Using ArcGIS Online to post data for National Trails



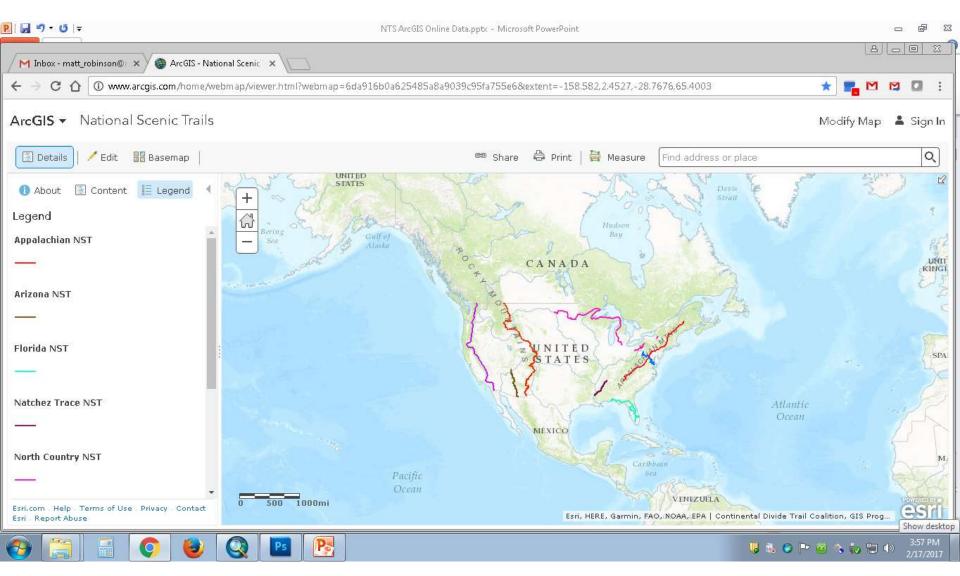
Current Status

- Most National Trails are already publishing some version of their centerline on ArcGIS Online.
- Multiple depictions of different trails exist out there though, making it hard to identify which is the 'official' version and/or the most up-to-date version.
- Information associated with each data set also varies in terms of spatial accuracy, map scale, attributes, and associated information available.
- Some are shared with the public, some are only shared internally (with select staff)
- Some trail data is fully downloadable, others are not.
- Some data contains FGDC compliant metadata, others do not.

Our Vision

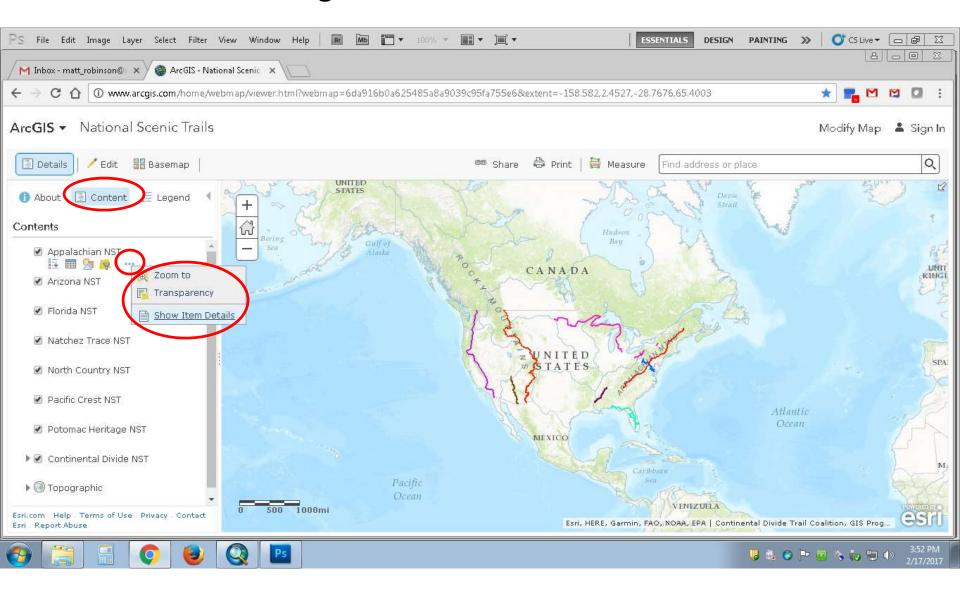
- We think that ArcGIS Online is a great platform for sharing geographic information about National Trails with managers, partners, and the public.
- ArcGIS Online can be used, not only to share individual trail data, but to bring all National Trail data together.
- If setup correctly, multiple organizations can access trail data on ArcGIS
 Online without any one person or entity having to manage all the data,
 request periodic updates, or deal with the headaches of 'merging' it
 together to form one dataset.
- Multiple organizations may link to the data without having to go to one specific organization or one specific host (website, data portal, etc) to acquire the data.
- Data hosted on ArcGIS Online is dynamic, meaning any updates made to the data are immediately 'live' (shown), and can continue to be managed exclusively by each trail entity.

Some Existing National Trail data on ArcGIS Online



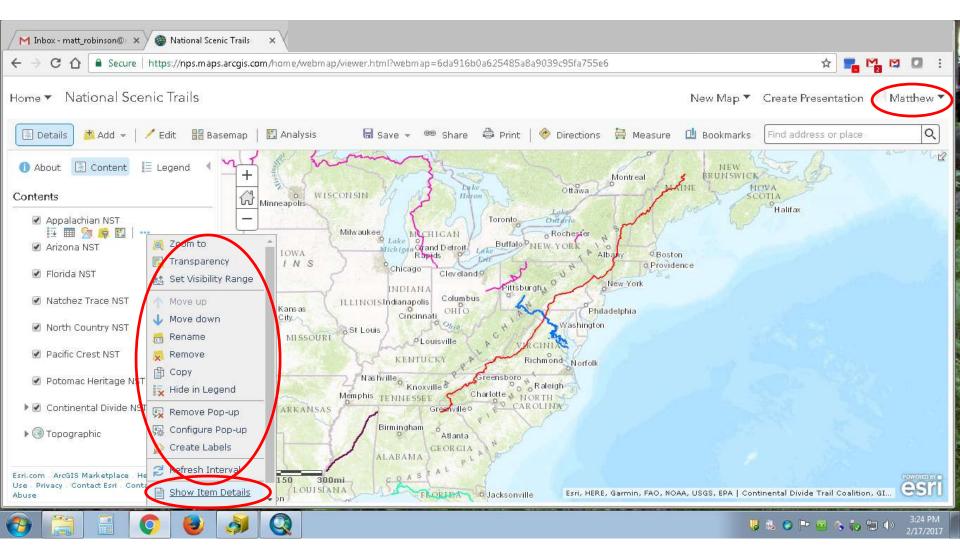
Each trail depicted here is stored separately on ArcGIS Online and managed separately by its respective trail managers

