

GIS Flood and Pollution Management System
Final Project Report

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1. Introduction

This project presents a Geographic Information System (GIS) application focused on managing and retrieving environmental data related to Floods and Pollution. The system is built using Node.js, Express.js, and MongoDB Atlas, enabling Create, Read, Update, and Delete (CRUD) operations along with advanced geospatial searches such as polygon-based, radius-based, and time-based filtering.

1.1 Background

Environmental monitoring is essential for public safety, urban planning, and disaster management. Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) integrate location-based data with real-world applications, enabling users to manage incidents like floods and pollution events in a scalable and efficient manner.

1.2 Problem Statement

Existing systems lack capabilities like dynamic spatial search, efficient CRUD operations, and real-time monitoring for environmental events. This project addresses these limitations by offering modular APIs supporting advanced GIS queries.

1.3 Project Objective

The objectives of the GIS Management System are to:

- Design a MongoDB database for GIS data with 2dsphere indexing.
- Build RESTful, modular APIs using Node.js and Express.js.
- Implement CRUD operations for Flood and Pollution datasets.
- Provide advanced GIS search features like polygon and radius-based queries.
- Ensure scalability and clean project organization.

2. Technology Stack

2.1 Backend Framework

Node.js: Event-driven, non-blocking I/O model ideal for lightweight real-time applications.

Express.js: Simplified web framework that streamlines API route creation and request handling.

2.2 Database

MongoDB Atlas: A cloud-hosted NoSQL database with flexible schema, native geospatial capabilities, automatic scaling, and replication.

2.3 ODM (Object Data Modeling)

Mongoose: Schema-based solution to model MongoDB application data with structure and validation.

2.4 Tools Used

Postman: For API testing.

MongoDB Compass: For visual database management.

Visual Studio Code (VS Code): As the development environment.



mongoDB®



Visual Studio Code

3. MongoDB Database Design

3.1 Why MongoDB for GIS Data?

MongoDB supports flexible schema design, efficient geospatial queries, and high scalability, making it perfect for GIS data storage and analysis.

3.2 Flood Report Schema Design

Flood reports include type, location, floodLevel, geoCoords2 (Point coordinates), and dateTime (Date). A 2dsphere index is created on geoCoords2 to enable fast geospatial queries.

```
const mongoose = require('mongoose');

const floodSchema = new mongoose.Schema({
  type: String,
  location: String,
  geoCoords2: {
    type: { type: String, enum: ['Point'], required: true },
    coordinates: { type: [Number], required: true }
  },
  dateTime: String
});

floodSchema.index({ geoCoords2: '2dsphere' });

module.exports = mongoose.model('FloodReport', floodSchema, 'reports');
```

3.3 Pollution Report Schema Design

Pollution reports include type, location, geoCoords2 (coordinates), and dateTime. These are stored in a separate collection 'pollution', also indexed with 2dsphere.

```
const mongoose = require('mongoose');
const pollutionSchema = new mongoose.Schema({
  type: String,
  location: String,
  geoCoords2: {
    type: { type: String, enum: ['Point'], required: true },
    coordinates: { type: [Number], required: true }
  },
  dateTime: { type: Date }
});
pollutionSchema.index({ geoCoords2: '2dsphere' });

const PollutionReport = mongoose.model('PollutionReport', pollutionSchema, 'pollution');

module.exports = PollutionReport;
```

3.4 Why 2dsphere Index?

2dsphere indexes enable spherical calculations like distance and containment, crucial for real-world geospatial queries.

4. API Design and Architecture

4.1 Why Modular API Architecture?

Modular architecture separates models, routes, and server logic, making the project scalable, maintainable, and extendable. Each entity (Flood, Pollution) has its independent schema, CRUD routes, and geospatial queries.

4.2 Project Folder Structure

```
/GIS-Project
|-- app.js
|-- pollution-app.js
|-- floodSchema.js
|-- pollutionSchema.js
|-- flood-crud.js
|-- pollution-crud.js
|-- radius.js
|-- time-based.js
|-- GroupByCountAPI.js
|-- dashboard.js
```

4.3 API Types

- CRUD APIs (Create, Read, Update, Delete)
- Polygon Search APIs
- Radius (Nearby) Search APIs
- Time-Based Search APIs
- Grouping & Dashboard APIs

4.4 URL Structures

- POST /api/floods → Create flood report
- GET /api/floods → Retrieve all floods
- POST /api/pollution → Create pollution report
- GET /api/pollution → Retrieve all pollution reports
- POST /api/polygon-search → Polygon search for both floods and pollution
- POST /api/nearby → Radius search
- POST /api/reports-by-date → Time-based filtering
- GET /api/floods/count-by-level → Group floods by level
- GET /api/dashboard-summary → Dashboard summary for floods

4.5 Benefits of Modular Design

- Scalability: New modules can be added easily.
- Maintainability: Each file has a clear responsibility.
- Reusability: Common code can be reused.
- Professionalism: Clean, structured development approach.

