

Envirothon 2000 – Oral Test Question

The following question has two parts. In your presentation, you must discuss both parts, including all of the sub-questions in Part II. Part I is worth 25% of your grade and Part II is worth 75%. Good luck, and be sure to make use of the extra resource materials provided in developing your answers.

Part 1

As the Manager of Oak Hammock Marsh, you have been asked to make a presentation to a group of high school teachers on the value of wetlands. Please outline the key points that you would make in your presentation.

Part II

As the Marsh Manager you have also been asked to prepare a new marsh management plan that takes into consideration a number of land uses that have been proposed over the years. These uses include the following:

- the City of Winnipeg would like re-establish the pipeline to divert artesian spring water to the City to supplement its supply of fresh water
- a local farmer with a large hog operation (10,000 hogs) would like to dispose of excess hog manure by spreading it on uplands adjacent to the marsh and the Town of Stonewall would like to use the marsh as a treatment wetland for municipal sewage
- local people wish to use the marsh and the surrounding uplands for:
 - hunting of Snow Geese, ducks, and upland game birds
 - cutting haying and grazing livestock
 - harvesting Bur Oak and “diamond willow”), and
 - building a bed and breakfast facility, maintaining a herd of bison, and using the dyke system for driving tours to promote local tourism

Incorporate these land uses into a new management plan for Oak Hammock Marsh. Be sure to indicate where and when these activities would take place.

Resource materials provided (one set per team):

- Canon Envirothon summary for 2000
- large outline map of the Wildlife Management Area
- markers in a variety of colours
- section 3 of the OHM Draft Management Plan
- relevant Figures from the Draft Management Plan

Resource materials (shared by all):

- large infrared image of the area (laminated)
- large black and white air photo of the area (laminated)
- Oak Hammock Marsh bird checklist
- map of local watersheds
- other species lists (from Interpretive Plan)