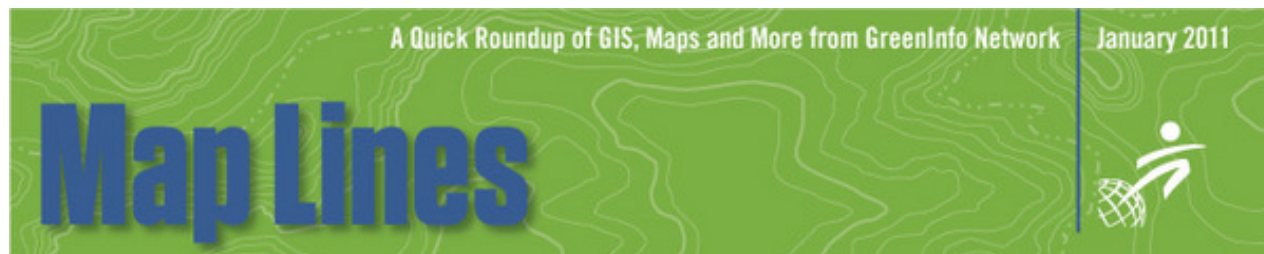


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In This Issue

[MapCollaborator Preview](#) >>

[Winnepesaukee Gateway Site](#) >>

[Bay Nature EndangerBus Tracker](#) >>

[Google Earth Engine](#) >>

[Geothentic](#) >>

[Tools for Digital Story Telling](#) >>

[ESRI GovMaps Preview Site](#) >>

[GIS Geek Corner](#) >>

[Laugh Lines](#) >>



Geothentic

The University of Minnesota has partnered with National Geographic to develop this innovative GIS mapping tool for educators. This website will help teachers use real data to convey how decisions are made and better understand geographical impacts on society. For example, using seismic data and density populations, students can apply information to determine the safest place to build a hospital in San Francisco. The program also offers lessons in a variety of other environmental issues, such as biodiversity, energy and pollution. A great way to get kids started with GIS! <http://lt.umn.edu/geothentic/>

Dear friend:

We here at GreenInfo Network hope you all had a wonderful Holiday and wish you a Happy New Year!

One of our New Year's resolutions is to send you a great and useful newsletter. So in this issue, we want to hear what you think about our newsletter.

Please take a minute or two to fill out our Map Lines Reader survey.

WAIT! Before you skim past the link to the survey, we've got a great reason to take it. All who take the survey will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a new iPod Nano. It's only four questions, we promise it's painless (and there are 500 people on the Map Lines list, so your winning chances are pretty good...and you get to choose your color, if you win!): www.surveymonkey.com/s/LBRHX7T

MapCollaborator Preview

February will bring the full release of the first full MapCollaborator™ edition, at the same time as the release of our [CPAD](#) dataset of protected areas in California. MapCollaborator is our really great web interface for crowdsourcing data review and improvement – it steps you through selecting and adding map-based notes or actual recommended shapes (or your own GIS data) to any data set. We'll cover this more in the next edition, but the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has been running a beta version of MapCollaborator for several months now and is very pleased with the results. After GreenInfo held two webinars for public agency staff in the six county region, a number of proposals were made, all of which decidedly helped improve CPAD. You can view it in action at the [SCAG MapCollaborator site](#). To test it out, a statewide demo is on the [GreenInfo MapsPortal site](#).

Tools for Digital Story Telling

GreenInfo staff like to talk about using mapping to tell stories and we've on occasion used video to good effect (see [last month's Map Lines](#)). Well, the great folks over at [Tech Soup](#) have a full program on tools you need for doing great [online video story telling](#). Check out a one hour talk and lots of downloads on their site.

ESRI GovMaps Preview Web Site

ESRI (publishers of ArcGIS software) recently released [GovMaps.org](#) where you can easily browse and download many national datasets (schools, anyone?). This site will develop more in the future, but it's a great start for quick access to data. And if you want a broad overview of what's up in ESRI-land, here's a [video](#) of Jack Dangermond's opening address this past summer at the huge ESRI User Conference in San Diego.

Geek Corner

Legend Limiter Tool

This month we found a tool that will save you time on creating legends in your map. The **Legend Limiter** limits the symbols displayed in a categorized legend to just those found within the map's visible extent. This tool is very useful for producing maps with relevant legends. This tool only works with layers that use non numeric "unique value categories" to define symbology.

