## How to Signing - Picture Inventory for an Interpretive Center

With the goal of identifying/confirming all green/brown signs that direct the traveling public to the property/access points/parking depending on direction of travel on the GRR

Google Maps, Google Earth, and other navigational tools have street view functionality. This will function will be necessary for this effort as we will be capturing pictures of the signs that guide the traveler to your interpretive center. In the example we will be capturing the signs to the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Visitor Center on Brice Prairie, in the Town of Onalaska, in La Crosse County. This is a good example again as the signing and route you take to the site differ for a northbound traveler from those of a southbound traveler.

Starting with your final product from the Google Maps Directions portion of your inventory, and utilizing the Google Maps (<u>https://www.google.com/maps</u>), the navigation tool of your choice or GoogleEarth drop into street view slightly greater than 2-miles from your interpretive center, considering how close this 2-miles is from turns, you may need to go more than 2-miles to capture necessary signage. Also, if your interpretive center is more than 2-miles from the Great River Road, consider looking 1-mile north or south of this turn for this search.



Click and drag the "Browse Street View Images" icon (looks like a little person) to the approximate location where you want to start looking for signs.



Street View should look something like this. With north arrow shown in red so you can confirm the direction you are facing. We will be traveling north in this example.



Each navigation tool may be different, but Google Maps allows you to move forward by clicking on the forward arrow placed in the roadway:



Continue to "drive" (click the arrow) looking for roadway signs to the interpretive center. In this example, we are looking for a sign as we approach the CTH Z intersection (finding none). Seeing that

Google had an alternate route on CTH OT, we continue to "drive" north. As we approach the CTH OT intersection, we find our first green/brown interpretive center sign and capture a screen shot.



Note for each sign picture:

- Roadway traveling (WIS 35)
- Direction of Travel (northbound)
- Distance from turn or interpretive center (~815-feet south of CTH OT intersection)

Traveling on CTH OT we encounter another sign:



Note for each sign picture:

- Roadway traveling (CTH OT)
- Direction of Travel (westbound)
- Distance from turn (~970-feet east of CTH ZN intersection) or interpretive center (1 ¼ mile from National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center)

NOTE: if signs are too small to see at street view, there is a zoom function in Google Maps (not in Google Earth) that allows you to zoom in (using the "+" or "-" buttons in the Google Maps toolbar.



Traveling approximately 1.25 miles on CTH OT and CTH ZN to the intersection with CTH Z. From this intersection you can see the interpretive center building and main entrance sign (~350-feet north of the intersection).



Repeat the same steps, but this time from the north.

Capture screen shots of each northbound and southbound signs with the three attributes. Capture screen shots using Alt-Print Screen. You can then use Paste (Ctrl-V) to place the screen shots into your Sign – Picture Inventory document.





