Online Mapping Tools for the Natural Resource Professional

Part 1: My Land Plan

12:00 PM (Eastern Time)

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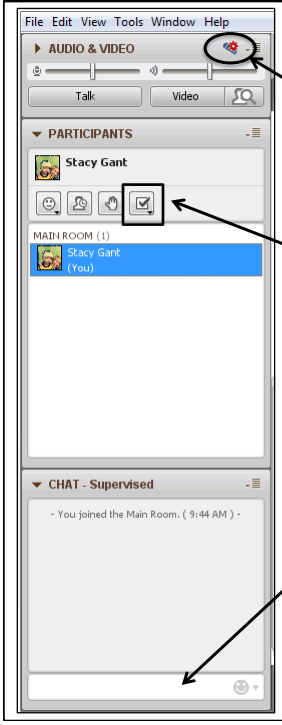

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B. Subject matter
C. Subject matter and CEUs
D. Requested by boss
E. Other

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B. Government Agency
C. Private Natural Resource Business
D. Landowner
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Online Mapping Tools for the Natural Resource Professional

Part 1: My Land Plan

December 3, 2013

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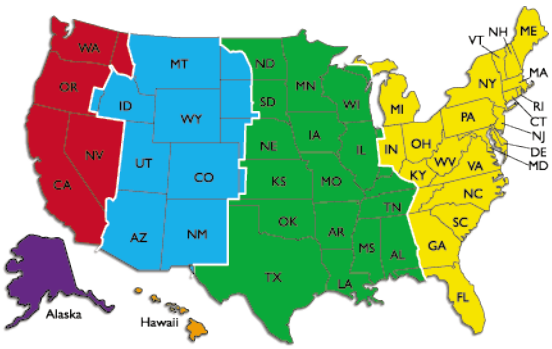
Where are you webbing from?

A. **Pacific**
B. **Mountain**
C. **Central**
D. **Eastern**
E. **Other**



What we will cover today

- **Part 1 (10 minutes): Why map our land? Understanding the need for good accurate maps.**
  - What exactly is a map?
  - What are the important elements to a good map?
  - How can good maps assist in fulfilling management goals?
  - How can maps helping achieve ATFS standards?

What we will cover today

- **Part 2(35 minutes): Important mapping tools – American Forest Founation "My Land Plan"**
  - Overview of My Land Plan (MLP)
  - Overview of the mapping element in MLP
    - Assembling your data for map creation
    - Creating your property in MLP
    - Creating points, lines, and areas depicting your management objectives
  - Other important areas of MLP
    - Setting Goals
    - Storing important documents
    - Logging and Blogging
    - Finding resources
- **Questions and Answer (10 minutes)**

Part 1: Why map our land? Understanding the need for good maps.

- What exactly is a map?
- What are the important elements to a good map?
- How can good maps assist in fulfilling management goals?
- How can maps help achieve ATFS standards?

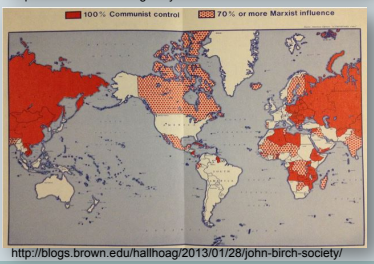
What is a map?

A. A generalization of the real world that allows us to make a statement.
B. A series of graphic symbols depicting the location, relative size, and arrangement of objects of interest across space.
C. A visual resource vital for land planning and decision making.
D. All the above!!!

What are maps?

- A series of symbols conveying "spatial" information.
- Generalizations of the real world to make a point.
- A vital resource land planning tool.

http://www.behance.net/gallery/LAND-LIVING/1466141



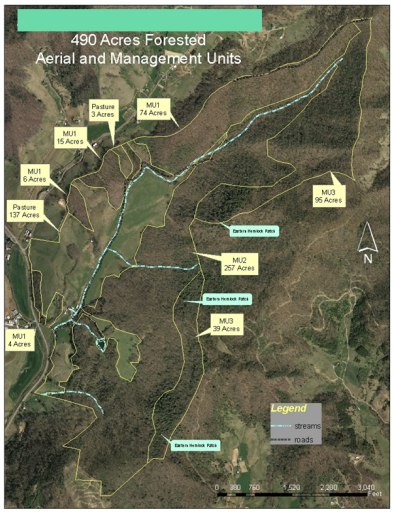
http://blogs.brown.edu/hallhoag/2013/01/28/john-birch-society/

http://www.timberlineforestry.com/html/plans___mapping.html

What are the important elements to a good map?

