Map Elements

Map elements

- borders frame line,
- neat line
- mapped area
- title, subtitle
- inset
- legend
- legend title

- scale indicator
- orientation indicator
- *data source
- *author's name
- text blocks
- other graphics
- map series

Map elements

- Which map elements are used...
- ...and their placement and style...
- ...will vary depending upon audience and message

Map title

- ...should generally indicate what, where, when
- ...use "natural breaks" in text blocks
- ...simplify

Map title



A Map of the Population Growth in the United States of America between 1980 and 1990, Displayed by County

replaced with

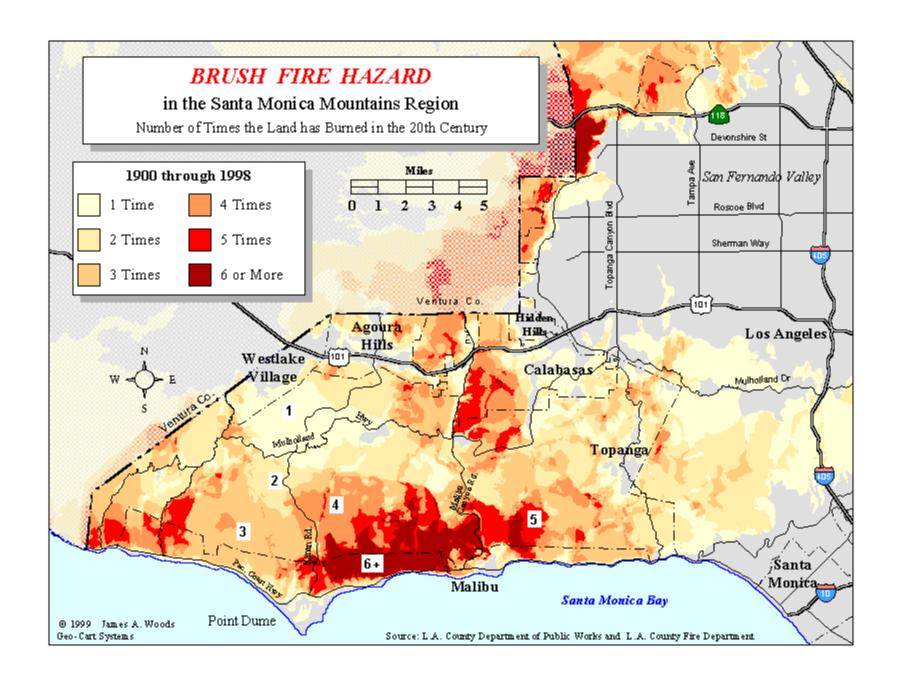
1980-1990 U.S. Population Growth by County

or

Colonies Controlled or Ruled by Spain on the Eve Of the Span-American War

replaced with

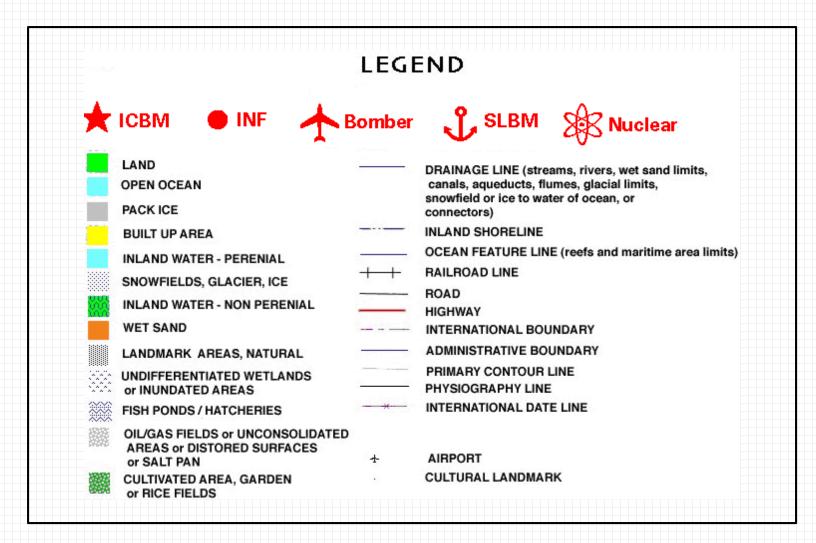
The Spanish Empire in 1989



Legend

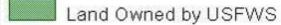
On maps depicting the natural environment, the extent to which a legend is needed is an indication of the degree of failure of the cartographer." (Shelton)

