Phoenix: a Web-Based Collaboration Tool

http://decisiontools.ca

www.nrcan.gc.ca

Presented by: Denis Giroux (dgiroux@nrcan.gc.ca)
Geological Survey of Canada / Natural Resources Canada

Natural Resources Canada | Ressources naturelles Canada

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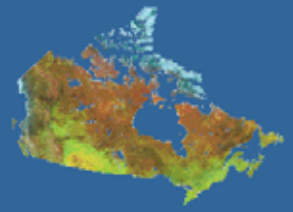
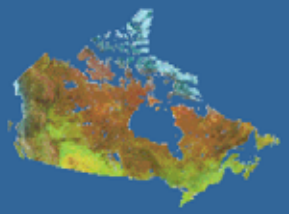
What is Phoenix ?



- Phoenix is a web-based software platform that offers an integrated set of collaboration and document management tools
- Enhances productivity and streamlines the decision making process in a distributed workgroup environment.
- Provides powerful tools to visualize, share and publish geographic information through interactive maps.

Phoenix Interface



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Phoenix RRNH

Search
Workspaces
Collections
- Documents
- Maps
- Layers
- Scenarios

Collaboration
- Announcements
- Chat Rooms
- Contacts
- Discussions
- Emails
- Events
- Links
- Polls
- Surveys
- Tasks
- Weblogs

News
Publish
- Published Assets
- RSS Syndication

Administration

Users Online
- dgiroux

Logged in as dgiroux [Administrator] Logout

My Workspaces: Phoenix RRNH

Customize | Add Content | Reset

Welcome to RRNH Phoenix

Phoenix helps you collaborate with your colleagues and create and share collections of data in a workspace. A workspace is your personal organizer. It helps you make better decisions by providing all the information you need in one place. Each workspace holds the files you need, your appointments, contacts, tasks and daily news. You use the workspace to share documents and maps and to collaborate with your colleagues through email, discussion boards, polls, surveys and blogs.

Recent Canadian Earthquakes Map

Phoenix is brought to you by the public servants at Natural Resources Canada as part of the Reducing Risk from Natural Hazards, National Groundwater and MAP:GAC projects.

You will need to login (or register with us) in order to use this system.

Featured Workspaces

- Couture - Landslides
- Eastern Canada Geohazards Assessment (R-03)
- Geohazards Awareness (R-06)
- Phoenix RRNH
- PW-ADF
- Risk Assessment Methods (R-05)
- RRNH Program Management (R-01)
- Space Weather Hazards Assessment (R-04)
- Western Canada Geohazards Assessment (R-02)

Add New Workspace | See all 9 Workspaces

Polls

There are no polls to display

Announcements

Presentation to Corporate Management Sector
Presentation of Pheonix to Corporate Management Sector
January 18, 2008

Picture of the Day

There are no pictures to display

Services

No content available.

Tasks

There are no tasks to display

News

EarthquakesCanada main index - Canada

- Breaking News
- 2008-07-14: M=5.0 - 29 km NW of Wrigley
- 2008-06-11: M=3.2 5 km NE of Buckingham
- 2008-06-01: M=3.6 - northwest of Vancouver Island
- 2008-05-30: M=4.1 - northwest of Vancouver Island
- 2008-05-29: M=2.1 - near Penticton

31 minutes ago

Last update 2008-07-30

Top of Page

Important Notice

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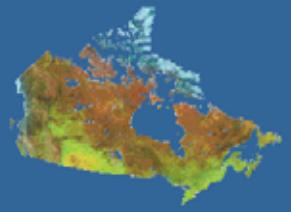
Technology Evolution



