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NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY  
BELLEVILLE NW

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Map Preparation

The wetland classifications that appear on the Belleville SE National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map are in accordance with Cowardin et. al. (1977). The delineations were produced through stereoscopic interpretation of 1:58,000 scale color infrared aerial photographs taken during 4/82, and 11/81. Initial ground truthing of the photography was completed between 5/30/85 and 5/31/85.

The user of the map is cautioned that, due to the limitation of mapping primarily through aerial photointerpretation, a small percentage of wetlands may have gone unidentified. Changes in the landscape could have occurred since the time of photography, therefore, some discrepancies between the map and current field conditions may exist. Any discrepancies that are encountered in the use of this map should be brought to the attention of Ron Erickson, Regional Wetlands Coordinator; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 3, Federal Building, Ft. Snelling, Twin Cities, MN. 55111

Geography

The Belleville NW 1:100,000 map is located in southwest Illinois, east and north of St. Louis Missouri. Bailey's Ecoregion Classification (1978) describes the area as Subhumid Prairie Division, which is further classified by Bailey as the Prairie Parkland Province, Oak-Hickory-Bluestem Parkland Section. The natural prairie vegetation is tall grasses associated with subdominant plants of broadleaved herbs. Trees and shrubs are seldom seen but will be located along streams and other depressions. As there is less organic material in a prairie than a forest, transpiration is less and subsequently rainfall is lower.

The topography is mainly flat irregular and gently rolling plains.

Major lakes and rivers in the Belleville NW map include 26,000 acre Carlyle Lake Reservoir, Kaskaskia River and Silver Creek.

## Climate

Indicative of true prairie evapotranspiration and precipitation almost balance and grasses are the dominant natural vegetation. Average annual precipitation is between 23 and 40 inches. The majority of this falls as rain during the growing season. Average annual temperatures range is from 55° to 70°F.

## Wetland Communities

The majority of wetland communities are found in the forms of river and stream floodplains, pothole-like depressions, and as large reservoirs.

Emergent areas are most often seen in pothole-like depressions and less often as cleared areas within river floodplains. Common seasonal and semipermanently wet emergent habitats include cattail (Typha latifolia), reed grass (Phragmites sp.), sedges (Carex sp.), bulrush (Scirpus), rush (Juncus sp.), sweetflag (Acorus sp.), arrow arum (Peltandra sp.), loosestrife (Lythrum sp.), and spikerush (Eleocharis sp.). Temporary areas supported a wide variety of grasses along with dock (Rumex sp.) smartweed (Polygonum sp.), and cut grass (Leersia sp.).

Semipermanently wet emergent basins and farm ponds often supported a variety of aquatic vegetation. The only floating vascular plants observed in the field was duckweed (Lemna sp.). Rooted vascular species include water lily (Nymphaea sp.) pondweed (Potamogeton sp.) and creeping willow primrose (Ludwigia sp.).

Much artificial drainage has taken place to utilize floodplains and potholes for crop production. Many of these areas do hold water early in the year and are utilized by waterfowl. By late spring they can be planted to crops. These areas are therefore mapped as temporary or seasonal emergent wetlands and will also carry the farmed modifier (e.g. PEMAf or PEMCf).

Most natural floodplains support seasonally and temporarily wet forests. Common species include silver maple (Acer saccharinum), red maple (A. rubrum), box elder (A. negundo), eastern cottonwood (Populus deltoides), locust (Gleditsia sp.), slippery and american elm (Ulmus sp.), ash (Fraxinus sp.), pin, white, burr, and water dogwood (Cornus sp.). Typical shrubs in seasonal and semipermanent areas include buttonwood (Cephalanthus occidentalis) and willow. Temporarily wet scrub shrub communities are often tree saplings occurring within or on the edges of forests.

