
GeoNode Developers Workshop

Documentation

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GeoNode

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Welcome to the GeoNode Developers Workshop! This workshop will teach how to develop with and for the [GeoNode](#) software application.

Introduction to GeoNode development Learn about GeoNode's core components, its Architecture, the tools it is developed with and the standards it supports.

Development Prerequisites and Core Modules Learn about the pre-requisites you will need in order to develop with GeoNode. Take a look at its core modules and how they work together to provide a complete web mapping tool.

Customized GeoNode Projects Learn how existing projects leverage GeoNode and create your own GeoNode based project.

Setting up a GeoNode development environment Learn how to set up a GeoNode development environment so you can contribute to GeoNode's core.

Loading Data into a GeoNode Learn how to load data into a GeoNode with GeoServer, on the command line or programmaticaly with scripts.

GeoNode APIs Learn about the APIs GeoNode leverages and provides.

GeoNode debugging techniques Learn how to debug GeoNode instances and projects.

GeoNode's development process Learn about GeoNode's development process and how to work with the GeoNode community.

INTRODUCTION TO GEONODE DEVELOPMENT

This module will introduce you to the components that GeoNode is built with, the standards that it supports and the services it provides based on those standards, and an overview its architecture.

GeoNode is a web based GIS tool, and as such, in order to do development on GeoNode itself or to integrate it into your own application, you should be familiar with basic web development concepts as well as with general GIS concepts.

A set of reference links on these topics is included at the end of this module.

1.1 GeoNode Components

GeoNode's architecture is based on a set of core tools and libraries that provide the building blocks on which the application is built. Having a basic understanding of each of these components is critical to your success as developer working with GeoNode.

Lets look at each of these components and discuss how they are used within the GeoNode application.

1.1.1 Django

GeoNode is based on [Django](#) which is a high level Python web development framework that encourages rapid development and clean pragmatic design. Django is based on the Model View Controller ([MVC](#)) architecture pattern, and as such, GeoNode models layers, maps and other modules with Django's [Model](#) module and these models are used via Django's [ORM](#) in views which contain the business logic of the GeoNode application and are used to drive HTML templates to display the web pages within the application.

1.1.2 GeoServer

[GeoServer](#) is a an open source software server written in Java that provides OGC compliant services which publish data from many spatial data sources. GeoServer is used as the core GIS component inside GeoNode and is used to render the layers in a GeoNode instance, create map tiles from the layers, provide for downloading those layers in various formats and to allow for transactional editing of those layers.

1.1.3 GeoExplorer

GeoExplorer is a web application, based on the [GeoExt](#) framework, for composing and publishing web maps with OGC and other web based GIS Services. GeoExplorer is used inside GeoNode to provide many of the GIS and

cartography functions that are a core part of the application.

1.1.4 PostgreSQL and PostGIS

PostgreSQL and PostGIS are the database components that store and manage spatial data and information for GeoNode and the django modules that it is composed of, pycsw and GeoServer. All of these tables and data are stored within a geonode database in PostgreSQL. GeoServer uses PostGIS to store and manage spatial vector data for each layer which are stored as a separate table in the database.

1.1.5 pycsw

pycsw is an OGC CSW server implementation written in Python. GeoNode uses pycsw to provide an OGC compliant standards-based CSW metadata and catalogue component of spatial data infrastructures, supporting popular geospatial metadata standards such as Dublin Core, ISO 19115, FGDC and DIF.

1.1.6 Geospatial Python Libraries

GeoNode leverages several geospatial python libraries including gsconfig and OWSLib. gsconfig is used to communicates with GeoServer's REST Configuration API to configure GeoNode layers in GeoServer. OWSLib is used to communicate with GeoServer's OGC services and can be used to communicate with other OGC services.

1.1.7 Django Pluggables

GeoNode uses a set of Django plugins which are usually referred to as pluggables. Each of these pluggables provides a particular set of functionality inside the application from things like Registration and Profiles to interactivity with external sites. Being based on Django enables GeoNode to take advantage of the large ecosystem of these pluggables out there, and while a specific set is included in GeoNode itself, many more are available for use in applications based on GeoNode.

1.1.8 jQuery

jQuery is a feature-rich javascript library that is used within GeoNode to provide an interactive and responsive user interface as part of the application. GeoNode uses several jQuery plugins to provide specific pieces of functionality, and the GeoNode development team often adds new features to the interface by adding additional plugins.

1.1.9 Bootstrap

Bootstrap is a front-end framework for laying out and styling the pages that make up the GeoNode application. It is designed to ensure that the pages render and look and behave the same across all browsers. GeoNode customizes bootstraps default style and its relatively easy for developers to customize their own GeoNode based site using existing Boostrap themes or by customizing the styles directly.

1.2 Standards

GeoNode is based on a set of Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) standards. These standards enable GeoNode installations to be interoperable with a wide variety of tools that support these OGC standards and enable federation

with other OGC compliant services and infrastructure. Reference links about these standards are also included at the end of this module.

GeoNode is also based on Web Standards ...

1.2.1 Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) Standards

Web Map Service (WMS)

The Web Map Service (WMS) specification defines an interface for requesting rendered map images across the web. It is used within GeoNode to display maps in the pages of the site and in the GeoExplorer application to display rendered layers based on default or custom styles.

Web Feature Service (WFS)

The Web Feature Service (WFS) specification defines an interface for reading and writing geographic features across the web. It is used within GeoNode to enable downloading of vector layers in various formats and within GeoExplorer to enable editing of Vector Layers that are stored in a GeoNode.

Web Coverage Service (WCS)

The Web Coverage Service (WCS) specification defines an interface for reading and writing geospatial raster data as “coverages” across the web. It is used within GeoNode to enable downloading of raster layers in various formats.

Catalogue Service for Web (CSW)

The Catalogue Service for Web (CSW) specification defines an interface for exposing a catalogue of geospatial metadata across the web. It is used within GeoNode to enable any application to search GeoNode’s catalogue or to provide federated search that includes a set of GeoNode layers within another application.

Tile Mapping Service (TMS/WMTS)

The Tile Mapping Service (TMS) specification defines an interface for retrieving rendered map tiles over the web. It is used within geonode to enable serving of a cache of rendered layers to be included in GeoNode’s web pages or within the GeoExplorer mapping application. Its purpose is to improve performance on the client vs asking the WMS for rendered images directly.

1.2.2 Web Standards

HTML

CSS

REST

1.3 GeoNode Architecture

1.3.1 Django Architecture

- MVC
- WSGI

1.3.2 GeoNode and GeoServer

- Configuration via the REST API
- Authentication and Authorization

1.3.3 GeoNode and PostgreSQL/PostGIS

- Configuration and Application Information
- Vector Data Layer Storage

1.3.4 GeoNode and pycsw

GeoNode is built with pycsw embedded as the default CSW server component.

Publishing

Since pycsw is embedded in GeoNode, layers published within GeoNode are automatically published to pycsw and discoverable via CSW. No additional configuration or actions are required to publish layers, maps or documents to pycsw.

Discovery

GeoNode's CSW endpoint is deployed available at `http://localhost:8000/catalogue/csw` and is available for clients to use for standards-based discovery. See <http://pycsw.org/docs/tools.html> for a list of CSW clients and tools.

1.3.5 Javascript in GeoNode

- GeoExplorer
- jQuery Functionality

1.4 Development References

1.4.1 Basic Web based GIS Concepts and Background

- OGC Services
 - <http://www.opengeospatial.org/>
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_Geospatial_Consortium
- Web Application Architecture
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_application
 - <http://www.w3.org/2001/tag/2010/05/WebApps.html>
 - <http://www.amazon.com/Web-Application-Architecture-Principles-Protocols/dp/047051860X>
- AJAX and REST
 - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ajax_\(programming\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ajax_(programming))
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Representational_state_transfer
- OpenGeo Suite
 - <http://workshops.opengeo.org/suiteintro/>
 - <http://suite.opengeo.org/opengeo-docs/>
- GeoServer Administration
 - <http://suite.opengeo.org/opengeo-docs/geoserver/>
 - <https://docs.google.com/a/opengeo.org/presentation/d/15fvUDYg0TO6WGFQIMLM2J1qiTVBYpfjCp0aQBDT0GrM/edit#>
 - <http://suite.opengeo.org/docs/sysadmin/index.html#sysadmin>
- PostgreSQL and PostGIS Administration - <http://workshops.opengeo.org/postgis-intro/> -
<http://workshops.opengeo.org/postgis-spatialdbtips/>

1.4.2 Core development tools and libraries

- python
 - <http://docs.python.org/2/tutorial/>
 - <http://www.learnpython.org/>
 - <http://learnpythonthehardway.org/book/>
- django
 - <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/dev/intro/tutorial01/>
 - <https://code.djangoproject.com/wiki/Tutorials>
- javascript
 - <http://www.crockford.com/javascript/inheritance.html>
 - <http://geoext.org/tutorials/quickstart.html>
- jquery
 - <http://www.w3schools.com/jquery/default.asp>

- http://docs.jquery.com/Tutorials:Getting_Started_with_jQuery
- <http://www.jquery-tutorial.net/>
- bootstrap
 - <http://twitter.github.com/bootstrap/>
 - <http://www.w3resource.com/twitter-bootstrap/tutorial.php>
- geotools/geoscript/geoserver
 - <http://docs.geotools.org/stable/tutorials/feature/csv2shp.html>
 - <http://geoscript.org/tutorials/index.html>
 - <http://docs.geotools.org/stable/tutorials/>
 - <https://github.com/dwins/gsconfig.py/blob/master/README.rst>
- geopython
 - <http://pycsw.org/docs/documentation.html>
 - <http://geopython.github.com/OWSLib/>
 - <https://github.com/toblerity/shapely>
 - <https://github.com/sgillies/Fiona>
 - <http://pypi.python.org/pypi/pyproj>
- gdal/ogr
 - http://www.gdal.org/gdal_utilities.html
 - http://www.gdal.org/ogr_utilities.html

DEVELOPMENT PREREQUISITES AND CORE MODULES

This module will introduce you to the

2.1 GeoNode's Development Prerequisites

2.1.1 Basic Shell Tools

ssh and sudo

ssh and sudo are very basic terminal skills which you will need to deploy, maintain and develop with GeoNode. If you are not already familiar with their usage, you should review the basic descriptions below and follow the external links to learn more about how to use them effectively as part of your development workflow.

ssh is the network protocol used to connect to a remote server where you run your GeoNode instance whether on your own network or on the cloud. You will need to know how to use an ssh command from the terminal on your unix machine or how to use a ssh client like putty or winscp on windows. You may need to use pki certificates to connect to your remove server, and should be familiar with the steps and options necessary to connect this way. More information about ssh can be found in the links below.

- <http://winscp.net/eng/docs/ssh>

sudo is the command used to execute a terminal command as the superuser when you are logged in with a normal user. You will to use sudo in order to start, stop and restart key services on your GeoNode instance. If you are not able to grant yourself these privileges on the machine you are using for your GeoNode instance, you may need to consult with your network administrator to arrange for your user to be granted sudo permissions. More information about sudo can be found in the links below.

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sudo>

bash

Bash is the most common unix shell which will usually be the default on servers where you will be deploying your GeoNode instance. You should be familiar with the most common bash commands in order to be able to deploy, maintain and modify a geonode instance. More information about Bash and common bash commands can be found in the links below.

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bash_\(Unix_shell\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bash_(Unix_shell))

apt

apt is the packaging tool that is used to install GeoNode on ubuntu and other debian based systems. You will need to be familiar with adding Personal Package Archives to your list of install sources, and will need to be familiar with basic apt commands. More information about apt can be found in the links below.

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advanced_Packaging_Tool

2.1.2 Python Development Tools

The GeoNode development process relies on several widely used python development tools in order to make things easier for developers and other users of the systems that GeoNode developers work on or where GeoNodes are deployed. They are considered best practices for modern python development, and you should become familiar with these basic tools and be comfortable using them on your own projects and systems.

virtualenv

virtualenv is a tool used to create isolated python development environments such that the the versions of project dependencies are sandboxed from the system-wide python packages. This eliminates the commonly encountered problem of different projects on the same system using different versions of the same library. You should be familiar with how to create and activate virtual environments for the projects you work on. More information about virtualenv can be found in the links below.

- <http://pypi.python.org/pypi/virtualenv>
- <http://www.virtualenv.org/en/latest/>

virtualenvwrapper is a wrapper around the *virtualenv* package that makes it easier to create and switch between virtual environments as you do development. Using it will make your life much easier, so its recommended that you install and configure it and use its commands as part of your *virtualenv* workflow. More info about *virtualenvwrapper* can be found in the links below.

- <http://www.doughellmann.com/projects/virtualenvwrapper/>

pip

pip is a tool for installing and managing python packages. Specifically it is used to install and upgrade packages found in the Python Pacakge Index. GeoNode uses pip to install itself, and to manage all of the python dependencies that are needed as part of a GeoNode instance. As you learn to add new modules to your geonode, you will need to become familiar with the use of pip and about basic python packaging usage. More information about pip can be found in the links below.

- <http://www.pip-installer.org/en/latest/>
- <http://pypi.python.org/pypi/pip>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pip_\(Python\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pip_(Python))

miscellaneous

ipython is a set of tools to make your python development and debugging experience easier. The primary tool you want to use is an interactive shell that adds introspection, integrated help and command completion and more. While not strictly required to do GeoNode development, learning how to use ipython will make your development more productive and pleasant. More information about ipython can be found in the links below.

- <http://ipython.org/>
- <http://pypi.python.org/pypi/ipython>
- <https://github.com/ipython/ipython>
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IPython>

pdb is a standard python module that is used to interactively debug your python code. It supports setting conditional breakpoints so you can step through the code line by line and inspect your variables and perform arbitrary execution of statements. Learning how to effectively use *pdb* will make the process of debugging your application code significantly easier. More information about *pdb* can be found in the links below.

- <http://docs.python.org/2/library/pdb.html>

2.1.3 Django

GeoNode is built on top of the *Django web framework*, and as such, you will need to become generally familiar with Django itself in order to become a productive GeoNode developer. Django has excellent documentation, and you should familiarize yourself with Django by following the Django workshop and reading through its documentation as required.

Model Template View

Django is based on the Model Template View paradigm (more commonly called Model View Controller). Models are used to define objects that you use in your application and Django's ORM is used to map these models to a database. Views are used to implement the business logic of your application and provide objects and other context for the templates. Templates are used to render the context from views into a page for display to the user. You should become familiar with this common paradigm used in most modern web frameworks, and how it is specifically implemented and used in Django. The Django tutorial itself is a great place to start. More information about MTV in Django can be found in the links below.

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Model%E2%80%93view%E2%80%93controller>
- <http://www.codinghorror.com/blog/2008/05/understanding-model-view-controller.html>
- <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/1.4/>

HTTP Request Response

Django and all other web frameworks are based on the HTTP Request Response cycle. Requests come in to the server from remote clients which are primarily web browsers, but also can be api clients, and the server returns with a Response. You should be familiar with these very basic HTTP principles and become familiar with the way that Django implements them. More information about HTTP, Requests and Responses and Djangos implementation in the links below.

- <http://devhub.fm/http-requestresponse-basics/>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypertext_Transfer_Protocol
- <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/dev/ref/request-response/>

Management Commands

Django projects have access to a set of management commands that are used to manage your project. Django itself provides a set of these commands, and django apps (including GeoNode) can provide their own. Management commands are used to do things like synchronize your models with your database, load data from fixtures or back up your

database with fixtures, start the development server, initiate the debugger and many other things. GeoNode provides management commands for synchronizing with a GeoServer or updating the layers already in your GeoNode. You should become familiar with the basic management commands that come with Django, and specifically with the commands that are part of GeoNode. The GeoNode specific commands are covered in section. More information about management commands can be found in the links below.

- <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/dev/ref/django-admin/>

Django Admin Interface

Django provides a build-in management console that administrators and developers can use to look at the data in the database that is part of the installed applications. Administrators can use this console to perform many common administration tasks that are a necessary part of running a GeoNode instance, and as a developer, you will use this interface during your development process to inspect the database and the data stored in your models. More information about the django admin interface can be found in the links below.

- <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/dev/ref/contrib/admin/>

Template Tags

Django templates make use of a set of tags to inject, filter and format content into a rendered HTML page. Django itself includes a set of built-in template tags and filters that you will use in your own templates, and GeoNode provides a geonode specific set of tags that are used in the GeoNode templates. You should become familiar with the built-in tag set and with GeoNode's specific tags as you work on developing your own templates or extending from GeoNode's. More information about Django template tags can be found in the links below.

- <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/dev/ref/templates/builtins/>

2.2 GeoNode's Core Modules

GeoNode is made up of a set of core Django pluggable modules (known as apps in Django) that provide the functionality of the application. Together they make up the key components of a GeoNode site. While your own use case and implementation may not require that you work directly on these modules, it is important that you become familiar with their layout, structure and the functionality that they provide. You may need to import these apps into your own apps, and as such, becoming familiar with them is an important step in becoming a proficient GeoNode developer.

2.2.1 geonode.layers

geonode.layers is the most key GeoNode module. It is used to represent layers of data stored in a GeoNode's paired GeoServer. The layer model class inherits fields from the ResourceBase class which provides all of the fields necessary for the metadata catalogue, and adds fields that map the object to its corresponding layer in GeoServer. When your users upload a layer via the user interface, the layer is imported to GeoServer and a record is added to GeoNode's database to represent that GeoServer layer within GeoNode itself.

The Layer model class provides a set of helper methods that are used to perform operations on a Layer object, and also to return things such as the list of Download or Metadata links for that layer. Additional classes are used to model the layers Attributes, Styles, Contacts and Links. The Django signals framework is used to invoke specific functions to synchronize with GeoServer before and after the layer is saved.

The views in the layers app are used to perform functions such as uploading, replacing, removing or changing the points of contact for a layer, and views are also used to update layer styles, download layers in bulk or change a layers permissions.

The forms module in the layer app is used to drive the user interface forms necessary for performing the business logic that the views provide.

The Layers app also includes a set of templates that are paired with views and used to drive the user interface. A small set of layer template tags is also used to help drive the layer explore and search pages.

Some helper modules such as geonode.layers.metadata and geonode.layers.ows are used by the layer views to perform specific functions and help keep the main views module more concise and legible.

Additionally, the GeoNode specific management commands are a part of the geonode.layers app.

You should spend some time to review the layers app through GitHub's code browsing interface.

<https://github.com/GeoNode/geonode/tree/master/geonode/layers>

2.2.2 geonode.maps

The geonode.maps app is used to group together GeoNodes multi layer map functionality. The Map and MapLayer objects are used to model and implement maps created with the GeoExplorer application. The Map object also extends from the ResourceBase class which provides the ability to manage a full set of metadata fields for a Map.

The views in the maps app perform many of the same functions as the views in the layers app such as adding, changing, replacing or removing a map and also provide the endpoints for returning the map configuration from the database that is used to initialize the GeoExplorer app.

The maps app also includes a set of forms, customization of the Django admin, some utility functions and a set of templates and template tags.

You can familiarize yourself with the maps app on GitHub.

<https://github.com/GeoNode/geonode/tree/master/geonode/maps>

2.2.3 geonode.security

The geonode.security app is used to provide object level permissions within the GeoNode Django application. It is a custom Django authentication backend and is used to assign Generic, User and Group Permissions to Layers, Maps and other objects in the GeoNode system. Generic permissions are used to enable public anonymous or authenticated viewing and/or editing of your data layers and maps, and User and Group specific permissions are used to allow specific users or groups to access and edit your layers.

2.2.4 geonode.search

The geonode.search module provides the search API that is used to drive the GeoNode search pages. It is configured to index layers, maps, documents and profiles, but is extensible to allow you to use it to index your own model classes. This module is currently based on the Django ORM and as such has a limited set of search features, but the GeoNode development team is actively working on making it possible to use this module with more feature-rich search engines.

2.2.5 geonode.catalogue

The geonode.catalogue app provides a key set of metadata catalogue functions within GeoNode itself. GeoNode is configured to use an integrated version of the pycsw library to perform these functions, but can also be configured to use any OGC compliant CS-W implementation such as GeoNetwork or Deegree. The metadata app allows users to import and/or edit metadata for their layers, maps and documents, and it provides an OGC compliant search interface for use in federating with other systems.

2.2.6 geonode.geoserver

The geonode.geoserver module is used to interact with GeoServer from within GeoNode's python code. It relies heavily on the gsconfig library which addresses GeoServer's REST configuration API. Additionally, the geonode.geoserver.uploader module is used to interact with GeoServers Importer API for uploading and configuring layers.

2.2.7 geonode.people

The geonode.people module is used to model and store information about both GeoNode users and people outside of the system who are listed as Points of Contact for particular layers. It is the foundational module for GeoNode's social features. It provides a set of forms for users to edit and manage their own profiles as well as to view and interact with the profiles of other users.

2.2.8 geoexplorer

GeoNode's core GIS client functions are performed by GeoExplorer. The GeoExplorer app is in turn based on GeoExt, OpenLayers and ExtJS. It provides functionality for constructing maps, styling layers and connecting to remote services. GeoExplorer is the reference implementation of the OpenGeo Suite SDK which is based on GXP. GeoNode treats GeoExplorer as an external module that is used out of the box in GeoNode, but it is possible for you to create your own Suite SDK app and integrate it with GeoNode.

2.2.9 Static Site

The front end of GeoNode is composed of a set of core templates, specific templates for each module, cascading style sheets to style those pages and a set of javascript modules that provide the interactive functionality in the site.

Templates

GeoNode includes a basic set of core templates that use Django's template inheritance system to provide a modular system for constructing the web pages in GeoNode's interface. These core templates drive the overall page layout and things like the home page. You will start the process of customizing your GeoNode instance by overriding these templates, so you should familiarize yourself with their structure and how they inherit from each other to drive the pages.

Additionally, most of the apps described above have their own set of templates that are used to drive the pages for each module. You may also want to override these templates for your own purposes and as such should familiarize yourself with a few of the key ones.

CSS

GeoNode's css is based on Twitter's Bootstrap Library which uses the lessc dynamic stylesheet language. GeoNode extends from the basic Bootstrap style and you are able to create your own bootstrap based style to customize the look and feel of your own GeoNode instance. Sites like bootswatch.com also provide ready made styles that you can simply drop in to your project to change the style.

Javascript

The interactive functionality in GeoNode pages is provided by the jQuery javascript framework and a set of jQuery plugins. The core set of GeoNode javascript modules closely aligns with the apps described above, and there are also

a few pieces of functionality provided as javascript modules that are used through out all of the apps. You are able to add your own jQuery code and/or plugins to perform interactive functionality in your own application.

CUSTOMIZED GEONODE PROJECTS

This module will teach you about how to set up and customize your own GeoNode-based project by changing the theme, adding additional modules, and integrating with other systems. When complete, you should understand how Downstream GeoNode projects work, and how to set up a project of your own.

3.1 Introduction to GeoNode Projects

GeoNode enables you to set up a complete site simply by installing the packages and adding your data. If you want to create your own project based on GeoNode, there are several options available that enable you to customize the look and feel of your GeoNode site. You can add additional modules that are necessary for your own use case and to integrate your GeoNode project with other external sites and services.

This module assumes that you have installed a GeoNode site with the Ubuntu Packages and that you have a working GeoNode based on that setup. If you want to follow this same methodology on a different platform, you can follow this module and adapt as necessary for your environment.

3.1.1 Overview

GeoNode is an out-of-the-box, full-featured Spatial Data Infrastructure solution, but many GeoNode implementations require either customization of the default site or the use of additional modules, whether they be third-party Django Pluggables or modules developed by a GeoNode implementer.

There are quite a few existing Downstream GeoNode projects some of which follow the methodology described in this module. You should familiarize yourself with these projects and how and why they extend GeoNode. You should also carefully think about what customization and additional modules you need for your own GeoNode-based project and research the options that are available to you. The [Django Packages](#) site is a great place to start looking for existing modules that may meet your needs.

3.1.2 Existing downstream GeoNode projects

- Harvard Worldmap
- MapStory
- Risiko/SAFE

3.1.3 Django template projects

GeoNode follows the Django template projects paradigm introduced in Django 1.4. At a minimum, a Django project consists of a `settings.py` file and a `urls.py` file; Django apps are used to add specific pieces of functionality. The GeoNode development team has created a template project which contains these required files with all the GeoNode configuration you need to get up and running with your own GeoNode project. If you would like learn more about Django projects and apps, you should consult the [Django Documentation](#)

3.2 Setting up your GeoNode project

This section will walk you through the steps necessary to set up your own GeoNode project. It assumes that you have installed GeoNode from the Ubuntu packages and that you have a working GeoNode site.

3.2.1 Setup steps

If you are working remotely, you should first connect to the machine that has your GeoNode installation. You will need to perform the following steps in a directory where you intend to keep your newly created project.

1. Activate GeoNode's Virtual Environment:

```
$ source /var/lib/geonode/bin/activate
```

2. Create your GeoNode project from the template:

```
$ django-admin.py startproject --template=https://github.com/GeoNode/geonode-project/zipball/master
$ cd my_geonode
```

3. Update your `local_settings.py`. You will need to check the `local_settings.py` that is included with the template project and be sure that it reflects your own local environment. You should pay particular attention to the Database settings especially if you intend to reuse the database that was set up with your base GeoNode installation.

4. Synchronize your database:

```
$ python manage.py syncdb --all
```

5. Run the test server:

```
$ python manage.py runserver
```

6. Visit your new GeoNode site at <http://localhost:8000>.

3.2.2 Source code revision control

It is recommended that you immediately put your new project under source code revision control. The GeoNode development team uses Git and GitHub and recommends that you do the same. If you do not already have a GitHub account, you can easily set one up. A full review of Git and distributed source code revision control systems is beyond the scope of this tutorial, but you may find the [Git Book](#) useful if you are not already familiar with these concepts.

1. Create a new repository in GitHub. You should use the GitHub user interface to create a new repository for your new project.
2. Initialize your own repository:

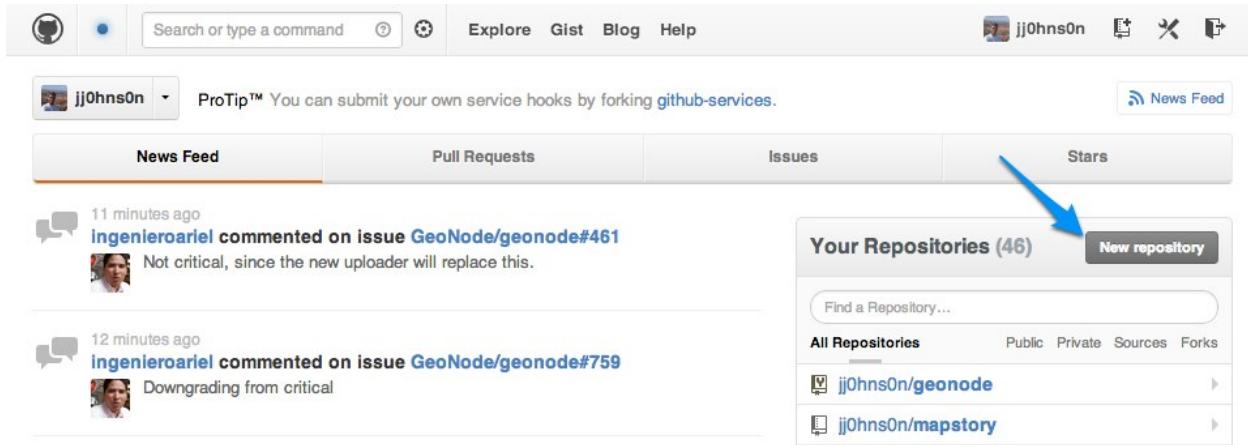


Figure 3.1: Creating a new GitHub Repository From GitHub's Homepage

A screenshot of the GitHub repository creation form. The top part shows the user 'jj0hns0n' selected as the owner and the repository name 'my_geonode' entered. Below this, a note says 'Great repository names are short and memorable. Need inspiration? How about [north-american-octo-cyril](#)'. The 'Description (optional)' field contains 'My GeoNode Project'. Under 'Visibility', the 'Public' option is selected, with a note that anyone can see the repository. The 'Private' option is also shown. There's a checkbox for 'Initialize this repository with a README', which is unchecked, with a note that it allows immediate cloning. A dropdown for '.gitignore' is set to 'None'. At the bottom is a large green 'Create repository' button with a blue arrow pointing to it from the text 'Specifying new GitHub Repository Parameters'.

