Lab Report

Title: Lab 2 – PART 2 Notice: Dr. Bryan Runck Author: Kyle Smith Date: October 29, 2024

Project Repository: /kylejsmith4/GIS5571/Lab1

Time Spent: 118.33 hours (all of Lab 2)

Abstract

Dory is trying to get to Whitewater State Park from her farm in Southeast Minnesota. While it is not a long walk, Dory is seeking a path that avoids potentially muddy farm fields, water bodies without bridges, and steep slopes. This Lab uses ArcPy and ArcGIS Pro to develop a cost surface model for Dori by using advanced spatial modeling techniques.

Problem Statement

Dory wants to get from her farm to the North Picnic area in Whitewater State Park's North Picnic area via a route avoiding mud, water, and slopes. The following table summarizes the datasets and operations required to produce this model:

#	Requirement	Defined As	(Spatial) Data	Attribute Data	Dataset	Preparation
1	Minnesota County Boundary Data	.shp	County boundaries within MN	County name, geometry	MN DNR County Boundary Dataset	Download from MN Geo CommonsClip Winona, Wabasha, and Olmsted countiesSave & export
2	Land Use/Land Cover Data	Raster	NLCD land cover classification	Land use codes, geometry	MN DNR Landcover NLCD	 Download land cover data from NLCD data (via MN DNR) Clip raster to target counties Reclassify farm fields Save & export
3	Hydrology Data	Shapefile, Raster	Water bodies and bridge locations	Water body class, geometry	MN DNR Hydrography and MN DOT Bridges	 - Download hydrology and bridge datasets from MN DNR and MN DOT - Clip to target counties - Convert hydrology and bridge data to raster format and reclassify - Save & export
4	Digital Elevation Model (DEM)	Raster	Elevation and slope for study area	Elevation, slope degrees	MN DNR Digital Elevation Model	- Download DEM - Clip to target counties - Reclassify slope - Save & export
5	Cost Surface Model	Raster	Combined slope, land use, and hydrology data	Cost values based on walking preference	Cost Surface Model	 Combine slope, land cover, and water bodies Adjust weights Export varied cost surfaces based on preference

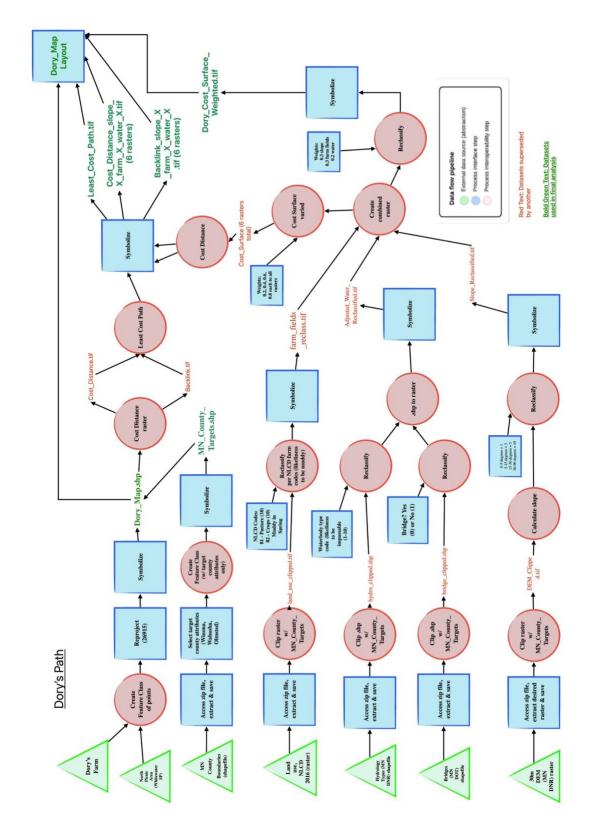
6	Cost Distance & Least-Cost Path	Raster	Distance from Dory's Farm to North Picnic Area	Cost distance, backlink values	Cost Surface Model	Calculate cost distanceLeast-cost path analysisSave & export
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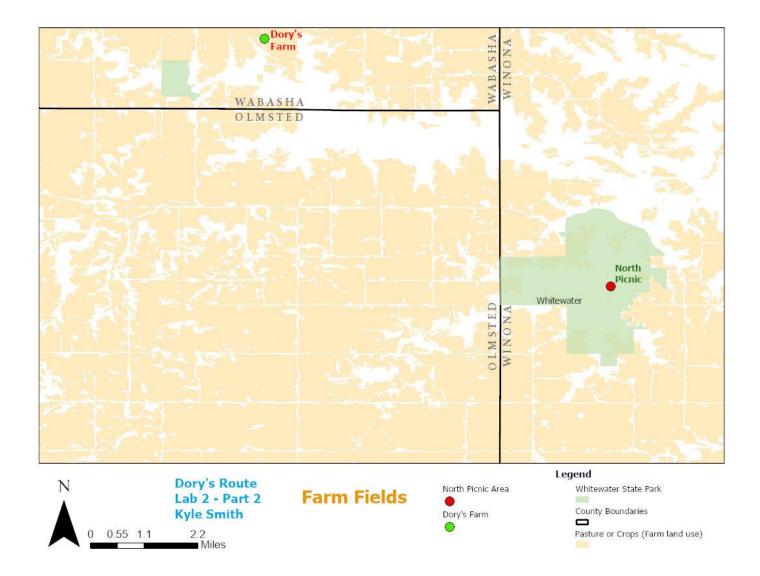
Input Data