Digital Library

Cordlink Geo-Library

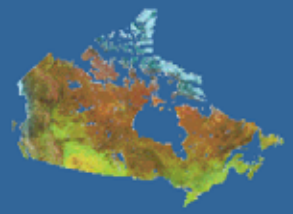
Georgia Basin Digital Library

GeoSemantica

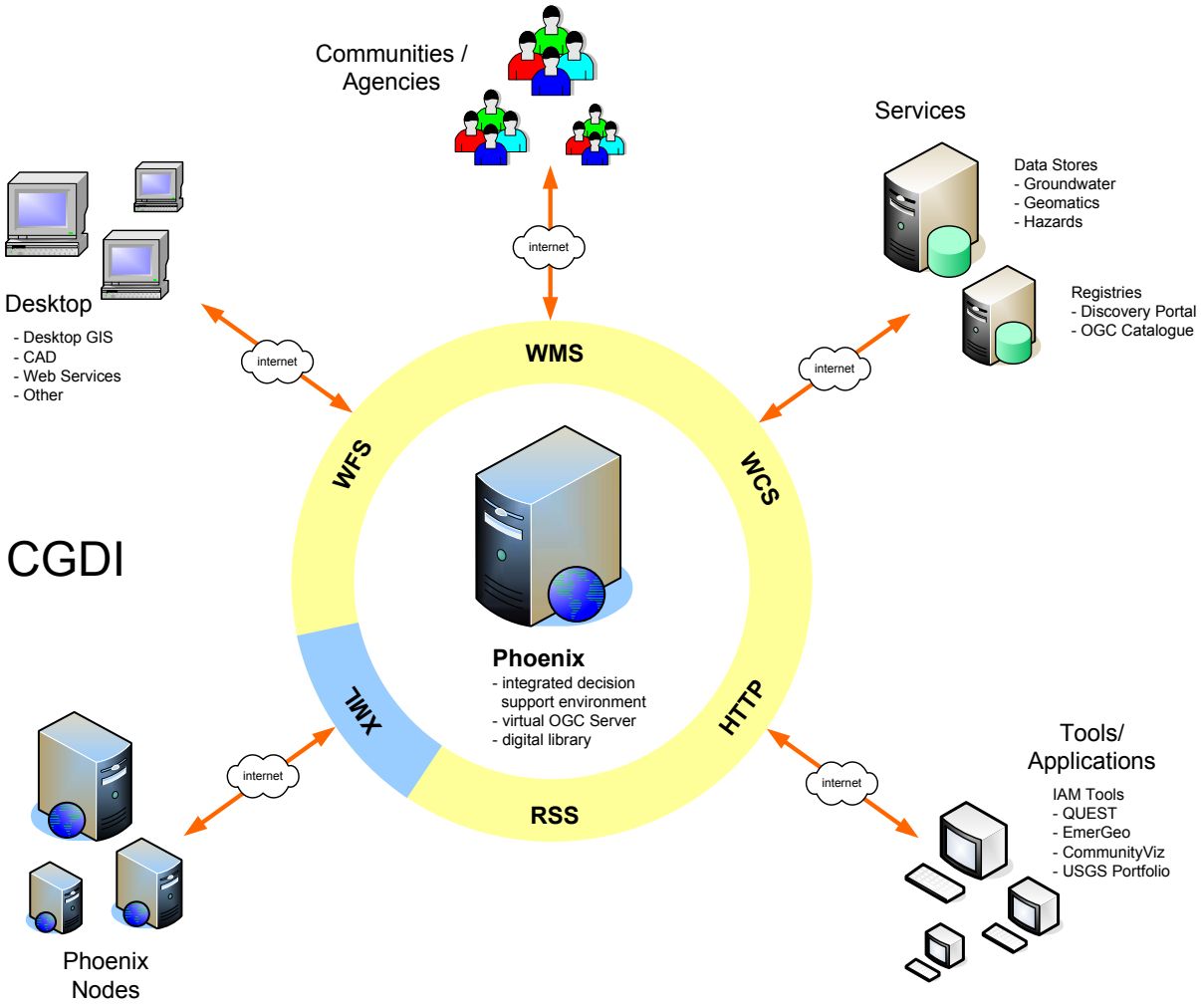
Phoenix

Decision Support

Phoenix Overview

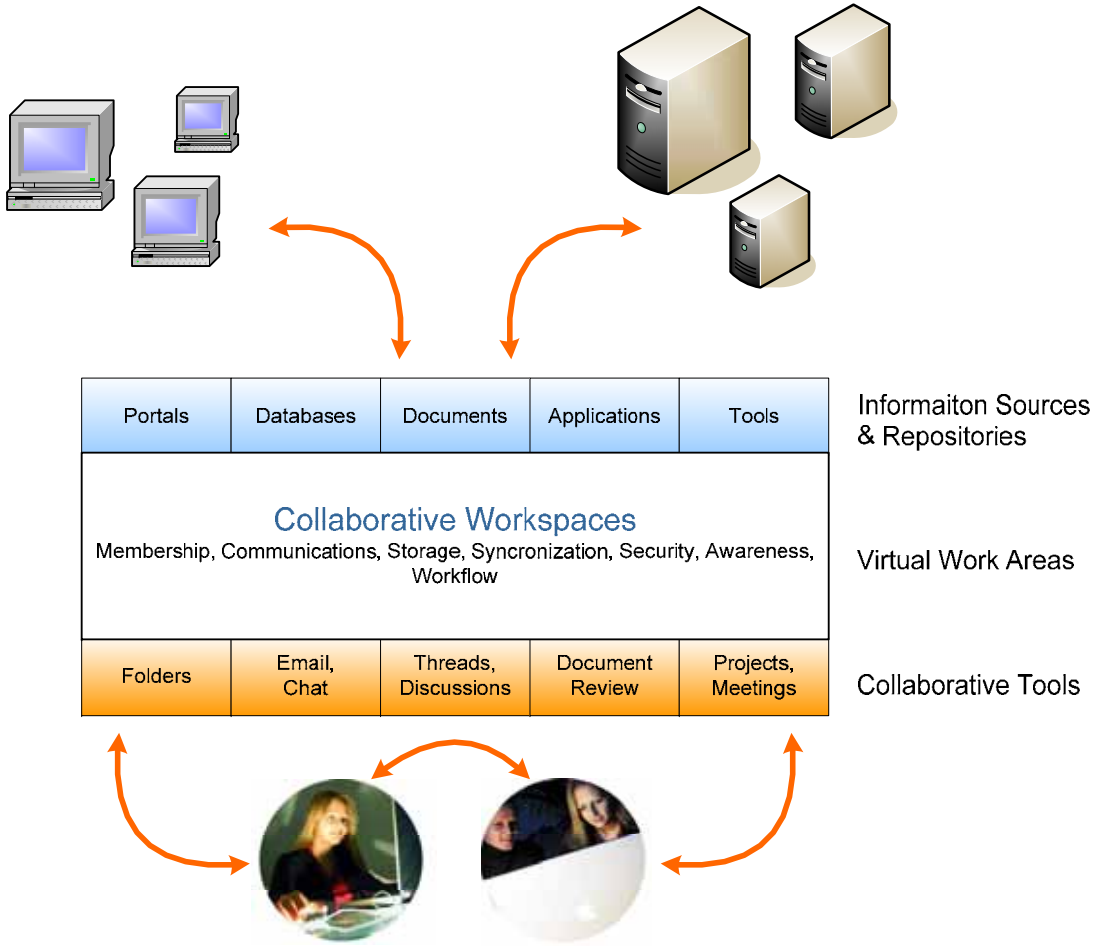


- ✓ Interoperable
- ✓ Open standards
- ✓ Compatibility with CGDI
- ✓ Web based

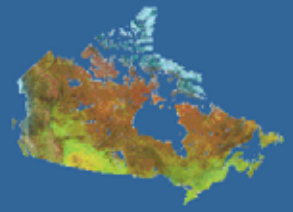


Phoenix – Workspaces

- ✓ Configurable
- ✓ Secure
- ✓ User managed
- ✓ Role based security
- ✓ Auto-notification
- ✓ Full text searching



Phoenix Technology



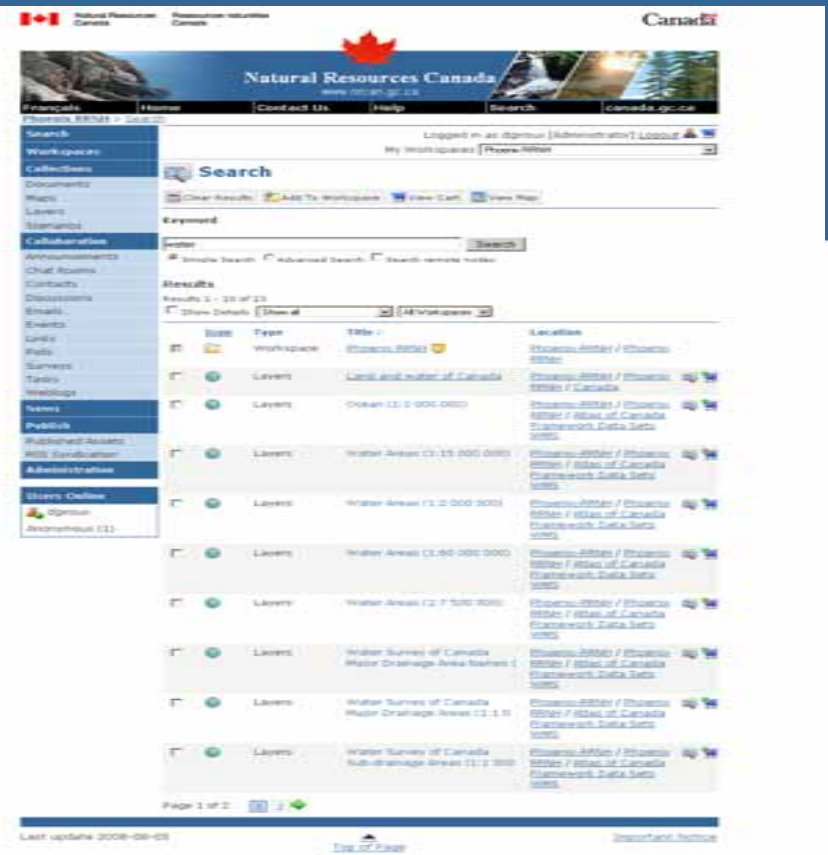
- Built on existing information technologies and standards:

  - Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI)
  - Canadian Geoscience Knowledge Network (CGKN)
  - Open GIS consortia (OGC)
  - Metadata (FGDC/ISO)
  - Web (W3C)

  ✓ Standards based!

