

**SOUTHEAST
ALASKA**  **LIBRARY**

STRATEGIC PLAN

2014-2018

COLLABORATION

GEOSPATIAL SERVICES

STANDARDIZATION

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

SUSTAINABILITY

SOUTHEAST ALASKA GIS LIBRARY

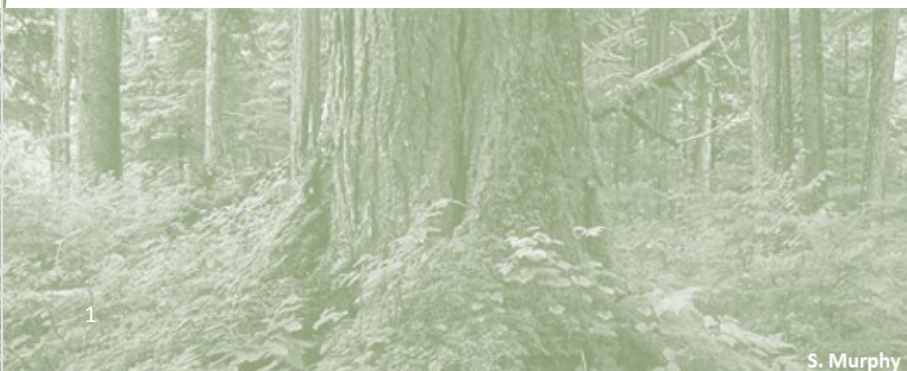
REGIONAL GEOSPATIAL SERVICES & COLLABORATION

The [Southeast Alaska GIS Library](#) is a partnership which stewards a significant and diverse array of geospatial data, applications, and services specific to Southeast Alaska. The Library also ensures consistent data standardization and efficient distribution delivered through a model of collaboration and long-term sustainability.

Support and sponsorship of the Southeast Alaska GIS Library is provided by a broad cross-section of academic, non-governmental organizations, state and federal partners. These partners collectively and individually acknowledge the need for geospatial services and applications to the user community. For the purposes of this document, the geospatial user community (users) consists of geospatial professionals; resource professionals; researchers; educators and students; industry and business; non-governmental organizations; local, tribal, state and federal government; and the public.

In the late 1990's, several natural resource agencies and interested parties recognized inefficiencies, data gaps and a lack of communication and coordination with respect to geospatial data and GIS applications in Southeast Alaska. Evaluation, management, and interpretation of Southeast Alaska's natural resources and lands were being hindered through inefficient data sharing, lack of consistent standardization practices and outdated technology. Advancements in technology, improved communication between resource professionals and expanding needs resulted in a platform, the Southeast Alaska GIS Library, to promote effective and transparent sharing of geospatial data.

In order to further the efforts initially envisioned for the GIS Library and accommodate for current and future needs in a rapidly evolving technical landscape, members of the Southeast Alaska GIS Library Steering Committee produced this Strategic Plan to serve as a road map for the next four years. Input from the geospatial user community will be critical to implementation and the overall success and persistence of the Southeast Alaska GIS Library.



VISION

The Southeast Alaska GIS Library is a partner-based collective for geospatial information, services and interagency collaboration for Southeast Alaska.

MISSION

The Southeast Alaska GIS Library serves the geospatial user community by consolidating, standardizing and providing geospatial data for Southeast Alaska, promoting outreach, collaboration opportunities and offering specialized GIS and mapping services.



The Southeast Alaska goal areas are interconnected and centered around collaboration.

COLLABORATION

The GIS Library fosters collaboration through the centralization of geospatial data distribution, database maintenance, and data services. Though the GIS Library directly serves partners and users in the region of Southeast Alaska, our partners are active in state, regional and international efforts. As feasible, the GIS Library will continue to collaborate with state, regional and international partners. As budgets fluctuate, collaboration among partners is imperative to providing more services with fewer resources.

Goals:

- Increase collaboration by fostering partnerships with the geospatial user community to promote and facilitate interagency cooperation and participation around geospatial data, services, and information.
- Support forums for identifying geospatial needs and for promoting geospatial services and opportunities.
- Provide a single user endpoint for contributor and user collaboration (e.g. shared infrastructure) for geospatial data, services and knowledge.

GEOSPATIAL SERVICES

One of the fundamental requirements on which the GIS Library was founded is the sharing of geospatial data among partners and users. Data sharing has expanded to include geospatial services and applications, such as interactive web maps.

The services make it easy for users to explore geographic data covering a wide range of subjects. Sharing datasets between partners boosts a return on investment of publicly funded datasets by providing benefit to users beyond the contributor. Collaboration increases when data is shared with users who are interested in the same resource which ultimately leads to the improvement of data products. Lastly, efficiency is gained when costs and benefits of geospatial services are shared among partners instead of individual partners funding and provisioning the same services separately.

Goals:

- Provide and promote geospatial data and services for Southeast Alaska.
- Collate data from partners and users that are current and authoritative.
- Support an infrastructure that is focused, reliable and user-friendly by employing industry standard technology and following best practices for geospatial services.

