

# **DIGITAL MAPPING TECHNIQUES 2020**

**The following was presented at DMT'20  
(June 8 - 10, 2020 - A Virtual Event)**

**The contents of this document are provisional**

**See Presentations and Proceedings  
from the DMT Meetings (1997-2020)**

**<http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/info/dmt/>**

# Getting started with GeMS, part 2

Caroline Rose  
cmrose@wisc.edu

&

Punwath Prum  
pprum@wisc.edu

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Digital Mapping Techniques

June 9, 2020

<https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Info/dmt/>

[github.com/wgnhs/gems](https://github.com/wgnhs/gems)



Wisconsin Geological  
and Natural History Survey

DIVISION OF EXTENSION  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



MIT Press, 2020

## [Datafeminism.io](https://datafeminism.io)

Reading Group: videos and notes

Relates data visualization to feminist work on race, class, gender, and other aspects.



github.com/wgnhs/gems

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WGNHS developed tools and documentation for working with the USGS Geologic Map Schema (GeMS) edit

Manage topics

28 commits 2 branches 0 packages 0 releases 1 environment 2 contributors

Branch: master • New pull request

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File	Description	Created
workflow Update README.md		Latest commit 688635 on Mar 9
DMT2019-Moving-Maps-to-GeMS.pdf	add slides PDF from DMT 2019 presentation	13 months ago
DMT2019-moving-maps-to-gems-ec...	add script of the DMT talk	12 months ago
DecodeCodedDomains.py	tool to decode coded domains into tables in a geodatabase	13 months ago
DecodeCodedDomains.tbc	tool to decode coded domains into tables in a geodatabase	13 months ago
GeMS Layers and Tables Quick Refer...	update the quick reference sheets	12 months ago
GeMS Layers and Tables Quick Refer...	update the quick reference sheets	12 months ago
README.md	Update README.md	7 months ago
Workflow Overview (2)-19-19.pdf	add workflow overview PDF	13 months ago
metadata-to-tables.py	Add file via upload	13 months ago

README.md

### gems

Tools and documentation for working with the USGS Geologic Map Schema (GeMS), developed at the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey (WGNHS). Please direct questions to Caroline at [caroline.ross@wisc.edu](mailto:caroline.ross@wisc.edu).

#### Resources developed by WGNHS:

**Workflow documentation:**

**Workflow Overview (PDF):** This is a general overview of the steps we followed when converting previously published maps into GeMS

**DMT2019 Moving Maps to GeMS:** Slides and the script from a presentation at the Digital Mapping Techniques meeting, May 2019, Butte, Montana. An almost identical presentation was given at the NCGDPP workshop in Golden, CO in September of 2019.

**GeMS Layers and Tables Quick Reference:** This document summarizes all fields for any GeMS layer or table. This mostly reproduces the text in the GeMS manuscript. It is meant to be printed so that one layer is summarized on one sheet of paper. We found this useful because it helps narrow down the reference material. Provided in both doc and pdf format.

**Specialty tools:**

**metadata-to-tables.py:** A python script for extracting any Enumerated Domain Values and their corresponding definitions from FGDC metadata in .txt format. Outputs a .csv file for each Enumerated Domain.

**DecodeCodedDomains.tbc:** An ArcMap toolbox with one tool in it. It references the .py script of the same name. The tool accepts a geodatabase as input, and it turns every coded domain into a table within the database.

#### Other resources:

USGS GeMS official documentation: <https://gcmd.usgs.gov/info/standards/GeMS/>

USGS GeMS Toolkit: [https://github.com/usgs/GeMS\\_toolkit](https://github.com/usgs/GeMS_toolkit)

NGGMP09 on GitHub: <https://github.com/nggmp09>

National Geological and Geophysical Data Preservation Program (NGGDP) on GitHub: <https://github.com/nggdp>

Arizona GIS web map of a NCGMP09 map: <https://github.com/arizona/geologic-map-of-arizona>

