

The Map is the Business: Enterprise GIS for a State Forestry Agency

John Scrivani, Virginia Department of Forestry

The merger of web, mobile computing, GPS, and GIS technologies has made it possible for the map to become the main tool used to collect and manage core business information. This use of technology offers great benefits to a natural resource agency; an organization whose mission is to promote healthy, sustainable forest resources; an organization that works over a spatial domain of millions of acres; and, an organization that has a spatial location or geometry associated without almost every service transaction.

An enterprise GIS that is placed in the hands of all employees can help improve the quality and accessibility of information, enabling the agency to respond faster and better in providing both technical assistance and forest protection. Enterprise GIS implementations, however, present more and larger challenges than do smaller and more focused GIS implementations. This talk will review the process of designing and implementing an enterprise GIS, and will discuss the key issues identified and addressed during the process.

**5th Southern Forestry and Natural Resources GIS Conference
June 12-14, 2006
Asheville, NC**