**Emerald Crown Coalition Progress Report**

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**Date Filed: March 2021**

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**Introduction**

*Summary*

Progress on correcting and compiling all of the datasets within the Emerald Crown Trail project is proceeding on time and coming along very well. Few problems have arisen thus far, and those that have will be discussed later in the report. The Emerald Crown Coalition kindly asks for clarification on using ESRI’s Web App Builder. This work group is dedicated to accuracy and professionalism, and is working hard to produce a final product in the form of an interactive map that is both informative and refined. As mentioned in the original Request for Proposal, the Emerald Crown Trail is a proposed pedestrian/cycling trail system that will connect the San Marcos, Kyle, and Buda areas to provide both transportation and recreation services to the region. In 2019, a master plan for the ECT was developed by the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program, and approved by the San Marcos Greenbelt Alliance (SMGA). An exploratory map with a proposed trail system was created by an earlier task force, and serves as the foundation for this project.

*Purpose*

Accurately correcting and consolidating the data given remains the primary objective and holds the highest priority in this project. Without precise trail shapefiles, the final interactive maps would be rendered useless. The Emerald Crown Coalition has taken previous plans and proposals from all cities involved, and is working to produce a refined and publicly accessible progress map containing information about completion status, jurisdiction, and other useful trail and trailhead information. This web map will demonstrate action taking place to the shareholders, as well as spark an interest within the community. Furthermore, in a project dependent on local action within communities and communication between various localities, this map will serve as a common point of reference for the various groups collaborating to develop the trail. If all goes well in completing the most important deliverables, the Emerald Crown Coalition will dive deeper into the data provided to provide estimates of trail difficulty, as well as providing possible suggestions on how the trails could be improved in the future, how funds could be raised for future projects, and how the community could be involved in helping establish trail difficulty and overall upkeep of existing trails.

*Scope*

Thus far, the scope for this project has not changed. Most work has been done with the original datasets given at the beginning of the proposal, with the exception of an update on the trails within the city of Kyle. The Emerald Crown Coalition has focused on the 75 proposed miles of the Emerald Crown Trail in Eastern Hays County, including the cities of San Marcos, Kyle, Buda, Mountain City as well as unincorporated areas in Hays County. The study area largely runs along the IH-35 corridor with trails extending on both sides of IH-35.

**Task**

*Work Completed*

In the time since our last meeting, our group has made significant progress cleaning up the Emerald Crown Trail shapefile. We began by assigning each member of our team a portion of the trail shapefile to clean up and review. We have combed over every trail segment within the shapefile and cross-referenced them to ESRI satellite imagery to create as accurate data as possible. Lines vertices were edited to comply with the guidelines set forth in the ECT master plan and snapped to currently-existing trails where appropriate. Furthermore, we have begun taking the initial steps in creating the web map itself.

In addition to our work directly with the map itself, we as a group were able to attend an Emerald Crown Trail work group meeting. This meeting consisted of progress updates from city officials and other stakeholders. This experience provided us the opportunity to better understand how all the moving pieces fit together and where exactly we fit into the process.

 *Present Work*

Since we chose to partition the task of cleaning up the trail shapefile by city, we are currently working on merging these separate shapefiles into one and ensuring all trail segments share similar attributes. We are also working on classifying trail segments according to construction status, jurisdiction, type of land etc... Additionally, we are researching how to create a server to host the web map on. We have run into some issues when trying to create a server each member of our group can access.

*Work Scheduled*

According to our previously discussed schedule, we are right in line with our initial plans. We are currently working on the Data Processing / Analysis phase of the project. Upon the completion of this phase, we will begin constructing the web map. Below (**Table 1**) is the schedule showing our plans for the project following this report, starting on April 1st and ending on May 3rd at the end of the semester. Because we are right on time, none of the schedule has changed, and we may end up getting ahead and having more time to streamline the final project and ensure the quality of the map.

**Table 1: Calendar and Due Dates**

April

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|  |  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |  |

May

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 2 | 3Final Presentation | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Data processing/analysis:** March 24th - April 9th

**Web map development**:April 12th - April 30th

**Final Presentation**: May 3rd

*Problems*

Things have been relatively smooth for us thus far; the only problem that we have come across is the development of the webapp server. We were not anticipating the necessity of a server to be able to work on or edit the web map. Currently we have been able to create the web map, but only the person who has developed the server will be able to work on it. So at the moment we have been discussing how we should go about this. Either we all do our own work on arcpro then transfer the files for one person to finish the map, or we figure out a way for all of us to work on the web map simultaneously.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, we have made considerable progress cleaning up the Emerald Crown Trail shapefiles as well as beginning to look into how to develop a web map. We are currently in the process of merging all of our individual cleaned-up shape files and making sure they all line up correctly on one shape file. We did run into the problem with the web map builder, but we are hoping that a solution will arise so that we can make the web map as a team and not have to resort to alternative methods. Currently, we are on schedule to complete the project on time or early. As we continue work on the project, we will stay in contact and let the San Marcos Greenbelt Alliance know of any future problems that may arise or any breakthroughs we have on the web map.

**Contributions**

Daniel Vasquez - Completed Work & Present Work

Michael Henry - Work Scheduled & Conclusion

Isaac Brown - WebAppBuilder & Problems

Chelsea Huggins - Summary, Purpose, Scope, and Formatting

Parker Brockman - Table 1 & Proofreading