Figure 3.2: Specifying new GitHub Repository Parameters

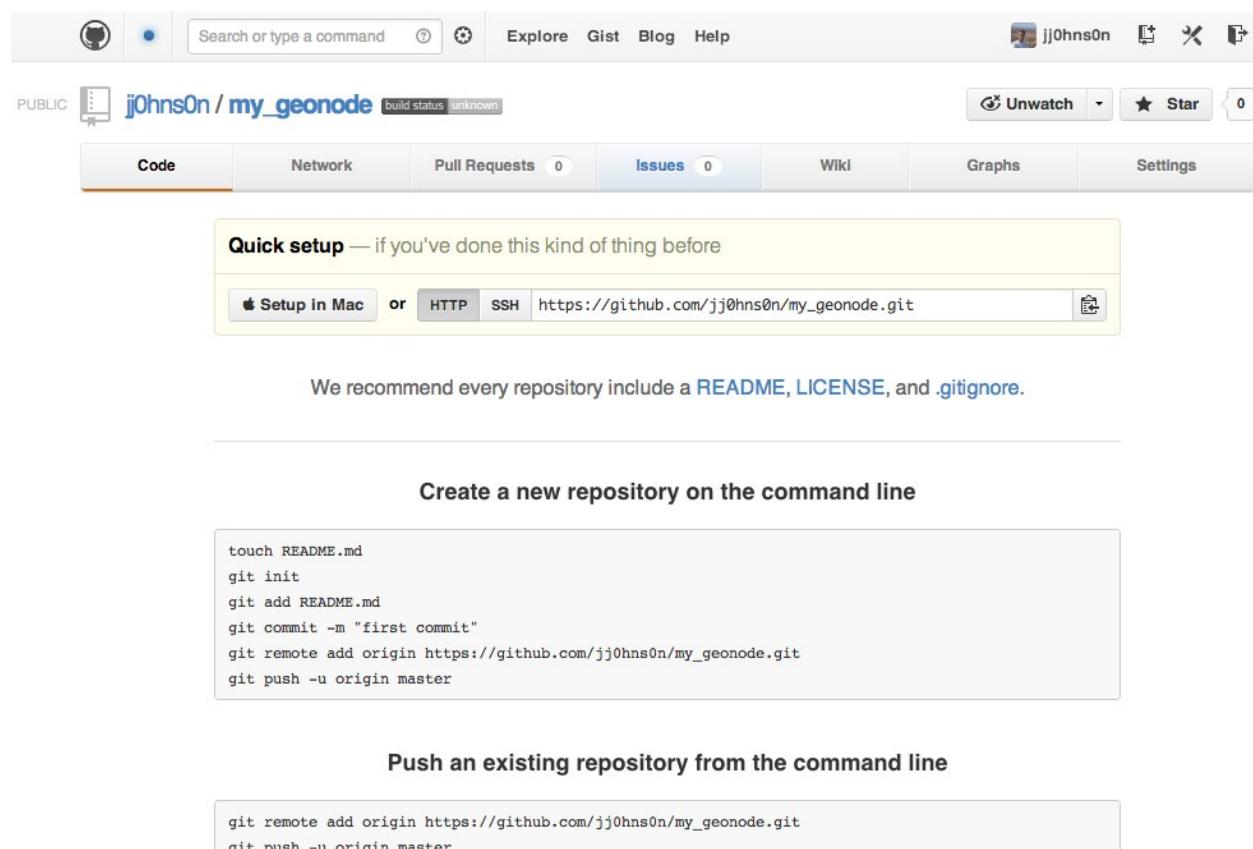


Figure 3.3: Your new Empty GitHub Repository

- ```
$ git init
```
3. Add the remote repository reference to your local git configuration:
- ```
$ git remote add
```
4. Add your project files to the repository:
- ```
$ git add .
```
5. Commit your changes:
- ```
$ git commit -am "Initial commit"
```
6. Push to the remote repository:
- ```
$ git push origin master
```

### 3.2.3 Project structure

Your GeoNode project will now be structured as depicted below:

```
|-- README.rst
|-- manage.py
|-- my_geonode
| |-- __init__.py
| |-- settings.py
| |-- static
| |-- README
| |-- css
| |-- site_base.css
| |-- img
| |-- README
| |-- js
| |-- README
| |-- templates
| |-- site_base.html
| |-- site_index.html
| |-- urls.py
| |-- wsgi.py
|-- setup.py
```

You can also view your project on GitHub.

Each of the key files in your project are described below.

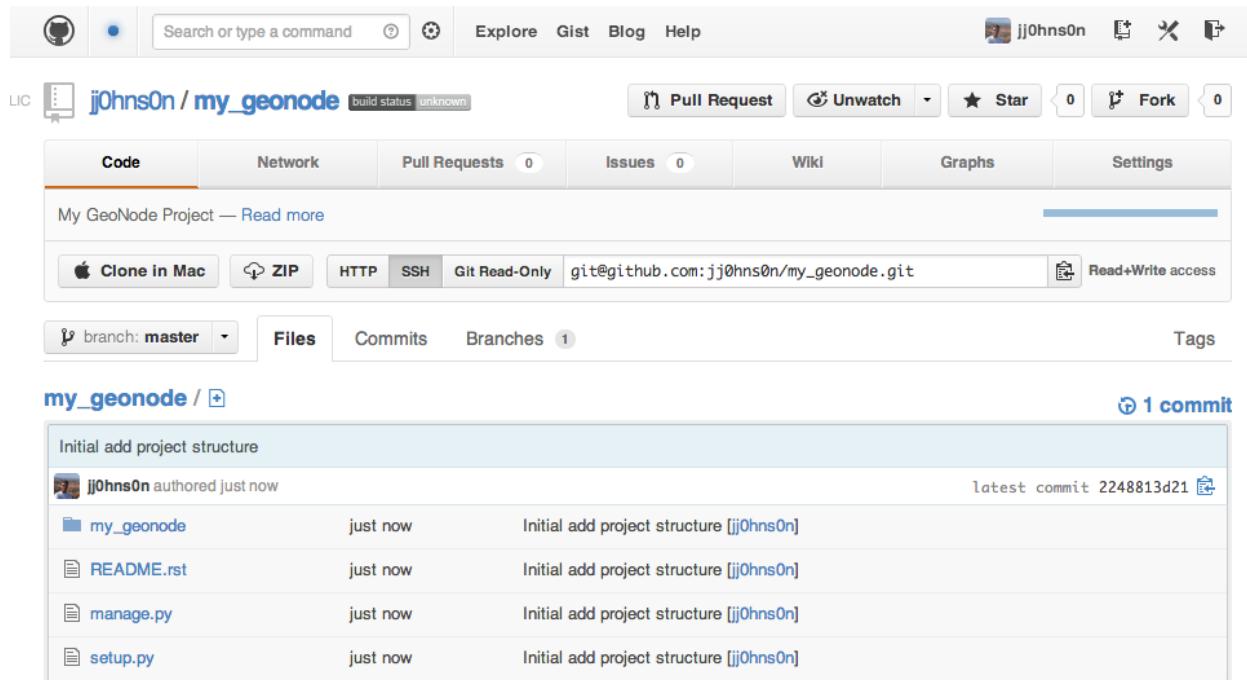


Figure 3.4: Viewing your project on GitHub

[manage.py](#)

[settings.py](#)

[urls.py](#)

[wsgi.py](#)

[setup.py](#)

[static](#)

[templates](#)

### 3.2.4 Deploying your GeoNode Project

Now that your own project is set up, you will need to replace the existing default configuration with configuration for your own project in order to visit your new project site.

1. Update Apache configuration
2. Check GeoServer configuration
3. Check database configuration

### 3.2.5 Staying in sync with mainline GeoNode

One of the primary reasons to set up your own GeoNode project using this method is so that you can stay in sync with the mainline GeoNode as the core development team makes new releases. Your own project should not be adversely

affected by these changes, but you will receive bug fixes and other improvements by staying in sync.

1. Upgrade GeoNode:

```
$ apt-get update
$ apt-get install geonode
```

2. Verify that your new project works with the upgraded GeoNode:

```
$ python manage.py runserver
```

3. Navigate to <http://localhost:8000>.

## 3.3 Theming your GeoNode project

There are a range of options available to you if you want to change the default look and feel of your GeoNode project. Since GeoNode's style is based on [Bootstrap](#) you will be able to make use of all that Bootstrap has to offer in terms of theme customization. You should consult Bootstrap's documentation as your primary guide once you are familiar with how GeoNode implements Bootstrap and how you can override GeoNode's theme and templates in your own project.

### 3.3.1 Logos and graphics

GeoNode intentionally does not include a large number of graphics files in its interface. This keeps page loading time to a minimum and makes for a more responsive interface. That said, you are free to customize your GeoNode's interface by simply changing the default logo, or by adding your own images and graphics to deliver a GeoNode experience the way you envision it.

Your GeoNode project has a directory already set up for storing your own images at `<my_geonode>/static/img`. You should place any image files that you intend to use for your project in this directory.

Let's walk through an example of the steps necessary to change the default logo.

1. Change into the `img` directory:

```
$ cd <my_geonode>/static/img
```

2. If you haven't already, obtain your logo image. The URL below is just an example, so you will need to change this URL to match the location of your file or copy it to this location:

```
$ wget http://www2.sta.uwi.edu/~anikov/UWI-logo.JPG
$ cd ../../..
```

3. Override the CSS that displays the logo by editing `<my_geonode>/static/css/site_base.css` with your favorite editor and adding the following lines, making sure to update the width, height, and URL to match the specifications of your image.

```
.nav-logo {
 width: 373px;
 height: 79px;
 background: url(../img/UWI-logo.JPG) no-repeat;
}
```

4. Restart your GeoNode project and look at the page in your browser:

```
$ python manage.py runserver
```

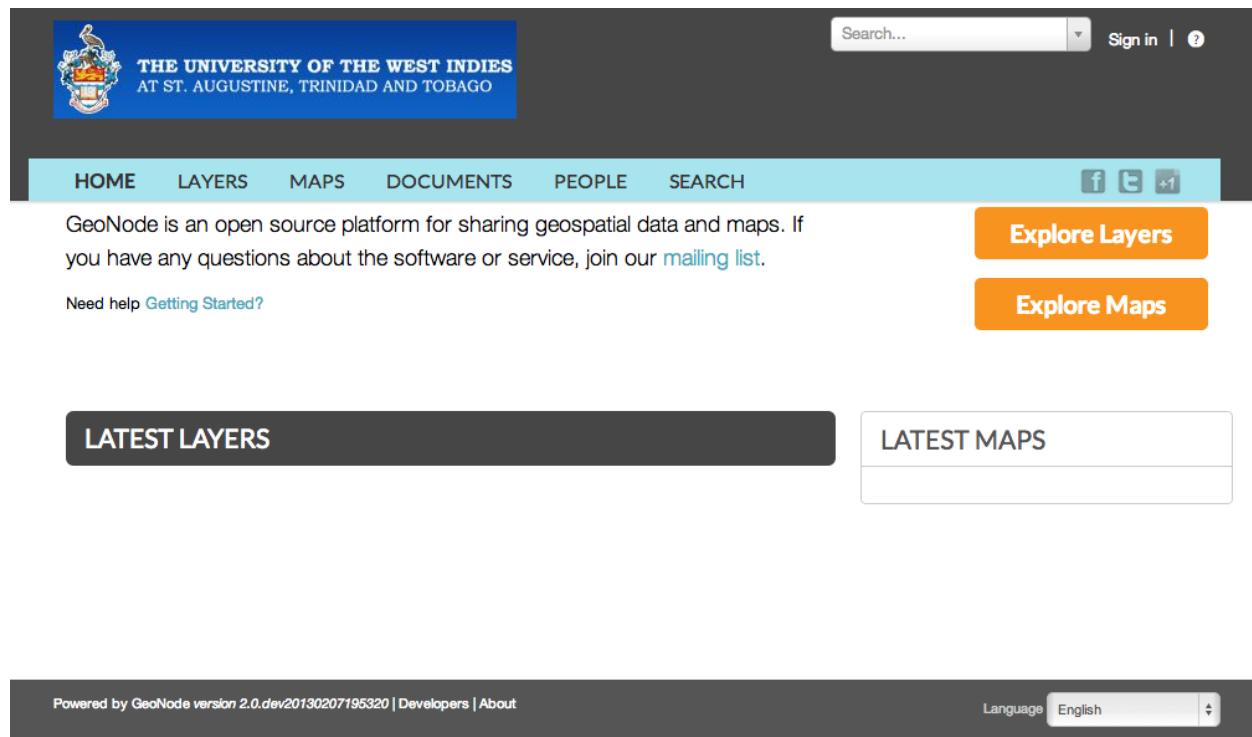


Figure 3.5: *Custom logo*

Visit your site at <http://localhost:8000> or the remote URL for your site.

You can see that the header has been expanded to fit your graphic. In the following sections you will learn how to customize this header to make it look and function the way you want.

**Note:** You should commit these changes to your repository as you progress through this section, and get in the habit of committing early and often so that you and others can track your project on GitHub. Making many atomic commits and staying in sync with a remote repository makes it easier to collaborate with others on your project.

### 3.3.2 Cascading Style Sheets

In the last section you already learned how to override GeoNode's default CSS rules to include your own logo. You are able to customize any aspect of GeoNode's appearance this way. In the last screenshot, you saw that the main area in the homepage is covered up by the expanded header.

First, we'll walk through the steps necessary to displace it downward so it is no longer hidden, then change the background color of the header to match the color in our logo graphic.

1. Reopen <my\_geonode>/static/css/site\_base.css in your editor and add the following rule after the one added in the previous step:

```
.content-wrap {
 margin: 75px 75px;
}
```

2. Add a rule to change the background color of the header to match the logo graphic we used:

```
.navbar .navbar-inner {
 background: #0e60c3;
}
```

3. Your project CSS file should now look like this:

```
.nav-logo {
 width: 373px;
 height: 79px;
 background: url(..../img/UWI-logo.JPG) no-repeat;
}

.content-wrap {
 margin: 75px 75px;
}

.navbar .navbar-inner {
 background: #0e60c3;
}
```

4. Restart the development server and reload the page:

\$ python manage.py runserver

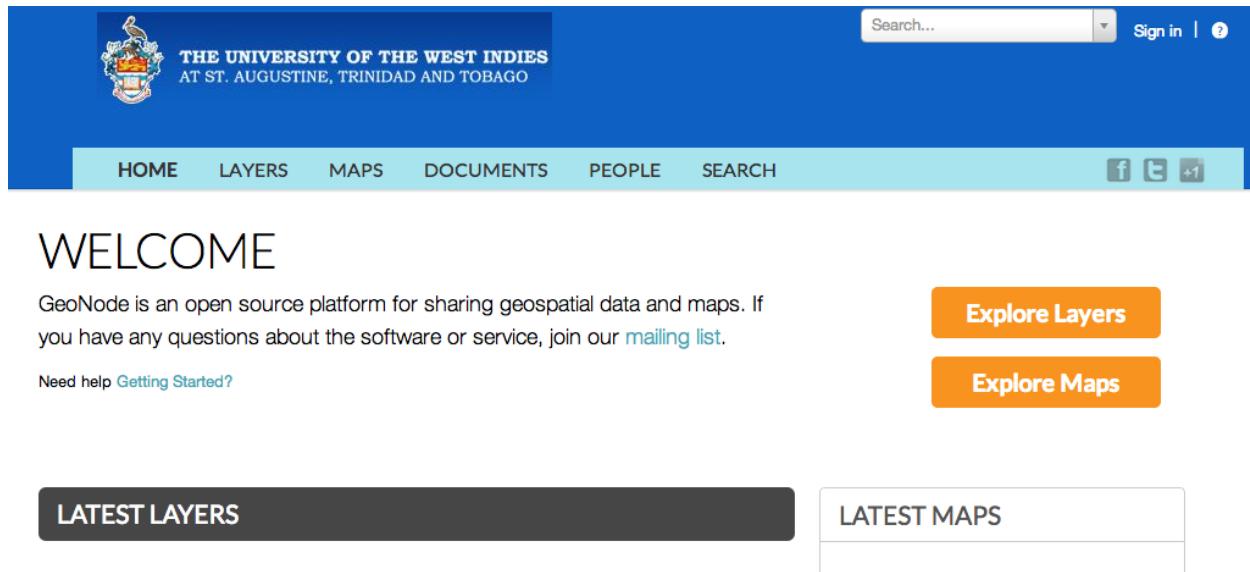


Figure 3.6: *CSS overrides*

**Note:** You can continue adding rules to this file to override the styles that are in the GeoNode base CSS file which is built from `base.less`. You may find it helpful to use your browser's development tools to inspect elements of your site that you want to override to determine which rules are already applied. See the screenshot below. Another section of this workshop covers this topic in much more detail.

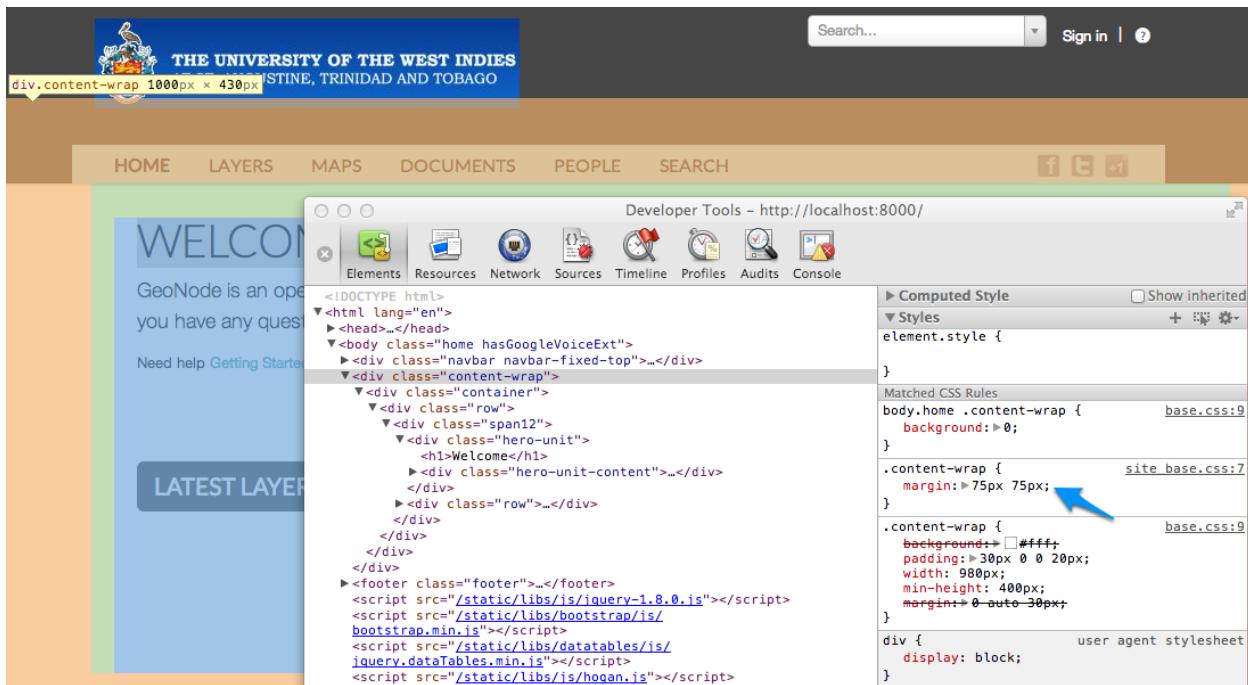


Figure 3.7: Screenshot of using Chrome’s debugger to inspect the CSS overrides

### 3.3.3 Templates and static pages

Now that we have changed the default logo and adjusted our main content area to fit the expanded header, the next step is to update the content of the homepage itself. Your GeoNode project includes two basic templates that you will use to change the content of your pages.

The file `site_base.html` (in `<my_geonode>/templates/`) is the basic template that all other templates inherit from and you will use it to update things like the header, navbar, site-wide announcement, footer, and also to include your own JavaScript or other static content included in every page in your site. It’s worth taking a look at [GeoNode’s base file on GitHub](#). You have several blocks available to you to for overriding, but since we will be revisiting this file in future sections of this workshop, let’s just look at it for now and leave it unmodified.

Open `<my_geonode>/templates/site_base.html` in your editor:

```

 {% extends "base.html" %}
 {% block extra_head %}
 <link href="{{ STATIC_URL }}css/site_base.css" rel="stylesheet"/>
 {% endblock %}

```

You will see that it extends from `base.html`, which is the GeoNode template referenced above and it currently only overrides the `extra_head` block to include our project’s `site_base.css` which we modified in the previous section. You can see on line 14 of the [GeoNode base.html template](#) that this block is included in an empty state and is set up specifically for you to include extra CSS files as your project is already set up to do.

Now that we have looked at `site_base.html`, let’s actually override a different template.

The file `site_index.html` is the template used to define your GeoNode project’s homepage. It extends GeoNode’s default `index.html` template and gives you the option to override specific areas of the homepage like the hero area, but also allows you leave area like the “Latest Layers” and “Maps” and the “Contribute” section as they are. You are of course free to override these sections if you choose and this section shows you the steps necessary to do that below.

1. Open `<my_geonode>/templates/site_index.html` in your editor.

2. Edit the `<h1>` element on line 13 to say something other than “Welcome”:

```
<h1>{ % trans "UWI GeoNode" %}</h1>
```

3. Edit the introductory paragraph to include something specific about your GeoNode project:

```
<p>
 { % blocktrans %}
 UWI's GeoNode is setup for students and faculty to collaboratively
 create and share maps for their class projects. It is maintained by the
 UWI Geographical Society.
 { % endblocktrans %}
</p>
```

4. Change the *Getting Started* link to point to another website:

```

 For more information about the UWI Geographical society,
 visit our website

```

5. Add a graphic to the hero area above the paragraph replaced in step 3:

```

```

6. Your edited `site_index.html` file should now look like this:

```
{% extends 'index.html' %}
{% load i18n %}
{% load maps_tags %}
{% load layers_tags %}
{% load pagination_tags %}
{% load staticfiles %}
{% load url from future %}
{% comment %}
This is where you can override the hero area block. You can simply modify the content below or remove the entire block if you don't need it.
{% endcomment %}
{% block hero %}
 <div class="hero-unit">
 <h1>{ % trans "UWI GeoNode" %}</h1>
 <div class="hero-unit-content">
 <div class="intro">

 </div>
 { % blocktrans %}
 UWI's GeoNode is setup for students and faculty to collaboratively
 create and share maps for their class projects. It is maintained by the
 UWI Geographical Society.
 { % endblocktrans %}
 </div>

 For more information about the UWI Geographical society,
 visit our website

 </div>
 <div class="bttns">

 { % trans "Explore Layers" %}


```

```
{% trans "Explore Maps" %}

 </div>
</div>
{% endblock %}
```

7. Restart your GeoNode project and view the changes in your browser at <http://localhost:8000/> or the remote URL for your site:

```
$ python manage.py runserver
```



UWI's GeoNode is setup for students and faculty to collaboratively create and share maps for their class projects. It is maintained by the UWI Geographical Society.

For more information about the UWI Geographical society, [visit our website](#)

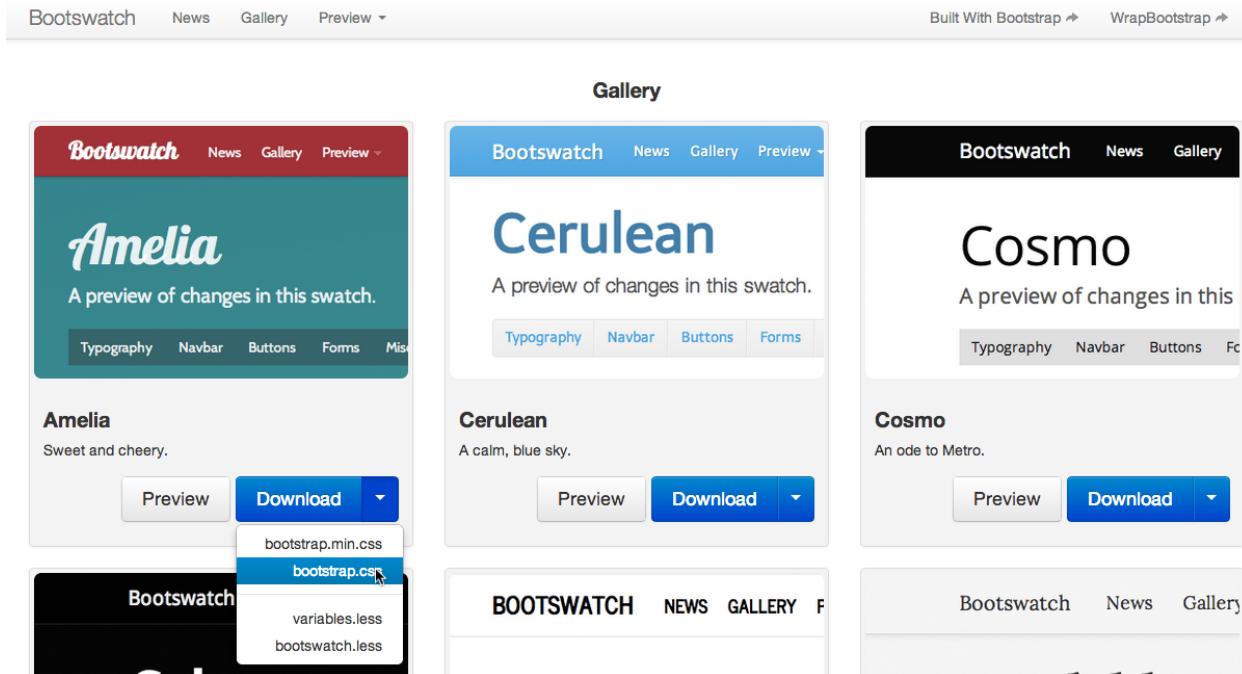
From here you can continue to customize your `site_index.html` template to suit your needs. This workshop will also cover how you can add new pages to your GeoNode project site.

### 3.3.4 Other theming options

You are able to change any specific piece of your GeoNode project's style by adding CSS rules to `site_base.css`, but since GeoNode is based on Bootstrap, there are many pre-defined themes that you can simply drop into your project to get a whole new look. This is very similar to [WordPress themes](#) and is a powerful and easy way to change the look of your site without much effort.

#### Bootswatch

Bootswatch is a site where you can download ready-to-use themes for your GeoNode project site. The following steps will show you how to use a theme from Bootswatch in your own GeoNode site.



1. Visit <http://bootswatch.com> and select a theme (we will use Amelia for this example). Select the *download bootstrap.css option* in the menu:

2. Put this file in <my\_geonode>/static/css.

3. Update the site\_base.html template to include this file. It should now look like this:

```
{% extends "base.html" %}
{% block extra_head %}
 <link href="{{ STATIC_URL }}css/site_base.css" rel="stylesheet"/>
 <link href="{{ STATIC_URL }}css/bootstrap.css" rel="stylesheet"/>
{% endblock %}
```

4. Restart the development server and visit your site:

Your GeoNode project site is now using the Amelia theme in addition to the changes you have made.

