

FGDC Staff Meeting Summary

12-08-03

Welcome by Ivan and brief introductions.

Goal of the Future Directions Initiative- A National Geospatial Strategy and Implementation Plan for the FGDC to further the development of the NSDI

Objectives for today.

- Assess the organization's current/internal strengths and problems and the future/external opportunities and threats from staff perspectives
- Begin to identify actions to leverage strengths and opportunities or neutralize problems and threats

Ground Rules were reviewed with participants. (See tentcard).

Activity: Graphic Timeline

TASK: Participants were asked to write their name, role and month and year they became involved with the FGDC on a Globe. Each added their globe chronologically and identified key FGDC events when they entered the organization. (See the graphic timeline).

Graphic Timeline - What does this tell you? Observations.

Cluster of staff joined between 1999 and present

Drivers -

- GOS
- Some turnover - positions needed to be filled
- 1994 Executive Order

Bruce stands alone in the early stages (institutional knowledge)

A lot of new kids on the block bringing new energy, ideas and strategies

Many came on board during leadership changes

Staff is self-directed

Where is the institutional knowledge?

Institutional knowledge is also reflected with the previous involvement of 6 staff members with FGDC

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Activity: SPOT ANALYSIS

TASK: In 3 small groups, participants were asked to begin identifying internal and current strengths and problems. Each group then reported consensus perspectives. (See SPOT Analysis).

During the SPOT Analysis an issue emerged from each group concerning the FGDC/GOS organizational relationship and management interactions including unclear boundaries, perceived duplication of effort, and relationship with the National Map.

Comments:

- FGDC & GOS have a common goal – to further the development of the NSDI
- Should work hand-in-hand
- GOS is meant to be more operational in nature
- FGDC facilitates coordination
- Together we should work together strategically – good cop/bad cop analogy. FGDC works through the consensus process while GOS can set deadlines and keep folks accountable.
- Downtown GOS is not envisioned as part of the FGDC
- GOS was supposed to be a short-term project intended to accelerate the development of the NSDI
- We need a strong, clear, crisp message about the relationship
- Analogies – parent/child; puzzle pieces; marriage partners
- We may have common purpose or goals but our objectives, roles, initiatives and activities are different but should be complementary.

Who benefits from the resolution of the tension between GOS and FGDC?

- Staff primarily and the geospatial community

Who is disadvantaged?

- Scott Cameron? / No one?

Who decides what this relationship should be?

- Isn't it in our power to resolve this?
- Ivan and Hank
- Don't bring to a higher level to approve

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Actions as a result of today.

Action	Who	When
Craft a message defining the FGDC/GOS relationship	Ivan & Hank with the help of Leslie & Lesley	Draft by Friday ready for next week
Hold joint staff meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Together w/ alternate focus • Bi-weekly together • Weekly together 	Ivan & Hank with staff	Begin on WED
Make a time to explore opportunities & threats	Ivan & staff	TBA

Plus / Delta - Feedback on the meeting itself

Plus - what worked?	Delta - what didn't? needs to change?
Different than expected but better	Didn't get to talk about opportunities or threats
Good meeting	Unclear on focus or the boundaries of the task
Candor of the participants	Unclear outcome/results. What's coming out of this?
Small groups	
Food! Candy!	
Independent facilitator	