

DRAFT

National Wetlands Inventory  
User Notes for  
Long Island, New York\*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Region 5  
Habitat Resources  
Newton Corner, MA 02158

August 1983

\*This report covers the New York portions of the following 1:100,000 wetland map areas: New York NE and NW; Hartford SE, and Providence SW.

## INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is conducting an inventory of the wetlands of the United States through conventional air photointerpretation techniques. All wetlands are classified according to the Service's new system - Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin et al., 1979). The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) is establishing a wetland data base, in both map and computer forms for the entire country. The present emphasis is on map production and in the future, wetland data will be digitized to create an automated wetland data base, as funding becomes available. The NWI information will serve to identify the current status of U.S. wetlands and can be used as a reference point from which future changes in wetlands can be evaluated. Final wetland maps for New York can be ordered from the Resource Information Laboratory, Cornell University, Box 22 Roberts Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853. Other information, including a topical brief about the NWI program, can be obtained by contacting the Regional Wetland Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, One Gateway Center, Newton Corner, MA 02158.

## SUBJECT AREA

Long Island represents the southernmost portion of New York State and lies due east of New York City. It is found on parts of four 1:100,000 maps: New York NE and NW, Hartford SE and Providence SW. Approximately 50- 1:24,00 wetland maps cover Long Island.

## MAP PREPARATION

Two series of wetland maps were produced for Long Island: (1) large-scale (1:24,000) series and (2) small-scale (1:100,000) series. Approximately 50- 1:24,000 wetland maps and 4-1:100,000 maps were prepared by the National Wetlands Inventory. Funding for map production was provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, while the Fish and Wildlife Service supported

photointerpretation.

Outlined below are relevant data about the wetland inventory for Long Island.

Contractor for Photointerpretation

University of Massachusetts  
Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management  
Amherst, Massachusetts 01003

Aerial Photography Used

The aerial photography used to annotate wetlands was good quality 1:80,000 black and white panchromatic transparencies. The dates of the photography for each 1:100,000 mapping unit are outlined below. The specific photography used for a given area is listed on each large scale NWI map.

<u>1:100,000 Mapping Unit</u>	<u>Date</u>
Providence SW	3-19-80
New York NE	3-19-80; 4-3-80
New York NW	4-3-80; 4-7-81; 4-17-80
Hartford SE	3-19-80

Dates for Field Checking

Field checking was done during the summer of 1982.

Collateral Data Used

U.S. Geological Survey Topographic Maps  
U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service Soil Surveys  
New York Department of Environmental Conservation Wetland Maps  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce Coast and Geodetic Survey

Minimum Mapping Unit

The minimum mapping unit is generally one to three acres, although wetlands less than one acre are commonly mapped.

Reviewers of Draft Maps

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service  
New York Department of Environmental Conservation  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
National Marine Fisheries Service

### WETLAND COMMUNITIES

The Fish and Wildlife Service is preparing a list of wetland plants (hydrophytes) to accompany the wetland classification system. In addition to this list, the Service plans to prepare a list of wetland plant communities for the country. Table 1 lists the major plant communities observed on Long island during this inventory. Map symbols as they appear on the NWI maps reflect the dominant vegetation and the water regime or degree of wetness of these communities.

### SOILS

Soil is one of the three major criteria used to define wetlands (Cowardin et al., 1979). The U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service is preparing a list of hydric soils to accompany the Fish and Wildlife Service's wetland classification system. Table 2 presents the draft list of hydric soils for New York.

LITERATURE CITED

Bailey, R.G. 1978. Ecoregions of The United States. Forest Service. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. 77 pp.

Cowardin, L.W., V. Carter, F.C. Golet, and E.T. LaRoe. 1979. Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of The United States. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Biological Services, U.S. Dept. of the Interior. FWS/CBS pub. 79/31. 103 pp.

Fernald, M.L. 1970. Gray's Manual of Botany. D. Van Nostrand Company, New York. 1632 pp.

TABLE 1. OBSERVED WETLAND PLANT COMMUNITIES OF LONG ISLAND\*. This list is obviously not comprehensive, but limited to actual field observations.