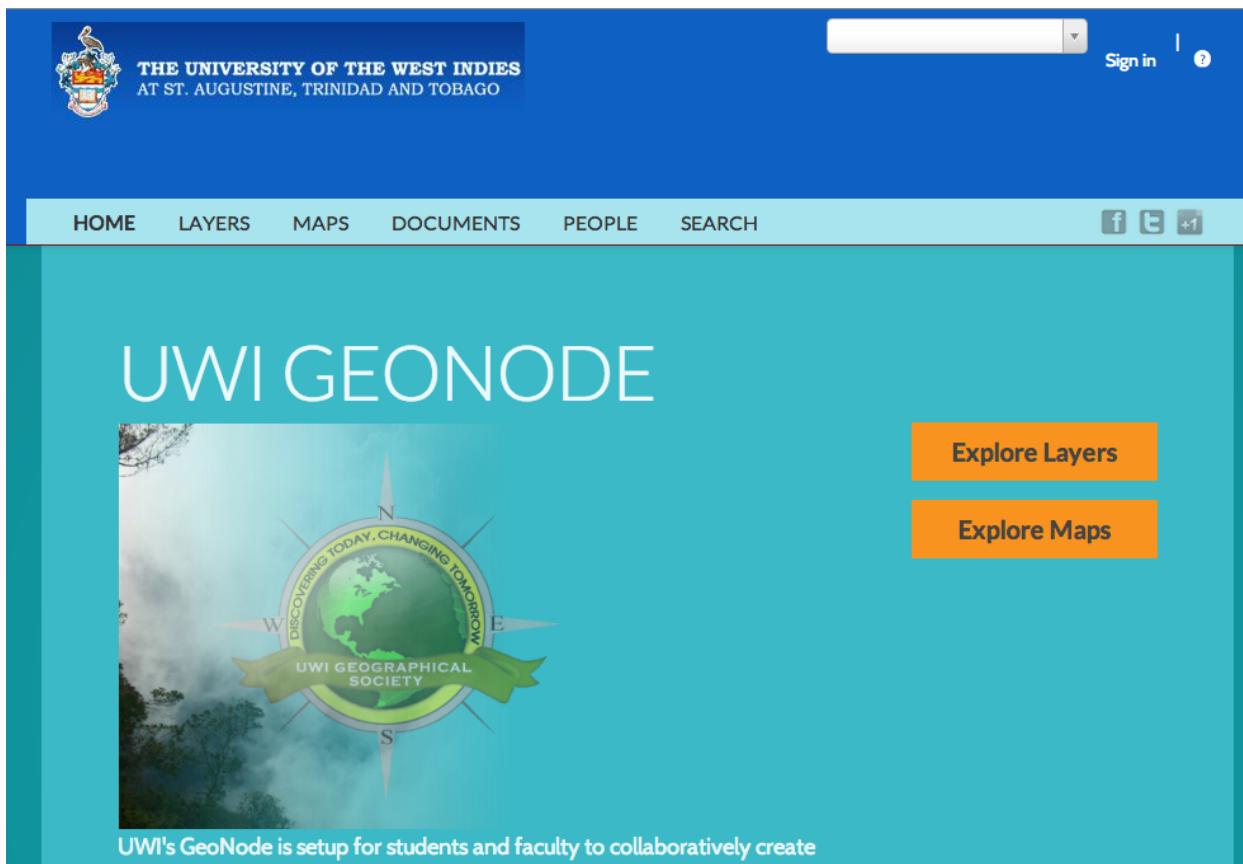
## 3.4 Adding additional Django apps to your GeoNode Project

Since GeoNode is based on Django, your GeoNode project can be augmented and enhanced by adding additional third-party pluggable Django apps or by writing an app of your own.

This section of the workshop will introduce you to the Django pluggable app ecosystem, and walk you through the process of writing your own app and adding a blog app to your project.

### 3.4.1 Django pluggable apps

The Django app ecosystem provides a large number of apps that can be added to your project. Many are mature and used in many existing projects and sites, while others are under active early-stage development. Websites such as [Django Packages](#) provide an interface for discovering and comparing all the apps that can be plugged in to your Django



project. You will find that some can be used with very little effort on your part, and some will take more effort to integrate.

### 3.4.2 Adding your own Django app

Let's walk through the an example of the steps necessary to create a very basic Django polling app to and add it to your GeoNode project. This section is an abridged version of the Django tutorial itself and it is strongly recommended that you go through this external tutorial along with this section as it provides much more background material and a significantly higher level of detail. You should become familiar with all of the information in the Django tutorial as it is critical to your success as a GeoNode project developer.

Throughout this section, we will walk through the creation of a basic poll application. It will consist of two parts:

- A public site that lets people view polls and vote in them.
- An admin site that lets you add, change, and delete polls.

Since we have already created our GeoNode project from a template project, we will start by creating our app structure and then adding models:

```
$ python manage.py startapp polls
```

That'll create a directory `polls`, which is laid out like this:

```
polls/
 __init__.py
 models.py
```

```
tests.py
views.py
```

This directory structure will house the poll application.

The first step in writing a database web app in Django is to define your models—essentially, your database layout with additional metadata.

In our simple poll app, we'll create two models: polls and choices. A poll has a question and a publication date. A choice has two fields: the text of the choice and a vote tally. Each choice is associated with a poll.

These concepts are represented by simple Python classes.

Edit the `polls/models.py` file so it looks like this:

```
from django.db import models

class Poll(models.Model):
 question = models.CharField(max_length=200)
 pub_date = models.DateTimeField('date published')
 def __unicode__(self):
 return self.question

class Choice(models.Model):
 poll = models.ForeignKey(Poll)
 choice = models.CharField(max_length=200)
 votes = models.IntegerField()
 def __unicode__(self):
 return self.choice
```

That small bit of model code gives Django a lot of information. With it, Django is able to:

- Create a database schema (CREATE TABLE statements) for this app.
- Create a Python database-access API for accessing Poll and Choice objects.

But first we need to tell our project that the `polls` app is installed.

Edit the `<my_geonode>/settings.py` file, and update the `INSTALLED_APPS` setting to include the string “`polls`”. So it will look like this:

```
INSTALLED_APPS = (

 # Apps bundled with Django
 'django.contrib.auth',
 'django.contrib.contenttypes',
 'django.contrib.sessions',
 'django.contrib.sites',
 'django.contrib.admin',
 'django.contrib.sitemaps',
 'django.contrib.staticfiles',
 'django.contrib.messages',
 'django.contrib.humanize',

 # Third party apps
 # <snip>

 # GeoNode internal apps
 'geonode.maps',
 'geonode.upload',
 'geonode.layers',
```

```
'geonode.people',
'geonode.proxy',
'geonode.security',
'geonode.search',
'geonode.catalogue',
'geonode.documents',

My GeoNode apps
'polls',
)
```

Now Django knows to include the polls app. Let's run another command:

```
$ python manage.py syncdb
```

The syncdb command runs the SQL from `sqlall` on your database for all apps in `INSTALLED_APPS` that don't already exist in your database. This creates all the tables, initial data, and indexes for any apps you've added to your project since the last time you ran syncdb. syncdb can be called as often as you like, and it will only ever create the tables that don't exist.

GeoNode uses south for migrations ...

Next, let's add the Django admin configuration for our polls app so that we can use the Django Admin to manage the records in our database. Create and edit a new file called `polls/admin.py` and make it look like the this:

```
from polls.models import Poll
from django.contrib import admin

admin.site.register(Poll)
```

Run the development server and explore the polls app in the Django Admin by pointing your browser to `http://localhost:8000/admin/` and logging in with the credentials you specified when you first ran syncdb.

You can see all of the other apps that are installed as part of your GeoNode project, but we are specifically interested in the Polls app for now.

Next we will add a new poll via automatically generated admin form.

You can enter any sort of question you want for initial testing and select today and now for the publication date.

The next step is to configure the Choice model in the admin, but we will configure the choices to be editable in-line with the Poll objects they are attached to. Edit the same `polls/admin.py` so it now looks like the following:

```
from polls.models import Poll, Choice
from django.contrib import admin

class ChoiceInline(admin.StackedInline):
 model = Choice
 extra = 3

class PollAdmin(admin.ModelAdmin):
 fieldsets = [
 (None, {'fields': ['question']}),
 ('Date information', {'fields': ['pub_date'], 'classes': ['collapse']}),
]
 inlines = [ChoiceInline]

admin.site.register(Poll, PollAdmin)
```

This tells Django that Choice objects are edited on the Poll admin page, and by default, provide enough fields for 3 choices.

Django administration

Welcome, admin. Change password / Log out

### Site administration

Account	
Account deletions	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>
Accounts	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>
Signup codes	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>

Actstream	
Actions	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>
Follows	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>

Announcements	
Announcements	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>

Auth	
Groups	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>
Users	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>

Avatar	
Avatars	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>

Dialogos	
Comments	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>

Documents	
Contact roles	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>
Documents	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>

Layers	
Attributes	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>
Contact roles	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>
Layers	<a href="#">+ Add</a> <a href="#">Change</a>

**Recent Actions**

My Actions  
None available

<b>Maps</b>	
<b>Map layers</b>	Add  Change
<b>Maps</b>	Add  Change
<b>People</b>	
<b>Profiles</b>	Add  Change
<b>Roles</b>	Add  Change
<b>Polls</b>	
<b>Polls</b>	Add  Change
<b>Relationships</b>	
<b>Relationship statuses</b>	Add  Change
<b>Request</b>	
<b>Requests</b>	Add  Change
<b>Security</b>	
<b>Generic object role mappings</b>	Add  Change
<b>Object roles</b>	Add  Change
<b>User object role mappings</b>	Add  Change
<b>Sites</b>	
<b>Sites</b>	Add  Change
<b>Taggit</b>	
<b>Tags</b>	Add  Change
<b>Upload</b>	
<b>Upload files</b>	Add  Change
<b>Uploads</b>	Add  Change

Django administration Welcome, admin. Change password / Log out

Home > Polls > Polls

Select poll to change

0 polls

Add poll



Django administration

Welcome, admin. Change password / Log out

Home > Polls > Polls > Add poll

### Add poll

**Question:** Did you find the layers you searched for i

**Date published:** Date: 2013-02-07 Today |  Time: 22:32:15 Now |

You can now return to the Poll admin and either add a new poll or edit the one you already created and see that you can now specify the poll choices inline with the poll itself.

Django administration

Welcome, admin. Change password / Log out

Home > Polls > Polls > Did you find the layers you searched for in my GeoNode

### Change poll

**Question:** Did you find the layers you searched for i

**Date information (Show)**

Choices	
<b>Choice: #1</b>	
<b>Choice:</b>	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>
<b>Votes:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Choice: #2</b>	
<b>Choice:</b>	<input type="text" value="No"/>
<b>Votes:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Choice: #3</b>	
<b>Choice:</b>	<input type="text" value="Some, but not all"/>
<b>Votes:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<a href="#">+ Add another Choice</a>	

From here, we want to create views to display the polls inside our GeoNode project. A view is a “type” of Web page in your Django application that generally serves a specific function and has a specific template. In our poll application, there will be the following four views:

- Poll “index” page—displays the latest few polls.
- Poll “detail” page—displays a poll question, with no results but with a form to vote.
- Poll “results” page—displays results for a particular poll.
- Vote action—handles voting for a particular choice in a particular poll.

The first step of writing views is to design your URL structure. You do this by creating a Python module called a URLconf. URLconfs are how Django associates a given URL with given Python code.

Let's start by adding our URL configuration directly to the `urls.py` that already exists in your project at `<my_geonode>/urls.py`. Edit this file and add the following lines after the rest of the existing imports around line 80:

```
url(r'^polls/$', 'polls.views.index'),
url(r'^polls/(?P<poll_id>\d+)/$', 'polls.views.detail'),
url(r'^polls/(?P<poll_id>\d+)/results/$', 'polls.views.results'),
url(r'^polls/(?P<poll_id>\d+)/vote/$', 'polls.views.vote'),
```

---

**Note:** Eventually we will want to move this set of URL configurations inside the URLs app itself, but for the sake of brevity in this workshop, we will put them in the main `urls.py` for now. You can consult the Django tutorial for more information on this topic.

---

Next write the views to drive the URL patterns we configured above. Edit `polls/views.py` to that it looks like the following:

```
from django.template import Context, loader
from polls.models import Poll
from django.http import HttpResponseRedirect
from django.http import Http404
from django.shortcuts import render_to_response

def index(request):
 latest_poll_list = Poll.objects.all().order_by('-pub_date')[:5]
 return render_to_response('polls/index.html',
 RequestContext(request, {'latest_poll_list': latest_poll_list}))

def detail(request, poll_id):
 try:
 p = Poll.objects.get(pk=poll_id)
 except Poll.DoesNotExist:
 raise Http404
 return render_to_response('polls/detail.html', RequestContext(request, {'poll': p}))

def results(request, poll_id):
 return HttpResponseRedirect("You're looking at the results of poll %s." % poll_id)

def vote(request, poll_id):
 return HttpResponseRedirect("You're voting on poll %s." % poll_id)
```

---

**Note:** We have only stubbed in the views for the results and vote pages. They are not very useful as-is. We will revisit these later.

---

Now we have views in place, but we are referencing templates that do not yet exist. Let's add them by first creating a template directory in your `polls` app at `polls/templates/polls` and creating `polls/templates/polls/index.html` to look like the following:

```
{% if latest_poll_list %}

 {% for poll in latest_poll_list %}
 {{ poll.question }}
 {% endfor %}

```

```
{% else %}
 <p>No polls are available.</p>
{% endif %}
```

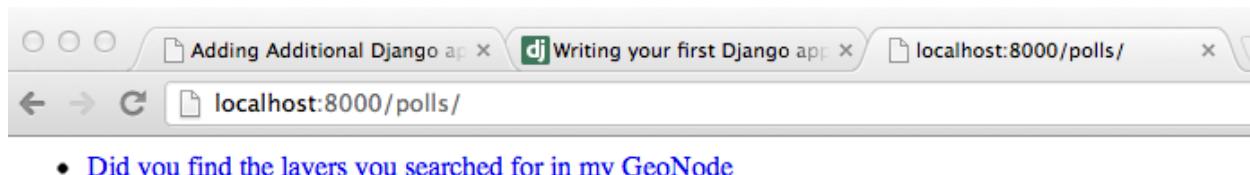
Next we need to create the template for the poll detail page. Create a new file at `polls/templates/polls/detail.html` to look like the following:

```
<h1>{{ poll.question }}</h1>

 {% for choice in poll.choice_set.all %}
 {{ choice.choice }}
 {% endfor %}

```

You can now visit <http://localhost:8000/polls/> in your browser and you should see the the poll question you created in the admin presented like this.



We actually want our polls app to display as part of our GeoNode project with the same theme, so let's update the two templates we created above to make them extend from the `site_base.html` template we looked at in the last section. You will need to add the following two lines to the top of each file:

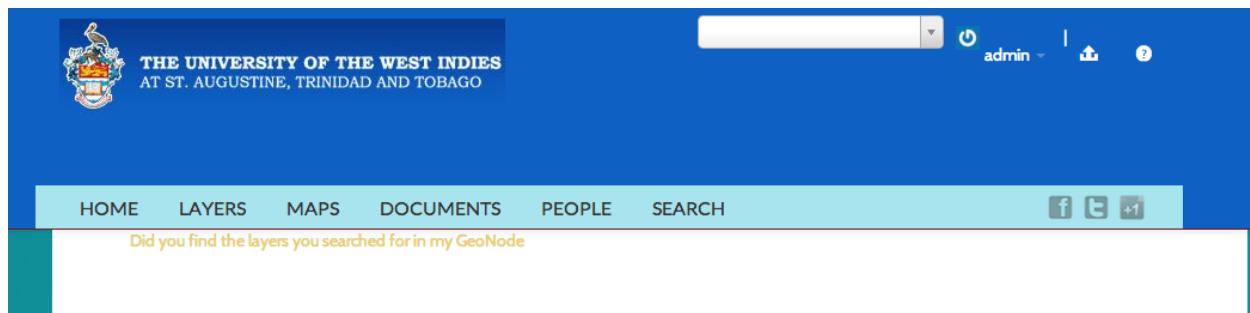
```
{% extends 'site_base.html' %}
{% block body %}
```

And close the block at the bottom of each file with:

```
{% endblock %}
```

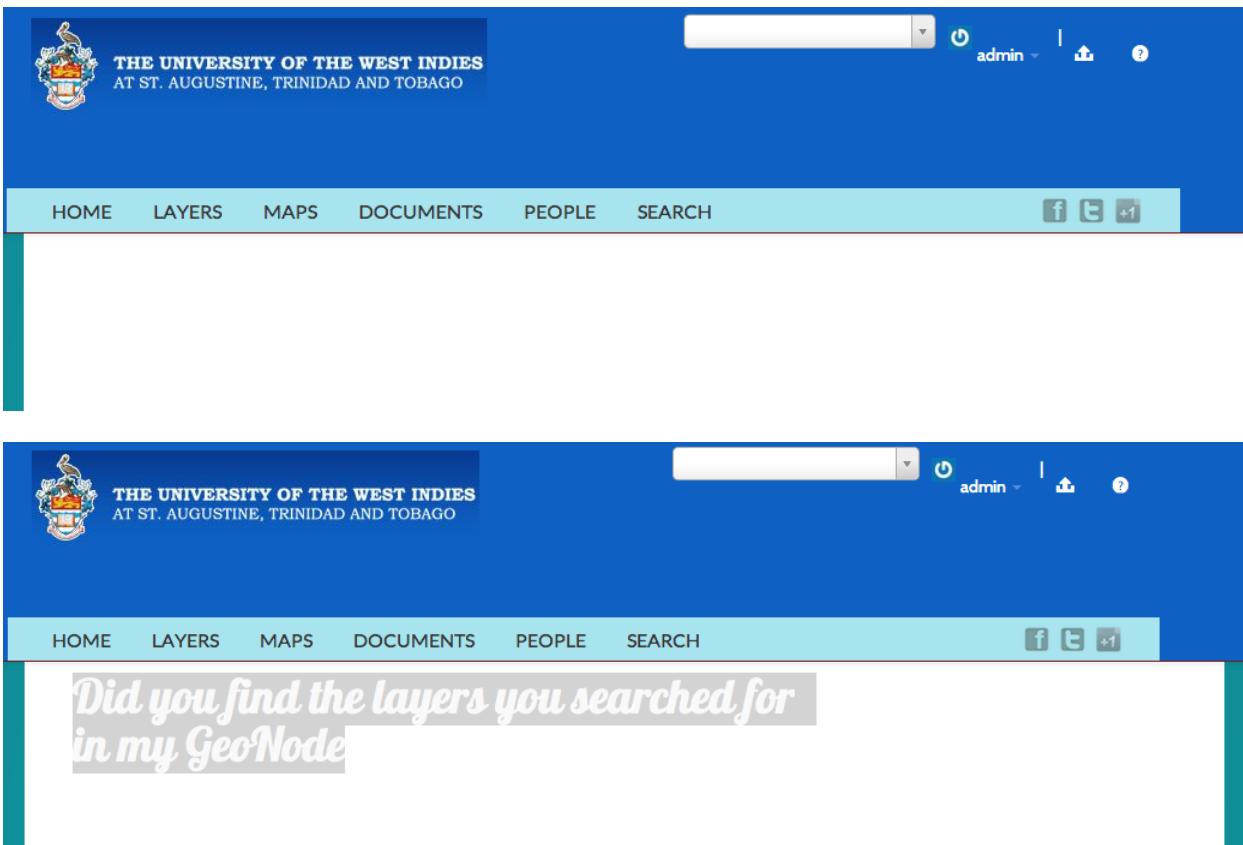
This tells Django to extend from the `site_base.html` template so your polls app has the same style as the rest of your GeoNode, and it specifies that the content in these templates should be rendered to the `body` block defined in GeoNode's `base.html` template that your `site_base.html` extends from.

You can now visit the index page of your polls app and see that it is now wrapped in the same style as the rest of your GeoNode site.



If you click on a question from the list you will be taken to the poll detail page.

It looks like it is empty, but in fact the text is there, but styled to be white by the Bootswatch theme we added in the last section. If you highlight the area where the text is, you will see that it is there.



Now that you have walked through the basic steps to create a very minimal (though not very useful) Django app and integrated it with your GeoNode project, you should pick up the Django tutorial at part 4 and follow it to add the form for actually accepting responses to your poll questions.

We strongly recommend that you spend as much time as you need with the Django tutorial itself until you feel comfortable with all of the concepts. They are the essential building blocks you will need to extend your GeoNode project by adding your own apps.

### 3.4.3 Adding a 3rd party blog app

Now that we have created our own app and added it to our GeoNode project, the next thing we will work through is adding a 3rd party blog app. There are a number of blog apps that you can use, but for purposes of this workshop, we will use a relatively simple, yet extensible app called [Zinnia](#). You can find out more information about Zinnia on its website or on its [GitHub project page](#) or by following its [documentation](#). This section will walk you through the minimal set of steps necessary to add Zinnia to your GeoNode project.

The first thing to do is to install Zinnia into the virtualenv that you are working in. Make sure your virtualenv is activated and execute the following command:

```
$ pip install django-blog-zinnia
```

This will install Zinnia and all of the libraries that it depends on.

Next add Zinnia to the INSTALLED\_APPS section of your GeoNode projects `settings.py` file by editing `<my_geonode>/settings.py` and adding ‘`django.contrib.comments`’ to the section labeled “Apps Bundled with Django” so that it looks like the following:

```
Apps bundled with Django
'django.contrib.auth',
'django.contrib.contenttypes',
'django.contrib.sessions',
'django.contrib.sites',
'django.contrib.admin',
'django.contrib.sitemaps',
'django.contrib.staticfiles',
'django.contrib.messages',
'django.contrib.humanize',
'django.contrib.comments',
```

And then add the tagging, mptt and zinnia apps to the end of the INSTALLED\_APPS where we previously added a section labeled “My GeoNode apps”. It should like like the following:

```
My GeoNode apps
'polls',
'tagging',
'mptt',
'zinnia',
```

Next you will need to run syncdb again to synchronize the models for the apps we have just added to our project’s database. This time we want to pass the --all flag to syncdb so it ignores the schema migrations. Schema migrations are discussed further in GeoNode’s documentation, but it is safe to ignore them here.

```
$ python manage.py syncdb --all
```

You can now restart the development server and visit the Admin interface and scroll to the very bottom of the list to find a section for Zinnia that allows you to manage database records for Categories and Blog Entries.

Zinnia	
Categories	 Add  Change
Entries	 Add  Change

Next we need to configure our project to add Zinnia’s URL configurations. Add the following two URL configuration entries to the end of <my\_geonode>/urls.py:

```
url(r'^blog/', include('zinnia.urls')),
url(r'^djcomments/', include('django.contrib.comments.urls')),
```

If you visit the main blog page in your browser at <http://localhost:8000/blog/> you will find that the blog displays with Zinnia’s default theme as shown below.

This page includes some guidance for us on how to change the default theme. The first thing we need to do is to copy Zinnia’s base.html template into our own project so we can modify it. When you installed Zinnia, templates were installed to /var/lib/geonode/lib/python2.7/site-packages/zinnia/templates/zinnia/. You can copy the base template by executing the following commands:

```
$ mkdir <my_geonode>/templates/zinnia
$ cp /var/lib/geonode/lib/python2.7/site-packages/zinnia/templates/zinnia/base.html <my_geonode>/temp
```

Then you need to edit this file and change the topmost line to read as below such that this template extends from our projects site\_base.html rather than the zinnia skeleton.html:

The screenshot shows a blog interface with a header featuring a colorful flower icon and the title "Zinnia's Blog". Below the header is a sub-header "Just another Zinnia Weblog.". A navigation bar includes a "Blog" link. A teal banner at the top says "No entries yet.". To the right, a "Welcome!" box contains text about the base template and a note to override the template. A "Categories" box shows a single entry: "No categories yet.". An "Authors" box also shows a single entry: "No authors yet.". The footer contains a copyright notice: "This simple skin is the base template of the Zinnia application, used for displaying the blog quickly." and "Feel free to override the `zinnia/base.html` template to change the default appearance."

```
{% extends "site_base.html" %}
```

Since Zinnia uses a different block naming scheme than GeoNode does, you need to add the following line to the bottom of your site\_base.html file so that the content block gets rendered properly:

```
{% block body %}{% block content %}{% endblock %}{% endblock %}
```

The screenshot shows a customized GeoNode interface for The University of the West Indies. The header features the university's crest and the text "THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES AT ST. AUGUSTINE, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO". The top right includes a search bar, user info for "admin", and social media links. A navigation bar at the bottom has links for HOME, LAYERS, MAPS, DOCUMENTS, PEOPLE, and SEARCH, along with social media icons. The main content area displays a "No entries yet." message and sections for "Categories" (empty) and "Authors" (empty). A "Calendar" section shows a grid for February 2013.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

You can see that there are currently no blog entries, so let's add one. Scroll to the bottom of the interface and click the *Post an Entry* link to go to the form in the Admin interface that lets you create a blog post. Go ahead and fill out the form with some information for testing purposes. Make sure that you change the Status dropdown to “published” so the post shows up right away.

You can explore all of the options available to you as you create your post, and when you are done, click the *Save* button. You will be taken to the page that shows the list of all your blog posts.

**Django administration**

Welcome, admin. Change password / Log out

Home > Zinnia > Entries > UWI GeoNode Ready for Use: draft

**Change entry**

**Content**

Title: UWI GeoNode Ready for Use

Content:

The new GeoNode system for use by UWI Students and Staff is now up and running.

Containers

- Paragraph
- Heading 1
- Heading 2
- Heading 3
- Heading 4
- Heading 5
- Heading 6
- Preformatted
- Blockquote
- Table Header

Classes

- PARA: Highlight
- PARA: Hidden note
- IMG: floating left
- IMG: floating right

Image: Choose File No file chosen  
Used for illustration.

Status:  draft  hidden  published

Options (Show) Privacy (Show) Discussions (Show)

**Django administration**

Welcome, admin. Change password / Log out

Home > Zinnia > Entries

✓ The entry "UWI GeoNode Ready for Use: published" was changed successfully.

**Select entry to change**

Search

« 2013 February 8

Action:	Title	Author(s)	Category(s)	Tag(s)	Site(s)	Is visible	Short url	Creation date
<input type="checkbox"/>	UWI GeoNode Ready for Use (16 words)	admin			example.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	http://example.com/blog/1/	Feb. 8, 2013, 2:19 a.m.

Action: 0 of 1 selected

1 entry

**Filter**

- By published authors
  - All admin (1 entry)
- By status
  - All draft hidden published
- By featured
  - All Yes No
- By login required
  - All Yes

You can then visit your blog post/entry at <http://localhost:8000/blog/>.



### UWI GeoNode Ready for Use

Written by [admin](#) on Feb. 8, 2013 .

Last update on Feb. 8, 2013.

The new GeoNode system for use by UWI Students and Staff is now up and running.

[Continue reading](#)

Tags : No tags

Short url : <http://localhost:8000/blog/1/>

Discussions : No comments yet. [Be first to comment!](#)

#### Yearly archives

- [2013](#)

#### Categories

- No categories yet.

#### Authors

- [admin](#) 1 entry

#### Calendar

February 2013						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

#### Tags

- No tags yet.

#### Recent entries

- [UWI GeoNode Ready for Use](#)

And if you click on the blog post title, you will be taken to the page for the complete blog post. You and your users can leave comments on this post and various other blog features from this page.

The last thing we need to do to fully integrate this blog app (and our polls app) into our site is to add it to the options on the navbar. To do so, we need to add the following block override to our Projects `site_base.html`:

```
{% block extra-nav %}
<li id="nav_polls">
 Polls

<li id="nav_blog">
 Blog

{% endblock %}
```

At this point, you could explore options for tighter integration between your GeoNode project and Zinnia. Integrating blog posts from Zinnia into your overall search could be useful, as well as including the blog posts a user has written on their Profile Page. You could also explore the additional plugins that go with Zinnia.

