2023 Texas GIS Forum

MARINE DEBRIS AND PUBLIC OUTREACH: A DASHBOARD IS **WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS**

Speaker

Jess Lucas



Speaker Background

- Worked on many species of animals Began my GIS journey with ArcMap 8.1
- Habitat analysis using GIS
- Honed my GIS skills
- profit projects





B.S. from Texas A & M University in Wildlife Biology

M.S. from Clemson University in Wildlife Biology Worked with a rare bat species, environmental surveys

GIS Certificate from Austin Community College

Currently working as a GIS analyst on primarily non-





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06

What is SPLASh The nonprofit in need

What is STOP $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{Z}$

Insight to data collection and data format

What is the TXLD

The purpose of the Texas Litter Database

1 Preparing the Data Working with the pre-exisiting database

Building the dashboard

The flesh and bones

Dashboard Maintenance

KISS, documentation, training

Who is SPLASh

- Comprised of individuals from various non-profits and organizations
 - American Bird Conservancy
 - Gulf Coast Bird Observatory
 - Black Cat GIS
- Conduct outreach and education activities
- Work to develop best management practices for litter control/cleanup
- Host regular coastal cleanups where community volunteers collect, sort, and categorize trash
- Use data from these cleanups to inform better waste management practices.



SPLAS

STOPPING PLASTICS A

Project Goals



PRODUCT

Create online data visual for SPLASh

GOALS

User friendly Easily updated No new techniques



METHOD

Create dashboards housed on StoryMap



COVID-19 Map

Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU)

💱 Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center

Dashboards as Outreach

When data is online, make it visual

Visual representation can be easier to communicate with the general public

Purpose-built Dashboard

Criteria for this EPA funded non-profit project

l**nn** dat

> **Ability to query** trash data entered by site or across sites by year or multiple years

Access and use by local stakeholders to improve trash management and to target prevention of the most discarded items.

) Co m ar

Provide a detailed starting point to **track trash removal efforts**

Innovative online platform to collect data and engage the public

Identify trash peaks that may coincide with nesting seasons, migration, and other natural, biological and environmental phenomena.

Project Process





* coordin: - latitude - longitud - county - take2 ####### 9/30/2020 (29.39018, 29.39018 -94.88563 Galveston ####### 9/30/2020 (29.389516 29.38952 -94.88308 Galveston ###### 9/30/2020 {29.389057 29.38906 -94.88337 Galveston ###### ######## (29.09172 - 29.09172 -95.11239 Galveston ######## {29.086827 29.08683 -95.11887 Galveston ######## (29.090394 29.09039 -95.11921 Galveston ######## (29.092933 29.09293 -95.11366 Galveston ######### (29.370776 29.37078 -94.75032 Galveston ######## (29.370345 29.37035 -94.75091 Galveston ######### (29.37075, 29.37075 -94.75035 Galveston ######## {29.39167. 29.39167 -94.88696 Galveston 1/18/2021 (29.37954, 29.37954 -94.72459 Galveston 3/6/2021 (29.76128, 29.76128 -95.07996 Harris 3/6/2021 (29.760599 29.7606 -95.07949 Harris 16/2021 (29.33143, 29.33143 -94.73431 Galvestor 2/2021 (29.09172 - 29.09172 -95.11239 Galveston /2021 (29.09172 - 29.09172 -95.11239 Galveston 2021 (29.67674 - 29.67674 -94.98205 Harris 021 (29.676987 29.67699 -94.98139 Harris 021 (29.334137 29.33414 -94.78029 Galvestor 1 (29.33416.- 29.33416 -94.78043 Galvestor {29.76128, 29.76128 -95.07996 Harris 29,760466 29,76047 -95,07849 Harris 29.093137 29.09314 -95.11366 Galvestor 9.092932 29.09293 -95.11366 Galveston 09172, 29.09172 -95.11239 Galveston 93306, 28.93306 -95.30273 Brazoria 3534, 29.73534 -95.3898 Harris 78349 - 29.78349 -95.37048 Harris .09172, 29.09172 -95.11239 Galvestor 9.092934 29.09293 -95.11368 Galveston 29.78349. 29.78349 -95.37048 Harris (29.39018, 29.39018 -94.88563 Galvesto (29.685967 29.68597 -96.26541 Austin 1 (29.68577, 29.68577 -95.26498 Harris 021 (29.71283, 29.71283 -94.99344 Harris 021 (29.712809 29.71281 -94.99333 Harris 2021 (29.713901 29.7139 -94.99216 Harris /2021 (29.713228 29.71323 -94.99219 Harris /2021 (29.76128 - 29.76128 -95.07996 Harri /2021 (29.76132 - 29.76132 -95.08 Harris 0/6/2021 (29.389057 29.38906 -94.88337 Galvestor 0/6/2021 (29.39018, 29.39018 -94.88563 Galveston 10/8/2021 (29.30712 - 29.30712 -94.76753 Galvestor 10/8/2021 (29.304522 29.30452 -94.76949 Galveston 10/8/2021 (29.30607 · 29.30607 · -94.7673 Galvestor ## 10/8/2021 (29.306969 29.30697 -94.76555 Galveston 10/9/2021 {29.33143, 29.33143 -94.73431 Galveston 10/9/2021 (29.330314 29.33031 -94.73008 Galveston ######## (29.33366, 29.33366 -94.7454 Galveston WW 11/6/2021 (29.370776 29.37078 -94.75032 Galveston ####### 11/6/2021 [29.370345 29.37035 -94.75091 Galveston ###### 11/6/2021 (29.37075, 29.37075 -94.75035 Galveston ######## ######## (29.76128,- 29.76128 -95.07996 Harris ######## 12/5/2021 (29.283203 29.2832 -94.89257 Galveston ####### 12/5/2021 (29.283761 29.28376 -94.87856 Galvesto

