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Current Project

I lead a USGS project to investigate the theoretical and practical concerns of incorporating volunteered geographic information and social media into USGS's online mapping service, *The National Map*, and other spatial data infrastructures.

USGS is sponsoring an experimental project to allow volunteers to update structures data for *The National Map*. My project provides input into the design of the volunteer process and provides analyses of the results. The questions of interest include:

- What are the accuracy requirements for hybrid VGI/authoritative systems and what are the best methods of assessing data quality?
- How does the activity of the OSM community—a purely volunteered activity—contrast with the bounded volunteer activity of hybrid VGI/authoritative systems?
- What are the motivations of participants?
- What are the technical aspects of using open source systems for editing VGI data for *The National Map*?
- What are some of the the social, ethical and cognitive issues in VGI and citizen science in general?

In addition, I am supervising a USGS post-doctoral Mendenhall scholar, Dr. Sophia Liu who is investigating the use of crowdsourced mapping and social media in disasters.

Recent Publications and Selected Presentations

Poore, B. and E. Wolf (forthcoming). Metadata squared: Enhancing its usability for volunteered geographic information and the GeoWeb in *Crowdsourcing Geographic Knowledge*. eds Daniel Sui, Michael Goodchild and Sarah Elwood. NY: Springer

Poore, B., E. Wolf, E. Korris, J. Walter, G. Matthews (forthcoming) Structures data collection for *The National Map* using volunteered geographic information. USGS Open-File Report

Poore, B. and E. Wolf (2012). The integration of crowdsourced data into spatial data infrastructures: issues and future prospects. GSDI 13, Quebec City, May 16

Poore, B. (2011). Users as essential contributors to spatial cyberinfrastructures. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*. 108 (14) 5510-5515.

Poore, B. (2010). Wall-E and the “Many Many Maps”: toward user-centred ontologies for *The National Map*. *Cartographica* 45 (2) 113-120.

Poore, Barbara (2010). The metadata crisis: Can geographic information be made more usable? Presented at Second Workshop on Geographic Data Usability, sponsored by the Ordnance Survey, University of Nottingham and University College London. March 23, 2010, London, England.

Poore, B. (2010). Mapping the unmappable: Is it possible, ethical, or even desirable to incorporate geographic information into scientific projects? Workshop on the Role of Volunteered Geographic Information in Advancing Science GIScience 2010, September 14-16, Zurich, Switzerland

Poore, Barbara. 2010. "[What a long strange trip it's been:](#)" Mapping and virtual community from The Grateful Dead to OpenStreetMap. Presented at 3rd International Symposium on the History of Cartography, Arlington, TX, October 10-13.

Education

Ph.D., 2003, University of Washington, Geography

MA., 1974, Brown University, Art History

BA., 1966, Wellesley College, Art History