MSDIS Update – December 2025

New Data

- MSDIS did not receive any new data during December 2025.

Updated Data

- MSDIS did not receive any data updates during December 2025.

MSDIS General News

MSDIS welcomes Katilin Belk

As many of you saw in one of my earlier emails, it is my distinct pleasure to finally be able to announce that MSDIS has hired Katilin Belk in the role of GIS Specialist II. Katilin will begin her time at MSDIS managing some of the research and grant-funded projects that I have been associated with over the years, as well as taking on a major role in the district map project that has stemmed from the expansion funding. These projects are critical to MSDIS' continued success and will benefit from the new perspective that Katilin brings to the team.

Thanks to her prior experience, Katilin will also assume the role of LiDAR manager once she is comfortable navigating the MSDIS architecture. As with all things related to the clearinghouse, though, this is not a process I intend to rush. This is a huge leap forward for the clearinghouse, and I cannot tell you how excited I am to have someone with experience using LiDAR data on Team MSDIS, but I would politely ask everyone to give Katilin time to acclimate to her new role.

Server Replacement and Migration

With the holidays behind us, the first order of business for MSDIS in 2026 is setting up our new servers. This will be another slow rollout to minimize outages and/or disruptions, but many of our users will need to revise their links to MSDIS services once this process is completed. LiDAR services on moimagery.missouri.edu, for example, will move to a completely new server, and it is very likely that the non-LiDAR services on moimagery.missouri.edu will all have a new URL.

My current intention is that the statewide services on stateimagery.msdis.missouri.edu will NOT move to a new URL.

State Training

While I have not confirmed a date for the next state training session, my current goal is to host another Introduction to ArcGIS Pro workshop in mid-February. I will share more details as they become available.

Reference Maps

Unfortunately, very little progress has been made on our reference map program since my last update. We haven't made any changes to the current layout drafts and still need to finalize the last few data sources. Once these steps are completed, Team MSDIS will select a small group of Missouri legislative districts to contact for feedback.

MSDIS Downtime

No downtime was reported in December 2025.

MSDIS Traffic

As many of you know, these reports used to include brief server utilization summaries. Those summaries were discontinued when I was unable to move our Sawmill account to the new MSDIS servers. The absence of those metrics has been a significant source of frustration for me for well over a year given that they provide valuable insight into who is using the clearinghouse.

Over the holiday period, I spent several days working with ChatGPT to generate a python script for analyzing our server logs. I believe I have the beginnings of a functional and accurate reporting system to replace our previous metrics but will continue tinkering with the code for a little longer. I need to run the new code against old logs to confirm that the numbers are relatively consistent.

Once I am happy with the new reporting tool and confident in the output, I will include those metrics in these reports.