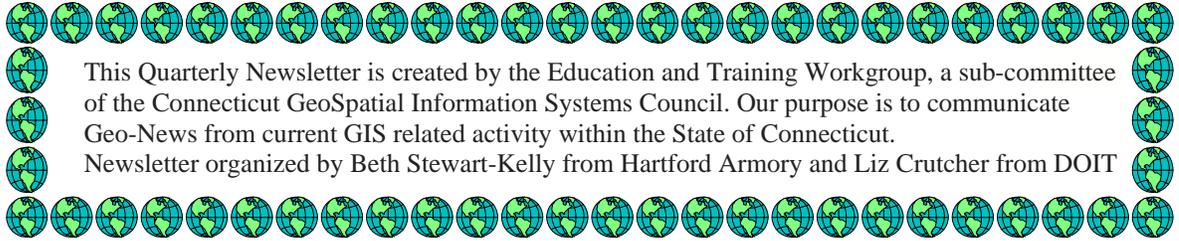


Connecticut Geo-Focus



Spring 2008
Volume 1, Issue 1

This Quarterly Newsletter is created by the Education and Training Workgroup, a sub-committee of the Connecticut GeoSpatial Information Systems Council. Our purpose is to communicate Geo-News from current GIS related activity within the State of Connecticut. Newsletter organized by Beth Stewart-Kelly from Hartford Armory and Liz Crutcher from DOIT



GEO BRIEFS

NAIP imagery to be acquired for Connecticut during Summer 2008

The State of Connecticut has entered into a partnership with the USDA Aerial Photography Field Office to acquire statewide 1-meter 4-band NAIP digital aerial ortho-imagery. The imagery will be acquired during the summer of 2008 and will be available in the public domain as both USGS quarter quad uncompressed GeoTiff images and Compressed County Mosaics (CCMs) in JPEG2000 format. NAIP imagery, which stands for National Agriculture Imagery Program, is acquired by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) and is used by FSA to map and catalog areas of agricultural production throughout the US. The imagery also will include a fourth near-infrared band which will help identify different types of land cover and vegetation. The imagery will be ortho-rectified and will have a horizontal accuracy of +/- 5 meters.

OPM awards funds to Regional Organizations for GIS

Nine proposals from Connecticut's Regional Planning Agencies, Regional Councils of Governments, Regional Planning Organizations, and Regional Councils of Elected Officials were awarded \$2,719,865 to provide or improve Information Technology or GIS related services. The funds are made available through the Regional Performance Incentive Program, which is administered by the Office of Policy and Management. It provides funds to encourage municipalities to participate in regional projects with other municipalities that will produce measurable "economies of scale" and lower the costs and tax burden in relation to those services.

For more information on the proposals granted funding, you may contact the Regional Planning Organization listed in the report. [Regional Performance Incentive Program Report to the Governor and the Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee 2008.](#)

WEBSITES TO COMPASS TO:

- **2008 Elections News** with the upcoming Presidential election you may want to know your candidate at <http://www.npr.org> (click on elections 2008 on the left)



From the GeoDESK

Investigating Refugee Social Identity Using GIS

by Thomas Felke, UCONN School of Social Work

With the outbreak of violence between Armenia and Azerbaijan, ethnic Armenians were forced from their homes to seek refuge in Armenia. Estimates have placed the number of refugees from these areas as high as 360,000 (UNHCR, 2000).

Therefore, a project aimed at examining the refugee situation in Armenia is currently being planned. An aspect of the project will employ the use of geographic information systems (GIS) and global positioning systems (GPS) to create maps



of the population densities and housing locations of both the refugee and naturalized ethnic Armenian populations. This component of the study is based on Salazar's (1998) idea of territoriality contributing to an individual's social identity. It will be hypothesized that refugees who have been placed in living situations that are geographically similar to their living

situation prior to migration will be more likely to have sought Armenian citizenship.



