OFFICE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

MONTHLY REPORT

April 2024
(March 16th, 2024 – April 15th, 2024)

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ADMINISTRATION

- The Office of Fish and Wildlife Information Systems (OIS) has 40 projects in progress and four new projects requested through the GIS Project Request Form.
- Interim Performance Assessment Reviews (PARs) were completed for all OIS staff.
- OIS met with management of all program areas in NJFW on priority GIS projects for 2024.
- OIS is managing and coordinating the Landscape Project mapping update.
- OIS attended several meetings with Motorola on the new Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) System for the Bureau of Law Enforcement (BLE) and has developed patrol area delineations for inland and marine Conservation Police Officers. OIS is also engaged in GIS development and maintenance of various other GIS layers for the CAD.
- OIS published a new web map application of Youth Fishing Challenge Host Sites at the request of the Bureau of Information and Education (I&E).
- Review and compilation of public usage statistics for 2023 revealed that 1) OIS web map apps account for over 25% of all NJDEP public-facing web map applications (30 out of 112) and 2) Out of all (112) NJDEP web apps, seven OIS web apps are in the top 15 (3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 15th) most used in 2023.
- OIS staff prepared three poster presentations (*Wildlife Management Area Explorer*, *Saltwater Fishing Explorer*, and *Developing a Protocol for Using Multispectral Drone Imagery to Study Salt Marsh Vegetation*) and one oral symposium presentation on Landscape Conservation Design entitled *A Brief Review of Landscape Conservation Tools in New Jersey* for the upcoming NEAFWA Conference.

GIS DATA DEVELOPMENT

Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Lot Data

- No updates.

Freshwater Fishing Opportunities and Access

- The schema for the fishing regulations data has been finalized and all stream segments and waterbodies statewide have been updated with waterbody and species regulation IDs.

New Jersey Statewide Trails Dataset

- No update.

Diadromous Fish Habitat Mapping and Timing Restrictions

- OIS staff is continuing to analyze streams based on confirmed fish species in collaboration with Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries.

Wildlife Management Area Boundary Alignment

- OIS staff scanned paper documents for 8 parcels on 2 WMAs and 13 parcels were mapped

Landscape Project

- OIS continues to manage the Landscape Project mapping update in coordination with ENSP.

Hard Clam (Estuarine) Survey Mapping

- No updates.

Wildlife Management Area System Inventory

- OIS staff are currently filling out attribute fields for 508 new point, line, and polygon features collected with GPS units at 37 WMAs. These will be added to the WMA system inventory over the next month.

Law Enforcement CAD System

- OIS staff continues to meet with Motorola, Law Enforcement and BGIS to prepare various datasets to be added to Enterprise and loaded into the CAD system.

Youth Fishing Challenge

- OIS developed and published a feature class of 2024 Youth Challenge Fishing Host Sites that includes sponsor organizations and contact information. The data is being launched in the form of an online web map application.

GIS ANALYSIS

Ocean Trawl Survey Environmental/Biological Analysis

- No update.

Habitat Change Analysis Project (HCAP)

- OIS is working with grant coordinators, DEP procurement and Rowan University to begin the next phase of this analysis.
- OIS provided data for an Early Successional Habitat Initiative project in support of a grant application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's America the Beautiful Challenge. The analysis looked at areas that were early successional habitat in 2015 that were no longer classified as such in 2020.

Identifying Potential Encroachments on WMAs

- OIS staff is waiting on BLE, BLM, and other NJFW staff to review the potential encroachments. Another meeting will be held to determine next steps.

CARTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION

- OIS staff prepared three poster presentations (Wildlife Management Area Explorer, Saltwater Fishing Explorer, and Developing a Protocol for Using Multispectral Drone Imagery to Study Salt Marsh Vegetation).
- OIS produced a series of maps on early successional habitat loss and maintenance in the Appalachian Corridor region of New Jersey.

WEB MAP/APP PRODUCTION

Youth Fishing Challenge Host Sites

- OIS published a new web map application of [Youth Fishing Challenge Host Sites](#) at the request of the Bureau of Information and Education (I&E).

Deer Disease Sighting Survey

- OIS is making edits that were proposed by the Deer Project Team. OIS will meet with the new vet tech to discuss more potential edits.

Hunting & Trapping Explorer

- No updates

Wildlife Management Area Explorer

- No Updates

Saltwater Fishing Explorer

- No updates.

Freshwater Fishing Explorer

- Minor updates to data included in the application were made.

Conservation Focal Area Application

- No updates.

Marine Resources GeoHub

- No updates.

Shared Wildlife Health Information System (SWHIS)

- OIS staff continues to collaborate with Wildlife Futures Program (WFP) at UPenn and the Timmons Group on the development of SWHIS and a feature service that will include wildlife health events, including animal morbidity and mortality information.

Wild Turkey Brood Sighting Survey

- No updates.

Turkey Permit Sales and Harvests Dashboard

- No updates.

Northeast Regional Conservation Priorities web application

- No updates

Fishing and Hunting License Agent Locator web application

- Updates were made to license agents.

Lenape Farms Story Map

- No updates.

License Agents web application

- Removed and added license agent locations to the web application as directed by Business Administration.

GPS/FIELD DATA COLLECTION

sUAS Deer Surveys

- OIS drafted a data sharing agreement for our work with Warren County Community College.

GIS TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- OIS staff responded to internal and external inquiries regarding various datasets and applications, including Landscape Project and the Hunting & Trapping Explorer.
- OIS staff is working on procurement of a large-format multifunction printer and scanner.
- OIS attended several meetings and is involved in GIS development and maintenance of a new Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) System for the Bureau of Law Enforcement (BLE).