

South Carolina Wetland Data

Nearly one-quarter of South Carolina is wetland--about 4.6 million acres. South Carolina's wetlands provide flood attenuation, erosion control, water-quality maintenance, recreational opportunities, and fish and wildlife habitat. South Carolina wetlands are important wintering areas for migratory waterfowl on the Atlantic Flyway. Wetlands in the State include wet pine flatwoods, pocosins, Carolina bays, beaver ponds, bottom-land forests, swamps, fresh and salt marshes, and tidal flats. About 80 percent of the wetlands are freshwater and forested. Wetland acreage in South Carolina has declined by more than one-quarter since the late 1700s, primarily as a result of human activities.

The Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory produced [] digital data for South Carolina with [] contributions from []. Using the FGDC Wetlands Data Standard, wetlands were classified by System, Subsystem, Class, water regime and special modifiers. Digital Wetlands Data are available for the majority of the State (89%). Half of the imagery used is about 20 years old with just less than half of the imagery being more recent (1990s). Color infrared imagery was used on all of the wetland maps (despite pie-chart). Most of the imagery was at a scale of 1:40,000.

