A person wearing a grey cap and glasses is seated at a workstation in a control room. They are looking at a large monitor displaying a colorful map with various colored regions and a grid. The room is dimly lit, and there are various pieces of equipment and cables visible on the desk and in the background.

# Pulling Back the SARCOOP Curtain

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A dive into the backend and inner workings of the Search and Rescue  
Common Operating Platform

Adam Fackler, NAPSG Foundation, Missouri Task Force One, and  
National Search and Rescue Geospatial Coordination Group

# Purpose

- We get lots of “How did you guys...” questions – this seeks to answer those!
- Show how SARCOP is structured
- Major enhancements and best practices
- There will be time at the end for open forum “Ask the developer”

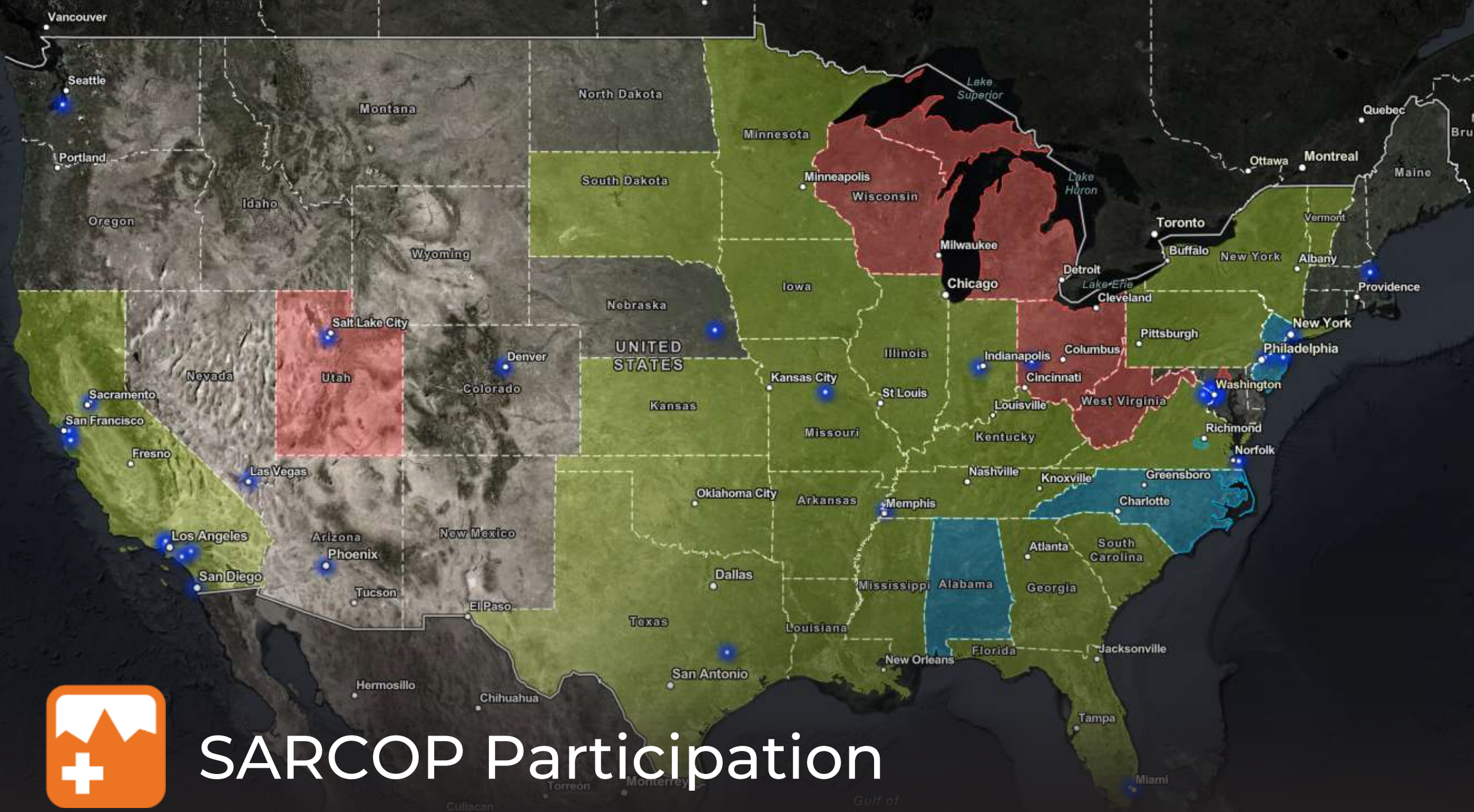


# SARCOP Overview

- Search and Rescue Common Operating Platform
- Built to collect and share information during disasters
- Developed through a partnership between DHS, FEMA, and NAPSG
- 100+ USAR teams have access, including all 28 FEMA USAR teams
- Can be used for everything between Hurricane Ian and local SAR searches
- Everything is community driven



