

Counting Number of Vertices in a Layer

QGIS Tutorials and Tips



Author

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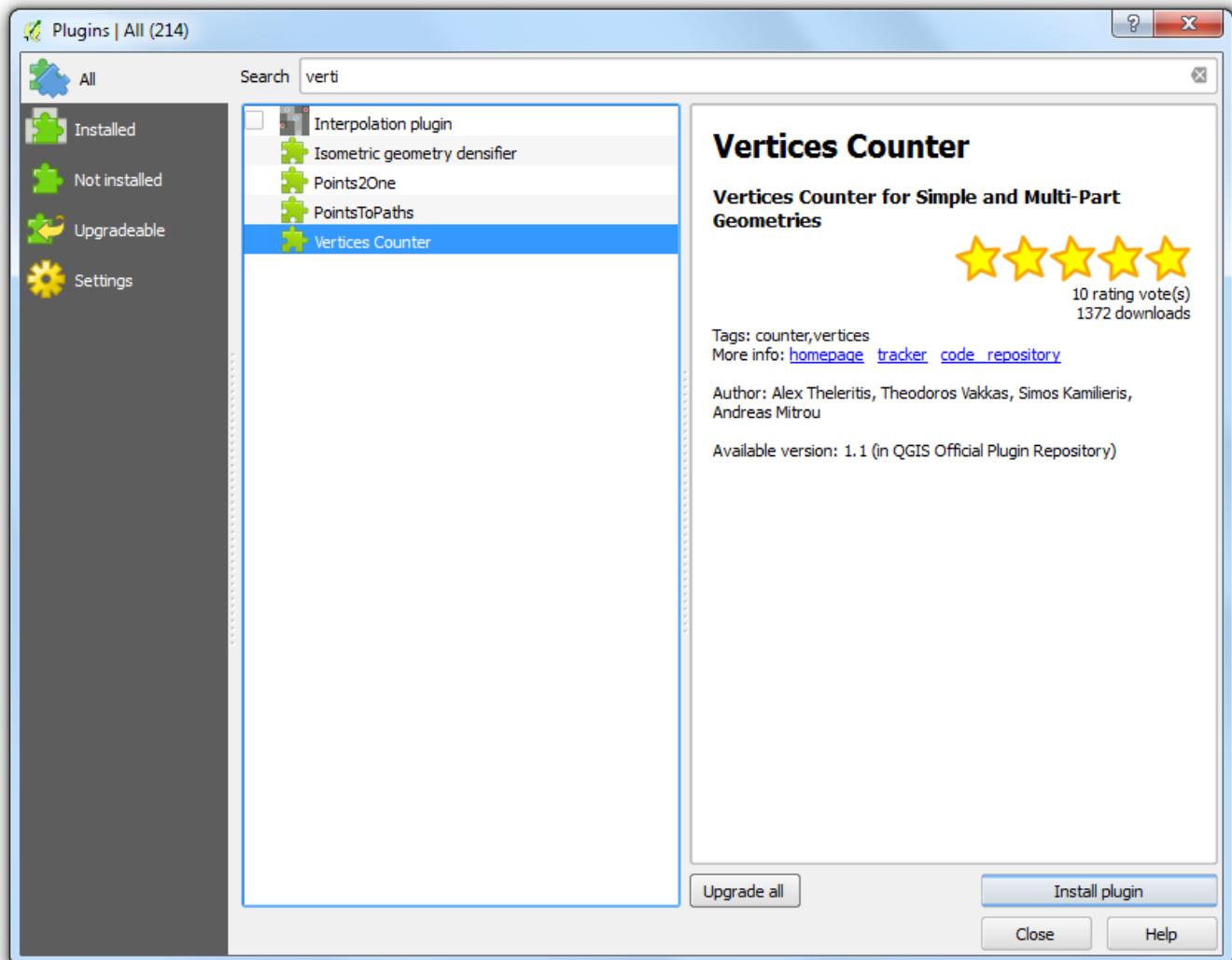
<http://www.spatialthoughts.com>

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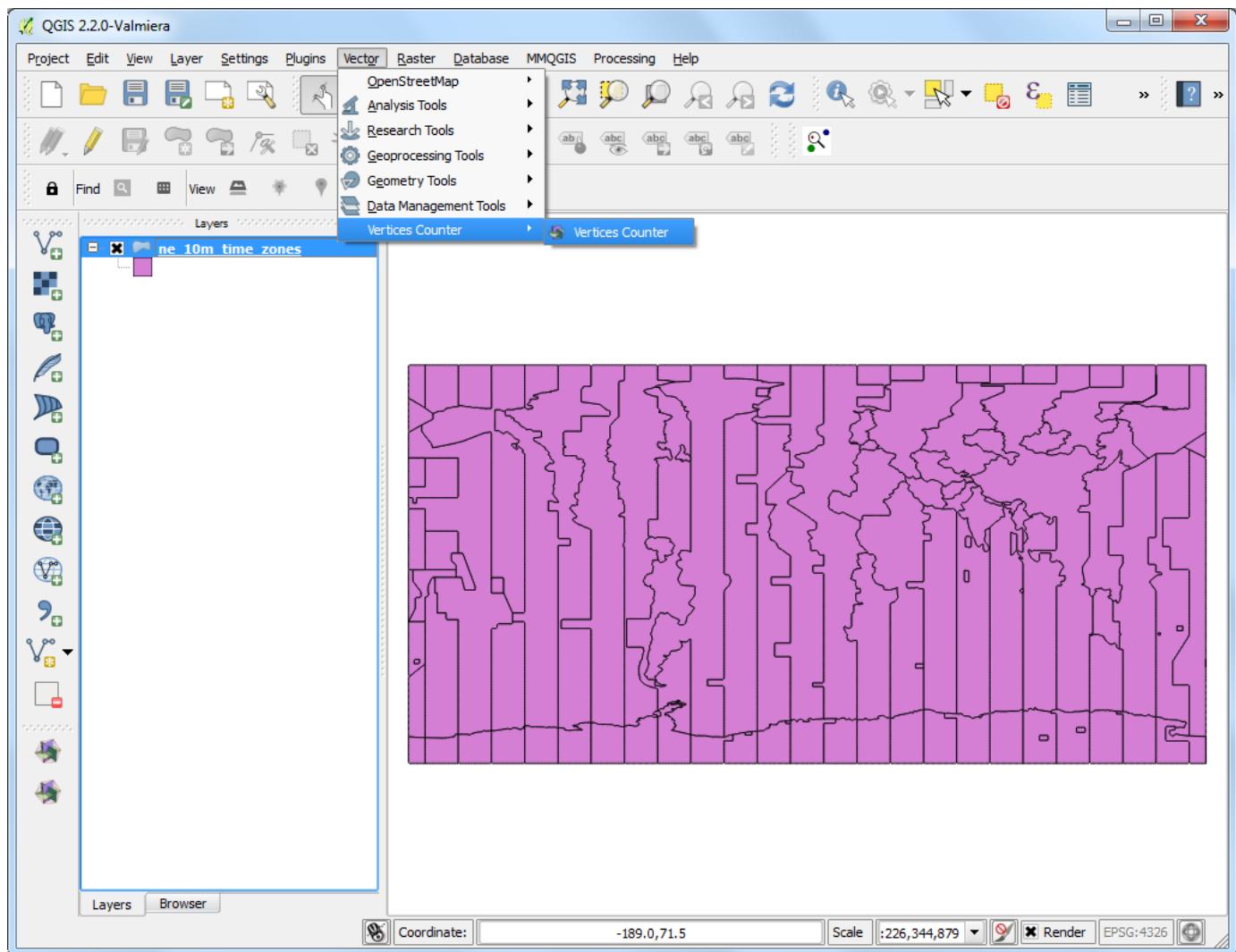
QGIS doesn't have a built-in function to calculate number of vertices for each feature in a layer. But a very handy plugin called **Vertices Counter** fills this gap and adds a few handy features as well.

Procedure

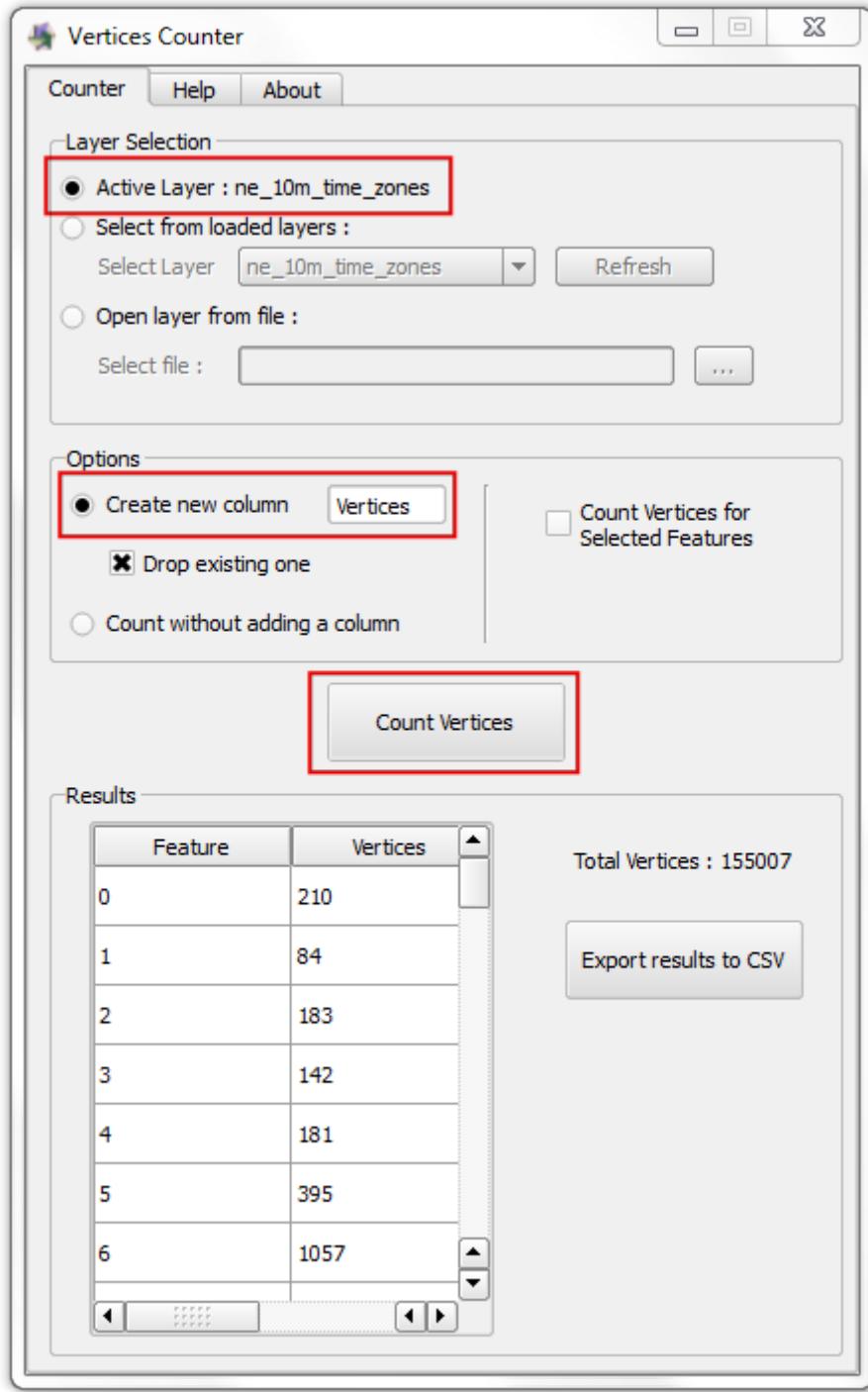
1. Find and install the **Vertices Counter** plugin. See [Using Plugins](#) for details on installing plugins in QGIS.



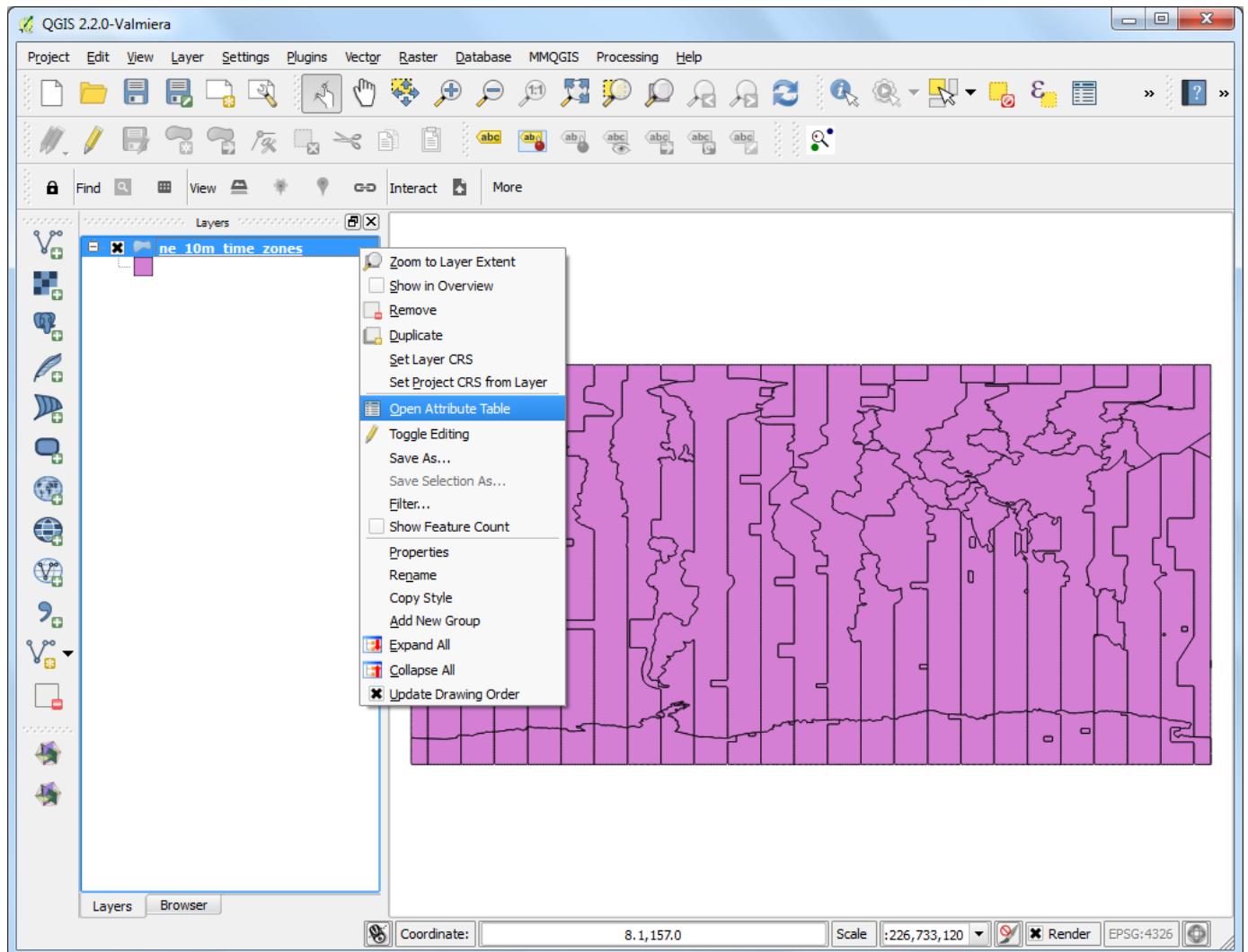
2. Load any polygon or line layer in QGIS. Go to Vector ▶ Vertices Counter ▶ Vertices Counter.



3. By default, the active layer will be selected under the Layer Selection. You may select any other loaded layers or open layer directly from disk as well. The plugin has an option called Create new column which can add an number of vertices as an attribute for each feature. This is handy for a lot of use cases, so we can select that option. Now click on the Count Vertices button and the Results section will be populated with vertex count for each feature. You can even see the Total Vertices displayed on the side.



4. Back in the main QGIS window, let's verify if a new column was added to our layer. Right-click the layer and select Open Attribute Table.



5. As you will notice, a column named *Vertices* will be added at the end with values representing the vertex count for each feature. This column can come in handy if you want to do a query such as *Select all features with Vertices > X*.

Attribute table - ne_10m_time_zones :: Features total: 120, filtered: 120, selected: 0

This screenshot shows the attribute table for the 'ne_10m_time_zones' layer in QGIS. The table lists 120 features, all of which are currently selected. The columns represent geographical and temporal data. A red box highlights the 'Vertices' column, which contains numerical values ranging from 0 to over 1000.

#	utc_format	time_zone	iso_8601	places	dst_places	tz_name1st	tz_namesum	Vertices
0	-10.00	UTC-10:00	UTC-10:00	2012-05-30T18:...	Arctic Ocean	NULL	NULL	210
1	-10.00	UTC-10:00	UTC-10:00	2012-05-30T18:...	United States (Al...	United States (Al...	NULL	84
2	-11.00	UTC-11:00	UTC-11:00	2012-05-30T17:...	Arctic Ocean	NULL	NULL	183
3	-11.00	UTC-11:00	UTC-11:00	2012-05-30T17:...	American Samoa,...	NULL	NULL	142
4	-11.00	UTC-11:00	UTC-11:00	2012-05-30T17:...	American Samoa,...	NULL	Pacific/Midway	181
5	-11.00	UTC-11:00	UTC-11:00	2012-05-30T17:...	American Samoa,...	NULL	Pacific/Pago_Pago	395
6	-10.00	UTC-10:00	UTC-10:00	2012-05-30T18:...	United States (H...	Most of French P...	Pacific/Honolulu	1057
7	-12.00	UTC-12:00	UTC-12:00	2012-05-30T16:...	Southern Ocean	NULL	NULL	189
8	-12.00	UTC-12:00	UTC-12:00	2012-05-30T16:...	Siberia	NULL	NULL	143
9	-7.00	UTC-07:00	UTC-07:00	2012-05-30T21:...	Canada (northea...	Canada (Alberta)...	America/Denver	5037
10	-9.50	UTC-09:30	UTC-09:30	2012-05-30T19:...	Marquesas Islands	NULL	Pacific/Marquesas	57
11	-6.00	UTC-06:00	UTC-06:00	2012-05-30T22:...	Canada (almost ...	Canada (Manitob...	America/Chicago	2862
12	-5.00	UTC-05:00	UTC-05:00	2012-05-30T23:...	Colombia, Cuba, ...	Canada (most of ...	America/New_York	5574
13	-3.50	UTC-03:30	UTC-03:30	2012-05-31T01:...	Canada (island o...	Canada (island o...	America/St_Johns	220
14	-4.00	UTC-04:00	UTC-04:00	2012-05-31T00:...	Arctic Ocean	NULL	NULL	139
15	-1.00	UTC-01:00	UTC-01:00	2012-05-31T03:...	Greenland (south...	NULL	America/Scoresb...	525
16	-4.00	UTC-04:00	UTC-04:00	2012-05-31T00:...	Bolivia, Brazil (A...	Falkland Islands	America/La_Paz	9877
17	-2.00	UTC-02:00	UTC-02:00	2012-05-31T02:...	Arctic Ocean	NULL	NULL	129
18	-2.00	UTC-02:00	UTC-02:00	2012-05-31T02:...	Brazil (Fernando ...	NULL	Atlantic/South_G...	1012
19	-1.00	UTC-01:00	UTC-01:00	2012-05-31T03:...	Portugal (Azores...)	NULL	Atlantic/Cape_Ve...	1268
20	-8.00	UTC-08:00	UTC-08:00	2012-05-30T20:...	Canada (most of ...	Canada (most of ...	America/Los_Ang...	3753
21	-8.00	UTC-08:00	UTC-08:00	2012-05-30T20:...	Arctic Ocean	NULL	NULL	318
22	13.00	UTC+13:00	UTC+13:00	2012-05-31T17:...	Kiribati (Phoenix ...	Samoa	Pacific/Enderbury	184

Show All Features ▾