

CSDGM Metadata Outreach and Training for Northwest Indiana

2007 CAP Agreement Number: 07HQAG0104

Interim Report

Category 1: FGDC-Endorsed Standards Implementation Assistance and Outreach

Report Date: October 29, 2007

Organization:

(Trustees of) Indiana University for Northwest Indiana Center for Data and Analysis at Indiana University Northwest, 3400 Broadway, Gary, IN 46408

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Project Narrative

Funding obtained through this grant will be used for the following metadata outreach and training activities:

1. Continuation of introductory metadata training to local and state spatial data creators, including members of the Northwest Indiana GIS Forum. GIS development among Northwest Indiana communities varies greatly. As communities develop and utilize GIS technology, we will continue to provide metadata outreach and training to support their development. Promotion of FGDC fully compliant metadata compilation will be stressed. Instruction will include how to search for metadata using the Geospatial One-Stop, www.geodata.gov website. Participants will also work with the Online Metadata Tool previously developed jointly by the Northwest Indiana GIS Forum and the Indiana Geological Survey.

Project progress:

October 18, 2007, Metadata presentation to ArcGIS 9.2 training session. Short presentation included basic metadata information. Most participants had very basic GIS skills. Also showcased new metadata features available in ArcGIS 9.2. Good initial contacts were made with personnel new to GIS who expressed their

interest in attending future metadata training. Individuals from the following organizations were in attendance:

- **Town of Dyer, IN**
- **Hammond Sanitary District**
- **Porter County, IN - Auditor's Office (2)**
- **Noble County, IN**
- **School City of Hammond, IN**
- **Lake County Indiana Parks Department**
- **City of Crown Point – Engineer's Office**
- **East Chicago, IN – Planning Department**
- **City of South Bend, IN – Community and Economic Development**
- **US Army Corps of Engineers – Chicago District (4)**
- **University of Illinois Urban Planning Graduate Program**

Preparation of metadata training sessions is in progress. Current educational materials that currently exist are being personalized for our region. Half day metadata training sessions will be scheduled in the near future. Our Online Metadata Tool is currently being rebuilt by the Indiana Geological Survey due to changes in hardware. It is expected that the tool will be functional in December.

2. Many GIS professionals in Northwest Indiana and throughout the state are already familiar with metadata and FGDC metadata standards. In this case, we will create materials for more experienced spatial data creators familiar with metadata. These materials will be geared more towards data development practices. Funding would also be used for presentations using these training materials.

Project Progress:

Preparation and presentation of June 14, 2007 - Indiana Geographic Information Council Seminar: The Value of Metadata as a Data Management and Project Management Tool:

http://www.in.gov/igic/class/seminarpres/metadata_files/frame.htm. The seminar was held at the Indiana State Library in Indianapolis, IN. Individuals from the following organizations were in attendance:

- **Indiana Election Division**
- **Indiana University-Purdue University (IUPUI) Dept. of Geography**
- **Indiana Business College Library**
- **Hammond Sanitary District**
- **Dearborn County Government**
- **Hancock County Government**
- **MDWise**
- **IUPUI University Library**
- **American Structurepoint**
- **City of Bloomington, IN**
- **TruNorth & Associates**

3. A project is presently underway to update geospatial datasets residing on the Indiana Geological Survey's LakeRim GIS (<http://igs.indiana.edu/arcims/lrim/index.html>) interactive mapping web site. The Northwest Indiana GIS Forum facilitates organizations to add their digital spatial datasets to this website. We will offer metadata outreach training activities to those organizations in Lake, Porter and LaPorte counties contributing data to this website.

Project Progress: A beta website has been created by the Indiana Geological Survey and testing is underway. Communities in Northwest Indiana continue to be contacted requesting their participation in providing spatial dataset for the website. All datasets will include FGDC compliant metadata. Metadata has been furnished for Gary and Hammond. Additional contacts with regional organizations have been made to acquire data for the website.

Past Meetings:

July 27, 2007

August 30, 2007

October 9, 2007

Next conference call December 4, 2007

Organizations of personnel in attendance: Indiana Geological Survey, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Hammond Sanitary District, Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, 39 Degrees North, LLC and Northwest Indiana Center for Data & Analysis.