








This map depicts all wetlands shown on National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps, but categorized them based on a subset of wetland functions. This map and its depiction of wetland features neither substitute for nor eliminate the need to perform on-the-ground wetland delineation and functional assessment. In no way shall use of this map diminish or alter the regulatory protection that all wetlands are accorded under applicable State and Federal laws. For more information about wetlands characterization contact Elizabeth Hertz at the Maine Department of Conservation (207-287-8061, elizabeth.hertz@maine.gov).

The Wetlands Characterization model is a planning tool intended to help identify likely wetland functions associated with significant wetland resources and adjacent uplands. Using GIS analysis, this map provides basic information regarding what ecological services various wetlands are likely to provide. These ecological services, each of which is described in more detail in the Wetland Characterization Manual, include: (1) fish and wildlife habitat, (2) waterfowl habitat, (3) riparian habitat, (4) open water habitat, (5) shellfish habitat, (6) and/or shellfish habitat. There are other important wetland functions and values not depicted in this map. Refer to www.maine.gov/dep/water/wetlands/pwefv2.html for additional information regarding wetland functions and values. Forested wetlands and small wetlands such as vernal pools are known to be underrepresented in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data used to create this map. The model developed to estimate wetland functions provided by each wetland could not capture every wetland function and value. Therefore, it is not intended to use this map as the sole data source when evaluating wetlands, and each wetland should be considered relative to the whole landscape/watershed when assessing wetland resources at a local level.

- Subwatersheds-** The shaded, background polygons are subwatersheds (areas that drain to a particular lake, wetland, pond, river, stream, or the ocean). The subwatersheds are shaded to show topographic relief. This "hillshading" assumes the sun is shining from the northwest, so ridgelines and northwest-facing slopes appear light, whereas valleys and southeast-facing slopes appear dark. Because many areas of Maine are relatively flat, the topographic relief shown here has been exaggerated to make the details easier to see.

Some wetlands may have more than one function (fill pattern)

- ### Wetland Class: Fill Color
- | | |
|---|---|
|  | Aquatic Bed (floating or submerged aquatic vegetation), Open Water |
|  | Emergent (herbaceous vegetation), Emergent/Forested Mix (woody vegetation >20 ft tall), Emergent/Shrub-Scrub Mix (woody vegetation <20 ft tall) |
|  | Forested, Forested/Shrub-scrub |
|  | Shrub-scrub |
|  | Other (rocky shore, streambed, unconsolidated shore, reef, rocky bottom) |

National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps (the basis of wetlands shown on this map) are interpreted from high altitude photographs. NWI Wetlands are identified by vegetation, hydrology, and geology in accordance with "Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats" (FWS/OBS-79/31, Dec 1979). The aerial photographs document conditions for the year they were taken. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, State, or local government. NWI maps depict general wetland locations, boundaries, and characteristics. They are not a substitute for on-ground, site-specific wetland delineation.

DATA SOURCE INFORMATION
(note: italicized file names can be downloaded from Maine Office of GIS)
TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES
 Maine Office of GIS (2015); *metwp24*
ROADS
 Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Transportation (2015); *medotpub*
HYDROLOGY
 Maine Office of GIS, U.S. Geological Survey (2010); *NHD*
DEVELOPED
 Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (2015)
NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY (NWI)
 Maine Office of GIS (2015); *nwi*
DRAINAGE DIVIDES
 Maine Office of GIS (2015); *medrdiv*

DATA SOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION
Maine Office of GIS: <http://www.maine.gov/megis/>
Maine Department of Transportation: <http://www.maine.gov/mdot/>
Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry:
<http://www.maine.gov/dacf/planning/index.html>
Maine Geological Survey: <http://www.maine.gov/doc/nrimc/mgs/mgs.htm>

DIGITAL DATA REQUEST
To request digital data for a town or organization, visit our website.
http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/the_maps/gis_data_request.html