### 3.4.4 Adding other apps

Now that you have both written your own app and plugged in a 3rd party one, you can explore sites like Django Packages to look for other modules that you could plug into your GeoNode project to meet your needs and requirements. For many types of apps, there are several options and Django Packages is a nice way to compare them. You may find that some apps require significantly more work to integrate into your app than others, but reaching out to the app's author and/or developers should help you get over any difficulties you may encounter.

**UWI GeoNode Ready for Use**

Written by admin on Feb. 8, 2013.

Last update on Feb. 8, 2013.

The new GeoNode system for use by UWI Students and Staff is now up and running.

**Tags :** No tags

**Short url :** <http://localhost:8000/blog/1/>

**Discussions :** No comments yet. [Be first to comment!](#)

**Similar entries**

- No similar entries.

**Comments**

No comments yet.

**Pingbacks**

Pingbacks are open.

**Trackbacks**

Trackback URL

**POST YOUR COMMENT**

**Categories**

- No categories yet.

**Authors**

- admin 1 entry

**Calendar**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

**Tags**

- No tags yet.

**Recent entries**

- [UWI GeoNode Ready for Use](#)

**Recent comments**

- No comments yet.

**UWI GEONODE**

**Explore Layers**

**Explore Maps**

**Django Packages**

search FAQ | Sign in with Github

ACTIVITIES	AUTHORIZATION	CAPTCHA	DATABASE MIGRATION	DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT	FLASH
ADMIN INTERFACE	AUTO-COMPLETE	CHAT	DATA TOOLS	E-COMMERCE	FORMS
ANALYTICS	AWARDS AND ...	CMS	DEPLOYMENT	EMAIL	FORUMS
ANTI-SPAM	BLOGS	COMMENTING	DESIGN	ERROR HANDLING	GALLERY
API CREATION	BOOTSTRAPS	CONFIGURATION	DEVELOPER TOOLS	FEEDBACK	GOOGLE APP ...
ASSET MANAGERS	CACHING	COUNTRIES	DJANGO CMS	FIELDS	INTERNATIONALIZA...
AUTHENTICATION	CALENDAR	CUSTOM MODELS	DJANGO SHOP ...	FILE MANAGERS	LAYOUT

**Django Packages is a directory of reusable apps, sites, tools, and more for your Django projects.**

1619 packages and counting!

Know of any packages not listed here? Add them now! It's quick and easy.

[add package »](#)

Or add a grid comparing the features of 2 or more similar packages.

[add grid »](#)

**Package Categories**

**Apps ( 1304 )**  
Small components used to build projects. An app is anything that is installed by placing in settings.INSTALLED\_APPS.

**Frameworks ( 64 )**  
Large efforts that combine many python modules or apps. Examples include Django, Pinax, and Satchmo. Most CMSEs fall into this category.

**Other ( 199 )**  
Other are not installed by settings.INSTALLED\_APPS, are not frameworks or sites but still help Django in some way.

**Projects ( 52 )**  
This is for individual projects such as Django Packages, DjangoProject.com, and others.

**random 5**

- django-rtf** Django Rich Text Editor widget  
Django Rich Text Editor based on FCKEditor, turn a TextField into a rich field stored in H...
- django-wysiwyg**  
A Django application for making Django textareas rich text editors. Certainly as a template tag and possibly as a form wid...
- django-cms-social-networks**  
Django CMS plugins for social networks (only facebook at the moment)
- django-feedstorage**  
Storage for Feeds where subscribers are notified for new feeds entries

[View all packages](#)

## 3.5 Integrating your project with other systems

Your GeoNode project is based on core components which are interoperable and as such, it is straightforward for you to integrate with external applications and services. This section will walk you through how to connect to your GeoNode instance from other applications and how to integrate other services into your GeoNode project. When complete, you should have a good idea about the possibilities for integration, and have basic knowledge about how to accomplish it. You may find it necessary to dive deeper into how to do more complex integration in order to accomplish your goals, but you should feel comfortable with the basics, and feel confident reaching out to the wider GeoNode community for help.

### 3.5.1 OGC services

Since GeoNode is built on GeoServer which is heavily based on OGC services, the main path for integration with external services is via OGC Standards. A large number of systems, applications and services support adding WMS layers to them, but only a few key ones are covered below. WFS and WCS are also supported in a wide variety of clients and platforms and give you access to the actual data for use in GeoProcessing or to manipulate it to meet your requirements. GeoServer also bundles GeoWebCache which produces map tiles that can be added as layers in many popular web mapping tools including Google Maps, Leaflet, OpenLayers and others. You should review the reference material included in the first chapter to learn more about OGC Services and when evaluating external systems make sure that they are also OGC Compliant in order to integrate as seamlessly as possible.

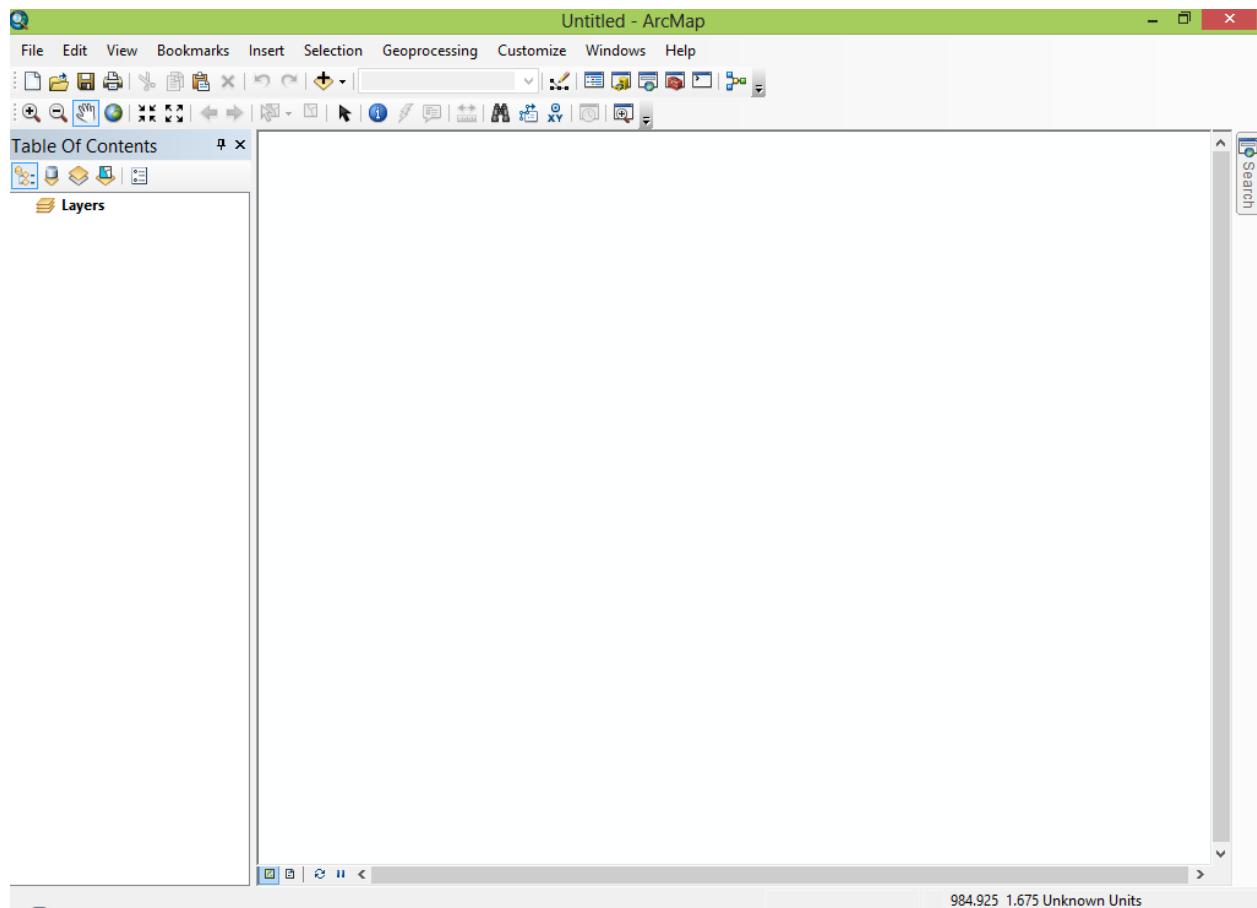
### 3.5.2 ArcGIS

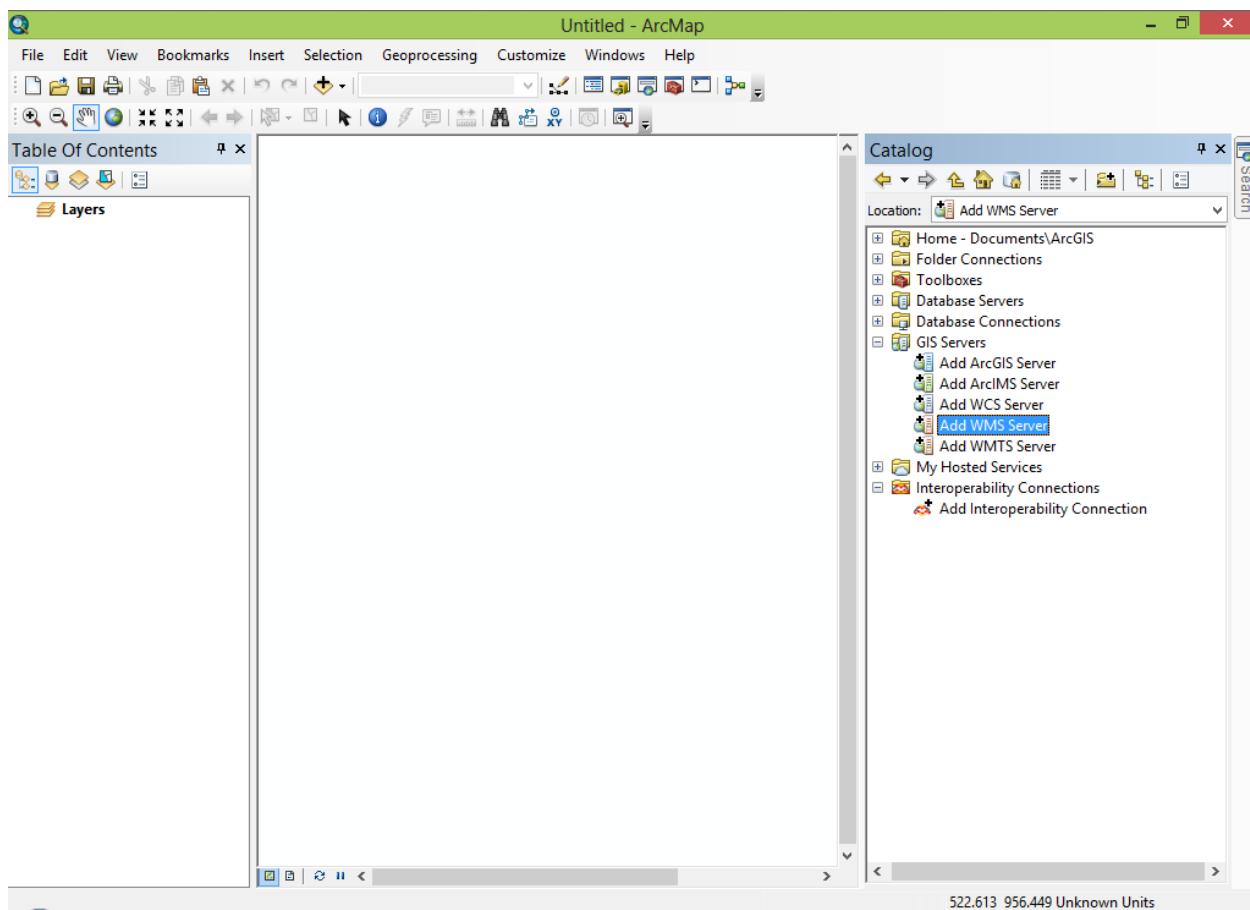
ArcGIS Desktop (ArcMap) supports adding WMS layers to your map project. The following set of steps will walk you through how to configure a WMS Layer from your GeoNode within ArcMap.

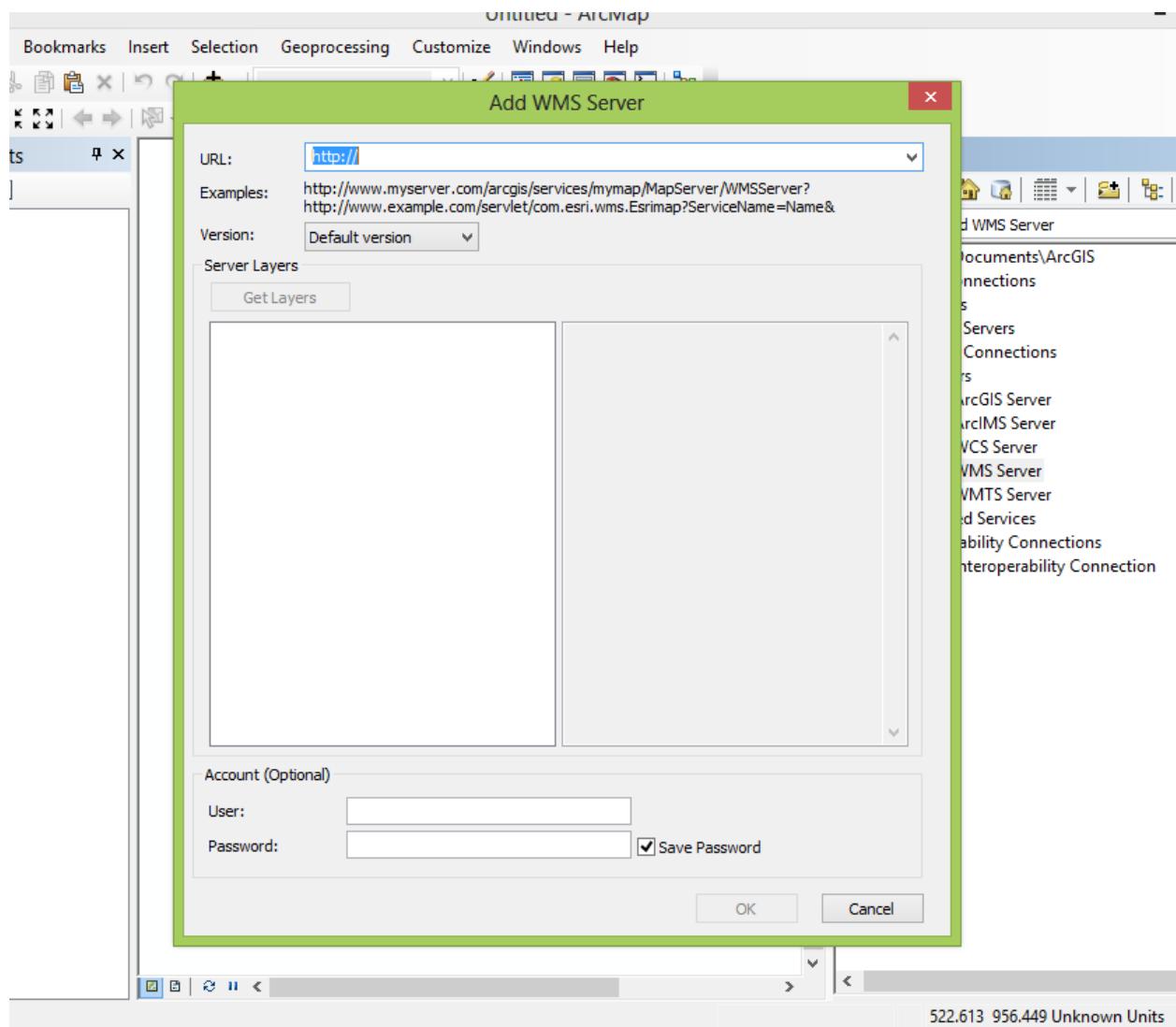
First, you can start with a new empty project or add these layers to your existing project.

Next click the ArcCatalog button on the toolbar to bring up its interface.

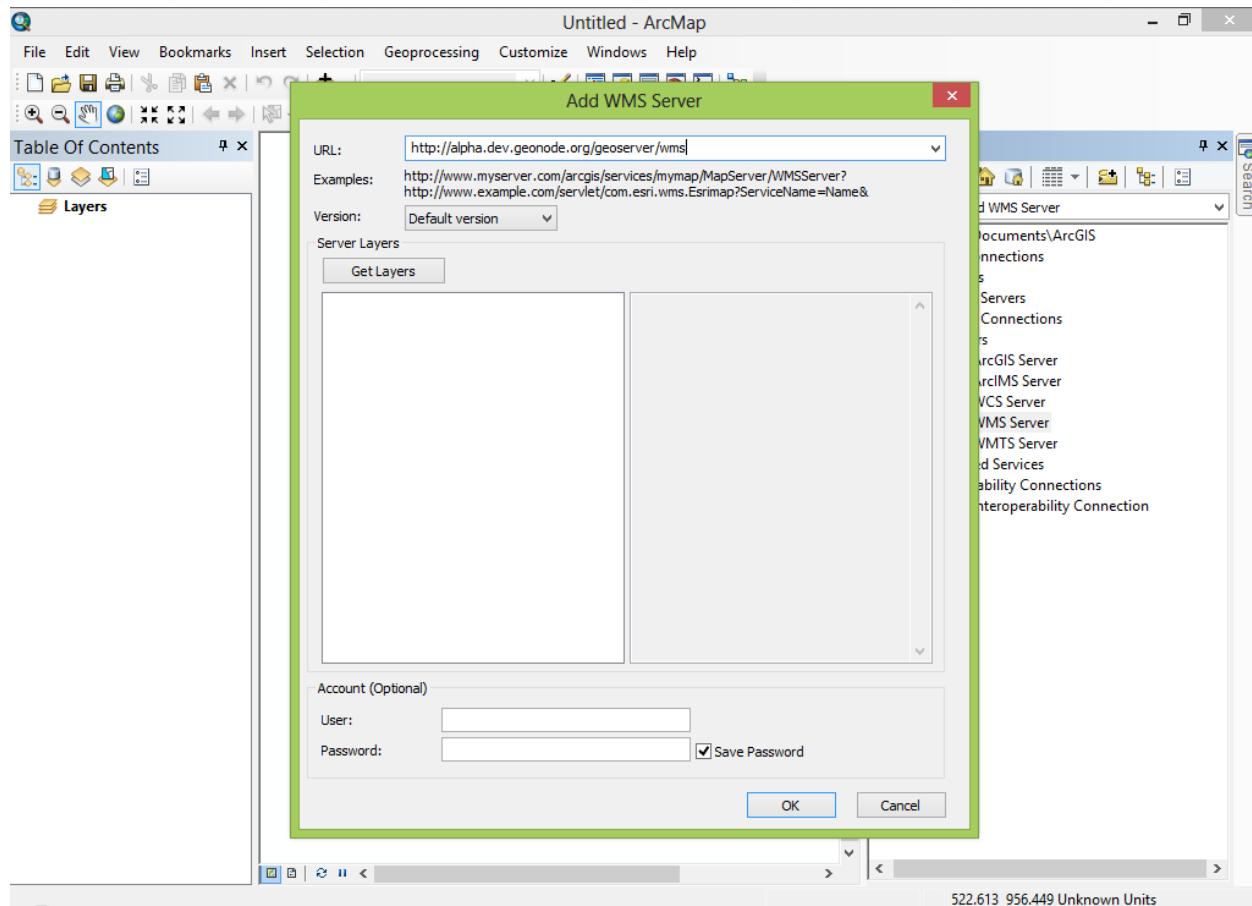
From there, double click the “Add WMS Server” item in the tree to bring up the dialog that lets you enter the details for your WMS.







Next, enter the URL for your GeoNode's WMS endpoint which is the base url with /geoserver/wms appended to the end of the URL. You can also enter your credentials into the optional Account section of this dialog to gain access to non-public layers that your user may have access to.



Click the “Get Layers” button to ask ArcMap to query your WMS’s GetCapabilities document to get the list of available layers.

After you click the OK button, your GeoNode layers will appear in the ArcCatalog Interface.

Once your server is configured in ArcMap, you can right click on one of the layers and investigate its properties.

In order to actually add the layer to your project, you can drag and drop it into the Table of Contents, or right click and select “Create Layer”. Your Layer will now be displayed in the map panel of your project.

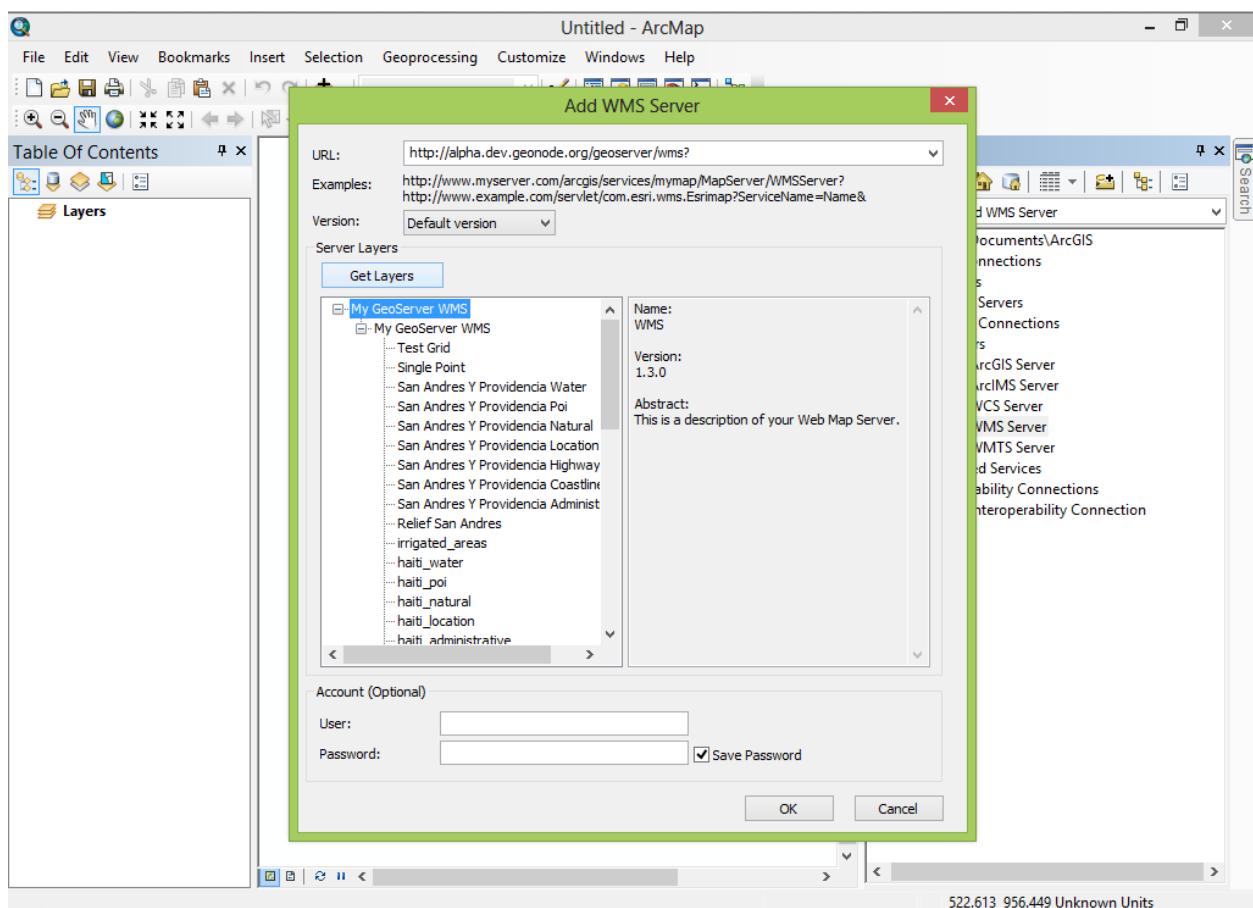
Once the layer is in your projects Table of Contents, you can right click on it and select the Layer Properties option and select the Styles Tab to choose from the available styles for that layer.

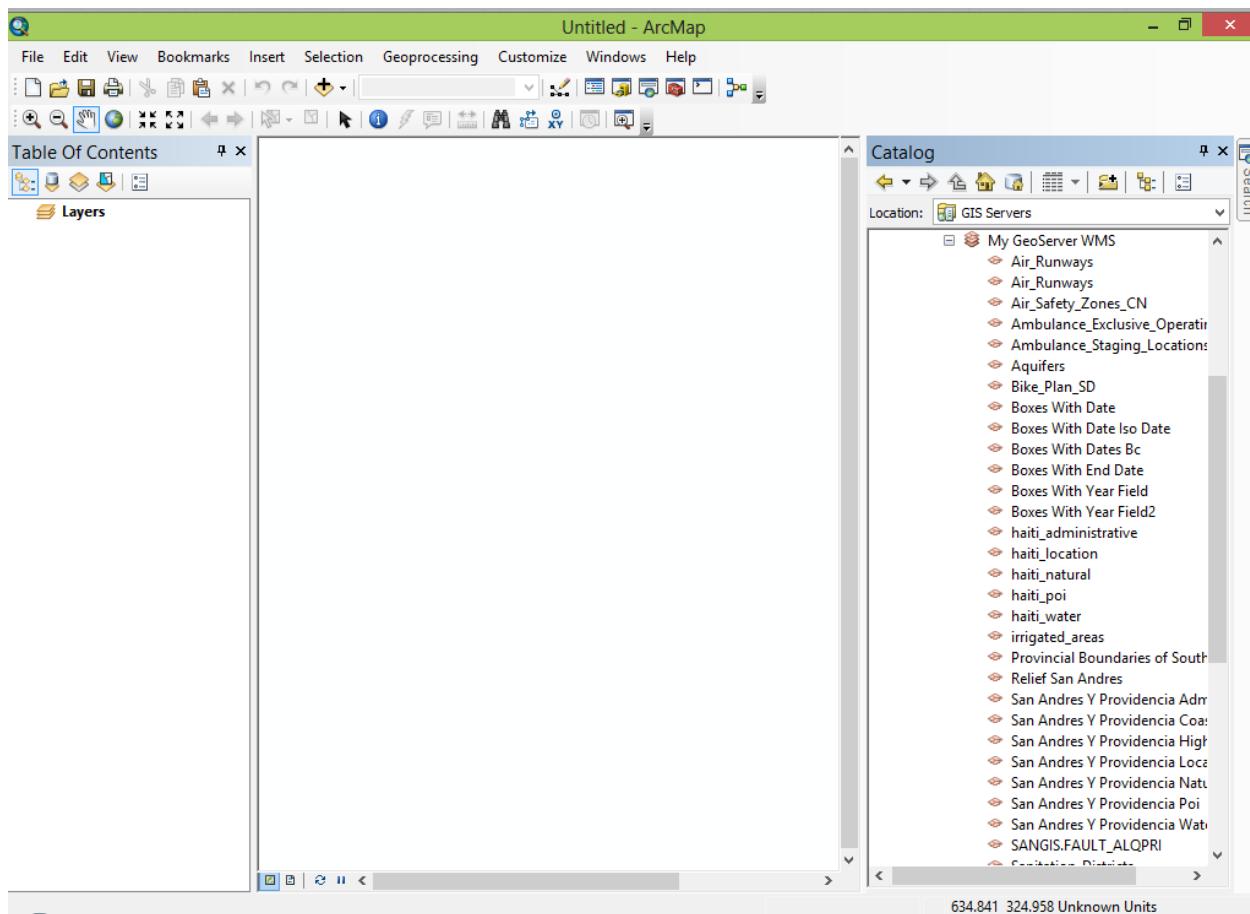
Now that we have seen how to add a WMS layer to our ArcMap project, lets walk through how to add the same layers as a WFS which retrieves the actual feature data from your GeoNode rather than a rendered map as you get with WMS. Adding layers as a WFS gives you more control over how the layers are styled within ArcMap and makes them available for you to use with other ArcGIS tools like the Geoprocessing toolbox.

