SDRGC Meeting Minutes – July 20, 2011

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Welcome by Pat Landrum, SDRGC Chair. For a list of attendees, please see attachment.
Hosted by Pat Landrum in CALTRANS facility in Old Town. A special thanks to Pat for providing a place to meet.

2. GEONEWS

Statewide GIS News – Pat Landrum

- **Statewide roads** – CALTRANS is the data steward. Once at LA region, contracted company Vestra will complete conflation process and digital submittal process. Part of digital submittal is a map interface using Google Earth framework. Pat says he has some concerns with the process.
    - o Q: Where is the functional class coming from?
    - o A: In theory, the County would review and provide updates to functional class on an annual basis. In reality, the workflow is not efficient. Submitters are not GIS people. Possible solution would be to provide an interface to submit the changes, which would make the work flow much more efficient.
    - o Q: Is a statewide vegetation database being developed?
    - o A: Yes, it is one of the 11 statewide datasets under production. There is a lot of interest in this layer. Pat will research and report back to the group.

- **Geodetic control** – Working group did a presentation at the Survey Summit (preceding the UC) re: history, funding, role of private RTNs in the framework, future issues and opportunities. *NOTE: They would like feedback from the geospatial community. Link to Geodetic Control Work Group http://cio.ca.gov/wiki/GCWG-Geodetic-Control-Work-Group.ashx Please see presentation link on the SDRGC web site.*

- **CA Resources Agency** – Is developing a 'common operational picture' for emergency response ArcGIS Server with Flex application. They are using the same framework as everyone else in the region… ArcGIS Server back-end, client viewers, API-based apps, etc… which is encouraging. They are also testing a 'sandbox' approach to allow a few select state agencies to put their data into the application (as web map services). *To view the site, follow this link: https://maps.resources.ca.gov/cn/*

- CA Technology Agency (CTA) GIO site has implemented a Google Reader site to post/view GIS news items. *Follow this link to access the CTA – GIS home page: http://www.cio.ca.gov/Government/Governance/gis.html*

    The Google Reader site can be access directly following this link: http://www.google.com/reader/shared/01174513842957713129

<u>Homeland Security Update</u> – Tricia Toomey

Paul Hardwick's last day of employment with the Regional Technology Center (RTC) was Friday, June 10, 2011. The RTC has been directed to start looking for a replacement his position in the months to come. Due to the grant funded-contract timeline there will be a few months until the RTC is able to hire his replacement. In the meantime, Tricia is filling in.

- **Public Safety GDB**
<u>Project Management</u>
1. Chief Scott (Heartland Fire-Rescue), Bob Welty (RTC), and myself, (Tricia Toomey, RTC) will work together to fill the project management role.
2. A draft strategic plan was distributed to the steering committee for approval.

<u>Heartland Data Centralization</u>
The overall scope of this project is to set-up the ArcGIS server at Heartland Communications Facility Authority as a parent in a distributed geodatabase environment in order to make the ArcGIS server at Heartland Communications Facility Authority the interim centralization point for the San Diego Fire Services/Public Safety Geodatabase Project.

The steering committee is looking for an eventual solution and agency to govern the project, one option will be to have the central data stored in the ESRI Cloud environment and have the data replicated to servers in the region. Until that time any contractor working on the project will need to check out data to be updated from the ArcSDE parent geodatabase at Heartland Communications Facility Authority for any edits requested from the San Diego region.

Currently, the project is awaiting a sole source approval from the City of San Diego, Office of Homeland Security to move forward.

The last meeting regarding the public safety GDB was at the end of May.

- **SDSU PD**
Finishing up a project with SDSU PD Dispatch and their CAD vendor to implement mapping features on the 911 system. The GIS maps are now running live on all the dispatch consoles with vehicle AVL and incident mapping.

- **CAP Grant**
The RTC was awarded a CAP Grant with CalEMA to create a geodatabase to be used by local counties when sending incident specific GIS data to CalEMA during events.

