

FGDC FY 2008 WORK PLAN

Subcommittee or Working Group Wetlands Subcommittee

Agency Name Subcommittee Chair, Fish and Wildlife Service

Introduction

The Wetlands Subcommittee of the Federal Geographic Data Committee has the responsibilities for the coordination of spatial wetlands data related activities among federal agencies. It serves as a mechanism for the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of spatial wetlands data financed in whole or in part by federal funds or used by federal agencies.

The Wetlands Subcommittee was re-launched in July 2005. Currently, there are 33 federal organizations represented on the Subcommittee plus participating representatives from state, county, conservation, and scientific organizations, and members of the public.

Objectives

The FGDC Wetlands Subcommittee was established to promote standards of accuracy and consistency in spatial wetlands data financed in whole or in part by federal funds, to exchange information on technological improvements for collecting spatial wetlands data, to encourage the federal and non-federal community to identify and adopt standards and specifications for spatial wetlands data, and to collect and process the requirements of federal and non-federal organizations for spatial wetlands data.

Benefits or Justification/Legal Mandate

Under the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-16, revised August 19, 2002, responsibility to coordinate wetlands data related activities is assigned to the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior. This federal government-wide leadership for spatial wetlands data coordination is carried out under the auspices of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC). The Service's pertinent enabling authority resides in the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986. The Wetlands Subcommittee enables the Service to coordinate development, use, sharing, and dissemination of spatial wetlands data required under Circular A-16. This coordination results in the effective and economical use and management of spatial data assets in the digital environment for the benefit of the government and the nation.

Scope of Work

Wetland spatial data describes lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface, or the land is covered by shallow water part of the year. The wetlands layer of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure also contains related deepwater and riparian habitats.

Milestones, Schedule, and Budget

| Action | Date | Lead | Others | Budget |
|--|--------------|---|--|--------|
| Prepare and submit to the FGDC an FY 2007 annual report on the status of the wetlands data available to the nation, partnerships, accomplishments, subcommittee activities and future plans. | 07/30/2008 | Bill Wilen, FWS | All Agencies | |
| Develop a draft FY 2008 annual report on the quality and quantity of wetlands data available to the nation, subcommittee accomplishments to date and future plans. | 09/30/2008 | Bill Wilen, FWS | All Agencies | |
| Finalize Wetland Mapping Standard for submission to FGDC. | 08-09/2008 | Margarete Heber, EPA | Standards Working Group | |
| Prepare draft FR Notice to coordinate with final FGDC approval. | 08-09/2008 | Margarete Heber, EPA | Standards Working Group | |
| Combine Standards Working Group and Strategy Group to develop implementation plan for Standard and Wetlands Layer completion and modernization. | June 3, 2008 | Bill Wilen, FWS | Subcommittee | |
| Prepare Draft Implementation Plan for Standard. | 09/2008 | Margarete Heber, EPA | Implementation Strategy Working Group | |
| Develop survey on remote sensing of wetlands, current status and future. | Summer 2008 | Brian Huberty, FWS | FWS USACE ASPRS CCRS-Canada MN/DNR USGS | |
| Draft survey of training opportunities and needs. | 09/2008 | Galen Scott, NOAA | Training Working Group | |
| Assist EPA-funded grantee on proof-of-concept review of CA & WI restoration databases as model for restoration tracking layer for the Wetlands Mapper. | On-going | Bill Wilen, Tom Dahl, & Mitch Bergeson, FWS | Wetlands Tracking Ad-hoc Group | |

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|--|--------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Establish Wetlands Climate Change Ad-hoc Group | June 3, 2008 | Bill Wilen, FWS | Subcommittee | |
| Update fact sheets on the Wetlands Layer of the NSDI and on completing and modernizing Wetlands Layer. | 06/27/2008 | Jo Ann Mills, FWS | EPA USACE NOAA TVA ASWM | |
| Update Subcommittee website. | 06/27/2008 | Jo Ann Mills, FWS | Bill Wilen, FWS | |

Funding Sources or Request: Not applicable at this time.

Points of Contact, Contact Info, and Area of Responsibility

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Working Group Leaders:

Wetlands Mapping Standards Working Group, September 2007 - September 2008

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Wetlands National Strategy and Mapping Priority System, (disbanded, combined into Implementation Strategy Working Group, June 3, 2008)

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NEW: Implementation Strategy Working Group, (created June 3, 2008, combining Standards and Strategy Working Groups)

Margarete Heber
Environmental Protection Agency
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Remote Sensing Working Group

Brian Huberty
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Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Working Group (inactive)

Open
NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
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Training Working Group (reactivated in FY 2008)

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Wetlands Tracking Ad hoc Group

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Wetlands Climate Change Ad hoc Group established June 3, 2008

Open

ACRONYMS:

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| ASPRS | American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing |
| ASWM | Association of State Wetland Managers |
| CCRS-Canada | Canadian Center for Remote Sensing |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| FGDC | Federal Geographic Data Committee |
| FWS | Fish and Wildlife Service |
| MN/DNR | Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources |
| NACo | National Association of Counties |
| NSDI | National Spatial Data Infrastructure |
| NOAA | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration |
| TVA | Tennessee Valley Authority |

USACE
USGS

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Geological Survey