

**National Wetlands Inventory**

		2006 Actual	2007 CR	2008			Change From 2007 (+/-)
				Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
National Wetlands Inventory	(\$000)	4,647	4,702	+136	0	4,838	+136
	FTE	30	30	0	0	30	0

**Program Overview**

Wetlands are the cornerstone of the Nation’s most ecologically and economically important ecosystems, which benefit fish, wildlife, and people. The Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986 (EWRA) directs the Service to map our nation’s wetlands and deepwater habitats, and produce scientific reports on the status and trends of wetlands. As of 2006, the National Wetlands Inventory has produced digital wetlands maps for about 53 percent of the nation. The Inventory provides federal, state, tribal, and local governments and the public with contemporary map and scientific data over the Internet that is widely used to help identify, conserve, and restore wetland resources across the American landscape.

This scientific wetlands program supports the DOI Resource Protection Goal of *Improving the health of watersheds, landscapes, and marine resources*. Updated geospatial data produced by the Inventory, combined with other biological information, is an important decision support tool for strategic habitat conservation and species recovery actions by the Service with its partners for both coastal and inland areas of the Nation. The Inventory will directly support the Service’s Strategic Habitat Conservation approach and the Service’s multi-program Focus Areas by supplying digitally mapped habitat and trend report data to help guide, prioritize, and assess species recovery, wildlife resource management, and wetland restoration project actions.

The Service modernized Internet mapping services to meet demands for wetlands data, and is sharing state of the art geospatial data and tools with an expanding suite of partners to update digital wetlands data and perform habitat assessments. The Inventory is responsible for producing and maintaining the wetlands layer of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), and is a major component of Department’s geospatial line of business portfolio and E-government through the *Geospatial One-Stop* initiative and *The National Map*. The economic vitality and quality of life in local communities is enhanced by the availability and use of nationally consistent digital wetland inventory map products as powerful tools to plan and fast-track needed development projects that minimize environmental impacts.

The Inventory is guided by a 2002 Strategic Plan that is the foundation of all program priorities and activities. This Plan supports the Department’s *Resource Protection Goal* strategy to improve the scientific information base for resource management, technical assistance, and decision-making, and help to accomplish the President’s Management Agenda, Wetlands Initiative, and E-Government initiatives. The three goals are:

- Strategic Mapping;
- Habitat Trend and Change Analyses; and
- Identification and Assessment of Threats to Aquatic Habitats

The strategic outcome to be achieved by the Inventory is to provide mission-critical habitat information in state-of-the-art digital formats to guide the conservation and stewardship of the Nation's wetlands and aquatic resources for the benefit of the American people. With the completion of program restructuring, the Inventory is aligned to more efficiently and effectively support Service, Departmental, and national priorities to undertake geographically targeted wetland assessment and change studies for coastal and other wetlands restoration, fisheries and migratory birds resources management, imperiled species recovery, Federal land planning and management, infrastructure development, and emergency preparedness.

#### Use of Cost and Performance Information

The Inventory continues to use key means and strategies to achieve results, in conformance with the Departmental Strategic Plan and other Administration directives:

- The National Wetlands Inventory **Strategic Plan** has culminated in repositioning of the program to produce and distribute updated wetlands information over the Internet to increase public access and utility of our data.
- The Inventory is completing program **restructuring** in FY2007 to fully align operations and resources with its strategic plan. By further capitalizing on **changing technology in order to increase performance while reducing costs**, the Inventory will accomplish a 100% increase in strategic mapping performance in five years.
- The Inventory also utilized **innovative strategies** to collaboratively fund and successfully complete **Status and Trends of Wetlands in the Conterminous United States: 1998 to 2004**, as directed by the President on Earth Day 2004, a process to be repeated for the next five-year report in 2010.
- The Inventory participated in the Habitat Conservation **PART** (Program Assessment Rating Tool) review, and received an OMB rating of "adequate." The program will help implement action items in a Habitat Conservation Performance Improvement Plan and begin reporting on its mapping efforts as a PART Efficiency Measure of "# of acres of lands digitally updated per million dollars expended."