Some Existing National Trail data on ArcGIS Online

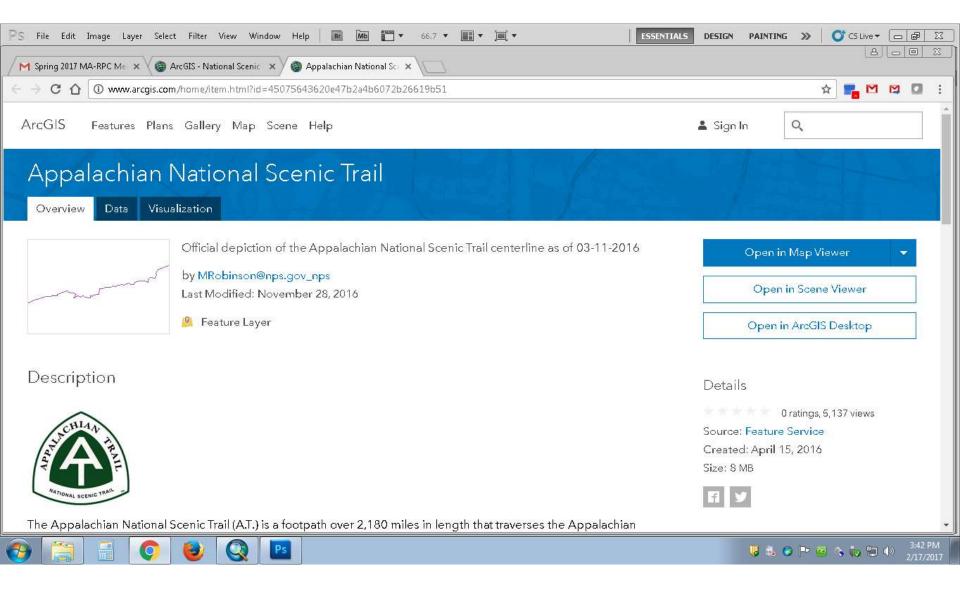


Information about each trail may be viewed separately

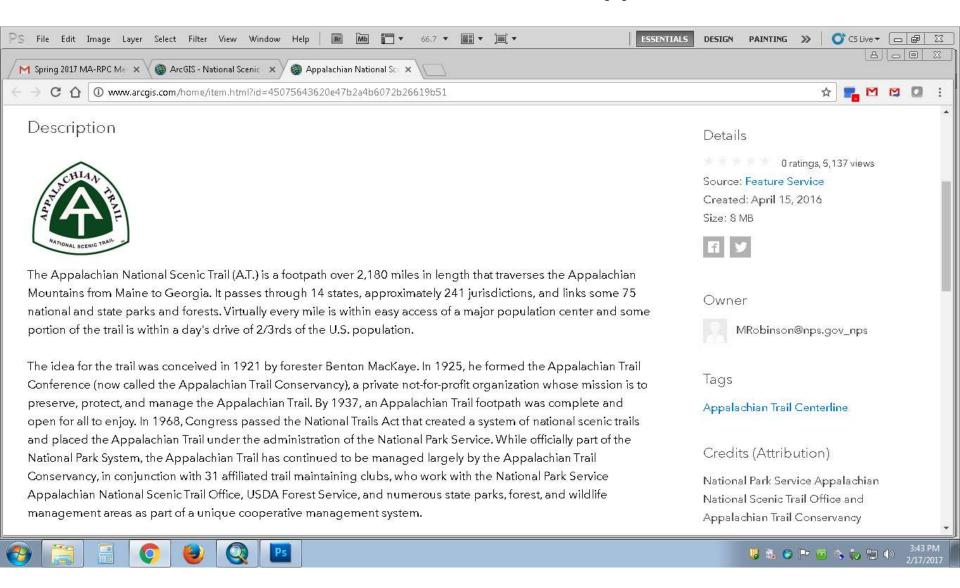
Some Existing National Trail data on ArcGIS Online



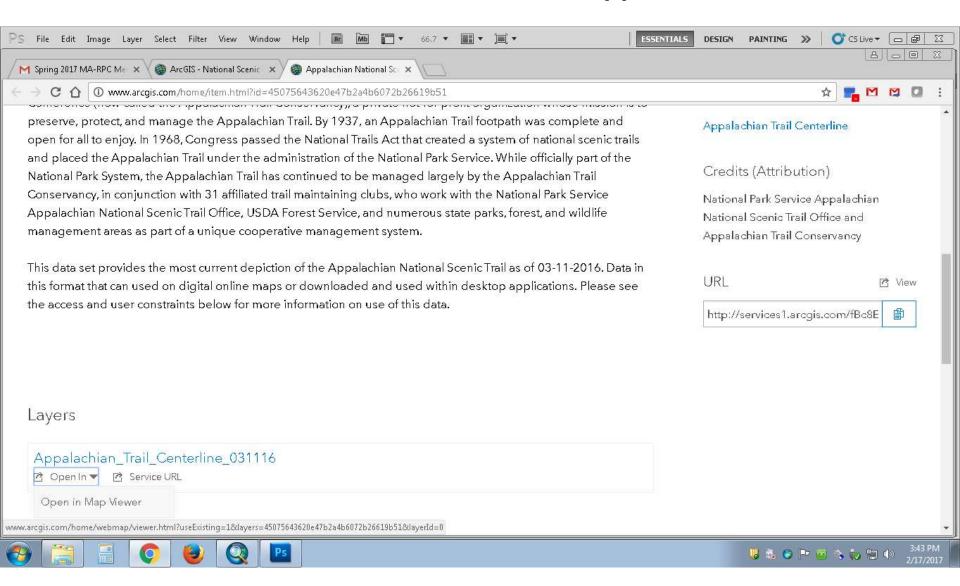
If actually logged into ArcGIS Online (with an ESRI account – either organizational or free) additional functionality is available



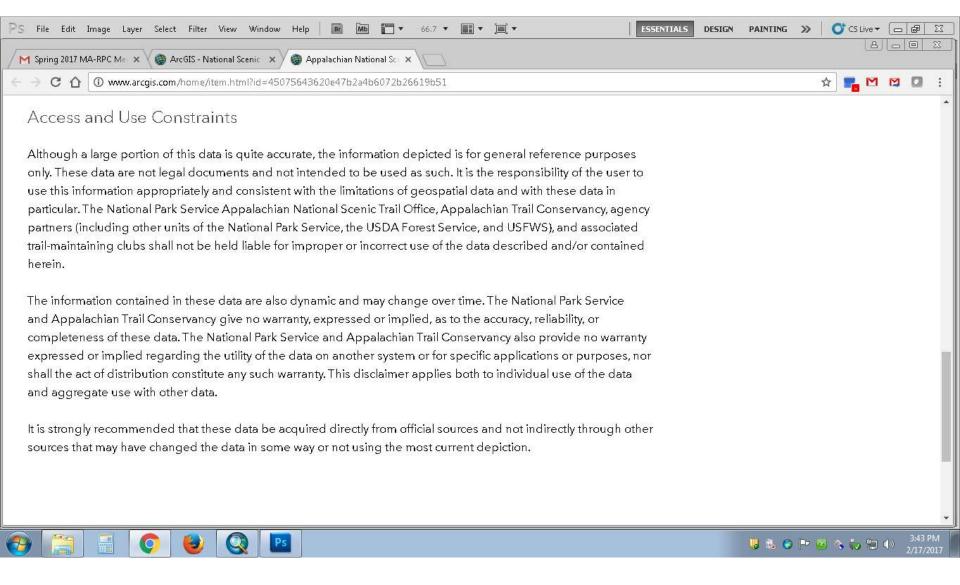
Data posted includes a name, date last modified, and type of layer ...