STANDARDIZATION

Standardization, as it pertains to the GIS Library, defines an operational framework or set of industry conventions used to conduct core activities. Standardization clears technical constraints to collaboration and sets the foundation for achieving consistency within data distribution and services. The GIS Library strives to achieve standardization across its digital assets and protocols, as well as to promote standardization among its partner and user communities.

Goals:

- Develop and maintain operational and procedural standards for its core activities.
- Agree upon and maintain format and metadata standards for its digital assets.
- Promote standardization among its partner and user community.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Outreach and education are comprised of a range of formal activities to increase the awareness, background knowledge and utility of geospatial data products; and a forum to facilitate networking and communication among partners and the geospatial user community. These activities increase the efficiency and success of data access and management via the GIS Library, thereby helping to sustain and institutionalize a more recognizable, transparent and unifying source of data for collective benefit.

Goals:

- Maintain a communication network about geospatial information of regional importance.
- Increase the capacity of the geospatial user community to utilize relevant geospatial information.
- Increase the capacity of higher-education to utilize geospatial information.

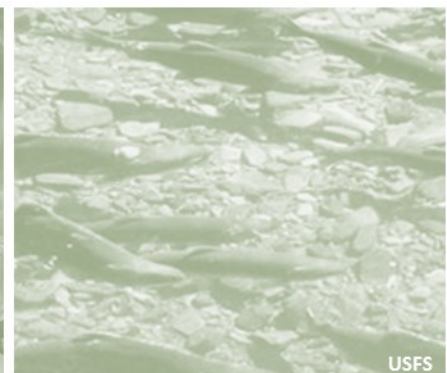


SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability of the GIS Library and its core services includes the provision of leadership, financial resources, support services, and staffing. These requirements apply to the partner agencies and the Steering Committee members. Persistence of the Library ensures that partner investments in Library infrastructure, data contributions, and staff contributions and services are realized. Benefits of Library sustainability include consistent, regionalized provision of quality geospatial data and support services to partners.

Goals:

- Develop, secure, and maintain operational funding.
- Develop and retain a capable, productive workforce.
- Develop visibility and marketing plan within University of Alaska system and partners.
- Develop and retain functional governing Steering Committee.
- Develop annual Work Plan.



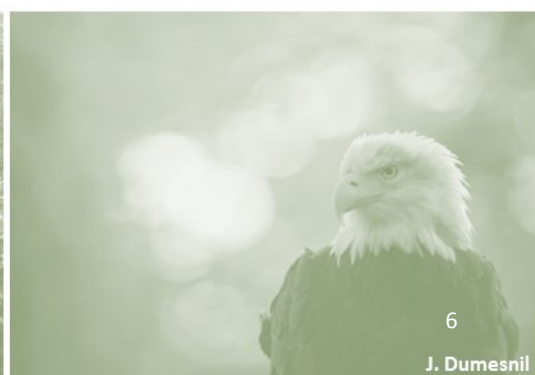
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Southeast Alaska GIS Library would like to thank all of the GIS Library Steering Committee Members for their work in creating this plan: Cliff Jones, Alaska Department of Conservation; Jeff Nichols and Kathy Smikrud, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Sport Division; Joel Nudelman, Alaska Department of Natural Resources; Garry Remsberg, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; Steve Lewis, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA; Dave Albert and Colin Shanley, The Nature Conservancy, Alaska Chapter; Erik Johnson, Gary Fisher, and Mark Riley, USDA Forest Service Alaska Regional Office; Neil Stichert, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Juneau Field Office; Becci Anderson, USGS, Alaska Region; and Kim Homan, Mike Plivelich and Sanjay Pyare, University of Alaska Southeast. We would also like to thank the following organizations for their continued support of the Southeast Alaska GIS Library: Geographic Information Network of Alaska, Southeast Land Trust, and the Coastal Impact Assistance Program. Special thanks to Allison Bidlack, Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center; Sarai Timothy; University of Alaska Southeast, and Debbie Hart; Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership for their contributions in the creation of this plan and to Matt Callahan, Jill Dumesnil, Joe McCabe, Sarah Murphy, Wendy Zirngibl, ShoreZone and the USDA Forest Service Alaska Region for their photography.

CONTACT

For more information or to join the Southeast Alaska GIS Library partnership, please visit our website, <http://seakgis.alaska.edu>, or contact the GIS Coordinator.

Kim Homan, GIS Coordinator
Southeast Alaska GIS Library
11120 Glacier Highway
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 796-6051
kim.homan@uas.alaska.edu



Southeast Alaska GIS Library
University of Alaska - Southeast
11120 Glacier Hwy
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 796-6051
Email: kim.homan@uas.alaska.edu

PARTNER AGENCIES

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION NETWORK OF ALASKA

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF ALASKA

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE OF NOAA

US FOREST SERVICE

US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST