



Maine Library of Geospatial Information Strategic Plan 2025-2028

Charter:.....	1
Strategy.....	4
Strategic Plan	4
2025-26 Plan of Action	4
1. Maintain and expand data holdings for statewide framework layers.....	4
2. Policies	4
3. Content	4
4. Platform	5
5. User Management	6
6. Legislative Relationships	6
7. Board Membership and Recruitment	6

Charter:

§2003. Maine Library of Geographic Information Board

1. Purposes and duties. The Maine Library of Geographic Information Board, as established by [section 12004-G, subsection 30-B](#), has the following purposes and duties:

A. To oversee the Maine Library of Geographic Information to ensure that it operates as a coordinated, cost-effective electronic gateway providing public access to data custodians' public geographic information. Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to affect the rights of persons to inspect or copy public records under [Title 1, chapter 13, subchapter 1](#), or the duty of data custodians to provide for public inspection and copying of those records; [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]

B. To establish and maintain standards, rules and policies for nonstate data custodians' geographic information that is incorporated into the Maine Library of Geographic Information. These standards, rules and policies must be consistent with the standards, rules and policies set by the Chief Information Officer that govern state data custodians' information technology. The geographic information board shall adopt rules to carry out this subchapter. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in [chapter 375, subchapter 2-A](#). Standards and policies may concern, without limitation:

- (1) Methods of access and delivery of information held by the library.
- (2) Geographic information system technical specifications.



(3) Data content, metadata and security, including guideline criteria for accepting 3rd-party data from data custodians or data volunteered by the private sector.

(4) Privacy and privacy protection.

(5) Mechanisms to correct inaccuracies; and

(6) Data validation tools and processes; [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]

C. To reduce redundancies in the creation, verification and maintenance of public geographic information and to enhance its utility for complex analyses.

(1) Each state data custodian, or its designee, that acquires, purchases, verifies, maintains or produces geographic information with state funds or grants shall:

(a) Inform the geographic information board and the Office of Geographic Information Systems of the existence of this information and its geographic extent; and

(b) Upon request, provide to the library and office an electronic copy of all information classified as public, in a form compatible with standards set by the Chief Information Officer.

(2) Each nonstate data custodian, or its designee, that acquires, purchases, verifies, maintains or produces geographic information with state funds specifically provided for that purpose shall:

(a) Inform the geographic information board and the Office of Geographic Information Systems of the existence of this information and its geographic extent; and

(b) Upon request, provide to the library and Office of Geographic Information Systems an electronic copy of all information classified as public, in a form compatible with standards set by the Chief Information Officer; [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]

D. To set priorities and authorize the expenditure of state funds, including awarding of grants or subgrants to data custodians when available. The geographic information board may seek federal and other funding partners, accept gifts and grants and expend the funds acquired for purposes consistent with this subchapter; [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]

E. To promote innovative uses of geographic information through the provision of verified, coordinated, intergovernmental information via the Maine Library of Geographic Information. The geographic information board shall seek advice from the general public, professional associations, academic groups and institutions and individuals with knowledge of and interest in geographic information regarding needed information and potential innovative uses of geographic information; [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]



F. To enter partnerships to promote the purposes of this subchapter; [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]

G. To hear and resolve disputes that may arise between data custodians or with respect to information to be placed in the Maine Library of Geographic Information, enforcement of geographic information board standards, rules or policies or other related matters, all in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act. Complainants may directly present their case to the geographic information board, which has the power to hold investigations, inquiries and hearings concerning matters brought to their attention and to make decisions with respect to the case. All interested parties must be given reasonable notice of the hearing and an opportunity to be heard. Hearings must be open to the public; [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]

H. To conduct studies relating to the coordination, development and use of statewide geographic information; [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]

I. To report annually by January 1st to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over natural resources matters, and state and local government matters. The report must provide a review of the past year's activities, including, but not limited to, a description of standards adopted, data added to the library, partnerships established, disputes addressed, studies conducted and financial activity. The library shall also make this report available to the public. This report may also include suggested legislative language intended to address geographic information issues needing legislative action; and [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]

J. To develop appropriate internal services to facilitate generalized access for and use of data by governmental agencies and the public. The library may not compete directly with private enterprise. The library shall work in partnership with nonstate data custodians to promote the purposes of this subchapter. [PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §16 (NEW).]



Strategy

The GeoLibrary Board's strategy for executing these tasks is to operate, with technical support from MeGIS, as the central geospatial data portal for the State of Maine using current digital technology and software.

- We will focus on providing framework level data sets for the State.
- We will do our best to provide current, complete and correct data to our users.
- We will promote projects on a yearly basis that solve current needs and support our mission.
- We will provide education and activities geared to promoting the use of geospatial data statewide.
- We will provide leadership in areas where the development of geospatial data may be beneficial to the State of Maine.
- We will act as a coordinating body to partner with State Agencies and communities to help to solve problems with geospatial solutions.

Strategic Plan

The term "strategic plan" is actually a misnomer. What we mean by this is the listing of tactics we are going to use to execute the strategies listed above. These actions don't come out of thin air, as we have been active since the Charter was written in 2003. Along with our actualizing arm, MeGIS, we have a legacy to support. Our tactics must respect the legacy while at the same time leading into the future.

2025-26 Plan of Action

1. Maintain and expand data holdings for statewide framework layers.

- 1.1. KPI "Are the framework layers understood and populated with the most current, correct, and complete data that we can acquire with existing resources?"

2. Policies - "Consolidate policies, review scope as defined by the mission statement."

- 2.1. Action: Review all written policies and provide suggested updates to the Board by September 1, 2025
- 2.2. Annual KPI: "Did the Policies get updated and accepted?"

3. Content -

- 3.1. "Enhance data content by making it easier to search and identify data elements".
 - 3.1.1. Create a "Card Catalog" Database using existing ESRI descriptive fields. Use the database to enhance data set discovery.
 - 3.1.2. KPI - "Is there a searchable database available for use by 8/1/2025 ?"
- 3.2. "Post as much state and non-state data relevant to Maine as possible."



- 3.2.1. Review all published data to insure compliance with data policies. Publish all that comply.
- 3.2.2. KPI - "Is there an accepted inventory report available?"
- 3.2.3. Add coastal mapping content.
- 3.2.4. KPI "Does the GeoLibrary host the NOAA Bathymetry DEM?"
- 3.2.5. Provide universal data access to published GIS platforms.
- 3.2.6. KPI "Are there GIS services that are consumable by published GIS vendors?"

4. Platform-

- 4.1. Rebuild Web Site to take advantage of the new cloud storage environment.
 - Improve the drawing and download times for raster services.
 - 4.1.1.1. KPI - "Do the drawing times take less than 30 seconds per draw?"
 - 4.1.1.2. KPI - "Do the downloads complete without timing out?"
 - 4.1.2. Add search capability for all data from state and contributing non-state custodians regardless of who owns and where the data is stored.
 - 4.1.3. KPI "Is there a database that contains all the metadata for all the map content that can be searched by keyword?"
 - 4.1.3.1. Assure complete metadata for users to understand the data and evaluate its fitness for use, especially status, online access, data custodian, attribute/field definitions and attribute value/field value definitions including code tables and units.
 - 4.1.3.2. KPI "Is the metadata complete so that the data sets have a named owner and sufficient explanation to understand the items in 3.14 above?"
 - 4.1.4. Improve downloads with a "Zip/Clip/Ship" functionality.
 - 4.1.5. KPI "Can I download files and archival material from the Web Site?"
 - 4.1.6. Add an application to allow users to make "simple" maps.
 - 4.1.7. KPI "Can I make a map using an application on the GeoLibrary web site that contains data from the GeoLibrary data catalog?"
 - 4.1.8. Improve categorization in the data catalog based on framework layers (Imagery, Elevation, Land Cover, E-911 roads/addresses, Civil Boundaries and Tax Maps),
 - 4.1.9. KPI "Are the data organized by Framework Layers?"
 - 4.1.10. Improve naming conventions. (Assure that all file names are unique, remove "Maine" from all file names where it is not essential for understanding Boundary types).
- 4.2. KPI "Are file names unique without beginning with Maine?"



4.3. Provide a system diagram and explain to the Board on how the web site interacts with the storage and database environments.

4.4. KPI "Has the Board gotten what they need from the explanation?"

5. User Management -

5.1. Keep growing the user base in Maine.

5.2. KPI "Do we know what the user base is now and how can we measure this?"

5.3. Provide an outreach and education program to underserved areas, municipal, regional and statewide planning organizations.

5.4. KPI "Is there an outreach plan that encompasses the topics in 4.2 and can we actualize it this year?"

5.5. Keep the GeoLibrary access unprotected, and barrier free for search and access to the catalog and data, including downloads unless restricted by third-party licensing terms. When authentication is required for access to specific data sets, manage it with existing Arc GIS Online logins and pop-ups (not universal logins).

5.6. KPI - "Can the GeoLibrary limit access to specific data sets as needed to protect 3rd party intellectual property?"

6. Legislative Relationships - Maintain a good relationship with the Legislature to support continued general fund contributions to the GeoLibrary.

6.1. "KPI Is the Board capable of communicating with relevant members of the Legislature as needed and do they have the tools/information required?"

6.2. Provide information to support our program and focus any funding requests on securing data as well as keeping the current data fresh and keeping the current staffing.

6.3. KPI "Did the Annual Report get completed and was it sufficient to report our progress?"

6.4. The Board needs a unified message which should be presented by Board members.

6.5. "Is there a unified message that the Board can provide to the Legislature?"

6.6. The Chair of the GeoLibrary board should not be employed by the State and should lead any legislative outreach efforts.

6.7. KPI "Does the Chair of the Board work for the State?"

7. Board Membership and Recruitment

7.1. Keep the Board full. Provide some documentation of the responsibilities of Board members.

7.2. Actively seek out candidates with a long-term view of how their service benefits the public.

7.3. Board members as well as the Executive Director should be on the lookout for people to serve on the board and its open seats.



2025 Calendar of Events

GeoLibrary Board Strategic Goals	2025			2026				2027				2028	
Goal	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
1. Review and Consolidate Policies		X		X				X				X	
2. Review Legislative Scope				X				X				X	
3. Maintain content /Build and Release New Website		X	X	X	X								
4. Enhance User Outreach	X	X		X	X			X	X			X	X
5. Legislative Report/Outreach			X	X			X	X			X	X	
6. Board Membership	X		X				X				X		

This year, MeGIS is completing the GeoLibrary platform migration to the Azure cloud. This has been a massive undertaking and is still in progress.

We are proposing to rebuild our web site concurrent with the first full usage of the new platform. Some issues will undoubtedly come up that we haven't thought of now. It's going to remain a process of many small steps and careful attention to detail.