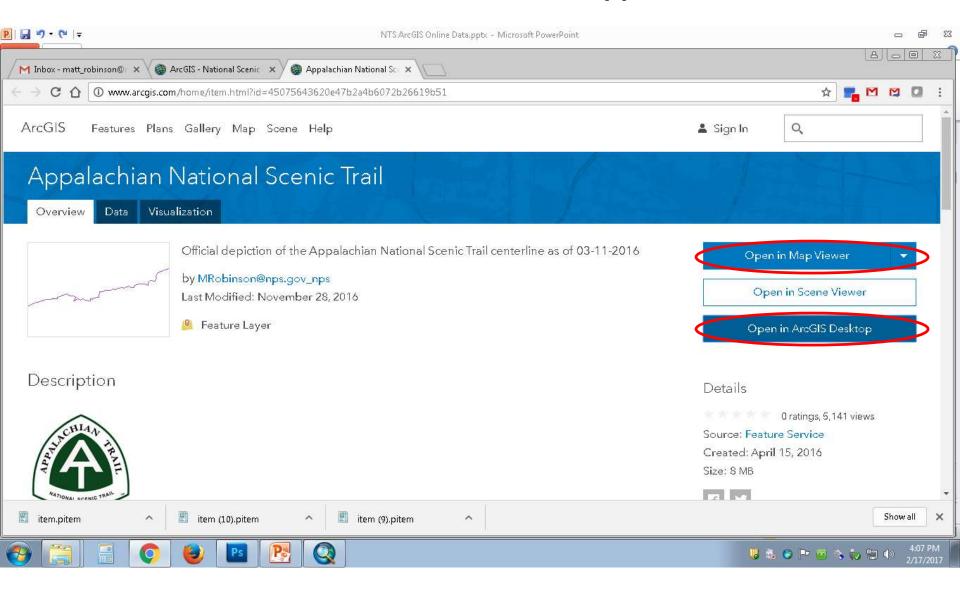
A description of the data can also be entered



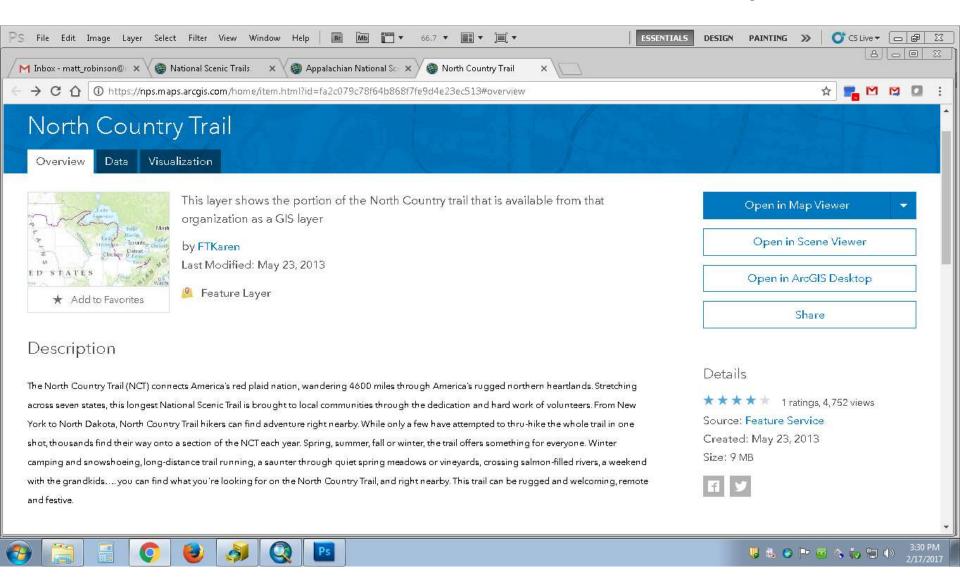
A link to the actual layer is included



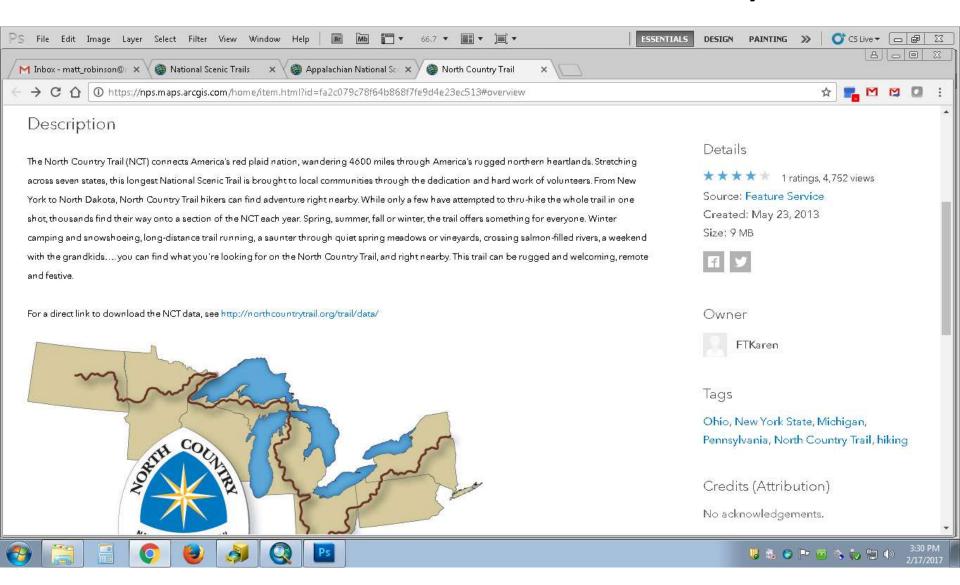
Access or Use Constraints may also be associated with the data



