



Parallelizing a Python Geoprocessing Tool

GeoDev Meetup - Seattle, WA
April 8th, 2015

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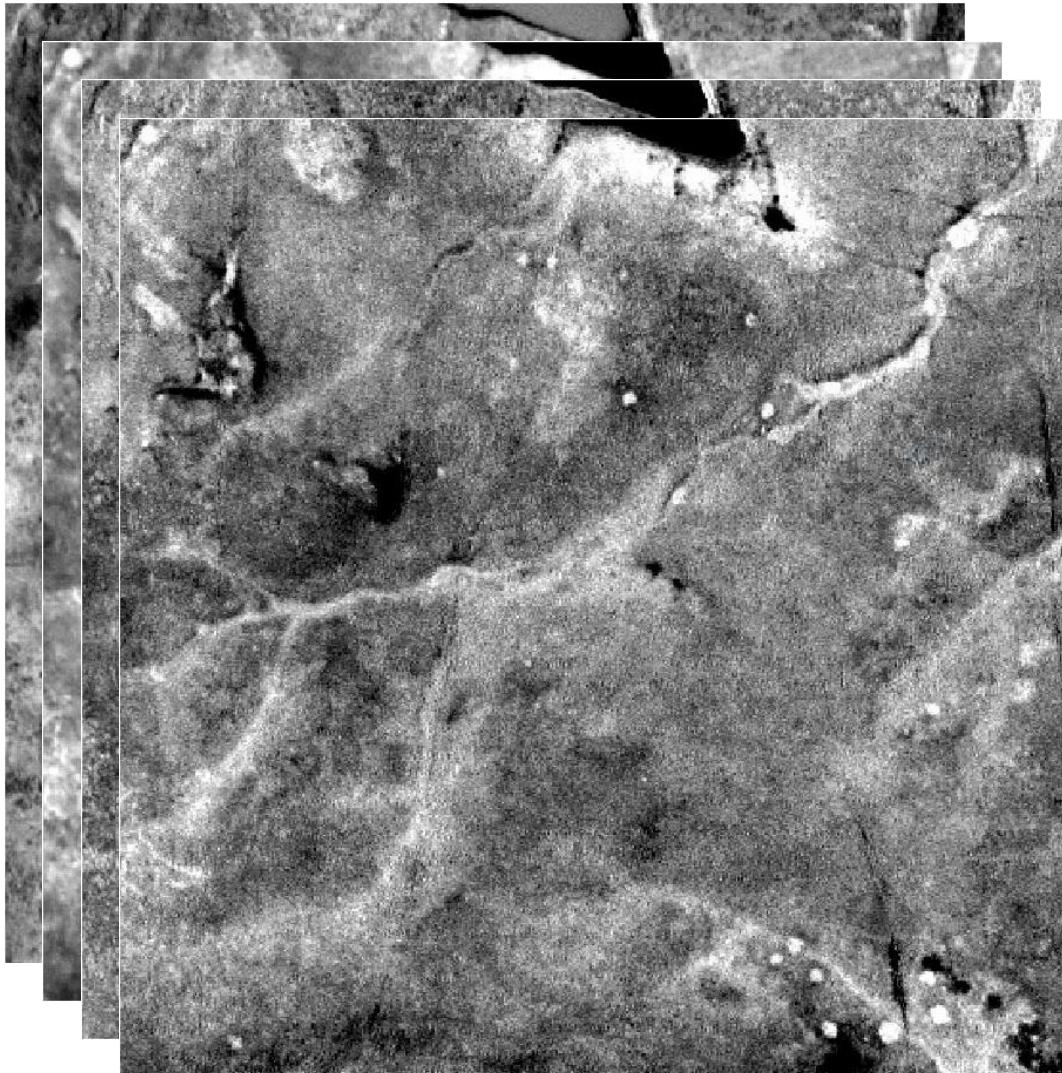
Eric Sant - Open Range Consulting
openrangeconsulting.com