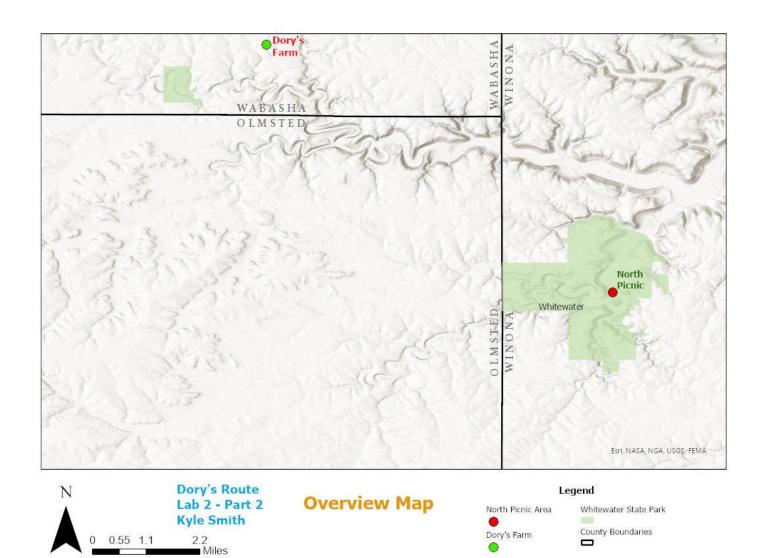
#	Title	Purpose in Analysis	Link to Source
1	IIVIInnesota i olinty Bolingaries	Define the boundaries for target counties (Winona, Wabasha, Olmsted)	County Boundaries
2	NLCD Land Cover Data	Classify land use types, specifically farm fields	Landcover NLCD
		Identify water bodies and bridge locations for route planning	Hydrology Bridges
4	Digital Elevation Model (DEM)	Provide slope and elevation data for determining walking preference	MN DNR