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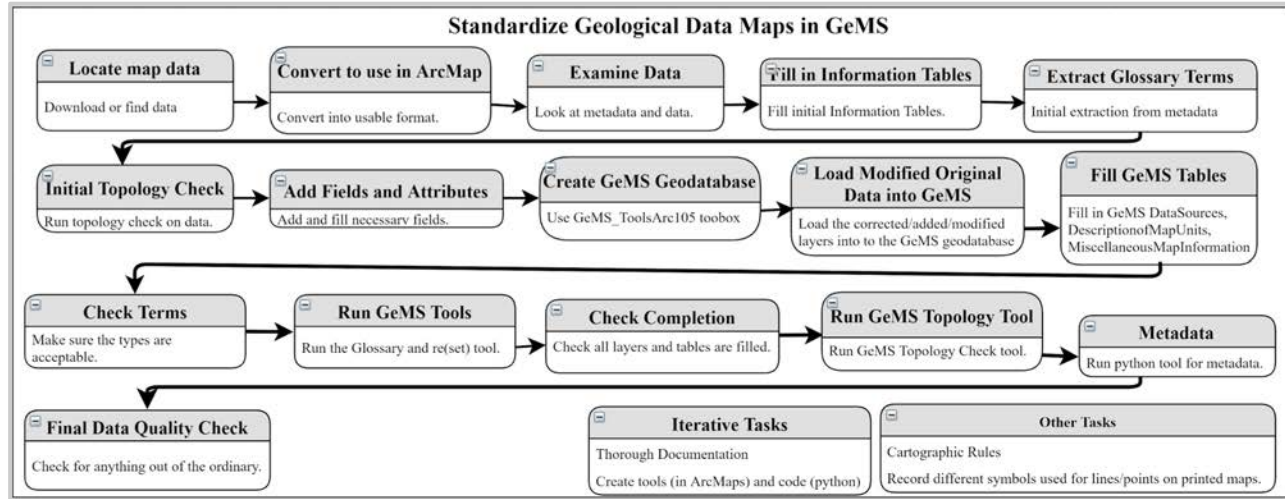
github.com/  
wgnhs/gems

Summary of  
resources



# Workflow Overview

(PDF on github)



Workflow steps











Workflow Step	Basic Steps	Tools/Scripts/Templates
<p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">Locate Data</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create folders to house initial data, edited data, and eventually GeMS data.</li> <li>• Download from WGNHS website or</li> <li>• Find in past project folders</li> </ul>	
<p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">Convert to use in ArcMaps</p>	<p>If in .E00 format:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use conversion tool</li> <li>• Create a new file geodatabase (with correct spatial information) and within that create a new feature dataset.</li> <li>• Import the converted shapefiles into the geodatabase/feature dataset.</li> </ul> <p>If already in a geodatabase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a new file geodatabase (with correct spatial information) and within that create a new feature dataset.</li> <li>• Import the other geodatabase files into the geodatabase/feature dataset.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Import from E00 (Conversion) (tool)</li> <li>• Create new File Geodatabase</li> <li>• Create new Feature Dataset</li> <li>• Create new File Geodatabase</li> <li>• Create new Feature Dataset</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">Examine Data</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extract metadata from larger metadata txt (if necessary).</li> <li>• Write down the initial data type in the progress table.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Run in-house extract from metadata script</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fill in tables</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Templates:</li> </ul>



## MAP SYMBOLS →

## master glossary

-  Abandoned beaches and wave-cut bluffs.
-  Cutbanks of large abandoned river channels.
-  Direction of flow of proglacial streams.
-  Low, narrow drumlins formed during the last glacial advance. ~~Arrowhead indicates direction of glacial movement.~~
-  High, wide drumlins formed during an earlier glacial episode and only slightly modified during the last glacial episode.
-  glacial striation  
Direction of subglacial scratches on rock surfaces.
-  Glacial ridges, transverse to ice-movement direction, including ice-thrust masses in map unit gt and small end moraines in map units gu, gc, gg, gm, sg, and p.
-  Eskers, arrowhead point in direction of ~~stream flow.~~



