

Project title: "Appalachian Ohio Geospatial Data Partnership: Collection and Update of Ohio GIS Metadata in RAMONA"

Interim report

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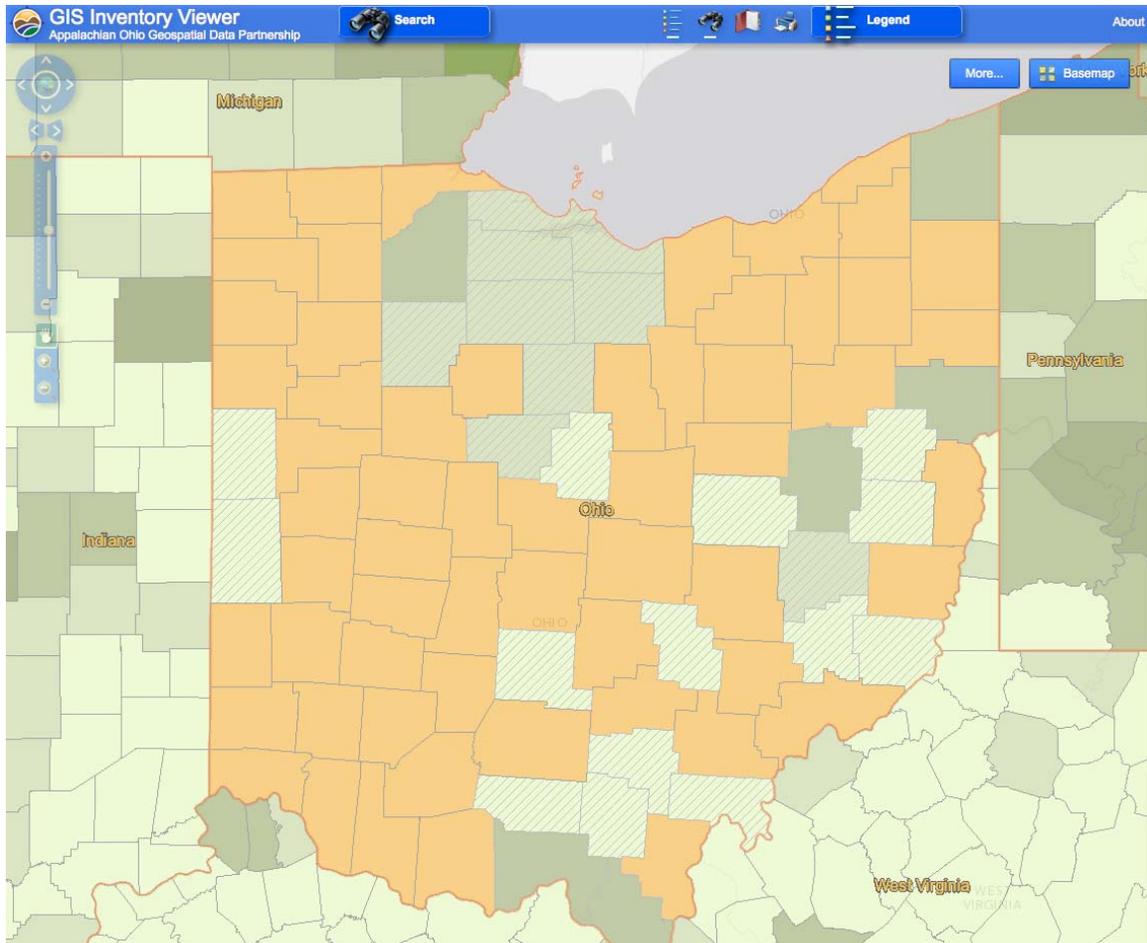
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Executive Summary: The purpose of this project is to collect and update Ohio GIS Metadata entries in the GIS Inventory found at www.gisinventory.net. Completion of this project involves the following tasks; reviewing and updating existing entries in the Ohio GIS Inventory, collecting and updating cadastral contacts and parcel data status for all counties in Ohio, and identifying a sustainability plan for keeping Ohio's GIS inventory data current in the future.

Updating and maintaining this metadata is key to providing support to emergency responders, local officials, economic development professionals, and other parties such as the oil and gas industry who are end users of this data.

Project Narrative: As of November 2012 the existing Ohio metadata inventory entries have been reviewed. Updates have been entered where necessary and applicable, with the new data verified as necessary. All Ohio counties now have completed contact information and data availability status. Any available web links for data viewing or downloading have been collected and documented in the parcel inventory. As a part of the sustainability plan the investigation group is reviewing available web based tools which may be integrated with current project report data in order to ease and simplify the process of making updates to the inventory. A sample web site for tracking data sets has been developed and is still under review.

The image below was captured from the sample inventory site that provides status data as a web service that is widely available for consumption. This image is showing the status of contour data available by county.



The site also provides simple user driven menus that allow users to view the status of other themes such as color imagery, infrared imagery, as well as parcel data status.

Along with this metadata, other pieces of information have been added to this viewer in order to make the tool as valuable and usable as possible; such as links to the county entries on the GIS Inventory Parcel Data page, links to current Census Quick facts, as well as links to the county's Wikipedia page.

Next Steps: This project will be completed on schedule. The remaining items from the original work plan are the items listed in months five and six. These work items include conducting training on the use and maintenance of the GIS Inventory, and developing a sustainability plan. During the first quarter of 2013 the research partners will coordinate with state officials at OGRIP to brief them on the updates that were completed as part of this project, and to train them on how to maintain the GIS Inventory. These activities will also coincide with discussions of how to sustain and support the GIS Inventory in to the future. Discussions around the topic of sustainability have been ongoing as work on the project has progressed. The research partners have already received significant preliminary interest in the map-based tool that has been produced as an additional result of this project.

Overall, the existing GIS Inventory and the proposed inventory web site both provide valuable tools for cataloging and indexing available spatial data in the State of Ohio. It is the hope of the partners that any new or modified systems will be easily accessible and updateable by GIS and non-GIS staff alike. The proposed tool will simplify the mechanism of maintaining the existing metadata for the State of Ohio, through the use of widely available and accepted GIS technologies and practices. The ultimate goal is to consolidate the status and location of available of geospatial data across Ohio, and the nation. At the conclusion of this project, additional research and support resources may be required from the GIS Inventory managers in order to establish a link from the existing GIS Inventory records to the new map based data status tool.