

Wetlands

LOSSES IN THE UNITED STATES
1780's TO 1980's

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TABLE 1: WETLAND LOSS IN THE UNITED STATES 1780'S TO 1980'S

| STATE | SURFACE AREA (ACRES) ⁴ | | | WETLANDS | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---|------------|-------------------|---|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | LAND | WATER | TOTAL | ESTIMATES OF ORIGINAL WETLANDS CIRCA 1780'S | SOURCE | % OF SURFACE AREA | ESTIMATES OF EXISTING WETLANDS CIRCA 1980'S | SOURCE | % OF SURFACE AREA | % OF WETLANDS LOST |
| AL | 52,344,640 | 485,120 | 33,029,760 | 7,567,600 | 5 | 22.9% | 3,783,800 | 5 | 11.5% | -50% |
| AZ | 72,680,320 | 221,440 | 72,901,760 | 931,000 | 9 | 1.3% | 600,000 | 10 | 0.8% | -36% |
| AR | 33,392,000 | 594,560 | 33,986,560 | 9,848,600 | 11 | 29.0% | 2,763,600 | 12 | 8.1% | -72% |
| CA | 100,183,600 | 1,579,840 | 101,763,440 | 5,000,800 | 13, 14 | 4.9% | 454,000 | 15, 16 | 0.4% | -91% |
| CO | 66,428,800 | 289,920 | 66,718,720 | 2,000,000 | 17 | 3.0% | 1,000,000 | 18 | 1.5% | -50% |
| CT | 3,116,800 | 88,960 | 3,205,760 | 670,000 | 9 | 20.9% | 172,500 | 19 | 5.4% | -74% |
| DE | 1,268,480 | 48,000 | 1,316,480 | 479,785 | 20 | 36.4% | 223,000 | 20 | 16.9% | -54% |
| FL | 34,647,040 | 2,831,360 | 37,478,400 | 20,325,015 | 21, 22, 23 | 54.2% | 11,038,300 | 24 | 29.5% | -46% |
| GA | 37,246,080 | 434,560 | 37,680,640 | 6,843,200 | 11 | 18.2% | 5,298,200 | 25 | 14.1% | -23% |
| ID | 52,906,880 | 563,200 | 53,470,080 | 877,800 | 9 | 1.6% | 385,700 | 10 | 0.7% | -56% |
| IL | 35,761,280 | 334,720 | 36,096,000 | 8,212,000 | 27 | 22.8% | 1,254,500 | 28 | 3.5% | -85% |
| IN | 23,160,960 | 65,280 | 23,226,240 | 5,600,000 | 29 | 24.1% | 750,633 | 50 | 3.2% | -87% |
| IA | 35,867,520 | 158,080 | 36,025,600 | 4,000,000 | 31, 32 | 11.1% | 421,900 | 31, 33 | 1.2% | -89% |
| KS | 52,515,840 | 133,120 | 52,648,960 | 841,000 | 9 | 1.6% | 435,400 | 10 | 0.8% | -48% |
| KY | 25,504,640 | 348,160 | 25,852,800 | 1,566,000 | 34 | 6.1% | 300,000 | 35 | 1.2% | -81% |
| LA | 28,899,200 | 2,155,520 | 31,054,720 | 16,194,500 | 11 | 52.1% | 8,784,200 | 36 | 28.3% | -46% |
| ME | 19,797,120 | 1,460,480 | 21,257,600 | 4,400,000 | 37 | 30.4% | 5,199,200 | 38 | 24.5% | -20% |
| MD | 6,330,240 | 439,040 | 6,769,280 | 1,598,000 | 11 | 24.4% | 440,000 | 39 | 6.5% | -75% |
| MA | 5,013,120 | 271,360 | 5,284,480 | 818,000 | 37 | 15.5% | 588,486 | 19 | 11.1% | -28% |
| MI | 36,363,520 | 894,720 | 37,258,240 | 11,200,000 | 40 | 30.1% | 5,583,400 | 10 | 15.0% | -50% |
| MN | 50,744,960 | 3,058,560 | 53,803,520 | 15,070,000 | 11 | 28.0% | 8,700,000 | 41 | 16.2% | -42% |
| MS | 30,309,120 | 229,120 | 30,538,240 | 9,872,000 | 42 | 32.3% | 4,067,000 | 12 | 13.3% | -59% |
| MO | 44,189,440 | 409,600 | 44,599,040 | 4,844,000 | 11, 43 | 10.9% | 643,000 | 44 | 1.4% | -87% |
| MT | 93,185,920 | 982,400 | 94,168,320 | 1,147,000 | 9 | 1.2% | 840,300 | 10 | 0.9% | -27% |
| NE | 48,974,080 | 451,200 | 49,425,280 | 2,910,500 | 11 | 5.9% | 1,905,500 | 10 | 3.9% | -35% |
