



The National Biological Information Infrastructure — Data Services for Fish and Wildlife Managers

Wildlife and fisheries resources agencies can use the NBII to handle data management more efficiently and achieve measurable conservation benefits.



Photo courtesy of Wisconsin DWR

IAFWA Partnership

The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) entered into a cooperative agreement with the National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) <www.nbii.gov> in 2001 to facilitate biological data sharing among state fish and wildlife agencies. Through the partnership, the NBII has initiated several projects that focus on the needs of fish and wildlife managers,

particularly addressing issues that are multi-state in nature and require interstate cooperation.

NBII - What It Is ... Who It Serves

The NBII is the nation's living library. Coordinated by the U.S. Geological Survey, this Web-based, biological information system is one of a growing number of programs that draws together vast amounts of scientific data, then provides them via the Web free of charge. The NBII's niche is information on the nation's plants and animals — species by species information (including wildlife, aquatic species, endangered species, and migratory birds), habitat maps, genetics information on fish, and information on basic biological research.

The sources for this multifaceted, collaborative program include diverse biological databases, information products, and analytical

tools maintained by NBII partners in government agencies, academic institutions, non-government organizations, and private industry. Consistent with its motto of "building knowledge through partnerships," NBII partners include fish and wildlife agencies and nongovernment conservation groups. NBII customers include resource managers, scientists, educators, students, and the general public.

Its Purpose

Fundamentally, the purpose of the NBII is to enhance the nation's investment in environmental biological science research. Often, that means making biological data and information from the past more usable in the present. Among the NBII's chief benefits are cost savings to government agencies and to private industry for not having to pay for the *re*-collection of biological information already in



Program Highlights

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD): Internet-based national database and information system

- CWD information electronically accessible in near real time
- Mapping capability for all CWD test samples
- “One-stop shopping” for CWD and other wildlife disease information
- Universal mapping of any wildlife disease in North America

Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Habitats: Getting valuable information to conservation planners

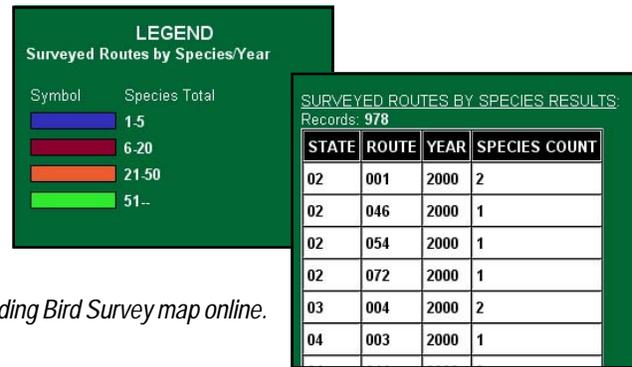
- Partnership offers data management tools to sage grouse conservation planning teams
- Flexible: Provides secure Internet access to targeted audiences
- Cost-effective: Uses existing USGS SAGEMAP mapping and data system

Bird Conservation Data: National and regional data accessible locally

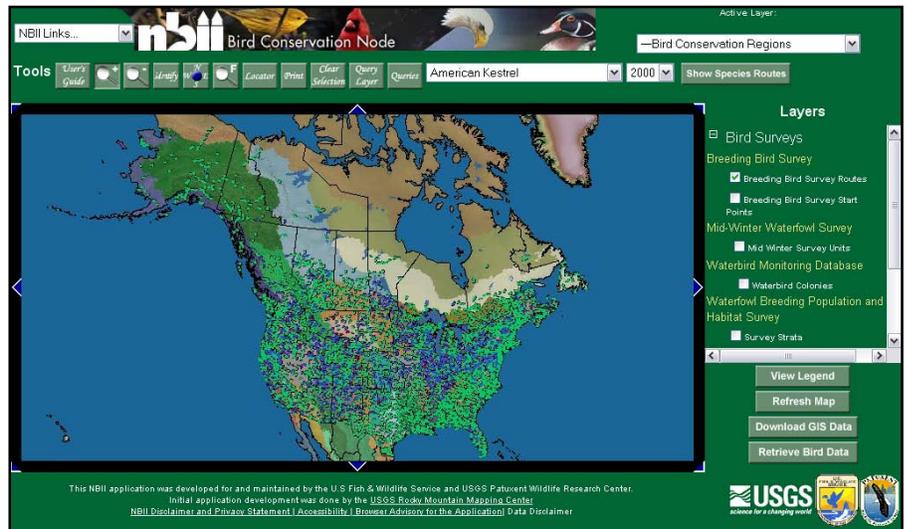
- Provides access to bird related databases through an Internet Map Server
- Managers can obtain specific survey routes and species information
- Future data sets will expand bird data utility

hundreds of different state resource agency databases, natural history museums, libraries across North America, and in many federal agencies.

Through the NBII, customers gain access to a multitude of data and information on biological resource issues; the Program, in fact, facilitates



Breeding Bird Survey map online.



Dynamic mapping capability for wildlife managers and the public.

the sharing of fish and wildlife information. New projects underway highlight key natural resources management issues. Partnerships with fish and wildlife agencies are designed to more effectively achieve conservation success.

Partners find that the NBII offers technological assistance that helps natural resources agencies get more value from their data assets. Because agencies invest enormous resources in collecting data, the NBII can help make sure those data are useful and available to personnel, cooperators, and the public. Although information may be viewed through the NBII, the data ownership is maintained by the cooperating agency.

For More Information

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