

GEOSPATIAL PROJECTS UPDATES

March 2011

GLO Field Notes Digitizing - Project Update

The digitization and indexing of Minnesota's original land survey field notes is rapidly picking up speed. Perfect Image, the State's scanning vendor, is in the process of installing a second scanner at the Minnesota History Center to ensure that they meet a May 6th deadline for completing 250,000 pages (75% of all interior and exterior survey notes). MnGeo has requested additional funds from the Historical Society so it can scan and index 80,000 extra pages that were discovered late last year after the scanning RFP was issued. If funds can be secured, the additional work can still be completed by the June 30th deadline. The project team will also be reviewing the island, reservation and railroad surveys and developing a plan and estimates so they can be scanned and indexed in a subsequent project. How much disk storage is needed for the scanned images? Recent calculations estimate that just the TIFF images for 320,000 pages of notes will require 20 terabytes!

Minnesota Structures Collaborative (MSC)

MSC has recently introduced a new application for identifying and downloading 10K-based U.S. National Grid (USNG) maps that exist statewide in a PDF format. These maps show the location of hospitals, schools, police and fire stations and were products of the FGDC 2008 CAP grant MnGeo received. The viewer is an easy-to-use OpenLayers tool and can be found at: <http://www.mngeo.state.mn.us/USNG/maps.html>.

Esri Enterprise License Agreement

Since the last Advisory Committee meeting, the Department of Human Services has joined the Esri software license ELA, raising the total number of active member agencies to 16. Negotiations for a new agreement will begin later this year as the current ELA expires on June 30, 2012.

A Business Plan for Statewide Parcel Data Integration for Minnesota

MnGeo has been notified that it has been awarded an NSDI Cooperative Agreement Program grant to [develop a business plan for statewide parcel data integration](#); work will begin July 1, 2011. MnGeo, working collaboratively with stakeholders and with local governmental units through their statewide organizations, will develop a detailed business plan for managing and providing access to accurate and current parcel data for the entire state based upon maintained and authoritative local sources. The business plan will build upon two generations of strategic plans for an integrated Minnesota SDI that supports the NSDI and an integrated parcel data for the nation vision. It builds upon a successful strategy for sharing parcel data within the Minneapolis-St. Paul region and strategies suggested by Minnesota's Digital Cadastral Data Committee, which works with counties throughout the state and advises MnGeo.

2010 Metro Orthoimagery Project

A cooperative project to collect spring 2010 high-resolution, 4-band orthographic and stereo digital imagery covering eleven East-Central MN counties has been completed. Eight organizations pooled resources to help guarantee the success of this effort. Partners included: DNR, Met Council, MnGeo, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, USGS, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District, Scott and Dakota Counties.

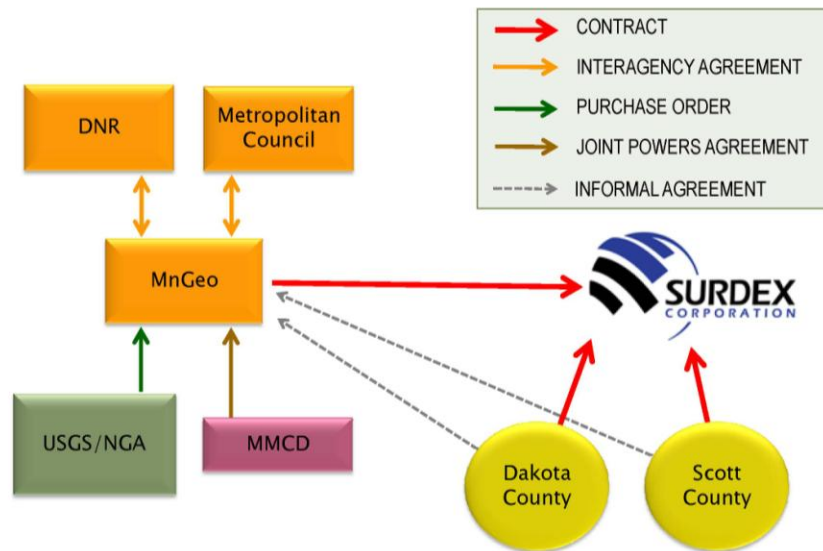


Figure 1. Local, regional, state and federal organizations partnered in an eleven county high resolution imagery collection in 2010

Four counties (Wright, Sherburne, Isanti and Chisago) were collected at a resolution of 20-inches (1/2-meter); five counties were collected at a resolution of 1-foot (Carver, Hennepin, Anoka, Ramsey and Washington); and two counties, originally collected at a resolution of 6-inches, have been re-sampled to a resolution of 1-foot (Dakota and Scott). These data are currently available on MnGeo’s Image Server. A compressed mosaic of each county will soon be downloadable via MnGeo’s FTP server.

Goodhue and Rice Counties were originally included as part of the project area, but were not collected in 2010 due to the very short leaf-off window the region experienced last spring. Those counties will be flown during the spring 2011.

