TRANSITIONING
FROM CSDGM TO ISO METADATA

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NEW JERSEY GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION NETWORK

https://njgin.state.nj.us

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TODAY - CATALOG

• NJGIN Catalog - CSDGM only has “full” support
  • Old technology - ArcIMS Metadata Server
  • About 800 existing records
  • Most from State depts and agencies, some from local govt, NGOs, vendors
  • URL capability enables direct link to records from applications that use the data.
• Informal “checklists” for acceptable records
  • Required for cataloging (small)
  • Required for “fully compliant” (bigger)
• Harvest to NSGIC Data Inventory
• Formerly harvested to Geospatial One Stop
TODAY - AUTHORING

- MD training in past
  - CSDGM, Esri FGDC editor – familiar but clunky, now extra install
  - EPA metadata editor – ease of use, has standalone product, but partial std support
- Some authors also use text editor for revisions
- No training in a while – 2 of 3 trainers no longer available
PAIN POINTS

• No enthusiasm for new std by most
• Occasional MD authors can’t be experts
  • That’s ALL our contributors but 3 or 4!
• Getting records into current catalog is HARD
  • Poor error messages
  • Undocumented pitfalls e.g. UTF-8 BOM
• Catalog lacks good browse function
• Data distribution sub-optimal
• MD for services is work-around

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GOALS - GENERAL

- Ease of use – get more contributors
- Ease of use – get more data documented and shared
- Ease of use – efficient use of data creators’ time
- Improvements suggested in NJ Geospatial Strategic Business Plan (2012)
  - Ease of use for those searching for data
  - Increased prominence for web services
- Avoid duplication of effort – let old records lie?
- Transition to current technology and standard(s)
GOALS

• New editor(s)
  • Easier AND better!
• Convert “lists” to supported ISO profiles (probably informal)
• Resume training for potential contributors
• New catalog
  • Current technology
  • Support search of current CSDGM records
  • Support ISO for updates and new
  • Improved search and browse
  • Online editor for minimal (cataloging) records – turbotax for MD
  • Meaningful validation service(s) for ISO records – standalone and intake
• Support harvest to GIS Inventory (NSGIC)
• Support harvest to others (CSW)
KNOWN TOOLS

- Geoportal Server for catalog (?)
- Esri software in most state and local govt, not all
- ArcGIS metadata editor probably authoring tool of choice
- Standalone (cheap or free) editor for consultants, vendors, etc? – no known candidate
- Standalone xml editors NOT practical for our user universe
- Transforms for orphaned existing records (thanks, NOAA!)
CHALLENGES

- Second bite of the apple not popular
  - ANOTHER standard? Learning one was hard enough!
  - There will be NO third bite this generation of users...
- ISO standards have been in rapid flux
  - **Must** wait for stable – 19115-1, encoding, tools
  - Support multiple? NAP?
- Most users maintain one or a few records – has to be easy
- ArcGIS editor ISO support
  - Plans for 19115-1?
  - Editable element attributes (e.g. nilReason)?
  - Ease-of-use issues
  - Customizations?
  - Output works with Geoportal Server?
- NAP workbook is only easily accessible ISO help doc
- NJ GIN catalog project schedule
STRATEGY - EDITOR

- Begin free training class in fall on ArcGIS editor
  - Cooperative effort – NJ OIT - OGIS and NJ DEP – BGIS
  - FG DC - CSDGM style to start
  - Intro to ISO 19115-1 (std) and NAP (best practices)
  - Create transition-ready records as possible
STRATEGY - CATALOG

- Redevelopment of NJ GIN starts 8/2015 – added staff
- Start cleanup of current catalog contents
  - Edits where needed
  - Delete obsolete
  - Test transforms (?)
STRATEGY – DOWN THE ROAD

- Advice welcome!
- Customization of ArcGIS Editor?
- Customization of Geoportal Server (online) Editor??
- Develop validation service for NJ GIN (online)
  - With choice? Base std? NJ “profile” validation? Catalog-only?
- When NJ GIN 2 is imminent
  - Transition training to ISO editing
- When NJ GIN 2 is up
  - Outreach to potential contributors (esp local govt)