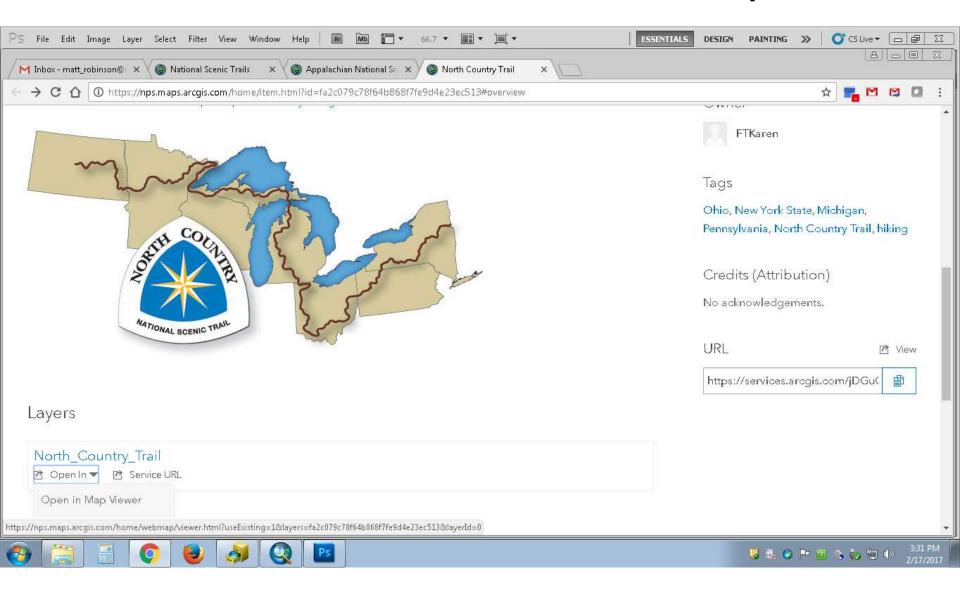
Data can be opened in a Map Viewer, Scene Viewer, or ArcGIS Desktop



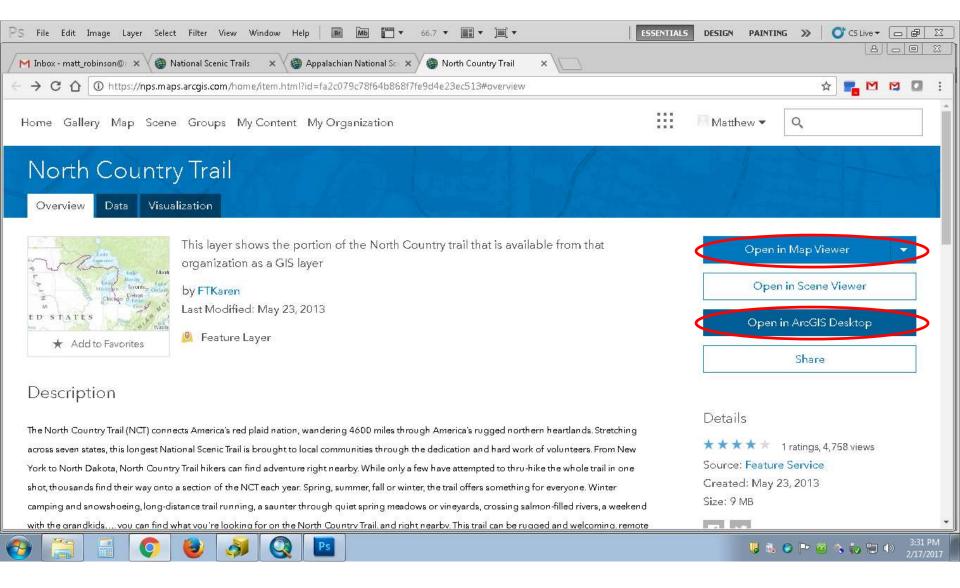
This is another example of some posted data



This is another example of some posted data

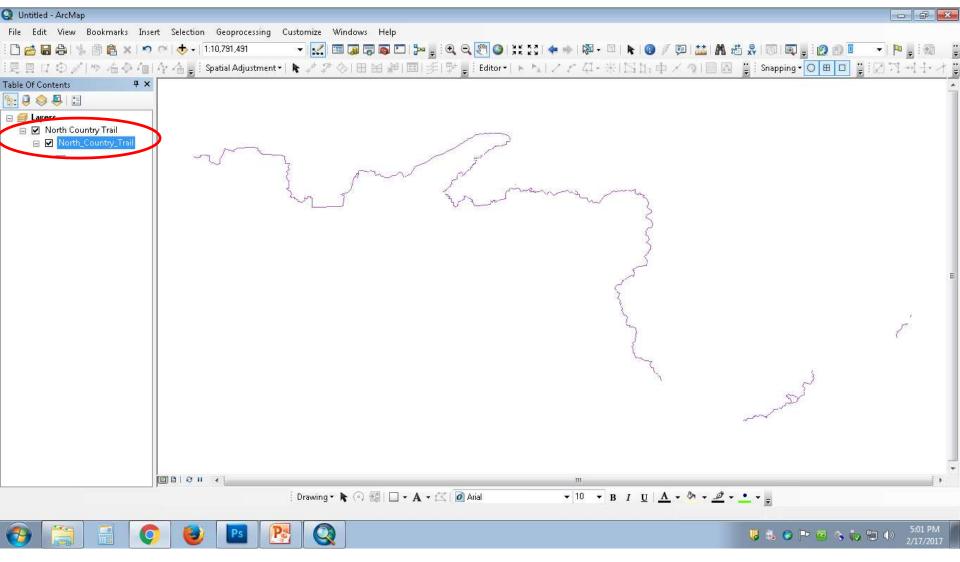


This is another example of some posted data



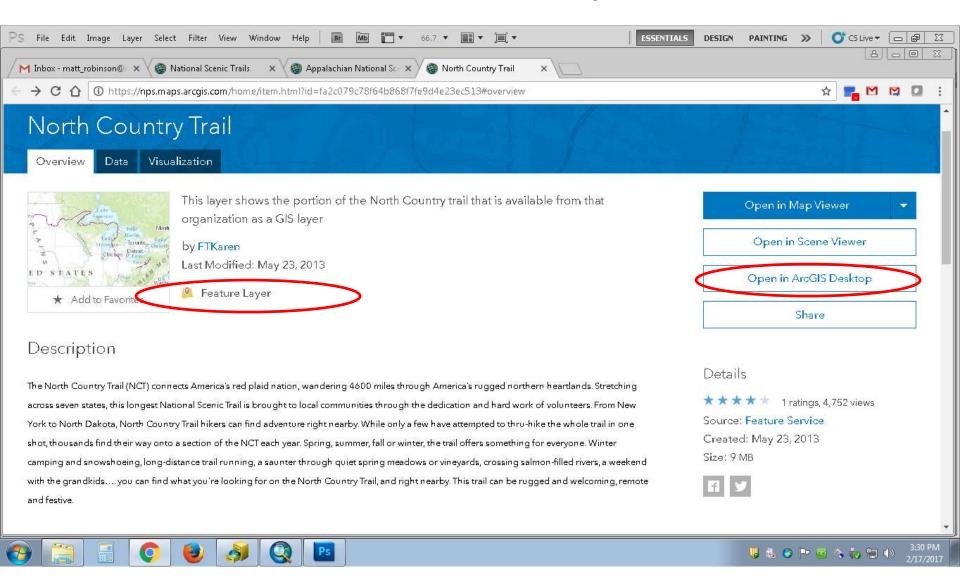
It too can opened in a Map Viewer, Scene Viewer, or ArcGIS Desktop