Phoenix Modules

- **Digital Library Modules**
- Documents
- Maps
- Map Layers
- Scenarios



Collaboration Modules

- Discussions
- Email
- Announcements
- Workflows
- Etc…

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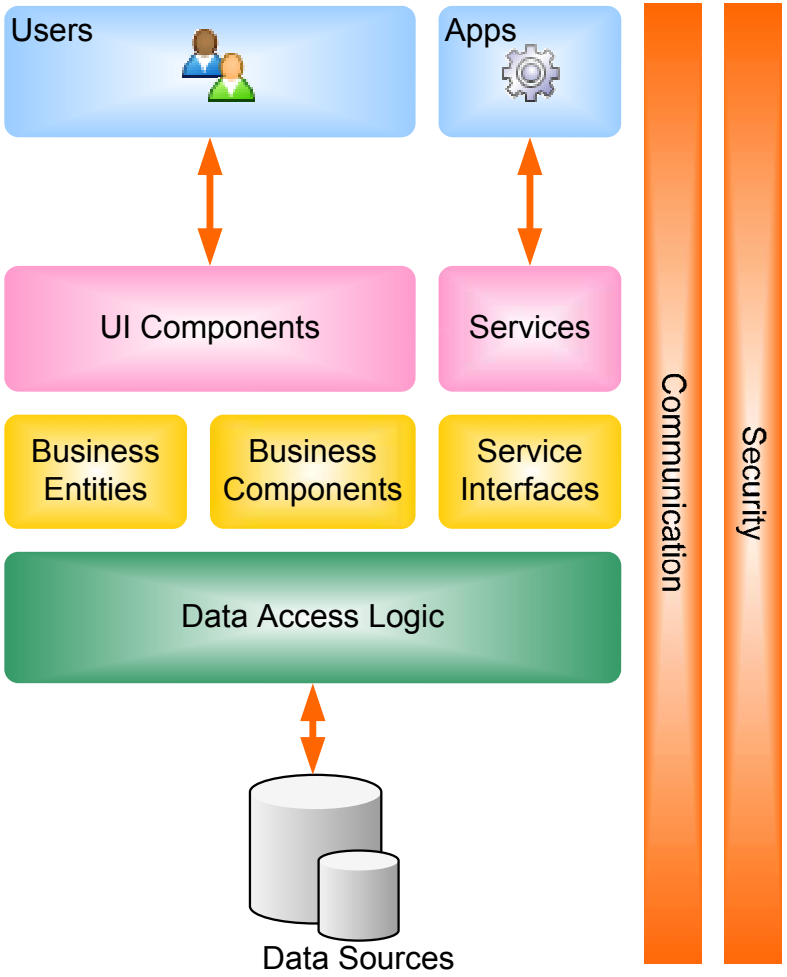
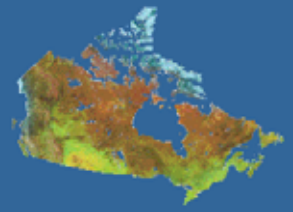
Under the Hood

- N-tier Architecture
  - Scalability
  - Maintainability
  - Performance
  - Security
- Microsoft Platform
  - C# ASP.NET
  - MS SQL Server
  - Windows Server

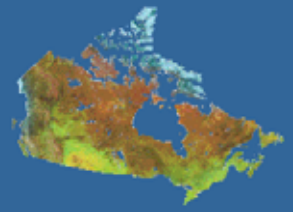


Platform / Technologies



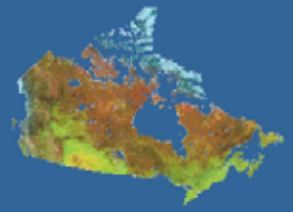
- Microsoft Platform
  - C# ASP.NET
    - Ease of deployment
    - Rapid application development
    - Excellent performance
  - MS SQL Server
    - Ease of deployment
    - Popular
    - Excellent performance
  - Windows & IIS

Some Phoenix facts



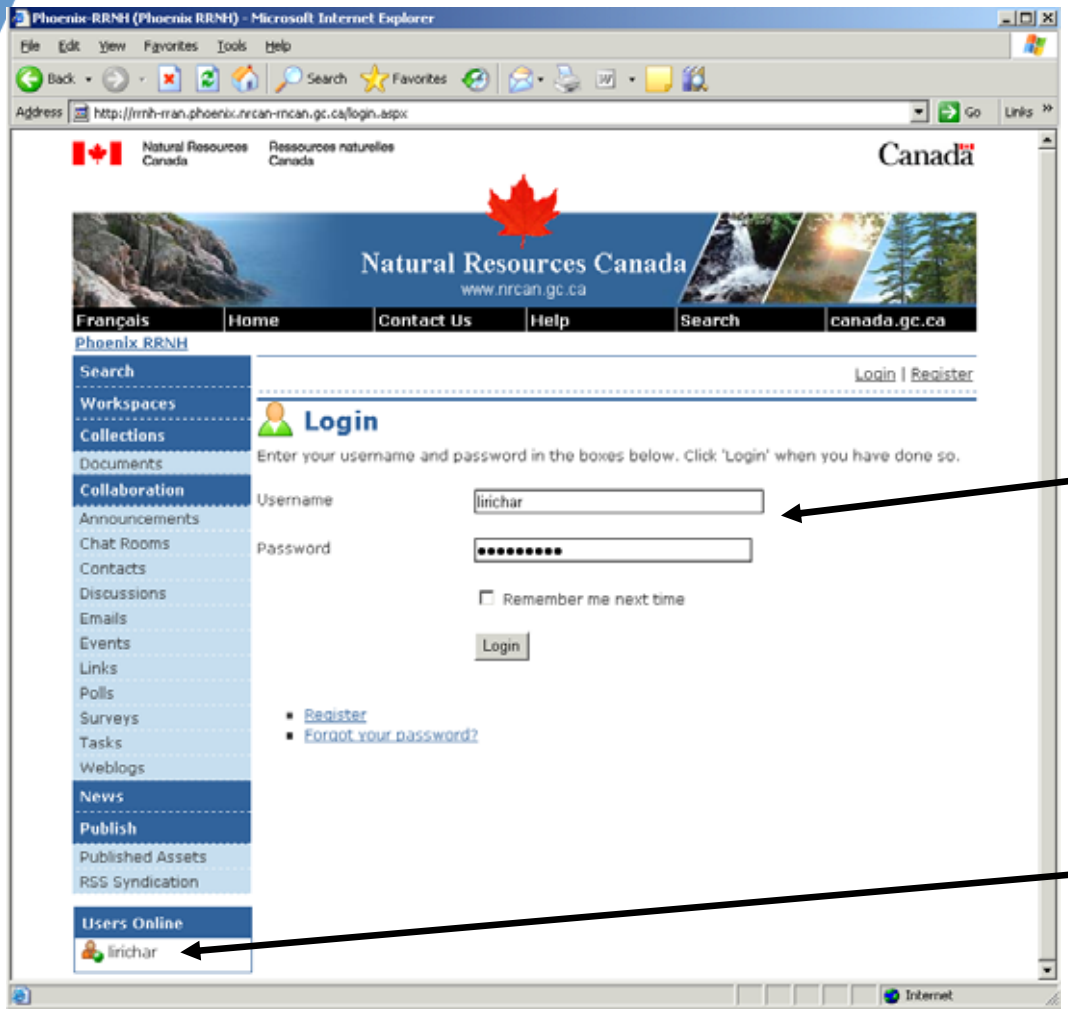
- Current version is 2.85 (as of July 2008).
- Application has been developped by the Geological Survey of Canada with some CIDA (***C****anadian* ***I****nternational* ***D****evelopment* ***A****gency*) fundings.
- Complete Helpfiles in English and French in a Wiki environment.