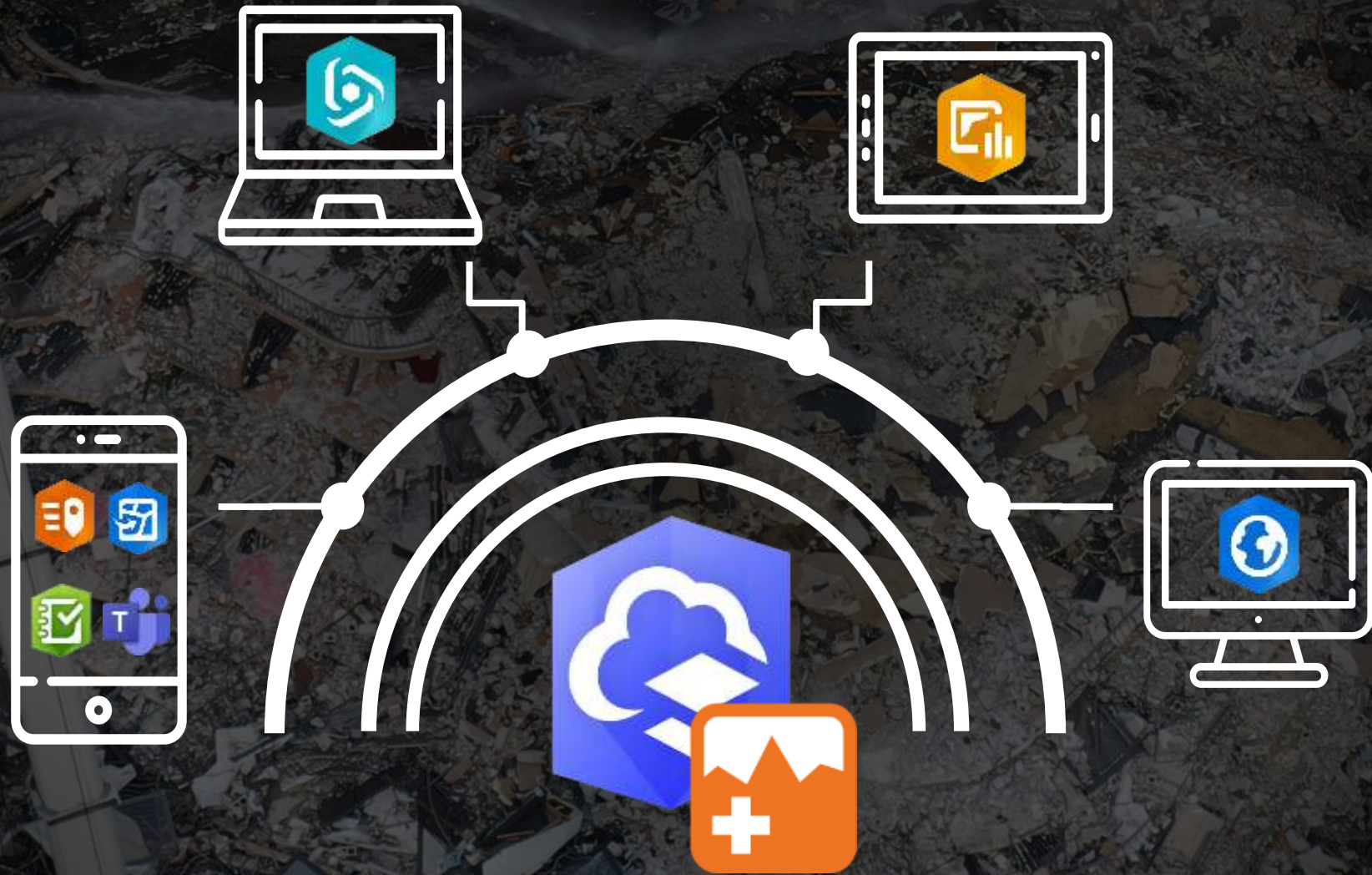




# SARCOP Participation



# What is SAR COP?



Search and Rescue Common Operating Platform



# SARCOP V8 vs V9

- Updated SARCOP from version 8 to version 9 in March - May 2023
- Major changes were mostly backend