ArcGIS Online Trail Data can be added directly to ArcMap

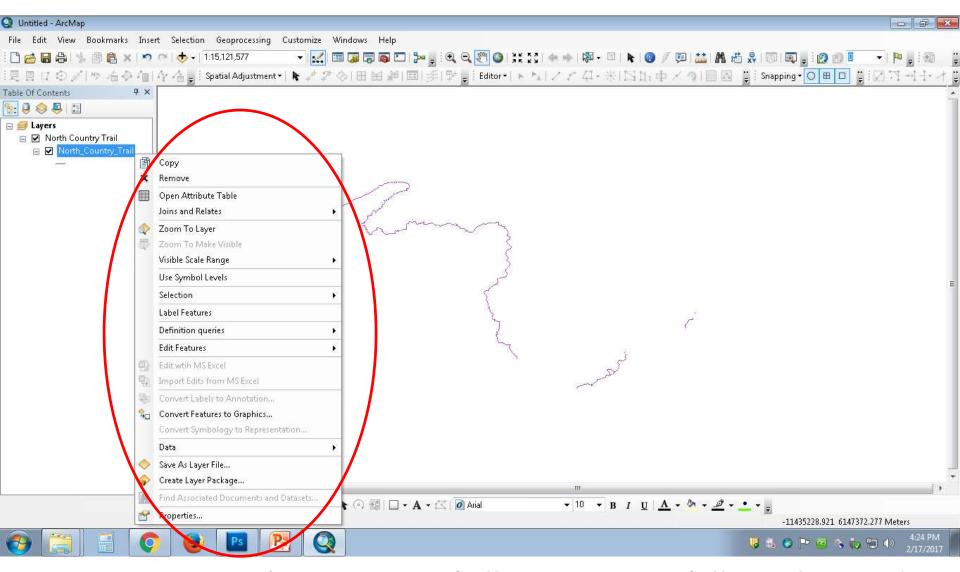


When you click Open in ArcGIS Desktop, data is added directly to the Desktop GIS software (if installed on your machine)

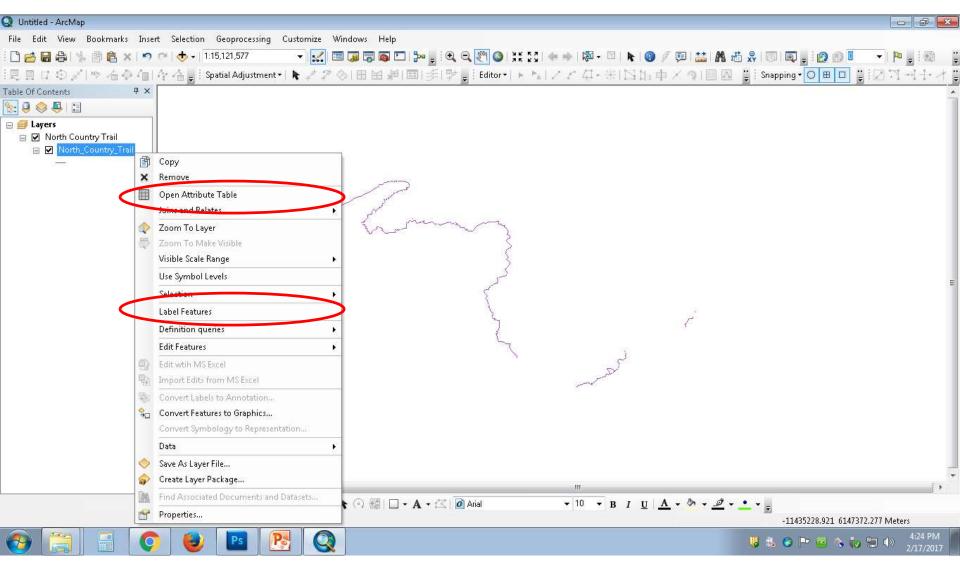
Importance of posting as a Feature Layer



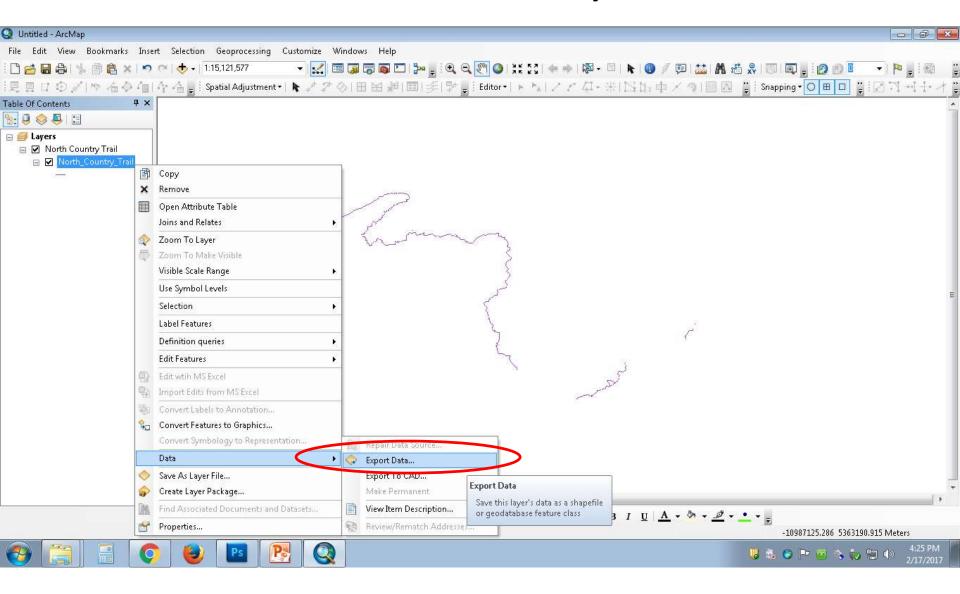
Example of data posted as a 'Feature Layer'



