

NTS GIS Network- Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 20, 1:00 pm Mountain Time (12pm PT, 2pm CT, 3pm ET)

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions

Meeting Attendees:

1. Peter Bonsall, National Trails System Program Specialist NPS (moderator)
2. Kerry Shakarjian, National Park Service Alaska Region GIS (moderator)
3. Brian Deaton, National Park Service - National Trails (presenter)
4. Sara Rivera, National Park Service - National Trails (presenter)
5. Lee Kreutzer, National Trails
6. Larry Short, Santa Fe Trail Association
7. Meg Frisbie, National Trails
8. Philip M
9. Claire Shipton (FS)
10. J Jensen, National Trails
11. Samuel Limerick, Tahoe-Pyramid Trail
12. Susan Hall, CUVA
13. Tatyana DiMascio, USGS
14. Stafford Hazelett, Portland, Oregon, NHT researcher and more
15. John Cannella, National Trails and Rivers Systems program manager
16. N Torres
17. Jessica Ostfeld
18. Jeremy
19. Joel Cusick, NPS Alaska Region GIS
20. David Bishop
21. Victoria Smith-Campbell, FS Region 2 GIS Coordinator
22. trailheadsarts
23. George Prothro, NPS
24. Cory
25. Charlyne Smith, NCSU
26. Matt Schulte
27. Patricia Trujillo
28. Don Owen

2. Announcements & Information from Audience

- a. October 21 - 29: [National Trails Virtual Workshop](#)

3. Discussion Topic

Presenter: Brian Deaton, GIS Specialist, National Park Service – National Trails

National Trails Survey123 National Historic Trails Asset Inventory

The National Park Service National Trails Office continues working with partners in innovative ways using various GIS technologies to engage, collaborate, and experience the trails. The National Trails Office released a new mobile application this summer enhancing collaboration between trail associations and our office for mapping directional and interpretive assets associated with the National Historic Trails (NHT). The mobile application utilizes the Survey123 app to answer questions concerning the number, condition, replacement needs, location, and areas lacking assets. These assets include interpretive waysides, museum exhibits and National Historic Trail (NHT) road or pedestrian signs recorded using the partner's own smart phone or tablet. The Survey123 NHT Asset Inventory enables partners who may not be familiar with global positioning system (GPS) technology through a user-friendly interface, similar to a fillable PDF, and only requires filling out prompted questions and taking site asset photos while the mobile device captures GPS location

Notes:

- National Historic Trails mapping effort using mobile application
- Survey123 use offline from cellular in field (off network)
- Safety first! Respect private property, wildlife, be aware of cars etc.
- The purpose of the app is to record National Historic Trail interpretive and directional signage assets. We make sure to highlight to the associations to not record cultural resource data such as trail/swale segments or sensitive site information. The ArcGIS Online (AGOL) platform that hosts the recorded NHT Asset Inventory data is not intended for sensitive data.
- Coordinate w/trail associations to get AGOL accounts for partners. Partner accounts allow for edits of online data.
- Download the Survey 123 app to mobile devices.
- Review the AGOL data prior to field data collection to make sure the asset hasn't already been collected.
- Data collection:
 - Collecting Interpretive Waysides, including photos of assets, that are along the National Historic Trails. These could be maintained by others besides the NPS.
 - Collecting Direction Signage, along roads and trails.
 - Collecting Trail Markers, mark location of trail, has lots of variation.
 - Collecting Facility Exhibits – photos of exhibits and photos of facility.
 - Other category – to get additional items that don't fit above categories.
- Creation of field app in Survey123
 - Used Survey123 Connection application.
 - Build the survey questions/fields within Excel Spreadsheet.
 - Form is dynamic based on user input, user doesn't see all questions in form, only questions relating to the asset being collected.
 - Create choices for drop down to standardize the choices and have less typing by user.
 - Publish the Survey so its downloadable to users.
 - Viewable in AGOL
- Sept 2019 -did trial with two trails and then did more updates to make it user friendly and more explanatory. Released in July 2020 after documentation was released.
- Partners are providing good feedback for updates.
- Only recording assets that are interpretive waysides or state historical markers or directional signage – not recording structures as retaining walls but the same method can be used to record those assets.
- NPS Core XY Accuracy field is not auto populated, populate on backend manually. Not GNSS grade data but using NMEA stream from device to get accuracy.
- Performance issues related to photos from survey123 in AGOL? – field glitches where the app will stop working, close it out and open back up resolves it.
 - Export from AGOL to file geodatabase cause issues with photos? No
 - Using medium resolution photos, users don't determine this, set resolution ahead of time.
- Main data stored in AGOL, backup is downloaded. More permanent location will be the database off of AGOL and will be in the NPS standards with correct NAD83 projection.

4. Future Meeting Dates & Topics

- a. November 17, 2020 – Looking for presenters
- b. December 15, 2020 – Looking for presenters
- c. January 19, 2021 – Looking for presenters

We always welcome suggestions for additional topics for discussion or presentations. Please contact us with your suggestions using the email below.

NTS GIS Email Address: ntsgis@nps.gov

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.