



OFFICE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

MONTHLY REPORT

October 2024

(September 16th, 2024 – October 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
Catherine “Fern” Tatum

ADMINISTRATION

- The Office of Fish and Wildlife Information Systems (OIS) has 42 projects in progress and no new projects requested through the GIS Project Request Form.
- OIS is managing the update of the Landscape Project Maps and participated in several Landscape Project and E&T Rule update meetings.
- 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 and GIS data development and maintenance related to the CAD system.
- OIS attended the quarterly NJDEP GIS Users Group Meeting.
- OIS attended the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of Urban and Regional Information Systems Association Conference.
- OIS staff attended the New Jersey Geospatial Forum (NJGF) Meeting.
- Patrick Woerner presented on NJFW GIS Applications at the Fish and Game Council / Endangered and Nongame Species Advisory Committee Joint Meeting on October 8, 2024.

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

- All data for the freshwater fishing regulations application (feature classes and tables) were completed and approved by BFF and BLE.

New Jersey Statewide Trails Dataset

- No updates.

Diadromous Fish Habitat Mapping and Timing Restrictions

- No updates.

Wildlife Management Area Boundary Alignment

- OIS staff scanned the documentation for 24 parcels and mapped the boundaries of 11 parcels on 3 WMAs.
- OIS staff met with Lands Management staff to discuss the WMA boundary alignment project and how to structure a Request for Proposals to bring in more assistance for the project.

Landscape Project

- OIS continues to manage the Landscape Project mapping update in coordination with ENSP, Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries and Bureau of Marine Fisheries.
- A Final Version 3.4 of the Landscape Project dataset is being prepped for submittal for publication with a target release date of 12/2/2024.

Hard Clam (Estuarine) Survey Mapping

- No updates.

Wildlife Management Area System Inventory

- OIS completed inventories of 13 Wildlife Management Areas, collecting GPS data on infrastructure and other assets.
- OIS is in the process of compiling the data over the past two years and conforming the schema to that of the Enterprise GIS data so it will be reflected in the WMA Explorer application.

Law Enforcement CAD System

- OIS continues to be engaged in mapping and GIS data development and maintenance related to the CAD system.

GIS ANALYSIS

Ocean Trawl Survey Environmental/Biological Analysis

- No update.

Habitat Change Analysis Project (HCAP)

- OIS met with Rowan University's Geospatial Research Laboratory to go review draft analysis results and potential data visualization and summarization formats

Tracking Encroachments on WMAs

- An encroachment policy and resolution process with clearly defined roles for each organizational unit needs to be formalized by management in order for a tool to be effectively developed and implemented by NJFW.
- Potential encroachments that OIS identified are going through review by BLM staff.

CARTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION

- OIS developed several map outputs for review related to the Landscape Project update.

WEB MAP/APP PRODUCTION

Fishing & Hunting License Agent Locator

- Several new License Agents were updated and other data maintenance tasks were performed.

Deer Disease Sighting Survey

- No updates.

Hunting & Trapping Explorer

- WMA closures and restricted areas were added to all Hunting & Trapping explorer applications.

Wildlife Management Area Explorer

- Updates were made to reflect WMA closures and restricted areas within the Explorer application.

Saltwater Fishing Explorer

- No updates.

Freshwater Fishing Explorer

- Updated the fall trout stocking data in the Trout Stocked Waters app with the new postponed stocking dates that resulted from low flow conditions in many streams and rivers.

Conservation Focal Area Application

- No update.

Marine Resources GeoHub

- OIS continues to update this internal application upon request and as necessary.

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.

Upland Bird Stocking Areas

- No updates.

Landscape Project ArcGIS StoryMap

- OIS staff has begun updating the existing Landscape Project StoryMap to an ArcGIS StoryMap for the release of the latest version of the Landscape Project.

GPS/FIELD DATA COLLECTION

- GPS data collection of WMA infrastructure continued. See Wildlife Management Area System Inventory above.
- OIS is in the process of acquiring new GPS units to facilitate field data collection using ESRI Field Maps.

GIS TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- OIS staff responded to internal and external inquiries regarding various datasets and applications, including the Landscape Project and the Hunting & Trapping Explorer.