All maps need to have clear

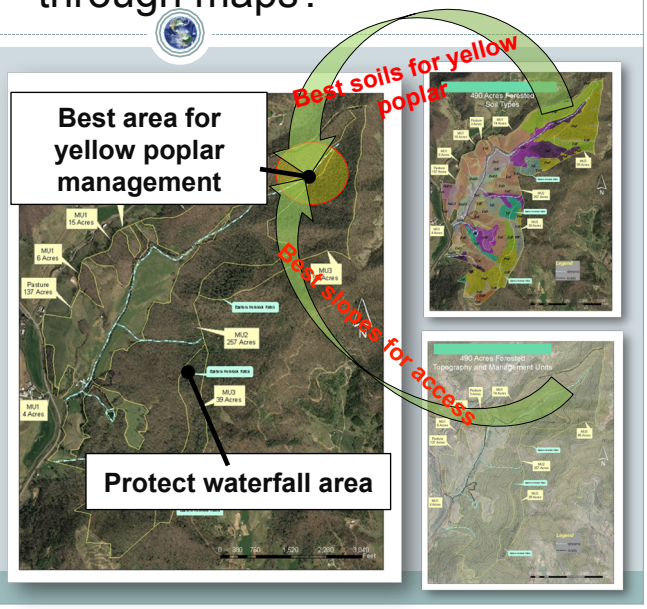
- **Theme:** (Management Units and Aerial)
- **Descriptive symbology:** (legend, labels)
- **Scale:** zoomed in as close as possible (1"= 750')



How are management objectives achieved through maps?

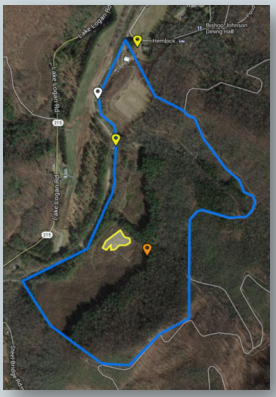
Planning tool that helps to identify and share with others:

1) Best places to do certain activities and when
2) Places to preserve / protect
3) How best to access your resources

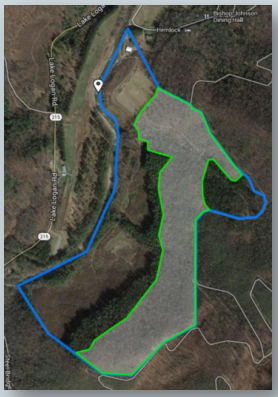


What is the purpose of a good map?

- To tell a story about your land

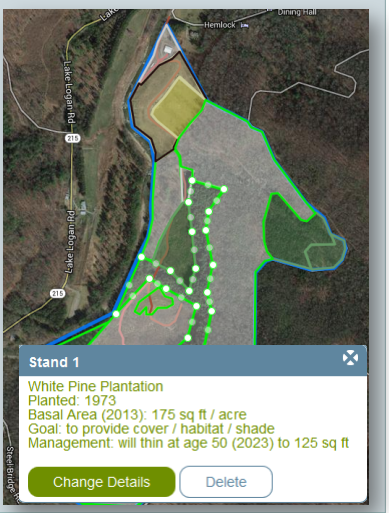

My favorite places


My current forest revenue

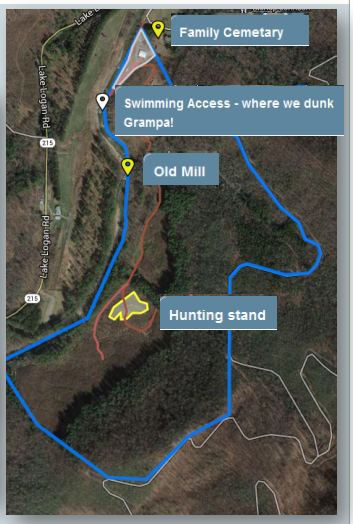

Grand-kids college fund

American Tree Farm System Standards

- **Standard 1: Commitment to Practicing Sustainable Forestry**
- Indicator 1.12 …..
  - ”*include a tract map accurately depicting significant forest-related resources.*”
  - “*address the following resource elements: forest health, soil, water, wood and fiber production, threatened and endangered species, special sites, invasive species, integrated pest management, and high conservation value forests.”*