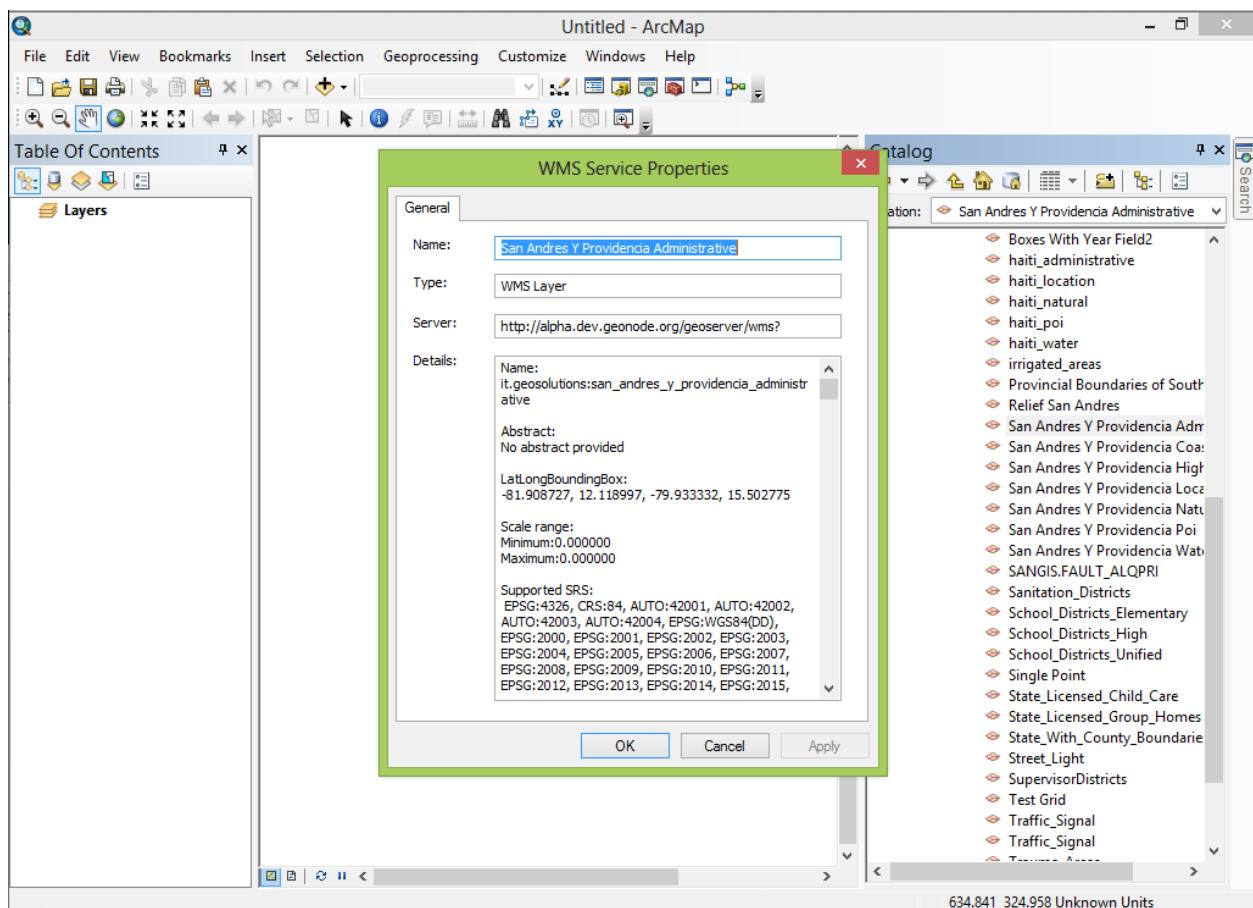
---

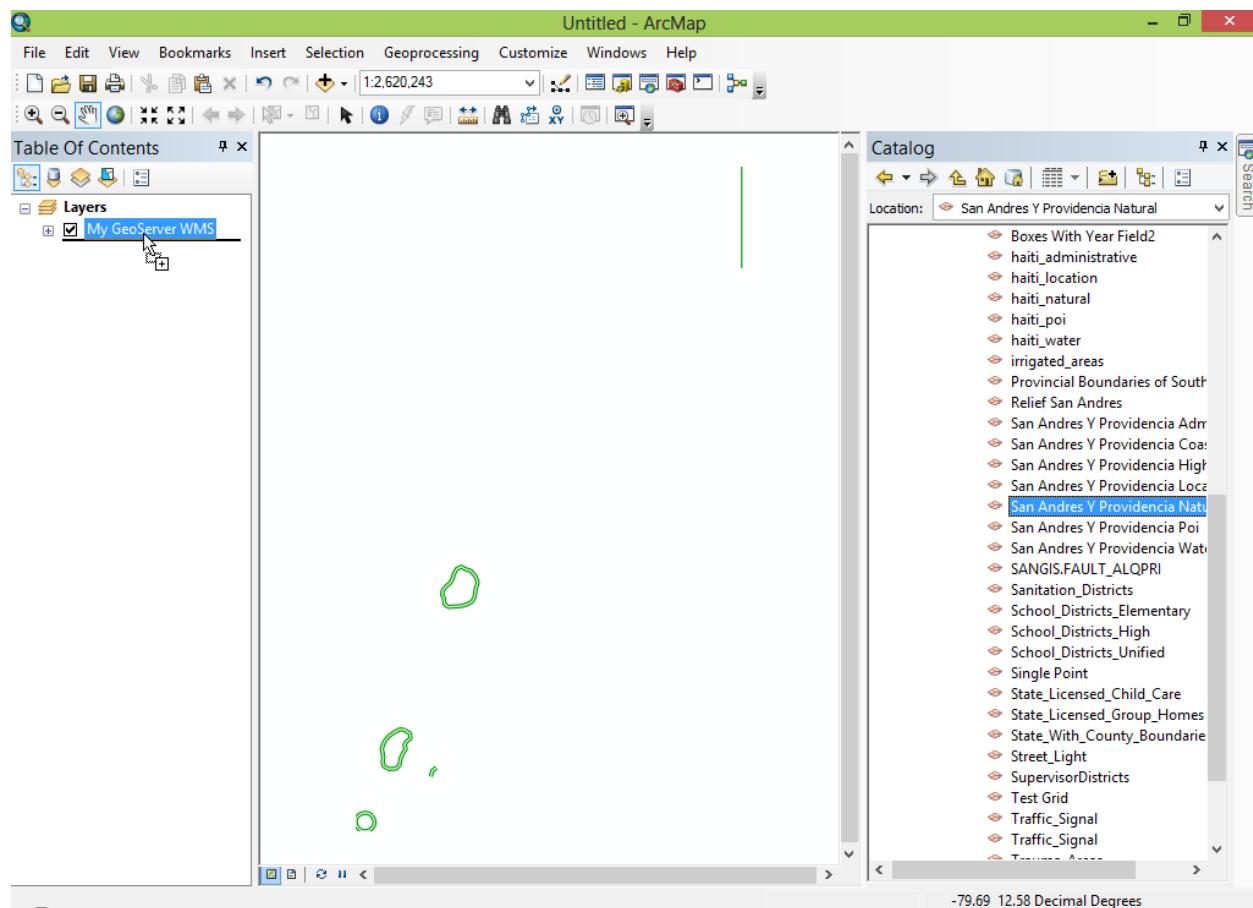
**Note:** Adding WFS layers to ArcMap requires that you have the Data Interoperability Extension installed. This extension is not included in ArcMap by default and is licensed and installed separately.

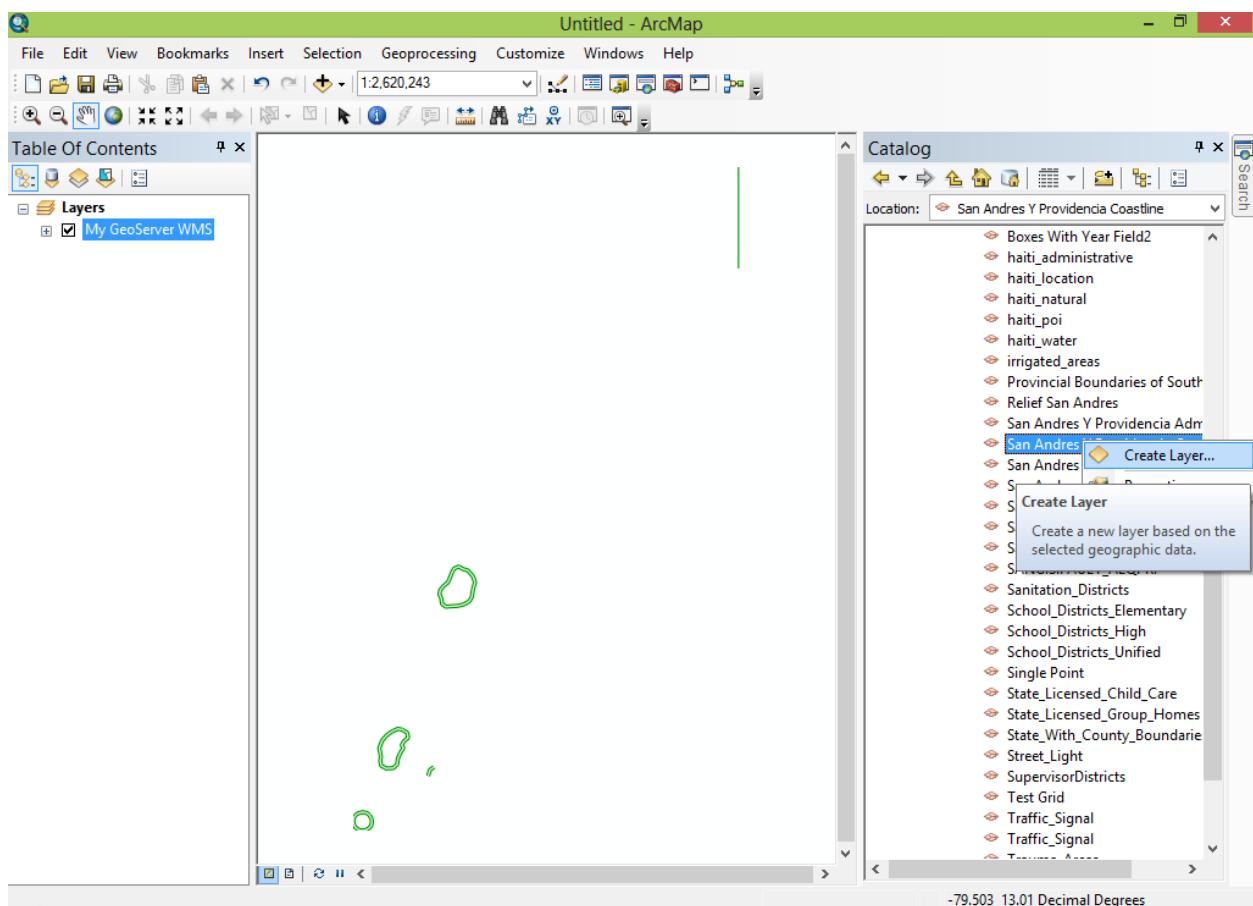
---

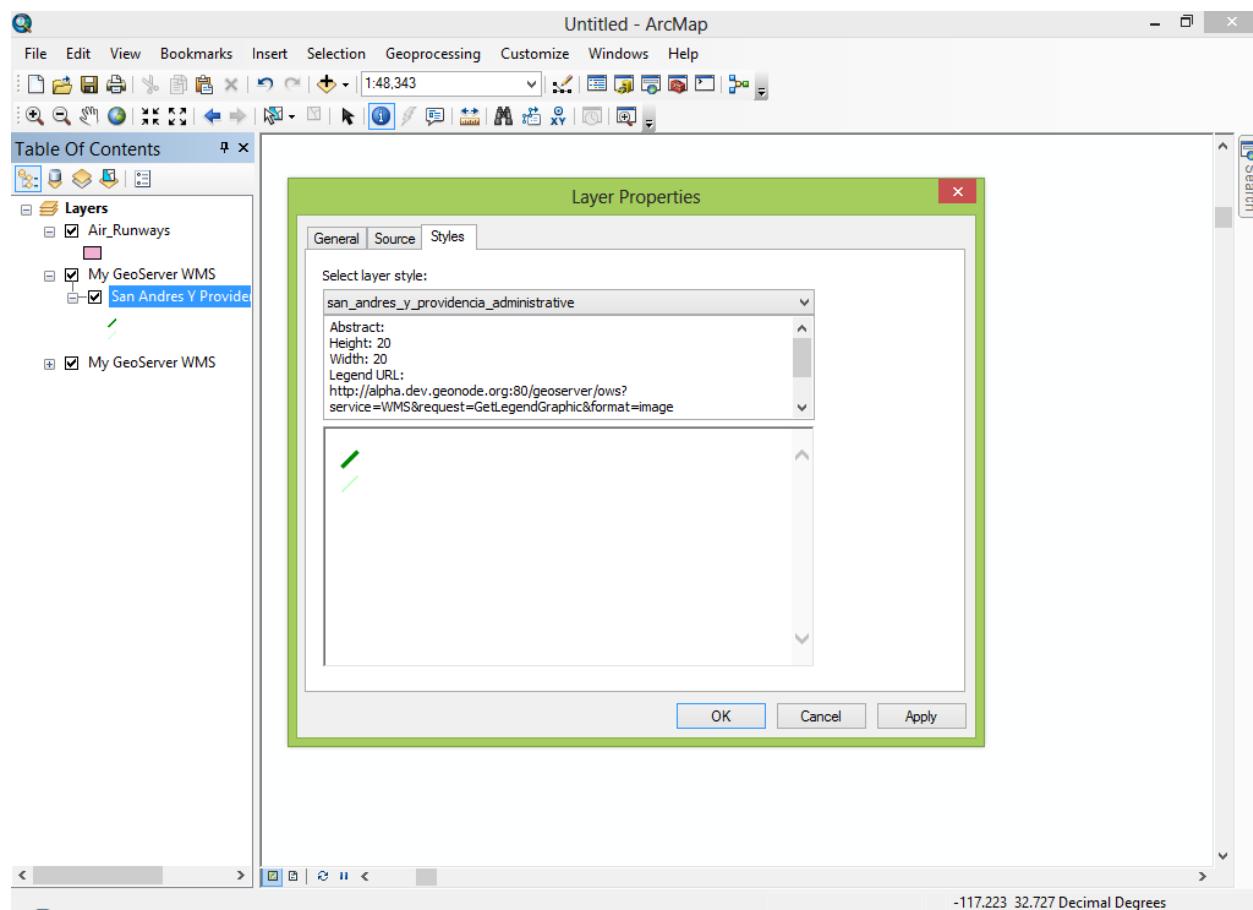




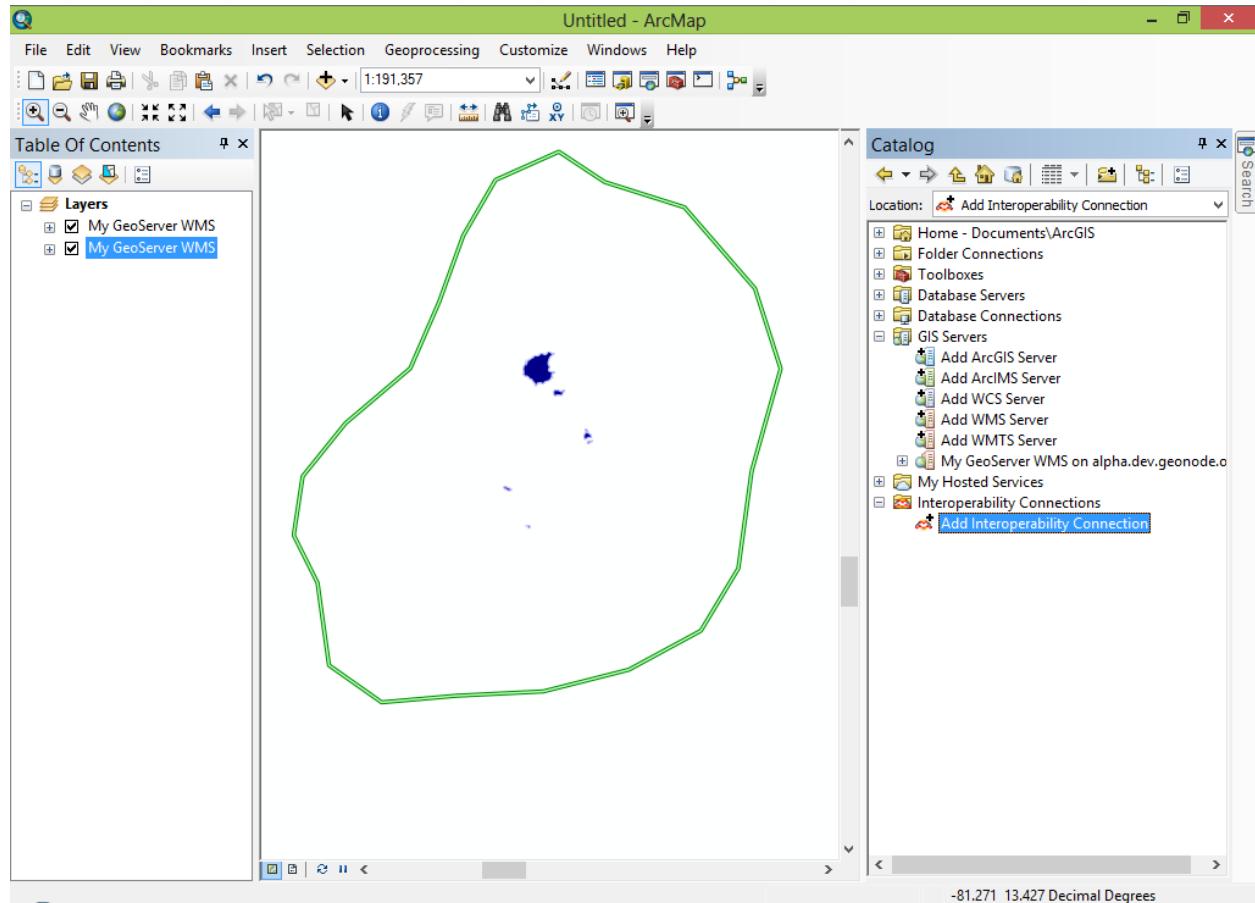








Start by opening up the ArcCatalog Interface within ArcMap and make sure that you have the “Interoperability Connections” option listed in the list.



Next select “Add Interoperability Connection” to bring up the dialog that lets you add the WFS endpoint from your GeoNode.

Select “WFS (Web Feature Service)” in the Format dropdown and enter the URL to the WFS endpoint for your GeoNode in the Dataset field. The WFS endpoint is your base URL + /geoserver/wfs

You will need to click the “Parameters” button to supply more connection information including your credentials which will give you the ability to use private layers that you have access to.

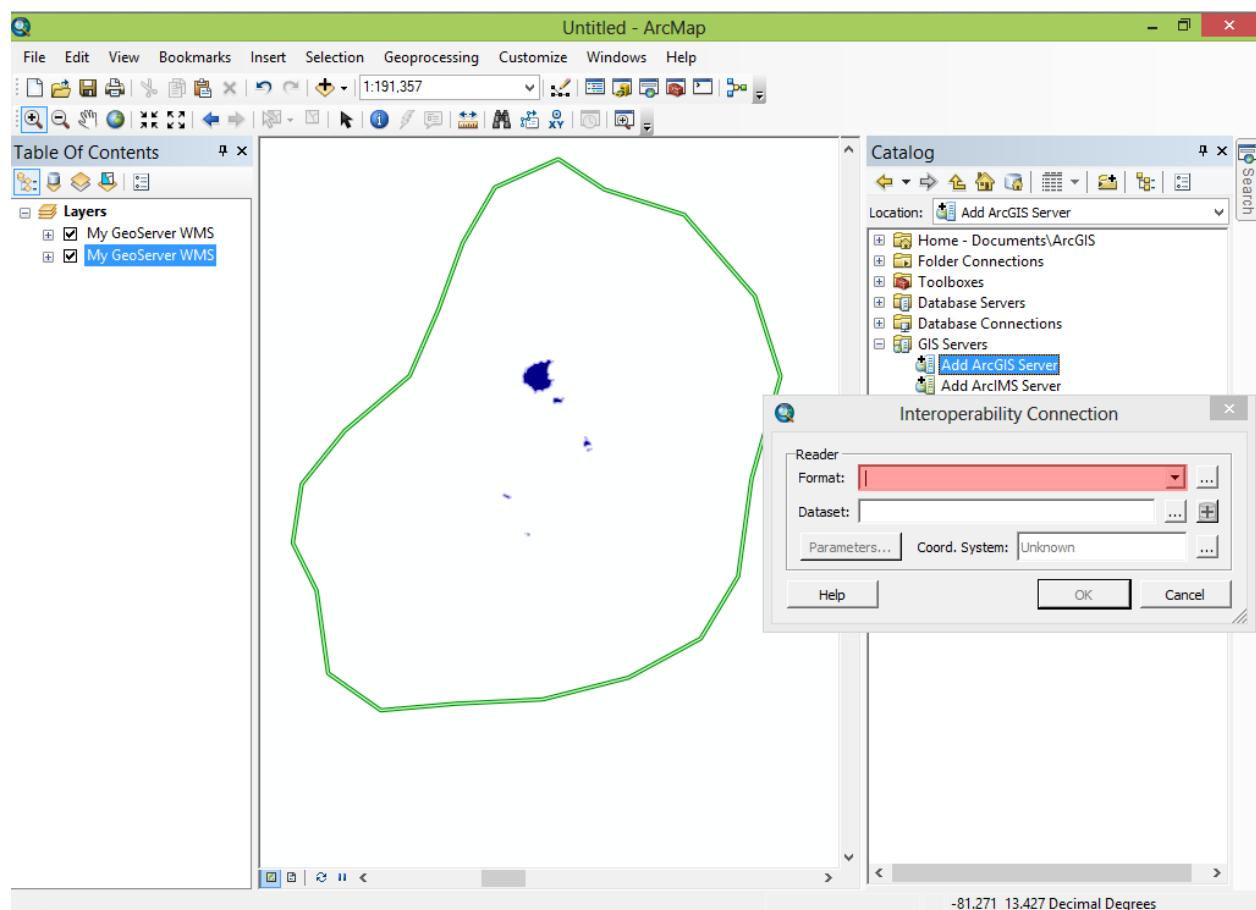
Select the Feature Types button to have ArcMap get a list of layers from the WFS Service of your GeoNode.

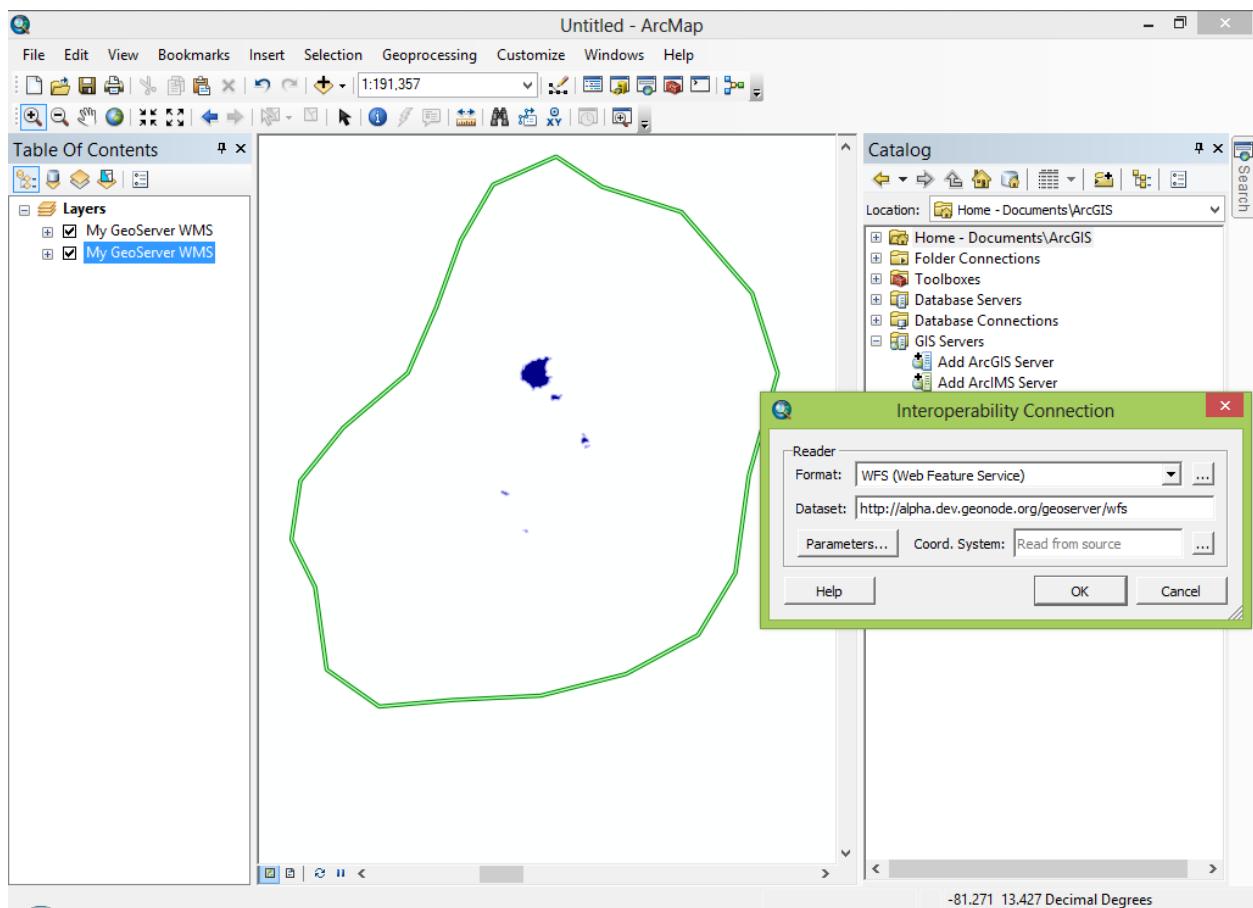
Select the layers that you want to add and click OK and ArcMap will import the features from your GeoNode into the system.

