



MEMO

To: Montana State Library Commission
From: Jennie Stapp, State Librarian
Subject: Partner Feedback
Date: October 1, 2023

From: Mark Wetherington <mark@bitterrootpubliclibrary.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 12:21 PM
To: Birnel, Jennifer <JBirnel@mt.gov>
Cc: Stapp, Jennie <JStapp2@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Appreciation for Montana History Portal resources

Hey Jennifer,

Hope your summer is winding down well! I had a fun backpacking trip this weekend to an old fire lookout (Grave Peak Lookout, a few photos attached) just across the border in Idaho. When I was researching some of the history of the lookout, I came across several photos on the Montana History Portal related to this lookout. From there I was able to find some audio files of interviews with Bud Moore, author, forester, trapper, conservationist, etc., that discussed some aspects of Grave Peak and its history that I wasn't aware of. These recordings and the archival photos really enriched my trip to the lookout since I had more insight into the history of the place, the fascinating construction of it, and the way it fit into the overall cultural landscape (wilderness activist Bob Marshall was treed by a sow grizzly in the general area of Grave Peak, I found out).

Just thought I'd share this anecdote and my appreciation with you. I hope other Montanans are able to have their backcountry experiences enriched by the stuff they stumble across on the MHP as well. Somewhat embarrassingly, I didn't even intentionally search out the MHP – the results for "Grave Peak Lookout" from a Google search sent me there and then I explored around to find the audio files. [So](#) it seems like the MHP's presence in search results is definitely front-and-center for some of these more obscure destinations!

Thanks,

Mark



From: Fashoway, Erin <EFashoway@mt.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 7:12 PM
To: Jan Cunningham <jcunningham@esri.com>, Jack Dangermond <JDangermond@esri.com>, Matthieu Denuelle <mdenuelle@esri.com>
Cc: Stapp, Jennie <JStapp2@mt.gov>, Tabetha Perrault <tperrault@esri.com>, Tina Miller <tmiller@esri.com>, Cassie Lively <CLively@esri.com>, Scott Moore (Olympia) <smoore@esri.com>, Dan Haag <dhaag@esri.com>, Joseph Kerski <jkerski@esri.com>, Anthony Puzzo <APuzzo@esri.com>, Jill Saligoe-Simmel <jsaligoe@esri.com>
Subject: Montana State Library: Year in Review

Greetings,

We wanted to share with you our Annual Report for several reasons. First, to demonstrate the work of the Montana State Library. Second, to show how we have adopted Esri's cloud platform & story telling technology: dashboards, maps, web maps and other apps. Below you will find a letter from the Montana State Librarian Jennie Stapp and the link to the [Annual Report \[storymaps.arcgis.com\]](#). For those of you that will be at NSGIC's annual conference in less than 3 weeks, Jennie will be joining me this year.

We first embraced the story maps and dashboards in our official reporting in 2016, when we created "The Montana Land Information Act - Legislative Report - 2017 Legislative Session." This was a statutorily mandated biennial report on the progress of collection, maintenance, standardization, and dissemination of GIS information governed under the Montana Land Information Act. The first Legislative report of its kind for Montana!

Finally, I am very proud of the work we do for Montanans and thought it important to share this information with you all. Especially since many of you are involved in supporting our efforts.

Thanks,
Erin

Erin Fashoway, State GIS Coordinator
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Congratulations on a job well done Erin. The storymap is so well put together – it helps speak to the breadth of programs and impacts so well.

Thank you for sharing!

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From: Jill Saligoe-Simmel <jsaligoe@esri.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 2:40 PM
To: Erin Fashoway <efashoway@mt.gov>
Cc: Jan Cunningham <jcunningham@esri.com>; Jack Dangermond <JDangermond@esri.com>; Matthieu Denuelle <mdenuelle@esri.com>; Stapp, Jennie <JStapp2@mt.gov>; Tabetha Perrault <tperrault@esri.com>; Tina Miller <tmiller@esri.com>; Cassie Lively <CLively@esri.com>; Scott Moore (Olympia) <smoore@esri.com>; Dan Haag <dhaag@esri.com>; Joseph Kerski <jkerski@esri.com>; Anthony Puzzo <APuzzo@esri.com>
Subject: Re: Montana State Library: Year in Review

Hi Erin,
Let me echo Anthony's sentiments – thank you for sharing. I was impressed not only by your Herculean efforts and successes (this is hard work!), but also your storytelling. Some of the vignettes, like the hot spot library, moved me.

I look forward to learning more about what's next when we see you at NSGIC in a few weeks.

Best,
Jill

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Incredible work, Erin, Jennie and the rest of your team! Thank you for sharing. I will be at NSGIC and would love to learn more about this and meet Jennie. The dedication and pride you put in your work is amazing.

Love the Storymap of your annual report. You can tell that it was well thought out. You should be very proud of your achievements. Thank you for all your efforts.

Thanks! - Anthony

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Jack Dangermond <JDangermond@esri.com>

To: Jill Saligoe-Simmel; Fashoway, Erin
Cc: Jan Cunningham; Matthieu Denuelle; Stapp, Jennie; Allen Carroll; Tabetha Perrault; Tina Miller; Cassie Lively; Scott Moore (Olympia); Dan Haag; Joseph Kerski; Anthony Puzzo

Archive 10/14/2023



Mon 9/11/2023 6:07 PM

I'll join the others in saying congratulations. This is really interesting and great work.
Jack



Erin,

Thank you for sharing and we agree that you and your team should be proud of the accomplishments. We appreciate the opportunity to support you and the State's vision.

Again, thank you.

Matthieu Denuelle

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From: Jan Cunningham <jcunningham@esri.com>

Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 8:26 AM

To: Erin Fashoway <efashoway@mt.gov>

Cc: Stapp, Jennie <jstapp2@mt.gov>; Scott Moore (Olympia) <smoore@esri.com>; Matthieu Denuelle <mdenuelle@esri.com>

Subject: RE: Montana State Library: Year in Review

Hi Erin,

Thanks so much for sharing! I am forwarding to Pat Cummins since she is our Esri POC for state executives across the country. State of Montana is a wonderful example of effectively using GIS to empower the departments, agencies, leadership, and Montana constituents. We are delighted to be part of these efforts.

Warm regards,

Jan

Jan Cunningham | Account Manager

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[EXTERNAL] RE: Montana State Library: Year in Review

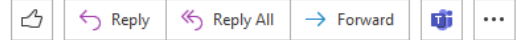


Joseph Kerski <jkerski@esri.com>

To Fashway, Erin; Jan Cunningham; Jack Dangermond; Matthieu Denuelle
Cc Stapp, Jennie; Tabetha Perrault; Tina Miller; Cassie Lively; Scott Moore (Olympia);
 Dan Haag; Anthony Puzzo; Jill Saligoe-Simmel

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Wed 9/6/2023 5:44 PM

Erin and Jennie and others!

First, I love that your annual report is a story map. That warms the geo-heartstrings!

Second, some of my very first work with GIS while I served at the US Census Bureau was at the Montana State Library building the TIGER system (probably before most of you were born), which was all very fruitful and leading to this point—that you have been working with GIS at the state library for a very long time. Tenacity has paid off and look at where you are now!

Third, I won't be at NSGIC (but I will be at the Geological Society of America, Applied Geography, and American Geophysical Union conferences this fall) this year but if you share this there, I know it will be well received.

Fourth, I hope to return to your state MAGIP conference someday as the community you've built there is one of the most innovative that I know; in the meantime I will still post occasional education-related news to your MAGIP listserv.

Best wishes for continued success and thanks for sharing!

Joseph

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