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and transect surveys

Volunteers remov 7.63k 🎢 ds of trash from 12 event.

An average of 635.81 pounds of trash per event!

At this site **608** volunteers attended 12 e

An average of 51 volunteers per event

Dashboard

Data Download

Litter Cleanup - STOP

- Driving force behind Texas Litter Database
- Method:
 - track a line and note the distance (say 100 ft) and pick up every single piece of trash you see, the size of a cigarette butt or larger.
 - Once collected, record the number of individual items into the trash report page.





STUDY TRACK REMOVE + PREVENT



STOP Field Data

From field to database

- Field data is reported into the datasheet
- Diverse categories cover most items
- Specific breakdowns of 'type' of item within each category
- Totals overall weight
- Transects itemized count



Examples: styrofoam cups, to-go boxes, egg cartons, insulation pieces

	Tally	Total #
4	Circle best estimate category	
a	0-100	
m	101-1000	
ts	Over 1000	
/ Plates		
ats		•
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bags,	clear	wrappers,	candy	wrappers
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	Tally	Total #
	Circle best estimate category	
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nts	101-1000	
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6	Item	T
š	Beverage Bottles	
σ	Jars	
D	Glass Fragments	
-	Other:	
-	ltem	T
Ð	Flip flops/ Shoe soles	

	Item	I
Đ	Flip flops/ Shoe soles	
2	Work (Thick) Gloves	
A L	Rubber Fragments	
Z	Tires	
	Other:	

Examples: any wearable of						
	Item	T				
ב	PPE Disposable Gloves					
J	PPE Face Masks					
	Other:					

	Examples: any MAN MA							
٩ ۲	ltem	Т						
ğ	Cardboard cartons							
μ	Lumber Products							
	Paper/ Cardboard							
er	Scraps							
ğ	Paper Bags							
ď	Other:							

<u>0</u>	Item	T
p	Clothing and shoe tops	
Б	Fabric Pieces	
2	Gloves (non rubber)	
ŧ	Rope/ nets NON NYLON	
ŏ	Towels/ rags	
•	Other:	



Texas Litter Database

- Centralized data repository
- Organizes trash and marine debris data
- Open to all users maps, graphs, and data downloads
- Data download available free with an account

CSV format

Currently managed by Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC)



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Data Download/Cleaning

Manage Data quality

- Similar quality to citizen science
- y numerous volunteers, untrained staff, etc.
- Creates misspellings, duplications, inconsistency, etc.
 - Corrections by program staff

Best use of pre-existing fields

- Little/no flexibility in field name or availability
 - Not always ideal for Dashboards
 - Some post-download modifications

Filter relevant data

- Sort only SPLASh events
- Separate totals/transects at data entry

Dike Skyline Drive 12/20 - Staff ts 01/21 - Staff t Inn 03/21 - Voluntee SPLASh SPLASH Inn 03/21 - Volunteer SPLASH 03/21 - Volunteer SPLASH s 04/21 - School SPLASh s 04/21 - School SPLASH int 05/21 - Volunteer SPLASH nt 05/21 - Voluntee SPLASh 05/21 - School SPLASH 05/21 - School SPLASh n 06/21 - Volunteer SPLASH 06/21 - Volunteers SPLASH 5/21 - Youth Group SPLACE /21 - Youth Group SPLASh /21 - Youth Group SPLASh Beach Park 07/21 - Youth Group SPLASh SPLASH 7/21 - Voluntee SPLASH 0 - Volunteers SPLASH 0 - Volunteers SPLASH /21 - School SPLASH 21 - Volunteers SPLASh s Bayou 09/21 - Voluntee SPLASh s Bayou 09/21 - Volunter SPLASH Ramp 09/21 - School SPLASH School SPLASh School SPLASH chool SPLASh SPLASh

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27.5 36 54.8 40 40.5 180 2.8 8.5 42.5 26.5 13 29.3 33 26.2 153 13 12 180 230 170 21

41

Bring the data to ArcGIS Online

Import Data

Create a map with site points

Add layer for cleanup data

Amend any field aliases

Create pop-ups to be used in 'data at a glance'

Woodland Park Monument Inn Montrose Neighborhood **Glenbrook Park-Sims Bayou**

uddy McBride Boat Ramp

Morgan's Point

Anahuac N

Cade Ave

Texas City Dike

Bolivar Flats

East Beach

Kanaloa (Tiki Island) Spoil

Sunny Beach / 8 Mile Rd

Sea Isle / San Jacinto Dr

San Luis Pass

Beach Access Rd #5 Nacal Dr / Beach Access #3 **Quitana County Beach Park**

Building the Dashboard

• Work with SPLASh to determine dashboard wish-list

- Must-have categories
- Metrics and desirable layout
- Style sheet
 - colors, type, logos

Dashboard - Maps and Metrics Create a dashboard with overall metrics and site specific metrics.



Components

- Maps • Site Map
 - Overall sites
- Data at a Glance
- Indicators
- Category selector
- Text box

Category Selector



Volunteers removed 7.63k 🎢 pounds of trash from 12 events

An average of 635.81 pounds of trash per event

At this site **608**

volunteers attended 12 events

SPLASh Mor Top 5 terms Transect (

fover over slices for details

Overall Data Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge Beach Access #3 Beach Access Road #5 **Bolivar Flats** Bolivar Frenchtown Road **Bolivar Jetty Beach Bolivar West Frenchtown Road** Buddy McBride Boat Ramp

Select a category

Overall Data

• è

> Buddy McBride Boat Ramp Pavilion

Category Selector -Actions

Select actions for different layers and maps in the dashboard

Filter

Flash

• Can flash a point on the map

Pan

• Can pan to a point on the map

Zoom

• Zoom to the selected site in the main map

		Catego	ry selector		
99! Reference	8	Data	Actions		🍯 Select a categ
		Selector	When selection changes		Overall Data
99! Value	8	Actions	Filter 7 active targets	~	
Render only when filtered			Flash No active targets	~	
99! Volunteers/Events			Pan No active targets	~	

• Filters the data in the "data at a glance" to reflect only site data • Filters the data in the indicators to reflect only site data