File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Acrobat Tell me what you want to do...				
B3 : X ✓ fx Modern Stream Sediment				
	A	B	C	D
1	MapUnit	Name	FullName	Age
2		Modern Sediment		
3	Msu	Modern Stream Sediment	Modern Stream Sediment	Holocene
4	Mbt	Talus	Talus of Barron Quartzite	Holocene
5	Mpm	Organic Sediment	Organic Sediment	Holocene
6		Copper Falls Formation		
7	Csu	Meltwater-Stream Sediment	Meltwater-Stream Sediment of the Copper Falls Formation (Undifferentiated)	Late Pleistocene
8	Css	Eroded Meltwater Stream Sediment	Eroded Meltwater Stream Sediment of the Copper Falls Formation (Undifferentiated)	Late Pleistocene
9		Chetek Member		Late Pleistocene
10	C5su	Meltwater-Stream Sediment of the Chetek Member	Meltwater-Stream Sediment of the Chetek Member of the Copper Falls Formation	Late Pleistocene
11	C5sp	Pitted Meltwater-Stream Sediment of the Chetek Member	Pitted Meltwater-Stream Sediment of the Chetek Member of the Copper Falls Formation	Late Pleistocene
12		Sylvan Lake Member		
13	C4uh	Hummocky Glacial Sediment of the Sylvan Lake Member	Hummocky Glacial Sediment of the Sylvan Lake Member of the Copper Falls Formation	Late Pleistocene
14	C4uu	Glacial Sediment of the Sylvan Lake Member	Glacial Sediment of the Sylvan Lake Member of the Copper Falls Formation	Late Pleistocene
15	C4sp	Pitted Meltwater-Stream Sediment of the Sylvan Lake Member	Pitted Meltwater-Stream Sediment of the Sylvan Lake Member	Late Pleistocene









## MapUnitPolys (polygon feature class) required

### Fields:

MapUnit	<i>Short plain-text key (identifier) for the map unit. Example values: "Qal", "Tg", "Kit", "water", "Trc3", etc. Foreign key to DescriptionOfMapUnits table. Null values not permitted—a mapped polygon must have an assigned map unit</i>
IdentityConfidence	<i>How confidently is this polygon identified as MapUnit? Value is usually "certain", "questionable", or "unspecified". Null values not permitted. Suggest setting default value to "certain". Values must be defined in Glossary.</i>
Label	<i>Determined from the appropriate value of the Label in the DescriptionOfMapUnits table and IdentityConfidence: if IdentityConfidence = "questionable", then append "?" to Label value from the DescriptionOfMapUnits table. Allows for subscripts and special characters. Null values permitted</i>
Symbol	<i>References an area fill symbol (background color + optional pattern). Area fill symbols must be defined in an accompanying style file. If Esri Cartographic Representations are used to symbolize map units, the value may be null or blank. Null values permitted</i>
DataSourceID	<i>Foreign key to DataSources table, to track provenance of each data element. Null values not permitted</i>
Notes	<i>Optional field. Free text for additional information specific to this polygon. Null values permitted</i>
MapUnitPolys_ID	<i>Primary key. Example Values = MUP1, MUP2, MUP3, etc. Values must be unique in database. Null values not permitted</i>

### Topology rules:

- Polygons must not overlap
- No gaps between polygons
- Boundaries must be overlain by lines in ContactsAndFaults

Note that not all lines in ContactsAndFaults necessarily bound polygons: polygons separated by concealed contacts or faults may have been merged during construction of

# Quick-reference Sheets

(PDF on github)



# GeMS is flexible

## DECISIONS:

estimating confidence values

terms to use for 'type' attributes

represent features as points or as lines

hierarchy key assignment

paragraph style descriptions

how to cite the map

which definitions to use in the Glossary

which layers are best suited for which points

etc.



# GeMS is flexible

## DECISIONS:

- estimating confidence values → Standard list of values
- terms to use for 'type' attributes → Draw from master glossary
- represent features as points or as lines → New feature classes as needed
- hierarchy key assignment
- paragraph style descriptions
- how to cite the map
- which definitions to use in the Glossary
- which layers are best suited for which points
- etc.



Polk\_NCGMP\_05-25-16.gdb

- GeologicMap
  - CartographicLines
  - CartographicPoints
  - ContactsAndFaults
  - DataSourcePolys
  - GeologicLines
  - MapUnitPoints
  - MapUnitPolys
  - OrientationPoints
- DataSources
- DescriptionOfMapUnits
- Glossary

DONE?



**Pleistocene**  
**Pleistocene**  
**Pleistocene**  
**Pleistocene**  
**Pleistocene & other difficulties**



## GeMS Fields Checklist

+ “Validate database”  
script

## Metadata For GeMS Maps - Step by Step in ArcCatalog

+ “FGDC CSDGM2  
Metadata” script

## Metadata Summary for GeMS Fields





# “GeMS Fields Checklist” (PDF on github)

## Glossary (non-spatial table)

Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Check paragraphStyles against original map</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Terms are in the master glossary</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Master glossary has the map listed in the 'Maps' column</li></ul>
Definition	Look for truncated definitions
DefinitionSourceID	
❖ SeeAlso	
<u>TermSrcFld</u>	
TermSrcFC	
Glossary_ID	

## DataSources (non-spatial table)

DataSources_ID	Unique and readable abbreviations of the citations
Source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Cite the entire publication instead of the plate itself.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Citations follow USGS format</li></ul>
Notes	
URL	If referencing a past Survey publication, the URL directs to the overall publication, not just the plate.

