**ERT Security Related Update**

**Effective Immediately (July 2020)**

The ERT Core Framework has incorporated some security improvements to address recent known potential risks related to general internet security concerns.  To incorporate these improvements, the ERT site configuration will be changing. Specifically (with your next site update), the Map page of all ERTs will be secured used SSL/https instead of being loaded as non-SSL/http.

Some of you may remember, back in 2015-2016, at the request of multiple programs, we changed the Map page configuration from using SSL/https to be non-SSL/http. Essentially, we built a solution for the Map page such that all hosted map data would load secure AND the user experience (in the browser) would be “seamless” for adding both https and http external map services.  In general, browsers do not allow insecure (http) content to load on a secure page (https), without considerable complaining that is. Back then, SSL/https map services were much less common than today, even ArcGIS Online was not using SSL, and neither were many federal and state agency map services. Now 5 years later, general internet security has become more on the forefront and pretty much every external map service is hosted using SSL.

While we have been making consistent security updates through the years, the mixed configuration for the site would limit improvements we can make to tighten things up further. We have had this change on our roadmap for a while now, and it is time to make-it-so.  Our new future adaptive map core solution will not support seamless http map services either.

To note, this change should not be noticed by users, except in the rare case where they still rely on an external http map service, and in cases like this, we really recommend they urge their source to make their services available under SSL. Sometimes, if you have a URL of the form (example) *http://source.gov/arcgis/rest/services/ImportantData/MapServer*, if you simply change the http to https, it might already be there.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

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