

GIS Clearinghouse Requirements

Introduction

The GIS Clearinghouse Workgroup consists of members representing various organizations that include local and state government, academia, private sector and non-profit organizations. The workgroup has discussed the structure and development of a geospatial clearinghouse to meet the needs of both the data providers and end users.

Based on meetings in August 2010, October 2010 and December 2010, the following summarizes the requirements discussion regarding the clearinghouse:

General

- Fast, simple and intuitive to use
- Quick and easy access to documentation
- Easy, user friendly interface to upload and download data
- Data contribution standards should be limited to certain organizations (local government, state government, federal government, certain organizations, etc.)
- Integration with Metadata Portal
- One stop data shopping for Virginia GIS data seekers
- Standard data disclaimer prior to accessing data
- Tools for measuring usage and tracking downloads

Data

- Data download method and/or web services
- Types of data to consider (raster, vector, tabular)
- Data usage and terms of acceptance to prevent liability
- Metadata or similar form of documentation
 - Should require basic information as a minimum
- Integration with current Metadata Portal
- Data maintenance and issues with outdated data
 - Consider reminders to data owners
 - Keep track of data date with documentation

Data Download

- Simple overall to retrieve data
- Query and search capability
- Fast and easy download methods
- Capture and display data metrics (most searched, downloaded, used keywords, etc.)
- Data preview image prior to download

Data Security and Integration

- Secure system to upload/download data depending upon data access constraints defined by the data owner
- Enable data providers to set access restrictions to certain authoritative data

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- Log in capability to access certain types of data
- Meet licensing and legal concerns of certain data through restrictions
- Support secure data needs of other systems (NCR COG, VIPER, etc.)
- Ability to track where the data goes
- Availability & system uptime expectations
 - SLA for performance

Functionality

- Search and query for data using:
 - Key word search
 - Geographic definition (jurisdiction, zip, etc.)
 - Area of interest as defined in a map viewer
- Download data in standard formats and projections
- Upload data in standard formats and projections
- Ability to see quick and basic metadata about data holdings