# “Metadata For GeMS Maps - Step by Step in ArcCatalog”

(PDF on github)

ArcCatalog



FGDC metadata



Overview > Citation	Titles	2	Lineage > Source_Information > Source_Citation > Citation_Information
Overview > Citation	FGDC Geospatial Data Presentation Form	1	Citation > Citation Information > Geospatial Data Presentation Form
Overview > Citation	Dates > add a Publication Date	1	Time Period of Content > Time Period Information > Single Date/Time > Calendar Date
Overview > Citation	Series > Name	1	Citation > Citation Information > Series Information > Series Name

Also reference:

The Esri Illustrated Guide to FGDC metadata: <http://desktop.arcgis.com/en/arcmap/10.6/manage-data/metadata/illustrated-guide-to-complete-fgdc-metadata.htm>



# “Metadata Summary for GeMS Fields” (PDF on github)

Metadata summary: MapUnitPolys (polygon feature class) required

Attribute Label:	Attribute Domain Values:
MapUnit	Enumerated Domain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Value drawn from this table.</li><li>○ Value_Definition drawn from the “FullName” attribute of the DescriptionofMapUnits table (linked by foreign key “MapUnit”)</li><li>○ Value_Definition_Source is “this report, table DescriptionofMapUnits”</li></ul>
IdentityConfidence	Enumerated Domain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Value drawn from this table.</li><li>○ Value_Definition drawn from the “Definition” attribute of the Glossary table (linked by foreign key “Term”)</li><li>○ Value_Definition_Source drawn from the “Source” attribute of the DataSources table (linked by foreign key “DataSources_ID” connected to the “DefinitionSourceID” in the Glossary table)</li></ul>
Label	Unrepresentable domain
Symbol	Unrepresentable domain
DataSourceID	Enumerated Domain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Value drawn from this table</li></ul>



J.

E.

g

Attig, John W. and Rawling, J. Elmo, III, 2020, Quaternary Geology of Oneida County, Wisconsin: Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey M507, scale 1:100,000.

Map 507

<http://wgnhs.wisc.edu/pubs/m507/>  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/000972/>

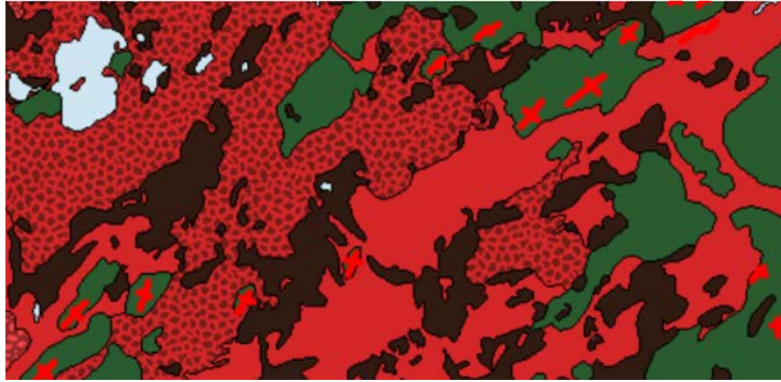


# A shift in focus

Support our 500K statewide surficial compilation project

- Cartographic Representations have been helpful for this
- ArcGIS online helps collaborators working remotely

## ☑ Cartographic Representations



DataSourceID	MapUnitPolys_ID	RuleID
Forest_Pleistocene_Simpkins_1987	MUP1	ts
Forest_Pleistocene_Simpkins_1987	MUP2	p
Forest_Pleistocene_Simpkins_1987	MUP3	sup
Forest_Pleistocene_Simpkins_1987	MUP4	sup
Forest_Pleistocene_Simpkins_1987	MUP5	sup
Forest_Pleistocene_Simpkins_1987	MUP6	ts
Forest_Pleistocene_Simpkins_1987	MUP7	p
Forest_Pleistocene_Simpkins_1987	MUP8	p
Forest_Pleistocene_Simpkins_1987	MUP9	ts