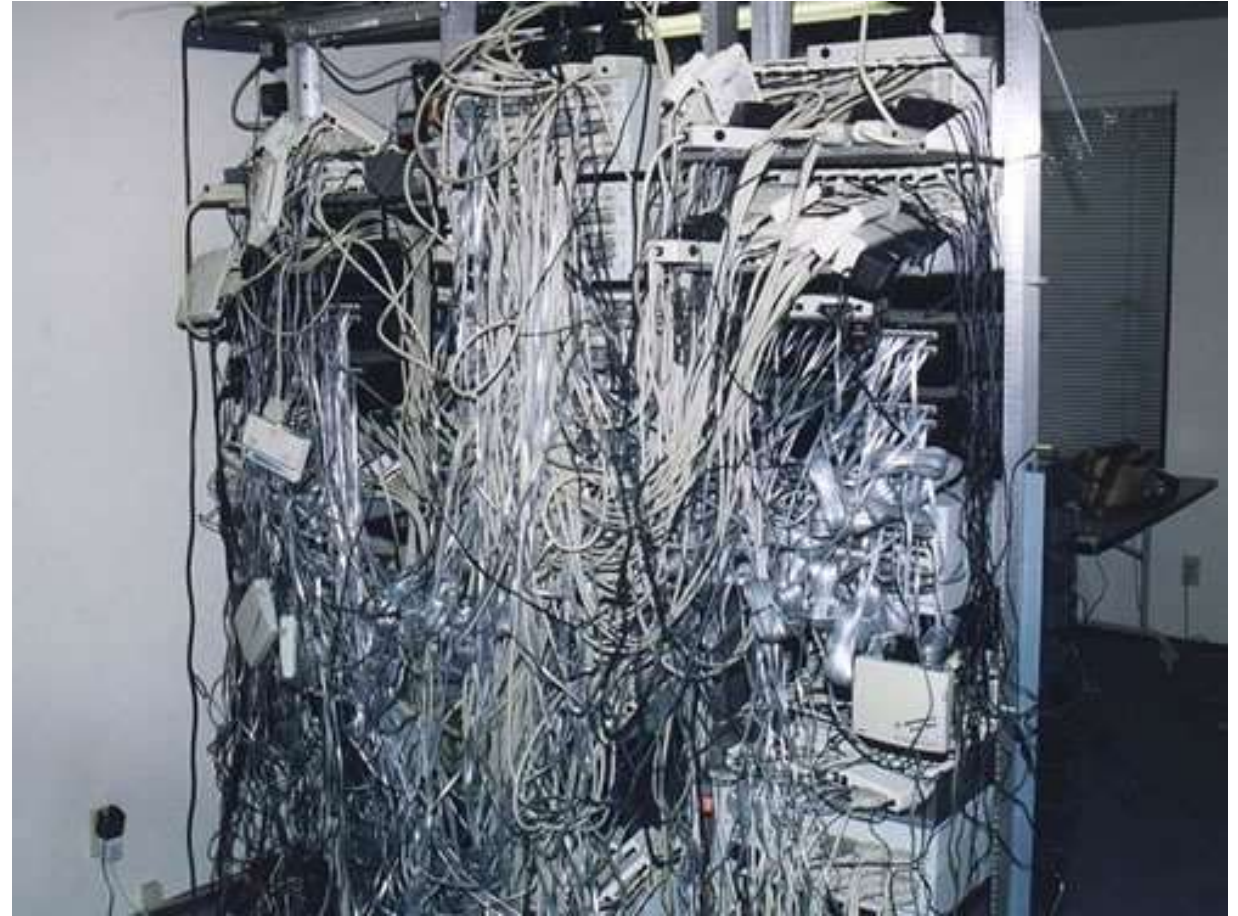
# Frontend differences

- No more Survey123 for WAS
- New App: Admin Editor
- Few new tracklogs
- New thumbnail in the sandbox