5. CRUD Full Detailed Walkthrough (Flood and Pollution)

5.1 What is CRUD?

CRUD stands for Create, Read, Update, and Delete operations. These are the basic operations required for persistent storage and retrieval of data. This system implements CRUD operations separately for Flood and Pollution datasets.

5.2 Create Operation (POST)

5.2.1 Flood Create API

Endpoint: POST /api/floods: Creates a new flood report by specifying type, location, floodLevel, coordinates, and dateTime.

5.2.2 Pollution Create API

Endpoint: POST /api/pollution: Creates a new pollution report by specifying type, location, coordinates, and dateTime.

5.3 Read Operation (GET)

5.3.1 Read All Floods

Endpoint: GET /api/floods

5.3.2 Read All Pollution Reports

Endpoint: GET /api/pollution

5.3.3 Read Specific Report by ID

Flood: GET /api/floods/:id

Pollution: GET /api/pollution/:id

5.4 Update Operation (PUT)

5.4.1 Update Flood Report

Endpoint: PUT /api/floods/:id

5.4.2 Update Pollution Report

Endpoint: PUT /api/pollution/:id

5.5 Delete Operation (DELETE)

5.5.1 Delete Flood Report

Endpoint: DELETE /api/floods/:id

5.5.2 Delete Pollution Report

Endpoint: DELETE /api/pollution/:id

5.6 Key Points to Remember for CRUD

- POST for Create operations.
- GET for Read operations.
- PUT for Update operations.
- DELETE for Delete operations.
- Separate CRUD modules for Flood and Pollution.

6. Advanced GIS APIs (Polygon Search, Radius Search, Time Filtering)

6.1 What are Advanced GIS APIs?

Beyond CRUD, GIS applications require spatial search capabilities to find records based on location and time. This project supports three key advanced features:

- Polygon Search
- Radius (Nearby) Search
- Time-based Filtering

6.2 Polygon Search API

Purpose: Find all flood or pollution records located inside a user-defined polygon.

Endpoint: POST /api/polygon-search

Key Logic:

- Polygon must be closed (first and last coordinate match).
- MongoDB uses \$geoWithin with a 2dsphere index.
- Optional filters: type, location, dateFrom, dateTo.

Code:

```
// Polygon Search Route
Comment Code
app.post('/api/polygon-search', async (req, res) => {
  let { coordinates } = req.body;
  if (!coordinates || coordinates.length < 3) {
    return res.status(400).json({ error: 'Polygon with at least 3 coordinates required.' });
  }

  if (coordinates[0][0] !== coordinates[coordinates.length - 1][0] ||
    coordinates[0][1] !== coordinates[coordinates.length - 1][1]) {
    coordinates.push(coordinates[0]);
  }

  const polygon = {
    type: 'Polygon',
    coordinates: [coordinates]
  };

  try {
    const floods = await FloodReport.find({ geoCoords2: { $geoWithin: { $geometry: polygon } } });
    const pollution = await PollutionReport.find({ geoCoords2: { $geoWithin: { $geometry: polygon } } });
    res.json({ floods, pollution });
  } catch (error) {
    res.status(500).json({ error: error.message });
  }
});
```

Postman:

The screenshot shows the Postman interface for a POST request to `http://localhost:3000/api/polygon-search`. The request body is a JSON object with the following structure:

```
{
  "coordinates": [
    [-74.0175, 40.2895],
    [-74.0175, 40.2915],
    [-74.0159, 40.2915],
    [-74.0159, 40.2895],
    [-74.0175, 40.2895]
  ],
  "floodLevel": "Moderate",
  "type": "flood",
  "location": "West Long Branch, NJ",
  "dateFrom": "2025-02-01T00:00:00Z",
  "dateTo": "2025-02-05T00:00:00Z"
}
```

The response is a 200 OK status with a JSON body containing the following structure:

```
{
  "floods": [
    {
      "geoCoords2": {
        "type": "Point",
        "coordinates": [
          -74.0167,
          40.2905
        ]
      },
      "_id": "67d315e814c36f7a36986c81",
      "type": "flood",
      "location": "West Long Branch, NJ",
      "geoCoords": {
        "lat": 40.2905,
        "lon": -74.0167
      }
    }
  ],
  "pollution": []
}
```


6.3 Radius (Nearby) Search API

Purpose: Find reports within a specified distance from a center point.

Endpoints:

- Flood: POST /api/nearby
- Pollution: POST /api/nearby-pollution

Key Logic:

- MongoDB \$near operator is used.
- \$maxDistance parameter defines the search radius (in meters).
- Results are automatically sorted by proximity.