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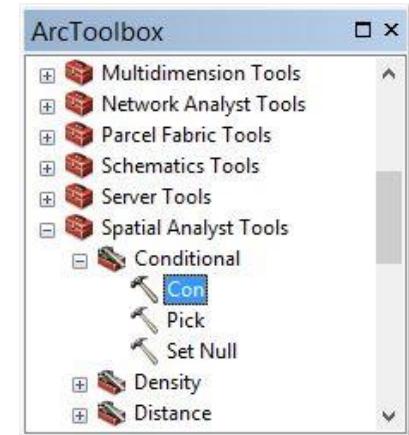
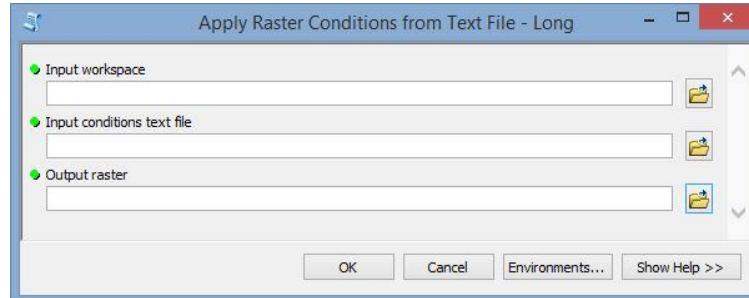
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Task: Run Dependent Con Statements Using Conditions Data from the Statistical Package R



Use ArcGIS Geoprocessing Tool to Create & Run Con Statements

```
sh_model_short.txt x  
1) root 281 21.3600 0.32300  
2) BGW3_MEAN < 92.6113 41 1.3770 0.86840 *  
3) BGW3_MEAN > 92.6113 240 5.7040 0.22980  
6) BGW3_MEAN < 105.116 57 1.2090 0.39220 *  
7) BGW3_MEAN > 105.116 183 2.5230 0.17920  
14) BGW4_MEAN < 158.219 132 1.5270 0.21660 *  
15) BGW4_MEAN > 158.219 51 0.3352 0.08251 *
```



```
temp0 = Con((Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") > 158.219), 0.08251)  
temp1 = Con((Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") < 158.219), 0.21660, temp0)  
temp2 = Con((Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") < 105.116), 0.39220, temp1)  
temp3 = Con((Raster("BGW3") < 92.6113), 0.86840, temp2)  
temp3.save("C:\\Temp\\ARC_Out_Part_1")
```

Problem: Tool is slow for big images with thousands of Con statements



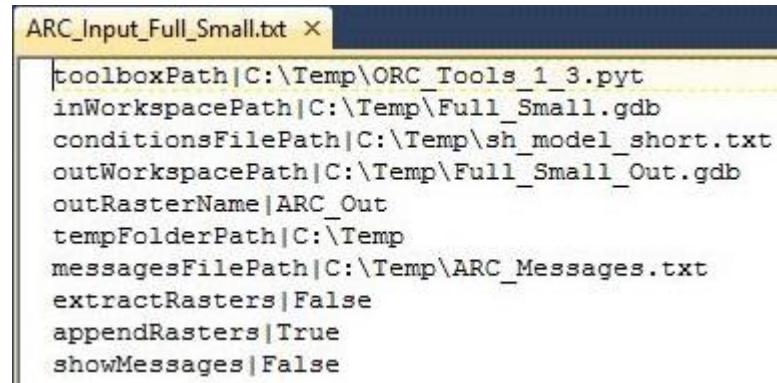
**So here's how to make the process 50% faster (with a
caveat)...**



Run Apply Raster Conditions Tool Outside ArcMap

run_arc_tool.py

```
# Read input file
```



```
ARC_Input_Full_Small.txt x
toolboxPath|C:\Temp\ORC_Tools_1_3.pyt
inWorkspacePath|C:\Temp\Full_Small.gdb
conditionsFilePath|C:\Temp\sh_model_short.txt
outWorkspacePath|C:\Temp\Full_Small_Out.gdb
outRasterName|ARC_Out
tempFolderPath|C:\Temp
messagesFilePath|C:\Temp\ARC_Messages.txt
extractRasters|False
appendRasters|True
showMessages|False
```



```
# Import toolbox
```

```
arcpy.ImportToolbox(toolboxPath)
```

```
# Run tool
```

```
arcpy.ApplyRasterConditionsTool_ORCTools(inWorkspacePath, conditionsFilePath, outRasterPath)
```