- **NAPSG-NSGIC**
NAPSG (National Alliance for Public Safety GIS)-NSGIC (National States Geographic Information Council) GIS Inventory Focus Group. The GIS Inventory is produced by NSGIC as a tool for states and their partners. Its primary purpose is to track data availability and the status of geographic information system (GIS) implementation in state and local governments to aid the planning and building of Spatial Data Infrastructures. The GIS Inventory provides 24/7 access to information that supports Public Safety & Homeland Security efforts.
GIS Inventory link: http://gisinventory.net/
Please also see the GIS Inventory Flyer posted to the SDRGC website.

- **ESRI Mobile Project**

The clearinghouse is supporting through its server, the Mobile mapping project for the GIS group. This involves sending and receiving GIS data from GPS enabled smart phones and tablets in the field. This effort was successfully tested with iPads, iPhones, and MDCs and is now looking to provide support for a mobile Android platform.

  - A very successful experiment was held in Mission Trails Park. The County Fire Authority was able to map a fire perimeter in 3hrs using data feeds sent directly from the field via tough book computers, iPhones and iPads. This experiment reduced their map creation time from 12 hours to 3 hours.
  - County Fire is actively looking for funding to further develop this capability.
  - In addition, they used the pilot in a controlled burn at Cuyamaca later in the month.
  - This exercise led to a customization of the pilot which will support San Diego City Law Enforcement during the 4th of July weekend.
  - Q: What turned out to be the 'best' mobile device?
  - A: Apple products (iOS) worked best with ESRI mobile software. ESRI is aware of issues and will work harder on Droid and Windows mobile solutions.

- **SDSU and SD City Lifeguard project –** Harry Johnson, SDSU

SDSU Dept of Geography is working with the City of SD Lifeguards to bring their graphic and spreadsheet data into GIS. Most of the maps generated by the Lifeguards have been done through Illustrator, in an ad hoc manner. Daily incident reports are compiled into Excel sheets. The Lifeguards would like to develop spatial datasets for their areas of responsibility; beach, near-shore, and off-shore zones; places and annotation; and join the daily attributes to the spatial data by date, zone, and incident type.

The Lifeguards want the ability to generate thematic maps illustrating their areas of responsibility, types of incidents, high-use areas, correlation between crowds and incidents, strain on resources, etc. They also would like to be able to produce Map Books for distribution to personnel, especially new, seasonal hires.

Hopefully, the database would be integrated with City of SD emergency services dispatching.

  - Q: Is SDSU working with the GIS Coordinator at the City of San Diego?
  - A: No, but they are in contact with Laura Brenner regarding this project.
  - Comment: The relevant data should get included in the SANGIS 'Places' layer, with the addition of 'common names' so everyone knows what it is.
  - Q: Are they recording x/y location for incidents?
  - A: No, just descriptions (i.e. 100 meters from the mushroom house.) Data is being mapped into zones, not exact locations. The data is all very colloquial.
  - Q: Are the Harbor Police involved?
  - A: No, but they'd be interested in being more integrated with regional GIS.
  - Comment: If this is presented as a pilot for all public emergency, maybe that will give them better means to get funding.

NGDA.org (archived data library) – Tracey Hughes

- *No report. Tracey was not in attendance.*

USGS – Drew Decker

- **National enhanced elevation assessment**
  - Looking at elevation resources and needs across US that exceed current 30 and 10 meter DEMs in National Elevation Dataset.
  - One component is a national inventory of elevation datasets. Pat forwarded message to SDRGC. Collecting inventory data across the state *(Note: Drew has shapefile)*
  - Dan Hildebrand floated idea of access to LiDAR data collected by northern SD coastal cities a couple years ago. If this works, a resampled (3 meter posting) set of the data could go into the National Elevation Dataset.

