MOBILE OBSERVATIONS SYSTEM

Agenda

- ✓Introduction
- ✓System Overview
- ✓Field Exercise
- A Closer Look at the System
- Next Steps

Next Steps

- Development status
- Preview of components in development
- Field testing schedule
- Discussion

Development Status

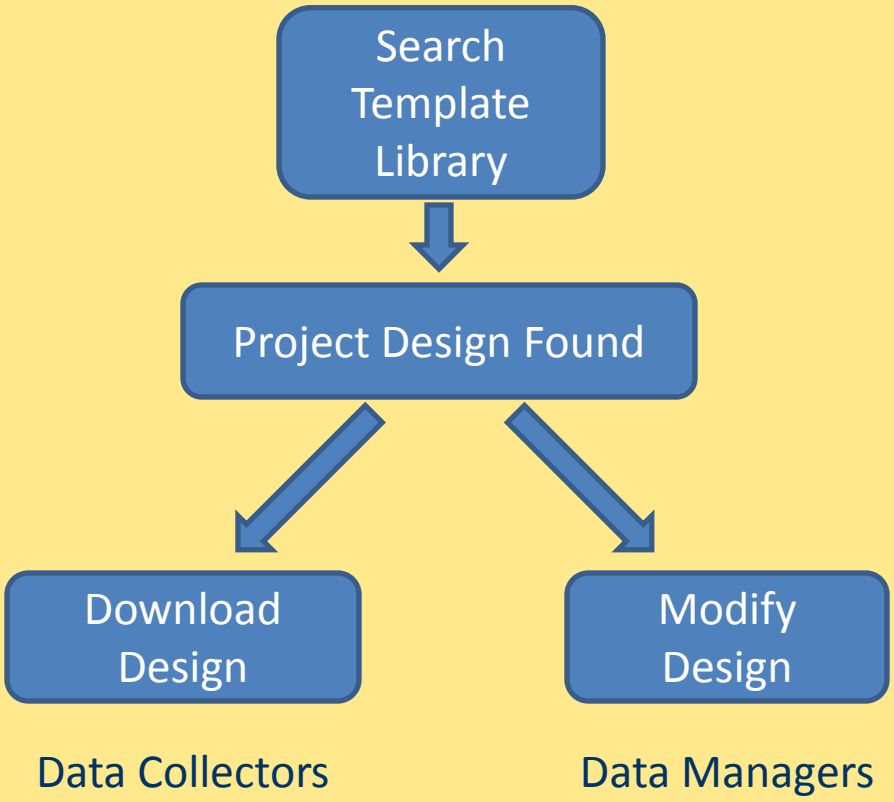
- Core data collection components complete:
  - Process templates to create forms and staging DB
  - Load forms onto PDAs
  - Collect data in field
  - Synch data from mobile device to staging DB
- Development in progress for:
  - Observation template library interface
  - Desktop configuration user interface
  - Data cleanup, validation and export utilities

Observation Template Library

- Online collaboration tool to define and share data structures
- Researchers can browse the library to see:
  - What protocols are used to collect particular types of data?
  - How have others organized their data collection projects?
- Project designs can be reused in whole or in part (e.g., templates or attributes)

