Kansas Wetland Data

Kansas has about 435,000 acres of wetlands, which include sandhill pools along the Arkansas River, playa lakes in western Kansas, freshwater marshes such as those in Cheyenne Bottoms, and salt marshes such as those in Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. Kansas wetlands are important to migrating waterfowl and shorebirds, which depend on the few remaining wetlands in the Central Flyway. Kansas has lost about one-half its wetlands during the last 200 years, mostly due to conversion to cropland and depletion of surface and ground water due to irrigation withdrawals. Wetland preservation and restoration are being accomplished through cooperation among Federal and State agencies and private organizations.

The Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Wetlands Inventory produced [ ] digital data for Kansas 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 sixteen percent with about three-quarters of the State covered on hard-copy maps. There is no data available for 7% of the State. Nearly ninety-seven percent of the imagery data used to produce the wetland maps is over 20 years old. Color infrared imagery was used to make almost all of the wetland maps. The majority (99%) of the imagery was at a scale of 1:58,000.