

Notes of the Geospatial Data and Analysis Working Group Conference Call of December 8, 2011

Attending: Christine Hladik (GCE), Andrew Fountain (MCM), Jamie Hollingsworth (BNZ), Theresa Valentine (AND), John Vande Castle (LNO), Suzanne Sipple (KBS), Dave Verbyla (BNZ), Kyle Cavanaugh (SBC)

Reports:

1. LTER Agreement with OpenTopography: www.Opentopography.org
 - a. Original agreement with OpenTopography (OT), where they will store LTER site LiDAR data, making them available for processing and analysis. LiDAR data for the H.J. Andrews has been added to OT as an example and template:

http://opentopo.sdsc.edu:8080/gridsphere/gridsphere?gs_action=lidarDataset&cid=geonlidarframeportlet&opentopoID=OTLAS.082011.26910.1
 - b. They are now working with data from Niwot LTER as a second example. John Vande Castle (LNO) is working on having an MOU with them for all sites by the end of the year. John will send out announcement to all LTER sites when this is available.
2. LTERMapS:
 - a. The LTERMapS sub group of the IM GIS working group has developed a Google map application, showing site information from SiteDB.
<http://www.lternet.edu/map/>
 - b. Phase 2 of LTERMapS will have more detailed information, providing the geographic framework for the Clim/Hydro/Stream Chem Databases. This includes more detailed DEMs, watershed boundaries, stream networks, and study site locations. There are 7 pilot sites: AND, GCE, BES, BNZ, KNZ, MCM, NTL. Look for a demo of this in the spring.
 - c. A suggestion was made to try and get LTER information included within Google products.
3. GeoNIS:
 - a. GeoNIS is the connection of geospatial data into the Network Information System (NIS). A group will be meeting this winter to continue discussions with the LNO about how to incorporate geospatial

data, provide geographic searches, and assist sites in making their geospatial data accessible through the NIS and the Pasta architecture.

Discussion on role/remit of the committee:

The question was raised on how this committee interfaces with the broader LTER community. Do we work on products and then try and sell to network, or find out what the community needs and then make recommendations to the LTER Executive Board and then promote them? What type of process do we have? What does the Executive Board expect? Andrew Fountain was meeting with Scott Collins at AGU, and he is going to bring it up with him. It was suggested that we survey the LTER community for information about their geospatial needs, with targeted questions.

Discussion followed on a LNO Image Repository, the ability of the LNO to collect annual or bi-annual cloud free imagery, so that a time series was available for each site. John indicated that he had a product on a local drive for the Andrews. Kyle Cavanaugh has also acquired and archived a time series of all cloud-free Landsat-5 imagery for the Santa Barbara Coastal LTER Site. He also has publications on the use of this dataset which demonstrate the utility of such a time series. This could be a good pilot/demonstration project, perhaps at the 2012 ASM – or even the 2012 LTER Science Council to show the usefulness of such a catalog. It was noted that we need to ask sites for their area of interest, and not assume it's the site boundary. John noted that the LNO now has additional capacity for data storage at the University of New Mexico Center for Advance Research Computing (CARC) in partnership with DataONE - <https://www.dataone.org/>

Tasks/Assignments:

1. Andrew to talk to Scott Collins @AGU
2. John to set up committee page on website and work on organization/updating of LNO remote sensing pages (make it less confusing, perhaps combine into one page)
3. Kyle to send out links to papers from his time series to all folks on the e-mail list.
4. Survey: members send ideas for questions to Theresa, she will compile, and John will create survey monkey.
5. Google connection: Theresa and Jamie to work on finding a way to get LTER info onto Google. (FS, Ned Gardner?)
6. John to send out Announcement when Open Topography agreement completed
7. Kyle to send Santa Barbara data to John VC.

8. Theresa and Jamie: work with John on creating image services on maps server @LNO
9. Group: be thinking about what kind of session/demo we want to have at ASM in September.

Next Meeting: Theresa to send out Doodle for call in January.