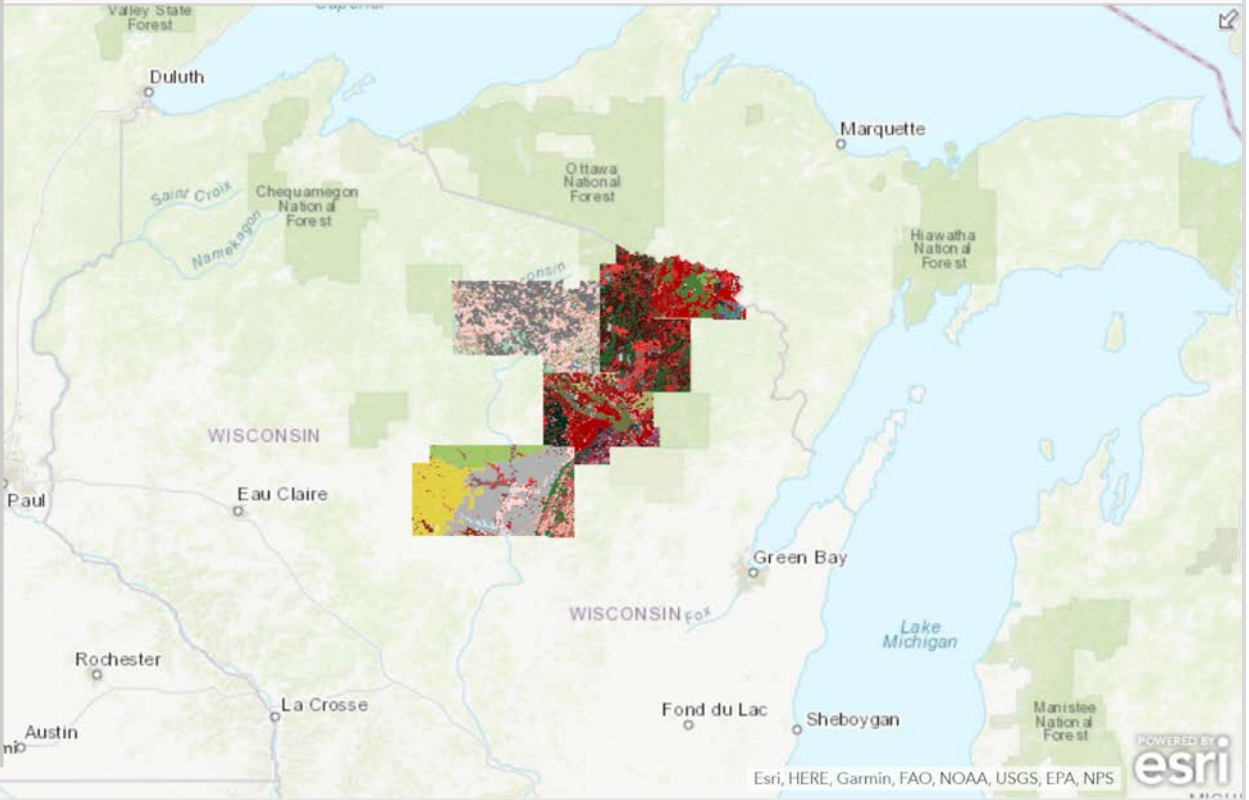
-The representation is stored within geodatabase.

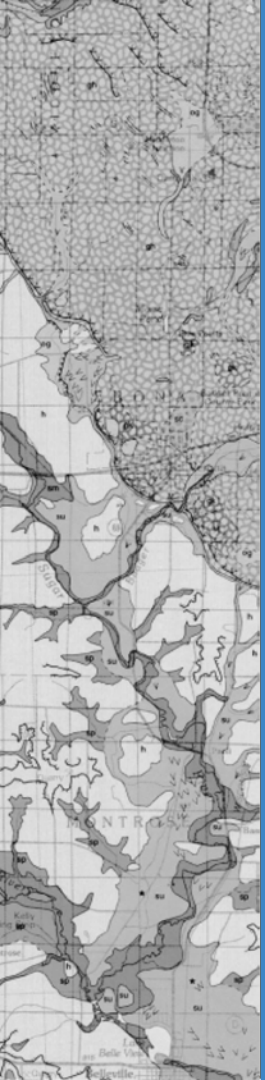
-The map features are drawn by rule.

