

MEMO

To: State Library Commission
From: Karen Strege
Re: GIS Specialists in Other Agencies
Date: April 19, 2000

You requested information on the increase in GIS positions in state government. I have attempted to collect this information as presented below. Although I found collecting the numbers relatively easy, it was more difficult to ascertain individual position's duties. I think that the Commission can use their knowledge of a particular agency's mission and purpose to extrapolate broad job duties. That is, the GIS specialists in the Department of Revenue work on revenue related projects, i.e. parcel mapping and land ownership.

Also attached to this memo is a copy of a letter from Tony Herbert to Representative Tom Zook. In this memo, Herbert shows that state agencies support a number of GIS applications and programs. I thought that this snapshot of agency expenditures might be of interest to you.

Additional GIS staff added to selected state agencies in the past four years:

Department of Revenue	Five
Department of Administration	Four
Department of Transportation ¹	1.2
Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks ²	1.5
Department of Environmental Quality ³	Two
Department of Natural Resources & Conservation	Four

1 MDT's philosophy is to decentralize GIS throughout the agency by training end-users how to use GIS systems. They train appropriate staff (@40-50 users). They also employ Oracle database programmers who are responsible for creating the GIS infrastructure for MDT. They foresee growth in their in-house GIS capability.

- 2 FWP contracts with NRIS for fully mediated requests and GIS support and we see no change in this relationship. FWP provides three Arcview classes a year to their employees to decentralize some GIS services. Their core staff develops FWP data layers and provides coordination and technical support to FWP GIS users.
- 3 Two position descriptions for GIS positions are being developed.