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Poster with interactive demo

Linking data access to geospatial data models to applications at local to national scales: The Estuary Data Mapper

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) is developing e-Estuary, a decision-support system for Clean Water Act applications in coastal management. E-Estuary has three elements: an estuarine geo-referenced relational database, watershed GIS coverages, and tools to support decision-making. To facilitate data access for estuaries and associated coastal watersheds around the U.S., we are developing the Estuary Data Mapper (EDM), a stand-alone program requiring only internet access to allow users to identify, visualize, and download multi-media environmental data and geospatial coverages. The downloaded data can be imported into an ArcMap data model for estuaries and watersheds using tools developed for the ArcMap Toolbox and then used as input to run various applications at local to national scales. Examples are shown of two local applications, a simple spreadsheet tidal prism model and a predictive model for seagrass habitat. An example will also be shown of a regional application, a diagnostic tool for identifying estuarine eutrophication. A copy of the Estuary Data Mapper will be available for the poster audience to explore.