Download the tool here
<http://arcscripts.esri.com/details.asp?dbid=16097>

The screenshot shows the SCAG website's 'Map Collaborator' page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Home', 'About Us', and 'What's New'. A search bar is also present. The main content area is titled 'Map Collaborator' and includes a 'Begin Using MapCollaborator' button. Below this, there's a 'Sign-up for a Webinar' button and a 'More information on MapCollaborator' section with a map preview. The sidebar on the left lists various categories like 'PROGRAMS & PROJECTS', 'REGIONAL', and 'LEGISLATION'.

Winnepesaukee Gateway Website

We recently worked with [The Lakes Region Planning Commission \(LRPC\)](#) of New Hampshire to build a [website presenting their watershed management plan](#). LRPC wanted to do more than just present their report findings in a generic PDF report, so GreenInfo's Zach Erbe and Larry Orman worked with LRPC, in collaboration with the consulting group [Applied Geographics](#) and [Ison Designs](#) to build [Winnepesaukee Gateway](#), a full-featured website on lake information that provides local communities with a one stop source for maps, watershed management plans, water quality data, recreation opportunities, and more. The Gateway site will become a valuable tool in educating the local communities about the value and importance of protecting the Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed, and the impact of human activity in the region. GreenInfo built the site using the WordPress platform which gives LRPC great flexibility in managing and updating their own content. Great work Zach and Larry!

Laugh Lines

More great geo-groaners to brighten your day:

Q: Why didn't the map grids go to the punk disco?

A: *Because they were all squares.*

Q: What do geographers grow in their gardens?

A: *Compass roses.*

And for the more subtle tech tool aficionados among you all...



Map Lines Archive:

www.greeninfo.org/archive

GreenInfo Sites:

www.greeninfo.org

www.mapsportal.org

www.parkinfo.org

www.landtrustgis.org

www.calands.org

www.protectedlands.net

Got great tips for us to put in Map Lines? Send 'em.



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Bay Nature EndangerBus Tracker

Have you seen a San Francisco Garter Snake snaking its way through North Beach? Or a Mission Blue Butterfly fluttering its way past the Civic Center? If you've answered yes, you've spotted one of the five MUNI buses covered in photographic murals of endangered or threatened species that live around San Francisco. These "EndangerBuses" are the brainchild of designer [Todd Gilens](#) and a project of the nonprofit incubator Community Initiatives, with help from [Bay Nature](#) (which just celebrated its 10th anniversary – congratulations to David, Dan and everyone else there!). GreenInfo's John Kelly put together the [Endangered Species Bus Tracker](#) by using the SF Muni NextBus Vehicle tracking system, which reports the location of each transit vehicle via GPS. They have a publicly available XML feed that we used to find the current position of each of the endangered species buses, as well as the route they're on and their direction of travel. We re-query the feed every fifteen seconds and update the web map with the new positions (and add the previous position to the breadcrumb path of where each bus has been). Great idea John!

<http://baynature.org/articles/web-only-articles/get-on-the-bus>



Google Earth Engine

Google launched Google Earth Engine, a new technology platform which brings together the world's satellite imagery dating back more than 25 years. It's now available online with tools



Democratic Republic of the Congo Forest Cover Loss, 2000 to 2010
 This data is derived from the Global Forest Resources Assessment (GFRA) 2010, published by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
 As part of the USAID and USAID-funded CAPRI Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment project, an extensive review of the
 LandScan 2010 analysis was performed to map forest cover loss for the area of the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 2000 to 2010.
 Forest was defined as 20% or greater canopy cover for trees of 2 meters or more in height. All such woodlands that were converted to
 non-forest are specified and labeled as forest cover loss. Forest cover loss was defined with three categories: primary forest cover loss,
 100% secondary forest cover loss, and secondary forest cover loss. The 2010 LandScan map was processed to make this product.
 A final version of this map will be the initial derived product of the OpenStreetMap Satellite data of Africa Center (AFACE) of the

for scientists, independent researchers, and nations to mine this massive warehouse of data to detect changes, map trends, and quantify differences on the earth's surface. We can now visually see and analyze changes over time with land use, deforestation, and water resources. Eventually Google Earth Engine will be a watch dog for all citizens. Check out

some of the work that has been done so far. <http://earthengine.googlelabs.com/#intro>

Happy mapping from the GreenInfo Team!

Larry Orman, Amanda Recinos, Tim Sinnott, Jennifer Strahan, Rhonda Friberg, Alex Barnish, John Kelly, Jason Jones, Stephanie Ding, Maegan Leslie Torres, Zach Erbe and Aubrey Dugger



Map Lines is a publication of GreenInfo Network

564 Market Street, Ste. 510, San Francisco, CA 94104 | 415-979-0343 | gin@greeninfo.org

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