



IOWA

Original Wetland Acreage	Remaining Wetland Acreage	Acreage Lost	% Lost
4,000,000	421,900	3,578,100	-89%

Iowa Wetlands: Several types of wetlands are present throughout Iowa. Prairie-pothole marshes (emergent wetlands), swamps (forested wetlands), sloughs, bogs (emergent wetlands), wet meadows (emergent wetlands), fens (emergent and scrub-shrub wetlands), and small ponds are examples of palustrine wetlands. The Lacustrine System includes large oxbows, natural lakes, and reservoirs. The Riverine System includes streams and rivers.

Summary	Individual Features	Regulation	Water Quality Standards	Mitigation	Monitoring and Assessment	Restoration	Public/Private Partnerships
-------------------------	-------------------------------------	----------------------------	---	----------------------------	---	-----------------------------	---

(Please click on heading above to go to that section.)

SUMMARY

Overall Program:

The state passed a Protected Wetlands Act in 1990 that covers some types of wetlands. This Act has not been implemented from a regulatory standpoint. Tax exempt status is available for qualifying wetlands.

Innovative Features and New Programs/Initiatives:

None.

State Wetland Conservation Plan

None.

No Net Loss/Net Gain Goal

None.

INDIVIDUAL FEATURES:

Regulation

Wetland Regulatory Statutes and Administrative Rules

The state passed a Protected Wetlands Act in 1990 that covers some types of wetlands. This Act has not been implemented from a regulatory standpoint.

Floodplains. Iowa Code 455B. Permits are required from the DNR Flood Plains Section for development in floodplains.

Sovereign Lands Construction Permit. Permits are required from DNR for activities on meandered streams and lakes to the high water marks as well as for activities on DNR-owned property.

Wetland Definition and/or Delineation; Comparability With Federal Definition

No specific rule referenced definition. Wildlife biologists use Cowardin.

Evaluation Methodology

There are some draft models, but nothing which has been formally accepted.

Regulated and Exempted Activities

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) determines what is regulated or exempt for Section 404.

Special Provisions for Agriculture and Forestry

Swampbuster through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Penalties and Enforcement

None.

Permit Tracking

401 certification is tracked in databases with information from 1988 to the present.

State General Permit (PGP or SPGP) for 404

None.

Assumption of Section 404 Powers

The state is not interested in this option at this time.

Joint Permitting

Iowa and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) have a joint application form for obtaining permits.

Special Area Management Plans and Advanced Identification Plans

N/A

Role of Local Governments

N/A

Staffing (Regulatory Staff)

See contact persons below.

Water Quality Standards

Wetlands and Water Quality Standards

Iowa Administrative Code Environmental Protection [567] Chapter 61

Wetland Definition

None provided.

Designated Uses

Iowa has designated use segments for our waterbodies. These are listed in Chapter 61.

Narrative and/or Numeric Criteria

None provided.

Antidegradation Policy

Wetlands are designated as general use waterbodies and are covered under the antidegradation policy described in Chapter 61.

Other

None provided.

Staffing (Wetland Water Quality Staff)

See contact persons below.

Mitigation

Mitigation Policy

An informal policy has been adopted as guidance.

Mitigation Banks

Iowa has two established banks, another which is close to being established and a few others which have expressed interested in starting the approval process. The first bank is a private bank in Harrison County. The bank's service area will include Sioux City Township in Sioux City, Iowa and the Missouri River Flood

Plain in Iowa, bordered on the east by the base of the loess hills, on the south by the Missouri state line, and on the north by the Woodbury/Plymouth County line.

The second bank is a private bank in Franklin County operated by the Iowa Farm Bureau. This bank is primarily an agricultural bank and utilizes NRCS functional assessment to determine wetland losses and credit. The service area includes all or portions of 15 north-central Iowa counties.

In Lieu Fee Program

None.

Ad Hoc Arrangements

None.

Mitigation Database

None.

Staffing

See contact persons below.

Monitoring and Assessment

Mapping /Inventory

NWI wetlands and hydric soils are data layers on DNR's GIS.

Wetland Classification and Assessment

Wetlands are designated as general use waterbodies and are covered under the antidegradation policy described in Chapter 61.

Overall Wetland Gain and Loss Tracking System

None.

Staffing

See contact persons below.

Restoration

Program Description

Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (PPJV) Implementation Plan – Acquire 2,000 acres + restore wetland @ a 3:1 ratio upland to water (500 acres of wetland + 1500 acres of adjacent upland).

Restoration Program Goals

500 acres of wetland + 1500 acres of adjacent upland.

Eligibility Criteria

Priority areas identified in plan.

Restoration Database

DNR – GIS database.

Staffing

Dale Garner.

Public/Private Partnerships

Acquisition Program

PPJV plan + several NAWCA projects. Goal: 2,000 acres per year.

Public Outreach/Education

None identified.

Tax Incentives

None identified.

Technical Assistance

There are 5 private lands biologists on staff to assist private landowners.

Other Nonregulatory Incentives for Private Landowners

“Slough” Bill of 1982 provides real estate tax exemptions for wetlands and other natural areas. Protected Wetland Act provides tax exempt status for wetlands which qualify as protected wetlands.

Wetland Training and Education

None identified.

Watershed Planning

None identified.

Special Problems

None identified.

Coordination

None identified.

Contact Person(s)

Christine Schwake
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034
515-281-6615

Kelly Stone
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034
515-281-4312

Jeff Joens
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319-0034
515-281-8664

Contact Points

<http://www.iowadnr.com/>

Guidebooks, Brochures, Websites, Other Educational Materials

None.