

03HQAG0130

2003 CAP Category 2: Metadata Training Assistance Final Project Report

Land Information Access Association

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Metadata resulting from project:

The point of this project was to assist and convince others to submit FGDC-compliant metadata. We do not know if any files were submitted. See notes below. Not sure.

Clearinghouse service:

Bottom of this page points to <http://www.fgdc.gov/clearinghouse/clearinghouse.html> as Michigan's Geographic METadata Clearinghouse. CGI previously used an FGDC grant to set up Michigan's NSDI site. Everyone contacted under LIAA's grant was told to submit FGDC-compliant metadata to Michigan's NSDI site by sending the file attached to an email to CGI's Dan Metzger (metzgerd@michigan.gov)

Clearinghouse node: <http://www.michigan.gov/cgi/0,1607,7-158-12693---,00.html>

Training workshops_com:

The original plan to host up to 6 training workshops and do at least 6 site visits for one-on-one training did not work out at all. Despite several offerings, mailings, and publicity, people were not interested in attending metadata workshops. Instead, we hosted metadata discussion groups at the IMAGIN conference, spoke and worked one-on-one as much as possible where opportunities were available, and even 'guest lectured' graduate level GIS classes to discuss the importance of metadata and standards. When all other opportunities were exhausted, we included instructions for submitting FGDC-compliant metadata in our LIAA newsletter, which goes out to over 1600 recipients.

Number of workshops: 3 (see comments)

Workshop participants:

(See comments)

Met with, worked with, and visited representatives from the following organizations:

- * Michigan Center for Geographic Information
- * Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- * Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

- * Michigan State University Department of Geography
- * Michigan State University Center for Geographic Information
- * University of Michigan Libraries
- * Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
- * Bay County
- * Grand Traverse County
- * Leelanau County
- * Livingston County
- * Oakland County
- * Grand Blanc Charter Township
- * Pontiac City
- * Benzie School District
- * Traverse City Area Public Schools
- * Numerous attendees at the IMAGIN statewide GIS Conference (May 2004)

Project narrative:

This project had fewer workshops and day-long training sessions than expected and more one-on-one meetings, lectures, discussions, and information dissemination. For the most part, larger GIS shops in Michigan are often creating FGDC-compliant metadata and smaller shops are not, and they are both fairly entrenched in their ways. The State is far more interested in populating the Michigan Geographic Data Library (<http://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mgdl/>) than populating the NSDI site. I don't see the situation changing dramatically until funding sources, contracting agents, or regulation require greater compliance and participation. The project's greatest success was to reach lots of GIS professionals if only briefly and remind them of the importance of FGDC-compliant metadata and the NSDI, and hopefully spark future organizational change.

Program feedback:

DDM is on mark and on mission. The funded program areas make sense. In states like Michigan, what is needed is buy in and real lead-role support from the organizations with the clout and leverage to force (or inspire) compliance from all the county and local units of government. From the outside, it appears that Minnesota has tackled this rather effectively. In Michigan, this requires lead-role proactive support from the Center for Geographic Information and the IMAGIN organization (Michigan's GIS professionals organization). How one turns these organizations into proactive leaders in this arena, I do not know.