

CONNECTING WETLANDS, WILDLIFE, AND YOU

Wetlands are key to quality of life for Hoosiers.

Wetlands support outdoor recreational opportunities and Indiana's diverse economy.



Indiana is an outdoor recreation destination.



In 2016 Anglers spent **\$1.6 billion on fishing-related expenditures** in Indiana, helping support local economies.

In 2016 People spent **\$2.5 billion to photograph or observe wildlife** in Indiana.

In 2016 **2.1 million** people took at least one trip to **watch wildlife in Indiana wetlands**.

Annually **17,200 hunters** annually hunt wetlands, contributing **\$533,000 to conservation** through the purchase of licenses and waterfowl stamps.



Sectors of Indiana's economy rely on clean, clear water provided by wetlands.

Boating and fishing's added value to **Indiana's GDP was \$570 million** in 2019. **Boating manufacturing** alone created **14,000+ jobs** and nearly **400 businesses**.

Recreational users visit lakes with **better water quality more often** and are **more willing to spend more money to visit** those lakes.

In Kosciusko County, lake-related businesses accounted for **\$313 million annually** to the local economy. It was estimated that poorer water quality in that county could result in **\$84 million in lost revenue**.



Outdoor spaces such as wetlands attract new residents.

77% of U.S. adults consider high-quality parks and recreation opportunities important factors when **choosing a new place to live**.

Recreation amenities and water access are increasingly important in **attracting educated, young workers and families**.

Wetlands are critical to wildlife conservation.

Small, isolated wetlands play a significant role in sustaining Indiana's wildlife.



In Indiana, wetlands cover 4% of the state yet provide habitat for 50% of species with small or declining populations.



The crawfish frog, originally known as the **Hoosier frog**, is a state endangered species that breeds in wetlands. A **1/3-acre wetland** less than a knee deep produced over **2,300 young crawfish frogs** over two years.

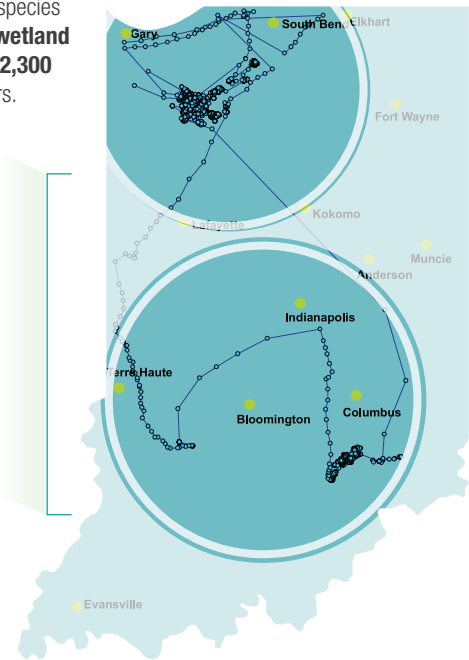
Indiana's wetlands provide critical rest stops for birds migrating along the Mississippi Flyway, which is flown by more than 325 bird species every year.



One **whooping crane's** use of rest stops: only **80 birds** remain in the Eastern flock.

Waterfowl thrive in wetlands.

Ten 1-acre wetlands support **3x** as many breeding ducks as **one 10-acre pond**.



Every acre of wetlands is valuable.

Maintaining wetlands now can prevent further regulation and costly infrastructure investment in the future.



1 acre of wetlands annually provides:

In Indiana, which has just over 800,000 acres of wetlands, this translates to:

\$248 in purification services for fresh drinking water

\$2,270 in water storage services

\$1,055 in erosion prevention services

Nitrate removal from runoff of **100 acres of cropland**, an area equivalent to about **75 football fields**

\$202 million in purification service

\$1.8 billion in water storage

\$850 million in erosion prevention

81 million acres of cropland runoff purification