Usage of Phoenix



- Phoenix is web-based → could help collaborate effectively despite geographic distribution.
- You could use this tool as a safe repository for all data, articles, maps, reports, geo-spatial data, etc.
- Appearance can be customized by modifying cascading style sheet (CSS).
- Currently uses SQL Server to store databases → server must be maintained, secure, and regularly backed up.

Phoenix

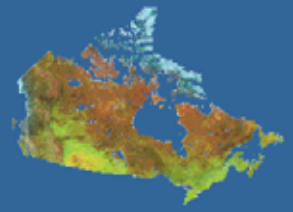


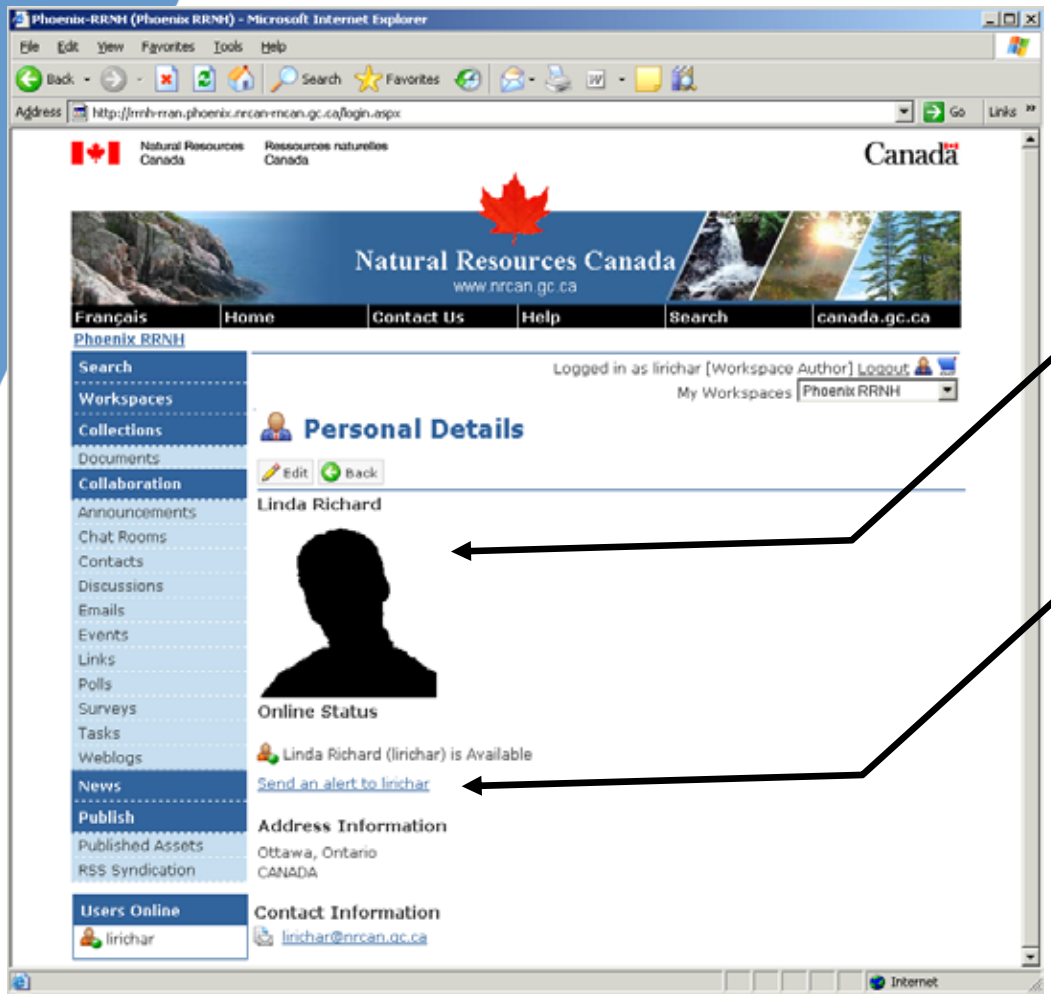
It can be setup as a secure workspace with restricted access.

Individual Login. (Secure username and password)

Displays a list of users currently online.

