



Mapping Leaders Forum

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ESRI R&D CENTER
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Presentation Abstract

Making connections: The National Digital Trails Network Project

The Department of Interior (DOI) has prioritized a vision to provide better access to public lands and improve connectivity on the nation's public trail systems. The US Geological Survey and DOI are advancing that vision with the National Digital Trails Network (NDT) project. The project consists of three major goals: increase connectivity between trails and trail systems with the development of a web-based geospatial analysis tool to assist trail managers in identifying optimal routes for connector trails; create a robust national geospatial trails dataset including trails from federal land management agencies, states, and trail advocacy groups; and develop a mobile application to assist land management agencies, trail managers, and members of the public, in the maintenance of digital trails data.

BIO

Debbie Fugate is Deputy Director of the National Geospatial Program (NGP) at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The NGP provides the digital geospatial foundation for the United States, and includes the National Map, the 3D Elevation Program, the National Hydrography Dataset, and the US Topo Map Series. Prior to joining the USGS, Debbie was Deputy Director of the Office of The Geographer and Global Issues at the U.S. Department of State and led the Humanitarian Information Unit. She also served for almost a decade as a demographer for the federal government, analyzing population trends worldwide with a focus on humanitarian, health, and crisis contexts. Debbie received a Ph.D. in Geography from San Diego State University and the University of California, Santa Barbara.