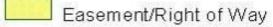
Legend

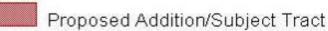


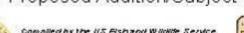
Legend

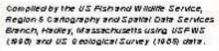


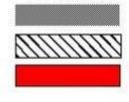












MBCC APPROVED BOUNDARY

PREVIOUSLY ACQUIRED - - FEE

FOR APPROVAL - - FEE

DATE OF MBCC MEETING

Data sources - contributors

lends authority to the map

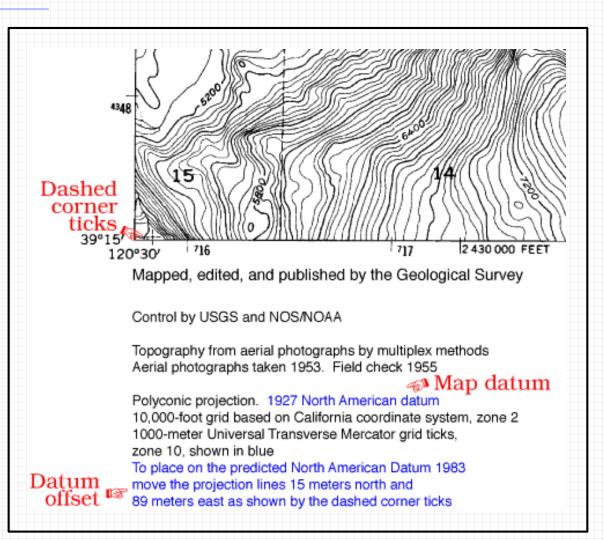
COMPILED IN THE DIVISION OF REALTY FROM SURVEYS BY USFWS AND USGS UTM ZONE 18, NAD 1927, METERS

HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS JANUARY, 2001 REVISED: 02/07/01

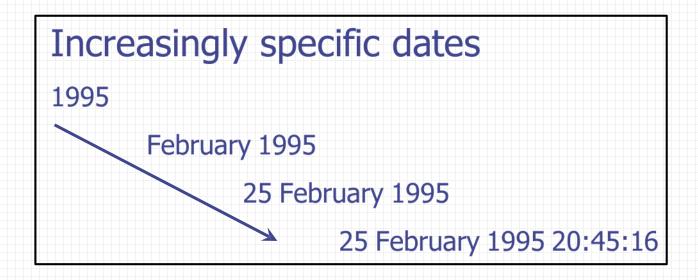
COMPILED IN THE DIVISION OF REALTY, CARTOGRAPHY AND SPATIAL DATA SERVICES FROM SURVEYS BY USFWS AND USGS ADDITIONAL DATA FROM THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH, THE LANDMARK DESIGN GROUP, WILEY & WILSON, INC. JOHNSON, MIRMIRAN & THOMPSON, INC, & WOOLPERT LLP UTM ZONE 18N, NAD 1983, METERS PHOTO DATE: MARCH 06, 1994

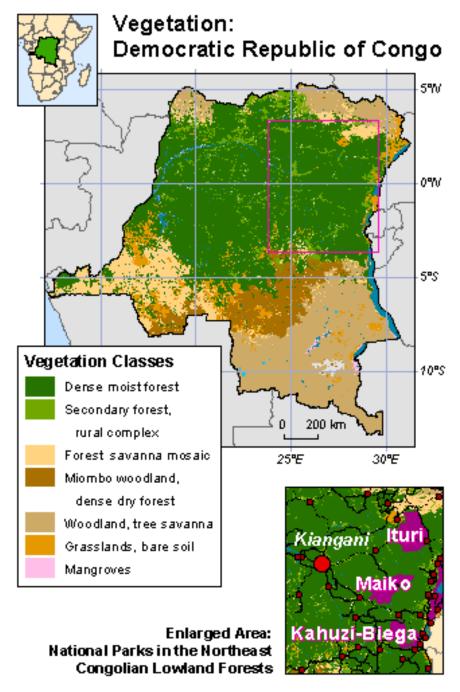
HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS DECEMBER 2000 REVISED: 03/07/2001

Information about the datum, projection, coordinate system



Using dates





Sources: TREES/JRC and World Conservation Monitoring Centre

Placement of map elements

Map intended to stand alone. All the essential elements of the map are included within its frame. Map prepared for publication in a book or journal. The caption will serve the functions of the title and bibliographic information.



Use descriptive titles.

Avoid things like "Legend"
and "Map of..."