- **New data**
  Imperial County was just flown and should be available shortly. 6" in irrigated areas, 1 ft for the rest of the County.
  Populated western portions of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties being flown this summer too
  There may be new funds through NGA available for San Diego urban core to be flown in calendar year 2012. Drew would like to discuss at future SDRGC meeting.
  - *NOTE: Per Ari - Port flew in April 2011 – 4" resolution. This imagery is available to anyone who wants it.*

- **NHD**
  National Hydrography Dataset water features bring collected by local stewards. SanGIS is steward for San Diego County.
  CA Department of Water Resources is continuing to work toward statewide management of NHD updates, likely in conjunction with the local stewards. They are also investigating using LiDAR to automate the location of streams.
  New NHD edit tools training is scheduled for October in Sacramento. Better tools for streamlined editing, but tools are not available yet for ArcGIS 10.
  - Q: Any plans to include levees?
  - A: Unknown. Drew will research and follow up with the group.

- **CAP Grants**
  Two CAP (Cooperative Agreements Program) grants awarded within CA:
  First was awarded to CalEMA in 2010 for emergency response data crosswalk from local to national schema. Second was awarded to CA Technology Agency (Office of the GIO) for state business plan development concerning boundary data updates

- **US Topo**
  New topographic maps for California are coming for 2012
  They update earlier maps from 2009 that were built to beta standard. New maps include contour lines and hydrography and vegetation
  Contours come from National Elevation Dataset which is based on original topo maps, unless newer higher resolution elevation data has replaced it. This hasn't happened for CA yet.

- **HQSP**
  Historical quadrangle scanning project will make all USGS topo maps available for download.

Includes all maps at all scales and editions for whole country. Data will be in GeoTIFF and GeoPDF formats at 600 dpi.
To be released roughly at same time as US Topo maps
- o Q: Will there be map service for georeferenced scanned maps available to allow free download?
- o A: Most likely.

- **Cal Atlas**
Plans to serve up high resolution imagery across CA through map services. Will be sending various USGS coverages to them to distribute.

SANGIS Update – Brad Lind

- NHD: Updates are current for San Diego County. *Note: Please review NHD data for your agency, and if you have updates to your surface water data, including stormwater channels, please send them to SANGIS so they can update the NHD.*

- "Places" layer has been updated from the County. Multiple names can be associated to one point, so that you can see 'old names' as well (i.e. Jack Murphy Stadium). *Note: If your agency would like to add to the 'Places' layer, SANGIS can send you the schema, then you can add your places data and send back to SANGIS.*
  - o Q: Is there any criteria for 'importance' of a place?
  - o A: No. There is currently a QA/QC process in place for eliminating duplicates, but not to determine importance or priority.

- JPA members met to decide on goals for this fiscal year. They are:
  1. Complete work with SANDAG on a common data warehouse by October 2011.
  2. Complete Address Quality Update Assessment before June 2012.
  3. Complete plan to start collecting public-benefit easement data – develop a schema and put a process in place to collect anything new.
  4. Replace website and map/data provisioning services, which will involve major infrastructure changes for a modern look and feel.
     - o Q: Is SANGIS thinking about providing datasets as a service?
     - o A: Yes, SANGIS is looking into it and is working with SANDAG. Currently, you can get the same data from SANGIS and SANDAG. Eventually you will just get data from SANDAG. It will be up to SANDAG on how they want to provide the data: services, clip n ship, ArcGIS On Line?
     - o Q: Does SANGIS provide updates to ESRI Community Maps?
     - o A: No. However, road and parcel updates are available monthly directly from SANGIS.

SANDAG Update – Grace Chung for Steve Hossack

- Public facing website design with SanGIS: Steve has been researching different portal technologies including "WordPress" same as what LA County is using.

- Smartgrowth map update: SANDAG have been asking planners from jurisdictions to update the online web application. *NOTE: Steve will give a demo in October SDRGC meeting.*

- Census 2010: John is working on adjusting census track boundary to line up with the parcel layer. The data will be used to update the SANDAG Profile Warehouse. The Profile Warehouse will be updated in late summer.

