

Making History: Using Story Maps to Tell the History of Access

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Introduction

Access Midstream is a natural gas services provider with operations focused on owning, operating, developing and acquiring midstream energy assets in the United States. We provide gathering, processing, treating and compression services to producers and own and operate natural gas midstream assets across 12 states, with an average throughput of approximately 3.5 billion cubic feet per day (bcf/d) and more than 6,000 miles of natural gas gathering pipelines. As a growing company, we realize that to move forward and execute on our goals, it is helpful to look at our history. Creating a map that is equal parts chronology and geography is difficult with standard maps, but the increasingly popular Esri story maps make the task easier.

This poster demonstrates the steps involved in creating a story map using the Playlist template.

Background

The web application displayed here is the Playlist story map. Story maps are comprised of web maps, web applications and template files and are incredibly versatile. A single web map could be fitted to dozens of different templates depending on the need. In this case, although there is no template specifically designed to create a timeline story map, there were several templates that could be used to meet the need. Applying these templates always results in an aesthetically-pleasing, easy-to-use online map application that helps bridge the gap between those familiar with GIS and those who are not.

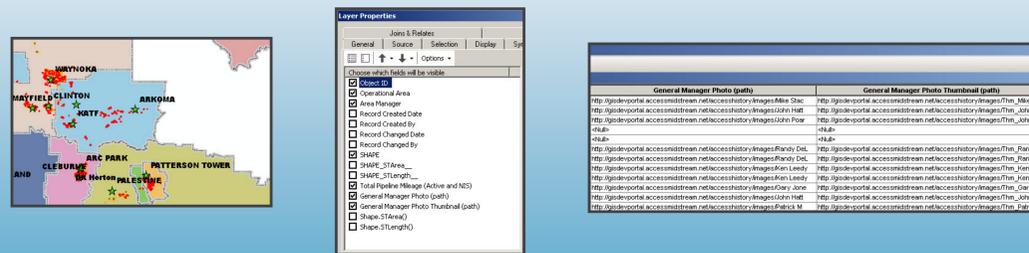
GIS professionals, however, need to know more than just how easy the final product is to use. The following is a short explanation of how to develop and publish a story map. While it does take more effort to initiate, the reward outweighs the time investment. Keep in mind that the best information will come from the Esri documentation provided on the template download page.

The software used during this process includes ArcGIS Desktop 10.1, ArcGIS Server 10.2 and Portal for ArcGIS 10.2.

Process

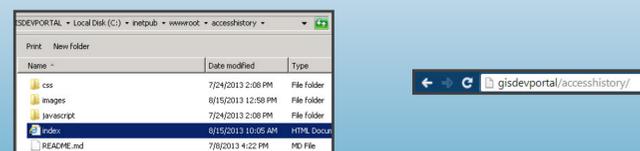
Step 1

- Configure the layers to be published in the web map with an MXD.



Step 2

- Download and unzip the template. Place the contents in a new folder in the existing web server file structure. Note the server directory and web address.



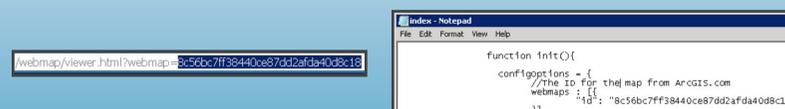
Step 3

- Configure the files required by the template (CSV in this case) and publish the MXD as a map service. Remember to host necessary images if graphics will be included.



Step 4

- Create and configure your web map (including pop-ups), upload other files (like the CSV) "from file," save it, share it and modify your index.html to reference your new web map id. Make other changes as necessary.



Results

