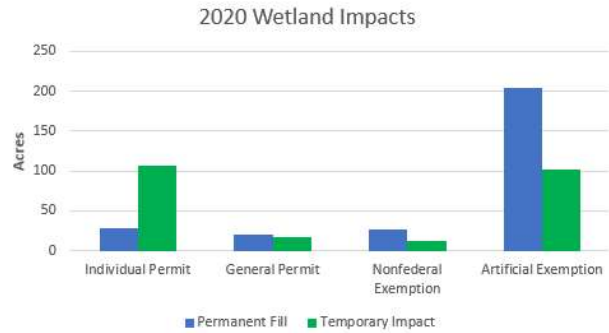
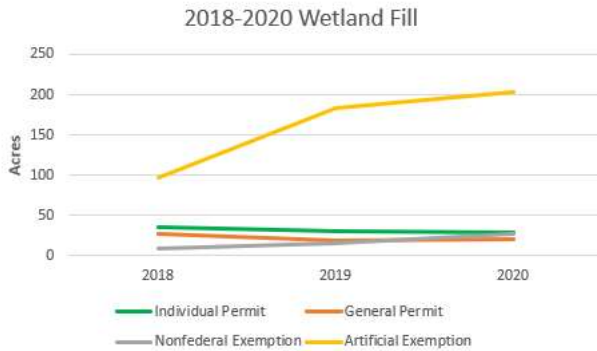




WISCONSIN WETLANDS DASHBOARD



Unavoidable impacts to Wisconsin's wetlands may be authorized through a variety of activity-specific general permits, individual permits or exemptions [\[exit DNR\]](#) (Figures 1 and 2). For projects requiring permit authorization, applicants must submit a practicable alternatives analysis that demonstrates all practicable measures have been taken to avoid and minimize wetland impacts (Figure 3). Exempt projects do not require a practicable alternatives analysis. To mitigate for wetland impacts, applicants must pay a surcharge fee with general permit applications and are subject to compensatory mitigation requirements for individual permits and for non-federal exemptions impacting greater than 10,000 square feet in urban areas or 1 acre of wetlands in rural areas. There are no mitigation requirements for artificial exemptions.

FILL

	2018	2019	2020
Individual Permit	36	31	28
General Permit	27	19	20
Nonfederal Exemption	8	15	27
Artificial Exemption	96	183	204

TEMPORARY

	2018	2019	2020
Individual Permit	96	114	107
General Permit	31	25	17
Nonfederal Exemption	4	9	12
Artificial Exemption	41	123	102

PRACTICABLE ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

	2018	2019	2020
	Requested Acres	Authorized Acres	Percent Reduction
Individual Permit	124	72	42

Permit applicants must complete a Practicable Alternatives Analysis to verify the proposed project cannot avoid wetland impacts and that the selected project alternative minimizes wetland impacts to the maximum extent practicable while meeting the basic project

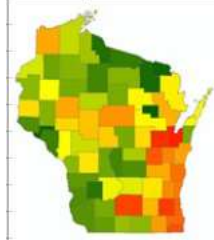
	Requested Acres	Authorized Acres	Percent Reduction
General Permit	66	31	53

	Requested Acres	Authorized Acres	Percent Reduction
Individual Permit	118	74	37
General Permit	61	40	34

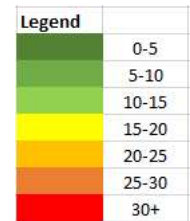
	Requested Acres	Authorized Acres	Percent Reduction
Individual Permit	115	65	43
General Permit	58	16	72

purpose. Figure 3 demonstrates the effectiveness of the practicable alternatives analysis, dually meeting development and resource protection goals.

Acres Impacted 2018-2020



Wetland impacts vary across the state and are generally higher in urban/suburban settings and areas of higher development. Figure 4 displays the total acres of temporary and permanent impacts by county.