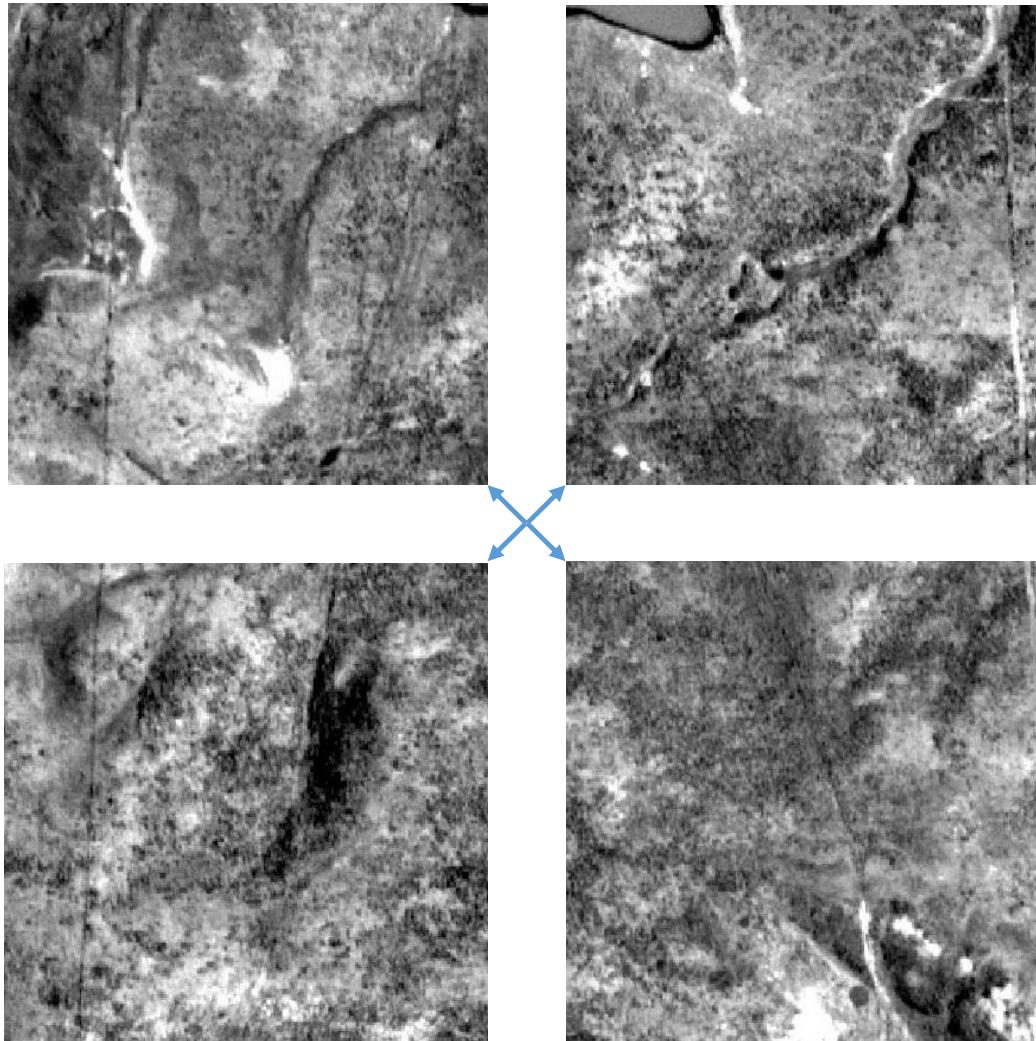
```
# Store geoprocessing messages
```

Store Geoprocessing Messages

```
ARC_Messages.txt x
Executing: ApplyRasterConditionsTool "C:\Temp\Part_In_1.gdb" "C:\Temp\sh_model_short.txt" "C:\Temp\Full_Small.gdb\ARC_Out"
Start Time: Fri Apr 03 16:55:55 2015
Running script ApplyRasterConditionsTool...
PARAMETERS:
workspace_path: C:\Temp\Full_Small.gdb
in_conditions_file: C:\Temp\sh_model_short.txt
out_raster_path: C:\Temp\Full_Small_Out.gdb\ARC_Out
Checking input data...
Preparing input data...
Building Con expressions...
(Raster("BGW4") > 158.219)
(Raster("BGW3") > 105.116)
(Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") > 158.219)
(Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113)
(Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") > 158.219)
Con((Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") > 158.219), 0.08251
(Raster("BGW4") < 158.219)
(Raster("BGW3") > 105.116)
(Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") < 158.219)
(Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113)
(Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") < 158.219)
Con((Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") < 158.219), 0.21660
(Raster("BGW3") < 105.116)
(Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113)
(Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") < 105.116)
Con((Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") < 105.116), 0.39220
(Raster("BGW3") < 92.6113)
Con((Raster("BGW3") < 92.6113), 0.86840
Running Con expressions...
temp0 = Con((Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") > 158.219), 0.08251)
temp1 = Con((Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") > 105.116) & (Raster("BGW4") < 158.219), 0.21660, temp0)
del temp0
temp2 = Con((Raster("BGW3") > 92.6113) & (Raster("BGW3") < 105.116), 0.39220, temp1)
del temp1
temp3 = Con((Raster("BGW3") < 92.6113), 0.86840, temp2)
del temp2
