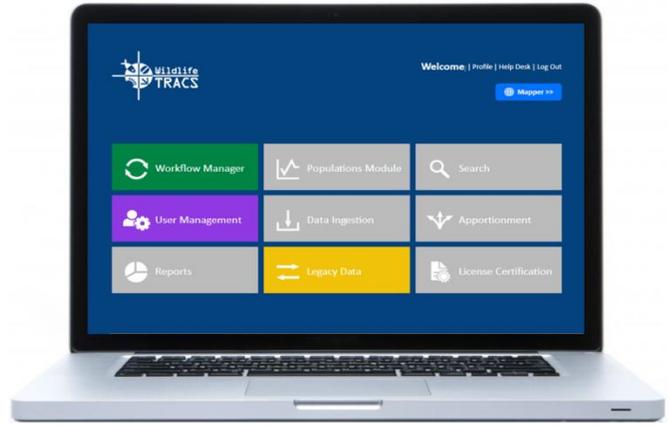


Tracking and Reporting Actions for the Conservation of Species

What is Wildlife TRACS?

Wildlife TRACS is the data system used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to track and report the status and accomplishments of projects funded by the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration (WSFR) Program. **TRACS** stands for **T**racking and **R**eporting **A**ctions for the **C**onservation of **S**pecies. WSFR funds 56 states and territories to implement projects that target fish and wildlife conservation, recreational boating, and aquatic education.



Background

The TRACS data system serves two critical roles: 1) tracking and reporting the status and effectiveness of projects and actions funded by WSFR's 14 grant programs; and 2) streamlining the performance reporting process for recipients of WSFR grant program funds. The previous system, Federal Aid Information Management System (FAIMS), was decommissioned by the Department of the Interior on October 1, 2012. The new TRACS system is map-based and hosted in the cloud. State administrators manage access to the system by state fish and wildlife agency users who enter data via the web.

Wildlife TRACS Go-live Announcement

On March 07, 2014 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Wildlife Sports Fish Restoration (WSFR) Program announced that Wildlife Tracking was open for business and available for use by partner agencies in all 56 states, territories, and the District of Columbia. All fifty-six partners have designated system user administrators, over 500 federal and state system users have been trained, and more than 1,700 new projects have been entered to date. In addition, nearly 100,000 legacy projects have been migrated from FAIMS to the new TRACS systems.

TRACS Benefits

Wildlife TRACS will enhance the Service's ability to report on the outputs and outcomes of grant programs administered by the WSFR Program and inform the implementation of conservation, recreation, and education activities. Wildlife TRACS' many benefits include:

- ❖ Foster public trust through transparency and accountability;
- ❖ Increase accessibility to information useful for scientific and management activities;
- ❖ Provide a platform to enhance collaboration and coordination with state, local, tribal, non-governmental, commercial and landowner partners;
- ❖ Better communicate the effectiveness of WSFR's conservation programs;
- ❖ Decrease overall grant administration time and costs for all parties;
- ❖ Reduce duplicative efforts and improve the accuracy of data;
- ❖ Assist fish and wildlife managers in planning and prioritizing conservation projects;
- ❖ Communicate the landscape context for WSFR funded projects and actions.

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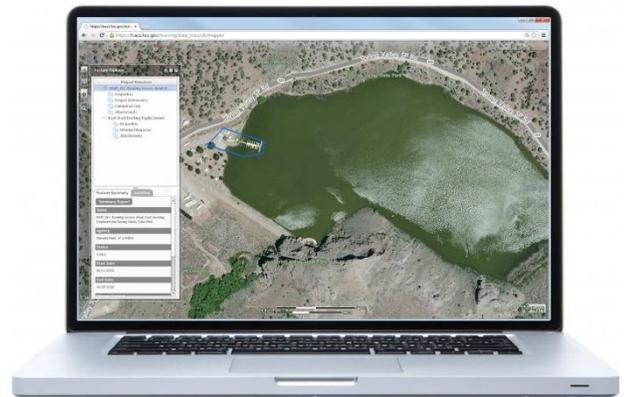
Governance

Wildlife TRACS is managed by WSFR's Program and Accomplishment Reporting (PAR) Branch. PAR is responsible for system maintenance and the continued evolution of the database and system applications. The PAR Branch is supported by the TRACS Working Group, comprised of eight state representatives, (six regional reps and two at-large); eight WSFR regional representatives (one from each of the eight USFWS regions); and representatives from national organizations representing states (e.g. Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies).

Core Functions and Features

TRACS communicates the status, funding and effectiveness of WSFR's conservation efforts through a series of core functions:

- **Grant Reporting** – State users report information online related to WSFR grants.
- **Role-Based Security** - State and federal users access TRACS through a secure, password-protected portal. System administrators manage access at the user level.
- **Map-based** - TRACS information is stored geo-spatially by attributing data geographically via polygons and viewable on a map through a variety of spatial layers (i.e., watersheds, counties, species range, etc).
- **Public Access** – TRACS displays information for public viewing via a web-based “conservation viewer”. Information is provided in the context of states, grant programs, and species. Filters prevent any protected information from being shared.
- **Support for Conservation** - TRACS captures information related to plans, projects, outcomes, costs, strategies, partnerships, species and habitats. Information can then be reported out to inform federal, state, tribal, local and private conservation efforts.



For More Information, Visit: <https://tracs.fws.gov/wiki>

Or Contact Us!

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