The 1997 NSDI Benefits Program

The National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Benefits Program was established by the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) to support projects that assess the benefits of interorganizational cooperation and data sharing for solving problems in a particular geographic area. In 1997, ten awards totalling $385,000 were made to projects headed by the field offices of federal agencies. For more information on the 1998 program, which will allow organizations from all sectors to lead, contact the FGDC at 703-648-5514 or gdc@usgs.gov

Archaeological Resources
Creation of a Spatial Database of Archaeological Resources for the State of Arizona

This project will create or enhance existing spatially referenced databases for archaeological site and survey data from federal lands in Arizona. These spatial data themes will be integrated into a state-wide archaeological database and the benefits of their use to federal, state, tribal and private agencies for conducting federal and state historic preservation compliance activities will be examined.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S. Bureau of Land Management; Archaeological Research Institute, Arizona State University; Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona; Coronado National Forest; Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest; Coconino National Forest; Prescott National Forest; Tonto National Forest; Kaibab National Forest; State Historic Preservation Office; Museum of Northern Arizona

Principal Contact
Gary Stumpf, BLM, 222 No. Central Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85004, 602-417-9509, gstumpf@az.blm.gov

Economic Development
Special Products Development and Cooperative Data Access

This project will serve as a model for development of user documentation and improved access to geographic data. Data will be used to cooperatively analyze landscape features of interest to the community of Sitka. Predictive models on the availability of understory forest resources will be constructed and the benefits of using the data and models to provide sustainable economic development will be examined.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S.Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Tongass National Forest, Chatham Area; Sitka Conservation Society

Principal Contact
Jim Franzel, Tongass National Forest, Chatham Area, Sitka Ranger District, 201 Katlian Street, Suite 109, Sitka, AK 99835; 907-747-6671

Ecosystems and Watersheds
Establishing a Shared Spatial Data Resource for Kachemak Bay, Alaska

Partners will create an internet-based resource to share information and implement an ecosystem approach to natural resource management in the Kachemak Bay watershed. This project will demonstrate benefits to the management of the Kachemak Bay watershed and to the education of local citizens by providing access to relevant information.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Coastal Service Center; Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Principal Contact
Dr. Geno Olmi, NOAA, Coastal Service Center, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston, SC 29405-2413; 803-974-6230, golmi@csc.noaa.gov

Yolo County Integrated Bioregional Watershed Project

This pilot social and technical collaboration among public and private sector partners will examine the benefits of sharing geographic data to improve public decisionmaking capabilities about the future of a diverse regional community, as defined by its watershed systems. Integrated GIS, a document database, and Internet systems will provide a platform for ecological planning.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service; City of Davis; Davis Community Network; Yolo County RCE; Yolo County, Community Development Agency; University of California, Davis; Water Resources Association of Yolo County; Army Corps of Engineers; Yolo Basin Foundation; Water Online; Cache Creek Watershed Stakeholders: Davis Joint Unified School District; Yolo County Superintendent of Schools; California Resources Agency; CIESIN; Tellus Insitute.

Principal Contact
Phil Hogan, USDA-NRCS; 221 West Court Street #1; Woodland, CA95695, 916-662-2307, phogan@ca.nrcs.usda.gov

Problem Solving by an Ecosystem Partnership in the Prince William Sound-Copper River Region, Alaska

This project will assist managers in the Prince William Sound-Copper River region to make better use of geospatial data to address issues of tourism growth and infestation by spruce bark beetles.

shared through the Alaska Geospatial Data Clearinghouse, and the benefits of sharing will be examined.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division; Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve; Bureau of Land Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Chugach National Forest; Minerals Management Service; Alaska Department of Natural Resources; Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation; Alaska Department of Fish and Game; Chitina Native Corporation; Chenega Corporation; Alaska Natural Heritage Program; Environmental Systems Research Institute; Trans Pacific Computing; Resource Data Inc.

Principal Contact
Karen Oakley; USGS-BRD; Alaska Science Center; 1011 East Tudor Road; Anchorage, AK 99503; 907-786-3579; karen_oakley@nbs.gov

Development of Internet-Based GIS Applications for Community Involvement

This project will increase public access to state-wide GIS data in Idaho by making internet-based GIS application available, will improve the ability of the partnership to involve public comment in developing comprehensive river basin plans, and will examine the benefits of data sharing.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division; Idaho Department of Water Resources; The Henry's Fork Foundation

Principal Contact
Michael Rupert; USGS-WRD; 230 Collins Road; Boise, Idaho 83702; telephone 208-387-1323; mgrupert@usgs.gov

Hazards

Comprehensive Data Sharing as Part of a Community-based Environmental Protection Initiative in Charleston and North Charleston, S.C.

This project will examine the benefits of using shared data to help support environmental decison making in the Charleston Area. Data from various sources will be combined using a geographic information system to (1) provide information needed for agency activities, (2) provide a basis for future modeling that attempts to link hazards in the environment to qualty of life of residents, and (3) provide an acces-

sible and ongoing source of information for residents and others.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4; Medical University of South Carolina; South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Principal Contact
Sherri Fields, U. S. Environmental Proection Agency, Region 4; Environmental Accountability Divsion; 61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Atlanta, GA30303; 404-562-9684; FIELDS.SHERRI@EPA.GOV

Involving Stakeholders in Land Management

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Geospatial Data Sharing Project

This project will establish a land management process for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument to give data users and interest groups access to spatial data. The benefits of data sharing will be evaluated by decision makers, local residents and the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument planning team through the use of questionnaires and personal interviews.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management; Dixie National Forest; Glenn Canyon National Recreation Area; Capitol Reef National Park; State of Utah, Automated Geographic Reference Center; State of Arizona, Land Resources Information System; Southern Utah University; Garfield County Commission; Kane County Commission; Garfield County Engineer; Kane County Monument Grant Planning Administrator; Environmental Systems Research Institute; Utah State GIS Advisory Committee

Principal Contact
Jerry Sempek; U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management; Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument; 337 South Main, Suite 010; Cedar City, UT 84720;801-865-5100; jsempek@ut.blm.gov

National Park Service Geospatial Data Clearinghouse for the Blue Ridge Parkway Region

The project will use shared data to pro-

duce an environmentally sustainable economic development plan for the Blue Ridge Parkway region of North Carolina that will expand the local tax base and maintain the integrity of the park. The benefits of making relevant spatial data sets available to local stakeholders in searchable format for mutual planning will be examined.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service; North Carolina State University, Raleigh, Computer Graphics Center; North Carolina State University, Natural Resources Library; North Carolina State University, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management Department; Alexandria Digital Library, University of California, Santa Barbara

Principal Contact
Leslie Armstrong; National Park Service; GIS Program Office; P. O. Box 25287; Denver, CO 80225-2964; 303-969-2822; leslie_armstrong@nps.gov

Data Sharing Through Metadata

State Level Implementation of the Biological Profile of the FGDC Geospatial Metadata Standard

A pilot biological metadata training workshop oriented to state fish and wildlife information managers will be developed. Selected state biological spatial data sets will be documented and served through the National Biological Information Infrastructure metadata clearinghouse. This project will increase understanding, relevance, and use of the FGDC metadata standard by this important biological data community, thus increasing data sharing among many stakeholders within a state and across states.

Collaborating Organizations
U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division; Fish and Wildlife Information Exchange, Virginia Tech State University; Oregon Deparment of Fish and Wildlife; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver

Principal Contact
Sharon Shin, U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division; Center for Biological Informatics; P.O. Box 25046, MS 302; Building 810; Room 8000; Denver Federal Center; Denver CO 80225; 303-202-4230; sharon_shin@usgs.gov