



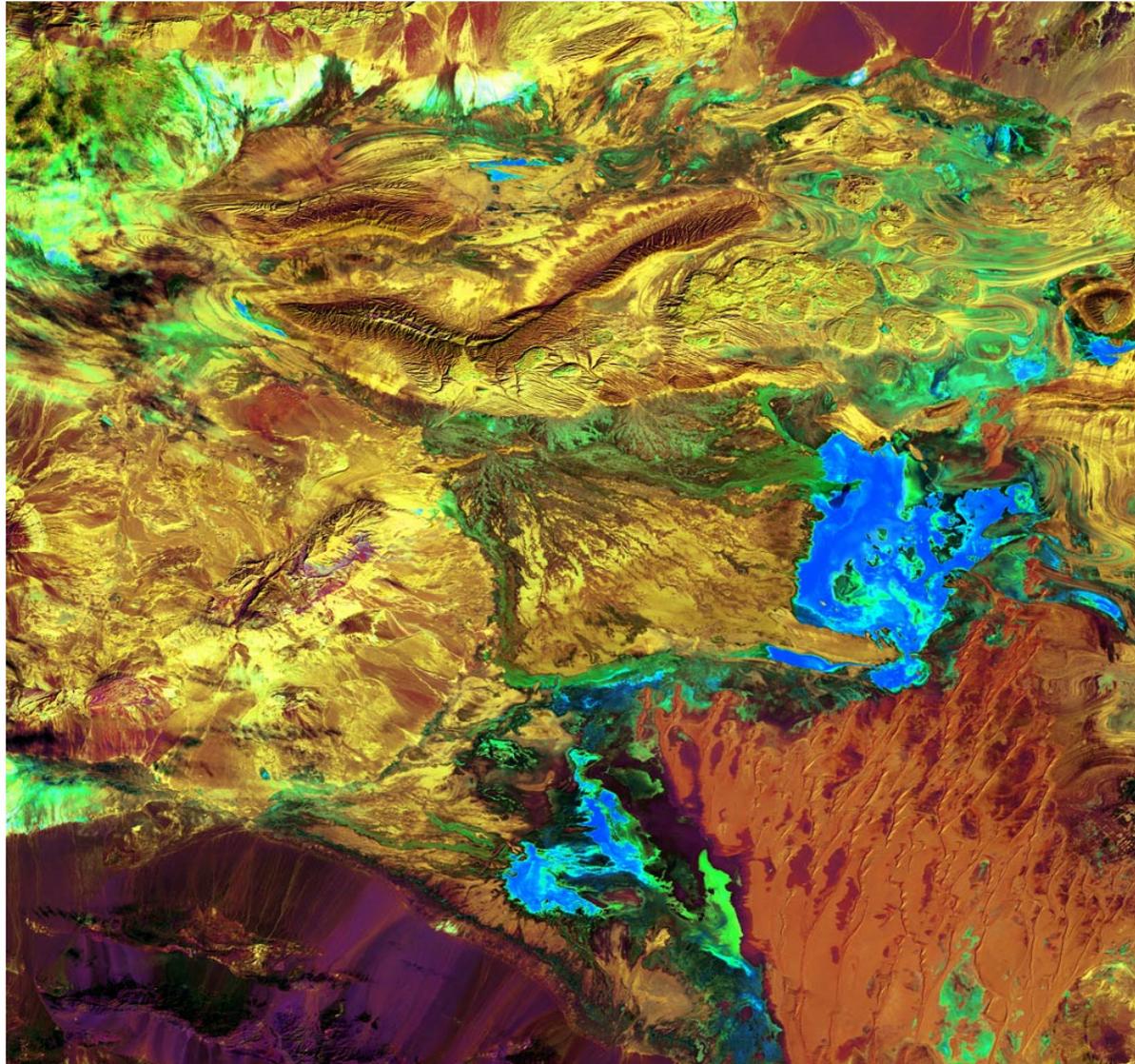
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## Earth as Art: Stunning New Images From Space

By [Betsy Mason](#) November 16, 2010 | 3:39 pm | Categories: [Earth Science](#)

