



OFFICE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

MONTHLY REPORT

June 2025

(May 16th, 2025 – June 15th, 2025)

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ADMINISTRATION

- The Office of Fish and Wildlife Information Systems (OIS) has 46 projects in progress and two new projects requested through the GIS Project Request Form.
- OIS collaborated with USDA NRCS managers to provide training on the Landscape Project, version 3.4.
- OIS staff attended the quarterly NJDEP GIS Users Group Meeting.
- OIS staff attended the New Jersey Geospatial Forum (NJGF) Meeting.
- OIS continues to collaborate with the Garden State Preservation Trust and Rowan University’s GeoLab on conservation acquisition planning utilizing the Conservation Blueprint+ and additional GIS data from NJFW and NJ Parks & Forestry.
- OIS distributed a NJFW GIS Survey to determine the GIS status and needs of organizational units across NJ Fish and Wildlife, including Habitat, Access and Endangered Species, Bureau of Law Enforcement, Central Service Element and the Marine Resources Administration. Responses to the survey will help inform the Office of Fish and Wildlife Information Systems work plan over the next five years and facilitate collaborative GIS planning across Fish and Wildlife.

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

- OIS continues compiling a list of all bait and tackle shops as well as fly fishing shops in New Jersey to be incorporated into a web map application.

New Jersey Statewide Trails Dataset

- No updates.

Diadromous Fish Habitat Mapping and Timing Restrictions

- OIS is working with Freshwater Fisheries to review the final dataset.

Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Boundary Alignment

- OIS staff scanned the documentation for 15 parcels at 7 WMAs and mapped the boundaries of 3 parcels on 1 WMA.
- OIS staff identified portions of 41 parcels on five WMAs whose outer boundaries border private land and have not been mapped from a survey with coordinates. BLM's regional superintendents reviewed these parcels and approved publishing a Request for Quotes to survey portions of these parcels using modern methods.
- OIS staff has been reviewing areas of WMAs with possible encroachments from adjacent properties, prioritizing which should be resurveyed earliest and will present these to BLMs regional superintendents in the near future for feedback. The goal being to publish a Request for Quotes to have the chosen parcels re-surveyed using modern methods to establish if there are encroachments and pursue a resolution where encroachments are identified.

Landscape Project

- OIS collaborated with USDA NRCS managers to provide training on the Landscape Project, version 3.4.

Hard Clam (Estuarine) Survey Mapping

- No updates.

Wildlife Management Area System Inventory

- OIS continues to work on incorporating new points of interest (POI) data into this dataset.

Law Enforcement CAD System

- OIS continues to attend weekly meetings regarding the Flex system in case there are changes or adjustments that need to be made before the managed systems contract with Motorola goes into effect in July.

GIS ANALYSIS

Ocean Trawl Survey Environmental/Biological Analysis

- OIS is working on an analysis of environmental variables including dissolved oxygen, salinity, and temperature over the 30 plus history of the NJ Ocean Trawl.

Habitat Change Analysis Project (HCAP)

- OIS is working with Rowan University's GeoLab on development of a dashboard depicting habitat change for public consumption.

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 the tool to be effectively developed and implemented by NJFW.
- Potential encroachments that OIS identified are going through review by BLM staff.

CARTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION

- OIS produced revised maps of Wharton State Forest vehicle access at the request of the Assistant Commissioner on behalf of the Sportsmen's Federation. The mapping covers a subset of roads the Federation would like to see reopened to vehicle access for hunting and trapping purposes.

WEB MAP/APP PRODUCTION

Fishing & Hunting License Agent Locator

- Modifications (additions, removals, edits) were made to the license agent locator GIS dataset.
- OIS staff have been working with the staff of Business Administration to eliminate the need for license agent modifications to be made manually.

Deer Disease Sighting Survey

- No updates.

Hunting & Trapping Explorer

- Minor updates have been made.

Wildlife Management Area Explorer

- Minor updates have been made.

Saltwater Fishing Explorer

- No updates.

Freshwater Fishing Explorer

- OIS added a link in the popups of the Great Fishing Close to Home and Trout Stocked Waters apps that opens the Fishing Regulations app at the same location making it easier for users to look up the fishing regulations for the waterbody at which they're fishing.

Conservation Focal Area Application

- No updates.

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

- OIS has updated the dashboard with 2024 Fall and 2025 Spring data.

Northeast Regional Conservation Priorities web application

- No updates.

Upland Bird Stocking Areas

- No updates.

Landscape Project ArcGIS StoryMap and Experience Builder

- Minor updates were made.

New Jersey Aquatic Invasive Species Reporting Form

- OIS is finalizing the reporting form and working with freshwater fisheries on a data review and editing process.

Furbearer Species Sighting Form

- OIS is working on getting data collected through the Wildlife Tracker into the Furbearer dataset and vice versa.

Upland Gamebird Sighting Form

- Minor updates were made.

Wild Bird Disease Reporting Form

- OIS continues to manage the newly developed [NJDEP Wild Bird Disease Reporting Form](#) and is collaborating with the Office of Health and Forensics and coordinating data with the Department of Health and APHIS.

Marine Protected Species Reporter

- OIS made updates to accommodate Marine Fisheries review process and ENSP for export to Wildlife Tracker.

Youth Fishing Challenge

- No updates. The 10th Annual Youth Fishing Challenge took place June 7th and 8th.

GPS/FIELD DATA COLLECTION

WMA Asset and Infrastructure data collection

- OIS will resume field data collection in July mapping fishing access points at the lakes, ponds, and reservoirs in the Great Places to Fish Close to Home web map application. Some of these are located on WMAs and others may occur on other types of open space (municipal, county, Parks and Forestry, nonprofit, etc.).

Shellfish Lease Ground Investigation

- OIS continues to work with shellfisheries staff to finalize surveys for field data collection.

Deer Drone Surveys

- OIS continues to coordinate with Warren County Community College on a drone pilot project to estimate the local population densities of white-tailed deer.

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.
- OIS continues to attend 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 continues to support NJ Fish and Wildlife's SharePoint site by administering sharing privileges upon request.