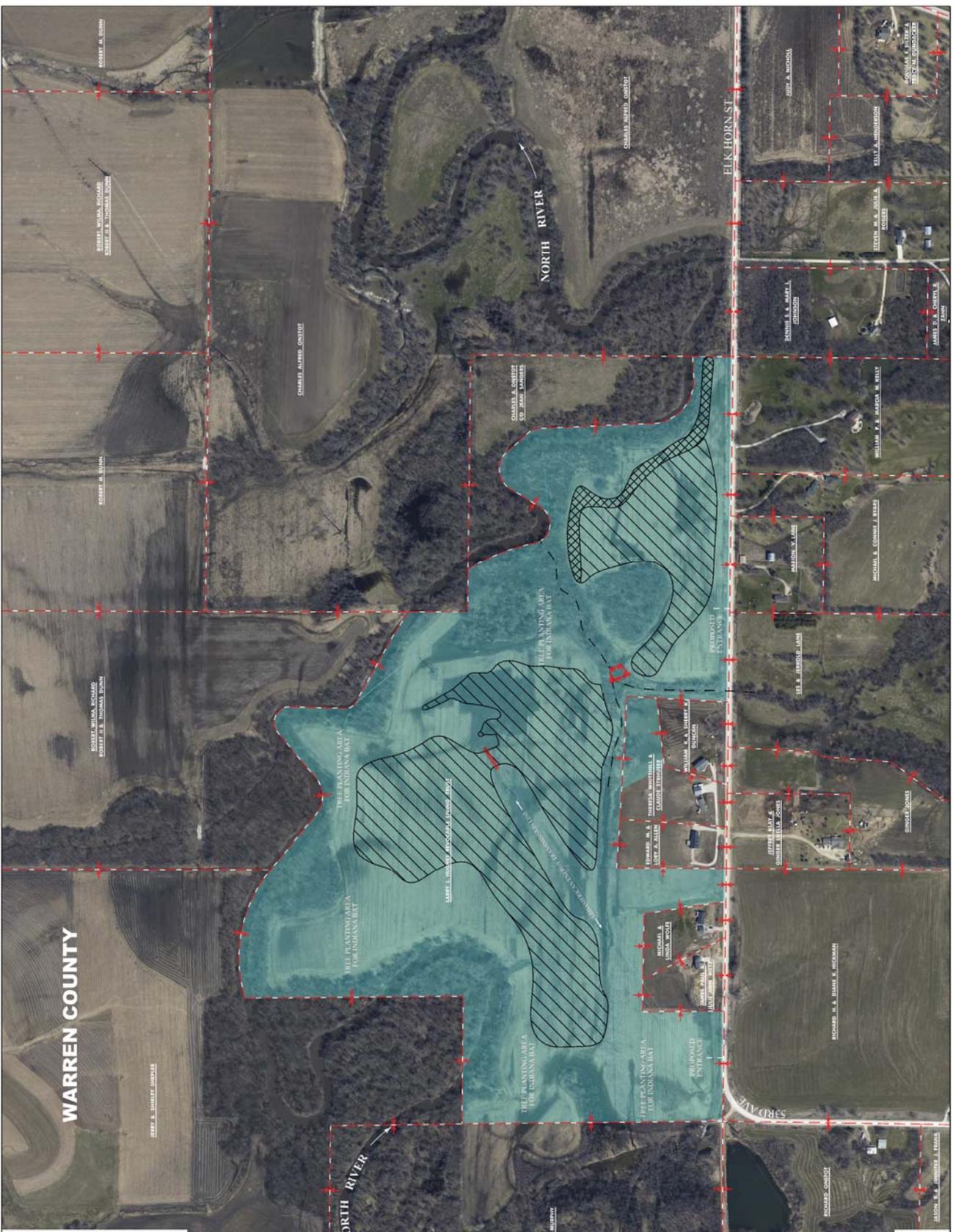
WARREN
COUNTY

PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 25, 2010
NORTH RIVER MITIGATION SITE SOUTH OF NORWALK
PROJECT NUMBER: INN-035-2(358)54-0E-91

LEGEND

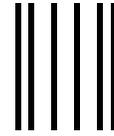
- PROPOSED PERMANENT ACQUISITION
- PROPOSED EMERGENT WETLAND CREATION
- PROPOSED FORESTED WETLAND CREATION
- PROPOSED LOW WATER CROSSING
- PROPOSED FISH PASSABLE WEIR
- APPROXIMATE PROPERTY LINES
- DIRECTION OF DRAINAGE FLOW

Photo Year: 2008



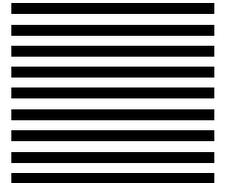
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