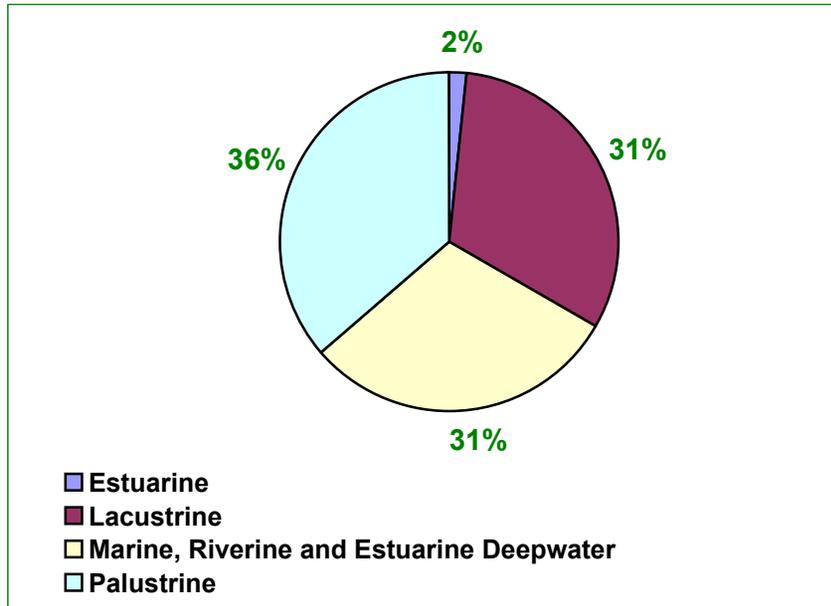


Wetland and Deepwater Habitats

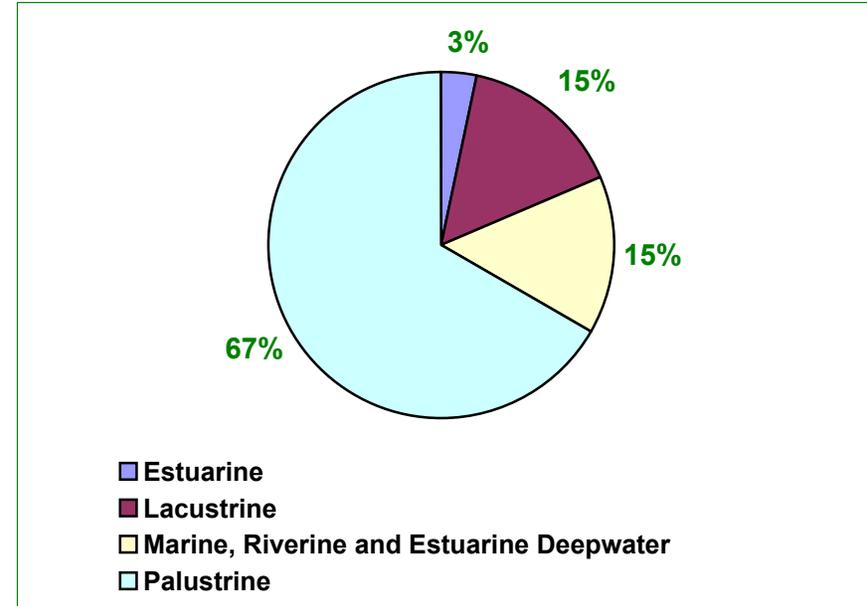


Spokane ICCS

Washington Wetland Estimates



National Wetland Estimates



Wetlands are transitional lands between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water.

Deepwater habitats are permanently flooded lands lying in deeper water than wetlands. All open water areas in which the mean water depth exceeds 6.6 feet in nontidal areas are included in deepwater habitat.

The 5 major Cowardin classification systems are Estuarine, Lacustrine, Marine, Palustrine, and Riverine. In general terms, these include:

Estuarine: Deepwater tidal habitats and adjacent tidal wetlands.

Lacustrine: Wetlands and deepwater habitats with open water exceeding 20 acres or more than 6.6 feet deep.

Marine: Open ocean and its associated high-energy coastline.

Palustrine: All nontidal wetlands dominated by trees, shrubs and other persistent wetland plants.

This system also includes water bodies less than 20 acres which are less than 6.6 feet in depth at low water.

Riverine: All open water wetland and deepwater habitats contained in a channel.