

National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) User Feedback Survey

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) National Wetlands Inventory program is seeking feedback from NWI data users regarding the NWI Geospatial Dataset. The purpose of this survey is to increase programmatic understanding of attitudes, preferences and experiences of data users or potential data users. This information will be used to inform delivery of future products, services and communication materials.

Background: The NWI geospatial dataset represents the location and type of wetlands on the landscape using the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Wetlands Classification Standard (FGDC 2013). The NWI geospatial dataset is considered a National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) and is part of the waters inland theme, along with the U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) which is in transition to the 3 Dimensional Hydrography Program (3DHP). The questions below primarily request user feedback regarding experiences with the NWI, but also include questions regarding the interaction of the NWI data with the USGS hydrography datasets. For reference, the USGS represents stream/river features as polygons only if they average greater than 50 feet wide, whereas the NWI program represents stream/river features as polygons if they average greater than 15 feet wide.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: We are collecting this information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) to obtain information about use of the National Wetlands Inventory geospatial dataset. Your response is voluntary and we will not share the results publicly. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. OMB has reviewed and approved this survey and assigned OMB Control Number 1090-0011.

Estimated Burden Statement: We estimate the survey will take you 10 minutes to complete, including time to read instructions, gather information, and complete and submit the survey. You may submit comments on any aspect of this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Info_Coll@fws.gov.

* Required

1. Type of Agency, Organization, or Affiliation (select one) *

A-25

- ☐ Federal Government
- ☐ Tribal Government
- ☐ State Government
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ Educational Institution
- ☐ Private Consultant
- ☐ Non-Profit Organization
- ☐ Other

2. Organization Name (optional)

A-2

3. Email address (optional)

A-2

4. How often do you use the NWI Wetlands Mapper? *

J-76

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Annually
- ☐ Rarely

5. Which of the following best describes the way you currently use the NWI Wetlands Mapper?
(select all that apply) *

J-80

- ☐ Make visual observations
- ☐ Download or print PDF maps
- ☐ Take screenshots
- ☐ Download data
- ☐ Other

6. How often do you use the NWI Geospatial Dataset? *

J-76

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Annually
- ☐ Rarely

7. Which of the following best describes the way you currently use the NWI Geospatial Dataset? (select all that apply) *

J-17

- ☐ Statewide or larger habitat analysis
- ☐ Parcel or local level habitat analysis
- ☐ Regulatory compliance (e.g., NEPA)
- ☐ Preparation for on-site wetland delineation
- ☐ Environmental planning
- ☐ Modeling of wetland function or services
- ☐ Other

8. Ideally, how often should the resources in the NWI Wetlands Mapper be updated (select one): *

J-44

- ☐ Every 20+ years
- ☐ Every 10 years
- ☐ Every 5 years
- ☐ Less than every 5 years

9. Based on your experience, please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about the USFWS NWI Dataset program: *

G-28

	1-Strongly Disagree	2 - Disagree	3 - Neutral	4 - Agree	5 - Strongly Agree
The NWI Geospatial Dataset is my primary wetlands mapping resource.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The NWI Geospatial Dataset currently meets my needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The NWI Geospatial Dataset does not meet my needs because it is out of data in my area.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The NWI Geospatial Dataset must be a higher (i.e., finer) spatial resolution to meet my needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A lower (i.e., coarser) spatial resolution NWI Geospatial Dataset would meet my needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The NWI wetland classification system currently meets my needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A simplified NWI wetland classification system would meet my needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

10. Based on your experience, please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about the USFWS NWI Geospatial Dataset program: *

G-28

	1-Strongly Disagree	2 - Disagree	3 - Neutral	4 - Agree	5 - Strongly Agree
I rely on NWI polygonal stream (riverine) features to inform my decisions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I use NWI Geospatial Data together with 3DHP data to inform my decisions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Streams of all sizes should be included in the NWI Geospatial Dataset whether or not they are also represented in the 3DHP.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My needs would be met if only streams greater than 15 feet wide were included in the NWI Geospatial Dataset (3DHP meets my needs for streams less than 15 feet wide).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The size of streams that are included in the NWI Geospatial Dataset should depend on Target Mapping Unit (TMU) (e.g., at 0.5 acre TMU streams greater than 15 feet wide are included, at 0.25 acre TMU streams greater than 8 feet wide are included).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Only larger streams (greater than 30-50 feet wide) should be included in the NWI Geospatial Dataset (3DHP meets my needs for smaller streams).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Of the wetlands and/or hydrography mapping issues below, which are you the most concerned about (select all that apply) *

E-1

- ☐ Outdated NWI data for my area of interest
- ☐ Simplifying NWI Data production so that updates can be made more frequently
- ☐ Improving the representation of connectivity between NWI and 3DHP features
- ☐ Duplication of features within NWI and 3DHP datasets
- ☐ Improving access to the NWI Geospatial Dataset
- ☐ Lack of functional information (e.g., LLWW code and associated function) within the NWI Geospatial Dataset
- ☐ Non-identical representations of the same feature in NWI and 3DHP
- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ Other

12. How can the NWI - 3DHP collaboration be improved (select all that apply) *

J-69

- ☐ Facilitate concurrent NWI and 3DHP data production
- ☐ Improved coordination on NWI/3DHP funding mechanisms
- ☐ Display 3DHP data on the NWI Mapper
- ☐ Reduce duplication/overlap of NWI and 3DHP features
- ☐ Require that duplicated NWI/3DHP features share the same boundaries whenever possible.
- ☐ Improve addressing so that features that are shared or adjacent within NWI and 3DHP can be identified
- ☐ I don't know
- ☐ Other

13. Do you feel the NWI staff are well integrated into the larger natural resource and mapping communities? *

G-34

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not Sure

14. Please rate the likelihood that you would use the following features, if available on the NWI website: *

J-61

	1 - Extremely Unlikely	2-Somewhat Unlikely	3-Neither Likely or Unlikely	4-Somewhat Likely	5-Extremely Likely
A tool that enables users to target geographies in greatest need of updated NWI Geospatial Data	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A new geospatial layer that depicts where the NWI Geospatial Dataset does or does not represent current land cover	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A new geospatial layer that depicts lost or gained wetlands since the most recent NWI Geospatial Dataset update	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information on other datasets that can be used to help map wetlands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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