Phoenix

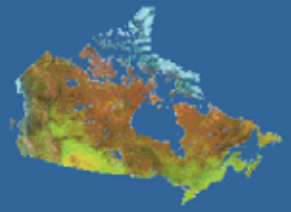


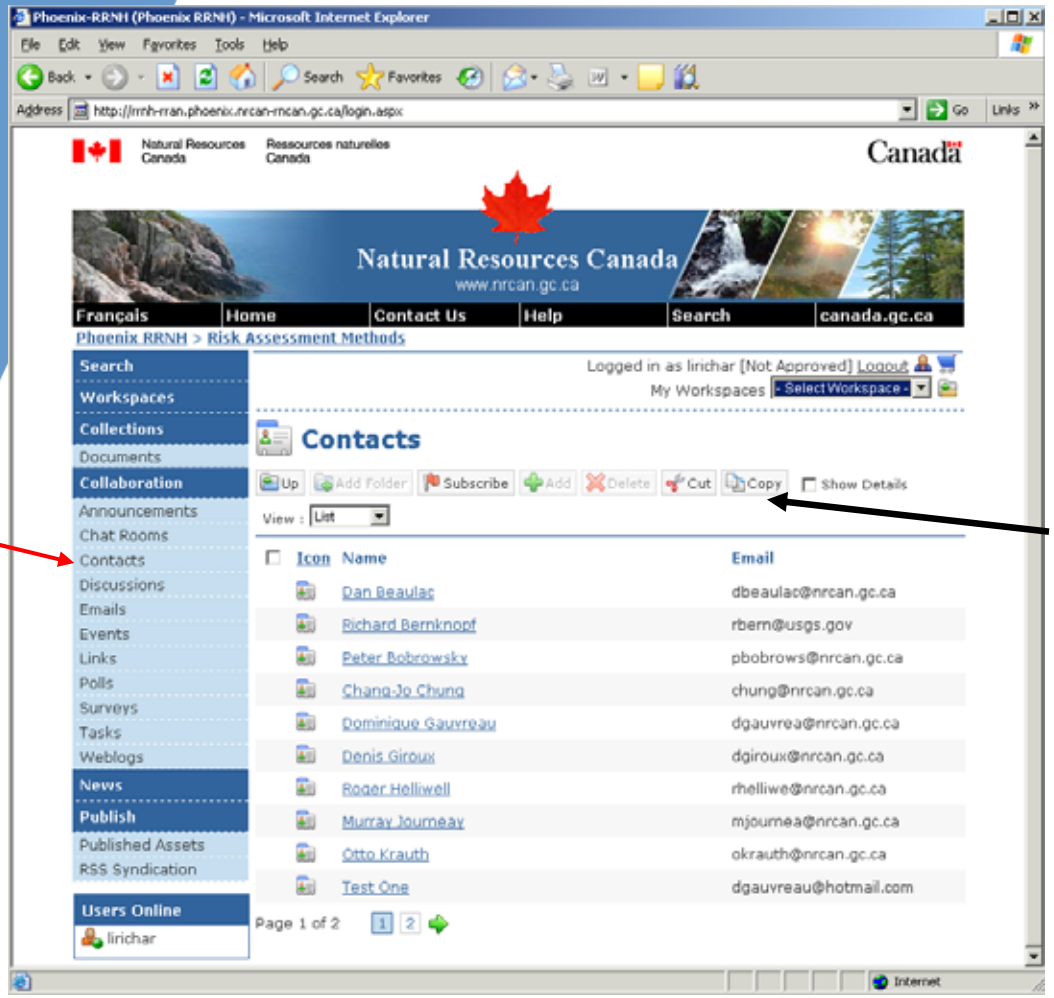


Personal information can be entered, even a picture.

You can contact a user by sending an alert.

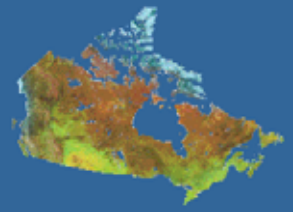
Phoenix





List of members is easy to manage via the interface.

Phoenix



The interface is bilingual.

The content is “as entered”.

Text is entered via simple text boxes and/or the built-in text editor, depending on the accessed Phoenix module.

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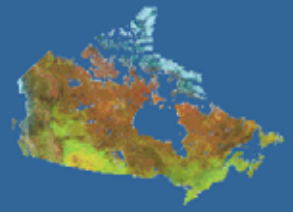
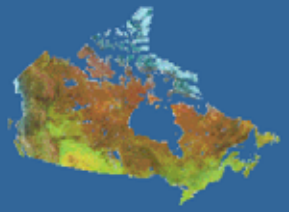
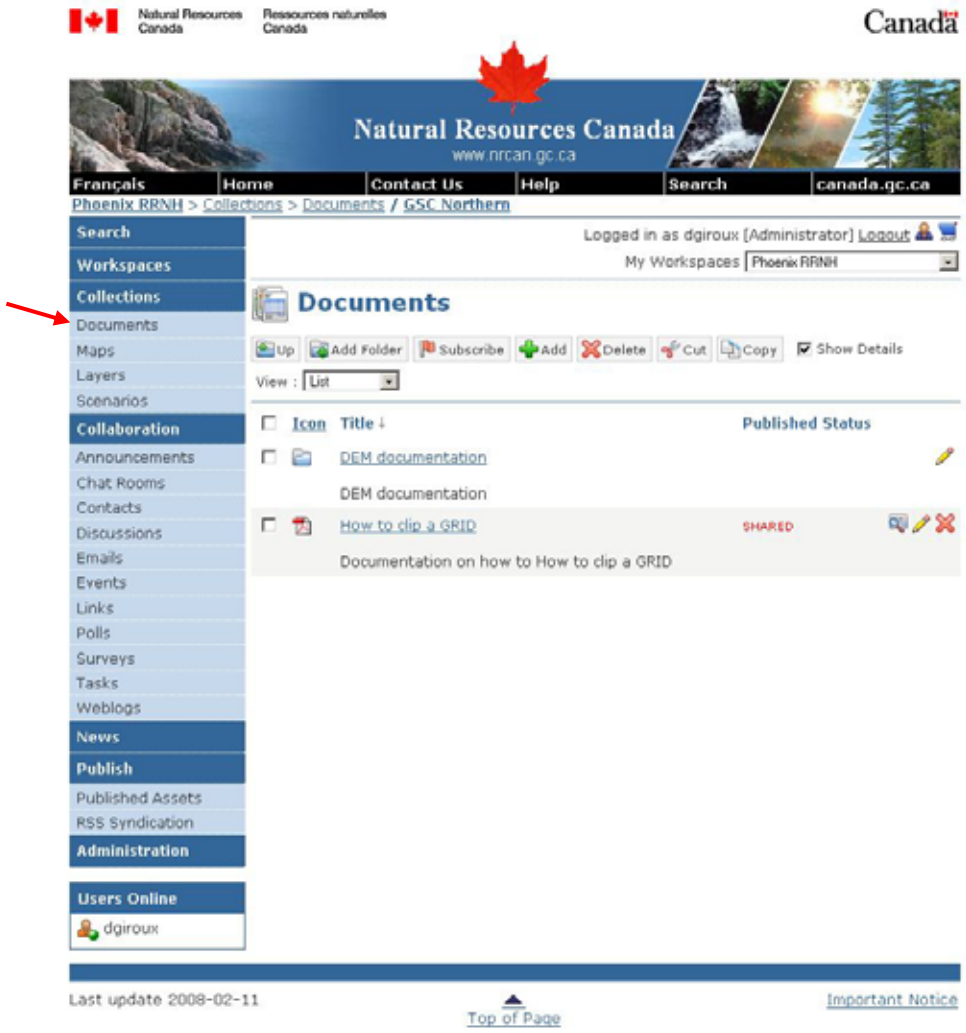
Phoenix modules



