

Federal Geographic Data Committee Newsletter

2009 Summer Edition

Fifty States Initiative

With new awards made in early 2009, the Fifty States initiative now spans 41 States, the District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands. Since 2006, the FGDC through the Cooperative Agreements Program has made 40 awards totaling over \$1.9 million to advance statewide coordination through strategic and business planning. In addition, the USGS partnership office has made several complementary awards supporting the initiative. With most states having received awards, FGDC is looking at what should be done to advance the initiative in 2010 and beyond.

FGDC Staff Director, Ivan DeLoatch, opened the kick-off meeting for this year's Fifty States Awardees or the "Fifty States Class of 2009." Over 40 people attended this meeting that

was held on February 22, 2009, in Annapolis, MD, in conjunction with the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) Midyear conference. Eight States comprise the Class of 2009: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Kentucky, Michigan, Oregon, Virginia, and Washington. The NSGIC Midyear venue provides the awardees with opportunities to interact with geospatial colleagues and with previous awardees.

On February 3, 2009, a Federal Stakeholders workshop on the Fifty States Initiative was held at the National Capital Planning Commission. About 20 people participated. State level activities and lessons-learned regarding the Strategic and Business planning activities of the initiative were presented followed by a facilitated discussion. A key message from the workshop was that the initiative should



Fifty States Class of 2009 at the Kick-Off workshop (pictured from left to right are: Bill Rowe, Steve Aichele, Jeron Wagnedorp, Gene Trobia, Joy Paulus, Tom Sturm, Ed Arabas, Cy Smith, Mike Mahaffie, Kevin Blake, Scott Van Hoff, Kim Cloud, Bill Sneed, Bruce Bach, Kim Anness, Stu Blankenship, Kent Anness, Dan Widner, Paul Harmon (obscured), and Diane Eldridge)

representation of the NAP is under developed as well. The representation is a colorized graphic of NAP content and the shows the relationships between the profile classes. A lesson on the content of the NAP too is under development and when complete posted to the NSDI Training Project. See www.fgdc.gov/training/nsdi-training-program/online-lessons#metadata for the existing introductory lesson on ISO 19115 Geographic Information – Metadata titled “NAP Development for ISO 19115.” A capstone to these materials is a NAP workbook compiling much of the preceding work with additional subject matter. This workbook will be distributed from the FGDC website at no cost. The workbook time line begins in FY 2010.

The NAP Registry is available to the community and contains items and class items for specifying the content of the NAP. The content of the register presented in both English and French is found at: www.fgdc.gov/nap/metadata/register/index.html.

For further information, contact Sharon Shin at sshin@usgs.gov.

Laurentian GIS Collaborative GIS Web Mapping

Since April 2005, the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) and Iron

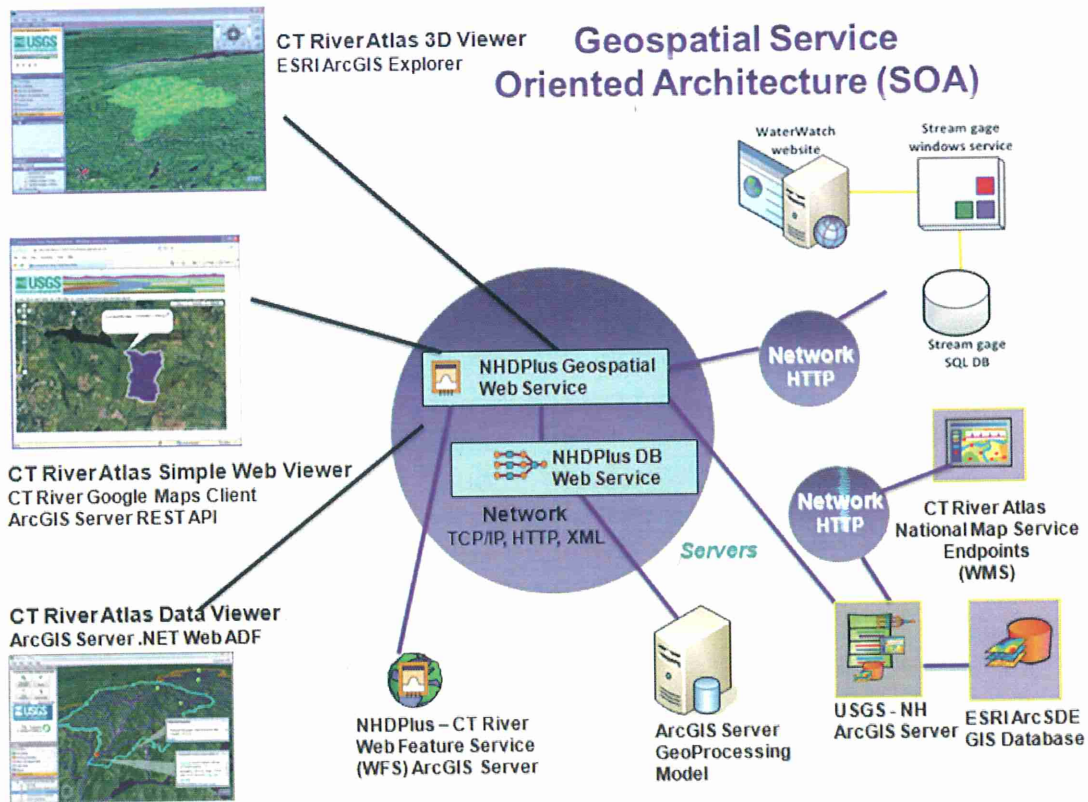
Range Resources (IRR) have been working together to help identify ways that GIS can effectively be implemented at the municipal level for small communities on the Mesabi Iron Range. Iron Range communities wanted to take advantage of the numerous GIS resources in the area at the state and national level, without incurring a serious financial burden as is typical with such implementations.

The purposes of such municipal GIS implementation would include not only an efficiency upgrade to municipal data handling but also boost state information sets which have data deficits. Benefits of GIS implementation include community and economic development, and future land use planning to accommodate growth and future industrial activities.

In this first phase of the Laurentian GIS Collaborative, ARDC assisted the local decision makers of seven pilot communities with the ability to quickly design maps, analyze data and view infrastructure details through a GIS web application. The project team from ARDC worked to include input from stakeholders from local, county, state, and federal governments. Members of the professional GIS community were invited to participate in the project. The project has resulted in a coordinated acquisition and development of data that addressed the business needs of multiple agencies such as parcel, utility, zoning and road inventories.



Laurentian GIS Collaborative GIS Web Mapping Tool



ARDC understands that data collected as part of the collaborative benefits people from the local to national level. Partial funding was provided by a 2007 NSDI CAP grant. Contact Kara Kent at kkent@ardc.org.

Connecticut River Watershed Stream Information Tool

USGS New Hampshire-Vermont Water Science Center, working in conjunction with GCS Research and Horizon Systems, recently completed the Connecticut River Watershed Stream Information Tool and associated Geospatial Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA). This project makes available existing complex NHDPlus network traverse tools coupled with Framework Web Feature Service (WFS) extraction tools in a Geospatial SOA to further advance geospatial analysis with the Connecticut River Watershed. The toolset allows users to view near real-time gauging station information; build watershed boundaries from upstream/downstream reaches identified via network tracing, create attribute reports, and download/extract NHDPlus from a WFS.

Partial funding was provided by a 2007 NSDI CAP grant.

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