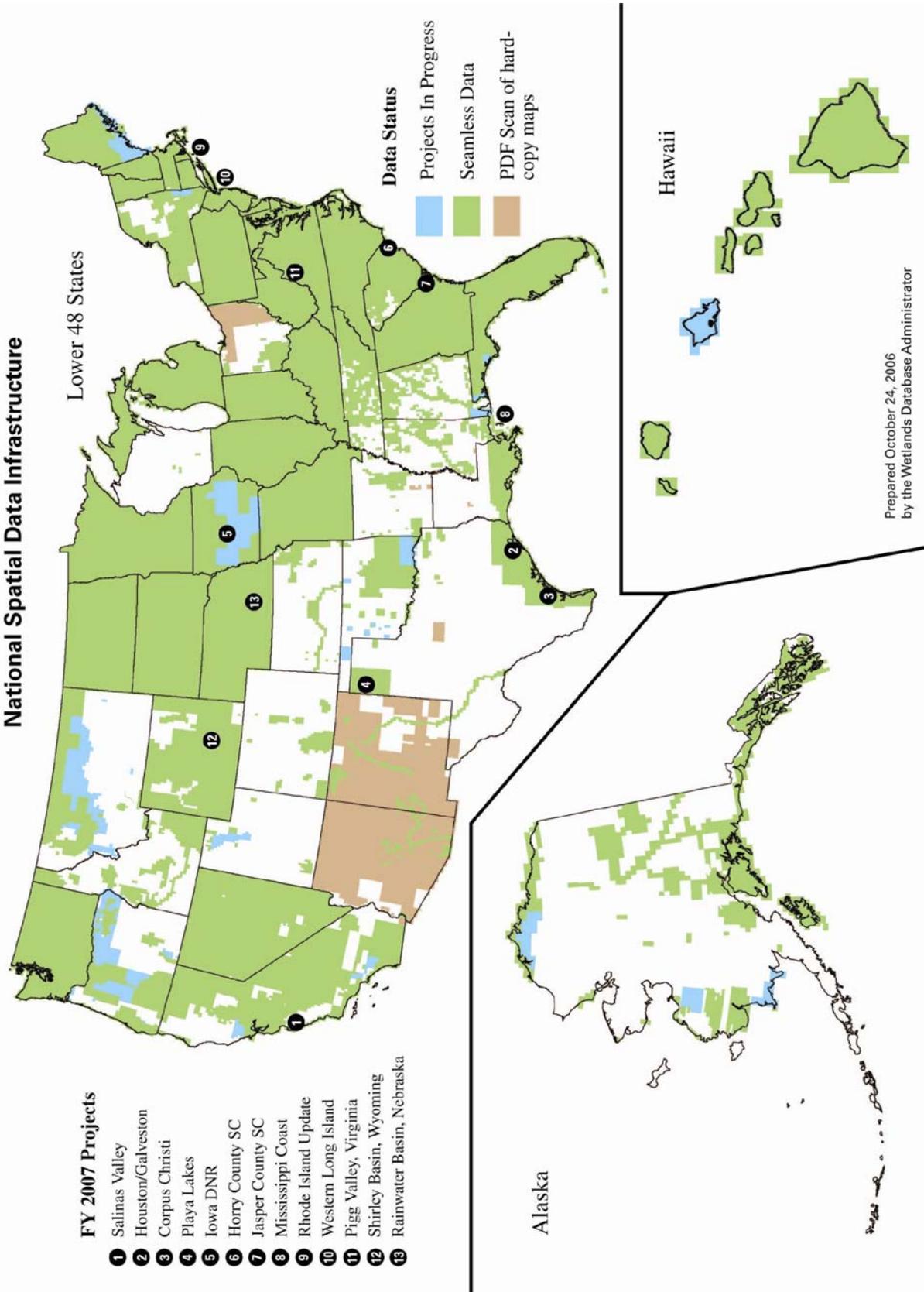
#### 2008 Program Performance

The Inventory is on-track to accomplish an anticipated 16 percent increase from the FY 2006 strategic map planned performance base of 19 million acres mapped as a result of restructuring efficiencies and management changes initiated in FY 2006. Including mapping done in partnership with other agencies, the Inventory's actual result was higher for FY 2006, at 66.9 million acres, as is expected in FY 2007 and 2008. In addition, the Inventory is redirecting some of its efforts to the national status and trends report in FY 2008. At the request level, the Service anticipates initiating the production of digital wetlands data for 22 million acres of landscape and watersheds. Much of the acreage of digital data will be produced in FY 2008 in priority Service Focus Areas identified by programs such as Migratory Birds, Endangered Species, Fisheries, Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Coastal, Project Planning, Contaminants, Invasive Species, and National Wildlife Refuges. Targets for focusing Service conservation activities may be such areas as wetland and riparian habitats of the Intermountain West, Great Lakes watersheds, Texas Playa Lakes; and Gulf, Atlantic, and Pacific coasts. The Service anticipates there will be seamless digital wetlands data available on-line for about 57.1% of the Nation by the end of 2008 to support resource management and decision-making, an increase of almost 8% over FY 2005, with much of the increase the result of production of wetlands digital data by Federal or State partners.

In addition, the Inventory will assist the Administration and Department in accomplishing two key components of the President's Wetlands Initiative: commencing study for the 2010 National wetlands status and trends report to Congress required by the EWRA, and assisting the Department for the third year with the Council on Environmental Quality reporting on the Administration's progress toward restoring, improving and protecting 3 million acres of wetlands. Advances in computer automation have enabled the Service to increase digital mapping and complete wetland status and trends reporting more frequently.