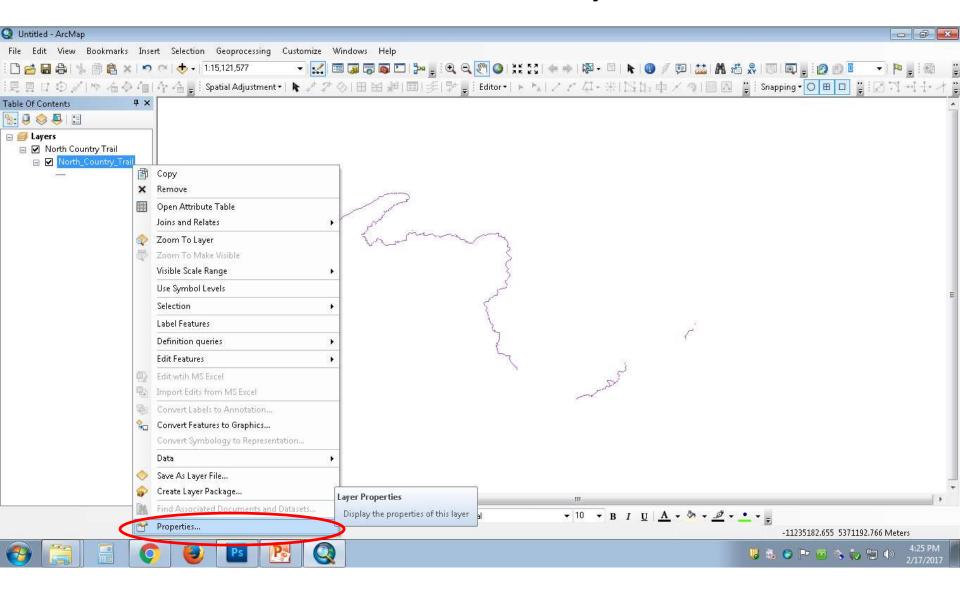
Posting as a 'Feature Layer' allows a user to fully explore and utilize the data when added to ArcGIS Desktop software



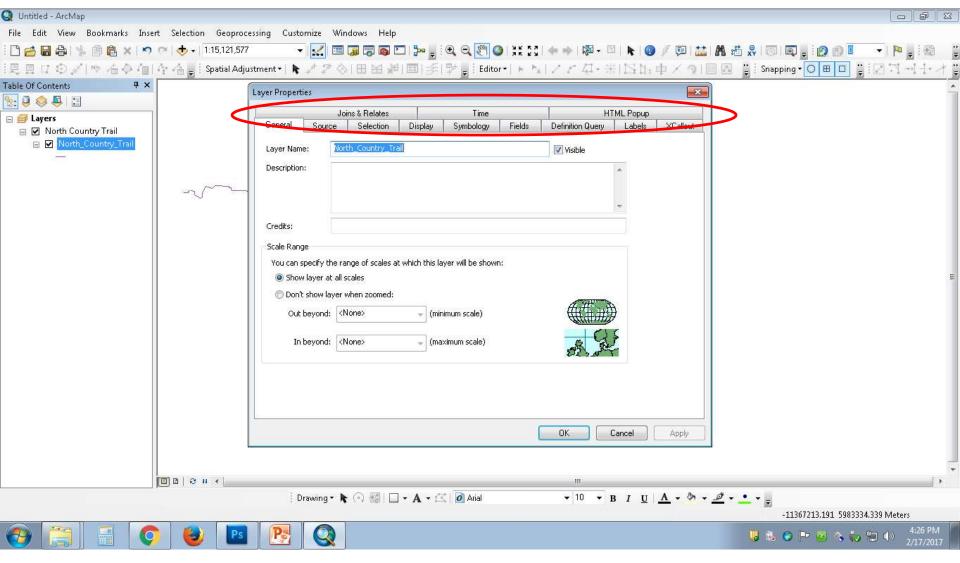
This includes such things as being able to 'Open Attribute Table' or to 'Label Features'



It also allows a user to 'Export Data' or a different format

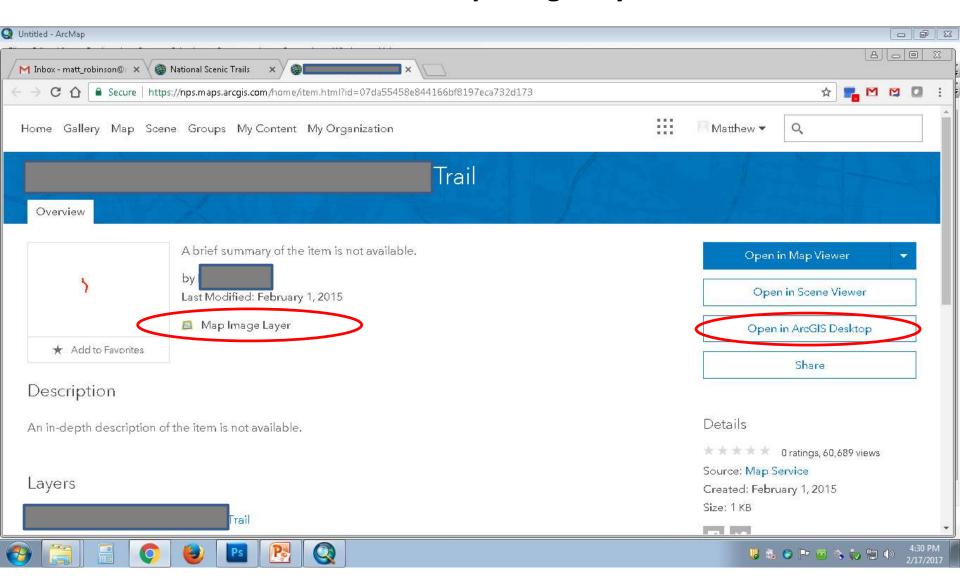


And provides access to the layer's 'Properties'



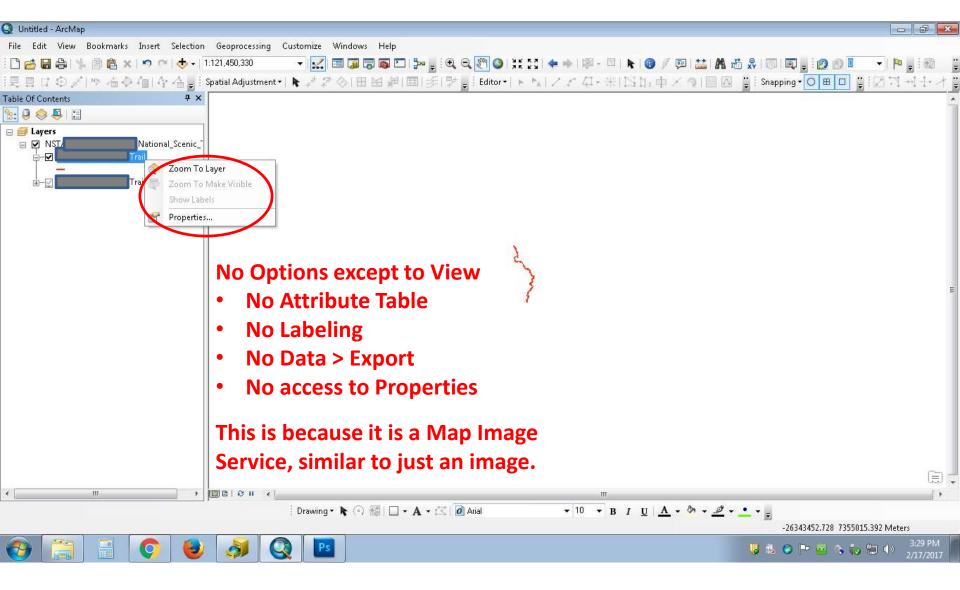
Access to 'Properties' allows a user to adjust elements associated with the data, such as changing the Symbology

