



OFFICE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

MONTHLY REPORT

April 2021
(March 16th, 2020 – April 15th, 2021)

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Temporary/Seasonal Employees: Nick Myers

ADMINISTRATION

- The Office of Fish and Wildlife Information Systems (OIS) has 49 projects in progress and 11 new projects requested through the DFW GIS/IT Project Request Form.
- OIS attended the quarterly NJ Geospatial Forum (NJGF) meeting.
- Performance Assessment Review (PAR) interim reviews were completed for OIS staff.
- OIS is coordinating a small DFW workgroup to gather input on a solar siting analysis tool that the Bureau of Energy & Sustainability is developing/revising.

GIS DATA DEVELOPMENT

Anadromous Fish Habitat Mapping

- Staff mapped a fourth watershed, that of the Rancocas River. Staff are investigating ways to automate the watershed mapping process.

Wildlife Management Area Boundary Alignment

- Scanning of surveys and the remapping of parcel boundaries continues. The parcel mapping instructions were updated to include mapping vertices into a point file. Templates were updated to include attributes such as survey marker type, previous owner, and acquisition date. Staff are prioritizing a collection of federally-funded parcels.

Landscape Project

- OIS is awaiting updated species occurrence data from ENSP for use in Landscape.
- OIS will utilize the revised 2015 Land-use/Landcover (LULC) for the creation of an updated Landscape Project base layer.

Georeferencing & Digitizing of Historic Shellfisheries Charts and Maps

- OIS staff have completed digitizing shellfish, SAV, and survey station data based upon historic, georeferenced maps and aerial images from 1963, 1979, and the 1980's. Upon completion of metadata for those layers and QA/QC, those layers will be provided to BGIS for public release.

Georeferencing of Historic Subaquatic Vegetation Maps

- Metadata is being drafted and the images will be combined into a mosaic.

Hard Clam (Estuarine) Survey Mapping

- Working with Bureau of Shellfisheries (BSF) staff, OIS staff have developed a methodology for mapping hard clam densities and other estuarine survey data collected by BSF since 2000. Resultant GIS data for test sites have been reviewed by BSF. Staff are now processing survey data to complete mapping.

Wildlife Management Area Planning Tool Development

- OIS continues to work with BLM staff to draft a habitat management patch file for Assunpink and Greenwood Wildlife Management Areas that will serve as a statewide model and data structure for all WMAs.

Prime Fishing Areas from APAIS sites

- At the request of BSF staff, a new feature layer displaying Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS) locations is being developed for public use.

GIS ANALYSIS

Summer flounder distribution by size and sex

- Marine Fisheries ocean trawl data (2010-2019) and NEFSC trawl data (2009-2019) for those strata off the coast of New Jersey were mapped for the months of August through October. Heat maps were produced for males and females in three ages classes.

Habitat Change Analysis Project (HCAP)

- No update.

Striped Bass Young-of-year Habitat Mapping

- OIS staff have created a GIS dataset representing striped bass young-of-year habitat within selected estuaries from Long Island Sound and the Hudson River in the north to Chesapeake Bay in the south. Calculations of those areas as well as the creation of several maps, have been completed in anticipation of submittal by BMF staff to the *Fishery Bulletin* for publication.

CARTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION

Artificial Reef Guide Update

- OIS staff have received revised and updated deployments data. Data review and processing will be initiated shortly.

Offshore Wind Energy Mapping

- At the request of the Commissioner, a new map displaying offshore wind energy lease areas, proposed cable routes, and vessel transit counts has been created.

Delaware Bay Shellfish Resources Mapping

- At the request of BSF staff, a new map displaying shellfish resources within Delaware Bay has been created for development review purposes.

Update to Marine District Map for Law Enforcement

- Updated the Marine District boundaries used to direct calls to the correct individuals.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Surveillance 2019-20

- OIS staff created maps based on CWD Surveillance conducted in 2019-20 for Health and Forensics to use in various reports and presentations

WEB MAP/APP PRODUCTION

Great Places to Fish Close to Home

- Great Places to Fish Close to Home data has been published. Staff have developed an ArcGIS Online web map application that is currently undergoing final testing and is expected to be released shortly.

Recreational Saltwater Angler Survey

- Awaiting press release and official launch of the application.

Marine Protected Species Reporter Application

- [NJ's Marine Protected Wildlife Reporter](#) has been completed and publicly released. A press release is being drafted for the official launch of the application.

Support NJ Seafood Story Map Application

- One additional business was added to the Support NJ Seafood story map application during this reporting period.

Artificial Reef Web Map Application

- OIS staff have received revised and updated deployments data. Data review and processing will be initiated shortly.

Deer Vehicle Accident (DVA) Application

- No update; awaiting outside information for further development.

GIS TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- OIS staff responded to internal and external inquiries regarding various datasets and applications, including Landscape Project and the Hunting & Trapping Explorer.
- OIS staff met with the Bureau of Marine Fisheries' Marine Statistical Analysis Group.
- OIS staff met with the DEP's Offshore Wind Coordination Team as well as Marine Fisheries' Wind Energy Team.
- OIS staff attended the DEP Invasive Species Internal Workgroup Meeting.
- OIS staff met with Bureau of Shellfisheries staff to discuss data development plans for publication of aquaculture lease data.
- OIS staff submitted multiple maps to the NJDEP GIS Mapping Contest to illustrate the work we do and M. Davenport of OIS received a 1st place award in the thematic category for his map on [Offshore Wind Energy Planning](#).
- OIS staff submitted a poster for the NEAFWA conference to illustrate the functionality of [NJ Hunting & Trapping Explorer](#).

IT PROCUREMENT

- **IT Procurement Detail:**

Type	IT Products on Order	IT Products Deployed
Computer Hardware		
Laptop	31	
Desktop	2	
Removable Storage Devices	0	
Seagate Expansion Desktop external hard drive	2	
Keyboard/Mouse	4	
Monitors	31	
Printers	0	
USB Monitor Camera	0	
Cellular Devices		
State Cell Phone	1	
Software		
NA		
Special Orders		
Docking Station	28	
Dell Battery	1	
Computer Bags	27	
Trimble Unit	2	
SonarWiz 7 Sidescan Sonar Post-processing Software	0	
GO-PRO,HERO8	1	
Security box Spartan Camera		
DJI P4 MULTISPECTRAL DRONE	1	

IT INVENTORY

- The Division's IT inventory continues to be updated. The IT inventory is being revised monthly to update deactivated equipment that was sent to surplus.

IT SUPPORT (non-DEP HelpDesk)

- OIS staff continues to assist Division personnel as needed with OneDrive and Teams during remote work due to COVID-19.
- OIS is serving as DFW's point of contact to set up meetings and webinars with GoToWebinar/GoToMeeting in order to communicate with constituents outside of DEP.

- OIS staff created a Microsoft Form to allow the public to submit comments on the Waterloo Road Amphibian Crossing.