Code:

```
const express = require('express');
const router = express.Router();

const FloodReport = require('./floodSchema');
const PollutionReport = require('./pollutionSchema');

// Radius-based nearby search
Comment Code
router.post('/nearby', async (req, res) => {
  const { coordinates, radius } = req.body;

  if (!coordinates || !radius) {
    return res.status(400).json({ error: 'Coordinates and radius are required.' });
  }

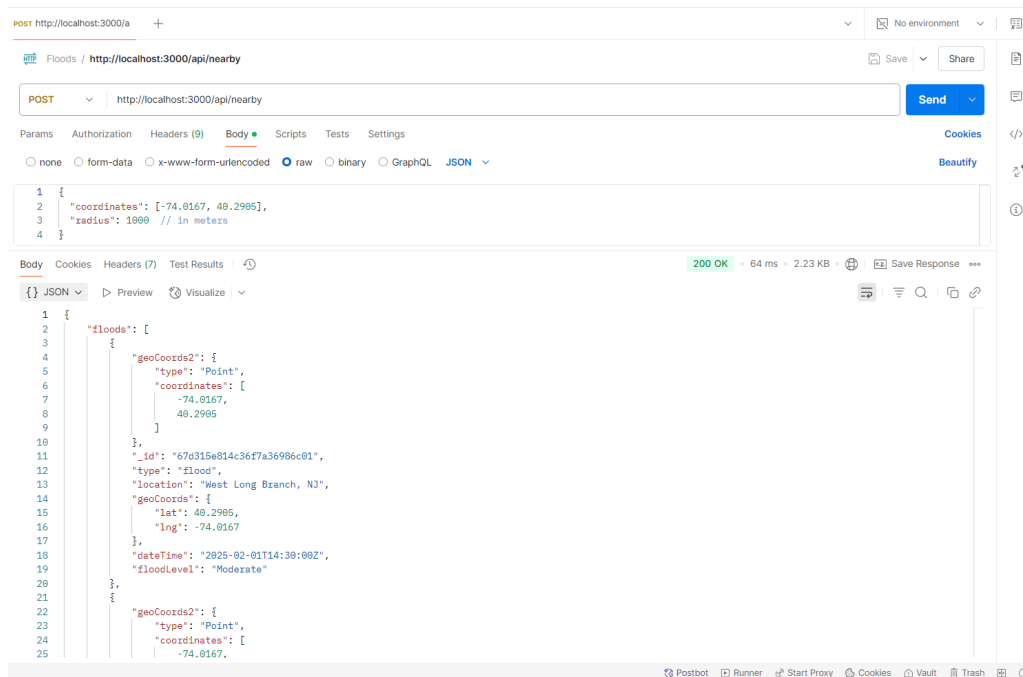
  try {
    const floods = await FloodReport.find({
      geoCoords2: {
        $near: {
          $geometry: { type: 'Point', coordinates },
          $maxDistance: radius
        }
      }
    });

    const pollution = await PollutionReport.find({
      geoCoords2: {
        $near: {
          $geometry: { type: 'Point', coordinates },
          $maxDistance: radius
        }
      }
    });

    res.json({ floods, pollution });
  } catch (error) {
    res.status(500).json({ error: error.message });
  }
});

module.exports = router;
```

Postman:



6.4 Time-based Filtering API

Purpose: Retrieve flood or pollution reports that occurred within a specific date range.

Endpoints:

- Floods: POST /api/reports-by-date
- Pollution: POST /api/reports-by-date-pollution

Key Logic:

- MongoDB date queries use \$gte (greater than or equal) and \$lte (less than or equal).
- Ensures accurate historical data retrieval.

Code:

```
const express = require('express');
const router = express.Router();

const FloodReport = require('./floodSchema');
const PollutionReport = require('./pollutionSchema');

Comment Code
router.post('/reports-by-date', async (req, res) => {
  const { dateFrom, dateTo } = req.body;

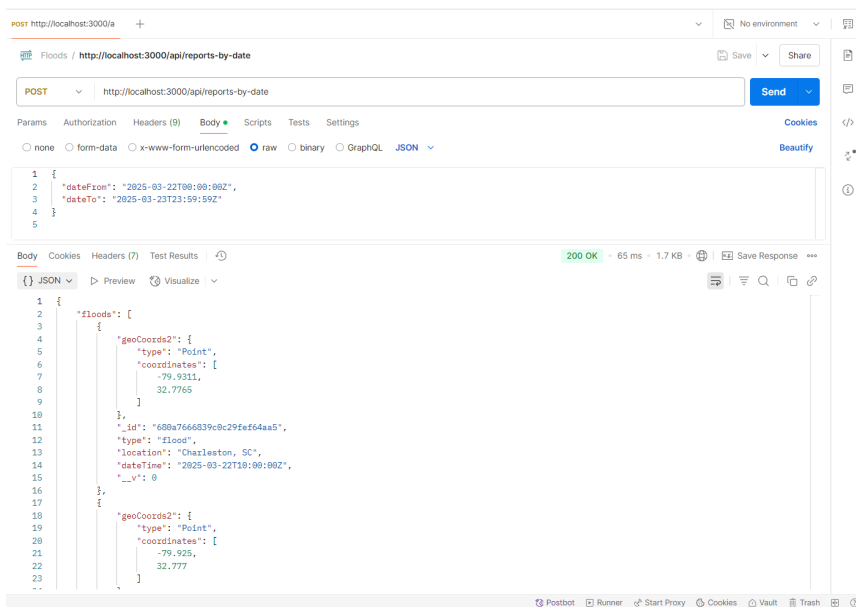
  if (!dateFrom || !dateTo) {
    return res.status(400).json({ error: 'dateFrom and dateTo are required.' });
  }

  try {
    const filter = {
      dateTime: {
        $gte: dateFrom,
        $lte: dateTo
      }
    };

    const floods = await FloodReport.find(filter);
    const pollution = await PollutionReport.find(filter);
    res.json({ floods, pollution });
  } catch (error) {
    res.status(500).json({ error: error.message });
  }
});

module.exports = router;
```

