

## GIS Education Workgroup – December 10, 2010 Meeting Notes

Participants: Lyle Hornbaker, John Scrivani, Katherine Smith, John McGee, Mary Davis, James Wilson, Bob Rike, Melissa Dabbs, Stan Hovey, Wendy Stout, Dan Widner

### LiDAR Educational Brief

The group reviewed a draft one page LiDAR educational brief that was designed to provide a high level LiDAR introduction to the “decision maker”, some practical examples of the application of LiDAR data, and references to find further information.

The following suggestions were made to enhance the one page brief:

- Utilize the back page to hold more information
  - Add links to discover more information about LiDAR
  - Add Case Studies (about one-half of the page) in Virginia
    - Blacksburg and Eastern Shore Testimonials
    - Statements about why it is important
  - Compare LiDAR technology in context with other technologies: where does it fit in?
  - Suggested include information describing VGIN and its purpose (related to this brief)
- Identify where VA has LiDAR and where the next flights may occur
- Create a dedicated web page for LiDAR on the VGIN website
  - Beef up what is there now with a paragraph opening description
  - Add other URLs for more info and explain what they link to
- Suggested to use parenthetical explanations, under “Data” on first page
- Utilize questions as headers to the sections
- Under “Applications” and “Data”, add a blurb about how LiDAR can be leveraged in existing GIS software

### GISP Discussion

Dan Widner sought out the group’s perspectives on the GIS Professional certification known as GISP. He indicated that he has received informal requests to get the state to endorse GISP certification. The process to do this would be through the VGIN Advisory Board.

Discussion:

- What about the ASPRS GIS Certification? How do the numbers compare?
- Suggested that we ask the GISCI (organization overseeing the GISP) about the impact upon salaries, if any
- Get universities and higher education involved in the discussion
- Education needed on maintenance of GISP once attained
- James Wilson suggested he could lead the discussion and further investigation for the VGIN Board

### Additional Discussion Items

- Future Educational Brief topics to consider? Remote Sensing, Land Surveying in GIS, Photogrammetry, GIS Analysis, Cartography
- Future Educational Briefs tied to future VGIN efforts? VBMP Buy Ups, Parcel Data, etc.
- Focus on “Application Briefs” for future?