

Four Decades of GIS in the San Diego Region

2006 SANDAG wins the CGIA Exemplary Systems Award for outstanding GIS implementation of a Land Information System. ARJIS launches its web-based regional Crime Mapping Application for Public Safety (MAPS).

2005 NSF grant managed by Mesa College, SDSU, and the San Diego City Schools sponsors workshop for local GIS staff to develop scalable GIS educational curriculum. The SanGIS Board votes to discontinue licensing data and places the data into public domain. City of San Diego leads very high resolution imagery and terrain data partnership. SANDAG's Land Information System migrates to ArcGIS and SQL Server.

2004 SANDAG in partnership with UCSD Regional Workbench Consortium and SDSU develops Growth Visualization application that uses satellite imagery to visually portray 20 years of growth in the San Diego region. City of Chula Vista leads very high resolution imagery partnership for the South Bay area.

2003 The San Diego GIS Coordinators Group was restructured and formalized into the San Diego Regional GIS Council (SDRGC). MTDB/NCTD and ARJIS consolidate with SANDAG.

2002 UCSD starts GIS curriculum within the Urban Studies and Planning Program. City of Chula Vista creates interactive mapping Web pages (both intranet and internet). County of San Diego launches www.emPowerSD.com interactive mapping application which provides health and social services facility information. eStops, the San Diego region's online, GIS-based transit stop inventory management system, wins CGIA Exemplary systems Award.

2001 The City of Escondido implements Cityworks, a GIS-based Asset Management System for the Public Works Department. Caltrans District 11 launches real-time Freeway traffic speed map. SDSU, SANDAG, IMPlan, and the City of San Diego win CGIA Data Sharing Award for Border Atlas. SDSU hosts first Binational Data Sharing Workshop. ESRI's 21st Annual International User Conference is held in San Diego for the 5th straight year and will continue to be held here for the foreseeable future.

2000 Sempra Energy wins ESRI Special Achievement Award for outstanding work in the GIS field. SANDAG receives CGIA Awards for Outstanding Internet Web site, Exemplary Systems Award for Habitrak, and the Chairman's award to Bob Parrott. The Regional Economic Development Information System (REDI) web site is released. SDSU receives a Hammer Award for Tijuana River Watershed Demonstration Project. SANDAG leads multi-agency partnership to acquire region-wide 2' false color infrared imagery. ESRI releases the first version of their ArcGIS Desktop software. ESRI's 20th Annual International User Conference held in San Diego for the 4th year.

1999 SANDAG leads development of Habitrak, a desktop GIS-based application to track and report on habitats lost and conserved over time. SDSU initiates Certificate Program in Geographic Information Science. City of San Diego Street Division Synergy Project (SAP/GIS Integration) provides integrated work order/inventory management system. ESRI's 19th Annual International User Conference being held in San Diego for the 3rd year.

1998 CGIA presents SANDAG their 1998 Advancement of Data Sharing Award. CGIA presents SDSU the 1998 Chairman's Award for GIS educational efforts. SANDAG leads partnership to reformat USGS DOQQs for use by local GIS users. ESRI's 18th Annual International User Conference held in San Diego for 2nd year.

1997 External Certificate in GIS first offered at SDSU. SanGIS and SANDAG Web sites provide online interactive mapping capabilities. San Diego Geographic Information Source (SanGIS) formed (formerly RUIS). ESRI's 17th Annual International User Conference is held in San Diego for the first time. SDSU designated as NASA Affiliated Research Center.

1996 Transboundary Resource Inventory Program (TRIP) facilitates US/Mexico Border Aerial Photography (Color IR flights flown for San Diego). Cities of El Cajon, Lemon Grove, Solana Beach and Vista become ESRI users. First transborder (US/Mexico) land use map published by SANDAG. ESRI produces video featuring RUIS project. RUIS completes regional parcel coverage. Transborder GIS for Tijuana River Watershed developed by SDSU and COLEF. UCSD offers GIS extension classes and GIS certificate. Regional Auto Theft Task (RATT) Force becomes ESRI user with Crime Analysis Mapping System ArcView application.

1995 RUIS wins Exemplary Systems in Government (ESIG) award from URISA. Urban Information Systems releases Civitas Software tools for ArcView. First Local Agency GIS Coordinators meeting. Region's transit operators (MTDB, NCTD, CTS, SCTC, SDTI and CVT) become ESRI users with View2Transit ArcView Application developed by SANDAG. San Diego ArcView Users Group formed. SDSU Founding member of University Consortium on Geographic Information Science (UCGIS). Local partnership for regionwide coverage of Digital Ortho-photography formed with USGS. SANDAG web site offers free downloading of GIS databases. SDG&E and Caltrans District 11 become ESRI users. California State University ESRI site license extends ESRI product use to Cal State San Marcos.

1994 City of Santee, San Diego County Water Authority, and San Diego Unified Port District become ESRI users. First ARC/INFO produced Thomas Bros. Map book of San Diego. SANDAG awarded ESRI President's Award. California Geographic Information Association formed, with three members from the San Diego GIS community elected to the Board.

1993 Local section of URISA formed for the San Diego region. RUIS fully migrates to ESRI platform. City of Escondido and Sweetwater Authority become ESRI users. First San Diego Geography Showcase held at SDSU.

1992 GPS-ATHON creation of a regional high precision survey network by simultaneous measurement of 25 GPS stations. San Diego ARC/INFO Users Group formed. City of Chula Vista and USF&W, Carlsbad office become ESRI users. GIS plays a major role in the development of the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP).

1991 Use of multi-date digital satellite imagery change detection and ERDAS and ARC/INFO LiveLink for updating regional land use vector layers (SDSU, SANDAG, ESRI, ERDAS).

1990 RUIS licenses SDG&E land base. Crime Reporting and Incident Mapping Environment (CRIME) ARC/INFO application developed for the City of San Diego Police and County Sheriff's Departments (later City of El Cajon Police Department becomes a user).

1989 Cities of Encinitas and Carlsbad, and the USGS Water Resources Division, San Diego office, become ESRI users.

1988 SDSU Geography Department offers ARC/INFO Workshops for professionals.

1987 SDSU Geography Department establishes the Center for Earth System Analysis Research (CESAR) Lab.

1986 SANDAG links ARC/INFO and UAG's/TRANPLAN transportation modeling software. ESRI completes RUIS conceptual design.

1985 San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) becomes ESRI client.

1984 Regional Urban Information System (RUIS) formed.

1982 Internal certificate in GIS offered at SDSU.

1980 CPO changes name to SANDAG to better reflect its regional planning role.

1978 CPO's first Average Daily Traffic (ADT) Flow map published using GIS.

1977 CPO develops TRANES (Transit Network Evaluation System), a census data retrieval system using the DIME file.

1976 CPO uses Urban Services Modeling System using gridcell based GIS to evaluate the need for and location of public facilities.

1975 CPO implements POLYSHADE AND GRIDSHADE computer plotting routines.

1972 CPO publishes first Land Use Map of the San Diego region using GIS.

1971 CPO implements SYMAP and GRID for demographic analysis, land use planning, and regional planning.

1970 ESRI develops Polygon Information Overlay System (PIOS) for the San Diego County Comprehensive Planning Organization (CPO).

1967 SDSU Geography Department introduces automated mapping into course work.