temp3.save("C:\\Temp\\Full_Small_Out.gdb\\ARC_Out")
del temp3
Running Con expressions...
Completed script ApplyRasterConditionsTool...
Succeeded at Fri Apr 03 16:55:59 2015 (Elapsed Time: 6 minutes 22 seconds)
```



Split Input Rasters into Parts and Process Simultaneously



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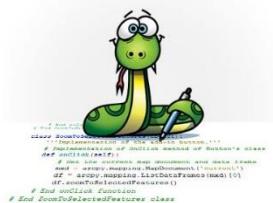
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Run Apply Raster Conditions Tool in Parallel

run_arc_parallel.py

Read input file

```
ARC_Input_Full_Small.txt x
toolboxPath|C:\Temp\ORC_Tools_1_3.pyt
inWorkspacePath|C:\Temp\Full_Small.gdb
conditionsFilePath|C:\Temp\sh_model_short.txt
outWorkspacePath|C:\Temp\Full_Small_Out.gdb
outRasterName|ARC_Out
tempFolderPath|C:\Temp
messagesFilePath|C:\Temp\ARC_Messages.txt
extractRasters|False
appendRasters|True
showMessages|False
```



Split input rasters into parts

For each part

Create input file

```
ARC_Input_Full_Small_Part_1.txt x
toolboxPath|C:\Temp\ORC_Tools_1_3.pyt
inWorkspacePath|C:\Temp\Part_In_1.gdb
conditionsFilePath|C:\Temp\sh_model_short.txt
outWorkspacePath|C:\Temp\Part_Out_1.gdb
outRasterName|ARC_Out_Part_1
messagesFilePath|C:\Temp\ARC_Messages_Part_1.txt
```

Call process_arc_part.py - sets up and runs run_arc_tool.py in parallel

Append output rasters



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Use Multiprocessing Module

run_arc_parallel.py

```
# Imports
```

```
from multiprocessing import Process  
import subprocess
```

```
# Function to run each process
```

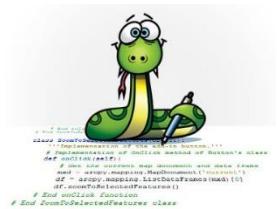
```
def run_shell(command):  
    p = subprocess.Popen(command)  
    p.communicate()
```

```
# Create process
```

```
def main(argv):  
    for each part:  
        command = "python process_arc_part.py " + argsStr  
        task = Process(target=run_shell, args=(command,))  
        task.start()  
        tasks.append(task)
```

```
# Wait for all processes to finish
```

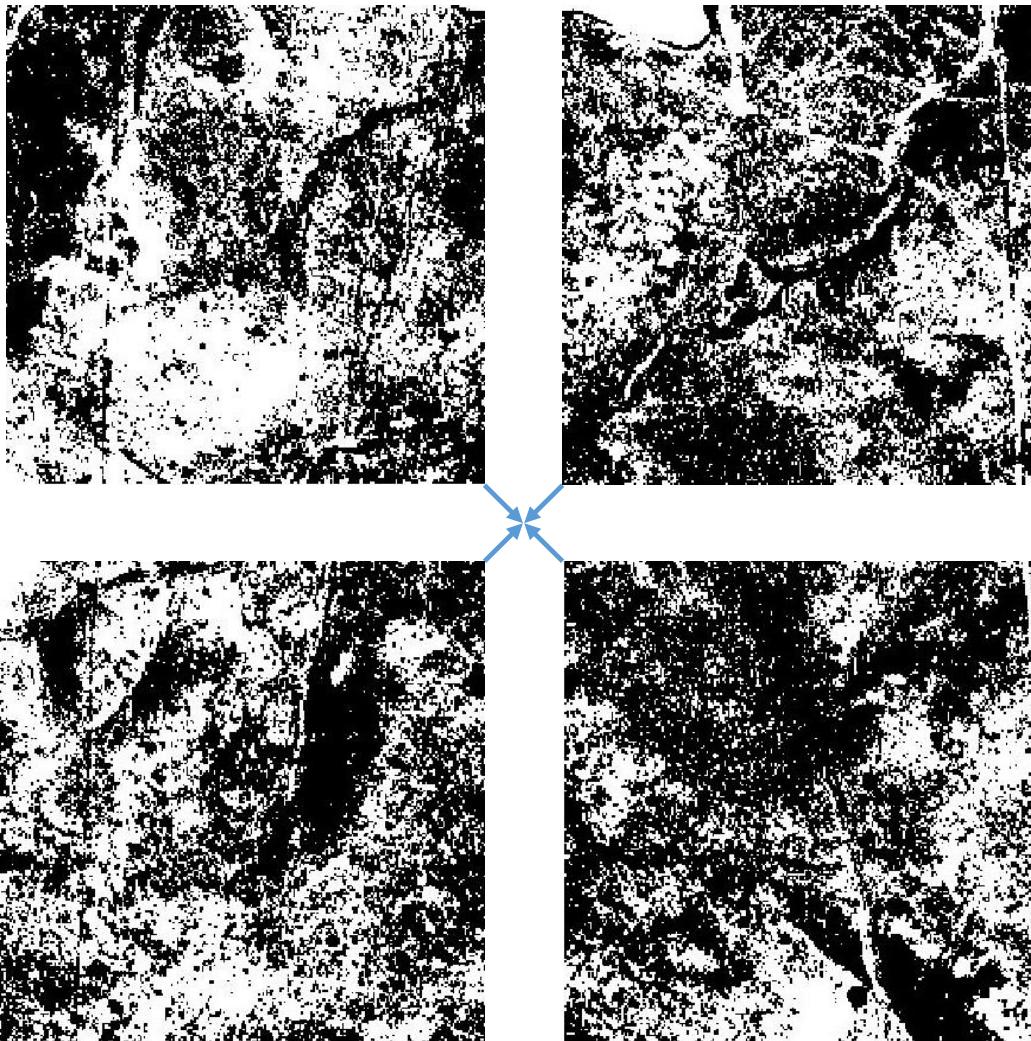
```
for task in tasks:  
    task.join()
```