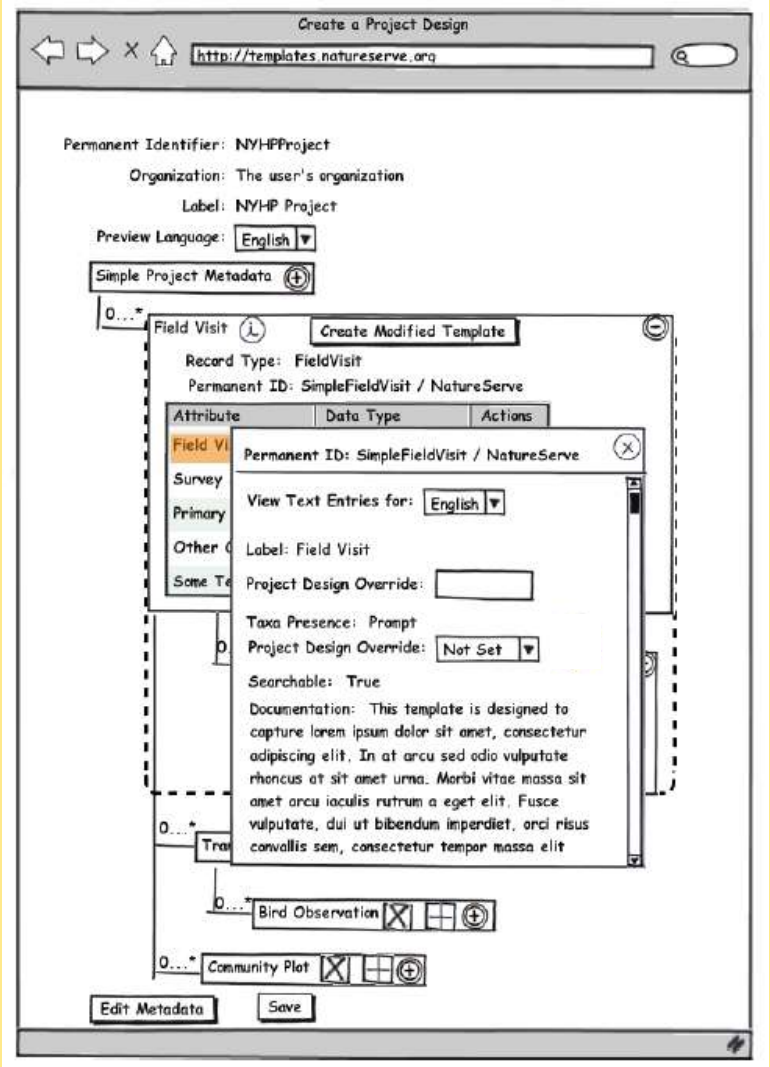
Search for a Project Design

- Data managers: create or modify project designs
- Data collectors: download and use project designs



