



**Federal Geographic Data Committee
Coordination Group Meeting
Tuesday, April 10, 2012
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **FED ONLY****

Location: National Capital
Planning Commission
(NCPC)
401 9th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:10	Welcome and Introductions	<i>Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS; Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA</i>
9:10 – 9:15	Previous Meeting Action Item Review	<i>Arista Maher, FGDC OS</i>
9:15 - 9:40	FGDC Business Report	<i>Ken Shaffer, FGDC OS</i>
9:40 – 10:00	Vegetation Subcommittee Report	<i>Ralph Crawford, U.S. Forest Service</i>
10:00 – 10:20	Geodetic Control Subcommittee Report	<i>Juliana Blackwell, NOAA/National Geodetic Survey</i>
10:20 – 10:50	National Levee Database	<i>Bryan Baker, USACE</i>
10:50 – 11:10	Results of the Geospatial Maturity Assessment	<i>Bill Burgess, NSGIC</i>

11:10 – 11:20	GIS Inventory and State Clearinghouse Nodes	<i>Bill Burgess, NSGIC</i>
11:20 – 11:40	ISO Metadata Implementation Recommendations	<i>Jennifer Carlino, FGDC OS</i>
11:40 – 12:00	Discussion and Vote on CMECS Standard	<i>Garry Mayer, NOAA</i>
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch	
*** FED ONLY SESSION BEGINS ***		
1:00 – 1:30	Data Sets/Data Themes	<i>Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA</i>
1:30 – 2:25	Geospatial Platform	<i>Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS</i>
2:25 – 2:45	Update on GAO Evaluation	<i>Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS</i>
2:45 – 3:00	Action Item Review & Next Meeting Agenda	<i>Arista Maher, FGDC OS</i>
3:00	<i>Adjourn</i>	

*Read-ahead Documents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SelectingGeospatialMetadataStandard_20120330_DRAFT.docx 2. Accessing NSGIC GMA Results - Bill Burgess.pptx 3. CMECS - Garry Mayer.pptx 4. Directive 2D-CMECS Comment Responses.xlsx 5. Full GMA with Revisions - Bill Burgess.pdf 6. Geodetic Control Subcommittee Report - Juliana Blackwell.ppt 7. GIS Inventory Clearinghouse Nodes - Bill Burgess.pptx 8. ISO Metadata Implementation Recommendations - Jennifer Carlino.pptx 9. SelectingGeospatialMetadataStandard_20120330_DRAFT.docx 10. Vegetation Subcommittee Report - Ralph Crawford.ppt
Other Relevant documents	

* Read-ahead documents are located at the my.usgs.gov site for member access.

CG Meeting Planning

Coordination Group Meetings Topics (in addition to the following standing items) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome and Introductions; - Previous Meeting Action Item Review; - FGDC Business Update; - FGDC Secretariat Report; - Summary of Action Items / Next Meeting Agenda; - Adjourn - All meetings are scheduled from 9am to 3pm EST at NCPC in D.C., unless otherwise noted
May 8, 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports from: Transportation for the Nation SC (Mark Bradford); Wetlands SC (Bill Wilen).
June 12, 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports from: Metadata SC (TBD); Geologic SC (Dave Soller).
July 10, 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports from: Standards WG (Julie Maitra); Cadastral SC (Don Buhler).
August 14, 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports from: Marine and Coastal Spatial Data SC (Tony LaVoi); Spatial Water Data SC (Tod Dabolt and Bob Pierce).
September 11, 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports from: National Digital Orthoimagery Program (NDOP) SC (Anne O'Connor); Cultural and Demographic Statistics WG (TBD).
October 16, 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports from: Users/Historical Data WG (Colleen Cahill); Vegetation SC (Ralph Crawford).
November 13, 2012

- Reports from: **Geodetic Control SC (Juliana Blackwell); Transportation for the Nation SC (Mark Bradford); Metadata SC (TBD).**

December 11, 2012

- Reports from: **Geologic SC (Dave Soller); Standards WG (Julie Maitra); Wetlands SC (Bill Wilen).**



Federal Geographic Data Committee Coordination Group Meeting ACTION ITEMS Through April 10, 2012

Due Date: 4/10/12		
Lead:	FGDC Secretariat	Action#: 20111019-02
Action:	The FGDC Secretariat will create a list with a direct links to completed Geospatial Line of Business tasks and pending Geospatial Line of Business tasks to add to the FGDC website.	
Contact:	Roxanne Lamb, FGDC, rhilamb@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:	GT is developing a mock-up of the page and its content to present to the Secretariat.	
Due Date: 4/10/12		
Lead:	FGDC Secretariat	Action#:
Action:	The FGDC Secretariat will put together a letter soliciting the nomination dialogue for data theme leads with the senior managers. Once an official appointment is made, an official appointment letter will be sent out by the Secretariat.	
Contact:	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC, ideloatch@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:	Based on discussions at the 3/13 Fed Only session, the Secretariat will compile the initial list of theme leads for the new 17 data themes as identified by the CG. This list will be part of a package to the ExCom and SteerCom identifying the mapping of the A-16 list to the new A-16 Supplemental list, and identifying the new theme lead recommendations for SAOGI agreement. CG members having internal discussions about this topic are asked to let Ken Shaffer know.	
Due Date: 4/10/12		
Lead:	FGDC Secretariat	Action#: 20111108-10
Action:	The FGDC Secretariat will put together an A-16 Supplemental Guidance communications package/standard slide deck for use by members to bring back to their agencies for use in helping them understand information about data themes.	
Contact:	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC, ideloatch@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:	The Secretariat is looking for input from CG members on what information should be included.	
Due Date: ASAP		
Lead:	CG Members	Action#: 20120313-02
Action:	CG Members should review the Geospatial Platform partner activities POC list for Interagency Agreements documents and submit any corrections to Roxanne Lamb.	
Contact:	Roxanne Lamb, FGDC OS, rhilamb@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: 4/10/12		
Lead:	Larry Sugarbaker, USGS	Action#: 20120313-05
Action:	Larry Sugarbaker will send the NEEA spreadsheet on outreach activities to the FGDC	

	Secretariat. This spreadsheet will be shared with Coordination Group members.	
Contact:	Larry Sugarbaker, USGS, lsugarbaker@usgs.gov	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: 4/10/12		
Lead:	Wendy Blake-Coleman	Action#: 20120313-07
Action:	The FGDC Secretariat will follow up with DHS on the role of DHS agencies in the theme lead list related to the Real Property and Utilities themes.	
Contact:	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS, ideloatch@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: 4/10/12		
Lead:	FGDC Secretariat	Action#: 20120313-08
Action:	The FGDC Secretariat will work with the FGDC agencies to identify several subcommittees and data themes that can serve as pilots.	
Contact:	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS, ideloatch@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: 5/8/12		
Lead:	Coordination Group Members	Action#: 20120410-01
Action:	Any CG member interested in working on the Geospatial Workforce issues is asked to contact John Mahoney.	
Contact:	John Mahoney, FGDC OS, jmahoney@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: 5/8/12		
Lead:	Coordination Group Members	Action#: 20120410-02
Action:	Anyone interested in attending a send-off lunch for Randy Fusaro on May 8 is asked to email Ken Shaffer.	
Contact:	Ken Shaffer, FGDC OS, kshaffer@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: ASAP		
Lead:	Coordination Group Members	Action#: 20120410-03
Action:	CG members who will be attending the ESRI International Users' Conference in July 2012 should send their intent to attend to Roxanne Lamb.	
Contact:	Roxanne Lamb, FGDC OS, rh Lamb@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: 5/8/12		
Lead:	Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA	Action#: 20120410-04
Action:	Wendy Blake-Coleman will communicate the information about the National Levee Database to the members of the FGDC Executive Committee who lead the Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) Work Group (Dan Cotter and Jerry Johnston).	
Contact:	Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA, blake-coleman.wendy@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:		

Response:		
Due Date: ASAP		
Lead:	FGDC Secretariat/Bill Burgess	Action#: 20120410-05
Action:	The FGDC Secretariat will add a discussion of the GIS Inventory and how it relates to the search capability of Geodata.gov and other catalogs to an upcoming Coordination Group meeting agenda. Bill Burgess will provide follow-up materials on the GIS Inventory regarding more information on the search capabilities to the FGDC Secretariat. These materials will be sent out to the Coordination Group.	
Contact:	Arista Maher, FGDC OS, amaher@fgdc.gov ; Bill Burgess, NSGIC, william.burgess@comcast.net	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: 5/8/12		
Lead:	FGDC Secretariat/Bill Burgess	Action#: 20120410-06
Action:	Bill Burgess will send information to the FGDC Secretariat on CSDGM. The FGDC Secretariat will share this information with the Coordination Group members.	
Contact:	Arista Maher, FGDC OS, amaher@fgdc.gov ; Bill Burgess, NSGIC, william.burgess@comcast.net	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: 4/24/12		
Lead:	Coordination Group Members	Action#: 20120410-07
Action:	Any additional changes to the data theme leads list should be submitted to the Colleen Cahill with a copy to Ken Shaffer by COB April 24, 2012.	
Contact:	Colleen Cahill, LoC, cstu@loc.gov ; Ken Shaffer, FGDC OS, kmshaffer@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:		
Due Date: 5/8/12		
Lead:	Colleen Cahill	Action#: 20120410-08
Action:	Colleen Cahill will work with the FGDC Secretariat to ensure that the Access data theme leads database is consistent with the GT-developed theme leads document.	
Contact:	Colleen Cahill, LoC, cstu@loc.gov ; Ken Shaffer, FGDC OS, kmshaffer@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/Response:		



Federal Geographic Data Committee Coordination Group Meeting MEETING MINUTES April 10, 2012

(Note: Primary CG members are indicated in **blue text**; alternate CG members are indicated in **red text**.)