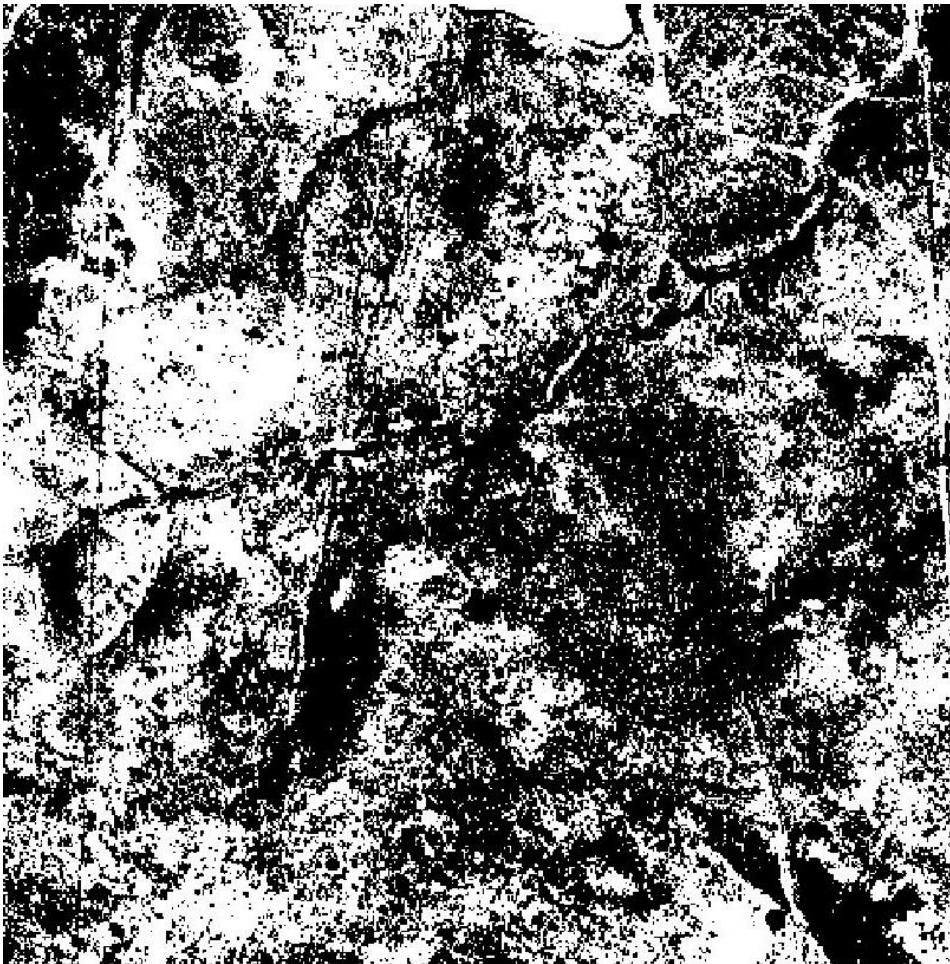
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Append Output Parts



Return Full Output Rasters



Review Performance Considerations

- **Sample run**
 - 4 input rasters, 800 MB each
 - 4 Con calls
 - Single run, Apply Raster Conditions tool - 6.5 minutes
 - Parallel run
 - Splitting - 25 minutes
 - 4 parts, Apply Raster Conditions tool - 2.5 minutes
 - Appending - 1.5 minutes
- As number of Con statements increases
 - Relative cost of splitting decreases
 - Overall time savings increase



Consider Wider Applicability

- Processing requirements continually increasing
 - E.g,
 - NAIP imagery improving from 3.5 ft to 1 ft resolution
 - LIDAR popularity growing
- Concept can be applied to any geoprocessing operation for which tasks can be separated into independent parts



Thank You for Coming!

- **David Howes**
 - David Howes, LLC, Seattle, WA
 - GIS tools, processes & supporting infrastructure
 - <http://dhowes.com>
 - david@dhowes.com
- **Eric Sant**
 - Open Range Consulting, Park City, UT
 - Rangeland management
 - <http://newfoundgeo.com>

For slides and other resources, please see:

- <http://gispd.com/events>
- <http://www.dhowes.com/presentations>