There are a number of collaboration options…

Phoenix – Documents module



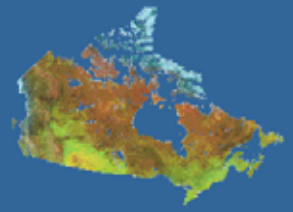


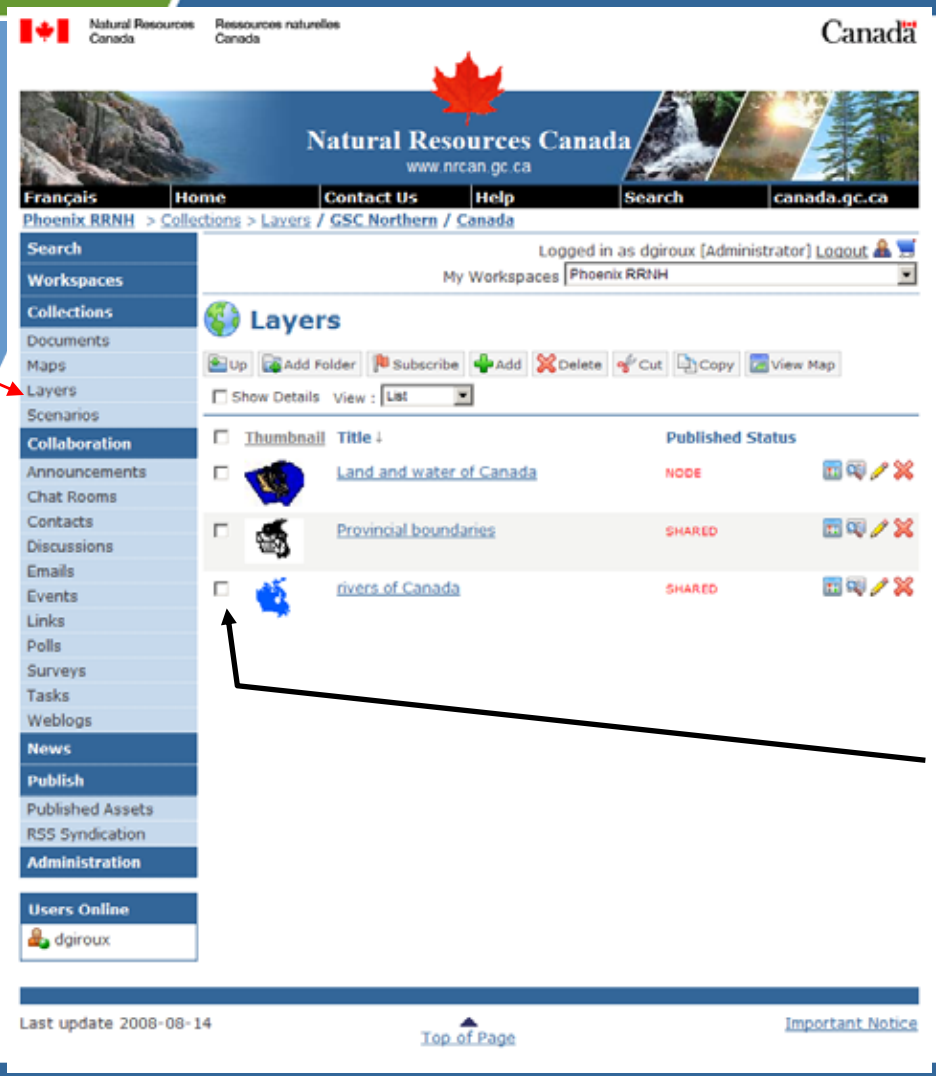
It has document sharing. It uses a “Sharepoint” approach.

Any document can be uploaded, downloaded, and viewed if the users computer has the supporting software.

You can replace documents, delete them. etc. They can be organized in folders and sub-folders.

Phoenix – Layers module

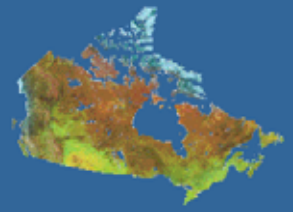


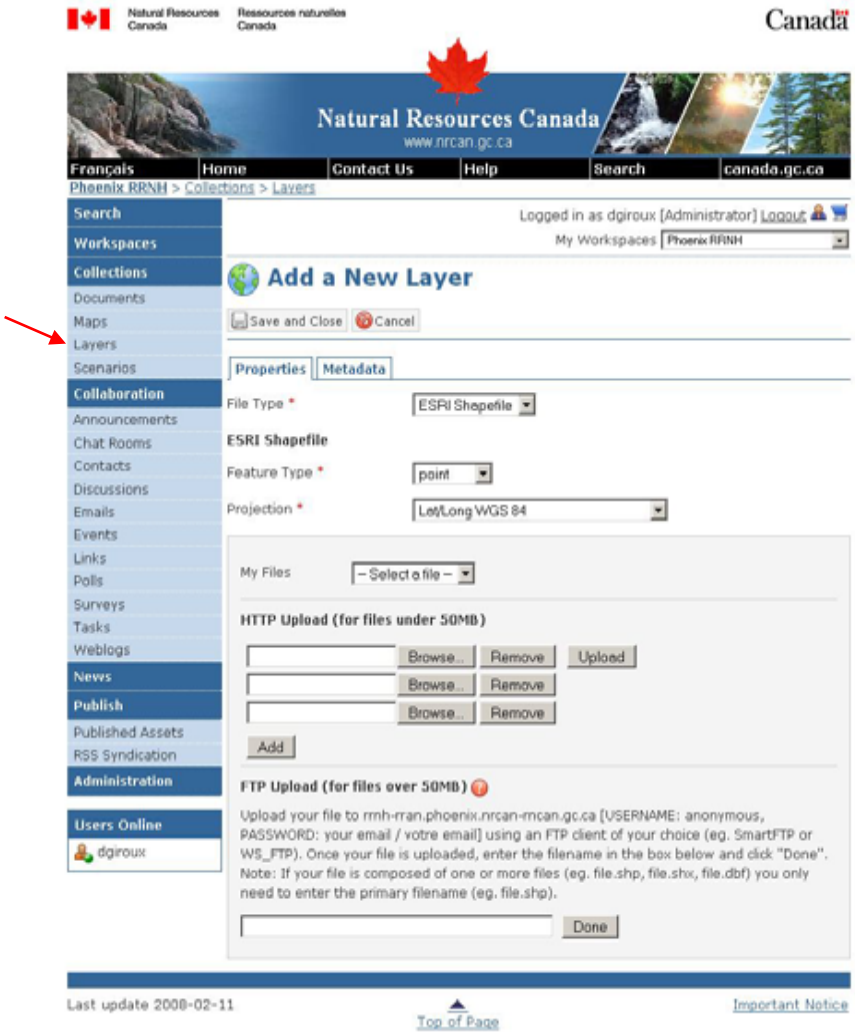


The ***Layers*** module is used to upload and save geospatial data.

Just select layers to create a map, using checkboxes and click the **View Map** tab.