<u>WETLAND TYPE</u> <u>(MAPPING SYMBOL)</u>	<u>Dominance Types</u>	<u>Associated Species</u>	<u>Water Regime</u>
E2EM5N	<u>Spartina alterniflora</u> (tall form)		Regularly flooded
E2EM5P	<u>Spartina alterniflora</u> (short form) <u>Distichlis spicata</u> <u>Spartina patens</u>	<u>Iva frutescens</u> <u>Salicornia</u> spp. <u>Limonium</u> sp.	Irregularly flooded
E2EMIP	<u>Phragmites australis</u>		Irregularly flooded
E2SSIP	<u>Iva frutescens</u>	<u>Spartina patens</u> ✓ <u>Distichlis spicata</u> <u>Distichlis</u>	Irregularly flooded
PEM5F	<u>Pontedaria cordata</u> <u>Juncus militaris</u>	<u>Leersia orzoides</u> <u>Lemna</u> sp.	Semi-permanently flooded
PEM5E	<u>Typha angustifolia</u> <u>Scirpus americanus</u> <u>Eleocharis</u> spp. ✓ <u>Cyperinus</u> spp. <sup>Cyperus</sup> <u>Phragmites australis</u> <u>Scirpus</u> spp. <u>Leersia orzoides</u> <u>Leersia virginica</u>	<u>Polygonum</u> spp. ✓ <u>Cyperinus</u> spp. <u>Hypericum</u> spp.	Seasonally flooded and Saturated

TABLE 1 (CONTINUED)

<u>WETLAND TYPE</u> <u>(MAPPING SYMBOL)</u>	<u>Dominance Types</u>	<u>Associated Species</u>	<u>Water Regime</u>
PSS1E	<u>Acer rubrum</u> (saplings) <u>Cephalanthus occidentalis</u> <u>Myrica gale</u>	<u>Clethra alnifolia</u> <u>Pyrus arbutifolia</u> <u>Ilex verticillata</u> <u>Salix</u> spp. <u>Decodon verticillatus</u> <u>Rosa palustris</u> <u>Phragmites australis</u> <u>Leucothoe racemosa</u> <u>Dryopteris thelypteris</u> <u>Vaccinium</u> sp.	Seasonally flooded and Saturated
PSS1C	<u>Vaccinium corymbosum</u> <u>Rhododendron viscosum</u> <u>Pyrus arbutifolia</u>	<u>Myrica pensylvanicum</u>	Seasonally flooded
PSS3B	<u>Chamaedaphne calyculata</u>	<u>Carex stricta</u> <u>Sphagnum</u> spp. <u>Vaccinium</u> sp. <u>Decodon verticillatus</u>	Saturated
PSS1A	<u>Viburnum dentatum</u>	<u>Pyrus</u> sp. <u>Amelanchier canadensis</u>	Temporarily flooded

TABLE 1 (CONTINUED)

WETLAND TYPE (MAPPING SYMBOL)	<u>Dominance Types</u>	<u>Associated Species</u>	<u>Water Regime</u>
PFO1E	<u>Acer rubrum</u>	<u>Clethra alnifolia</u> <u>Rhododendron viscosum</u> <u>Lindera benzoin</u> <u>Impatiens capensis</u> <u>Leucothoe racemosa</u> <u>Viburnum sp.</u> <u>Vaccinium corymbosum</u> <u>Nyssa sylvatica</u> <u>Osmunda cinnamomea</u> <u>Sambucus canadensis</u> <u>Salix nigra</u> <u>Symplocarpus foetidus</u>	Seasonally flooded and saturated
PFO1A	<u>Acer rubrum/Nyssa sylvatica</u>	<u>Prunus serotina</u> <u>Clethra alnifolia</u> <u>Viburnum dentatum</u> <u>Vaccinium corymbosum</u> <u>Sassafras albidum</u> <u>Mianthemum canadense</u>	Temporarily flooded
PFO4A	<u>Pinus rigida</u>	<u>Acer rubrum</u> <u>Nyssa sylvatica</u> <u>Ilex glabra</u> <u>Rhododendron viscosum</u> <u>Clethra alnifolia</u> <u>Vaccinium corymbosum</u>	Temporarily flooded

TABLE 1 (CONTINUED)

<u>WETLAND TYPE</u> <u>(MAPPING SYMBOL)</u>	<u>Dominance Types</u>	<u>Associated Species</u>	<u>Water Regime</u>
PFO4E	<u>Chamaecyparis thyoides</u>	<u>Rhus vernix</u> <u>Vaccinium sp.</u> <u>Rhododendron viscosum</u> <u>Sphagnum spp.</u> <u>Clethra alnifolia</u>	Seasonally flooded and saturated
PABF and L2ABF	<u>Proserpinaca intermedia</u> <u>Nymphaea odorata</u> <u>Brasenia schreberi</u> <u>Nuphar advena</u>	<u>Cabomba caroliniana</u>	Semi-permanently flooded