**Delaware Wetland Data**

Wetlands cover about 17 percent of Delaware. Wetlands in Delaware are diverse. Extensive estuarine wetlands line Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. Delmarva bays, which are seasonally flooded depressions in the Coastal Plain, contain marsh, shrub, and forest vegetation. More than one-half of Delaware's wetlands have been converted to nonwetland uses or otherwise altered since the 1780s. The State Wetlands Act controls development in tidal wetlands, and a proposed statute would establish a State-run nontidal-wetlands regulatory program. Delaware has established its own wetland classification, which has five categories that are based on a wetland's functions and values.

The Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Wetlands Inventory produced [ ] digital data for Delaware with [ ] contributions from [ ]. Using the FGDC Wetlands Data Standard, wetlands were classified by System, Subsystem, Class, water regime and special modifiers. Digital Wetlands Data are available for all of the State. Nearly half of the imagery used to produce the wetland maps is over 20 years old with an additional 42.5% from the 1990s and nearly 10% as recent as 2000-2005. Color infrared imagery was used for all of the wetland maps. A little more than half of the imagery was at a scale of 1:58,000.