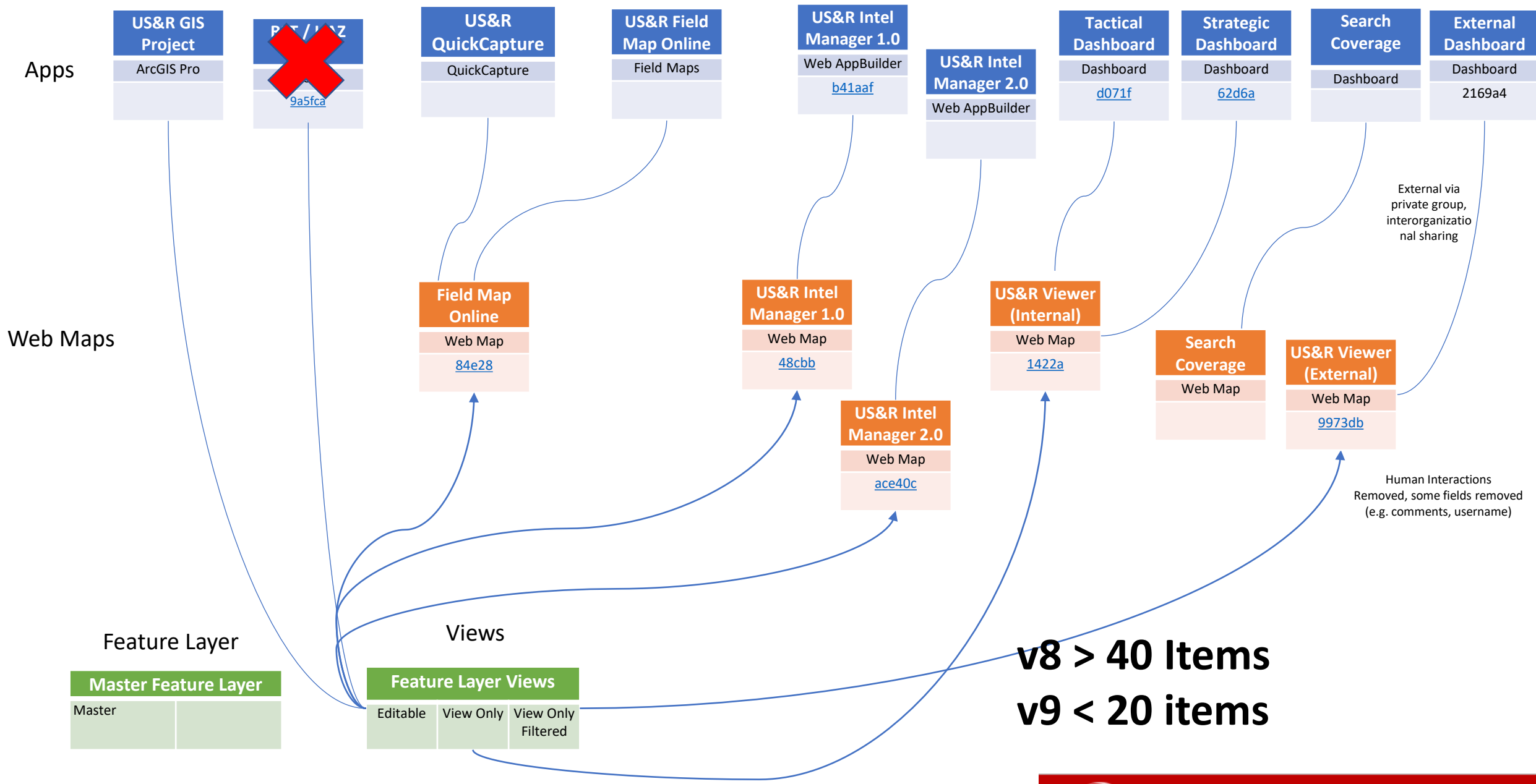


# Backend differences

- All the layers are contained in one layer
- Still lots of view layers, but each view has every SARCOP layer instead of individual layer having multiple views
- Only Admins can truly delete data
- Revamped post-incident archive process





































































