

## **Interim Report for 2010 CAP – Category 1: Metadata Trainer and Outreach Assistance**

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**Project title:** Hit the Ground Running with Metadata Training and Support for West Virginia

**Report Type:** Interim Report

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### **Executive Summary**

Nick J. Rahall, II Appalachian Transportation Institute (RTI) staffs at Marshall University have been developing a 2-day training workshop focused on GIS metadata in collaboration with the GIS communities. Throughout the grant year, 2 workshops will be held at the Marshall University Graduate College campus and 1 workshop will be held at West Virginia GIS Technical Center. At the time of this interim report, two of the workshops have been scheduled for November and December of this year and a third one has been schedule for early next year. The announcement of the workshop schedules was emailed to the members of West Virginia Association of Geospatial Professionals. This workshop will provide GIS professionals and managers in cross disciplines with metadata standards training and education required to support

their GIS needs. This effort will also help to support metadata and metadata standards as the vision/mission/goal of a new West Virginia GIS Strategic Plan.

### **Project Narrative**

In collaboration with West Virginia GIS Technical Center, RTI staff have been developing a 2-day GIS metadata training workshop using training materials from the FGDC and other organizations. The workshop is designed to include lectures, demonstrations and hands-on exercises where participants will have a better understanding and appreciation of GIS metadata, metadata standards and how metadata helps an agency with their data management. In hands-on exercises, participants will work with actual data (especially WV local data) to learn how to write quality metadata. ArcCatalog and its metadata management tools is the primary focus for this workshop but other applications such as National Park Service Metadata Tools Extension will be shown and demonstrated. The training will begin and end with a course evaluation and any positive and negative feedback from participants will be used for course revisions.

The workshop has been scheduled for 3 times throughout the grant year over a 2 day period and is targeting members of the West Virginia Association of Counties, municipal and state government agencies, and other GIS users. Two of the workshops at the Marshall University Graduate College campus have been scheduled for November 9, 10 and December 7, 8 of this year and third one at West Virginia GIS Technical Center has been schedule for early (between January and March) next year.

An announcement email of the workshop schedules was sent to the member of West Virginia Association of Geospatial Professionals and past GIS training workshop participants (over 400 people). In collaboration with West Virginia Office of GIS Coordinator and USGS West Virginia Office of Geospatial Liaison, more effort will be made to attract attendees. The website (<http://www.njrati.org/tech-transfer/seminars-conferences/>) is setup to accept a registration.

### **Next Steps:**

Continuous effort will be made to promote the workshop to all GIS user across West Virginia and surrounding area though all possible channels. The success of the workshop is depended on a number of participants. The workshop can give participants a new appreciation and understanding of the importance of metadata.

For metadata outreach assistance, RTI will create and maintain a Metadata Wiki website dedicated to metadata news and resources. The site can help form a collaborative online metadata community.