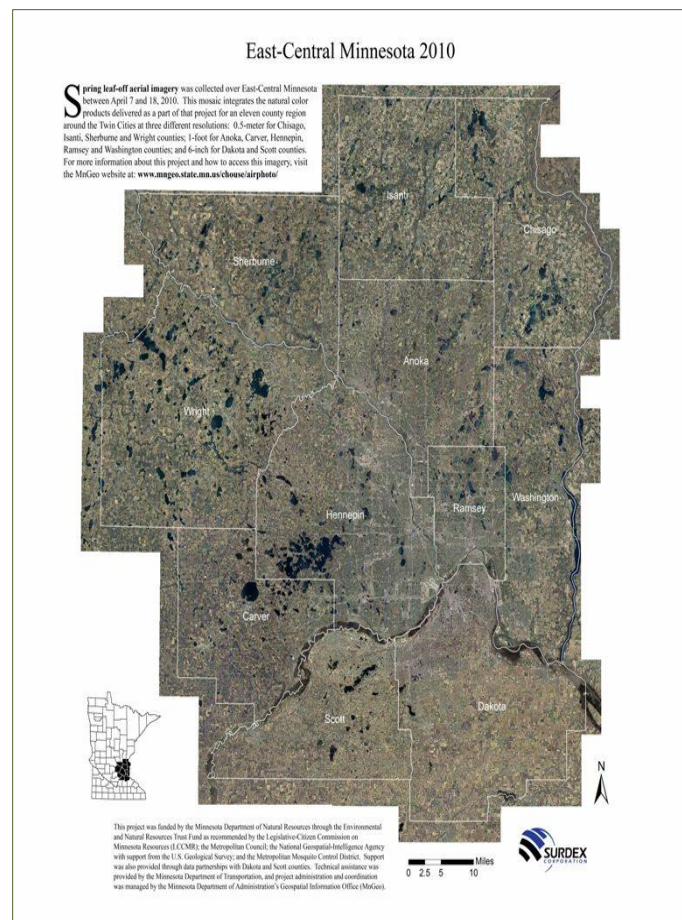


Figure 2. The 11-county digital imagery project area.

2011 Southern Minnesota Orthoimagery Project

The solicitation requesting proposals for the collection of orthoimagery over thirty-six southern Minnesota counties as the next phase of a statewide, leaf-off project (see Figure 3) closed on January 3, 2011. Vendor responses were evaluated and a prospective contractor has been selected. A contract is expected to be signed by March 20. As with the 2010 project, specifications will include 4-band, leaf-off imagery, provided in both ortho-rectified and stereo form. The nominal resolution of the new data collection is ½ meter, but three counties – Murray, McLeod and Sibley – are working with MnGeo to buy-up to 1-foot. This project is funded by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources through the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

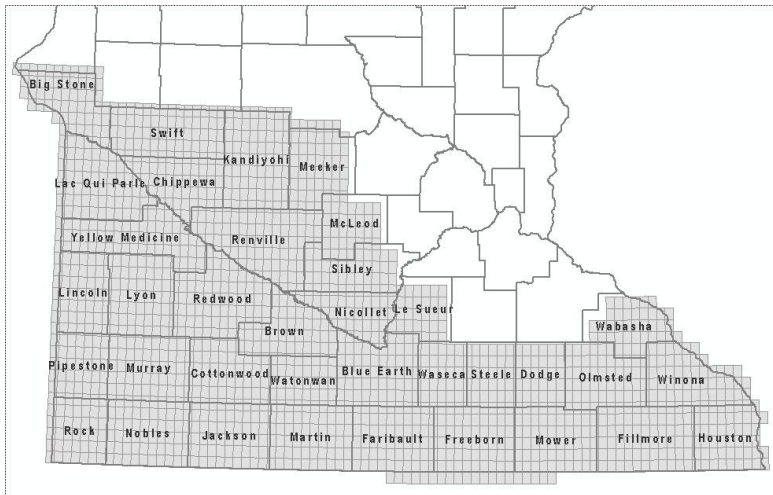


Figure 3. Counties and quarter-quadrangles to be covered in the State of Minnesota's 2011 Orthoimagery Project.

For more information on these projects, see the [spring air photo project website](#) or contact Chris Cialek, MnGeo, at chris.cialek@state.mn.us or 651-201-2481.

Broadband Mapping

ConnectMN reported to the Minnesota Broadband Taskforce in Dec 2010 on broadband adoption and adoption barriers. That report can be read at:

http://www.connectmn.org/documents/MNPlanningReport_ALL_screen.pdf

ConnectMN plans a re-survey that oversamples non-adopters statewide (similar to surveys conducted by the FCC as part of their national broadband planning effort).

A new mapping effort will overlay consumer broadband inquiry data on the broadband availability information collected through the State Broadband Data Development (SBDD) program. This conjunction will depict a view of the broadband landscape in Project Year 2.

Following guidelines to be published by the SBDD Program Office, ConnectMN will develop and implement data confidence scales.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) released the national broadband map on 17 Feb 2011. The map is a composite presentation of the data compiled by State programs. See it at:

<http://www.broadbandmap.gov/>

Next data submission and maps updates are due April 1, 2011.