WSU Radio Observatory Scouting Locations

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As a first attempt to characterize the RFI environment around Winona, we will select ~3 locations and use the system described in WRO#1 to collect spectra between 27 and 114 MHz.

Our testing and reference site is the WSU gazebo (Fig. 1)

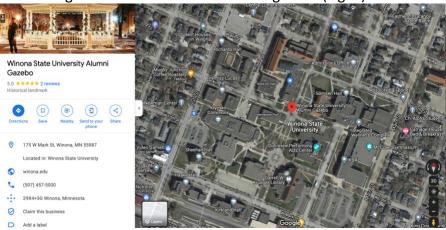


Figure 1: Google map screenshot around WSU gazebo

Our other sites are:

- An old landfill site south of campus (Fig 2). Development on this site is limited, so may be good option for a telescope.
- Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge (Fig 3). LWA-SV already exists on a national wildlife refuge, so this is worth exploring for our site.
- Farmers Community Park (Fig 4). This is probably not a potential observatory site, but we know from experience that cell reception is terrible in this valley. So data from this site will be a good reference for the best we can hope for in the area.



Figure 2: Landfill site south of campus.

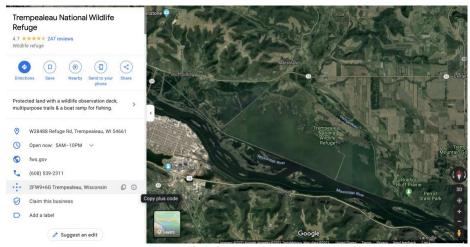


Figure 3: Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge

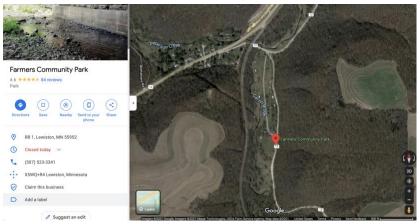


Figure 4: Farmers Community Park in Lewiston

The order of stops doesn't make a big difference, but shortest (by a few minutes) is (Fig 5): WSU -> old landfill -> Farmers community park -> Trempealeau -> WSU

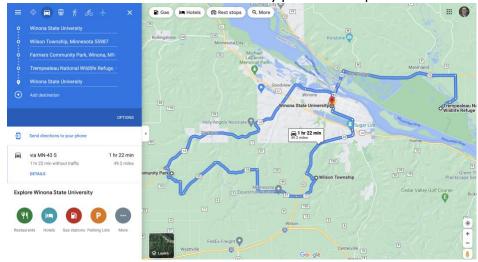


Figure 5: Google Maps directions for route to all testing sites - beginning and ending at WSU. Total drive time will be about an hour and a half, and about 50 miles.

Other places to investigate for future:

- Non-active rock quarry?
- Cedar Valley Golf Course
- This cozy corner behind St Mary's:

