I just published my DOI and then clicked on my DOI URL...it goes to a 'not found' page on doi.org. Why?

ANSWER: When you successfully publish your DOI for the first time (or publish an update to a DOI you've previously published), our USGS DOI Tool's API pushes the full content of your record to DataCite, the system that collects all of the metadata and registers your DOI with the doi.org handle system. Our USGS DOI Tool API talks to DataCite's API to perform this transaction.

Once DataCite receives the DOI and its metadata from us, it has to run an index process to ingest all of the information into its system. The index runs continuously, but is collecting DOI information from providers all over the world. How quickly your metadata moves into the DataCite index depends upon where their index job is in its process when the information is received; this could be within minutes, or within a few hours.

Once your DOI metadata is captured in DataCite's index, DataCite must then push two pieces of information from your record - the full URL of your DOI, and the Location URL you've provided that points the DOI to your data in a TDR or download site - to doi.org. Doi.org is a handle system; they are the ones who make your DOI, in its https:// format, resolve on the Web to your data release landing page.

As you can see, there are additional events that take place after you hit the 'publish' button in the DOI Tool, and because of this, there is a delay ('latency') between that event, and when your DOI will 'work' when a user clicks on your DOI link. It may take up to a few hours before your https://doi.org/10.5066/xxxxxxx link will resolve to your landing page; in the interim, a user would get the 'not found' redirect from doi.org.

If you see this page after you've published your DOI, check back every half-hour or so to see if doi.org has received information from DataCite to make your DOI resolve correctly. If, after 24 hours, you are still seeing the 'not found' page from doi.org when you click on your published DOI, use the 'DOI Tool Service Desk' link on the DOI site to open a ticket, providing us with your published DOI# and the approximate time that you clicked the 'publish' button the day before. We will work with DataCite to troubleshoot the problem.

It's a good practice to keep the resolution latency in mind if you need your DOI to resolve properly on a specific date and time (e.g., if you're announcing the release of your data to partners, or in a USGS press release), as you'll want to ensure that the DOI is already resolving to your data release landing page before your event!