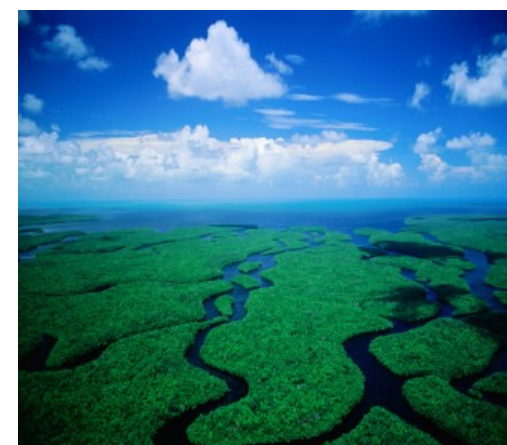


## Human Impact

- 90% of wetlands are destroyed due to draining and filling in some areas.
- Wetlands are drained because of human development of real estate.

## Impact On Humans

- **Water Quality:** Wetlands are natural water filters for rivers and streams.
- **Flood Control:** Wetlands are important barriers for flood because they are natural storage for water and can significantly reduce floods.
- **Wildlife Habitat:** Wetlands are the most diverse biomes and are homes for many species of animals and plants.



### WETLANDS

EPA | Wetlands  
Phone: (202) 566-1730  
<http://water.epa.gov/type/wetlands/index.cfm>

## Wetlands

## Environment

### **Physical Environment:**

- Aquatic (Permanently or by flood)
- Swamps, marshes, bogs
- Temperate or tropic climates
- Rain fall: 18cm to 1000cm (Depends on the region)

### **Chemical Environment:**

- High organic production/ decomposition
- Water and soil low in oxygen
- High capacity of nutrients and pollutions



## Geologic Features

### **Basin Wetlands:**

- Shallow basins
- Filled-in lakes and ponds

### **Riverine Wetlands:**

- Shallow flooded banks of rivers and streams

### **Fringe Wetlands:**

- Coasts of lakes and seas
- Tidal action (water flows back and forth)
- Includes freshwater biomes and marine biomes



## Animals

### **Producers:**

- Land producers: cattails, sedges, tamaracks, black spruce
- Aquatic producers: water lilies, algae

### **Consumers:**

- Most diverse biomes on Earth
- Carnivores: dragonflies, otters, alligators, owls, etc.
- Herbivores: crustaceans, aquatic insects, muskrats, etc.



## WETLANDS