**North Carolina Wetland Data**

About 5.7 million acres of North Carolina—17 percent of the State—is wetland. The Coastal Plain contains 95 percent of the State's wetlands. Before colonization by Europeans, North Carolina had about 11 million acres of wetlands. Nearly one-third of the wetland alterations in the Coastal Plain have occurred since the 1950s; most have resulted from conversion to managed forests and agriculture. The Roanoke River flood plain has one of the largest intact and least disturbed bottomland hardwood forests in the mid-Atlantic region. About 70 percent of the rare and endangered plants and animals in the State are wetland dependent.

The Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Wetlands Inventory produced [ ] digital data for North Carolina 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 most (99.8%) of the State. Ninety-two percent of the imagery data used to make the wetland maps is over 20 years old. Color infrared imagery was used to make most of the wetland maps (99.5%). The majority of the imagery was at a scale of 1:58,000.