

Cugir : CUGIR Data Management and Distribution Policy - Aug. 28, 2006

This page last changed on Aug 28, 2006 by [gss1](#).

Introduction

The Cornell University Geospatial Information Repository (CUGIR) is an active online data and metadata repository and a participating node in the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. CUGIR provides free access to geospatial data and metadata for New York State, with special emphasis on natural features related to agriculture, ecology, natural resources and human environment interactions.

This policy serves to describe and document CUGIR's policies and procedures with respect data and metadata management, data security, distribution, use, and rights. This data management policy applies only to data available for download from CUGIR.

Data and metadata management

Data format

CUGIR makes data available in a variety of formats, including (but not necessarily limited to):

- ArcInfo export
- Shapefile
- GeoTIFF image
- ASCII DEM
- Computer-Aided Design
- Database File
- Portable Document Format
- ArcInfo Grid

The CUGIR workgroup may, on occasion, request the permission of the data provider to make data available in a format other than the one provided by the data provider.

Coordinate systems

The preferred coordinate system for CUGIR data is Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM), and the preferred datum is the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83), although the CUGIR workgroup will accept data in other coordinate systems. The CUGIR workgroup may, on occasion, request the permission of the data provider to make data available in a coordinate system other than the one provided by the data provider.

Data updates

For datasets with periodic updates, the decision to make older versions publicly available rests with the data provider. The CUGIR workgroup will make a reasonable effort to retain a copy of superseded data in a non-public directory, but responsibility for the preservation of superseded data rests with the data provider.

Web mapping

CUGIR supports web mapping for selected datasets. The CUGIR work group may make datasets available via CUGIR's web mapping application, unless the data provider specifically requests a dataset not be made available via web mapping.

Metadata

The CUGIR workgroup may edit or enhance metadata, may substitute edited or enhanced metadata for the original metadata and make it available on the CUGIR website, and may include enhanced or edited metadata with datasets at the time of download. Examples of such enhancements may include (but are not limited to) the addition of place or topic keywords, additional liability statements, and additional distribution statements.

Metadata harvesting

CUGIR participates in various clearinghouse (such as the National Spatial Data Infrastructure's Geospatial One-Stop) and union catalog initiatives and shares metadata records with Cornell University's online library catalog. By distributing their data via CUGIR, data providers agree to allow records of their data to appear in other clearinghouses and catalogs besides CUGIR.

Security

Responsibility regarding the restriction of access to sensitive data ultimately resides with the data provider, and CUGIR does not restrict access to any of the data in the repository. Data requiring restrictions to access should not be distributed via CUGIR. On acceptance of new data for inclusion in CUGIR, the workgroup will request that the data provider assess the security risk of each dataset as described in CUGIR's Security Assessment Procedure. The security assessment will not be made publicly available, but may be made available to agencies with a legitimate interest in security, at the discretion of the CUGIR work group and Cornell University.

Use, distribution, and rights

Use constraints

- CUGIR provides access to geospatial data and metadata for New York State, free of charge, via the World Wide Web. By distributing their data via CUGIR, data providers agree to allow free access to their datasets via CUGIR.
- CUGIR does not impose any access or use constraints on data, and will not impose access or use constraints with the exception of honoring security-related requests made by data providers regarding their datasets.
- Data providers may stipulate use constraints in the metadata for their datasets, as long as they do not interfere with other elements of this data management and distribution policy.

Intellectual property rights in data

- The data provider warrants that they have made the necessary agreements with the original owners of the data that the data providers may distribute the data available via CUGIR.

- CUGIR and Cornell University assert no intellectual property rights in data distributed via CUGIR.

Liability

- Data providers shall make a reasonable effort to ensure that the data they provide to CUGIR are accurate.
- CUGIR distributes data subject to the following liability statement:

"Cornell University provides these geographic data "as is." Cornell makes no guarantee or warranty concerning the accuracy of information contained in the geographic data. Cornell further makes no warranty, either expressed or implied, regarding the condition of the product or its fitness for any particular purpose. The burden for determining fitness for use lies entirely with the user. Although these data have been processed successfully on computers at Cornell University, no warranty is made by Cornell regarding the use of these data on any other system, nor does the fact of distribution constitute or imply any such warranty."

Attachments

Security Assessment Procedure