Acres Restored 2018-2020



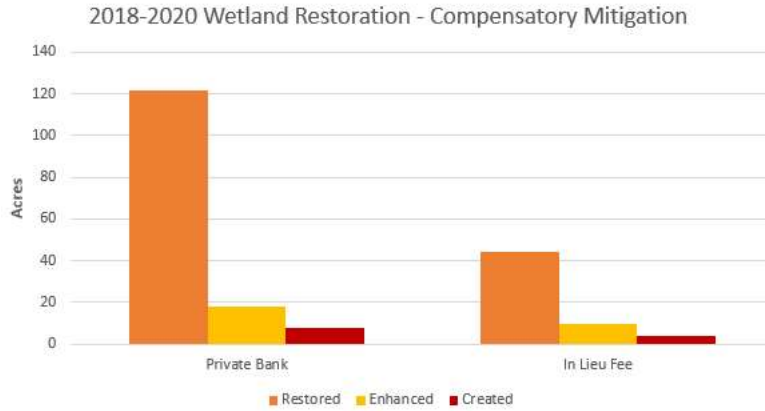
Unlike wetland impacts, the distribution of wetland restorations throughout the state is not predominately a function of land use and development. Wetlands are restored both through compensatory mitigation tied to local, state and federal permit requirements, as well as restoration projects conducted by private landowners, agencies and stewardship groups such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, DNR, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ducks Unlimited, the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association and county land and water conservation departments. Figure 5 displays the total acres of wetlands restored by county under all of these mechanisms.

Net Gain/Loss 2018-2020



In alignment with DNR's "Reversing the Loss" Wetland Program Plan, Figure 6 displays net loss vs. gain data to inform wetland decision making and protection goals. As of 1990 Wisconsin had lost 46% of their estimated original ten million wetlands acres present in the 1780's ([Dahl, Wetland Losses in the United States 1780's to 1980's](#)^[exit DNR]). Statewide wetland acreage has since increased to just over six million acres according to the Wisconsin Wetland Inventory as of February 2021.

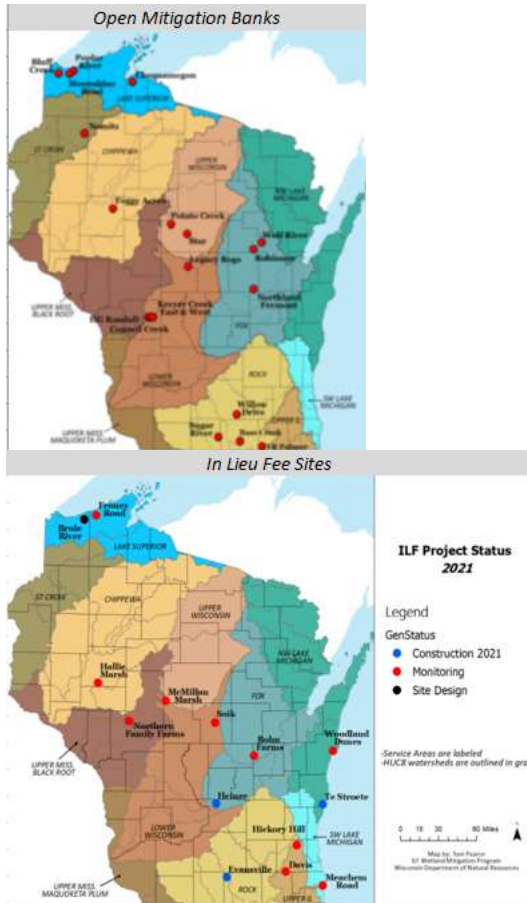
COMPENSATORY MITIGATION



Restored	
	2018-2020
Private Bank	122
In Lieu Fee	44
Enhanced	
	2018-2020
Private Bank	18
In Lieu Fee	10
Created	
	2018-2020
Private Bank	8
In Lieu Fee	4

Wetland mitigation banks are restorations of drained historic wetlands, enhanced existing wetland that has been degraded, or created wetlands whose purpose is to provide credits to permittees to offset unavoidable impacts to existing wetlands. Landowners typically work with consultants under guidance from the Wisconsin Interagency Review Team (IRT), currently made up of USACE, USEPA and DNR, to establish and maintain a wetland mitigation bank. The Wisconsin Wetland Conservation Trust, DNR's In Lieu Fee (ILF) mitigation program, offers an alternative credit purchase option for permittees if mitigation bank credits are not available in the same service area (Figures 8 and 9). Like banks, ILF wetland restoration projects are restored, enhanced, or created wetlands and are conducted in coordination with the IRT, but the program is administered by DNR and not the private sector. Figure 7 displays the total acres of wetlands restored, enhanced and created through compensatory mitigation from 2018-2020.

The compensatory mitigation framework is divided into 12 watersheds that serve as the areas within which banks and the ILF program may sell credits and be considered "in service area." If mitigation bank credits are not available in the service area, further guidance on how to determine credit ratios can be found in the 2013 Guidelines for Wetland Compensatory Mitigation



in Wisconsin (Version 1), under Chapter 3. Figures 8 and 9 show the distribution of compensatory sites across Wisconsin.