



OFFICE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

MONTHLY REPORT

June 2024
(May 16th, 2024 – June 15th, 2024)

Patrick Woerner, Geographic Information Systems Specialist
Kevin Blythe, Geographic Information Systems Specialist
Brian Henderson, Geographic Information Systems Specialist
Molly VanWieren, Geographic Information Systems Specialist

Temporary/Seasonal Employees: Joseph DeCeglia
Olivia Hrymoc

ADMINISTRATION

- The Office of Fish and Wildlife Information Systems (OIS) has 44 projects in progress and three new projects requested through the GIS Project Request Form.
- OIS continues to manage and coordinate the Landscape Project mapping update.
- OIS staff attended the Web Maps and Apps course on ArcGIS Experience Builder hosted by BGIS.
- OIS attended several meetings with Motorola on the new Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) System for the Bureau of Law Enforcement (BLE) and is engaged in mapping CAD zones from patrol area delineations for inland and marine Conservation Police Officers and State Parks Police. OIS is also engaged in GIS development and maintenance of various other GIS layers for CAD.
- Molly Van Wieren and Kevin Blythe completed their Part 107 Small UAS Recurrent exams.
- In partnership with the Office of Fish and Wildlife Health & Forensics and the University of Pennsylvania, OIS submitted a grant proposal to the Federal 2025 Multistate Conservation Grant Program, entitled "Enhancing the Collection and Sharing of Wildlife Health Data."
- OIS staff participated in the NEAFWA Conservation Design Symposium "Debrief" to identify needs, and next steps for conservation design at multiple scales in the Northeast region.
- OIS staff attended the quarterly NJDEP GIS Users Group Meeting.
- OIS staff attended the New Jersey Geospatial Forum (NJGF) Meeting.
- OIS staff attended and participated in the NJ Conservation Blueprint Steering Committee Meeting that covered the new Farmland Preservation Statewide Formula Value Law,

Conservation Blueprint's influence in the State Plan Update mapping process, and barriers and opportunities for land conservation.

GIS DATA DEVELOPMENT

Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Lot Data

- OIS continues to review any edits to the current shellfish lease lot data and posts the edits for shellfisheries staff.

Freshwater Fishing Opportunities and Access

- Data for the freshwater fishing regulations map application was completed and awaiting review from Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries and Bureau of Law Enforcement.

New Jersey Statewide Trails Dataset

- No update.

Diadromous Fish Habitat Mapping and Timing Restrictions

- OIS reviewed the dataset and made some changes and will publish the dataset by HUC Region.

Wildlife Management Area Boundary Alignment

- OIS staff mapped 8 parcels on four Wildlife Management Areas.

Landscape Project

- OIS continues to manage the Landscape Project mapping update in coordination with ENSP.
- Approximately 38% of the species/habitat components are complete.

Hard Clam (Estuarine) Survey Mapping

- OIS is working with NJDEP Watershed and Land Management's Bureau of Program Development on ways of depicting estuarine inventory data for regulatory GIS applications.

Wildlife Management Area System Inventory

- OIS staff continues to work through field collection data for several Wildlife Management Areas for inclusion in the WMA inventory data.
- OIS plans to hire a GPS Field Technician for continued data collection on WMAs.

Law Enforcement CAD System

- OIS staff submitted Inland and Marine Patrol Areas to BGIS for publication in NJDEP's Enterprise GIS and inclusion in a new CAD system

- OIS is engaged in mapping CAD zones from patrol area delineations for NJFW inland and marine Conservation Police Officers and State Parks Police.

GIS ANALYSIS

Ocean Trawl Survey Environmental/Biological Analysis

- No update.

Habitat Change Analysis Project (HCAP)

- OIS is reviewing the new species and working on finalizing their habitat range extents.
- OIS continues to coordinate analysis with Rowan University's Geospatial Research Lab (GEOLAB).

Identifying Potential Encroachments on WMAs

- OIS staff continues to meet with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Bureau of Law Enforcement (BLE) regarding the review of potential encroachments through a web map app developed by OIS. In a July meeting we will discuss the results of that review and attempt to streamline the process.
- NJFW staff will also test out a Survey123 application developed by OIS for tracking and resolving encroachments and provide feedback to OIS.

CARTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION

- No updates.

WEB MAP/APP PRODUCTION

Deer Disease Sighting Survey

- OIS made requested edits to this form by Deer Project team and BGIS has published the new form.

Hunting & Trapping Explorer

- No updates.

Wildlife Management Area Explorer

- Edits were made to the WMA closures and restricted areas.

Saltwater Fishing Explorer

- No updates.

Freshwater Fishing Explorer

- No updates.

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.
- OIS is working on creating a public-facing and internal wildlife health form that will be able to feed into SWHIS

Wild Turkey Brood Sighting Survey

- No updates.

Turkey Permit Sales and Harvests Dashboard

- OIS received the Spring 2024 data and will update the dashboard.

Northeast Regional Conservation Priorities web application

- No updates. This application was included in a presentation at NEAFWA.

Fishing and Hunting License Agent Locator web application

- Updates were made to license agents web application to keep it fully up to date.

Lenape Farms Story Map

- No updates.

Youth Fishing Challenge

- Requested edits and additions were made to the Youth Fishing Challenge web map.

GPS/FIELD DATA COLLECTION

Paulinskill WMA Hyperhumus

- OIS met with BLM, the Office of Natural Lands Management, and BGIS to plan for collecting drone imagery at Paulinskill WMA with the goal of identifying areas of dense phragmites and cattails.

Greenwood Forest WMA

- OIS met with BLM to discuss next steps for collecting drone imagery at Greenwood Forest WMA.

GIS TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- OIS staff coordinated the delivery of a new multifunction large format plotter/scanner for the Central Region Office and relocated the previous multifunction plotter to the Millville field office.
- OIS staff responded to internal and external inquiries regarding various datasets and applications, including Landscape Project and the Hunting & Trapping Explorer.
- OIS reviewed and submitted comments on the draft report for the multispectral drone project at Forsythe NWR and Great Bay Boulevard WMA.