

∠↑ The results of this analysis, showing an area southeast of Lake Skinner is suitable, can be viewed on tablet or desktop browsers without the need for additional software or plug-ins.

Using GeoPlanner

GeoPlanner was originally designed as a planning tool that incorporates many geodesign concepts and includes online data, spatial analysis tools, GeoEnrichment services, raster geospatial landscape variables, and sketching tools. This tutorial showed how it can be used for agriculture, but it can also be applied to problems in utilities (route planning and facilities siting), the oil and gas industry, emergency response planning, and other uses that require GIS information integration and evaluation. GeoPlanner is a touch-enabled web application that runs on desktop and tablet browsers without the need for additional software or plug-ins.

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Understanding Weighted Overlay

Weighted overlay is one method of modeling suitability. ArcGIS uses the following process for this analysis.

- Each raster layer is assigned a weight in the suitability analysis.
- · Values in the rasters are reclassified to a common suitability scale.
- Raster layers are overlayed, multiplying each raster cell's suitability value by its layer weight and totaling the values to derive a suitability value.
- These values are written to new cells in an output layer.
- · The symbology in the output layer is based on these values.

Assigning a weight to each raster in the overlay process allows you to control the influence of different criteria in the suitability model. In the Spero model, you could weight slope more than aspect. Table 1 shows the result of overlaying two raster cells, one slope, and one aspect. Multiplying each layer's weight by each cell's suitability value produces a weighted suitability value. Weighted suitability values are totaled for each overlaying cell and then written to an output layer.

◆ Table 1: Totaling weighted suitability values

Layer	Weight (as percent)	Cell suitability value	Weighted suitability value
Slope	80	5	4
Aspect	20	5	1
Total suitability value			5