Oklahoma Wetland Data

Wetlands cover about 950,000 acres (2 percent) of Oklahoma. Wetlands in Oklahoma include bottom-land hardwood forests and swamps; marshes and wet meadows; aquatic-bed wetlands characterized by submersed or floating plants in ponds, lakes, rivers, and sloughs; and sparsely vegetated wetlands such as intermittently flooded playa lakes. Most forested wetlands are in eastern Oklahoma, where precipitation is highest and evaporation lowest. Riparian wetlands and playa lakes in drier western Oklahoma are especially valuable to wildlife. Nearly two-thirds of Oklahoma’s original wetlands have been lost as a result of agricultural conversions, channelization, impoundment, streamflow regulation, and other causes.

The Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Wetlands Inventory produced [quantity] digital data for Oklahoma 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 33% of the State with hard-copy maps for the remainder of the State. A small percentage has been scanned—the first step in the digitizing process. The majority of the imagery data used to produce the wetlands maps is over 20 years old. Color infrared imagery was used to make almost all (99.6%) of the wetland maps. Ninety percent of the imagery used was at a scale of 1:58,000.