



Creating a Biological Inventory App with Survey123



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Outline

- What/who is Natural Area Preservation?
- ► NAP's Inventory Programs
 - Reptile/Amphibian Surveys
- ► The Paper Problem
- Solving the Problem with Survey123
- Data SubmissionDemonstration
- Survey123 Connect Demonstration
- Data Visualization Demonstration









What is Natural Area Preservation?



- NAP is part of the City of Ann Arbor's Parks and Recreation Department and is funded by the voter-approved Parks Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage.
- Created in 1993, NAP's mission is to protect and restore Ann Arbor's natural areas and to foster an environmental ethic among its citizens.
- NAP is divided into three main areas that all contribute to ecological restoration efforts in Ann Arbor's parks.
 - Outreach team
 - Field crew
 - Inventory team

Inventory Program

- What exactly are we inventorying?
 - Plants
 - Birds
 - ► Frogs, toads, salamanders, turtles, snakes
 - Butterflies
 - Change over time through photo monitoring



- NAP Staff
 - ► Field Biologists
 - Stewardship Specialists
- Contractors
- Volunteers















Why Are We Inventorying?

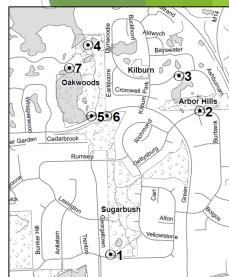
- To get baseline conditions in new sites.
- To characterize the quality of the habitats we have.
- To look for rare species populations to protect and enhance.
- To document the impacts of our restoration work.
- To inform future land management actions.

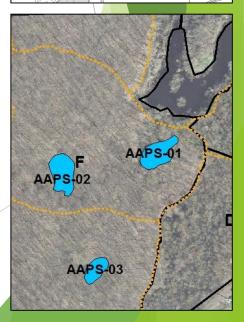




Reptile/Amphibian (Herp) Surveys

- Frog and Toad Survey
 - Volunteers visit established monitoring points and listen for calls, recording the species and level of calling.
- Salamander Survey
 - Volunteers walk meandering routes around vernal pools, watching for salamander migration. They also look within the pools for evidence of breeding. Outside of the breeding season, they turn cover throughout habitat areas looking for juveniles & adults.
- Turtle Stewards
 - ▶ Volunteers are assigned to specific parks or stretches of river. They search for basking turtles from the shore or by boat, watching for nesting activity. They also maintain artificial nesting mounds.
- A Little of Everything
 - All volunteers are encouraged to report sightings of any reptile/amphibian, no matter what survey they are volunteering for.





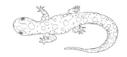
The Paper Problem

- To report sightings, volunteers fill out paper forms and draw the locations of their sightings on maps (since mid-90s).
- They mail/scan/photograph the forms and maps.
- Staff translate data on the forms into an Access database.
- Data from Access is exported to geodatabase feature class and observation points are mapped by hand.
- Volunteer hours are calculated and recorded in a different Access database.
- Very time consuming, and the data forms can be confusing.

Salamander Survey Form



Herp Inventory: Data Entry Form 3875 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 794-6627 / napherps@a2gov.org



INSTRUCTIONS

Observer(s): Site:							 Tempera	Run:		Indicate the location of circled number on the >50ft apart or if subs	e map. Map data po	ints separately if	
Weather: Survey Technique		O clear O cloud		ly ○ light		Start T	ime:		adults (ad), juveniles (juv), and/or egg masses (egg); mark the "none found" box if nothing found at a point using traps or dip nets.				
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												notes	

Date:

Frog/Toad/General Survey Form

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Natural Area Preservation

Herp Inventory: Data Entry Form Observer(s): 3875 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48104 Site: Run:

Natura Preser	(734) 794-6627/napherps@a2gov.org Weather: o clear o cloudy o light rain o rain Temp: meander entire park walk trail corridor visit mapped points only canoe Start/End Time:																								
	survey method							indi	unt (number of egg masses, individual juveniles, or dividual adults) with a "#,"										urtles	S					
Map Point	Turned Cover	Dip netted	Funnel trapped	Saw basking	Heard calling	Wood Frog	Chorus Frog	Spring Peeper (1:	Leopard Frog	American Toad 'ewos	Gray Treefrog snoop	Green Frog a gr	Bullfrog	Brown (Dekay's)	Eastern Garter	Northern Water	Мар	Snapping	Musk	Painted	Red-eared Slider	Softshell	Blanding's	Other:	
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Notes:

Salamander Survey Map

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Notifical Area	Oakwoods Survey Area 1 Green Rd., Kilburn Park Circle and Whisperwood Dr.	Observers:		
Productive files	Ann Arbor, MI 48105	Date:	Run #:	
	Feet Provide Branch P	Water NAP Boundary Survey Area		

Less freedom to report sightings outside of assigned park

Can We Utilize Technology?