√	Coordination Group Attendees	Organization	√	Attendee	Organization
	Shirley Hall	USDA- Farm Service Agency	x	Bill Wilen	DOI – US Fish & Wildlife Service
x	Marisa Capriotti	USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service		Ivan DeLoatch	DOI – USGS/FGDC; Chair, CG
	Betsy Kanalley	USDA – US Forest Service		Dick Vraga	DOI – USGS
x	Ralph Crawford	USDA – US Forest Service		Bob Pierce	DOI – USGS
x	Juliana Blackwell	DOC – National Geodetic Survey		Dan Sandhaus	DOI - USGS
	Tony LaVoi	DOC - NOAA		Edward Hugler	Dept of Labor – OASAM
x	Lynda Liptrap	DOC – Census Bureau	x	Roy Standing	Dept of State
x	Anne O'Connor	DOC – Census Bureau		Mark Bradford	DOT - Research & Innovative Technology Admin
x	Jim Bjostad	DOD - NGA		Raquel Wright	DOT – Federal Railroad Admin
x	David LaBranche	DOD - DISDI		Elaine Boston	Dept of Treasury
	Mitchell Fiedler	DOD - DISDI		Pheakdey Lim	Dept of Veterans' Affairs
x	Nancy Blyler	DOD – US Army Corps of Engineers		Tom Garin	Dept of Veterans' Affairs
	Tai Phan	Dept. of Education – Institute of Ed Statistics	x	Wendy Blake-Coleman	EPA
	David Morehouse	Dept. of Energy – US Energy Info Administration		Tod Dabolt	EPA – Office of Water
	TBD	DHHS – CDC		Sandra Downie	GSA
	Robert Shankman	DHHS – Office of Preparedness and Emergency Ops		Philip Klokis	GSA
x	Steven King	DHS – Office of the CIO		Autumn Wallin	GSA
	Dennis Hardy	DHS	x	Colleen Cahill	Library of Congress
x	Jon Sperling	HUD – Policy Development & Research	x	Jacqueline Nolan	Library of Congress
	Salvatore Scalfani	HUD - Office of Community Planning & Development		Antoinette Sebastian	HUD – Office of Environment & Energy

	David Chase	HUD – Policy Development & Research		Gregory Mann	NASA
	Don Buhler	DOI - BLM	x	Brett Abrams	NARA
x	Doug Vandegraft	DOI – Bureau of Ocean Energy Mgmt, Regulation & Enforcement		Clifford Jacobs	National Science Foundation
	Steven Schwartz	DOI - BOEMRE		Trisha Christian	Small Business Administration
	Joe Gregson	DOI – Nat’l Park Service		David Timmons	Social Security Administration
	Tim Smith	DOI – Nat’l Park Service		Ray Mitchell	Tennessee Valley Authority
	Robert Welsh	DOI – Office of Surface Mining			
	Christina Lett	DOI – US Fish & Wildlife Service			
	Other Attendees	Organization		Attendee	Organization
x	Anne Ball	NOAA	x	Jeremy McHugh	NOAA
x	Bill Burgess	NSGIC	x	Kristie McLeroy	USDA
x	Nancy Brelos	Intergraph	x	Clive Reece	ESRI
x	Jennifer Carlino	USGS	x	Jake Rogers	GT
x	Jeff Cullen	GT	x	Ron Salz	FWS
x	Teddy Dyer	DOE	x	Ken Shaffer	FGDC
x	Hank Garie	GT	x	Yen Shan	SBA
x	Roxanne Lamb	FGDC OS	x	Vaishal Sheth	FGDC
x	Arista Maher	FGDC OS	x	John Sullivan	GSA
x	John Mahoney	FGDC OS	x	Gita Urban-Mathieux	FGDC
x	Julie Maitra	FGDC OS			

Welcome and Introductions – Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA

Wendy Blake-Coleman, Co-Chair of the Coordination Group, called the meeting to order, noting that she would be chairing the morning session of the meeting. Members were asked to introduce themselves.

Previous Meeting Action Item Review – Arista Maher, FGDC OS

Arista Maher reviewed the action items from the previous meeting and provided a status report on each item.

