GEOSPATIAL MATURITY ASSESSMENT 2019

Arkansas Report Card

Overall Grade: B+

COORDINATION	GRADE: A+

STATE-LED THEMES	GRADE
Address	A-
Cadastre	A+
Elevation	B+
Orthoimagery Leaf-Off	B
Transportation	B

FEDERAL-LED THEMES	GRADE
Geodetic Control	B+
Government Units	A+
Hydrography	A-
Orthoimagery Leaf-On	B

METRICS:

A - Superior

B - Above average

C - Average

D - Below average

F - Failure

N/A - Not Applicable

The National States Geographic Information Council Geospatial Maturity Assessment provides NSGIC members and other partners with a summary of geospatial initiatives, capabilities, and issues within and across state governments. The NSGIC GMA now produces report cards for each state on central data themes and coordination topics. The assessment is performed every two years.

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ARKANSAS GMA RESPONSE

We appreciate the opportunity to participate in the Geospatial Maturity Assessment. It provides metrics for use in self evaluation as well as objective measures from an external perspective that we can point to as we are evaluated within our state government organizational structure. We believe the results to be an accurate representation of our current state of affairs. We are and have long been very fortunate to enjoy an atmosphere of effective cooperation and coordination among the various GIS stakeholders in the state, including state agencies, local government, higher education, and the private sector.

It has long been the policy of both the Arkansas GIS Office and the GIS Board to capture leaf-off imagery. Leaf-off imagery better supports the needs of transportation, local tax assessors, and local 9-1-1. Unfortunately, our state does not have an imagery "program", i.e. no sustainable revenue stream. Consequently, imagery acquisition has always been dependent on available on-time funding. Over the last 20 years, statewide image acquisition has occurred, on average, every six to seven years.

Over the past three to four years, governmental units has become a particular focus for our state as we prepare for the 2020 Census and redistricting that will follow. Dovetailing with this has been our participation in the Geo-enabled Elections effort. We see these as exceptional opportunities glean quality data to take into the next decade.

Lastly, statewide address data has been one of our goals for the past decade, and we are now close to seeing the culmination of that effort. Currently, 72 of 75 counties have physical address dataset in maintenance, and the remaining three have efforts underway at some level to complete county-wide data for the first time. This dataset is of particular significance due to its integral role in Next Generation 9-1-1.

Shelby Johnson
GIO, State of Arkansas

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