ArcGIS Online 'Map Image Layer' Data



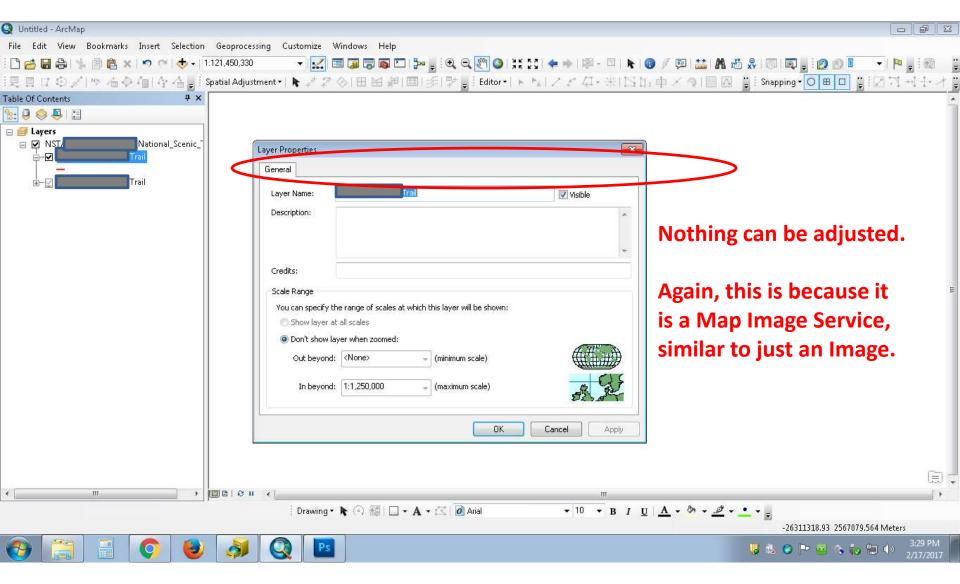
Example of data posted as a 'Map Image Layer'

