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# **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, August 23, 2011  
[WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN](http://WWW.JUSTICE.GOV/USAO/MN)

## **Garfield man charged with constructing a road through a protected wetland basin**

MINNEAPOLIS – Last week in federal court, a 47-year-old man from the central Minnesota community of Garfield was charged with constructing a road through a protected wetland basin. On August 19, 2011, James Bosek was charged via an Information with one count of misdemeanor wetland easement violation.

Allegedly, from August 20, 2004, through May 18, 2011, Bosek destroyed property in a Douglas County wetland by draining, filling and leveling it without authorization. The property is in a National Wildlife Refuge System, owned by the United States Department of Interior.

If convicted, Bosek faces a potential maximum penalty of 180 days in prison and a fine. All sentences will be determined by a federal judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lola Velazquez-Aguilu.

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A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.

