Bringing GIS to the masses using gvSIG

8 INTERNATIONAL gySIG MAKING THE FUTURE ECHNOLOGY Solidarity BUSINESS

The use of free and open source GIS in community outreach UNH Cooperative Extension

Cooperative Extension across USA

- --> Exists in every state in the United States
- --> Outreach component of "Land Grant" Schools tasked with bringing university to the people
- --> Traditionally based on agriculture, but topics have changed with emerging needs
- Different areas based on state needs/funding







UNH Cooperative Extension GIS/GPS

- --> University of New Hampshire (Durham, NH)
- --> Housed in Natural Resources program team
- --> Started 1998 using ArcView 3.x (now 10.1)
- --> Laptop teaching cluster starting in 2000
- --> Original focus on natural resource professionals, teachers, planning boards



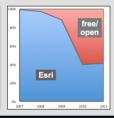




Shift to emphasis on free/open

- --> GIS is too expensive! (boring & limiting idea)
- --> Some schools are Mac only
- --> Towns, businesses concerned about licensing
- --> Needed a way to get people started with GIS





Open/free focused workshops

GIS on Pennies a Day - December 2007 to January 2010 1 day: GIS basics, tour of free GIS options,

hands on with online mapping, Google Earth 14 workshops | 127 participants

GIS 101: Learning to map in the digital age - March 2010 to present

3 hrs: GIS basics, tour of online mapping, free GIS options, Google Earth 15 workshops | 153 participants

GIS on Pennies a Day: Test Drive - January 2010 to present

3 hrs: GIS key concepts, hands-on with free GIS

17 workshops | 168 participants

Workshop audience & impact

typical participants workshop outcomes







Other venues for open source GIS



Collaborative team providing research-based content and individual assistance on geospatial technologies





International hands-on inperson training for lake watershed and managers using geospatial technologies



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