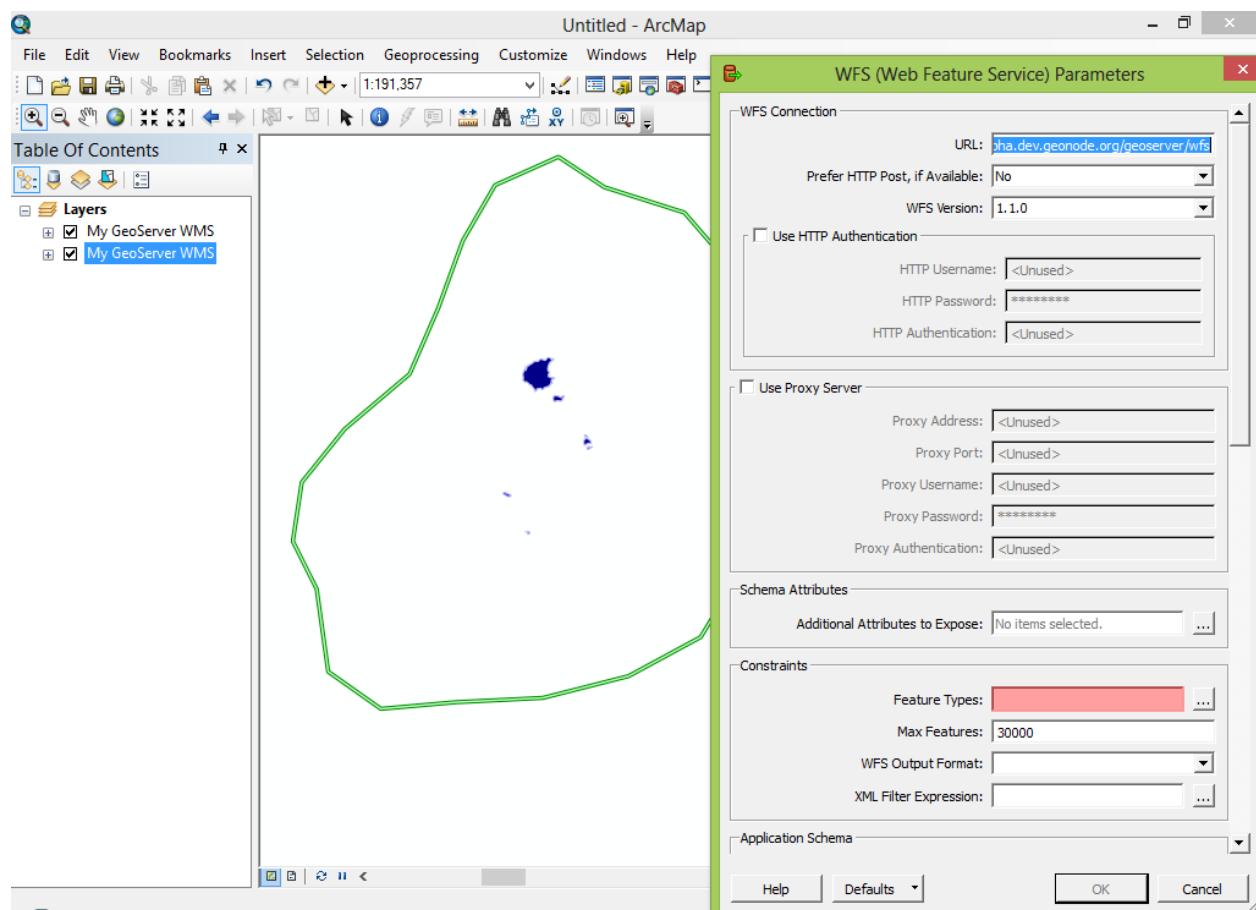
Depending on the projection of your data, you may receive a warning about Alignment and Accuracy of data transformations. You can specify the transformation manually or simply hit close to ignore this dialog. If you dont want to be warned again, use the checkboxes in this dialog to hide these warnings temporarily or permanently.

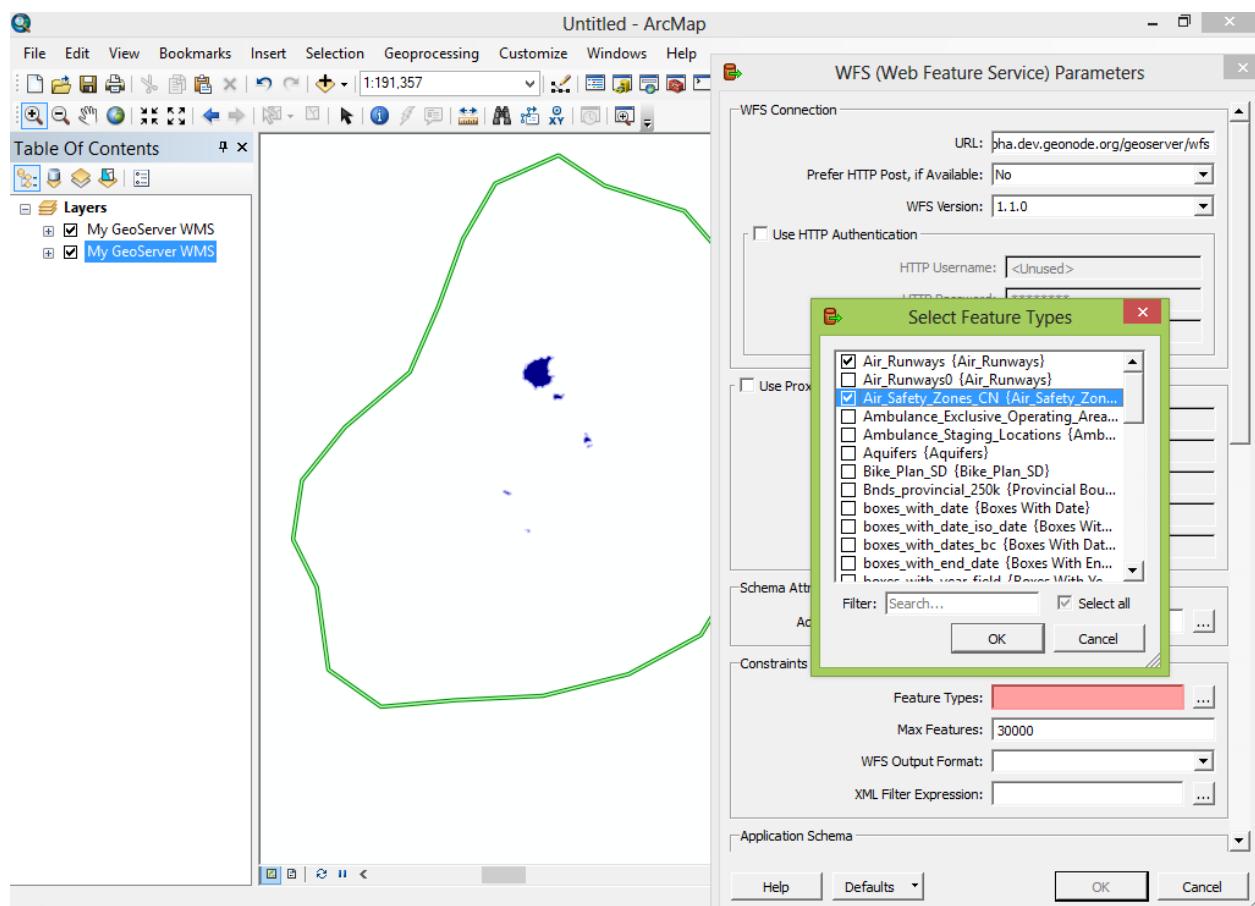
Your WFS Layer will be added to your map and you can view it in the Map Panel. If you need to, use the “Zoom to Layer Extent” or other zoom tools to zoom to the bounds of your layer.

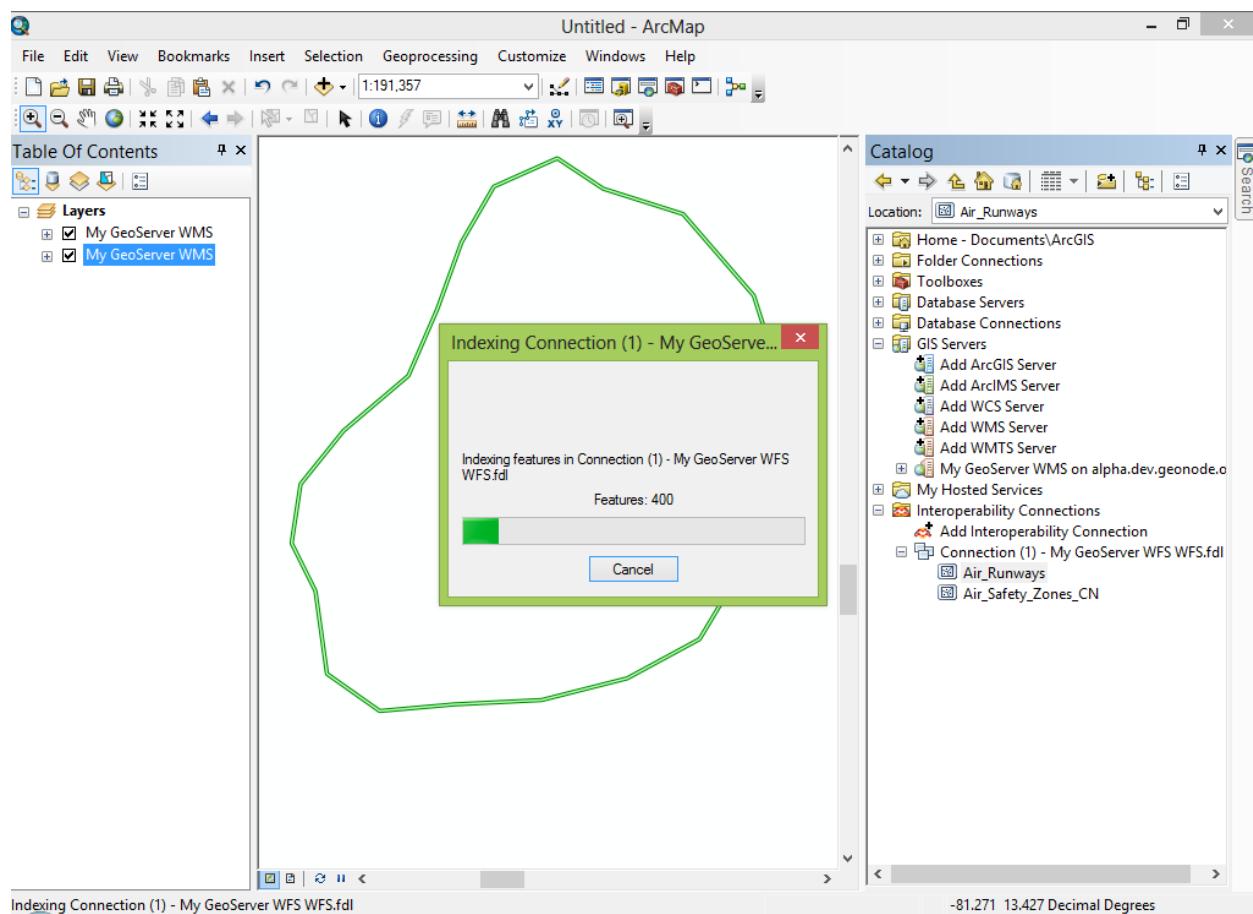
You can now use the identify tool to inspect a feature in your layer, or perform any other function that you can normally use to work with Vector Layers in ArcMap.

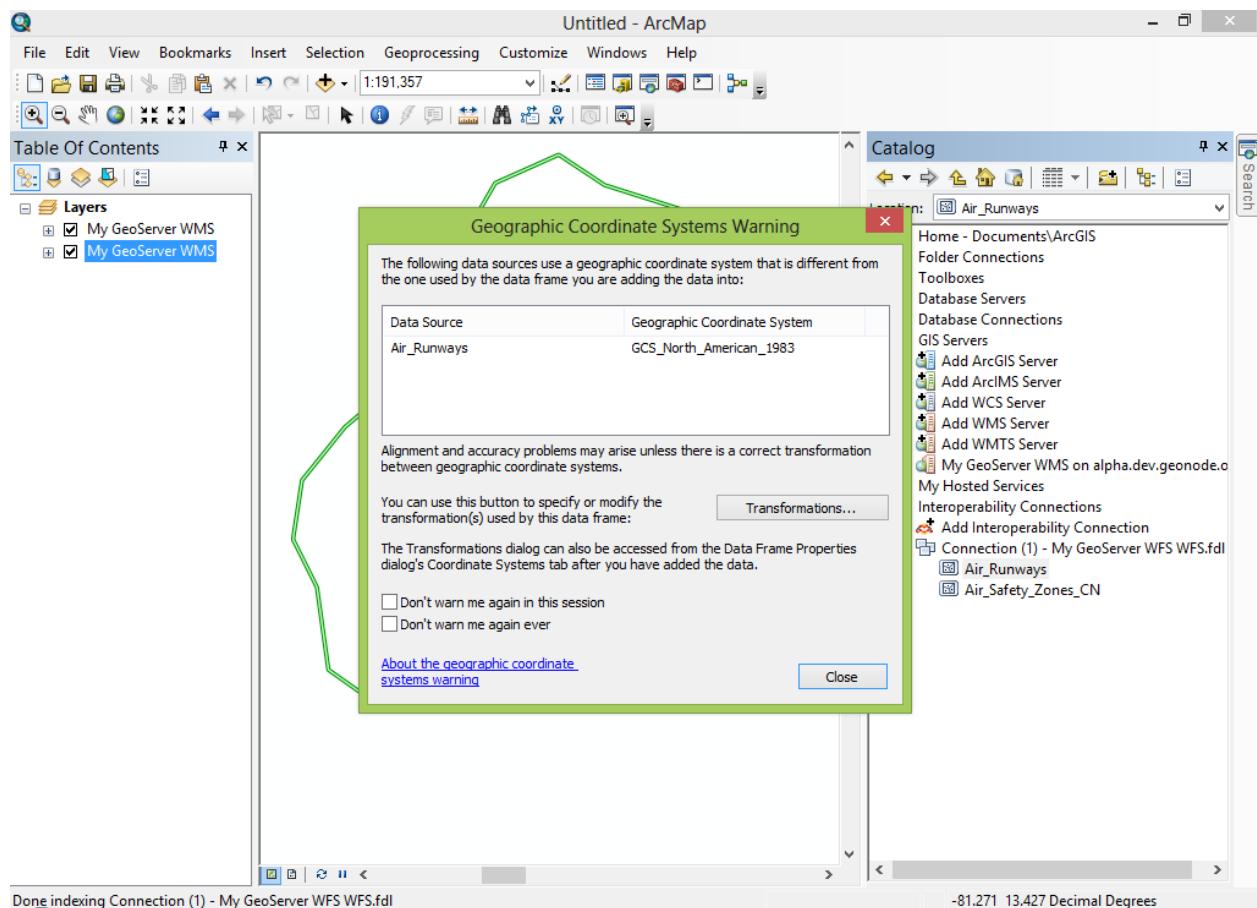


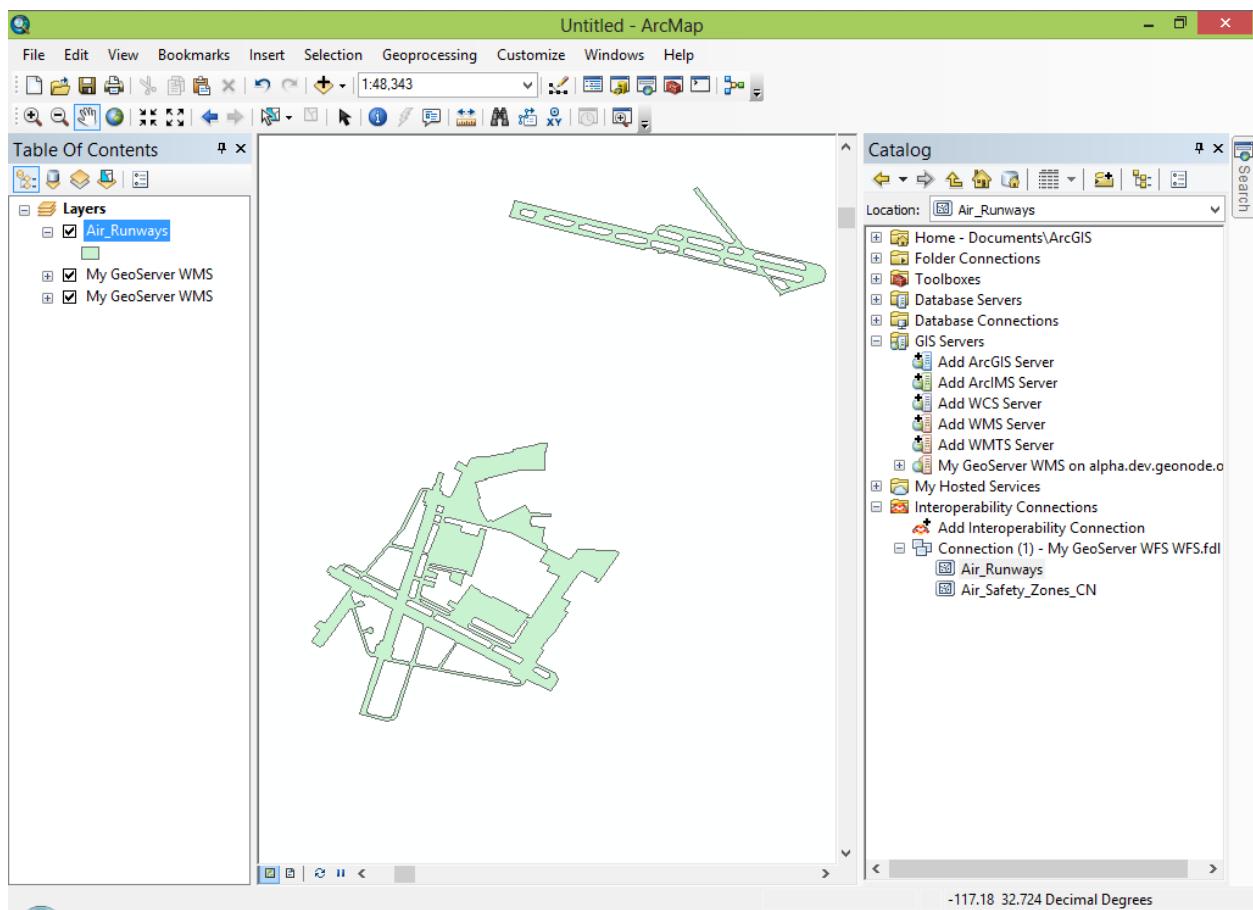


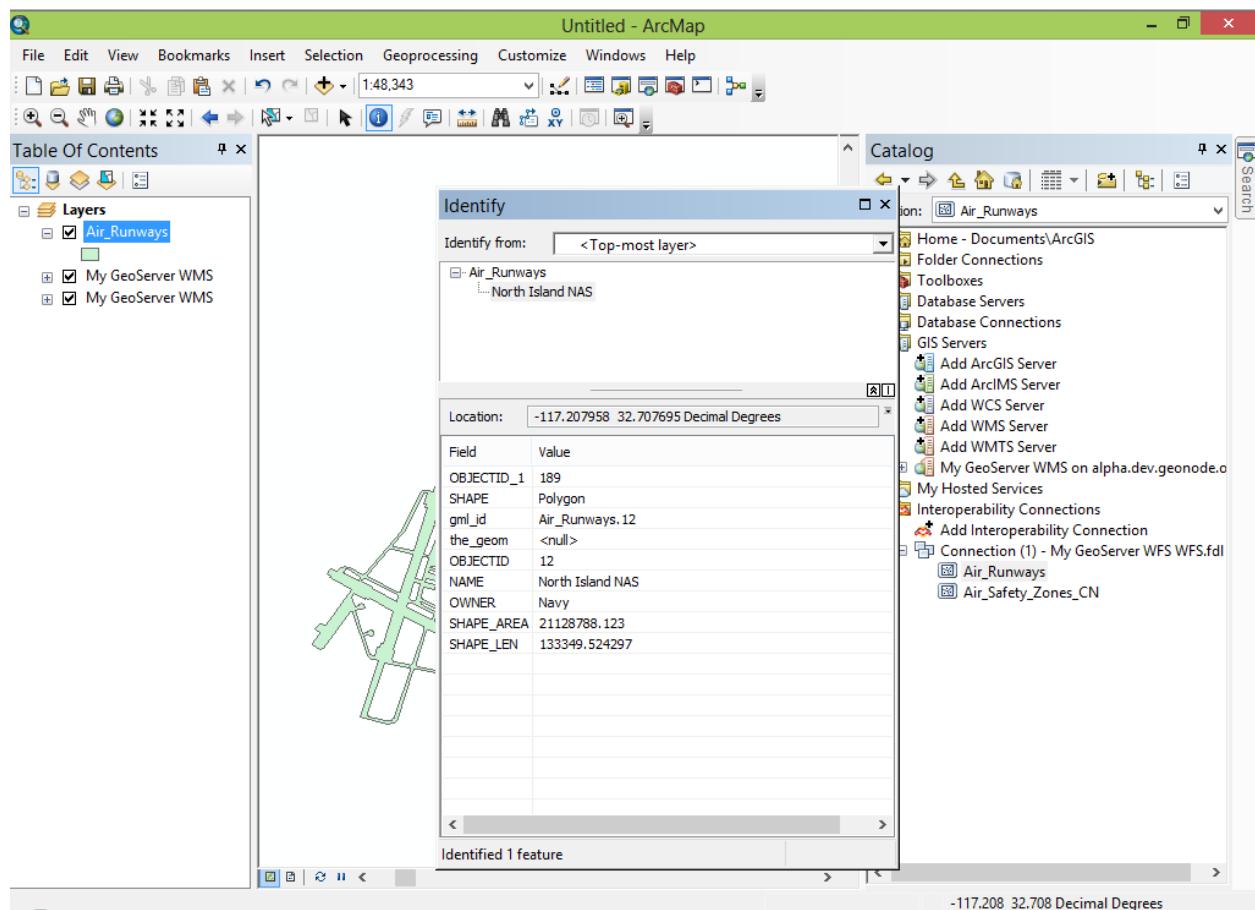




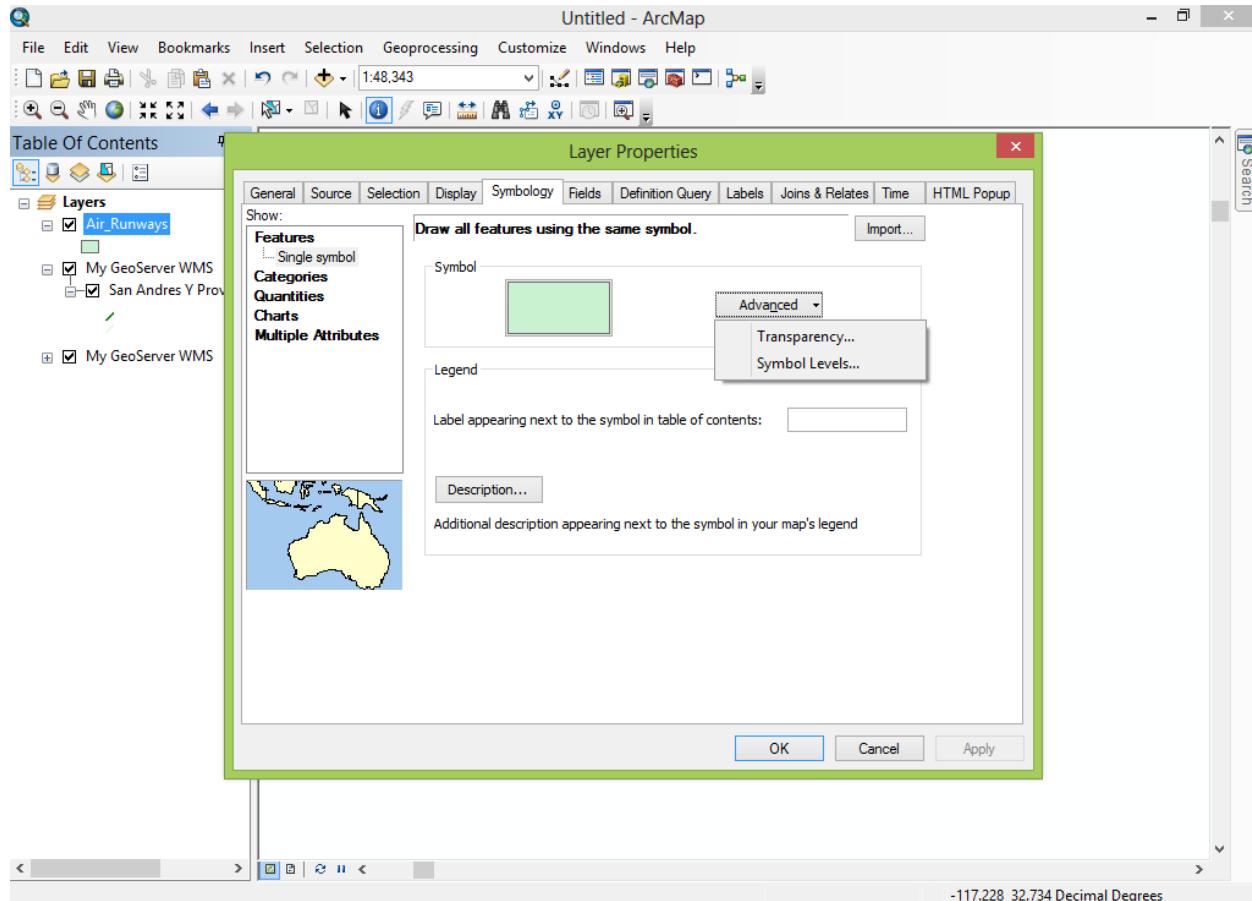








Since your layer was imported as actual vector features, you can use normal ArcMap styling tools to style the layer to match how you want it to be displayed.



Now that you have added layers from your GeoNode as both WMS and WFS, you can explore the other options available to you with these layers within ArcMap.

### 3.5.3 QGIS

Quantum GIS or qGIS is an open source, cross platform desktop GIS app. It can also be used to add layers from your GeoNode instance as WMS or WFS. The process is very similar to how we add these same layers to ArcMap, and we will walk through the steps necessary in the following section.

First, select “Add WMS Layer” from the Layer menu.

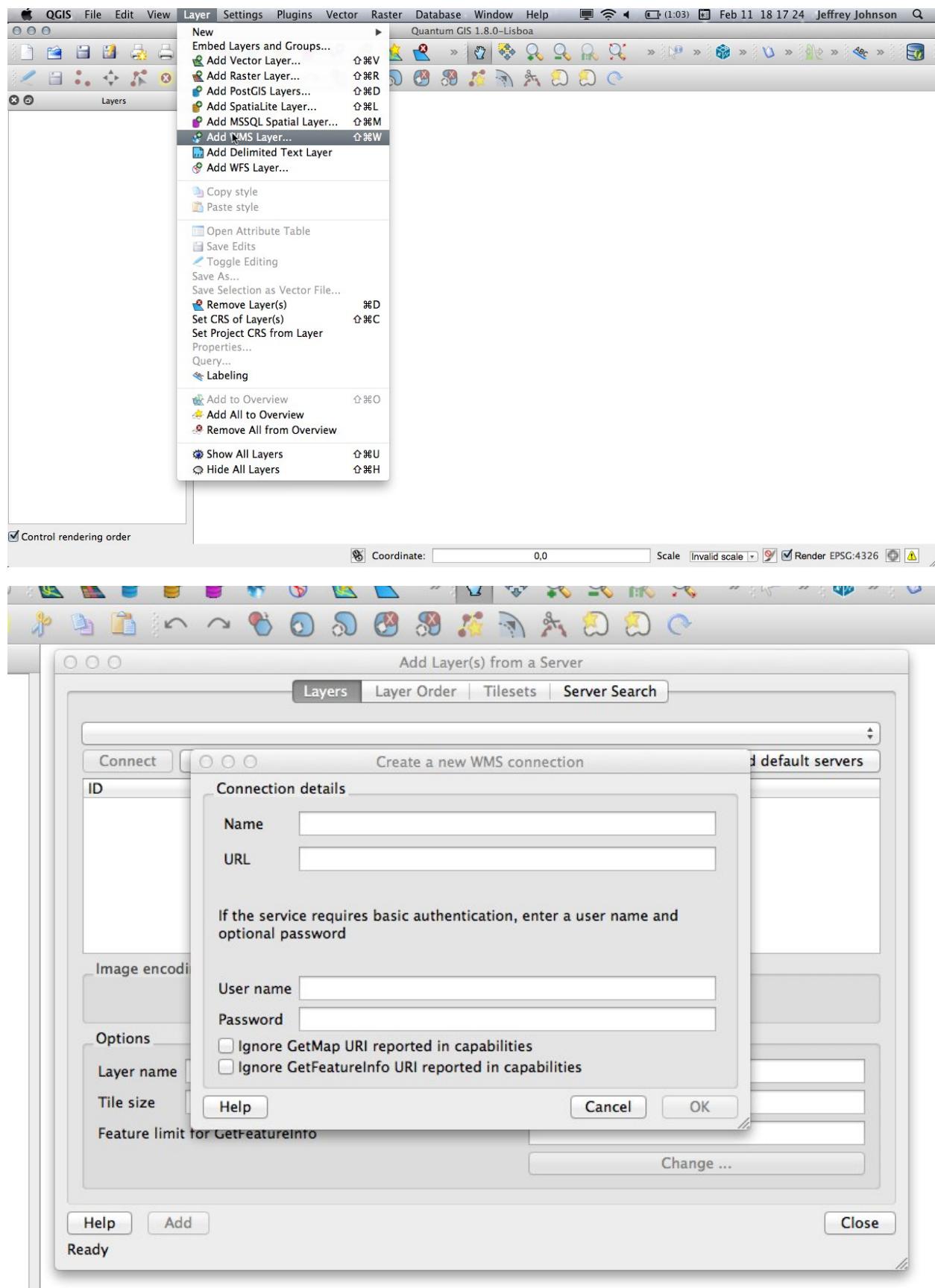
The Add WMS Layer Dialog will be displayed where you are able to specify the parameters to connect to your WMS server.