Postman:



6.5 Key Takeaways for Advanced GIS APIs

- Polygon search checks if a point lies inside a polygon.
- Radius search finds nearest records within a defined range.
- Time-based filtering enables retrieval of records during any period.
- All searches are optimized using 2dsphere spatial indexing.

7. Full API Requests and Responses Samples

7.1 Flood APIs

7.1.1 Create Flood Report

The screenshot displays a REST client interface with a POST request to `http://localhost:3000/api/floods`. The request body is a JSON object representing a flood report. The response is also in JSON format, indicating a successful creation of the report.

Request:

```
POST http://localhost:3000/api/floods
```

Request Body (JSON):

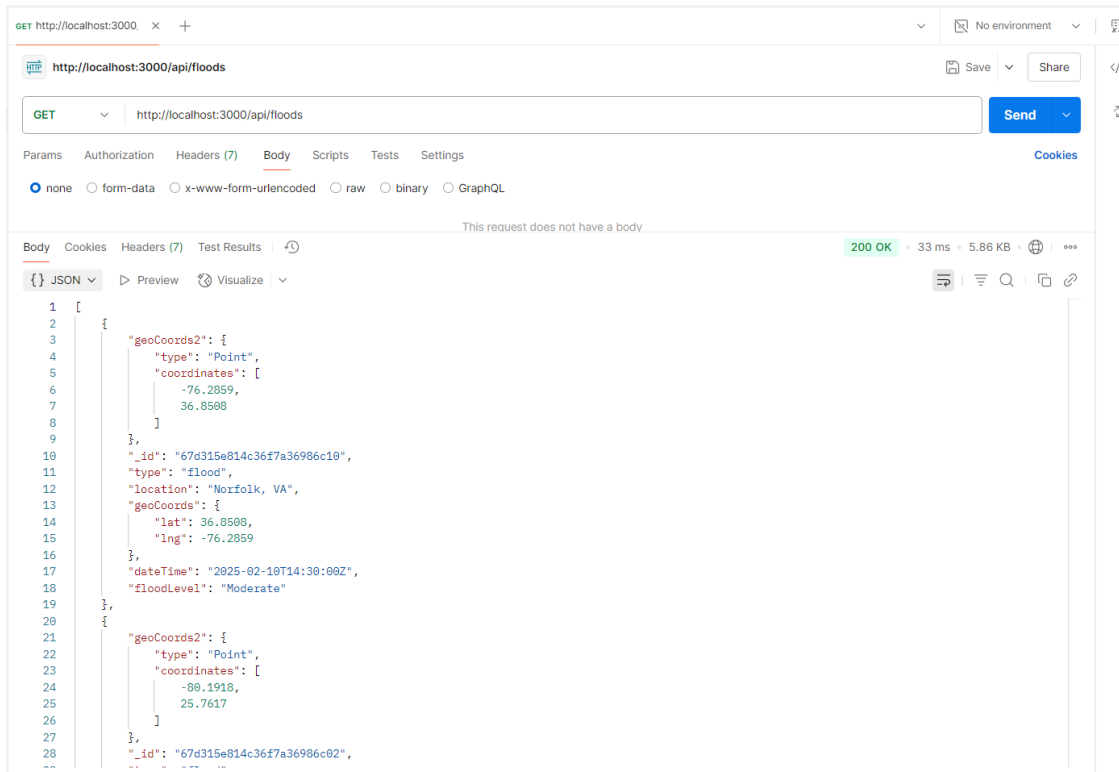
```
{
  "type": "flood",
  "location": "West Long Branch, NJ",
  "floodLevel": "Moderate",
  "geoCoords2": {
    "type": "Point",
    "coordinates": [-74.0167, 40.2905]
  },
  "dateTime": "2025-02-01T10:30:00Z"
}
```

Response:

```
{
  "type": "flood",
  "location": "West Long Branch, NJ",
  "geoCoords2": {
    "type": "Point",
    "coordinates": [
      -74.0167,
      40.2905
    ]
  },
  "dateTime": "2025-02-01T10:30:00Z",
  "_id": "681051961e89029e17b0dc89",
  "__v": 0
}
```

The response status is **201 Created** with a response time of 55 ms and a body size of 429 B.