### Legend

#### Oneida

-  gn
-  gnh
-  gw
-  gwh
-  lm
-  p
-  sc
-  sd
-  se
-  si
-  sp





### Legend

Water or ice


 Glacial till, mostly sandy

 Alluvial sediment

 Lacustrine sediment, mostly coarse-grained

### Marathon

 Peat and muck

 Ice-contact and ice-marginal sediment, mostly coarse-grained

Water or ice


 Alluvial sediment, mostly coarse-grained

 Glacial till, mostly sandy

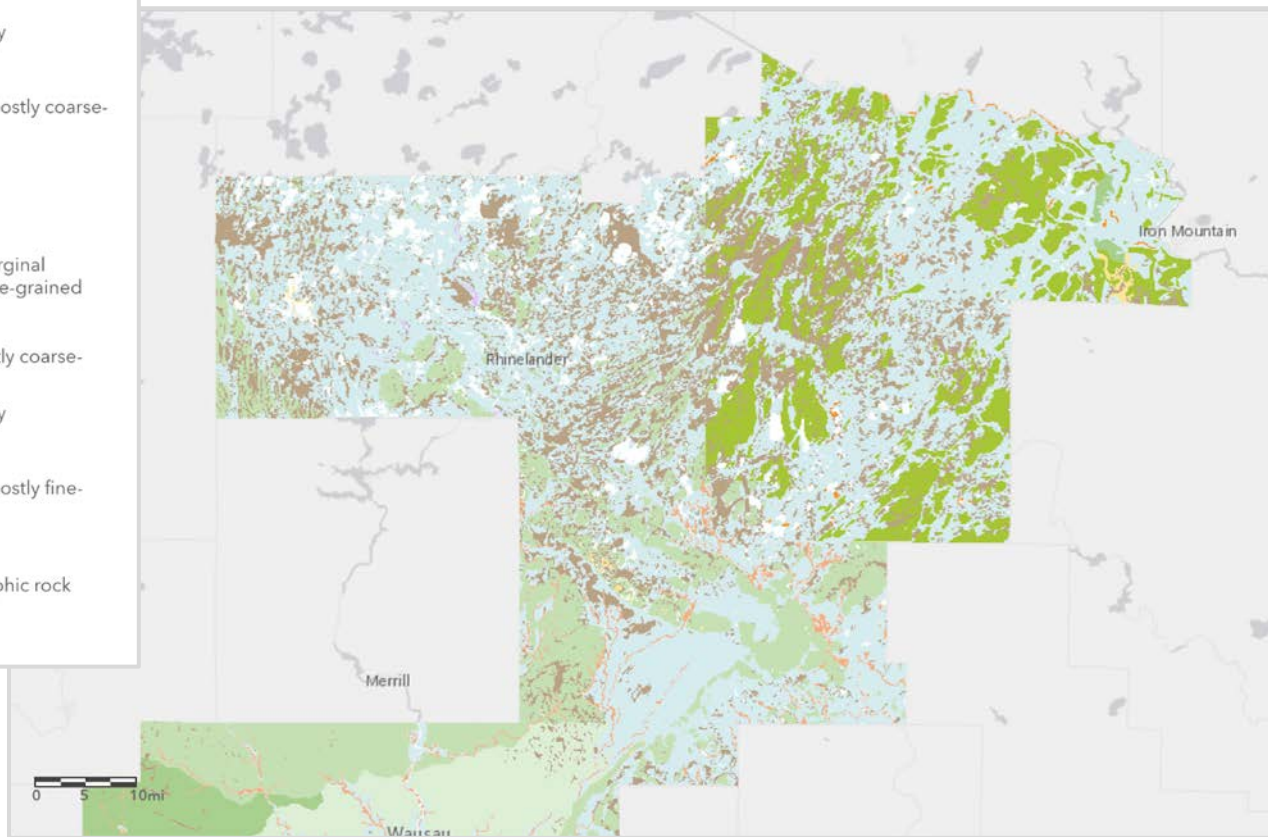
 Residual material

 Lacustrine sediment, mostly fine-grained

 Glacial till, mostly silty

 Igneous and metamorphic rock

 Sandstone







More thoughts: Will it be helpful to combine our many “master” datasets?

- Master glossary (*.xls*)
- Master data sources
- List of maps and their status (*Trello board*)
- Points, lines, polygons
- List of formal names and links to GeoLex (*Google sheets*)
- List of links to maps in NGMDB (*Google sheets*)

Let me know if you have done this!

[github.com/wgnhs/gems](https://github.com/wgnhs/gems)

Caroline Rose  
cmrose@wisc.edu

&

Punwath Prum  
pprum@wisc.edu

Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey