Missouri Wetland Data

Missouri's wetlands occupy 643,000 acres, about 1.4 percent of the State's area. Swamps and other forested wetlands, marshes and fens, and shrub swamps constitute most of the wetland acreage. Missouri's location on the Mississippi Flyway makes the State a favored wintering area for hundreds of thousands of waterfowl and other birds, including bald eagles. Missouri has lost as much as 4.2 million acres (87 percent) of its original wetlands. Most wetland loss has been due to agricultural conversions, urban development, and flood-control measures. The State has developed a wetland-management plan to guide its efforts in the restoration and management of wetlands until the year 2000.

The Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Wetlands Inventory produced digital data for Missouri 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 almost the entire state (99.9%). Seventy-eight percent of the imagery data used to produce the wetland maps is over 20 years old. Color infrared imagery was used to make 99% of the wetland maps. The majority of the imagery data used to make the wetland maps was at a scale of 1:58,000.