

NSDI Cooperative Agreement Program
Participation in the National Map
Technical Report

Cooperative Agreement Number: 04HQAG0192

Project Title: “Building The National Map Using Regional Partners in a Statewide Strategy”

Project Start and End Dates: August 20, 2005 – November 30, 2005

Lead Project Organization: Land-of-Sky Regional Council

Project Lead: Jonathan Beck

USGS Mapping State Liaison: Chris Kannan

Collaborating Organizations: NC Center for Geographic Information and Analysis,
Western Piedmont Council of Governments, Northwest
Piedmont Council of Governments

Data Themes: Mount Airy, NC Zoning
Davie County, NC Corporate Limits
Davie County, NC Parcels
Northwest Piedmont RPO Limits
Stokes County, NC Parcels
Town of Elkin, NC Zoning
City of Kernersville, NC Zoning
City of Mocksville, NC Zoning
Town of Pilot Mountain, NC Zoning
Yadkin County, NC Parcels
Town of Alexander County, NC Orthos
Alexander County, NC Parcels
Burke County, NC Parcels
Catawba County, NC Orthos
Catawba County, NC Parcels
Town of Catawba, NC Zoning
Town of Catawba, NC Sidewalks
City of Conover, NC Zoning
City of Hickory, NC Zoning
City of Hickory, NC Greenways
City of Hickory, NC Historic Overlay
City of Hickory, NC Henry River Overlay
City of Hickory, NC City Pedestrian Overlay
City of Lenoir, NC Zoning
City of Lenoir, NC Greenways
City of Newton, NC Sidewalks
Unifour MPO Thoroughfares
Unifour MPO Traffic Analysis Zones
City of Brevard, NC Orthos
City of Brevard, NC Zoning
City of Brevard, NC Corporate Limits

City of Brevard, NC ETJ
City of Brevard, NC Tourism Commercial Overlay Zone
City of Brevard, NC Corridor Protection Overlay Zone
Town of Black Mountain, NC Zoning
Town of Black Mountain, NC Corporate Limits
Town of Fletcher, NC Corporate Limits
Town of Fletcher, NC ETJ
Town of Fletcher, NC Parks
Town of Fletcher, NC Zoning
Town of Fletcher, NC Subdivisions
Madison County, NC Parcels
Madison County, NC Prime Agriculture
Madison County, NC WSW

Project Summary:

a. Describe the project; its tasks, highlights, challenges, and accomplishments. What are your approaches to overcoming impediments to participation in The National Map? Based on your experience what would you recommend for implementation and development for project success (technical, institutional and organizational)?

The Land-of-Sky Regional Council led a consortium of organizations that connected 24 local governments to the National Map, adding more than 40 new data layers. The other consortium members were the Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments, the Western Piedmont Council of Governments, and the NC Center for Geographic Information and Analysis. This effort was special because it targeted local governments that would not otherwise have been able to participate in the National Map because they do not support web mapping capabilities of their own. Based on my experience I think that the best way to get Local Governments behind this program is to illustrate the 'Regional' scope that the National Map allows everyone to view.

b. Describe the data themes provided through The National Map. Are there any use restrictions? Are your map services and data documentation (metadata) registered in The National Map and Geospatial One-Stop? What is the status of maintaining, updating and serving themes of data that are included in The National Map? Based on your perspective and project experience describe user requirements for a national level spatial data infrastructure.

There are many and varied data themes in this project. Most fall into the following categories; parcels, zoning, government boundaries, recreational, agricultural, natural, transportation, and orthos. There are no use restrictions for these layers. The map services are sent directly to the NC One Map, and then on to the National Map. Most layers are updated when edits occur, but Parcels are maintained on a regular schedule.

c. Describe the operational capability to maintain and update data through periodic updates of data made available through The National Map.

Updating layers varies between consortium members and local governments. Some layers are maintained through a live link in real time. Other layers are updated through bi-weekly updates through the use of an FTP site.

d. Discuss the issues, difficulties, and challenges (both technical, institutional and

organizational) that were encountered. How can the CAP program be improved.

One challenge will be to add more layers and maintain the current layers, without any additional funding. The most time consuming part of the project involved the creation of compliant metadata for all of the layers. The upgrade process from ArcIMS 8.3 to 9.1 involved some challenges with changes made to the capabilities files. Also, Third party contractors made it difficult to get data from several local governments. A more streamline metadata standard would be welcome in the GIS community.

e. Describe your relationship and issues with the USGS. Has a formal ongoing agreement been established to provide data and web services through The National Map? Describe your plans for follow-on activities. What are the terms and mutual commitment of resources? Please attach copy of written agreement if available.

There is no ongoing agreement between USGS and our organization to provide data and web services through the national map. We plan on serving this data up for our local governments indefinitely.