| NV | 70,328,960 | 416,640 | 70,745,600 | 487,350 | 45 | 0.7% | 236,350 | 46 | 0.3% | -52% |
| NH | 5,781,120 | 173,440 | 5,954,560 | 220,000 | 9 | 3.7% | 200,000 | 47 | 3.4% | -9% |
| NJ | 4,820,480 | 194,560 | 5,015,040 | 1,500,000 | 10 | 29.9% | 915,960 | 48 | 18.3% | -39% |
| NM | 77,724,800 | 141,440 | 77,866,240 | 720,800 | 9 | 0.9% | 481,900 | 10 | 0.6% | -33% |
| NY | 30,636,160 | 1,892,480 | 31,728,640 | 2,562,000 | 9, 49 | 8.1% | 1,025,000 | 49 | 3.2% | -60% |
| NC | 31,283,200 | 2,371,840 | 33,655,040 | 11,089,500 | 42 | 33.0% | 5,689,500 | 12 | 16.9% | -49% |
| ND | 44,339,200 | 886,400 | 45,225,600 | 4,927,500 | 50 | 10.9% | 2,490,800 | 51 | 5.5% | -49% |
| OH | 26,251,520 | 130,560 | 26,382,080 | 5,000,000 | 52 | 19.0% | 482,800 | 10, 52 | 1.8% | -90% |
| OK | 44,149,760 | 598,400 | 44,748,160 | 2,842,600 | 53, 54, 55 | 6.4% | 949,700 | 53, 54, 55 | 2.1% | -67% |
| OR | 61,573,760 | 494,080 | 62,067,840 | 2,262,000 | 9 | 3.6% | 1,393,900 | 10 | 2.2% | -38% |
| PA | 28,816,000 | 197,120 | 29,013,120 | 1,127,000 | 56 | 3.9% | 499,014 | 39, 56 | 1.7% | -56% |
| RI | 671,360 | 105,600 | 776,960 | 102,690 | 57 | 13.2% | 65,154 | 58 | 8.4% | -37% |
| SC | 19,379,200 | 496,000 | 19,875,200 | 6,414,000 | 42 | 32.3% | 4,659,000 | 12 | 23.4% | -27% |
| SD | 48,611,840 | 698,240 | 49,310,080 | 2,735,100 | 59 | 5.5% | 1,780,000 | 51 | 3.6% | -35% |
| TN | 26,474,240 | 561,920 | 27,036,160 | 1,937,000 | 42 | 7.2% | 787,000 | 12 | 2.9% | -59% |
| TX | 168,300,800 | 2,796,160 | 171,096,960 | 15,999,700 | 60 | 9.4% | 7,612,412 | 61 | 4.4% | -52% |
| UT | 52,723,840 | 1,622,400 | 54,346,240 | 802,000 | 62 | 1.5% | 558,000 | 63, 64 | 1.0% | -30% |
| VT | 5,935,360 | 214,400 | 6,149,760 | 341,000 | 65 | 5.5% | 220,000 | 19 | 3.6% | -35% |
| VA | 35,498,240 | 624,640 | 36,122,880 | 1,849,000 | 10 | 7.1% | 1,074,613 | 39, 66 | 4.1% | -42% |
| WA | 42,664,320 | 978,560 | 43,642,880 | 1,350,000 | 67 | 3.1% | 938,000 | 67 | 2.1% | -31% |
| WV | 15,413,760 | 62,880 | 15,476,640 | 134,000 | 68 | 0.9% | 102,000 | 39 | 0.7% | -24% |
| WI | 34,856,960 | 1,081,600 | 35,938,560 | 9,800,000 | 69 | 27.3% | 5,331,392 | 70 | 14.8% | -46% |
| WY | 62,259,840 | 405,120 | 62,664,960 | 2,000,000 | 10 | 3.2% | 1,250,000 | 71 | 2.0% | -38% |
| SUBTOTAL (CONTERMINOUS U.S.) | 1,899,526,400 | 34,672,000 | 1,934,198,400 | 221,129,638 | | 11% | 104,374,314 | | 5% | -53% |
| ALASKA | 362,516,480 | 12,787,200 | 375,303,680 | 170,200,000 | 6 | 45.3% | 170,000,000 | 7, 8 | 45.3% | -0.1% |
| HAWAII | 4,112,000 | 3,200 | 4,115,200 | 58,800 | 26 | 1.4% | 51,800 | 16, 26 | 1.3% | -12% |
| TOTAL U.S. | 2,266,154,880 | 47,462,400 | 2,313,617,280 | 391,388,438 | | | 274,426,114 | | 11.9% | -30% |

NOTE: Surface area - There are some discrepancies between the total surface area of states. These differences are probably due to shifting river channels forming state borders. The area given is that presented by the U.S. Geological Survey, National Atlas of the United States, 1970.

Wetland distribution and changes vary dramatically within states dependent on both geographical and/or land use patterns.