



## **OFFICE OF FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

### **MONTHLY REPORT**

**February 2022**  
**(January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022)**

Patrick Woerner, Geographic Information Systems Specialist  
Kevin Blythe, Geographic Information Systems Specialist  
Brian Henderson, Geographic Information Systems Specialist

Temporary/Seasonal Employees: Molly VanWieren

### **ADMINISTRATION**

- The Office of Fish and Wildlife Information Systems (OIS) has 36 projects in progress and four new projects requested through the DFW GIS/IT Project Request Form.
- OIS staff attended the quarterly NJDEP GIS Users Group Meeting.
- OIS represented Fish & Wildlife at the GIS User Group Program Representative Meeting.
- OIS scheduled its first quarterly meeting with Bureau/Unit GIS Points of Contact (POC). The group was formed to maintain and facilitate exchange of information in the interest of collaborative GIS planning across Fish and Wildlife. The first task for the group will be to communicate Bureau/Unit GIS needs for 2022.

### **GIS DATA DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Lot Data**

- OIS staff performed topology edits on both the Atlantic Coastal and Delaware Bay region lot to resolve any unnecessary gaps and to remove all overlaps.
- OIS staff has begun versioned editing on lease lots and lease holders.
- OIS staff meet with DOIT, NJEMS, and BGIS staff to discuss linkages between the leasing enterprise GIS data and NJEMS.

#### **Fishing Opportunities and Access**

- OIS submitted a dataset on trout stocked waters to the Bureau of GIS for publication.
- OIS continues work on a GIS model to update the trout catchment layer to a new higher definition level used by the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture.

## **Diadromous Fish Habitat Mapping and Timing Restrictions**

- No update.

## **Wildlife Management Area Boundary Alignment**

- OIS staff met with Bureau of Land Management to assess past progress and identify the WMAs to prioritize going forward
- OIS staff spoke with Green Acres to discuss how they handle various issues and also to discuss the file name and file storage conventions they use.
- OIS staff will temporarily move some of the parcel files from Trenton to be scanned at the Assunpink office before being returned to their original location in Trenton.
- OIS staff mapped 3 parcels.

## **Landscape Project**

- OIS continues to work with ENSP to obtain a suitable species occurrence area file for use in the next version of the Landscape Maps.

## **Hard Clam (Estuarine) Survey Mapping**

- OIS is working closely with the Bureau of Shellfisheries to map hard clam data, associated species, and subaquatic vegetation. OIS has completed work on mapping 2012 SAV habitat for Barnegat Bay.
- OIS continues working on performing QA/QC on hard clam data, associated species, and subaquatic vegetation.

## **Wildlife Management Area Planning Tool Development**

- OIS has completed conforming habitat patches in the Central and Southern Region Wildlife Management Areas. OIS is awaiting further review and edits for the Northern Region Wildlife Management Areas.
- OIS has digitized and incorporated 419 assets into the Southern Region Wildlife Management Area habitat patches and 188 assets for the Central Region Wildlife Management Areas. OIS is awaiting further review and edits before digitizing can begin for the Northern Region Wildlife Management Areas.

## **Regional Habitat Data Adoption**

- OIS staff compiled data for forty-four (44) feature classes for New Jersey from Nature's Network, Designing Sustainable Landscapes and Resilient and Connected Landscapes GIS datasets. The feature classes were clipped or masked to only include data relevant for New Jersey, re-projected from their original coordinate system to NAD 1983 (2011) StatePlane New Jersey FIPS 2900 (US Feet) and applied appropriate symbology.
- OIS staff are developing metadata for the above feature classes in addition to the other work necessary for incorporation into NJDEP's Enterprise GIS Server.

## **GIS ANALYSIS**

## **Ocean Trawl Survey Environmental/Biological Analysis**

- OIS is analyzing 30+ years of data from the Ocean Trawl Survey to look for geographic trends or relationships between environmental parameters and/or biological data.

## **Summer flounder distribution by size and sex**

- No update.

## **Habitat Change Analysis Project (HCAP)**

- No update

## **CARTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION**

### **WMA Wall Map**

- OIS made edits to a WMA wall map and submitted it to I&E for a final review.

### **Artificial Reef Guide Update**

- No update.

### **Surf Clam Post-stratification mapping**

- OIS reprinted 25 station charts showing the locations of surf clam monitoring locations between 2015 and 2019, adding prohibited waters to the maps.

## **WEB MAP/APP PRODUCTION**

### **Hunting & Trapping Explorer**

- No update

### **Artificial Reef Web Map Application**

- No update

### **Offshore Wind Energy GeoHub**

- OIS is working on updating offshore wind maps showing offshore wind areas and relevant resources of concern with new information, including projects within lease areas, new lease areas, new planning areas for offshore wind, and some updates of resource mapping.

### **Conservation Focal Area Application**

- OIS staff completed an interactive CFA web map application and accompanying Quick Start guide to orient new users of the application.
- The application will be released in late February.

### **Wildlife Rehabilitators Web Map**

- This project is on hold pending input from the Bureau of Wildlife Management.

### **Wild Turkey Brood Sighting Survey**

- OIS created a new Wild Turkey Brood Sighting Survey via Survey123, but is awaiting further information on location-based auto-populated fields.

### **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 continues to work with Bureau of Shellfisheries regarding their collaboration with Rutgers in a project developing a GIS-based tool for spatial planning and management of shellfish aquaculture in New Jersey.