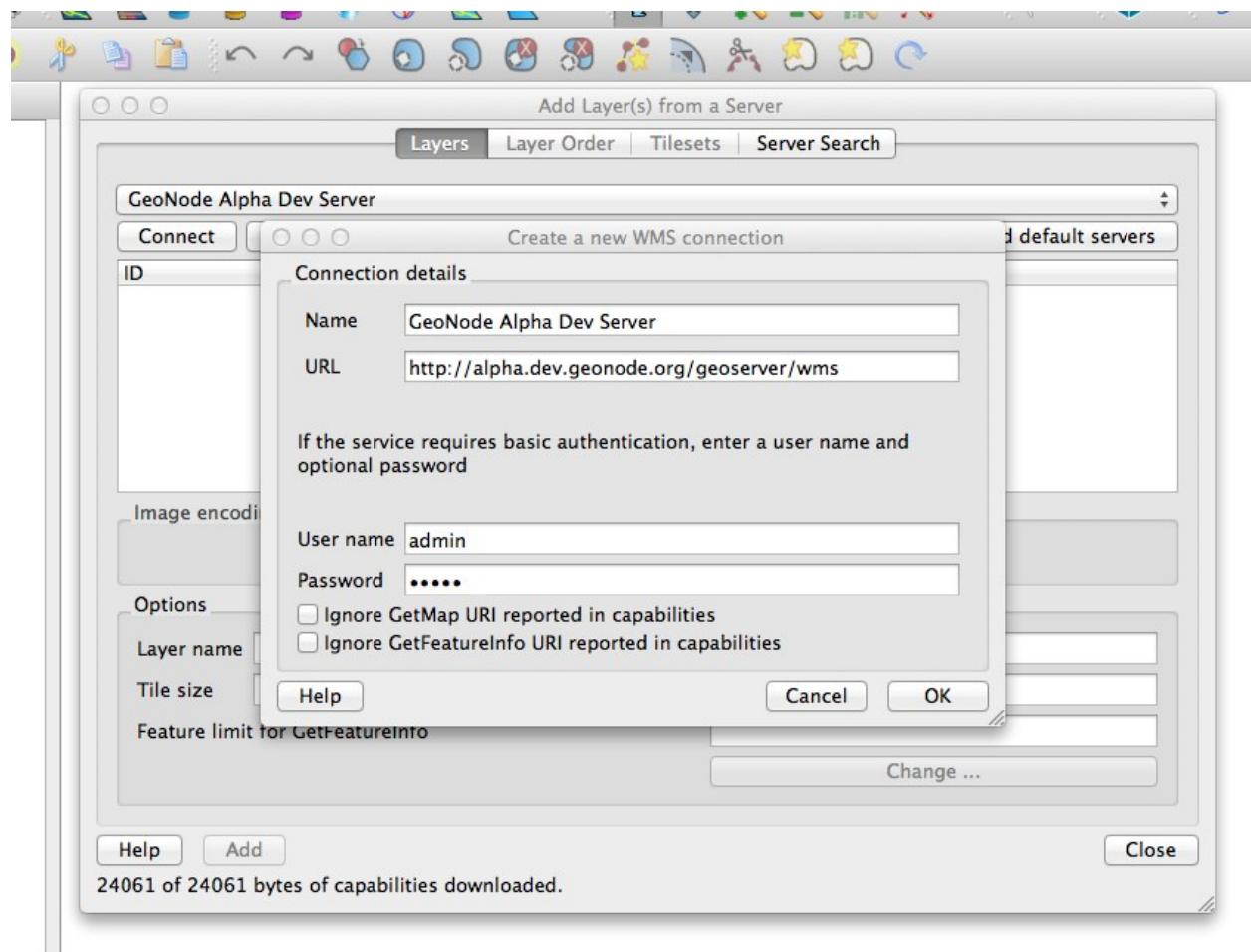
Next, you need to fill in the parameters to connect to your GeoNode instance. The URL for your GeoNode’s WMS is the base URL + /geoserver/wms

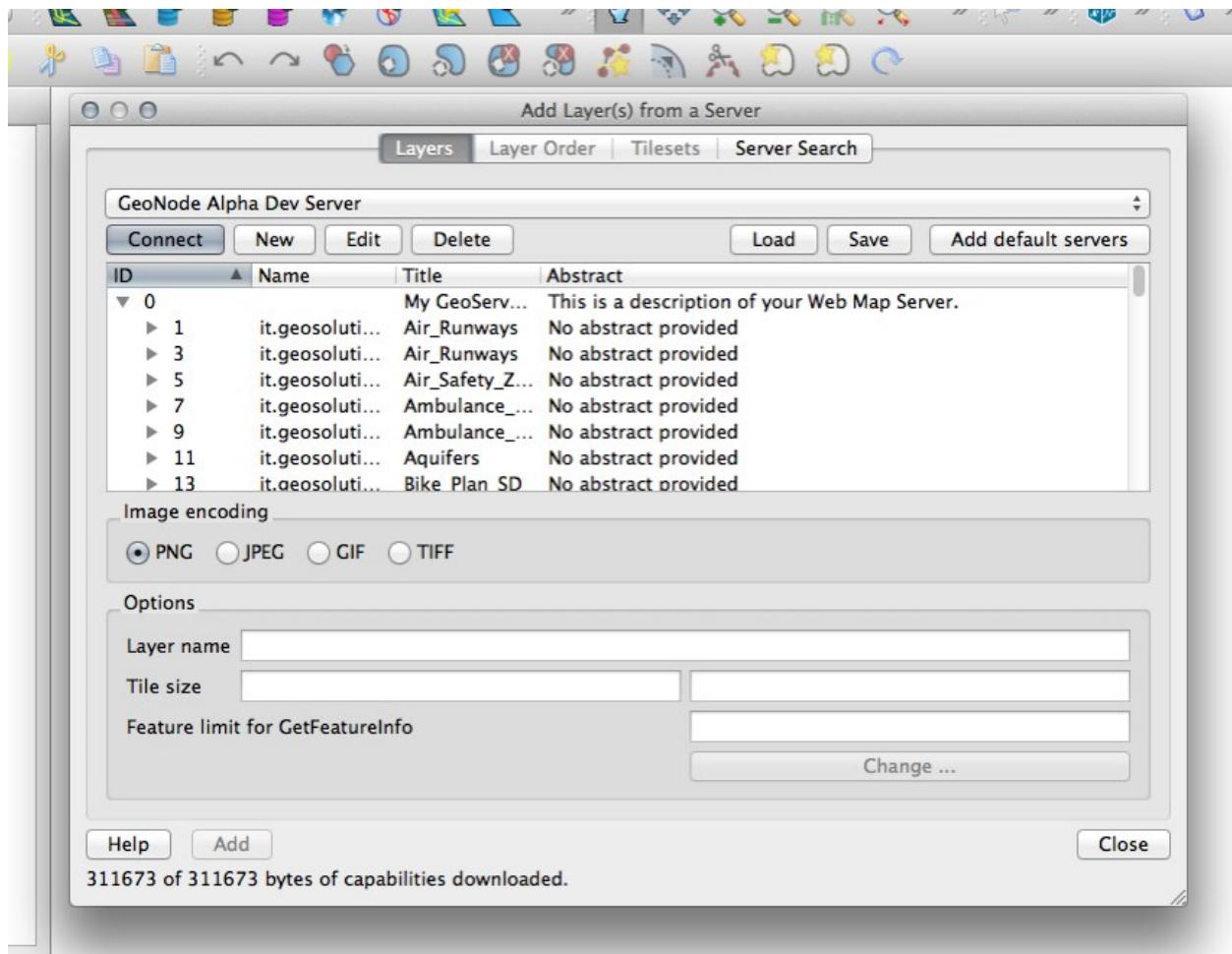
After clicking the OK button, your server will show up in the list of servers. Make sure its selected, then, click the connect button to have QGIS retrieve the list of layers from your GeoNode.

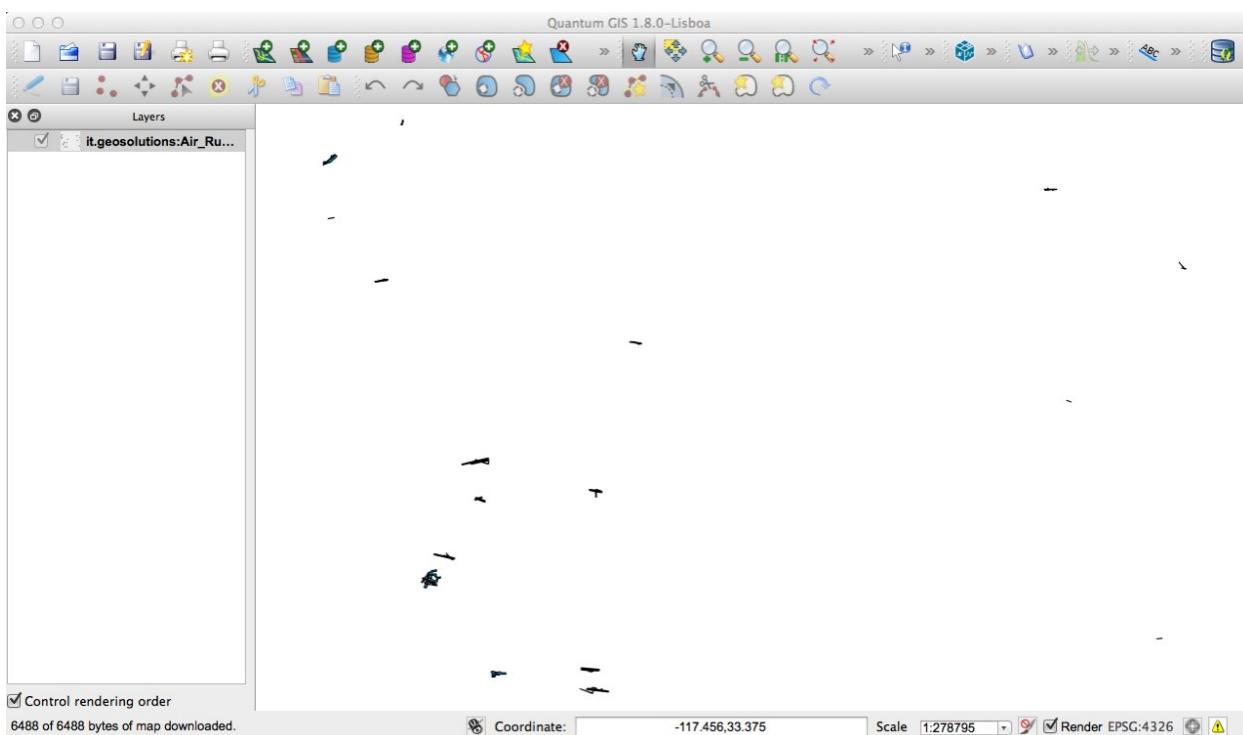
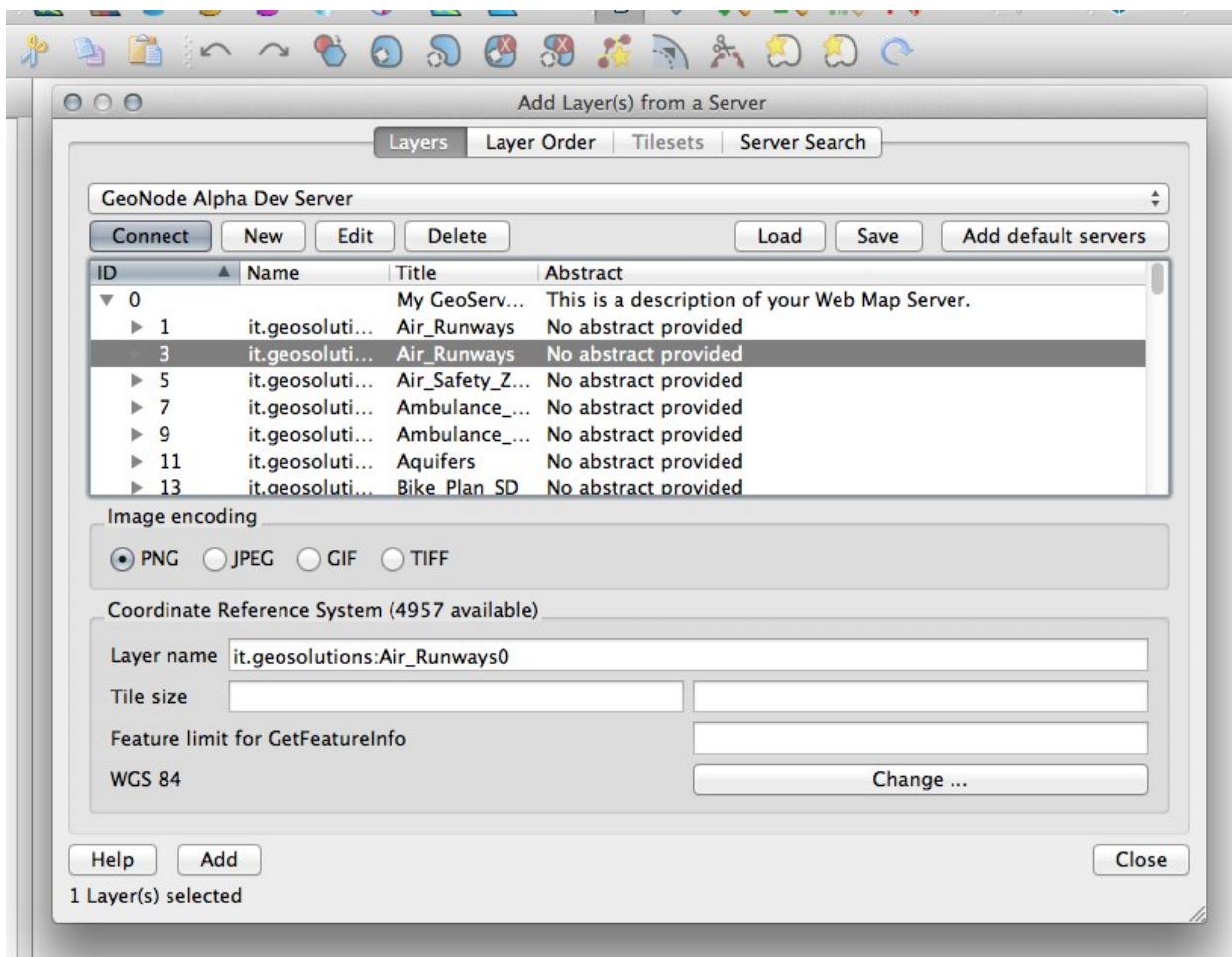
Select the layers you want to add to your QGIS project and click “Add”.

Your layer will be displayed in the map panel.

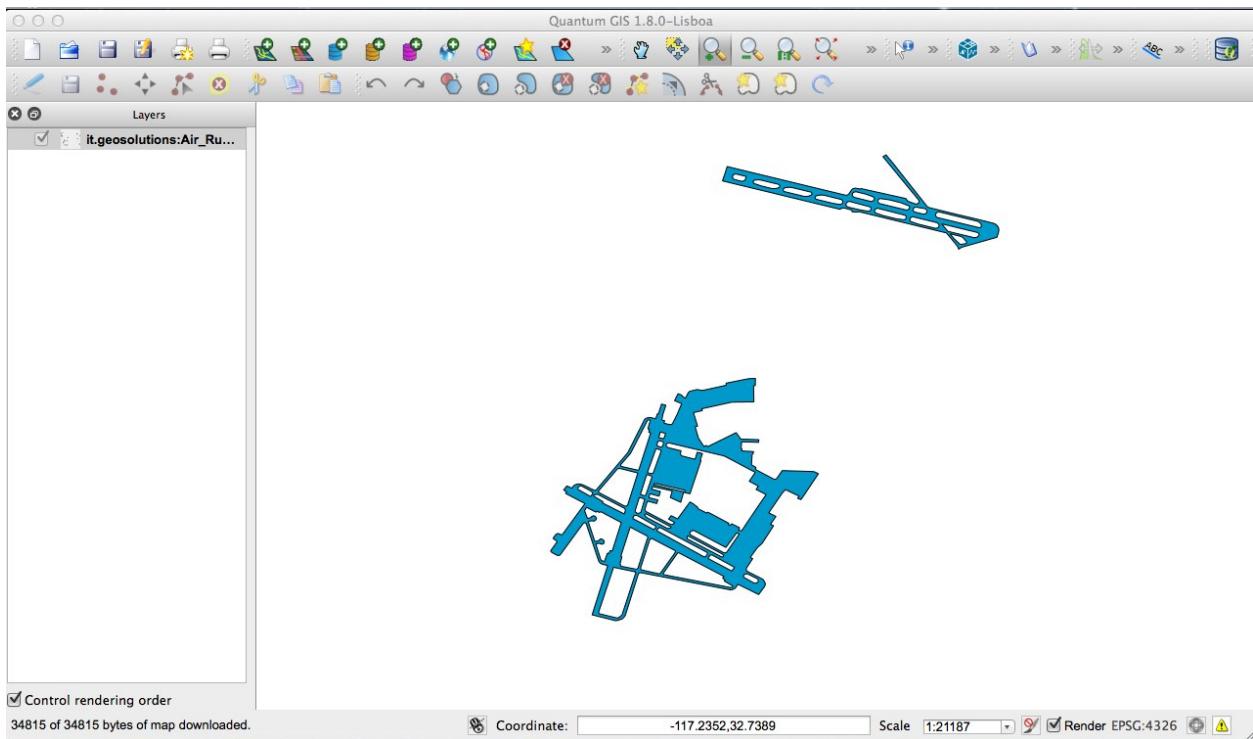








You can then zoom into your features in the Map.



From there, you can use the identify tool to inspect the attributes of one of the features on the map.

Or, you can look at the layer metadata by right clicking on the layer and selecting Layer Properties and selecting the metadata tab.

Adding WFS servers and layers to your QGIS project is very similar to adding WMS. Depending on your version of QGIS, you may need to add the WFS plugin. You can use the Plugin manager to add it.

Once the plugin is installed, you can select the “Add WFS Layer” option from the Layer menu.

Step through the same process you did for WMS to create a new WFS connection. First specify server parameters and click OK.

Then click Connect to retrieve the list of layers on the server and select the layers you want to add and click Apply.

The layer(s) you selected will be displayed in the map panel.

You can use the same identify tool to inspect features in the map panel.

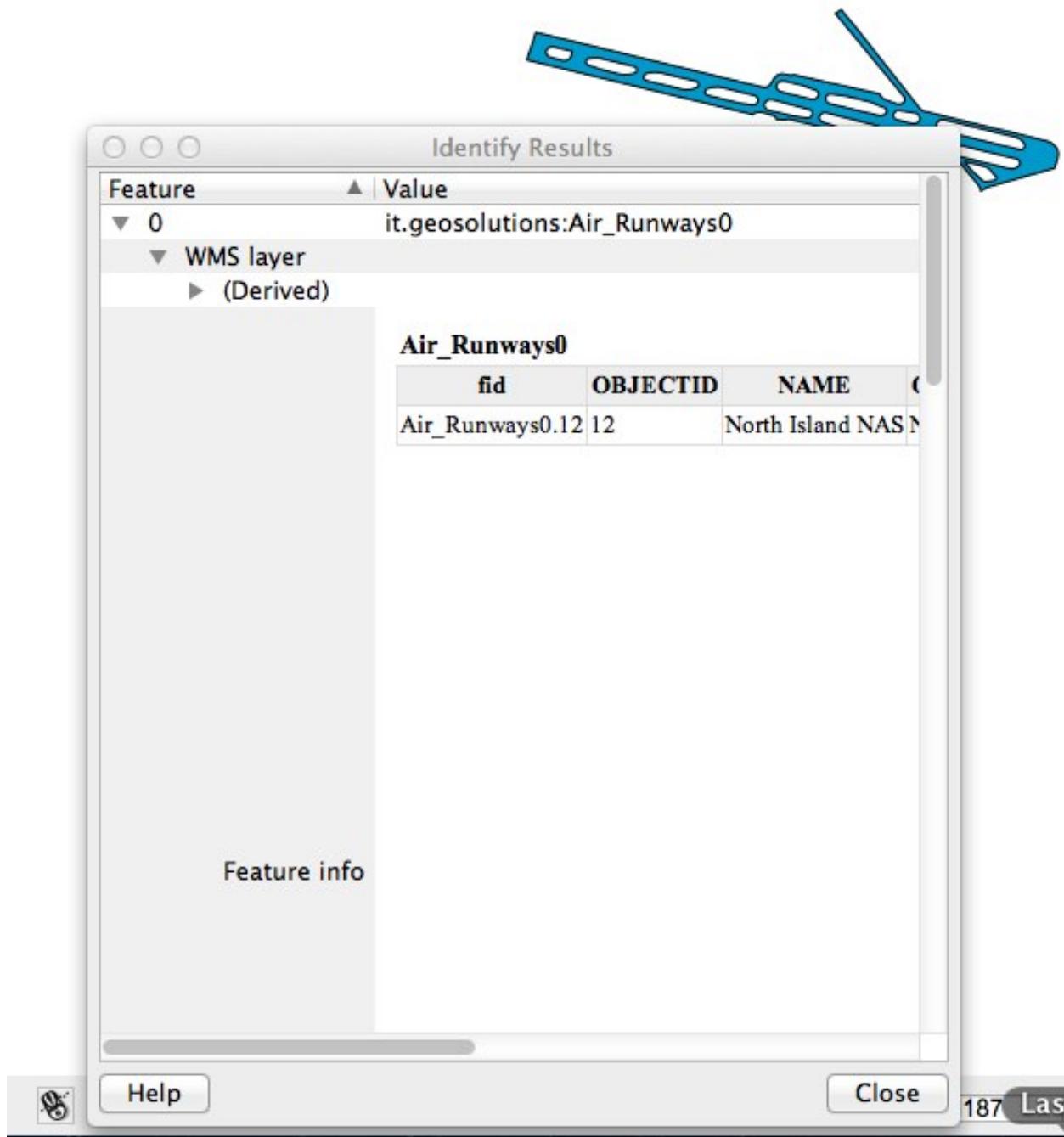
To look at more information about your layer, right click the layer in the Table of Contents and select Layer Properties. You can look at the list of fields.

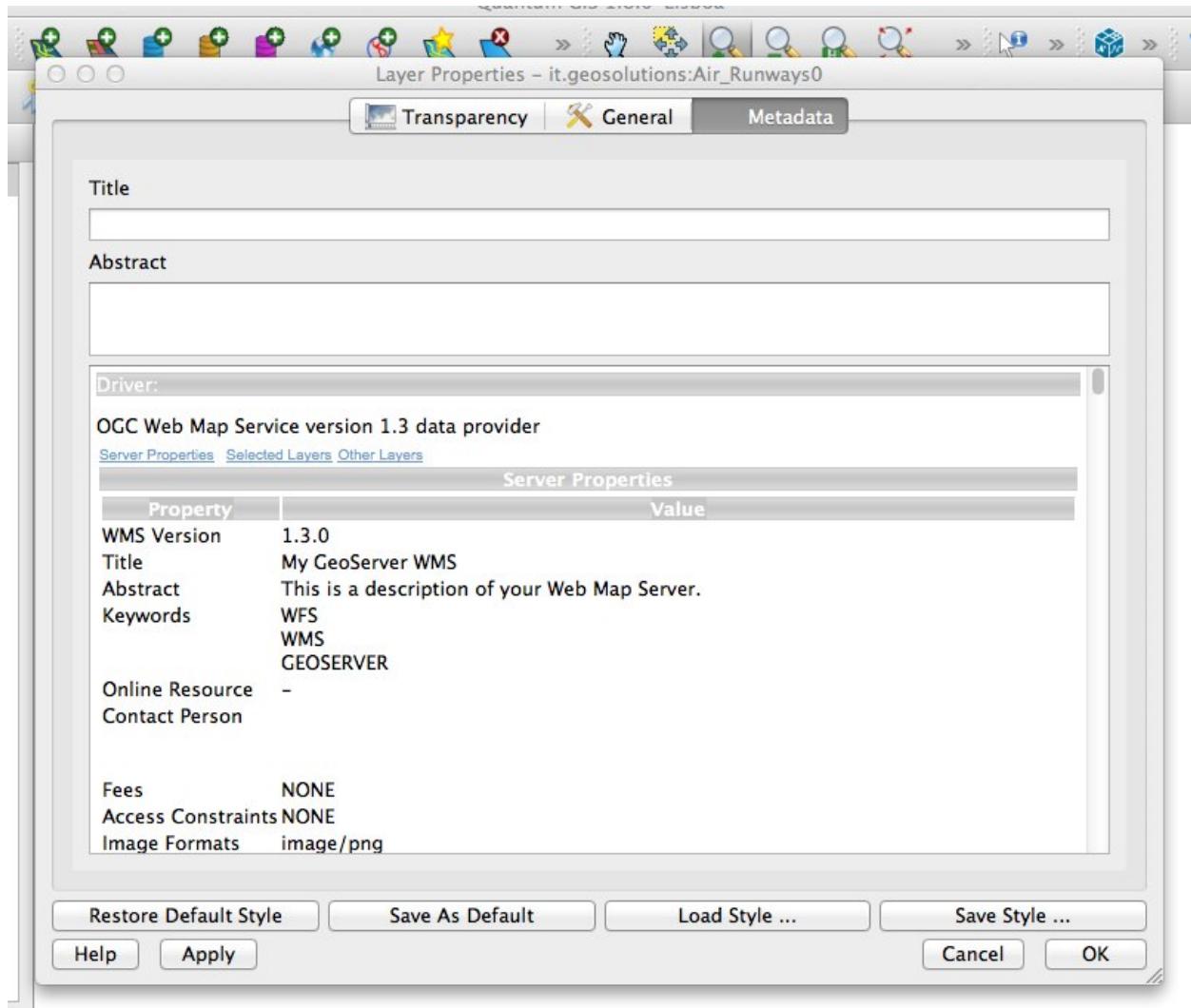
... or set a style to match how you want your data to be displayed.

