

NPS Theme Manager

Importance

NPS Theme Manager is a desktop tool for delivering spatial data to GIS users. This product allows data managers to present data in an organized and intuitive structure without exposing the underlying complexities of physical data storage. NPS Theme Manager is a simple tool for organizing and discovering GIS layers.

Background

The Alaska Region GIS Team has compiled a digital spatial data stack of over 1,200 GIS layers called the Permanent Data Set (PDS). New layers are continually added to the PDS and replicated to field and park offices insuring consistent and current data for all users. This massive data resource is accessed by GIS users via NPS Theme Manager, which was first developed by the Alaska Region in 2004. Since then, this tool has been widely used across the Alaska region as well as in other regions, agencies, and countries.

Technical Details

NPS Theme Manager is a stand-alone application that simplifies the vast spatial data holdings in the Alaska Region so that they are more easily discoverable. Items such as ArcGIS data layers and map documents are organized as themes in a thematic folder structure, independent of the actual file location and folder structure.

This tool provides an interface for browsing and searching available spatial data and all associated metadata, with the ability to create favorites and save search results for future reference. Users preview the spatial data in a map viewer and display the metadata. This functionality is available without an installation of ArcGIS, providing even non-GIS users information about spatial data in the Alaska Region. GIS users can drag-and-drop or double-click items in a theme list to add them as layers in ArcMap.

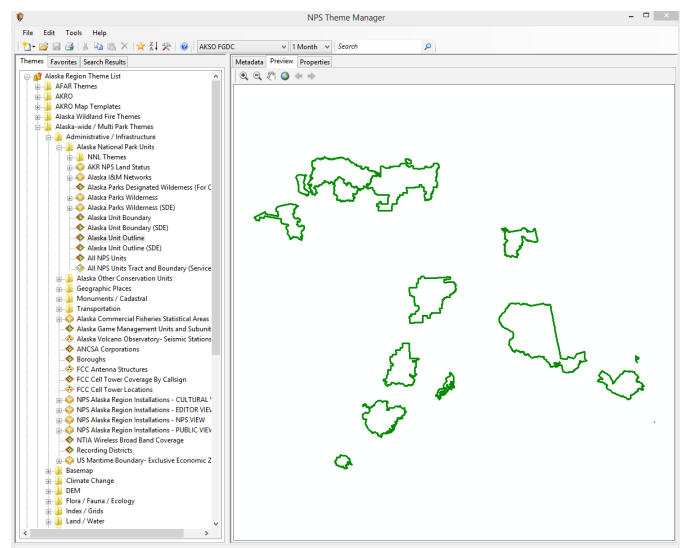
Since a complete rewrite at version 3.0, NPS Theme Manager is compatible with Esri's ArcGIS 10.x. No installation or administrative permissions are required. This tool can be run directly from a shared network location so that users always access the latest version.

Key Features

- Browse data in a logical folder structure.
- Preview data with built-in map viewer.
- Search themes and complete metadata text.
- Highlight recently modified themes.
- Easily save personal theme lists and favorites.

Current Status

- Summer 2012: Made fully compatible with ArcGIS 10.1.
- Winter 2012-13: Enhanced to support SDE data sources and the new ESRI metadata format.
- 2013-14: Made compatible with ArcGIS for Desktop 10.2 and 10.3.
- 2014-15: Upgrade to support ArcGIS Pro.



Location of Application

Run NPS Theme Manager 3.0 at: <\\165.83.60.38\gisdata\GISThemeMgrApp\Ver10.1\ThemeManager.exe>.

Contact Regan Sarwas for any additional questions regarding Theme Manager: Regan_Sarwas@nps.gov.