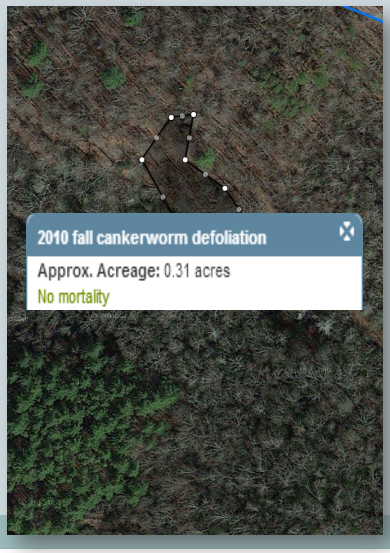
Maps accurately depicting your resources

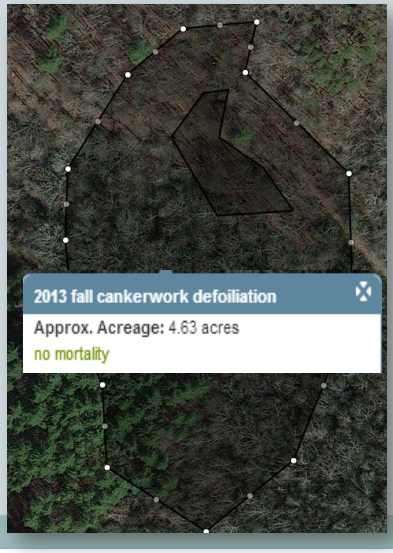


How can ATFS standards be met using maps?

- *Indicator 1.1.3**
- **Forest owner** should monitor for changes that could interfere with the management objectives as stated in **management plan** (e.g., presence of **invasive speci**es, pest outbreaks, and indications of trespass).

Monitoring changes





How can ATFS standards be met using maps?

- And the list goes on…
- **Standard 3: Reforestation and Afforestation**
  - **Maps showing where reforestation stocking is adequate**
- **Standard 4: Air, Water, and Soil Protection**
  - **Show soils with limitations, and vulnerable streams**
  - **Show compliance with buffers, and other Best Management Practices (BMP) locations**
- **Standard 5: Fish, Wildlife, and Biodiversity**
  - **Locations of Threatened, Endangered, or habitats of biodiversity concerns**

How can ATFS standards be met using maps?

- And the list goes on…
  - **Standard 6: Forest Aesthetics**
    - **Show recreational / spiritual renewal areas, vistas, springs, fern valleys**
  - **Standard 7: Protect Special Sites**
    - **Show cemeteries, old mine shafts (good for liability as well), iron forges**
  - **Standard 8: Forest Product Harvests and Other Activities**
    - **Show near future harvest operations, major skid routes, and landings**

REMEMBER
For just about anything you have in your plan , you can help tell its story on a map!!!

Part 2: Mapping tools – AFF My Land Plan

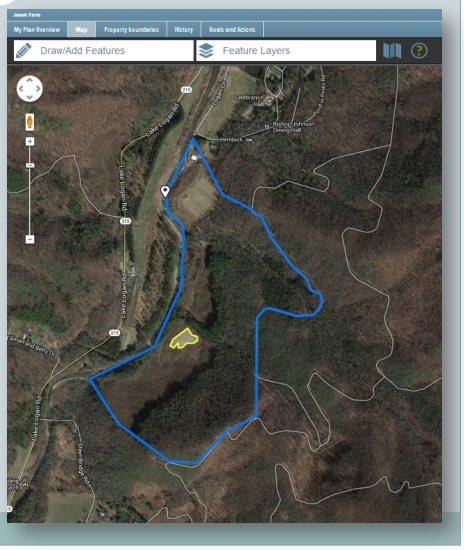
- Overview of My Land Plan (MLP)
- Overview of the mapping element in MLP
- Assembling your data for map creation
- Finding your property
- Creating points, lines, and areas depicting your management objectives
- Editing and saving your work

My Land Plan – American Forestry Foundation

- AFF tools that helps landowners:
  - Identify and explicitly state ownership goals
  - Explore management options and steps
  - Keep a record of activities
  - Find advice from professionals
  - Share your knowledge and experiences with other landowners (peer to peer networking)