**v8 > 40 Items**  
**v9 < 20 items**

68fc80 SARCOP v9 SIFS Master Feature Layer

d454e1 SARCOP v9 SIFS Mobile Edit View

<input type="checkbox"/> Title			
<input type="checkbox"/> 68fc80 SARCOP v9 SIFS Master Feature Layer	 Feature layer (hosted) ▾	 + 	
<input type="checkbox"/> d454e1 SARCOP v9 SIFS Mobile Edit View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +   	
<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary DR4724 HI Wildfires SARCOP v9 View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾		
<input type="checkbox"/> 2686da SARCOP v9 SIFS Waypoint Search Type View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +    +2	
<input type="checkbox"/> e1f8aa SARCOP v9 SIFS Waypoint Follow-Up View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +    +1	
<input type="checkbox"/> Maui_OSM_Building_with_Heights_Multistory	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 + 	
<input type="checkbox"/> 68fc80 SARCOP v9 SIFS Time Enabled Layer view	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 + 	
<input type="checkbox"/> SARCOP v9 SIFS California View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +  	
<input type="checkbox"/> ec0e90 SARCOP v9 SIFS DOBS View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +    +1	
<input type="checkbox"/> b664e7 SARCOP v9 SIFS Illinois View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +   	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1daa41 SARCOP v9 SIFS Intel Manager 1.0 View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +  	
<input type="checkbox"/> 29e273 SARCOP v9 SIFS Internal View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +   	
<input type="checkbox"/> fd6b92 SARCOP v9 SIFS External Stakeholder View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +    +4	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0bc596 SARCOP v9 SIFS Deleted or Null Feature View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +  	
<input type="checkbox"/> 7bbdfc SARCOP v9 Waypoint Cluster View	 Feature layer (hosted, view) ▾	 +  	





# How did we swap from V8 to V9? “Operation U- Haul”

1. Started out on the sandbox
2. Build out the schema in Pro
3. Published to AGOL
4. Recreated views, maps, and apps
5. Replaced existing apps in Experience with new apps
6. Spent weeks testing
7. Cloned to FEMA org
8. Repeat step 5 on Deployment side

# 2. Setting up in Pro

Current Layer: SARCOP Waypoints

Visible	Read Only	Field Name	Alias	Data Type	Allow NULL	Highlight	Number Format	Domain	Default	Length
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OBJECTID	OBJECTID	Object ID	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Numeric			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	event_name	Event Name	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	event_type	Event Type	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		event_type		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	team_name	Team Name	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		SARCOP Waypoints_team_name_290bd208-5c73-42cd-85e7-6e019b3e1965		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	squad_id	Squad ID	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	team_user	Operator Name	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	mission_type	Search Type	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		SARCOP Waypoints_mission_type_25e4ddc2fbd1449e95573cf4ed775df5		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MGRS	USNG/MGRS	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DDM	Degree Decimal Minutes	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	waypoint	Waypoint	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		waypoint		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	original_waypoint	Original Waypoint	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	waypoint_cat_cat	Waypoint Category	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		waypoint_category		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	gps_symbol	GPS Symbol	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	address	Street Address	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	city	City	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	state_territory	State	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	zip	Zip	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	county	County	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	program_type	Structure Type	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		structure_type		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	person_num	Person Count	Short	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Numeric			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	pet_num	Number of Pets Evacuated	Short	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Numeric			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	water_depth	Water Depth (Feet)	Double	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Numeric			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	haz_other	Define Other Hazard	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	lifeline	Lifeline	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		lifeline		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	searched	Feature Searched	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		feature_searched		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	followup_status	Follow-Up	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		SARCOP Waypoints_followup_status_76d4b8f335894775a621efb01d9cc1e1		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	assigned_to	Assigned To	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	followup_priority	Follow-Up Priority	Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		followup_priority		255
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	start_time	Start Time	Date	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Symbology

Primary symbology

Unique Values

Field 1: Mission Type

Add field

Color scheme

Classes Scales

Symbol	Value	Label
—	recon	Ground Recon
- · -	aerial_recon	Aerial Recon
- · -	water_recon	Water Recon
- · -	hasty	Hasty
- · -	primary	Primary
- · -	secondary_high	Secondary High
- · -	secondary_low	Secondary Low

- SARCOP WAS Layers
  - SARCOP Waypoints
  - SARCOP Exposed Structures
  - SARCOP Event Points
  - SARCOP Tracklog
  - SARCOP Search Segments
  - SARCOP Divisions
  - SARCOP Branches
  - SARCOP Incident Area