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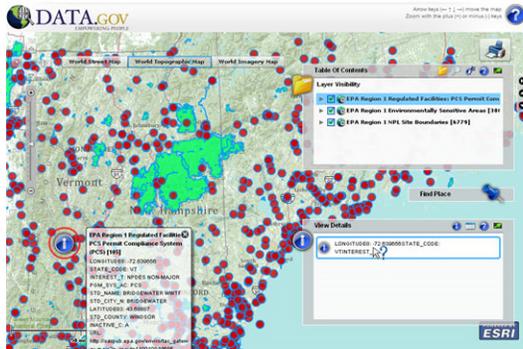


We are pleased to announce the availability of the Data.gov GEO Viewer, an interactive mapping tool designed to let users preview geospatial data available through the Data.gov catalogs. Using this tool, you can immediately view datasets on an interactive map, overlay them with other datasets, and investigate the underlying data. While not a full featured Geographic Information System, this new capability allows users to quickly determine whether datasets in the Data.gov catalogs are suitable for their needs before taking the time to download them for further exploration and use.

To get started, simply click on the "Preview" link where it appears on a dataset's metadata page. Please note that not all geospatial data in the Data.gov catalog is available for preview at this time. The Preview link is included for those datasets that are currently supported.

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Clicking the Preview link will bring up the GEO Viewer window, and after a few moments, the dataset will be ready for viewing. You may return to the Data.gov catalogs to search for more data that can also be previewed in the same GEO Viewer window allowing for quick and easy mashup of multiple data layers from the Data.gov catalogs. In the example below, multiple environmental datasets from the New England area are presented in the GEO Viewer.



## White House Pushes Geospatial Collaboration

Obama administration wants agencies to adopt standard management practices and to invest more efficiently, while GSA looks to cloud for a new platform.

By J. Nicholas Hoover, InformationWeek  
November 15, 2010 07:00 AM

The White House is urging federal agencies to work more closely together on geospatial data efforts, issuing updated [guidance](#) aimed at improving management of the federal government's steadily increasing coffers of geospatial data.



"We're trying to make sure we leverage the economies of scale

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## Geospatial data management refined

OMB guidance adds to older principles

By Kathleen Hickey Nov 12, 2010

Geospatial data can seem almost as big as the world it concerns, but the Office of Management and Budget is trying clarify the role of federal agencies in managing it. New guidance now supplements the goals and roles initially established in 2002.



# Framing a National Strategy for the Appraisal and Selection of Geospatial Data

Library of Congress

November 17-18, 2010

William G. LeFurgy, [wlef@loc.gov](mailto:wlef@loc.gov)



# Background

- National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program established in 2000
- Now working with 170+ partners to collect, preserve and make available significant born-digital information of all kinds
- Approach is decentralized, focusing on collaboration and shared community practices
- Library's role is to consider the big picture, help stakeholders work together, provide leadership



# Geospatial Data a Key Focus

- NDIIPP had early focus on geospatial data:
  - National Geospatial Digital Archive
  - NC Geospatial Data Archiving Project
  - Geospatial Multistate Archive and Preservation Project (GeoMAPP)
- Meeting in 11/2009 to discuss ideas for a national collection of geo data
- Two main ideas emerged:
  - Clearinghouse of info about geo preservation
  - Exploration of geo appraisal and selection



# Clearinghouse

- Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) at Columbia has agreed to host
- Public beta/Phase I release available at <http://geopreservation.org/>
- Provides info and tools to assist librarians, archivists and data managers to preservation valuable geospatial assets



# Geo Appraisal and Selection

- Consensus at previous meeting: further exploration needed about how decisions are made about which data to keep
- Basic drivers:
  - Limited preservation resources on part of libraries, archives, stewards
  - Rapidly growing data volume/complexity
  - Growing cross domain user interest



# What to Keep: A High-level View

- Selection: Typically a library term, based on institutional collection policies
- Appraisal: Typically an archival term, rooted in recordkeeping mandates
- Issue is that geospatial data is difficult to keep in silos because potential use is so broad
- Approach: recognize that there are differences in a/s, but try to look at both



# White Paper

- “Appraisal and Selection of Geospatial Data” provides an overview
- Paper posits five core questions that probe different angles of the issue
- We need your input to:
  - Tell us if these questions are useful
  - Give us your insight into answers
  - Help us mold ideas into some potential action and next steps



# Summary of Questions

- 1) Current a/s policies and practices robust and adaptable enough?
- 2) Any policies/practices good candidates for sharing across institutions?
- 3) What a/s aspects require more investigation?
- 4) Are there shared services models to consider?
- 5) What are some next steps to advance the practice of geospatial data appraisal and selection?