Data	Data options				•	Select a category
Selector	Categories from				~	Overall Data
Actions	Defined values Feat	ures Grouped valu	les			
	Layer: Cleanup Site Data		Ch	ange		
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Sele

Category Selector

Data

- Choose Grouped Values
- Filter by site name (exclude null/empty)
- Select category field
 - Site Name

Selector

- Label for selector 'Select a category', 'sites', 'hospitals' etc.
- Choose icon
- Choose presentation mode
 - Dropdown with single selection
- None option
 - No selection shows ALL data (labelled overall data)

Indicators

Data:

- Apply relevant filters
 - external ID 'TOTAL' (not itemized)
 - event organization (SPLASh)
- Create statistic
 - sum of total pounds of trash
- Create reference point
 - statistic
 - event organization
 - count distinct event name

Indicator:

- Customize colors and text
- Insert the value/reference
- Choose/Import an appropriate icon

		Data	Indicator options		
Statistic	~	Indicator	Settings	×	Volunteers removed
		General	Advanced formatting ①	Enable	24 241 1
Layer: Cleanup Site Data Cha	ange	Accessibility	Conditional formatting	00	34.21K 7
			Top text () Volunteers removed		pounds of trash from 94 events
Filter					An average of 363.89 pounds of trash per event!
			Middle text		Last update: 3 minutes ago
averat consciention to a	-		() (value)		
event_organization abc V	Ш		Bottom text		
equal			{} pounds of trash from (reference)	events	
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SPLASh, Am. Bird Conservancy, Gulf Center for S	-	Filter			
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	SPLASh	~	
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Value type			
Statistic	Feature		volunteers attended 94 events
Statistic			An average of 39 volunteers per event
Sum		~	
Field			
voluntee	r_count	int ~	
Value conv	version	0	
Reference		~	

Indicators

Data:

- - Cleanup Site Data
- Apply necessary filters • Event/organization
- Determine the preferred statistic Sum of Total volunteers
- Identify the reference points
 - Statistic
 - Event organization

Indicator:

- Customize colors and text
- Insert the value/reference

• Choose the relevant data layer

Count – distinct event name

• Choose/Import an appropriate icon.

Data at a Glance

Created using pop-ups in ArcPro

- Select categories
- Correct aliases 0
- Transect/Totals
- Create chart of site items
 - composite groups



Trar Tota

◀ 7 of 12 ▶

Data at a Glance:

SPLASh Buddy McBride Boat Ramp 09/21 - School

Transect ID or Site Total	C
Total bags collected	5
Total Pounds Collected	38.53
Volunteer Count	10
Top 5 Items	Site totals only. For transect data, click to the next slide

Transect Composition

Note: Composition of site total is not calculated



Hover over slices for details

Dashboard - Charts

Create a dynamic live dashboard that presents website and item data in easily digestible sections.



Components

- Maps (stacked)
 - Community Partners
 - Site Map
- Data at a Glance (stacked)
- Indicators
- Serial Charts



Serial Chart

Simple to create

- add categories
- label axis
- set orientation

Select the most common items

- Too many items to include Styrofoam pieces
- Chart ordered with most > least

Total trash/site graph

Data options	
Layer: Cleanup Site Data	
Filter	
external_ids	abc 🔨
equal	
Value Field	
TOTAL	
AND OR	
Categories from	
Grouped values Features Fields	
Category field	
site_name	
Parse dates	
Split by field	
Statistic	
Sum	
Field	
summary_total_lbs	

Total Pounds of Trash Removed by Lo



Maintenance

Manual - for non-GIS users

- Include login process and information
- Data download information
- Modifications to CSV file
- Updating the file in ArcGIS Online
- Documenting updates in Credits (Attribution) because of multiple users

Staff Training

- Available for any questions
- Walk-through with new staff





Ongoing updates

Texas Litter Database is switching to an ESRI based system in the future, which will dramatically change the way data can be used and displayed – check back in 2024!

Thank you

Special thanks to those who make this work possible











