

# GIS in Mapping

BULLOCK COUNTY, AL

JANUARY, 2012

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Resources Challenged
- TM Simplifies ArcMap Editing
- Efficiency Benefits Taxpayers
- ROI Inspires Futuristic Thinking

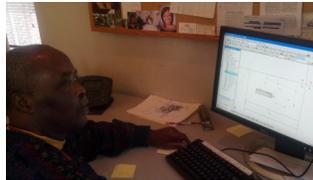
## Resources Challenged

Bullock County, with its county seat at Union Springs, known for numerous beautiful plantations, historic buildings and being the “Bird Dog Field Trial Capital of the World”, is mostly a rural community covering 626 square miles of land including prairies and the *Chunnenuggee* Ridge. From rich history to its promise for the future, Bullock County Revenue Commission proudly provides taxpayer mapping services to a population of over 10,900 citizens.

As mapping demands changed from the old days of paper maps to modern software solutions, Bullock County Revenue Commission mapping was doing the best they could in keeping up with

advances in technology while still providing vital mapping services to citizens and the department. Creating and using maps; compiling geographic data; analyzing mapped information; sharing and discovering geographic information; and managing it in a database required several mapping steps. As a result, the county’s mapping resources were challenged.

*“It was taking me twenty steps to do one edit,”* says Hawthorne Reed, Bullock County’s Cartographer. There had to be an easier way.



**Hawthorne Reed**  
 Mapper  
 Bullock County, AL

## TM Simplifies ArcMap Editing

After looking at several vendors at various tradeshows, Bullock County selected Keet Consulting Services, LLC (KCS), an Esri Gold Partner, to provide Task Manager (TM), an extension built on ArcGIS technology. TM allows users to create and manage task-driven editing processes, from simple to the most complex routines. TM stores all steps in a database that is accessible to all edi-

tors. Similar tasks are grouped together enabling organized simplified data

in ArcMap without any additional toolbars.

*“What took me twenty steps, I now do in three,”* explains Reed. *“Task Manager allows me to map the way I want to map. Routine day-to-day editing is now simplified, organized and easy. I don’t have to think about it.”*



editing. TM maximizes out-of-the-box editing tools with-





## Efficiency Benefits Taxpayer

Like many counties without a fully staffed team of GIS professionals, Bullock County also looked to KCS for assistance with ongoing support commonly known as GIS Technical Manager for Hire which covers all aspects of support, maintenance, management and upgrades related to GIS for the county's revenue office. TM implementation was a smooth easy process with best practices followed to ensure the highest quality in setup and training. "KCS

*customer service is very efficient, responsive and professional,"* testifies Reed. "Task Manager has simplified my work and allows me to keep our county maps up-to-date."

As a result, the Revenue Commission has improved services by increasing mapping efficiency, consistency and providing the public with professional looking maps and GIS data which directly benefits Bullock County taxpayers. County

staff no longer has to deal with excessive steps in making edits. The implementation of TM has also helped increase accuracy with step-by-step task completion which is also great for beginner ArcMap users. "I can now do in a few seconds what took me minutes before. Task Manager is a big time saver," affirms Reed.

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*Task Manager is a big time saver."*

*Hawthorne Reed*



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Partner  
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## ROI Inspires Futuristic Thinking

The return on investment for TM has not only been realized in workflow enhancements and time saving efficiencies but it has also inspired county staff to

think about future GIS improvements like directly importing professional survey data. Also, wouldn't it be great if GIS had real-time photography? We

may have to wait a few years or get a much higher security clearance for that one.