- REDI: We are rebuilding REDI (Regional Economic Development Information) from ArcIMS to ArcGIS Server with Silverlight client. REDI will be available for the public in September. Currently the "Business Insensitive" function is working and has been reviewed by the City of San Diego.

- We are reengineering our legacy ArcInfo workstation system for managing transportation model network to a modern system. We have hired HDR as our consultant for this project. The project will be completed in 2012.

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3. **2011 GIS SURVEY –** Grace Chung for Julie Wartell / Dan Hildebrand

- Grace presented the final results of the 2011 GIS Survey. *NOTE: A link to the presentation, along with the full report, will be posted to the SDRGC website*. Tricia made a poster of the survey results for the ESRI UC. Grace has a PDF of the poster if you would like a copy.
    - o Q: Were any normalizing factors used, especially in regard to budget?
    - o A: No, there has not been a lot of detailed analysis to date, but will try to factor this in to the final report.

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4. **GIS SERVER TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP** – Pat Landrum

The first meeting was well attended with 13 people. The meeting minutes will be posted to the SDRGC website.

- **Goals/Objectives**: (1) Share technical expertise on deployment, configuration, management of hardware, etc., best practices, standards. (2) Expose public facing services available to the community.
- **Structure**: Informal. Would like to have demos. Some agencies may have internal sites that can only be demo'ed internally, so site visits would be necessary in these instances.
- **Meetings**: Quarterly, about 1 month after SDRGC meetings.

Highlights from the first meeting:
- Everyone is using ESRI server technology.
- Biggest concern: licensing structure and IT procurement. Server licensing should be based on business need. This concern was raised with Tony Lafferty from ESRI. He said ESRI would look into this.
- Agencies have a variety of programming expertise.
- Agencies have a variety of frameworks in place – API and out-of-box.
- Group will continue to monitor cloud vs. internal – pros/cons, and costs.

- Action items:
  - Follow up on licensing issues with ESRI
  - Establish ArcGIS Online/ArcGIS.com forum for sharing info
    NOTE: If interested, please send Pat Landrum your ESRI global account user name for an invitation to join the ArcGIS on-line group, which we will explore as a forum for the group.
  - Compile list of known public facing services
  - Create email list-serv
- Comment: Amazon pricing model is complicated and expensive. Response: This is a new data services/web services era. It's good, but not cheap. We need to find and use existing services. We need to partner. We need to think creatively on how to work in this new environment more cost effectively.

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5. **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2011 ESRI UC** – Pat Landrum

- Pat Landrum from CALTRANS was encouraged that "editing isn't dead" and that available tools are becoming much better. He also liked that many demos showed functionality that exists now.

- Richard Caldwell from Vista was interested in a demo he saw (http://gatewing.com) where a $70K turn-key system (small robotic plane) could be used as a potential 'small area' data source for DEM and Orthophoto production. He wanted to know if anyone else was interested in such a system and if so, could this could be a 'regional' project?
  - Harry Johnson: SDSU has been testing a camera-mounted remote control plane to capture imagery.
  - Pat Landrum: The military is doing a lot of work with this kind of system. Regionally, it seems difficult/not likely that we would get such a system. He is interested in seeing what SDSU is doing. Can SDSU give a presentation to the SDRGC? Also, can UASI funds be used to pilot this?
  - Drew Decker: What are USGS/NGA's thoughts on this?

- Jessica Block from UCSD saw an interesting presentation re: wildfire risk assessment program. Tricia Toomey was also at that presentation and said it was about scenarios for Fire Hazard Zones.

6. **OPEN DISCUSSION**
   - No other items to discuss

7. **NEXT MEETING**

The next SDRGC meeting will be held on **October 12, 2011**. Tentative meeting location will be Carlsbad. If you have any ideas for possible agenda items please contact Grace Chung: cchu@sandag.org

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