7.1.2 Read All Flood Reports



GET http://localhost:3000/api/floods

Send

Params Authorization Headers (7) Body Scripts Tests Settings

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL

This request does not have a body

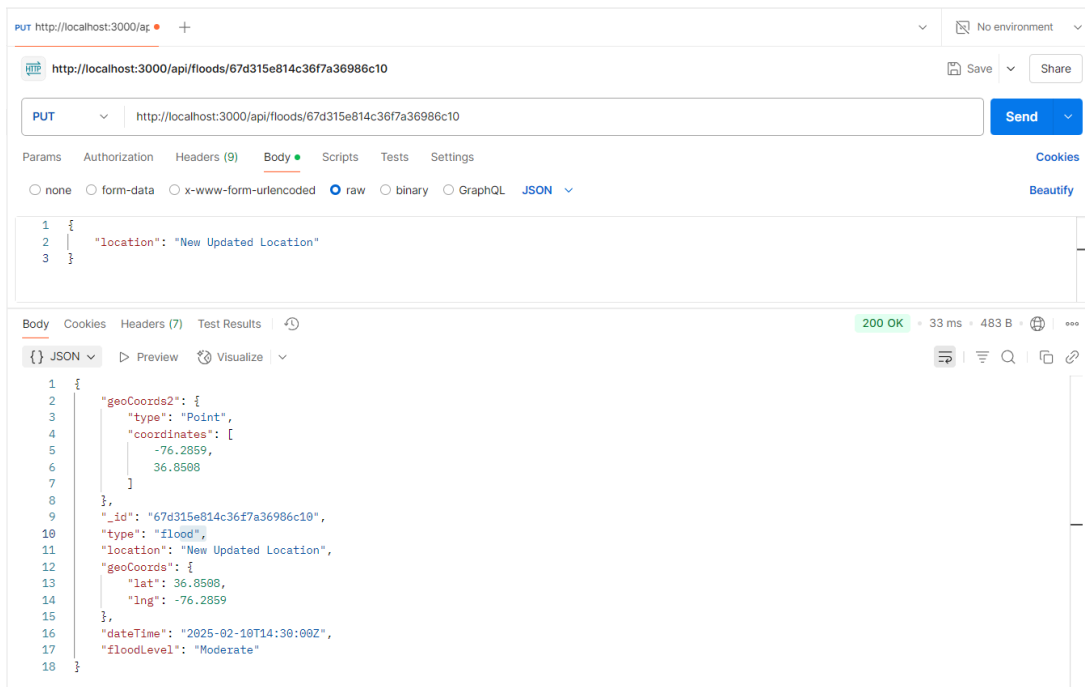
Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results

200 OK 33 ms 5.86 KB

```
{
  "type": "Point",
  "coordinates": [
    -76.2859,
    36.8508
  ]
},
{
  "type": "Point",
  "coordinates": [
    -80.1918,
    25.7617
  ]
}

```

7.1.3 Update Flood Report



PUT http://localhost:3000/api/floods/67d315e814c36f7a36986c10

Send

Params Authorization Headers (9) Body Scripts Tests Settings

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL JSON

```
{
  "location": "New Updated Location"
}
```

Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results

200 OK 33 ms 483 B

```
{
  "type": "Point",
  "coordinates": [
    -76.2859,
    36.8508
  ]
},
{
  "type": "Point",
  "coordinates": [
    -80.1918,
    25.7617
  ]
}

```

7.1.4 Delete Flood Report

DEL http://localhost:3000/ap +

http://localhost:3000/api/floods/67d315e814c36f7a36986c10

DELETE http://localhost:3000/api/floods/67d315e814c36f7a36986c10

Send

Params Authorization Headers (7) Body Scripts Tests Settings

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL

This request does not have a body

200 OK 45 ms 282 B

Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results

JSON Preview Visualize

```
1 {
2   "message": "Flood report deleted successfully"
3 }
```

7.2 Pollution APIs

7.2.1 Create Pollution Report

POST http://localhost:3000/api. +

Pollution / http://localhost:3000/api/pollution

POST http://localhost:3000/api/pollutions

Send

Params Authorization Headers (9) Body Scripts Tests Settings

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL JSON

Beautify

```
1 {
2   "type": "pollution",
3   "location": "Phoenix, AZ",
4   "pollutionLevel": "Moderate",
5   "geoCoords2": {
6     "type": "Point",
7     "coordinates": [-112.074, 33.4484]
8   },
9   "dateTime": "2025-03-05T08:00:00z"
10 }
```