The Inventory will continue to support the nation's needs for updated digital data for use in emergency preparedness as provided in FY 2006 for responding to the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and for response planning for a possible bird flu pandemic. FY 2008 issues likely be modeling for sea-level rise and its effects on Federal lands; planning for restoration of the Gulf Coast areas affected by subsidence, sea-level rise, and hurricanes; and planning for energy independence.

# Wetlands Layer National Spatial Data Infrastructure



**FY 2007 Projects**

- 1 Salinas Valley
- 2 Houston/Galveston
- 3 Corpus Christi
- 4 Playa Lakes
- 5 Iowa DNR
- 6 Horry County SC
- 7 Jasper County SC
- 8 Mississippi Coast
- 9 Rhode Island Update
- 10 Western Long Island
- 11 Pigg Valley, Virginia
- 12 Shirley Basin, Wyoming
- 13 Rainwater Basin, Nebraska

**Data Status**

- Projects In Progress
- Seamless Data
- PDF Scan of hard-copy maps

Prepared October 24, 2006  
by the Wetlands Database Administrator

**Program Performance Overview: National Wetlands Inventory**

	2004 Actual	2005 Actual	2006 Plan	2006 Actual	2007 Plan	2007 Change from 2006	2008 Plan	2008 Change from 2007
<b>4.1.10.1 # of acres of lands digitally mapped (in millions) (BUR) *</b>	19.3	11.3	19.0	66.9	30.9	-36.0	22.0	-8.9
<b>Comments:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FY 2006 Actual performance reported includes data provided by agency partners where the Inventory verified national standards were met. FY 2007 and 2008 performance targets do not include estimates of contributed data.</li> <li>Performance in FY 2008 includes initiating the 2010 national wetlands status and trends report.</li> </ul>							
<b>4.1.10 % (cumulative) of lands with digital data available (acres in millions) (BUR) *</b>	45.8 1057.0/ 2307.8	48.9% 1,135.4/ 2,324.2	52.1% 1,210/ 2,324.2	53.4% 1,240.2/ 2,324.2	54.5% 1266.0/ 2,324.3	+1.1% +25.8/ 2,324.3	57.1% 1,327.8/ 2324.3	+2.6% +61.7/ 2,324.3
<b>4.1.14 # of scientific/ technical reports produced (BUR) *</b>	4	8	15	20	15	-5	16	1
<b>Annual Efficiency Measure (PART)</b>								
<b>4.1.15 # of acres of lands digitally updated per million dollars expended (PART) *</b>	NA	Baseline 2,833,574	NA	16,278,782	7,786,303	-8,492,479	7,541,995	-244,308
<b>Comments:</b>	FY 2006 Actual performance reported includes data provided by agency partners where the Inventory verified national standards were met. Efficiency Measure planning targets do not include estimates of contributed data.							

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