Important information not discussed in the caption must be included on the map.

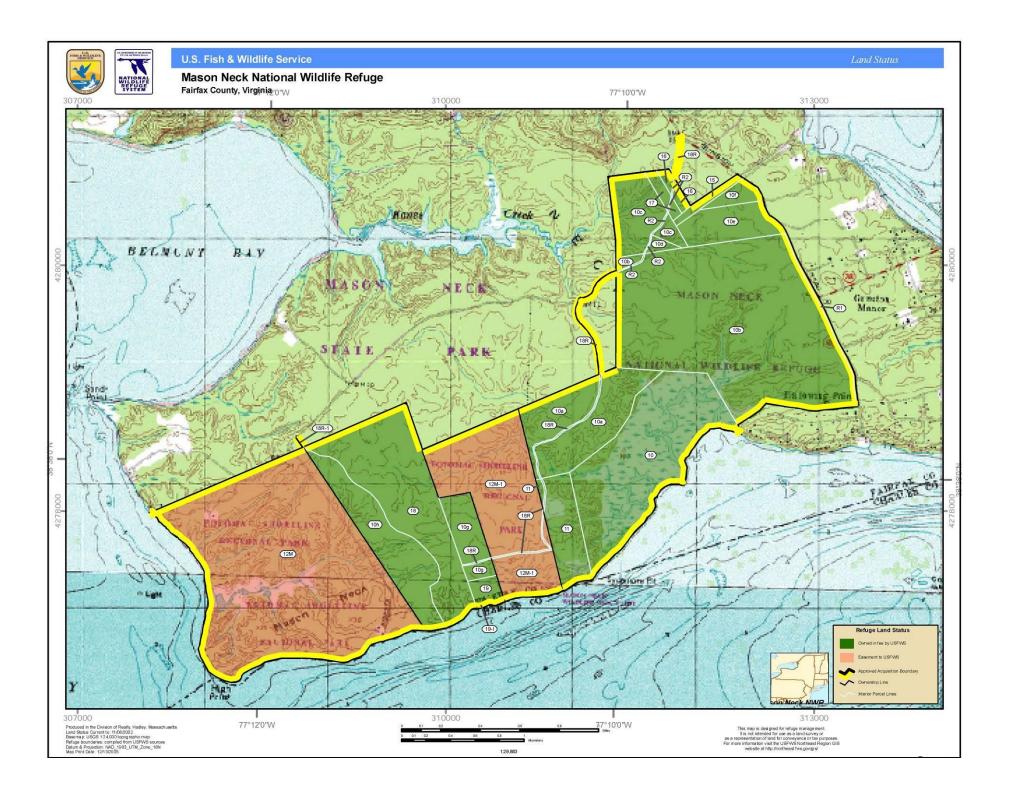
The bibliographic and production datashould, in most cases, be in a subordinate position on the map.

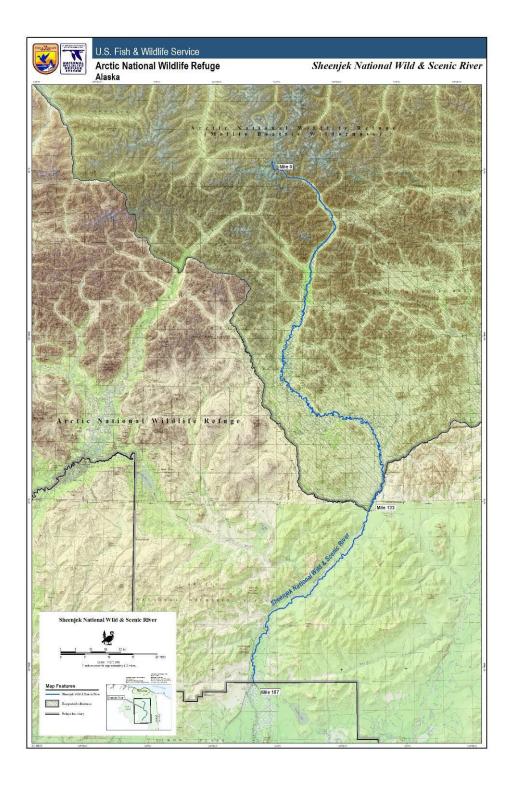


Experiment with map layouts

use sketch maps







Remember ...

- ...there should be a defensible reason for each element placed on a map and for its composition
- ...the goal is to achieve balance (not to be confused with symmetry)
- ...sometimes, less is more

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