# How did we swap from V8 to V9?

1. Started out on the sandbox
2. Build out the schema in Pro
3. Published to AGOL
4. Recreated views, maps, and apps
5. Replaced existing apps in Experience with new apps
6. Spent weeks testing
7. Cloned to FEMA org
8. Repeat step 5 on Deployment side



```

{
  "basemap": {
    "type": "WebMap",
    "itemId": "2734e65d97a343789fd2044b4b084e28",
    "mapAreas": [],
    "required": true,
    "useDefaultBasemap": false,
    "zoomLevel": null
  },
  "dataSources": [
    {
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      "dataSourceId": "40fe5e32-e487-49ca-b45c-4d7b4eeb0de8",
      "url": "https://services.arcgis.com/0ZRg6WRC7mx5LyKX/arcgis/rest/services/SARCOP_Incident_Feature_Service_v9_Mobile_Editable_View/FeatureServer/1",
      "ocItemId": null
    },
    {
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    },
    {
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    }
  ],
  "itemId": "7ca4485d28d048b58b5741e7c51a3c71",
  "minVersion": "1.16.291",
  "notificationInfo": {
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      {
        "active": true,
        "created": 1685978473058,
        "events": [],
        "id": "05b761f8-4e73-4b53-9e04-241e7d8c9c21",
        "includePortalInfo": true,
        "includeProjectInfo": true,
        "includeServiceRequest": true,
        "includeServiceResponse": true,
        "includeUserInfo": true,
        "modified": 1685978473058,
        "name": "Follow Up notification",
        "targetLayerUrl": "https://services.arcgis.com/0ZRg6WRC7mx5LyKX/arcgis/rest/services/SARCOP_Incident_Feature_Service_v9_Mobile_Editable_View/FeatureServer/1",
        "webhookUrl": "https://prod-160.westus.logic.azure.com/workflows/a8380e6a05724b3f85fa5004efb5edfc/triggers/When_a_survey_response_is_submitted/versions/08585099739793553054/run?api-version=2016-06-01&sp=%2Ftriggers%2FWhen_a_survey_response_is_submitted%2Fversions%2F08585099739793553054%2Frun%2C%2Ftriggers%2FWhen_a_survey_response_is_submitted%2Fversions%2F08585099739793553054%2Fread&sv=1.0&sig=95Ylg9Dlaf2fbNyYnIN7MrBf61aI#HsGCmHdZ_xlrMdB"
      },
      {
        "active": true,
        "created": 1691597034743,
        "events": [
          "addData"
        ]
      }
    ]
  }
}

```





# How did we swap from V8 to V9?

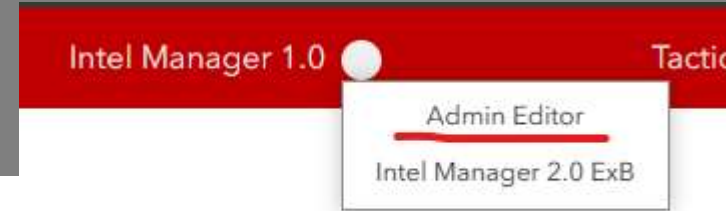
1. Started out on the sandbox
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5. Replaced existing apps in Experience with new apps
6. Spent weeks testing
7. Cloned to FEMA org <https://developers.arcgis.com/python/guide/cloning-content/>
8. Repeat step 5 on Deployment side

# Best Practices for Version Updates

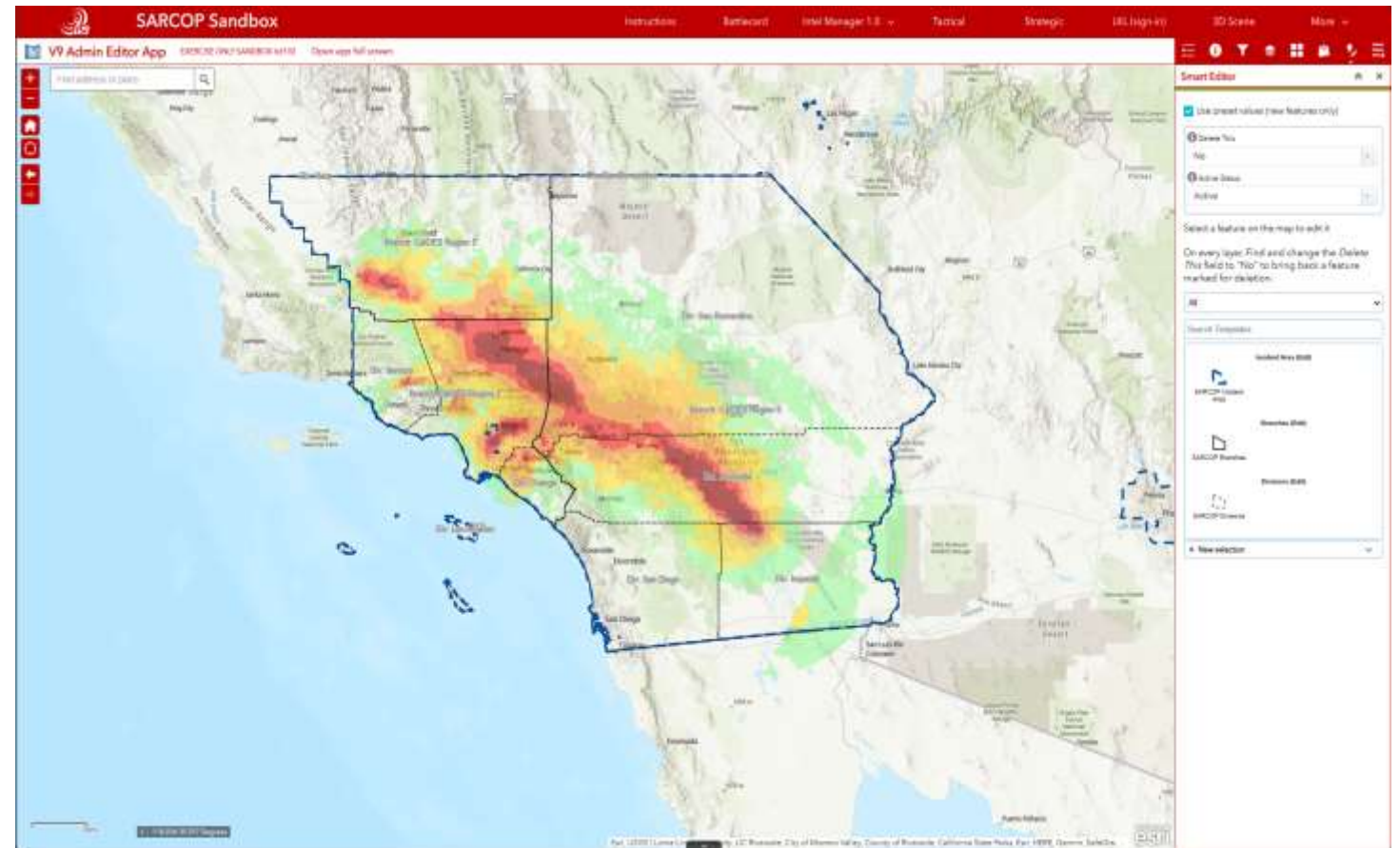
- ArcPro published sublayers start count at “1”, not “0”
  - Causes problems with scripts if you’re not careful
- The QC json swap still needed some configuring afterwards
- Divide and conquer with your team
- Don’t make the swap right before a major incident to get feedback... you’re going to have a bad time



# New App: Admin editor



- Drawing Incident Areas, Branches, and Divisions
  - Usually drawn by IST, prevents accidental editing by Task Forces





# New App: Admin editor



Deleting data in V8

Deleting data in V9





# Location Tracking

- Uses Tracker built into QuickCapture and Field Maps
- Login dependent
- Sends “Last known location” every 30 sec – 1 min





**Group projects like...**

# SARCOP Groups

---

How do we share information?



# Two user groups for SARCOP

## Internal 41484b

- Primary group for accessing and using SARCOP
- For Task Force members
- Editing capabilities for all members
- Access to external and internal layers

## External d77f7d

- Primary group for high level access to SARCOP
- For state EMA, fire chiefs, or other high-level management
- No editing capabilities
- Access to only external apps and layers



# Who can be added

- Anyone who works for a public safety agency
  - Including fire departments, task force members, and other members of public safety
- Must be validated by a manager at the host agency
  - Can't just add John Doe from FDNY, has to be validated by a known reliable member of the group
- Limited named user accounts
- Usernames are owned by the agency







# Questions/ Open Discussion

## Some Ideas

- Next contract year technical development
- Dashboard deeplinks and waypoint list follow-up
- UAS workflows
- Pro Tool creation/ how do we make custom tools
- How do we archive incident data – deeper dive

# THANKS!

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[napsgfoundation.org](http://napsgfoundation.org)

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## Sessions after lunch:

Navigating the Flames:  
GIS in Local Fire service  
Room 502

Riding the Data Highway:  
GIS Use in Transportation  
Room 501

Taxonomies,  
Ontologies, and  
Schemas – Room 1104

