

# Facilitating the Use of a 21st Century Resource: A New Application for an Old Model

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# Public-trust resources



Photo Credit: USDA Forest Service

# Public-trust resources



Photo Credit: NOAA

# Public-trust resources



Photo Credit: USFWS

# Public-trust resources



Photo Credit: BLM

# Public-trust resources



Photo Credit: NOAA

# Public-trust resources



Photo Credit: US Census

# Public-trust resources



Photo Credit: NOAA

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If these are all public-trust resources, why do we treat them differently?

# Data as a public-trust resource is scary

**Your Data**

**Might Become**

**Our Data**

**Y(our) Data**

**or**

**(Y)Our Data**



# Some brief history:

- The 1862 Morrill Act authorized the selling of federal property to fund the creation of state universities focused on agricultural and technical education;
- Need recognized for experts to go beyond teaching on campus and so the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 authorized the creation of Land-Grant Cooperative Extension Services;
- Sea Grants, Sun Grants, and Space Grants created subsequently.

# The Promises and Challenges of Open Data

- Potential Benefits (Janssen et al. (2012):
  - Transparency
  - New services for citizens
  - Direct democracy
  - Economic growth
  - Co-creation & reuse of data
- Potential Challenges (Janssen et al. (2012) :
  - Transparency vs privacy
  - Access to both original and processed data
  - Incorporation of user input
  - Balancing organizational and individual interests

# Functions for a Data Grant

Serve as an available intermediary to assist in:

- Discovering and accessing relevant public data
- Identifying available tools to work with data
- Crafting workflows
- Others?

# Does a Data Grant already exist?

Signs of movement in this direction:

- General Service Administration's 18F
- Commerce Data Service
- National Data Service
- Libraries (more later)
- Others?

# Are libraries already filling this role?

Sort of, especially if:

1. You lock the library
2. Sell the books
3. Keep the librarians
4. I'm not suggesting we do any of these things (except #3)
5. A new program or staff in this paradigm would have a fundamentally different service model
6. A Sea Grant assessment found in 2014 that \$2 of federal funds leveraged an additional \$1 of state funds, and provided a 750% ROI for these combined funds; retained or created 3,400 businesses, and retained or created 15,000 jobs (Sea Grant Association)

# Characteristics of Grant-type programs:

- May feature a large one time federal allocation, that may include resources (e.g. land)
- Some state ownership/support
- Local presence across region
- Extension approach
- Support for all sectors
- Goes to the customer

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**Extension**

# A notional construct:

- Dispersed effort and coalition;
- Local extension through higher education institutions from community colleges to flagship universities;
- Governor's Office of Internet Technology as state partner;
- Department of Commerce as federal partner; RFP 2016-NIST-NICE-01
- Colorado Data Extension Network (CODEN).

# References:

- Marijn Janssen , Yannis Charalabidis & Anneke Zuiderwijk (2012) Benefits, Adoption Barriers and Myths of Open Data and Open Government, Information Systems Management, 29:4, 258-268, DOI: 10.1080/10580530.2012.716740
- A smart investment in our coastal communities, Sea Grant Association,  
[http://seagrants.noaa.gov/Portals/0/Documents/network\\_resources/communications/WE\\_SeaGrant\\_Investment\\_Final-rev2.pdf](http://seagrants.noaa.gov/Portals/0/Documents/network_resources/communications/WE_SeaGrant_Investment_Final-rev2.pdf)

# Questions?

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