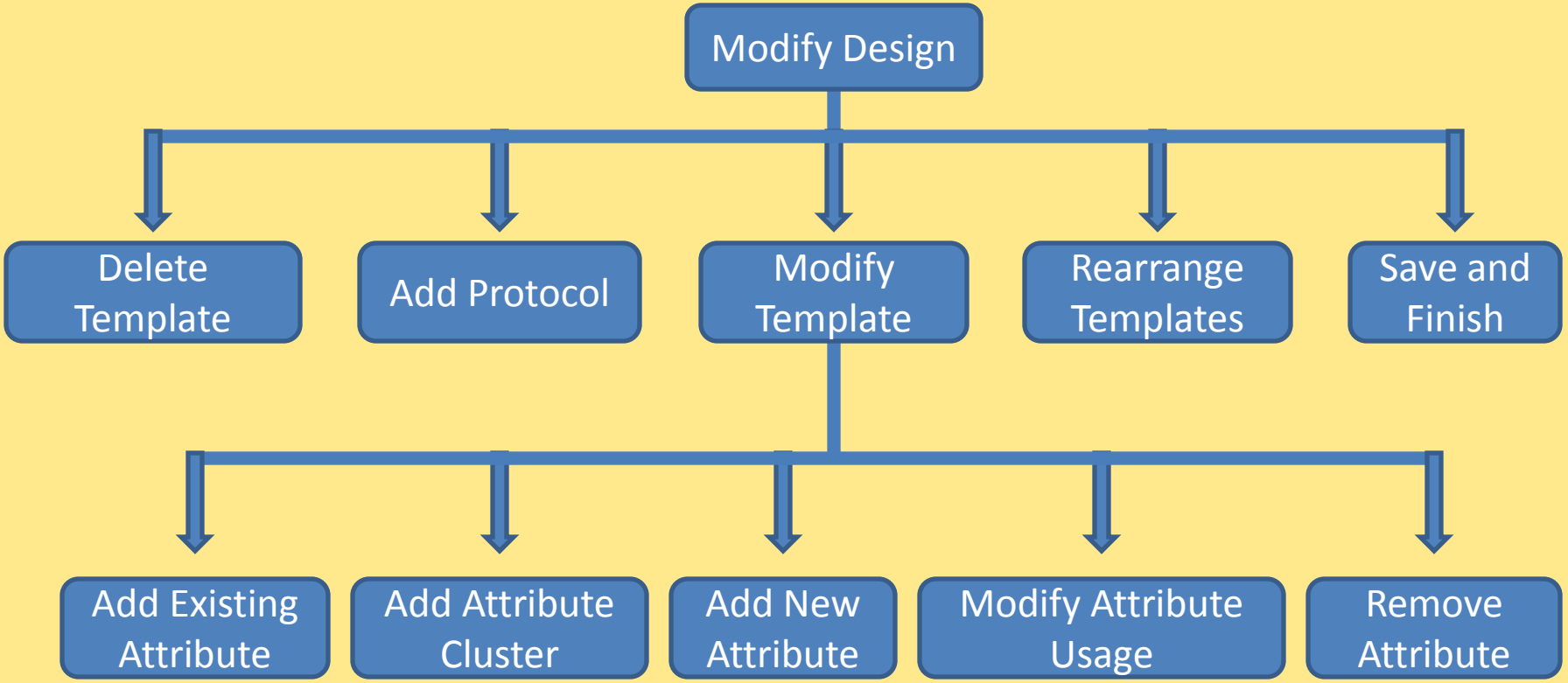
Create a Project Design

- Use existing design as-is
- Create new design from scratch
- Modify design with new templates, attributes, etc.



Modify a Project Design

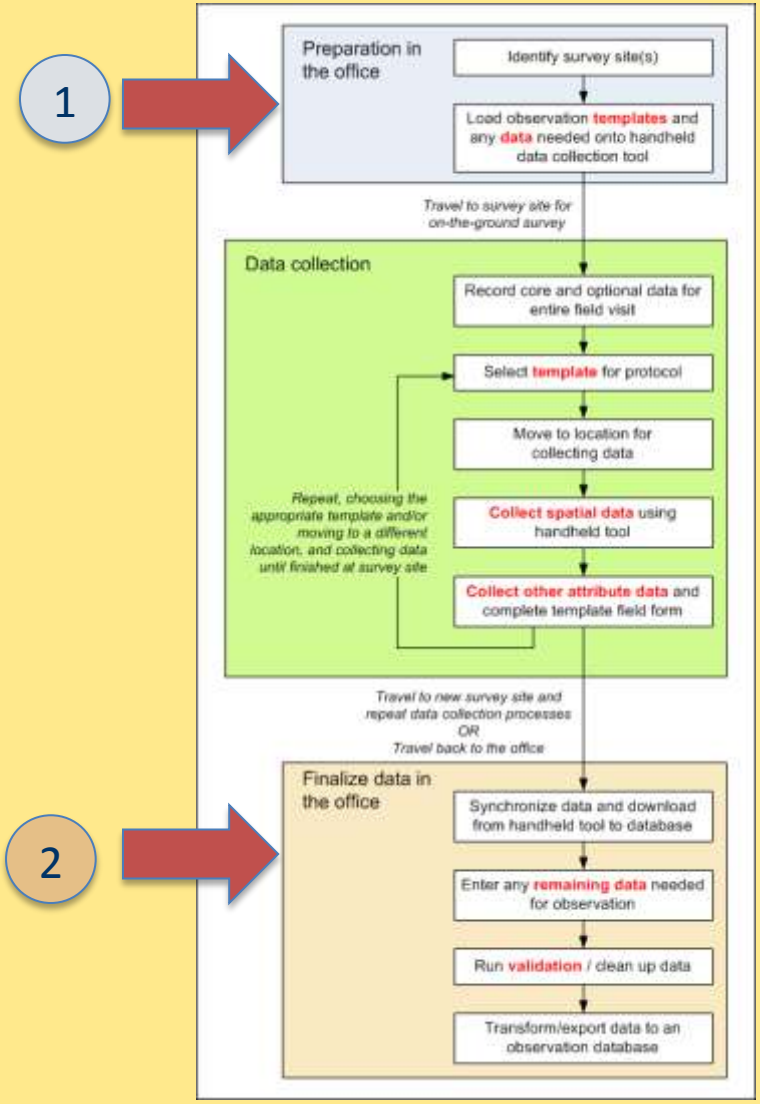
- A data manager can modify project designs in a number of ways:



Desktop Applications

Local editing environment

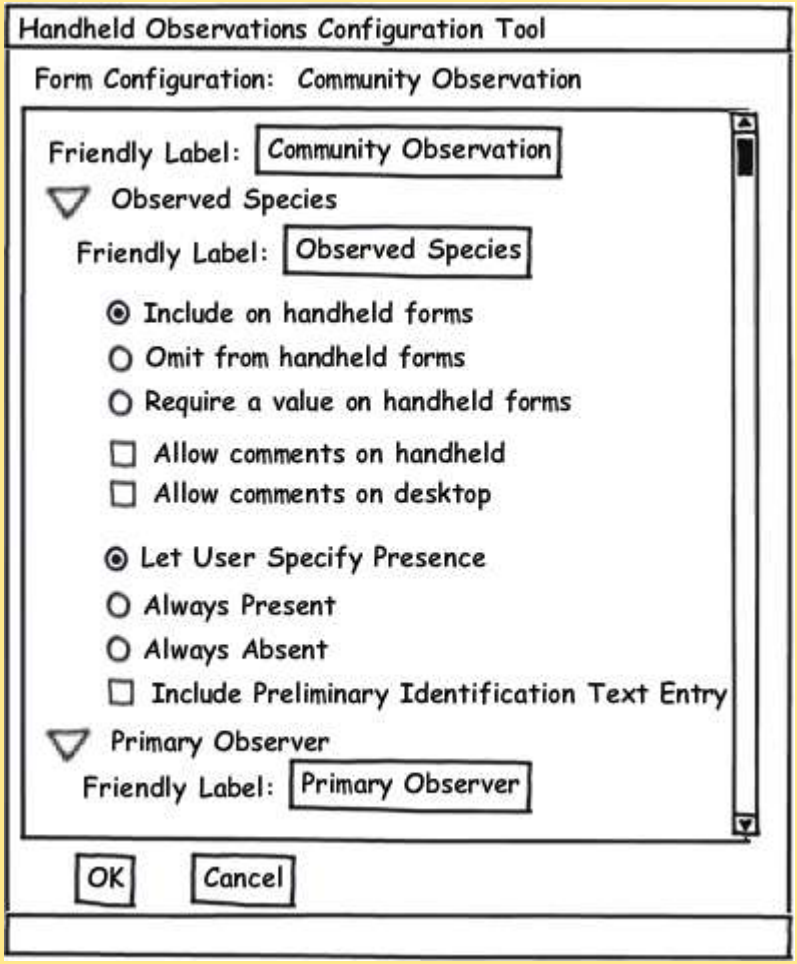
1. Prepare handheld units for field use
2. Finalize data after returning to the office
   - Editor cleans up and validates data
   - Export tool transfers data to Kestrel or to another system for long term storage



Desktop Configuration Tool

Apply project-specific customizations to templates and generate:

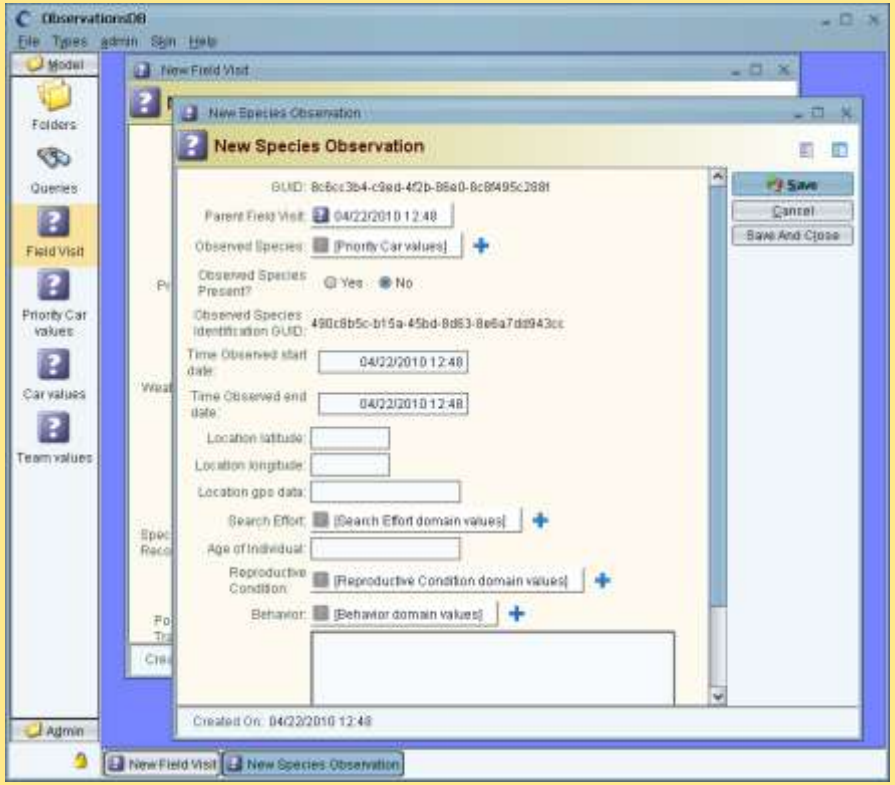
- Handheld forms
- Staging database and UI for editing records
- Geodatabase schema and ArcPad forms



