

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/4/2020 12:07:09 AM

First name: Paul

Last name: Yelk

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Re: Sxwuytn 'Trail' - Kaniksu Connections Project - GIS Data

On 2/3/2020 11:24 AM, Paul Yelk wrote:

On 2/3/2020 10:05 AM, Mathis, Theresa J -FS wrote:

Hi Paul,

The GIS data is available on the website. If you go to the scoping tab it is at the bottom and labeled "DraftProposedAction_20200116.gdb". It is in geodatabase format to maintain data integrity. At this time we are not creating shapefiles or KML/KMZ files.

Theresa

Theresa Mathis

Supervisory Environmental Coordinator

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<<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fs.fed.us%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7C0e6b5611f01e46bef57508d7a9062c2d%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637163716285958575&sdata=E7Hk0rNzQu0AxwG9Zncf%2BaVdBNSyIIYChDjKwY3YEw%3D&reserveid=0>>

I want to express my great disappointment with the USFS - especially this team who chooses to use a file format for the project GIS data file which the average user can not use.

I have checked several online programs that explain file extensions and the ONLY GIS program which can open GDB files is ESRI's ArcView. This program is out of reach for the average user due to the cost of a license - last time I checked around \$1,500. Add to that at one time ESRI recommended a 3-week course costing just under \$1,000 in order to learn how to use it.

THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE!

As I explained at last Wednesday's meeting, in the past the Colville NF has made their project GIS files available in GDB, Google Earth KML/KMZ, and even ESRI shapefile formats. These other file formats can be used by project-interested parties because there are several free or inexpensive programs that can read these files. To provide a file format that is unusable to the general public is not being helpful to the public who may want to comment on the project.

And to say "to maintain data integrity" is hiding behind wanting to let the public know of your intentions with this project! There are conversion programs that do maintain data integrity when converting from one file format to another.

I would like you to reconsider your decision to produce GIS data files ONLY in GDB file format.

Thank you,
Paul Yelk
Spokane WA
(509) 489-0440

I don't give up easy!
I found an online converter which converts GDB files to shapefiles.
Ran the conversion. It was NOT successful in converting your GDB file. The following errors were noted:

ERROR 6: EPSG PCS/GCS code 102218 not found in EPSG support files. Is this a valid EPSG coordinate system?

ERROR 1: Failed to process SRS definition: EPSG:102218

Thought you might want to know so you can fix the file so it can be successfully converted here:

<https://mygeodata.cloud/converter/gdb-to-shp>

<<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmygeodata.cloud%2Fconverter%2Fgdb-to-shp&data=02%7C01%7C%7C0e6b5611f01e46bef57508d7a9062c2d%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637163716285968531&sdata=H%2Bmwe92rLO1iu%2FcsiU14yXY%2BMXTue8A%2F7AKXEdWOxwc%3D&reserved=0>>

Paul Yelk
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-----Original Message-----

From: Paul Yelk <paulp575123@gmail.com> <mailto:paulp575123@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, February 2, 2020 4:01 PM

To: gflora@s-o-solutions.org <mailto:gflora@s-o-solutions.org> ; Mathis, Theresa J -FS
<theresa.j.mathis@usda.gov> <mailto:theresa.j.mathis@usda.gov>

Subject: Sxwuytn 'Trail' - Kaniksu Connections Project - GIS Data

Doing a follow-up from Wednesday night's meeting.

Can you please see what you can do about making this project's GIS data available on the project website in BOTH ESRI shapefiles and Google Earth KML/KMZ files?

Thanks,

Paul Yelk
Spokane WA
(509) 489-0440