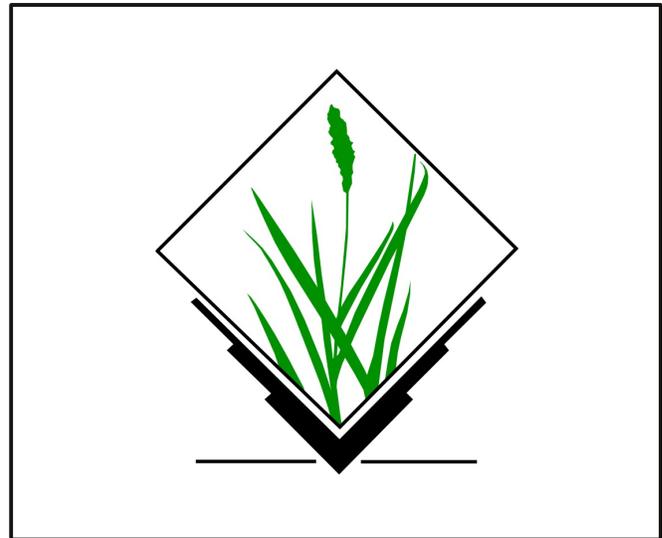# GRASS Software Project Report

About GRASS

GRASS GIS, commonly referred to as GRASS (Geographic Resources Analysis Support System), is a free Geographic Information System (GIS) software used for geospatial data management and analysis, image processing, graphics/maps production, spatial modeling, and visualization. GRASS GIS is currently used in academic and commercial settings around the world, as well as by many governmental agencies and environmental consulting companies. GRASS GIS is an official project of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo).

Key Accomplishments

The GRASS Software Project had a number of accomplishments in 2012. The GRASS web site was updated and modernized. There were three (3) successful Google Summer of Code Projects. These included a project by Pietro Zambelli to add a high level Python map interaction, a project by Eric Momsen to add image segmentation capabilities, and a project

by Stepan Turek to create a WxGui front end for the vector analysis modules in GRASS.

The software project also made three released. This included GRASS GIS 6.4.2, GRASS GIS 6.4.3RC2, and WinGRASS 6.4.3RC2 (with a MacOSX installer and a Linux package also released).

Events

February 2012: The GRASS and FOSS4G-IT user meeting was held in Italy.

May 21 to 23, 2012: The GRASS GIS Community Spring 2012 was held in Prague, Czech Republic.

May 21 to 22, 2012: GRASS GIS

presentation made at FOSS4G-CEE in Prague, Czech Republic.

December 3 to 7, 2012: GRASS GIS presentation made at the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union.

Education and Research

OSGeo research and education labs with GRASS GIS application and development among their activities were launched at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina, USA and the Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic. GRASS GIS was used in university courses at North Carolina State University (USA), Arizona State University (USA), University of Basilicata (Italy), and Universite Libre de Bruxelles, (Belgium).

Several papers that included GRASS GIS were public in scientific journals and conference proceedings in 2012.

GRASS was also used for GIS training by the National Center for Atmospheric Research (USA).

Areas for Improvement

The software project would like to develop a migration guide for public agencies. It would also like to improve the current sponsorship program.

Opportunities to Help

The software project is always looking for developers, power users, translators, and documentation editors that can support the improvement of GRASS GIS. The software project is also looking for help to update marketing materials for GRASS GIS in various languages.

Outlook for 2013

In 2013 the software project hopes to release GRASS 6.4.3 and to continue improvements on GRASS 7.0. It also wants to participate again in the Google Summer of Code program and present talks at FOSS4G and other conferences. Look for more GRASS GIS Community Sprints organized by the software project.