

Wetlands—Eastern Coal Field Region



Wetlands serve to maintain streamflow, improve water quality, reduce flooding, and provide habitat for fish, wildlife, and plants. Drainage of wetlands degrades stream water quality, increases downstream flooding, and destroys habitat for fish wildlife, and plants. The National Wetlands Inventory by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department has mapped 66,000 acres of wetlands in the Eastern Coal Field. Photo by Dan Carey, Kentucky Geological Survey.