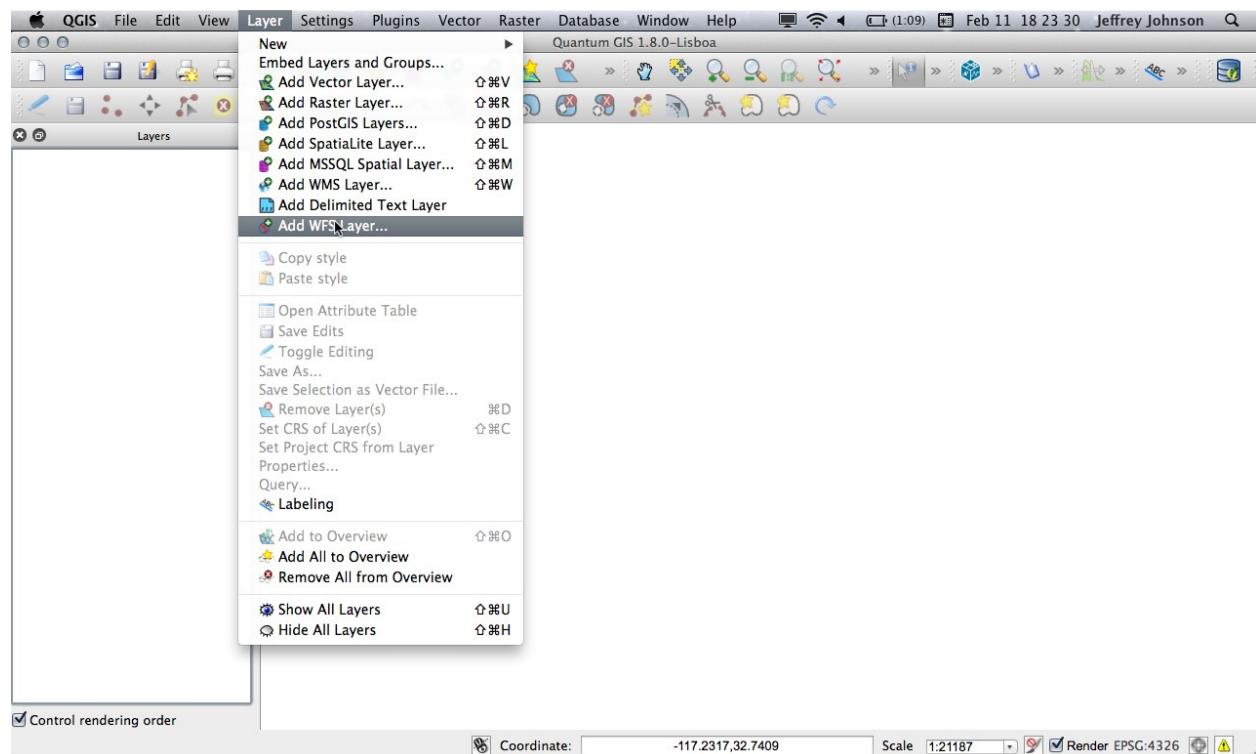
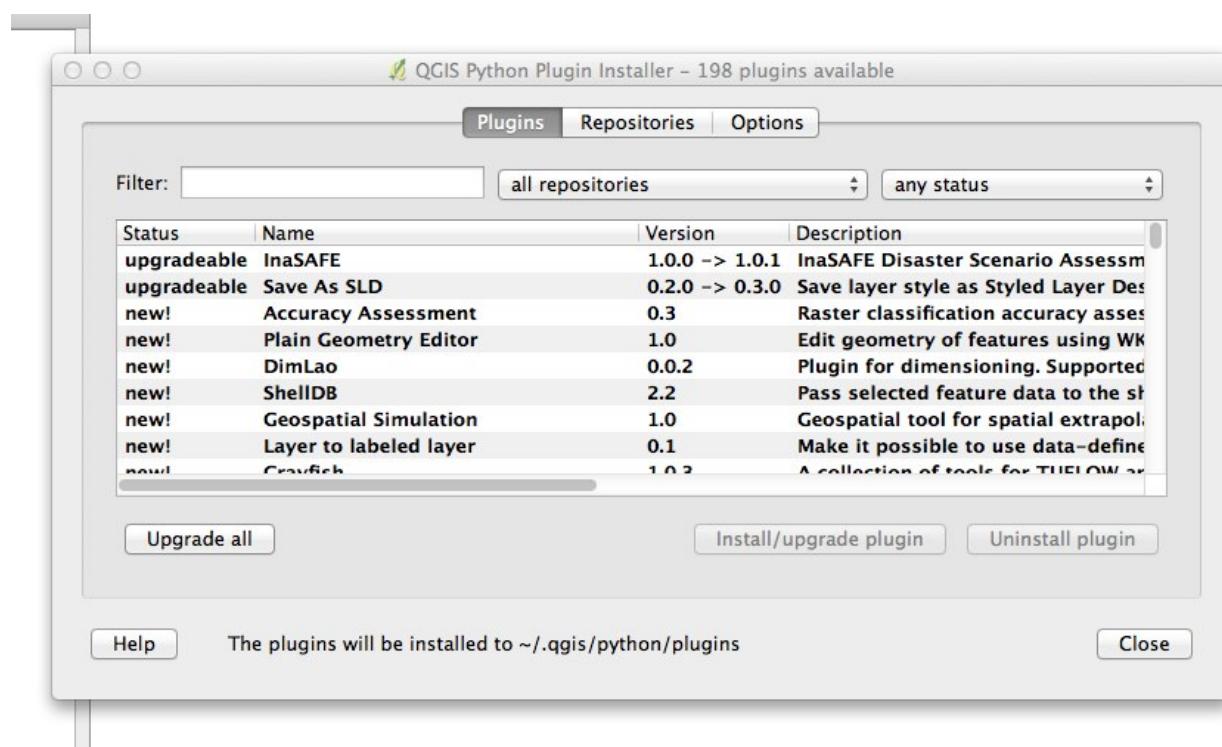
You now know how to add layers from your GeoNode instance to a QGIS project. You can explore all of the other options available to you in QGIS by consulting its documentation.

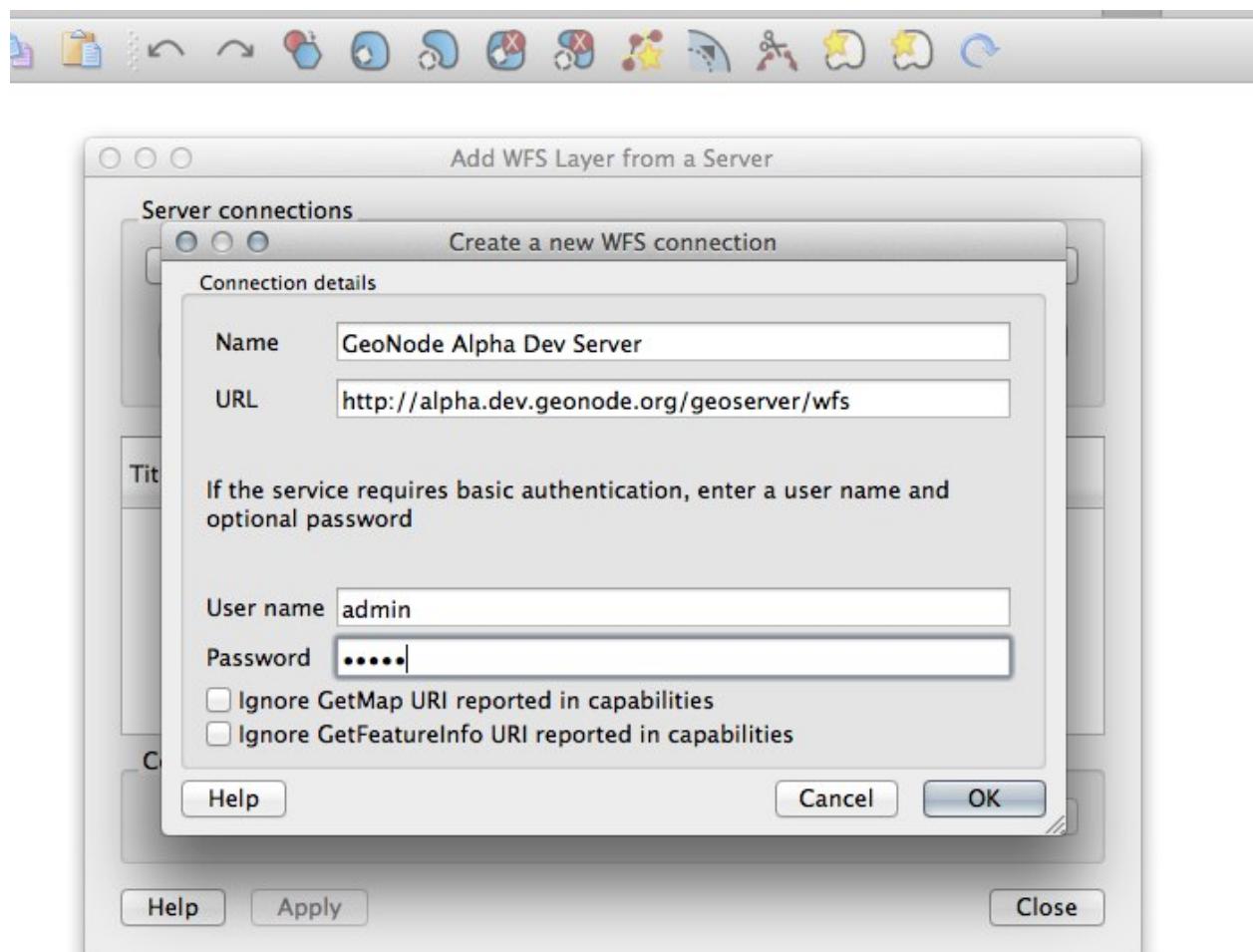
### 3.5.4 Google Earth

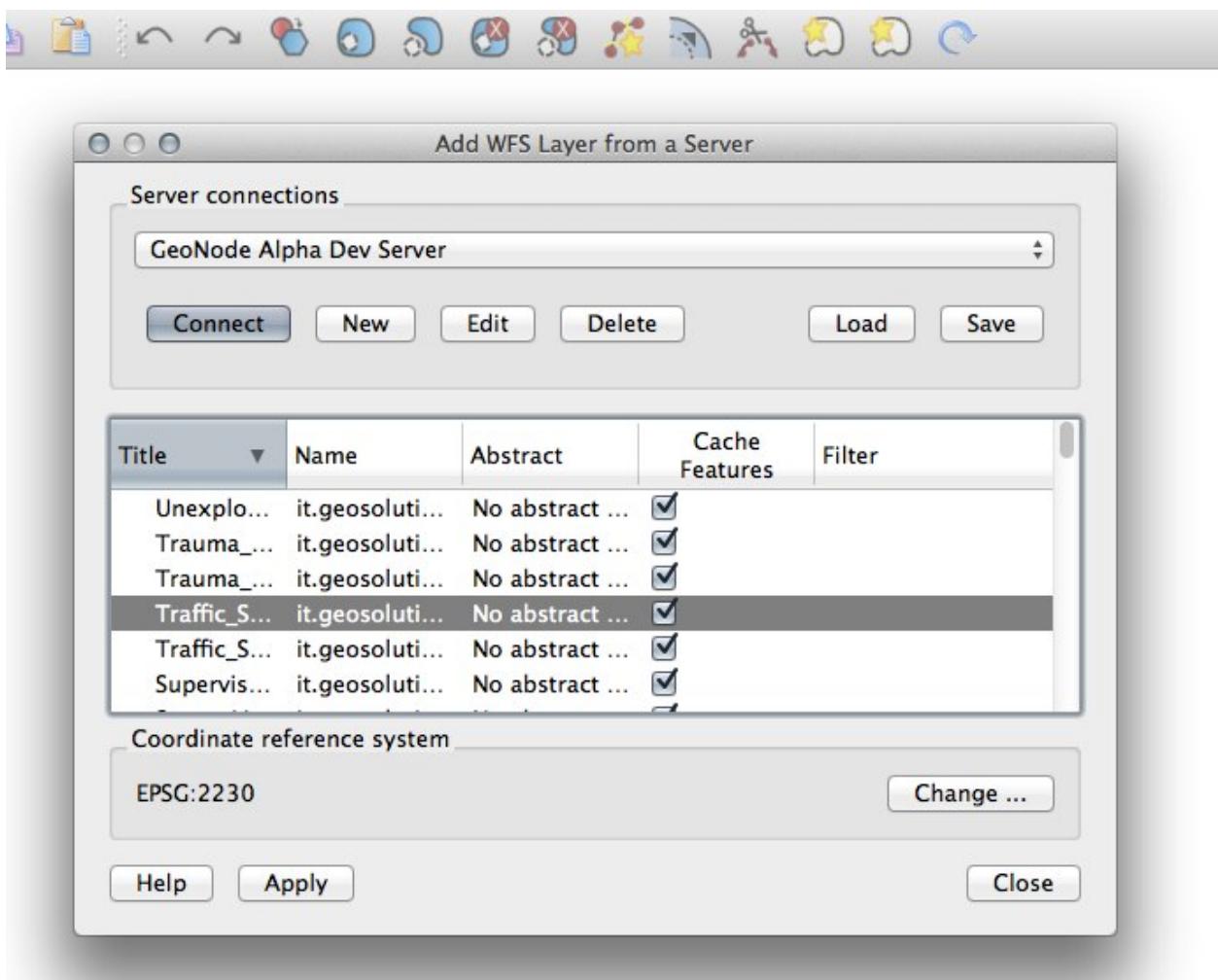
### 3.5.5 OpenStreetMap

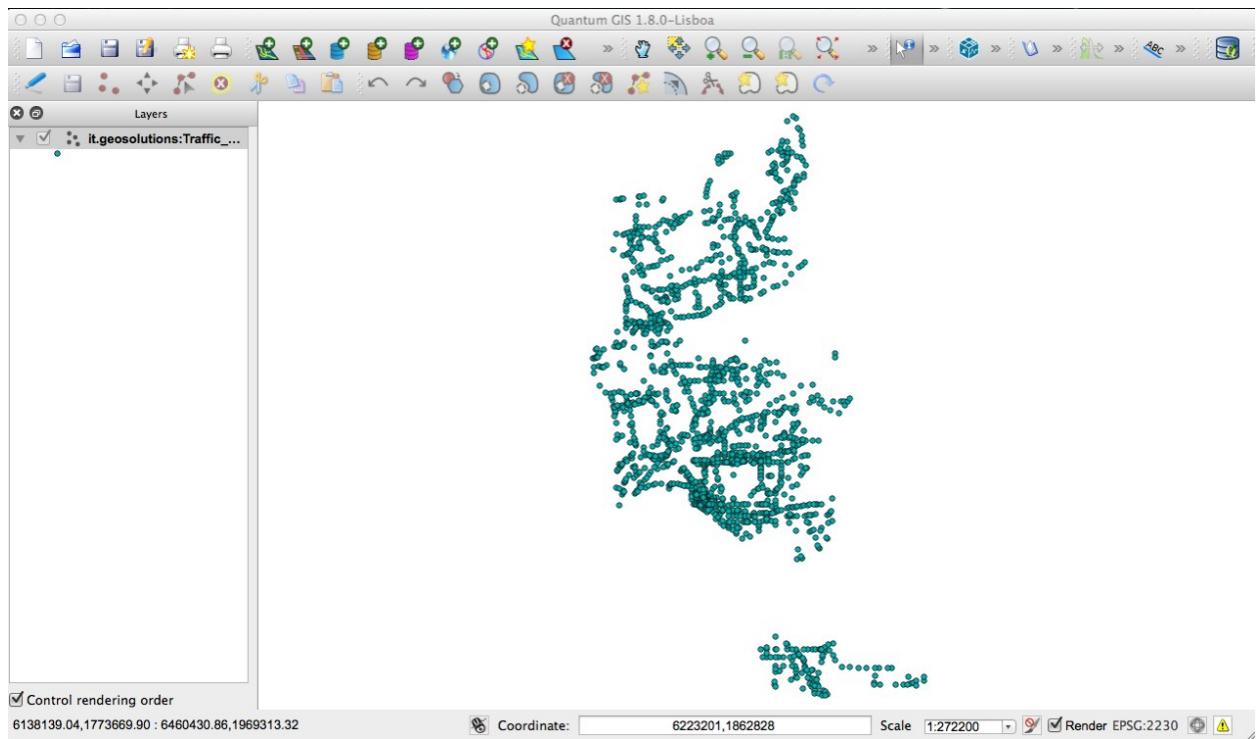


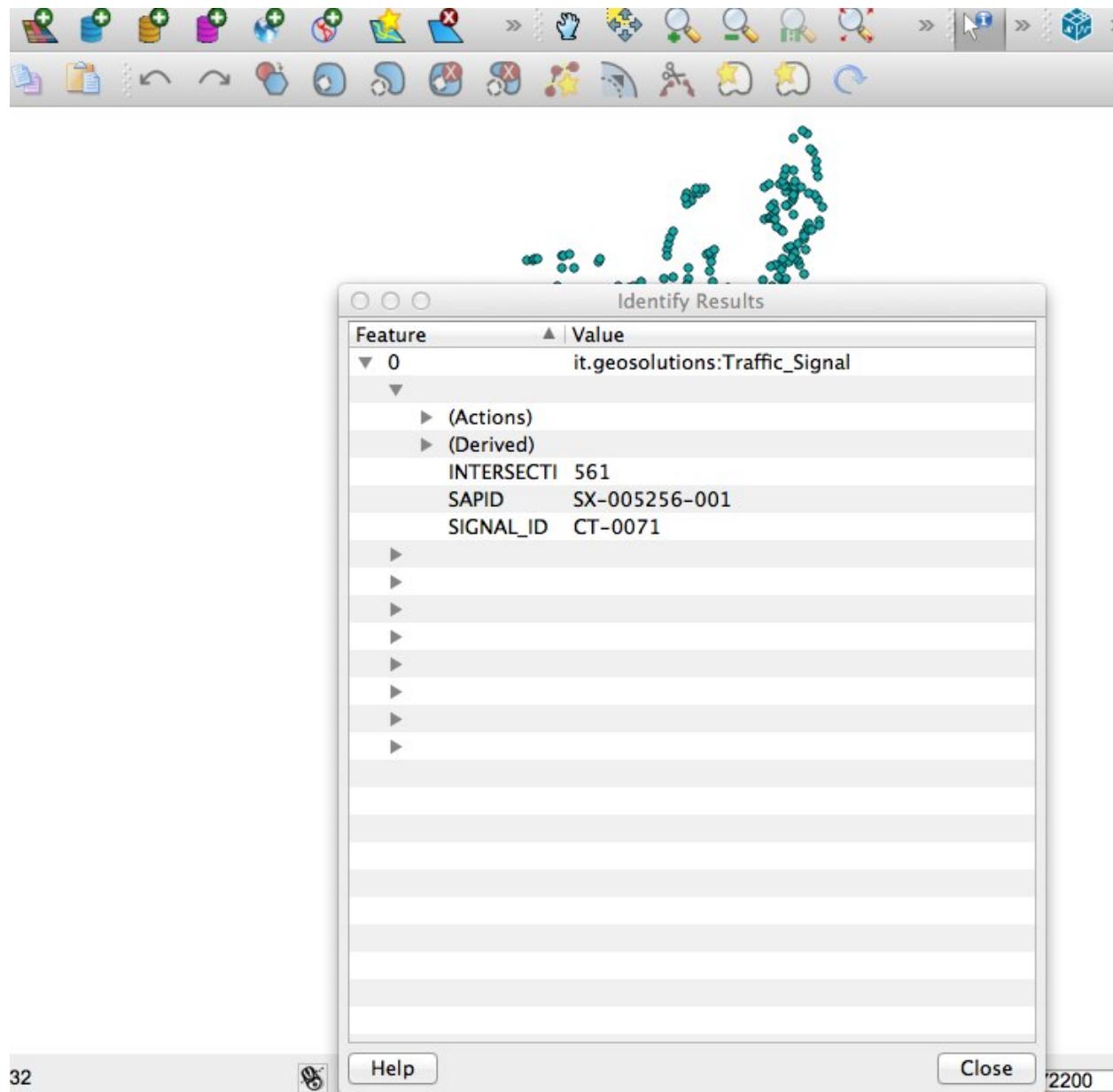


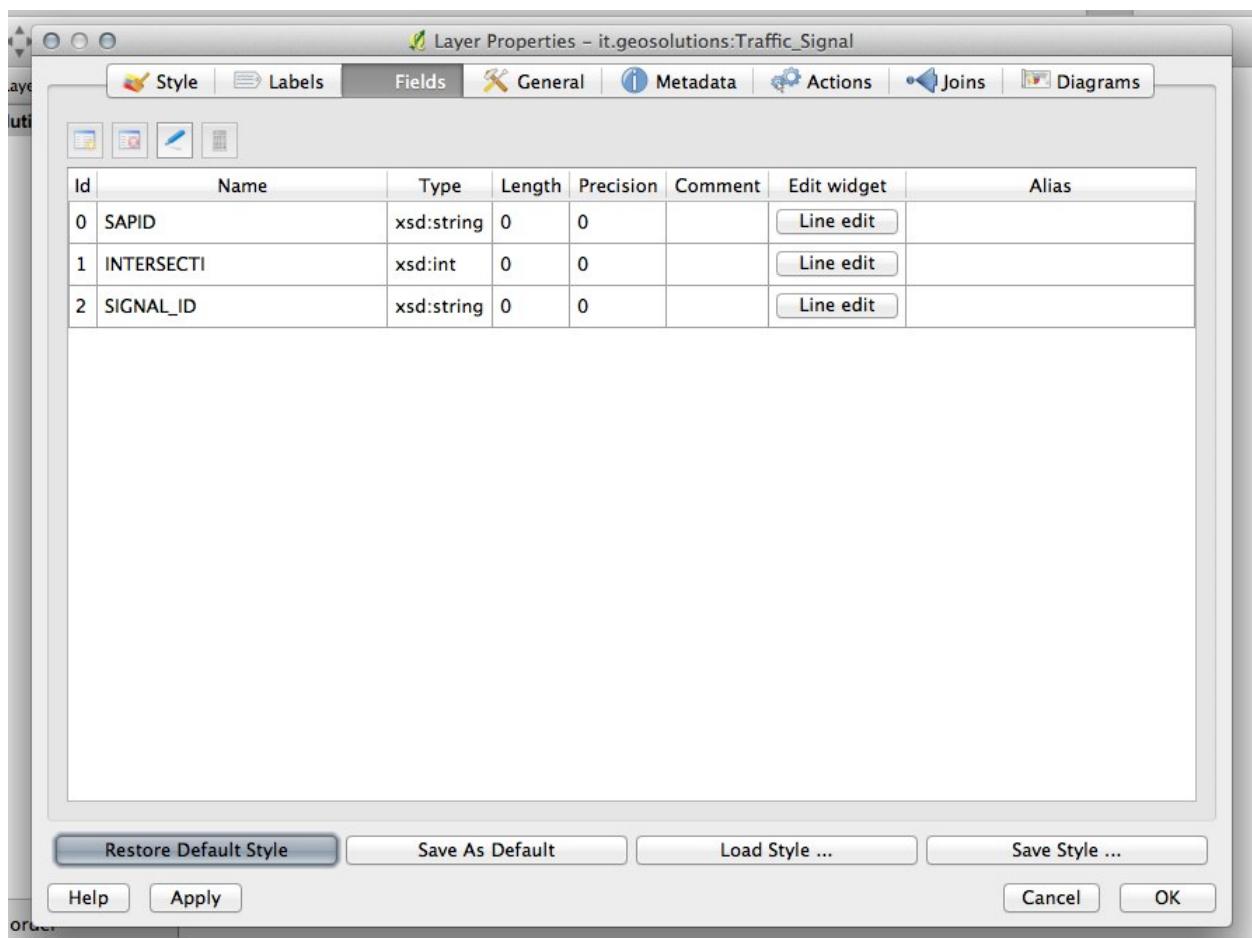


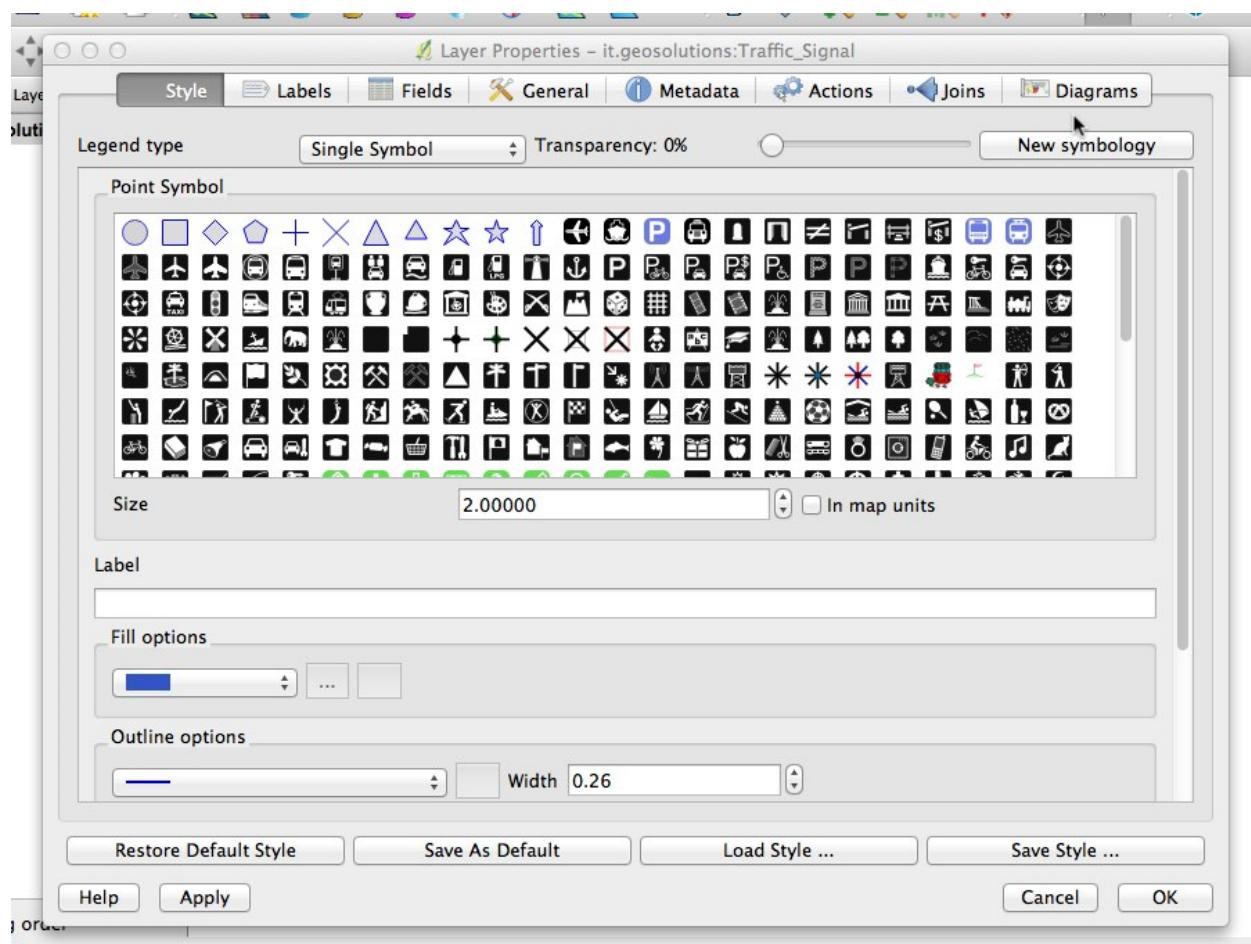












# SETTING UP A GEONODE DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT

This module will lead you through the steps necessary to install a GeoNode development environment.

## 4.1 GeoNode Development Tools

## 4.2 Git Repository Setup

## 4.3 Installing GeoNode's Python Package

## 4.4 Pavement.py and Paver

## 4.5 Manually Deploying your Development Environment



# LOADING DATA INTO A GEONODE

This module will walk you through the various options available to load data into your GeoNode from GeoServer, on the command-line or programmatically. You can choose from among these techniques depending on what kind of data you have and how you have your geonode setup.

## 5.1 GeoServer Data Configuration

## 5.2 Using ogr2ogr to load data into GeoNode

## 5.3 Loading OSM Data into GeoNode



# GEONODE APIs

**6.1 OGC Services**

**6.2 GeoServer REST API**

**6.3 GeoServers Import and Print APIs**

**6.4 GeoNode's Ad-Hoc API**



# GEONODE DEBUGGING TECHNIQUES

7.1 Debugging GeoNode's Python Components

7.2 Debugging GeoNode in the Browser

7.3 Debugging GeoServer



# GEONODE'S DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

## 8.1 GeoNode's Issue Tracking System

## 8.2 Testing in GeoNode

### 8.2.1 Unit Tests

### 8.2.2 Integration Tests

### 8.2.3 Javascript Tests

## 8.3 GeoNode's Patch Review Process

## 8.4 GeoNode Improvement Proposals

## 8.5 GeoNode's Roadmap Process

## 8.6 Development Resources