Michigan Wetland Data

Wetlands cover about 15 percent of Michigan. They provide many benefits, including flood and erosion attenuation, water-quality maintenance, recreation, and wildlife habitat. Michigan's wetlands are largely associated with surface features that are the result of glaciation. Most Michigan wetlands are vegetated by forest or shrubs, but fresh marsh is abundant in coastal and inland areas. About one-half of the State's wetlands have been converted to other uses, primarily agriculture. The Gemmaere-Anderson Wetland Protection Act of 1980 (Public Law 203) and other State statutes are the basis for Michigan's wetland-conservation program. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has oversight of the State program.

The Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Wetlands Inventory produced [quantity] digital data for Michigan with [quantity] contributions from [source]. Using the FGDC Wetlands Data Standard, wetlands were classified by System, Subsystem, Class, water regime and special modifiers. Digital Wetlands Data are available for almost the entire State. Most of the imagery data used to produce the wetland maps is over 20 years old. Color infrared imagery was used to make nearly 45% of the maps with an additional 55% in black & white. Fifty-five percent of the imagery was at a scale of 1:80,000.