Phoenix – Layers module



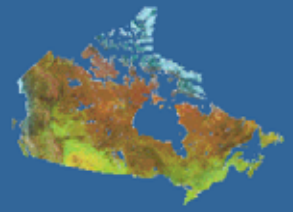


Different file types can be uploaded and viewed:

- ESRI Shapefile
- Raster
- Remote WMS
- GML
- Mapinfo
- KML

Need to specify feature type (point, line, polygon) and projection to add layers.

Phoenix – Layers module



Download

Close

Name	Provincial boundaries [prov_boundary.shp]
Projection	EPSG:42304
File Type	ESRI Shapefile
Created Date	December 18, 2007

Preview

ESRI Shapefile [.zip]

GML [OGC WFS GetFeature]

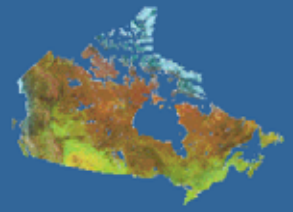
KML [GoogleEarth® KML file]

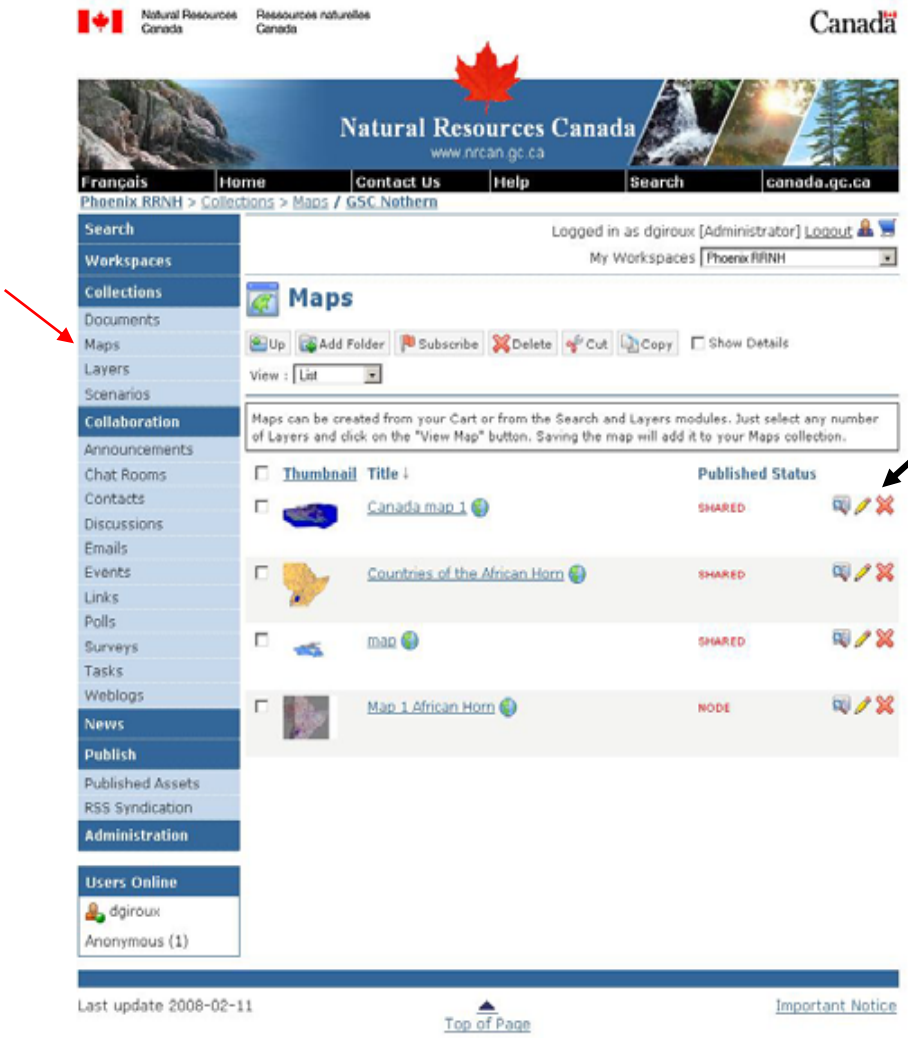
Styled Layer Descriptor (SLD) [.xml]

Layers will also become downloadable/usable in:

- Shapefile
- GML
- KML
- and XML formats.

Phoenix – Maps module

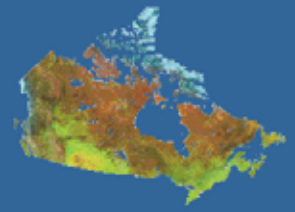




Maps module is used to view maps created with chosen layers.

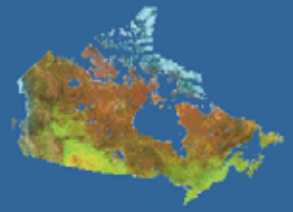
Maps can then be viewed, deleted, properties & metadata can be edited.

