NTS GIS Network- Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, Nov 14, 2017

MEETING AGENDA

1. **Welcome & Introductions** (Peter Bonsall/Kerry Shakarjian/Ryan Cooper)

   Meeting Attendees:
   1. Kerry Shakarjian (moderator)
   2. Peter Bonsall (notetaker) – NPS, National Trails System, WASO
   3. Guthrie Alexander (presenter) – Continental Divide Trail Coalition, Conservation Program Manager
   4. Slide Kelly (presenter) – Continental Divide Trail Coalition, Conservation GIS Specialist
   5. Ryan Cooper – NPS, Lewis and Clark NHT
   6. Dave Vincent – USGS, Geospatial Liaison for the US Forest Service
   7. David Fothergill
   8. Dee Finnegan – NPS, Ice Age Scenic Trail
   9. Matt Jagunic – NPS, Denver Service Center, Landscape Architect/Project Specialist
   10. Rob C – Rob Labs.com
   11. Stafford Hazelett – Oregon California Trails Association
   12. Tiffany Stram - Ice Age Trail Alliance, GIS Specialist
   13. Roland Duhaime – NPS, Northeast Region
   14. Lindsey Kiesz – USFS Region 6 (Pacific Northwest)
   15. Candace Bogart – USFS Region 3 (Southwestern), Regional GIS Program Manager
   16. Sarah Rivera – NPS, National Trails Intermountain Region
   17. Rob Chohan

2. **Announcements & Information from Audience**
   a. Joint USFWS/NPS Geospatial Training Workshop: March 5-9, 2018 in Harpers Ferry, WV
   b. ESRI Federal GIS User Conference: March 20-21, 2018 in Washington D.C.
   c. National GIS Day – November 15, 2017

3. **Discussion Topic**

   Presenters: **Guthrie Alexander, Conservation Program Manager, Continental Divide Trail Coalition**

                         Slide Kelly, GIS/Conservation Seasonal Specialist, Continental Divide Trail Coalition

   Producing Half Mile Scale Hiking Maps for the Continental Divide Trail

   The CDTC has never produced a map set suitable for hiking the CDT that highlights the NST route. The existing 3rd party produced maps that have either a high cost to trail users or provided hiking information that is not always consistent with the intent or management direction of the CDT. Our goal was to produce a free community resource for the CDT using modern and authoritative data in a manner that was easy to maintain and update for the future.

   Notes:
   - Development began in summer 2017
   - Why create a map set?
     o There are already existing the ability to map but...
     o But the CDTC wants to raise its awareness to CDT users
       ▪ Users talk about map resources more than the CDTC
       ▪ Offer tangible publications to their users
       ▪ Be the authoritative source
       ▪ Culture of CDT is a 'build your own trail experience' or if you made it from Mexico to Canada, you did it
     o Maps have been developed by a volunteer and crowd sourced
     o Previously maps were only available in a commercial environment
   - Examples of Half Miles Maps
     o PCT and PNT have half-mile strip maps that set the bar for what other NST should strive for
   - Experimented with Map Series in ArcPro (previous data driven pages)
   - Instead use Map Bookmarks
     o Allowed for exactly what geographic display they wanted
     o Landscape / portrait
     o Extents from bookmarks
       ▪ Clip trail line for elevation profile chart

- o Need to update when the trail is rerouted
- o Dynamic Export
  - ▪ Exports 4 map layouts - Landscape and Portrait at 2 UTM projections - to georeferenced PDFs
- o Use of ArcPy
- 425 maps in the series
- Maps include
  - o CDT-specific point data
  - o Automated lat-long grid
  - o 2014 USFS topo map
  - o State, ection number and miles
  - o Map number
  - o Magnetic declination
  - o Credits
  - o Elevation profile chart
  - o Wilderness / NPS special status warning
  - o .5 mile marker
  - o Crowdsourced water information
- Contact Slide Kelly for methodology documents to apply to other trails
  - o http://pro.arcgis.com/en/pro-app/help/layouts/create-a-map-series.htm
  - o http://pro.arcgis.com/en/pro-app/help/mapping/tutorials/tutorial-create-a-map-book-with-python.htm
  - o skelly@continentaldividetrail.org
- Maps will available Jan 2018

Chat Box notes / questions
- How many maps and what are the size
  - o 426 @ 2mb-8mb each
  - o 200mb-800mb per state
- Shaded relief?
  - o Part of the USGS topo package

4. **Future Meeting Dates & Topics**
   a. **Dec 19, 2017** – No call this month, enjoy the holidays!
   b. **Jan 16, 2018** – TBD (Happy New Year!)
   c. **Feb 20, 2018** – TBD

We always welcome suggestions for additional topics for discussion or presentations. Please contact Ryan Cooper, Peter Bonsall, and/or Derek Nelson with your suggestions!

NTS GIS Network Email List: ntsgis@webmail.itc.nps.gov
NTS GIS Network Website: http://pnts.org/new/national-trails-system-gis-network/

NTS GIS Network Mission:
We established the NTS GIS Network as a way to connect the diverse array of National Trails System staff and partners who use GIS systems and products in their work. One of our goals is to facilitate the sharing of information and tools that help us do our jobs more efficiently and innovatively. Because the national trails system is managed as a collaboration of agencies and partner organizations, the NTS GIS Network is open to anyone.