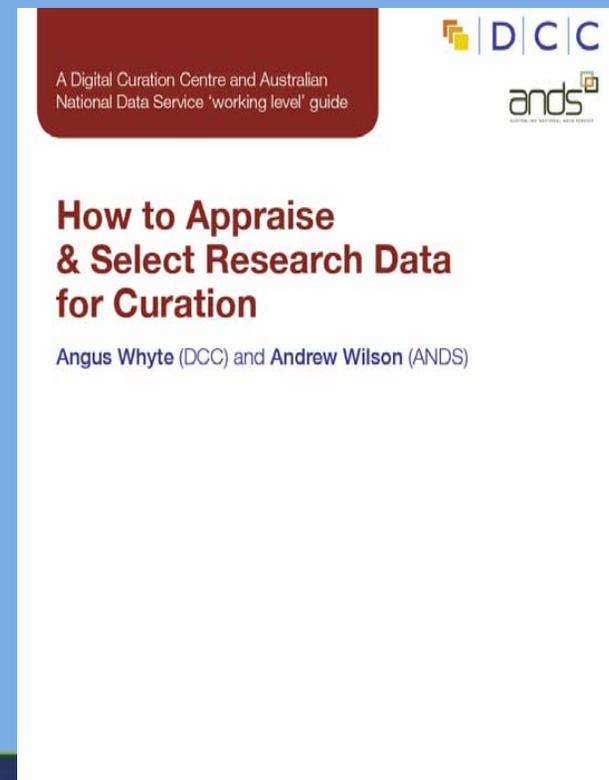
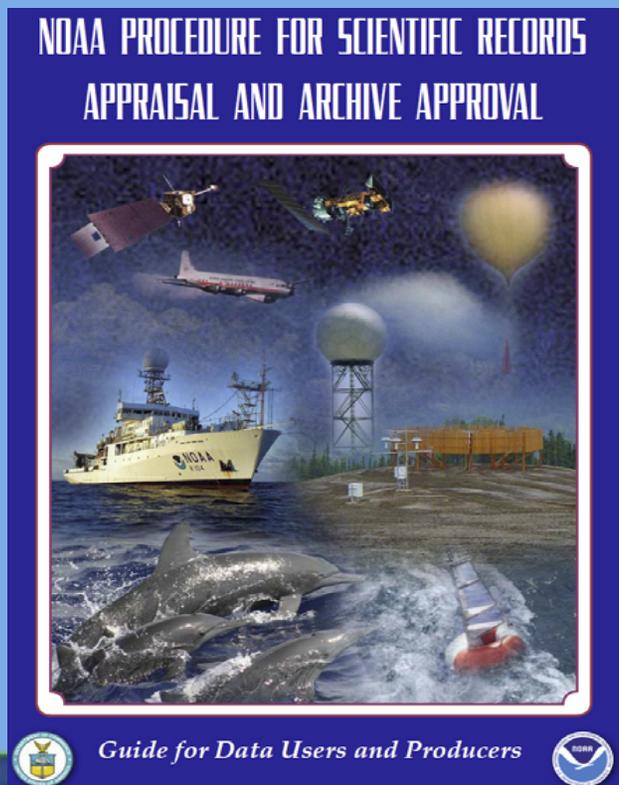


# Plan for the Meeting

- Trying something a bit different:
  - First, brainstorming on the five questions
  - Second, specialty panels to present on key issues
  - Third, final recap and group discussion
- Hope is that initial discussions can frame and enrich panels
- Success: Full discussion of geospatial a/s leading to a better understanding of the core issues and most promising areas for further work

# Eager to Stand on Giants

Lots of great work happening in different places; keep us informed!





# Final Words

- Comments in all forms encouraged during and after meeting
- Meeting is being well documented; we will share notes
- Tweeters: #locgeo2010