ArcGIS Online 'Map Image Layer' Data

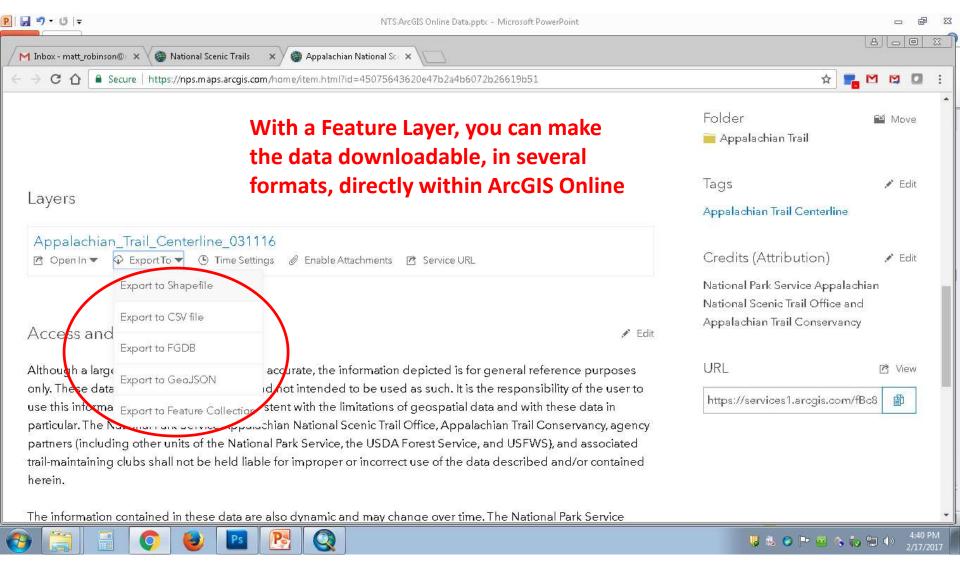


With a 'Map Image Layer' a user can only view the data

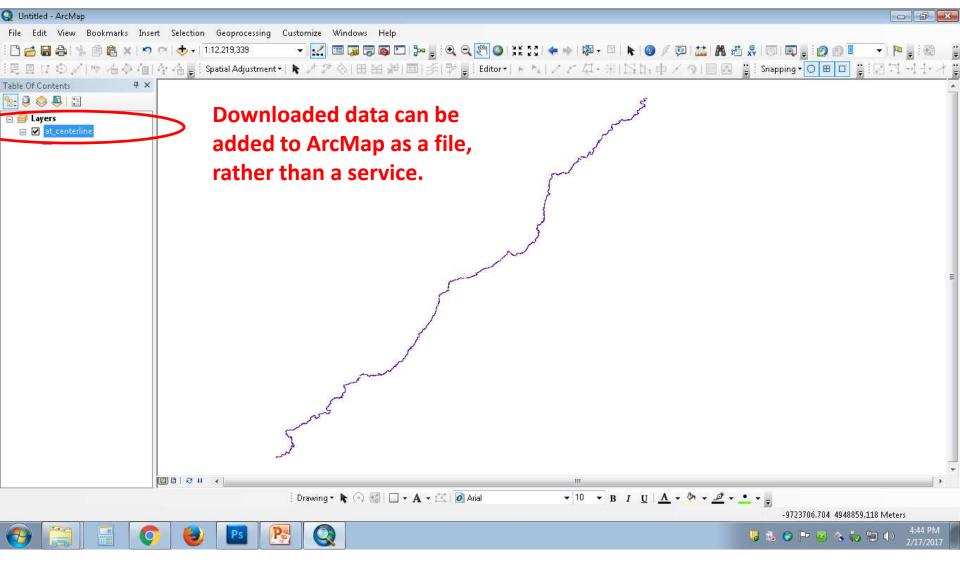
ArcGIS Online 'Map Image Layer' Data



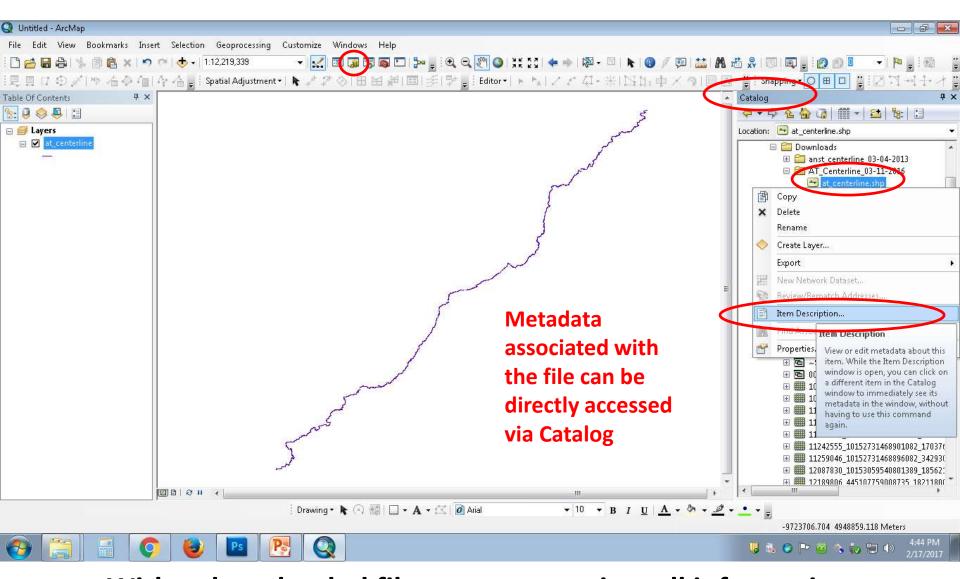
'Map Image Layers' cannot be adjusted



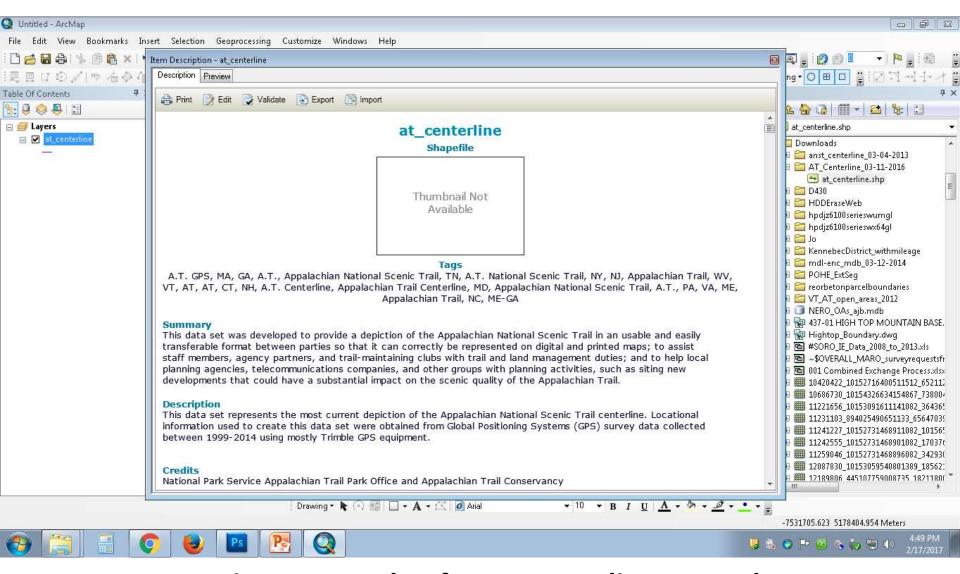
'Feature Layers' can be exported directly from ArcGIS Online to various formats. This helps users that don't have ArcGIS Desktop.



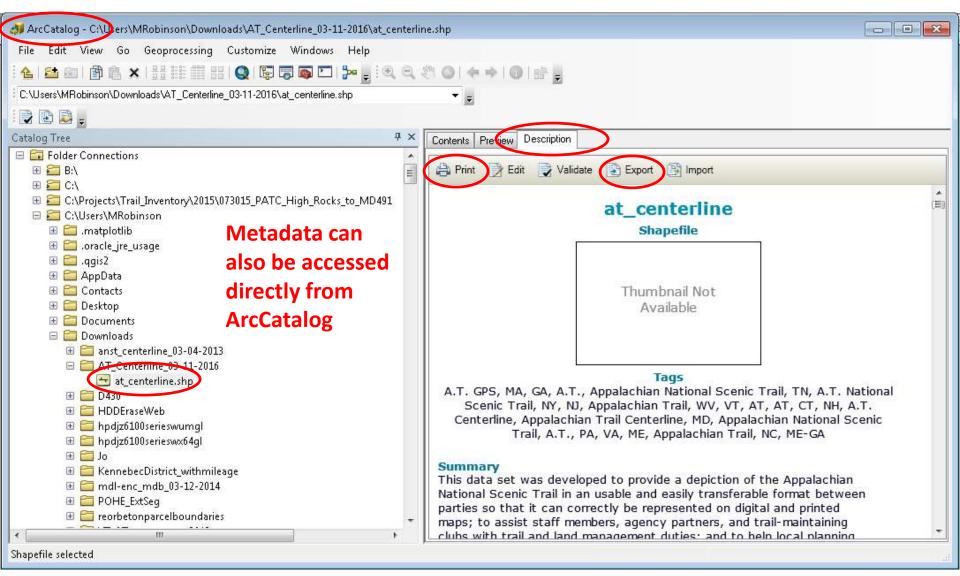
Downloaded data can be added to ArcGIS Desktop as a file rather than a service, allowing additional flexibility and functionality



With a downloaded file, a user may view all information associated with that file, including such things as metadata



Here is an example of FGDC compliant metadata associated with a downloaded file from ArcGIS Online



Metadata may be printed or exported directly from ArcCatalog (for those that have ArcGIS Desktop installed)

In Summary

- Data posted on ArcGIS Online may include:
 - A Description of the Data
 - Access & User Constraint Information
 - A Link to the Actual Data, which can be opened in either a web map OR in Desktop GIS
- Data published as a Feature Layer allows users to:
 - Fully explore data (open attribute table, label, etc)
 - Export to shapefile and other formats
 - Change symbology and other properties
 - View FGDC compliant metadata associated with downloaded or exported data
- Data published as a Map Image Layer can only be 'viewed'
- Data not shared 'publically' can't be viewed by partners or the public

We Recommend

- Everyone publish an official version of their trail data 'publically' – where anyone can view it – that excludes any sensitive data you don't want others to see.
- Description, Access & User Constraints, and other information should be populated fully.
- Data should be published as a 'Feature Layer'.
- Downloadable data should include FGDC compliant metadata.

We Recommend (continued)

- An official data steward, responsible for posting "official" data for each trail, be identified and established. Their name should be shared with other Trail users and we should link exclusively to their data.
- Updates should be made periodically to the online data so it remains current, and an agreed upon frequency for updates (6 months? once a year?) should be discussed.
- Data Standards including map scale, file size, metadata and documentation, and data attribute information – should be discussed and we should strive for some agreement and standard used among all trails.

<u>NOTE:</u> The data standards piece does <u>not</u> have to be completely figured out to move forward with the rest of this proposal.