

Report For Geographic Information Integration and Analysis Projects

Cooperative Agreement Program Number: 06HQAG0099

Project Title: Benton County WMS Project

FINAL Report

Project start and end dates: 03/15/2006 – 03/15/2007

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Data Themes: Aerial photography, DEM, roads, and parcels

Project Summary:

- a. Through the Cooperative Agreement Program, Benton County will expose the county maintained GIS data with direct access to multiple partners and to the public. This will increase the existing GIS infrastructure to include an additional internet mapping server and spatial data server. This service will offer 2004 and 2005 one foot true color aerial photography, a 25 foot digital elevation model, countywide roads and parcel information. The public access GIS servers would allow The National Map, GeoSpatial One-Stop, GeoStor (Arkansas statewide GIS portal), local municipalities, and the public to have access to the most current county maintained GIS data. The map services will be published in the form of OGC compliant WMS and WFS services in the public domain.
- b. The data themes being provided through the national map include aerial photography, digital elevation model, road and parcel data. There are no restrictions on providing the data but there are restrictions on use of the parcel data according to state law. One additional restriction is the downloading of data through the portal may be restrictive due to band width only. A T-1 line has been purchased and installed for this project to allow for large downloads as necessary. The WMS has been completed and has been published. Many additional layers have been added including 2006 aerial photography, school districts, sections, cities, schools, hospitals, parks, subdivisions, JP districts, House and Senate Districts, and road supervisor areas. Additional information will continue to be added as needed or as the data is completed.
- b. The data is being updated nightly through a batch file to keep the data available for the National Map and other users current. With the additional data layers added to better serve the community there are several data layers that are changing daily in many cases.

- c. Challenges are encountered in every project. With this project so far we have mainly encountered institutional challenges with employees leaving and changing jobs in Aug, Sep and Jan. The project has been successful with meeting these many challenges. The project was well under way but still needed the expertise of these employees on a higher level than was being able to be provided to keep the project on an internal schedule that would ensure meeting the grants schedule. The project is on schedule with the grant timeline and has been completed on time. An additional challenge was getting the communication portal installed at the County. We had a quote from the vendor at the time of application, we verified installation time one month before project would be ready to request the portal, the portal was requested and the time for installation has been 3 times as long as stated by the vendor. This caused significant delays in getting the WMS up and running. The WFS is functioning well with AGIO and the public being able to extract data from the Service for specific areas not necessarily the entire county like is available on the FTP site. The project has been successful and has been completed on time meeting all deadlines.
- d. Our relationship with USGS is excellent. I visit regularly with our state liaison on this project and other current and possible projects. There was a Memorandum of Agreement signed in 2005 prior to the receipt of this grant making Benton County and USGS a National Map partner. We continue to provide information for the National Map and this project will enhance that partnership.