



AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CENTER FOR BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

Georeferencing a map follow-along

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Georeferencing a map

GIS has the ability to assign coordinates to a map that has no spatial information

- Paper map scans
- Images are warped through mathematical transformations to fit within the coordinate system.

USGS Quadrangle

1954 “Quad map”

- 7.5 minute = between
49 to 70 square miles
- Image normally has thick border, but
cropped this area out



Georeferencing a map

Using the OpenLayers plugin

- Add a useful map showing the region of interest
 - Must be at least as detailed as the map you want to georeference

Georeferencing a map

Open Georeferencing plugin

- In “Raster” toolbar
- Add gwlquad.jpg
- Click “Add point”
 - - Two ways to add a georeferencing point
 - 1. Clicking between maps
 - 2. Add known coordinated for point
- Add as many points as you can in a large area
- Change transformation settings to match map

Georeferencing a map

Flicker the layer

- Highlight the layer and hit space bar to flicker the layer and check against the OpenLayer