- Free apps are already out there.
 - Bird survey volunteers enter data into eBird.
 - Park Stewards and other park visitors report sightings with iNaturalist.
 - Michigan Herp Atlas, HerpMapper
- Online databases too!
 - Butterfly survey volunteers submit data through PollardBase.
 - Universal FQA Calculator
- Many benefits: Easier for volunteers to submit data immediately from the field, less time-consuming for staff, automatic report generation, data goes into globallyaccessible databases, anyone can contribute
- Unfortunately, none of the currently available apps capture the level of detail we'd like to record for reptiles and amphibians. Getting data back out can also be a problem.

Exploring Survey123

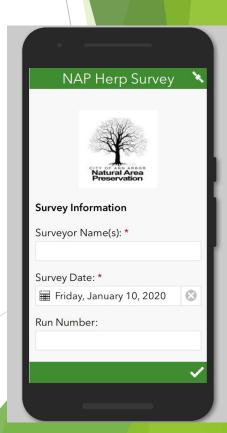


- The spatial part of our data is the most important can we just track all of our information using GIS?
- Can we figure out a way for volunteers to submit their own data from their phones or computers?
- Could Survey123 be the solution?
 - A tool for building smart data collection forms, which are stored in ArcGIS Online. Forms have the ability to record geographic points, lines, and polygons.
 - If your organization has an ArcGIS Online account, you also have Survey123.
 - ► The app is free to download and available for both mobile devices and computers.

Building A Survey

- ► Two methods: Web builder, or Survey123 Connect
 - ▶ Web builder is the simplest
 - Survey123 Connect offers much more functionality and customization

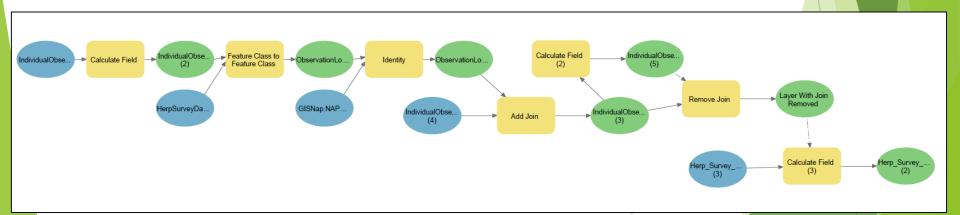
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2	note							
3	note		Survey Information					
4	text	Name	Surveyor Name(s):					
5	date	Date_	Survey Date:		Hint			
6	integer	Run_	Run Number:		This will act as extra			
7	time	StartTime	Start Time:		information that can help to answer the survey question (e.g., Distances			
8	integer	Temp	Temperature (°F):					
9	select_one weather	Sky	Weather:	vou encountered	should be entered in miles).			
10	select_one survey_type	SurvType	Survey Type:	Choose the survey i				
11	select_one no_obs	NoObs	<tont color="rea">ir you completed your survey without observing any</tont>					
12	begin repeat	StartRepeat	Individual Observations					
13	geopoint	Location	Location					
14	select_one certainty	Certainty	Location Certainty:					
15	select_one survey_method	SurvMethod	Survey Method:					
16	select_one calling_code	CallingCode	Calling Level:					
17	select_one organism	OrganismType	Animal Type:	Note: Blanchard's Cricket Frog and				
18	select_one species	Species	Species:					
19	text	OtherSpecies	Other Species not Listed:					



Data Submission, Survey123 Connect, and Data Visualization Demonstrations

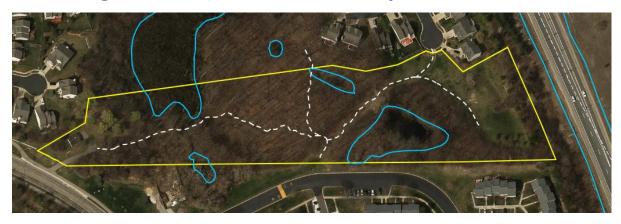
Working with the Data

- Data submitted through Survey123 can be accessed directly from ArcGIS Desktop or Pro, no need to export.
- Model in Pro auto-calculates hours volunteered based on start and end times and adds park names to data points.



What's Next?

Working on a custom basemap.



► A frog calling survey app!



Questions?

Thank you!

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