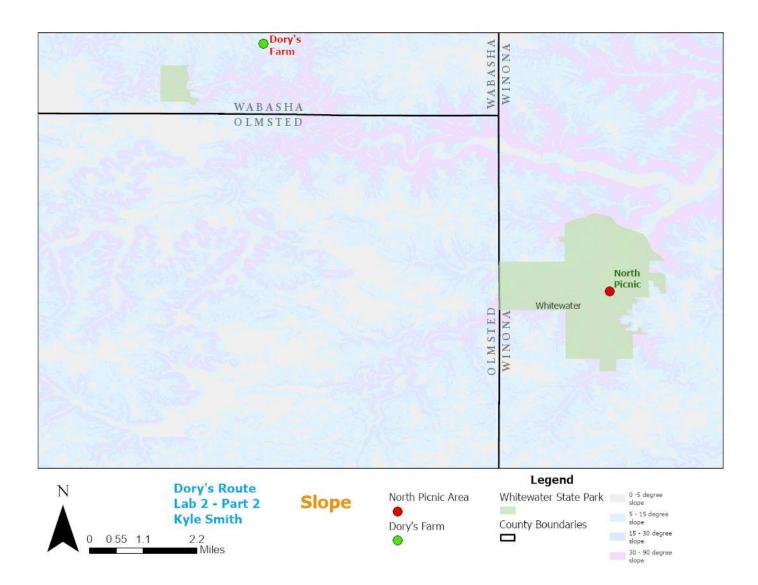
Methods

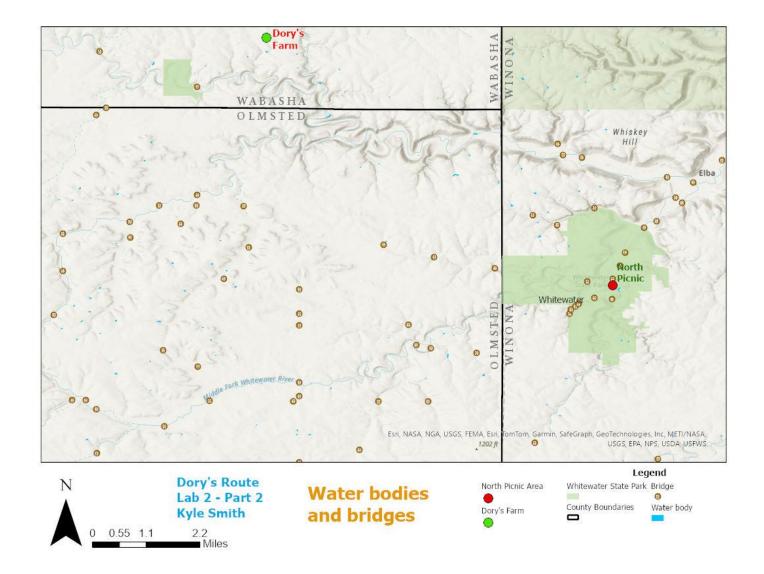
The following are a series of maps detailing various attributes of Dory's Path:











Results Verification

Verification was conducted by recalculating statistics and double checking output to aerial photos and other maps to ensure accuracy.

Discussion and Conclusion

The Lab demonstrated the optimal path for Dory between her farm and Whitewater State Park. I completely ran out of time to complete the final step – the optimal path for Dory! However, as this report, the attachments, and the code show – I was able to get far in to this project and come away with many new skills.

References

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Esri. (n.d.-b). Cost Distance (Spatial Analyst). ArcGIS Pro Tool Reference. https://pro.arcgis.com/en/pro-app/latest/tool-reference/spatial-analyst/cost-distance.htm

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Esri. (n.d.-d). Creating the Least Cost Path. ArcGIS Pro Tool Reference. https://pro.arcgis.com/en/pro-app/latest/tool-reference/spatial-analyst/creating-the-least-cost-path.htm

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Self-score

Fill out this rubric for yourself and include it in your lab report. The same rubric will be used to generate a grade in proportion to the points assigned in the syllabus to the assignment.

Category	Description	Points Possible	Score
Structural Elements	All elements of a lab report are included (2 points each): Title, Notice: Dr. Bryan Runck, Author, Project Repository, Date, Abstract, Problem Statement, Input Data w/ tables, Methods w/ Data, Flow Diagrams, Results, Results Verification, Discussion and Conclusion, References in common format, Self-score	28	25
Clarity of Content	Each element above is executed at a professional level so that someone can understand the goal, data, methods, results, and their validity and implications in a 5 minute reading at a cursory-level, and in a 30 minute meeting at a deep level (12 points). There is a clear connection from data to results to discussion and conclusion (12 points).	24	22
Reproducibility	Results are completely reproducible by someone with basic GIS training. There is no ambiguity in data flow or rationale for data operations. Every step is documented and justified.	28	23
Verification	Results are correct in that they have been verified in comparison to some standard. The standard is clearly stated (10 points), the method of comparison is clearly stated (5 points), and the result of verification is clearly stated (5 points).	20	15
		100	85

I didn't complete the least-cost path analysis properly and fully!