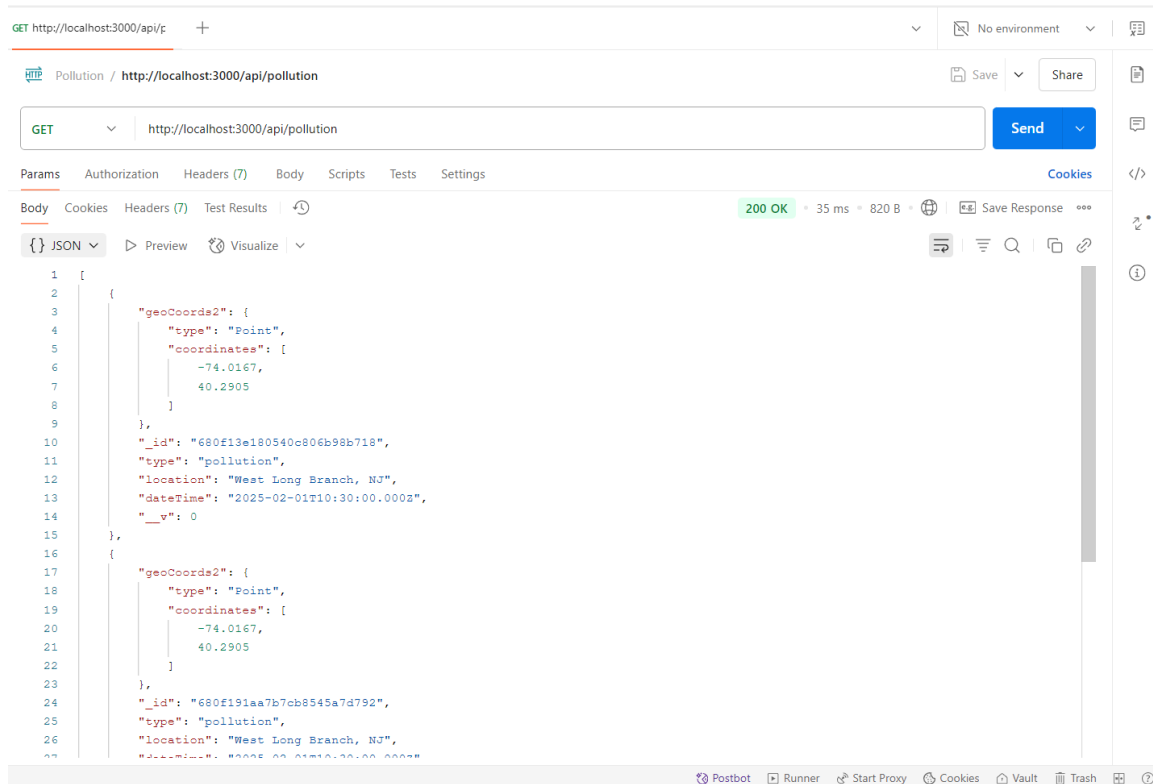
201 Created 84 ms 428 B

Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results

JSON Preview Visualize

```
1 {
2   "type": "pollution",
3   "location": "Phoenix, AZ",
4   "geoCoords2": {
5     "type": "Point",
6     "coordinates": [
7       -112.074,
8       33.4484
9     ]
10  },
11   "dateTime": "2025-03-05T08:00:00.000z",
12   "_id": "681058cfe2ceacbc7afcc664",
13   "__v": 0
14 }
```

7.2.2 Read All Pollution Reports



GET http://localhost:3000/api/p/ +

Pollution / http://localhost:3000/api/pollution

GET http://localhost:3000/api/pollution

Send

Params Authorization Headers (7) Body Scripts Tests Settings

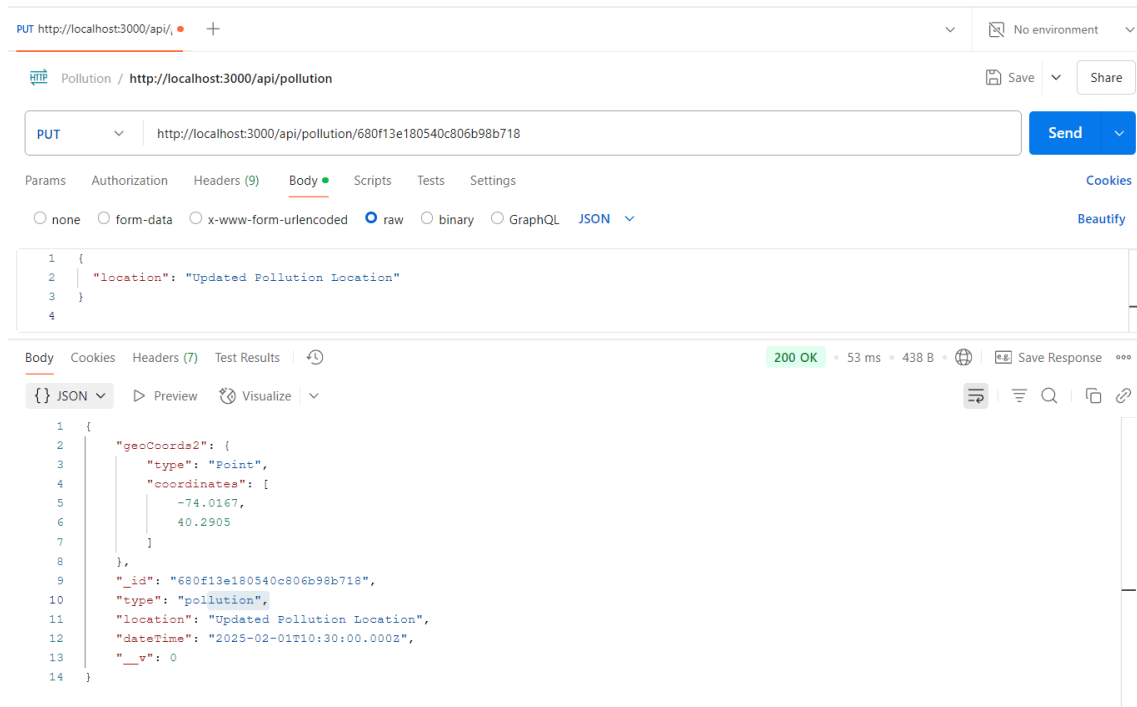
Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results

200 OK • 35 ms • 820 B • Save Response

```
{
  "geoCoords2": {
    "type": "Point",
    "coordinates": [
      -74.0167,
      40.2905
    ]
  },
  "_id": "680f13e180540c806b98b718",
  "type": "pollution",
  "location": "West Long Branch, NJ",
  "dateTime": "2025-02-01T10:30:00.000Z",
  "__v": 0
},
{
  "geoCoords2": {
    "type": "Point",
    "coordinates": [
      -74.0167,
      40.2905
    ]
  },
  "_id": "680f191aa7b7cb8545a7d792",
  "type": "pollution",
  "location": "West Long Branch, NJ",
  "dateTime": "2025-02-01T10:30:00.000Z",
  "__v": 0
}
```

Postbot Runner Start Proxy Cookies Vault Trash

7.2.3 Update Pollution Report



PUT http://localhost:3000/api/p/ +

Pollution / http://localhost:3000/api/pollution

PUT http://localhost:3000/api/pollution/680f13e180540c806b98b718

Send

Params Authorization Headers (9) Body Scripts Tests Settings

Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results

200 OK • 53 ms • 438 B • Save Response

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL JSON

Beautify

```
{
  "location": "Updated Pollution Location"
}
```

Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results

```
{
  "geoCoords2": {
    "type": "Point",
    "coordinates": [
      -74.0167,
      40.2905
    ]
  },
  "_id": "680f13e180540c806b98b718",
  "type": "pollution",
  "location": "Updated Pollution Location",
  "dateTime": "2025-02-01T10:30:00.000Z",
  "__v": 0
}
```

7.2.4 Delete Pollution Report

The screenshot shows a REST client interface with a DELETE request to `http://localhost:3000/api/pollution/680f13e180540c806b98b718`. The response is a 200 OK status with a message: `"message": "Deleted successfully"`.

Request Details:

- Method: DELETE
- URL: `http://localhost:3000/api/pollution/680f13e180540c806b98b718`

Response Details:

- Status: 200 OK
- Time: 36 ms
- Size: 269 B
- Body:

```
{  "message": "Deleted successfully"}
```

7.3 GIS Specialized APIs

7.3.1 Polygon Search

The screenshot shows a REST client interface with a POST request to `http://localhost:3000/api/polygon-search-pollution`. The request body is a JSON object representing a polygon. The response is a 200 OK status with a message: `"message": "Deleted successfully"`.

Request Details:

- Method: POST
- URL: `http://localhost:3000/api/polygon-search-pollution`
- Body:

```
{  "coordinates": [    [~-74.0175, 40.2895],    [~-74.0175, 40.2915],    [~-74.0159, 40.2915],    [~-74.0159, 40.2895],    [~-74.0175, 40.2895]  ],  "type": "pollution",  "location": "West Long Branch, NJ",  "dateFrom": "2025-02-01T00:00:00Z"}
```

Response Details:

- Status: 200 OK
- Time: 66 ms
- Size: 448 B
- Body:

```
{  "pollution": [    {      "geoOoords2": {        "type": "Point",        "coordinates": [          -74.0167,          40.2905        ]      },      "_id": "680f191aa7b7cb8545a7d792",      "type": "pollution",    }  ]}
```


7.3.2 Radius Search

POST http://localhost:3000/api/

Pollution / http://localhost:3000/api/nearby-pollution

POST http://localhost:3000/api/pollution/nearby

Params Authorization Headers (9) Body Scripts Tests Settings

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL JSON

```
1 {
2   "coordinates": [-74.0167, 40.2905],
3   "radius": 1000
4 }
5
```

Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results

200 OK • 50 ms • 434 B

Save Response

JSON Preview Visualize

```
1 [
2   {
3     "geoCoords2": {
4       "type": "Point",
5       "coordinates": [
6         -74.0167,
7         40.2905
8       ]
9     },
10    "_id": "680f191aa7b7cb8545a7d792",
11    "type": "pollution",
12    "location": "West Long Branch, NJ",
13    "dateTime": "2025-02-01T10:30:00.000z",
14    "_v": 0
15  }
16 ]
```

7.3.3 Time-Based Filtering

POST http://localhost:3000/

Pollution / http://localhost:3000/api/reports-by-date-pollution

POST http://localhost:3000/api/pollution/reports-by-date

Params Authorization Headers (9) Body Scripts Tests Settings

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL JSON

```
1 {
2   "dateFrom": "2025-02-01T00:00:00z",
3   "dateTime": "2025-02-10T23:59:59z"
4 }
5
```

Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results

200 OK • 33 ms • 434 B

Save Response

JSON Preview Visualize

```
1 [
2   {
3     "geoCoords2": {
4       "type": "Point",
5       "coordinates": [
6         -74.0167,
7         40.2905
8       ]
9     },
10    "_id": "680f191aa7b7cb8545a7d792",
11    "type": "pollution",
12    "location": "West Long Branch, NJ",
13    "dateTime": "2025-02-01T10:30:00.000z",
14    "_v": 0
15  }
16 ]
```

8. Project Directory Structure and Explanation

8.1 Importance of Organized Structure

A clean project structure improves scalability, maintainability, and team collaboration. Each part of the application (Models, Routes, Main App) has its separate responsibilities.

8.2 Full Directory Layout

```
/GIS-Project
|-- app.js (Flood main app)
|-- pollution-app.js (Pollution main app)
|-- floodSchema.js (Flood MongoDB schema)
|-- pollutionSchema.js (Pollution MongoDB schema)
|-- flood-crud.js (Flood CRUD operations)
|-- pollution-crud.js (Pollution CRUD operations)
|-- radius.js (Flood radius search)
|-- time-based.js (Flood time-based search)
|-- GroupByCountAPI.js (Flood Group and Count)
|-- dashboard.js (Flood dashboard summaries)
```

8.3 Folder and File Responsibilities

- app.js: Main server file for flood-related APIs.
- pollution-app.js: Main server file for pollution-related APIs.

8.4 Benefits of This Structure

- Easier to maintain and debug.
- Easier to extend (e.g., adding new disaster modules like Earthquake).
- Clean division of logic improves professionalism and scalability.

9. Acknowledgments

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I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to **Professor Raman Lakshmanan**, Specialist Professor, for his invaluable guidance, thoughtful feedback, and continuous encouragement throughout this project. His support was instrumental in shaping the direction of this work and ensuring its successful completion.

I also wish to acknowledge the role of open-source tools and platforms such as **Node.js**, **Express.js**, **MongoDB Atlas**, **Postman**, and **Visual Studio Code**. These tools provided the technical foundation and flexibility needed to develop and test a fully functional GIS-based backend system.

Finally, I am thankful for the opportunity to undertake this project independently. It has not only enhanced my technical skills in backend development and geospatial data handling, but also deepened my understanding of real-world system design and API architecture.

10. Conclusion and Future Scope

10.1 Conclusion

The GIS Flood and Pollution Management System successfully demonstrates the design and development of a modular, scalable, and real-world-ready backend GIS application. Using Node.js, Express.js, and MongoDB with 2dsphere indexing, the system achieves efficient CRUD operations, advanced geospatial queries (polygon and radius search), and time-based filtering.

Professional modular architecture ensures easy maintenance, debugging, and future expansion. All APIs were thoroughly tested using Postman to verify correctness and performance.

10.2 Future Scope

- Integrate Leaflet.js or Mapbox for frontend visualization.
- Implement JWT authentication for securing the APIs.
- Setup real-time alert systems for new severe incidents.
- Build a dashboard analytics page for visual trends and patterns.
- Deploy the application on cloud services like AWS or Heroku.
- Extend the system to support other disasters (earthquake, wildfire, air pollution).
- Implement versioned APIs and .env configurations for scalable production readiness.

10.3 Final Thoughts

This project not only fulfills academic requirements but lays down the foundation for building full-scale environmental monitoring and response systems. It combines modern technologies with best practices of backend architecture and GIS-based data handling.