



# GIS Gold Rush

James Whitacre, UIUC

Blake Giles, IMO

Richard Gehres, State Farm

# Richard Gehres

- Maximizing payback is a goal of a corporation
- GIS, mobile tech, and all other technologies continue to grow and develop
- Results/Expectations: faster, better, cheaper services & results



# James Whitacre

- Mobile support: field data collection via mobile, mobile-ready web mapping apps, geo database development & optimization for mobile web GIS tools, troubleshooting mobile tech into GIS project workflows
- GIS is an interdisciplinary tool, even though geography generally holds the academic side
- GIS provides more information and more analysis from your data



# Blake Giles

- Worked with State Farm mobile technologies that ended up being implemented
- New area of expansion: prediction models/advanced analytics based on those codes and an entirely collateral area to their original business plan. GIS is a new way to get big value out of current data.



# Q&A

**Q: What's the distinction between location data and GIS data?**

A: Simple location data is contained/simplified GIS. What you do with the data makes GIS powerful and valuable.

**Q: What is the difference between tabular & spatial data?**

A: Spatial data really is understood. Patterns can be found through GIS. Our brains can analyze better with spatial data when they're visualized.



# Q&A

**Q: GIS existed on desktops 1<sup>st</sup>. Are GIS mobile apps quantitatively different?**

A: Yes. Flexibility is key to mobile apps, especially going to the customer. Business people are not tied to the office.

**Q: Are most GIS development being done on iOS, Android, or something else?**

A: User experience needs to be great, so you do that however you best can, whether that be native iOS/Android or something else. GIS mobile focuses on being cross-platform.



# Q&A

**Q: What is the state of mobile GIS?**

A: Mobile setting is not great for GIS analysis. GIS is not mobile first. GIS software is robust, whereas mobile needs to be more focused.

**Q: What is the business in GIS?**

A: A good UX adoption means more data collected for the business. Businesses carry over to efficiency, and mobile is an easy way to add efficiency.

