



# National Wetlands Inventory

## Ecological Services

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## Wetlands Mapper

The Wetlands Mapper integrates digital map data with other resource information to produce timely and relevant management and decision support tools. We recommend looking at the following prior to launching a map:

- 1** Please read the [Disclaimer](#), [Data Limitations, Exclusions and Precautions](#), and the [Wetlands Geodatabase User Caution](#).
- 2** Refer to the following links for documentation and answers to frequently asked questions:
  - [Wetlands Mapper Documentation and Instructions Manual](#) (PDF)
  - [Frequently Asked Questions: Wetlands Mapper](#) (PDF)
  - [Frequently Asked Questions web page](#) [Printing maps with the Wetlands Mapper](#) (PDF)
  - [Mapper Introduction](#)
  - **VIDEO:** [How to find and use the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service's Wetlands Mapper](#)
- 3** [Click Here to Open the Wetlands Mapper\\*](#)  
(data last modified on October 1, 2015;  
best viewed by maximizing your browser window)

To beta test our new **HTML5 (non-Flash) mapper** on your desktop, [click here \(FAQs\)](#).

**Please note:**

- When in the wetlands mapper, you can change major geographic regions by using the "Zoom to: select" pull down menu located at the upper right side corner.
- For help with the new mobile mapper location function, please read this [FAQ](#).
- Adobe Flash™ is required to access the Wetlands Mapper. Please visit the Adobe Flash Player website (<http://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/>) to download the latest version of the player. Adobe Flash is a trademark from Adobe Systems Incorporated.

**\* If you have trouble viewing or printing the mapper data, [please see this FAQ](#).**

### New: Wetland Mapping Projects Mapper!

Click below to open the Mapper.

Last updated: January 20, 2016

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to 3 meters but greater than 2 meters.

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riparian delineations were drawn to follow the extent of riparian features described by this project and may not match surface features shown on other base maps. Any use of trade, product, or firm names is for descriptive purposes only and does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government. Although this Federal Geographic Data Committee-compliant metadata file is intended to document the data set in nonproprietary form, as well as in Arc/INFO format, this metadata file may include some Arc/INFO-specific terminology.

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  interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image
  analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data, and the amount of ground truth
  verification work conducted. There is a margin error inherent in the use of imagery,
  thus detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site, may result in revision of
  the wetland boundaries or classification, established through image analysis. Riparian
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  act of distribution constitute any such warranty. No responsibility is assumed by the
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          79/31.
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    This data set represents the extent, approximate location and type of wetlands and
    deepwater habitats in the United States and its Territories. These data delineate the
    areal extent of wetlands and surface waters as defined by Cowardin et al. (1979).
    Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the
    limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands.
    These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in
    the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and near shore coastal waters. Some
    deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded
    from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial
    imagery. By policy, the Service also excludes certain types of "farmed wetlands" as
    may be defined by the Food Security Act or that do not coincide with the Cowardin et
    al. definition. Contact the Service's Regional Wetland Coordinator for additional
    information on what types of farmed wetlands are included on wetland maps. This
    dataset should be used in conjunction with the Wetlands Project Metadata layer, which
    contains project specific wetlands mapping procedures and information on dates, scales
    and emulsion of imagery used to map the wetlands within specific project boundaries.
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    The present goal of the Service is to provide the citizens of the United States and
    its Trust Territories with current geospatially referenced information on the status,
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    Digital wetlands data are intended for use with base maps and digital aerial
    photography at a scale of 1:12,000 or smaller. Due to the scale, the primary intended
    use is for regional and watershed data display and analysis, rather than specific
    project data analysis. The map products were neither designed or intended to represent
    legal or regulatory products. Questions or comments regarding the interpretation or
    classification of wetlands or deepwater habitats can be addressed by visiting
    http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/FAQs.html These data were developed in conjunction with
  
```

the publication Cowardin, L.M., V. Carter, F.C. Golet, and E.T. LaRoe. 1979. Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC. FWS/OBS-79/31. Alpha-numeric map codes have been developed to correspond to the wetland and deepwater classifications described. For more information on the wetland classification codes visit <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Wetland-Codes.html>. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) uses data standards to increase the quality and compatibility of its data. This approach increases the opportunity to share data and reduce occurrence of redundant data development. These standards can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Data-Standards> and include the FGDC Wetlands Mapping Standard, FGDC-STD-015-2009. Note that coastline delineations were drawn to follow the extent of wetland or deepwater features as described by this project and may not match the coastline shown in other base maps. Any use of trade, product, or firm names is for descriptive purposes only and does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government. Although this Federal Geographic Data Committee-compliant and Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata (CSDGM) file is intended to document the data set in nonproprietary form, as well as in Arc/INFO format, this metadata file may include some Arc/INFO-specific terminology.

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None. Precautions - Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities. Acknowledgement of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and (or) the National Wetlands Inventory would be appreciated in products derived from these data.

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<cntfax>608-238-9334</cntfax>

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This data set represents the extent of wetlands and deepwater habitats that can be determined with the use of remotely sensed data and within the timeframe for which the maps were produced. Wetlands are shown in all of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam and Saipan. The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data, and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. There is a margin error inherent in the use of imagery, thus detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site, may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification, established through image analysis. Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery and/or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

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Original stable base hard copy maps of wetland and deepwater habitats were created based on USGS state and quadrangle boundaries. These maps were converted to digital files using various software packages (WAMS, ARC and others). The digital files were

stored as ESRI Import/Export files corresponding to a single 1:24,000 USGS quadrangle. These digital files were imported and converted to ESRI Coverage format and checked for topological and attribute errors. All coverages were converted from a UTM map projection to an Alber's Equal Area map projection and the horizontal datum was converted from NAD27 to NAD83 where necessary. Polygons attributed as "Uplands" were removed from the dataset and polygons were merged at quadrangle boundaries where the quadrangle line divided polygons with the same attribute. The data was loaded into a seamless SDE geodatabase for the conterminous United States. These steps were conducted using both Arc Macro Language (AML) and ArcMap editing tools. All point data from the original ESRI Coverages were buffered by 11.28 meters (1/10 of an acre) and incorporated into this polygon feature class. Linear features from the original ESRI Coverages were merged at quadrangle boundaries where the quadrangle line divided lines with the same attribute. Linear data is stored in a separate feature class. Further data improvements included the conversion of all old wetland codes that contained 'OW' to the new code containing 'UB'. All polygons labeled as 'OUT', 'No Data' and 'NP' were removed from the database.

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        specific mapping techniques and habitat information for that project.
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        The present goal of the Service is to provide the citizens of the United States and
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    The best image scale used for wetland delineation represented by RF scale value or a
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    All the image scales or resolutions of the imagery used for delineating the wetlands
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    The best imagery emulsion type from all the types used to delineate the wetlands for
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