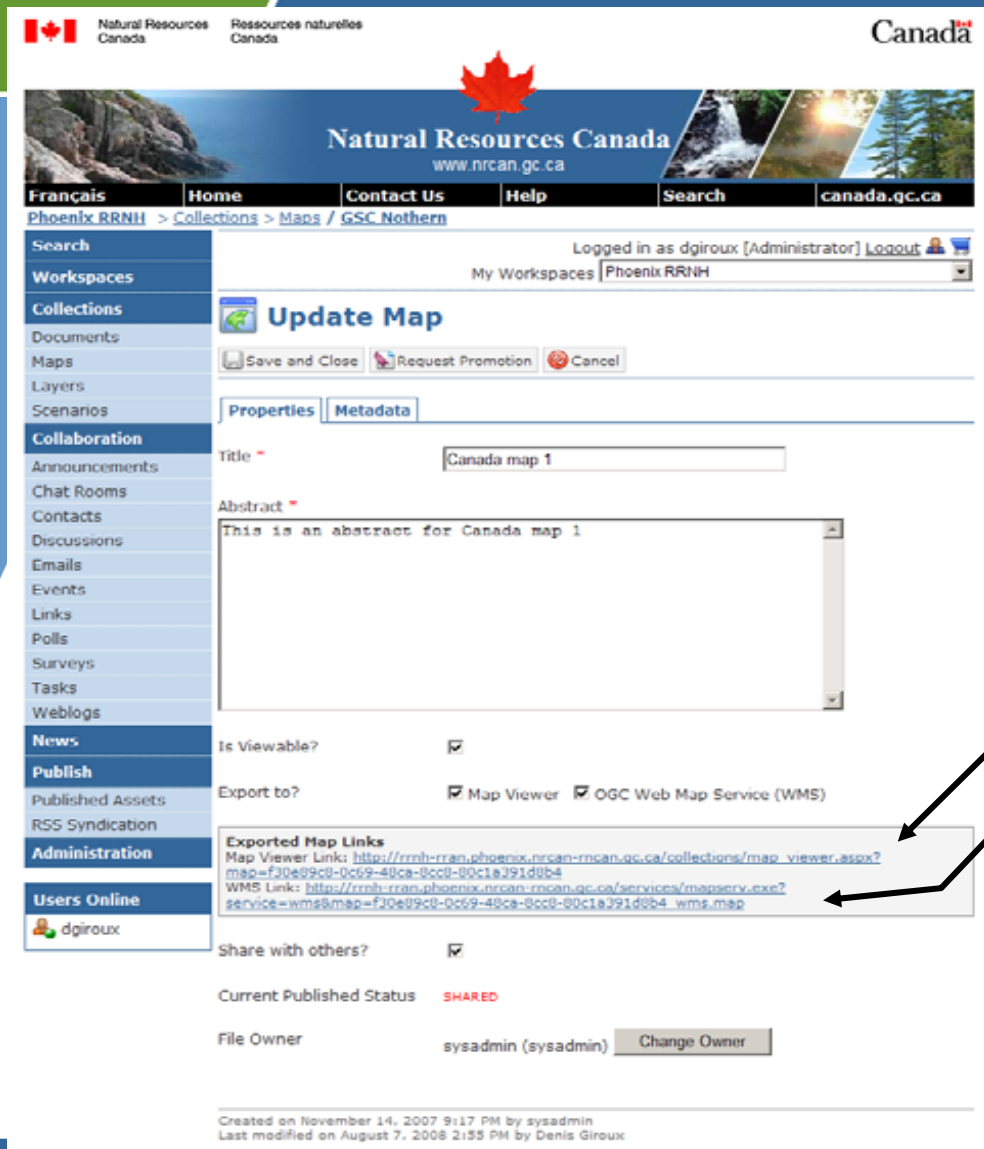
Phoenix – Maps module



Maps legend can be edited and map layers re-ordered.

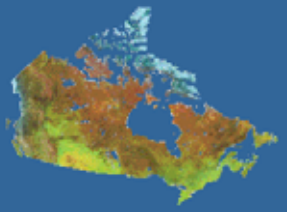
Phoenix – Maps module

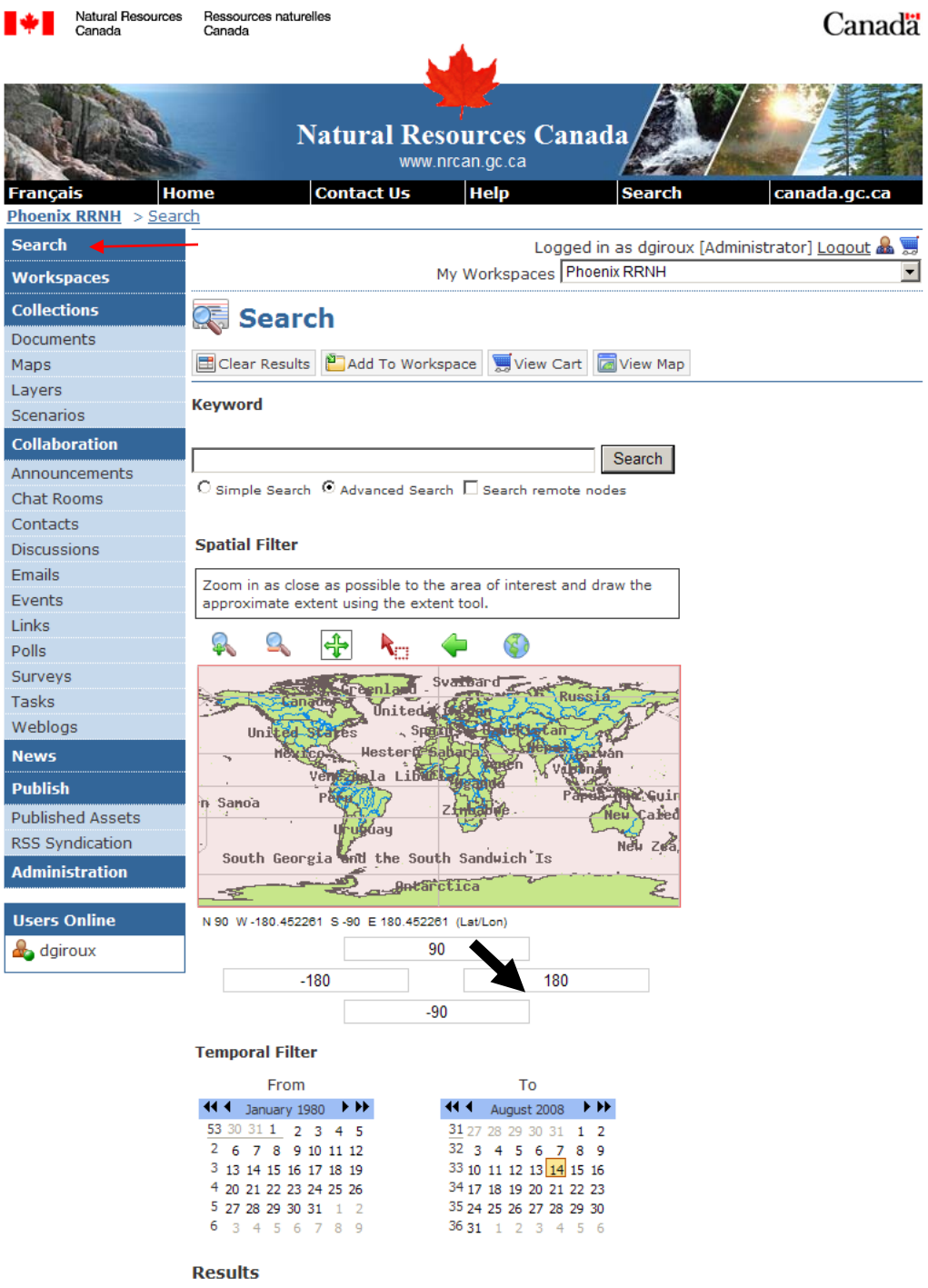




Map Viewer and WMS links created automatically (if desired)

Phoenix – Search module



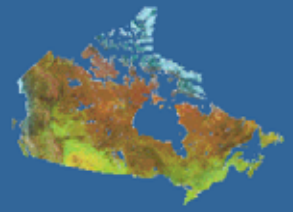


Search tool to query workspaces via:

- simple search (keywords)
- advanced search (keywords and/or spatial filter and/or temporal filter)
- remote Phoenix nodes search

Canada

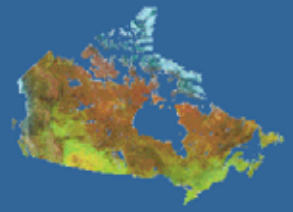
Phoenix



Conclusion:

- Brief overview of Phoenix.
- More modules are available.
- Visit http://decisiontools.ca to download the full application.
- Visit http://help.decisiontools.ca for full Phoenix helpfiles and installation details (in English and French).

Phoenix



Questions?

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or

613-947-1107 (Ottawa, Ontario)