



FOSS4G2006 - Free And Open Source Software

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FOSS4G in support of Antarctic Science and Environmental Management: The SCAR KGIS Project

King George Island, Antarctica, is considered by some as the 'Secret Capital of Antarctica'. The mainly ice-covered island features a large number of scientific bases, an air strip and abundant wildlife. The island is also a hot spot for Antarctic tourist cruises and the emerging land-based Antarctic tourism. Scientific activities, requirements for facility management, tourism, and the protection of the sensitive ecosystems lead to a considerable conflict of interests. The international King George Island GIS Project (SCAR KGIS) provides a SDI for the island in support of research and environmental management activities. The spatial database, related on-line access tools and OGC compliant data services are implemented based on free and open source software. The SCAR KGIS Project is part of the continent-wide Antarctic Spatial Data Infrastructure SCAR AntSDI, which provides for the institutional arrangements and data sharing policies, a feature catalogue for common semantics and technical specifications.

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