Desktop Editor

Used for:

- Clean up field records
- Validate records using template-defined rules
- Export records to Kestrel or other observation databases



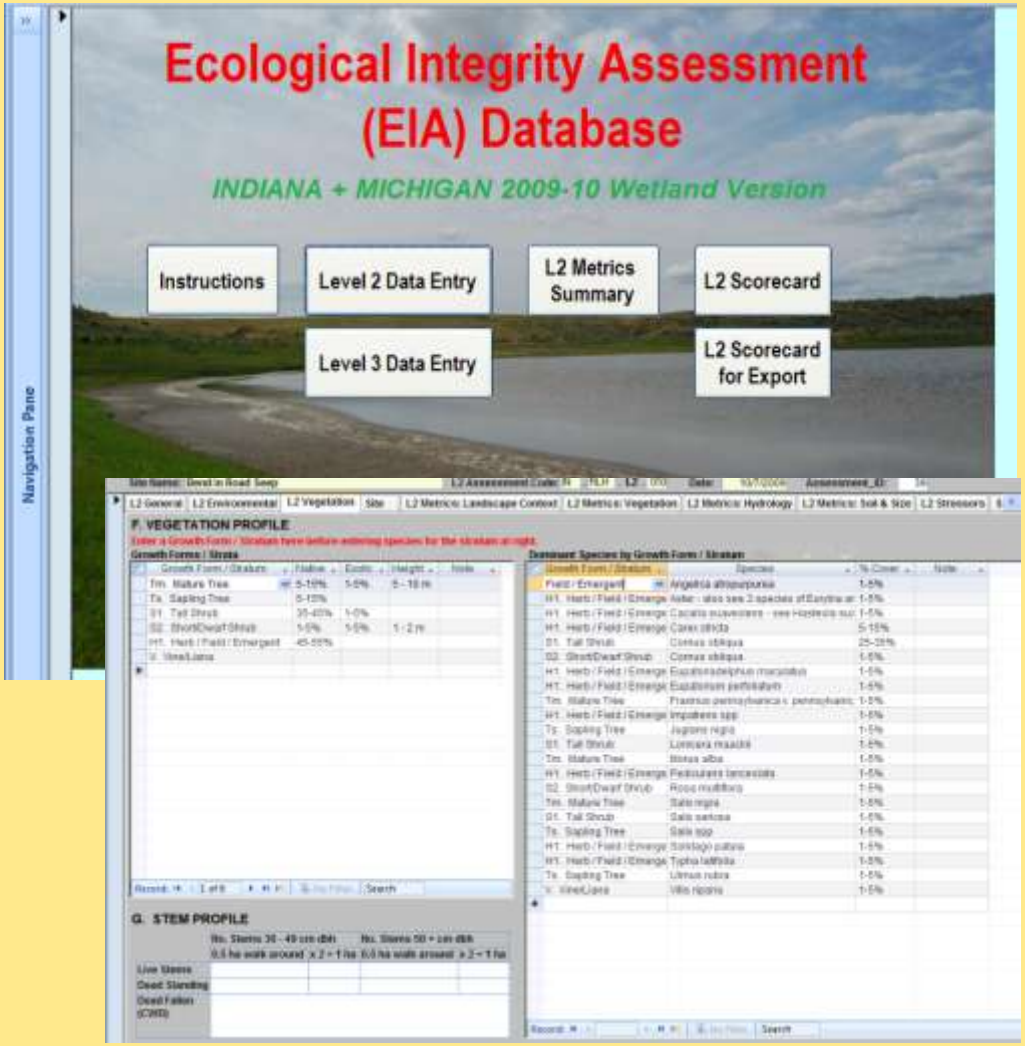
Integrating with Databases

- Observation template library will support creation of templates for use in Kestrel
- Handheld desktop application will support exporting records to Kestrel

Kestrel

Integrating with Databases

- Export tools will aid in transfer of observation records to other long-term databases



Field Testing Schedule

- Field testing by project team will begin this summer
- System will be available for wider use next year

Q&A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