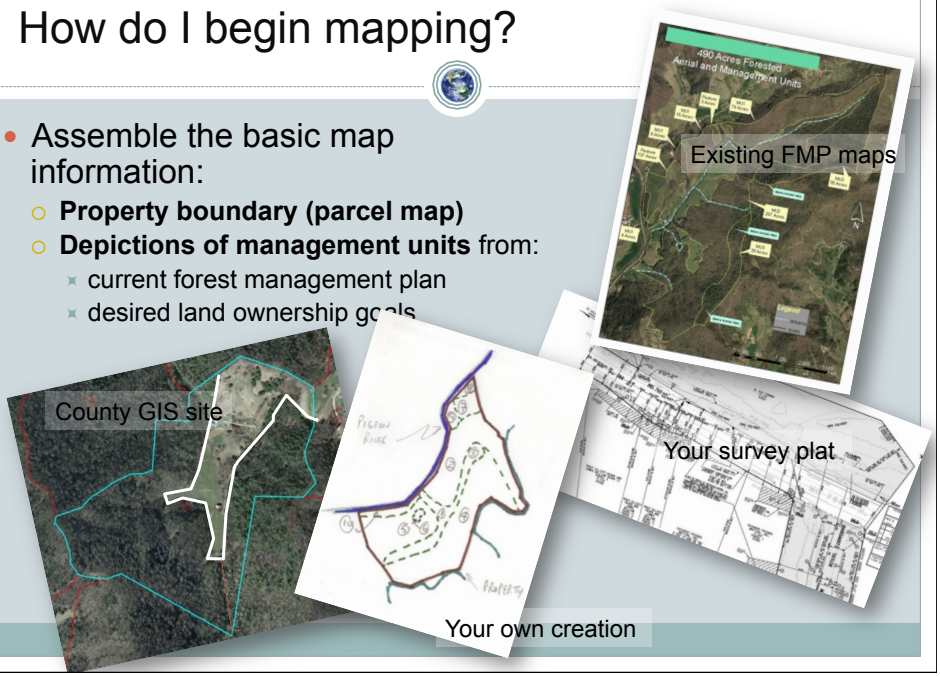
Mapping Component of My Land Plan

- Essential portion of MLP
- Depict areas / acreages you want to manage
- Easy to use interface
- Automatically stores all you do
- Turn on/off layers to emphasize the topic of each map
- Easy to clip out maps and paste into document



How do I begin mapping?

- Assemble the basic map information:
  - **Property boundary (parcel map)**
  - **Depictions of management units** from:
    - current forest management plan
    - desired land ownership goals

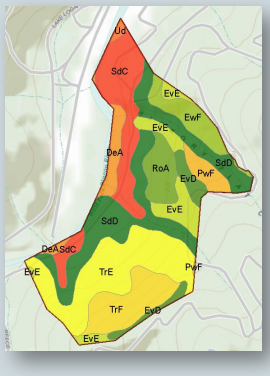


Other important sources of data:

- Aerial photography
- Transportation
- Both are in MLP

Other data that can be useful: SOILS

- Soils are most important – informs you of what the potential for forest growth and limitations.
- Sources:
  - Hardcopy of the NRCS County Soil Survey, found at:
    - NRCS Office
    - Your county library.
    - Online versions found at http://soils.usda.gov/survey/printed_surveys/
  - Web Soil Survey - Official USDA soil information as viewable maps and tables for more than 2300 soil surveys:
    - http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm
  - County GIS and Mapping Site



Other data that can be useful: TOPOGRAPHY

- Soils and water are tied to the topography, affecting access and disturbance limitations
- Hardcopy Sources:
  - County mapping office
  - County library
  - Order online from USGS store (http://store.usgs.gov)
- Online sources:
  - Free topo map download (http://store.usgs.gov)

My Land Plan Demo

Show of hands:

How many have used My Land Plan?

Pros and Cons of MLP

- Pros:
  - Very easy interface
  - Maps objects very easy to create / edit / delete
  - Calculates acres automatically
  - Text labels easy to edit
  - Can have numerous projects
  - Maps and other plan information all in one place
  - No need to save – done automatically

Pros and Cons of MLP

- Cons
  - Currently does not interface with or export to Google-based Apps (Google Earth, Google Maps)
  - Only one map object per layer
  - Currently does not have scale bar or north arrow
  - Currently text labels cover the mapping object selected with no way to move it off

Questions?

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Coming up in the series…

- ***Part 2: Data sources for mapping the land***
  December 18, 2013 at 12 PM Eastern
  Details of online data resources and how you can extract the information most important to your management
- ***Part 3: Leveraging the power of Google Earth (Part 1)***
  January 15 at 12 PM Eastern
- ***Part 4: Leveraging the power of Google Earth (Part 2)***
  Part 2 January 22 at 12 PM Eastern

  Part 3 and 4 will cover the basic elements of Google Earth, how to create and store new project data, and how to share your data with others.