NWI CODE	NWI DESCRIPTION	COMMON DESCRIPTION	CHARACTERISTIC VEGETATION AND PHYSIOGRAPHIC FEATURES
R4SB	Riverine, Intermittent, Streambed	Creek, Streambed	Unvegetated. Sand to Cobble-Gravel
R2UB	Riverine, Lower Perennial Unconsolidated Bottom	River	Unvegetated. Mus to Sand, Cobble-Gravel
R2RB1	Riverine, Lower Perennial. Rocky Bottom	River Rock Bottom	Unvegetated. Rock Bottom. Bedrock
R2US	Riverine Lower Perennial. Unconsolidated shore	River Flat	Unvegetated. sand to Cobble-Gravel
L1UB	Lacustrine Limnetic Unconsolidated Bottom	Open Water Lake	Unvegetated. Sand to Mud
L2UB	Lacustrine Littoral Unconsolidated Bottom	Open Water Shallow Lake	Unvegetated Sand to Mud
L2US	Lacustrine Littoral Unconsolidated Shore	Lake Shore	Unvegetated. Sand to Cobble-Gravel
L1AB	Lacustrine Limnetic Aquatic Bed	Pond Weeds, Water Weeds	Duckweed ( <u>Lemna sp.</u> )
PUB	Palustrine Unconsolidated Bottom	Open water, Pond	Unvegetated Sand to Mud
PAB	Palustrine Aquatic Bed	Pond Weeds, Water Weeds	Duckweed ( <u>Lemna sp.</u> ) Water Lily ( <u>Nymphaea sp.</u> ) Creeping willow primrose ( <u>Ludwigia sp.</u> )

NWI CODE	NWI DESCRIPTION	COMMON DESCRIPTION	CHARACTERISTIC VEGETATION AND PHYSIOGRAPHIC FEATURES
PEM	Palustrine Persistent Emergents	Marsh or Meadow	Cattail ( <u>Typha latifolia</u> ) Reedgrass ( <u>Phragmites</u> sp.) Sedges ( <u>Carex</u> sp.) Bulrush ( <u>Scirpus</u> sp.) Rush ( <u>Juncus</u> sp.) Sweetflag ( <u>Acorus</u> sp.) Loosestrife ( <u>Lythrum</u> sp.) Spikerush ( <u>Eleocharis</u> sp.) Dock ( <u>Rumex</u> sp.) Smartweed ( <u>Polygonum</u> sp.) Cutgrass ( <u>Leersia</u> sp.) Water Willow ( <u>Decodon</u> sp.)
PSS	Palustrine Scrub Shrub	Shrub Wetland	Buttonbush ( <u>Cephalanthus occidentalis</u> ) Willow ( <u>Salix</u> sp.) Dogwood ( <u>Cornus</u> sp.)
PF01	Palustrine Forested Broadleaved Deciduous	Forested Wetland	Silver Maple ( <u>Acer saccharinum</u> ) Red Maple ( <u>Acer rubrum</u> ) Box elder ( <u>Acer negundo</u> ) Cottonwood ( <u>Populus deltoides</u> ) Locust ( <u>Gleditsia</u> sp.) Slippery elm ( <u>Ulmus rubra</u> )

NWI CODE	NWI DESCRIPTION	COMMON DESCRIPTION	CHARACTERISTIC VEGETATION AND PHYSIOGRAPHIC FEATURES
PF01	Palustrine Forested Broadleaved Deciduous	Forested Wetland	American elm ( <u>Ulmus americana</u> ) Ash ( <u>Fraxinus sp.</u> ) Pin, White, Burr and Water oaks ( <u>Quercus sp.</u> ) Hackberry ( <u>Cetis sp.</u> ) Willow ( <u>Salix sp.</u> )
PF05	Forested Wetland Dead Trees	Dead Trees in Standing Water	Dead Trees

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

The purpose of this report is to provide general information about wetland classifications found within the area covered by the Base Map. There has been no attempt to describe all wetlands occurring in the area nor provide complete faunal and floral lists of those wetlands discussed. The references listed below refer to literature cited in the text of this report.

Cowardin, L.M., V. Carter, F.C. Golet, and E.T. LaRoe. 1977. Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States (an operational draft). USDI. Fish and wildl. Serv. Wash., D.C. 100 p.

Bailey, R.G. 1978. Description of the ecoregions of the United States. USDA For. Serv., Intermt. Reg., Ogden, UT. 77 p.

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