A GPS will be used to collect information about the living areas of the refugees in Armenia. This will include the geographic

location of housing units, schools, hospitals, social service agencies, and major roadways as well as relevant descriptive information of these features. This data will be combined with refugee population data provided by the Armenian Department on Migration and Refugees and the

United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees to perform spatial autocorrelation and spatial analysis tasks. The project is scheduled to begin later this year and be completed sometime in 2009 .





Spring 2008



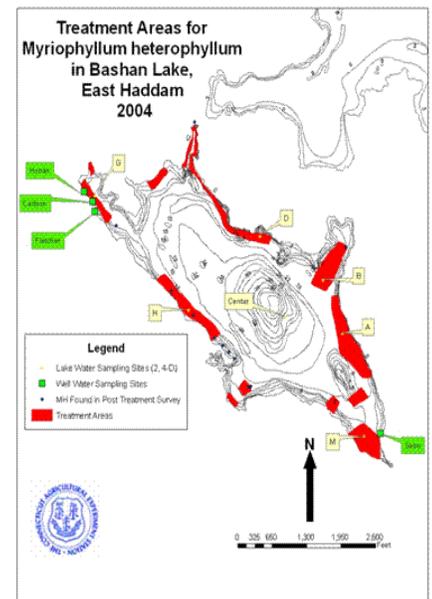
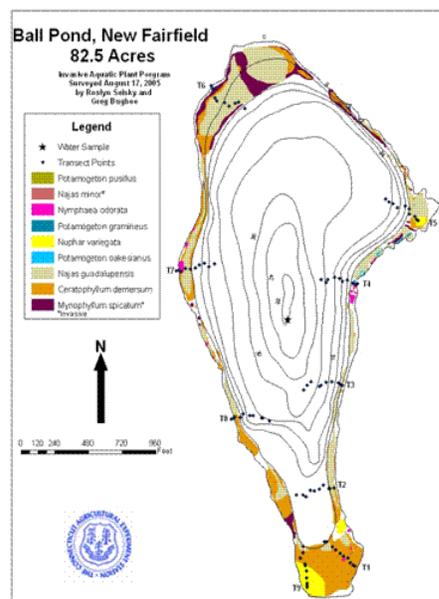
From the GeoDESK

Invasive Aquatic Plants

The CT Agricultural Experiment Station- by Roslyn Selsky

The Invasive Aquatic Plant Program (CAES IAPP) is using GIS to determine the distribution of invasive aquatic plants in Connecticut lakes and ponds. In a first-of-its-kind survey to obtain detailed aquatic plant data in Connecticut, locations of plant species were recorded using a Trimble GeoXT and then downloaded to ArcGIS 9. Observed plant areas, converted into georeferenced polygons, were also added to the map.

These interactive maps are used on CAES IAPP's website (<http://www.ct.gov/caes/iapp>) to educate the public about invasive aquatic plants, to provide baseline data useful in determining how native aquatic plant communities change in response to invasion, and to track the spread of invasive aquatic plants in Connecticut water bodies. GIS models will be used to predict future invasions in Connecticut lakes and ponds by comparing factors such as water chemistry, land use, and sediment type with successful invasions. Ultimately, GIS data will be used in the management of invasive aquatic plants in Connecticut.



Banana Boat Quote

Geography that is!

Send us your favorite Geography quote or make one up and get your name up here! Email them to the Education and Training Workgroup, beth.kelly2@us.army.mil and give us your quotes for the next newsletter.

As a state we are so uniquely positioned in so many ways.. Our geography, our placement in the country, and our history positions us to be the state that propels energy efficiency as an industry.

Jennifer Granholm

User to User Network Meeting

April 4 2008

9 a.m.—11 a.m.
MDC Training Center
125 Maxim Road, Hartford CT

Education and Training Work Group members are:

Co-Chair: Peter Sandgren DEMHS **Co-Chair:** Sandy Prisloe UCONN, Beth Stewart-Kelly Military Dept., Liz Crutcher DOIT, Scott Roberts Town of South Windsor, Dennis Barry DSS, Peter Petrella DSS, Arroll Borden United Way, Bernard Asimonye DOIT, Tyler Kleykamp OPM