

Title: Collaborative Map Use in Conservation Science: a case study of the design and use of a web map environment to support bird habitat conservation

Authors: Stryker, Michael and Miller, Douglas A.

Keywords: geocollaboration, web-mapping, conservation science

Paper Abstract:

We present a case study of the design, implementation and use of a geocollaborative web-mapping environment integrated with a content management system (CMS) to support current bird habitat conservation practices in Appalachia. For over three years we have used a scenario-based process with the Appalachian Mountain Joint Venture (AMJV) Coordinator, Science Coordinator, and joint venture members to implement a map-based environment for providing geographic context to planning activities and deliberation. The map-based tool is built with Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) compliant services and allows members to sketch annotations on the map and then link these sketches to a structured view of discussions and documents relevant to a given topic. The linkages between dynamic content on the map and content added to the CMS provides a visual means for both understanding activities that occur at a given place and conversely, for a given activity, to discover which locations are of interest. We present insight gathered over this three year period on the contemporary use of a distributed, asynchronous mapping tool for conservation work as well as on our process of iterative, scenario-based design of a mapping tool adapted from Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) literature.

CaGIS topic: Map use and Design