FGDC Business Report – Ken Shaffer, FGDC OS

[\[Presentation\]](#)

Ken Shaffer reviewed the meeting’s agenda, followed by reports on FGDC committees’ recent activities and decisions. The Executive Committee met on March 21 to discuss the Managing Partner and shared investment strategy. ExCom members agreed in concept with the designation of FGDC OS as the Managing Partner with full support of DOI, and ExCom recommended a joint funding strategy to include all agencies included in the algorithm to fund the GeoLoB. The funding levels are still in review. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on April 19, 2012, from 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., at the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Board Room. The agenda is still

being finalized, but the latter part of the meeting will be Federal Only to discuss Geospatial Platform funding strategy. The next National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) meeting will be held on April 17-18, 2012 at the AIA building, and the agenda will include leadership remarks from Anne Castle, a discussion on the Geospatial Platform Business Plan, a discussion of the Innovative Strategies paper, among other topics. The agenda is currently posted on the FGDC website. The NGAC has recently launched a new Landsat Advisory Group, which will hold its first meeting on April 16. The 2012 call for nominations for the NGAC will be released later this spring. The next NGAC meeting will be held on September 18-19, 2012. The next Coordination Group meeting will be held on May 8, 2012. It was suggested that the group go out to lunch during that meeting as a send-off for Randy Fusaro. Anyone interested is asked to contact Ken Shaffer.

ACTION: Any CG member interested in working on the Geospatial Workforce issues is asked to contact John Mahoney.

ACTION: Anyone interested in attending a send-off lunch for Randy Fusaro on May 8 is asked to email Ken Shaffer.

An update on LightSquared (LS) included that LS issued a petition for a declaratory ruling. The comment period was extended to March 30, and the Executive Steering Group met on March 29.

The Geospatial Line of Business/Geospatial Platform update included that the FGDC Secretariat distributed the 2012 Interagency Agreement (IA) documents to partner agencies on March 8. GSA was the first agency to submit their completed IA. The task statuses were reviewed. There will be a booth featuring the Geospatial Platform at the MAGIC Conference in Kansas City on April 23-26, 2012, as well as at the ESRI conference in July.

ACTION: CG members who will be attending the ESRI International Users' Conference in July 2012 should send their intent to attend to Roxanne Lamb.

The Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP) awards for 2012 were announced on April 2. Twenty-three awards were made, and the results are posted on the FGDC website. Regarding the 2012 GSDI grants program, there were 15 projects selected. The 2012-13 GSDI program will open at the end of summer 2012.

FGDC standards activities were briefly reviewed. The FGDC Standards Work Group recommended FGDC endorsement of the Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard (CMECS) at its March 20 webinar. There will be a presentation and CG vote for endorsement at today's CG meeting. If it is endorsed by the CG, the standard will then be sent to the Steering Committee for their endorsement. The National Geodetic Survey (NGS) released the draft Shoreline Data Content Standard for a period of external review that closes this Friday, April 13. The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) Planning Committee approved the charter for the OGC North American Forum. The next GWG polling session (12-2 cycle) is scheduled for May 22, at TASC in Chantilly, VA.

Vegetation Subcommittee Report – Ralph Crawford, U.S. Forest Service

[\[Presentation\]](#)

Ralph Crawford (FS) gave an update on the recent activities of the Vegetation Subcommittee, which he chairs. The mission/purpose of the Vegetation Subcommittee is “the coordination of terrestrial

vegetative data-related activities among Federal agencies and establish[ment of] a mechanism for the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of terrestrial vegetation data.” The Vegetation Subcommittee meets monthly via conference call. In February 2012, two briefings were held on the National Vegetation Classification Standard: one for representatives from the U.S. Forest Service, and another for USGS leadership. There was also a mid-career managers NVC workshop held on March 20, 2012. Some of the recommendations from the workshop include to: incorporate NVC training into college curricula; create detailed field methodology guidance; hold a workshop on VegBank; and create a timeline for projected NVC needs, particularly regarding future climate change.

Some of the recent developments and projects of the Vegetation Subcommittee include the Ecological Society of America 2012 Meeting and updating the training materials and providing on-line access. The next meeting of the Vegetation Subcommittee will be held on April 26, 2012. It will take place via teleconference. Some of the topics to be discussed at the next meeting include: a summary of the Mid-Career Managers Workshop; discussion of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); and developing the agenda for an annual meeting, including the revision of the implementation plan. In the coming months, the Vegetation Subcommittee hopes to accomplish: database permanent housing and securing support for continuing content management.

Question: Is there a potential role for the Geospatial Platform for this?

Answer: Discussions about the end result are ongoing, but the overall intent is to share the data. The Geospatial Platform will be used when we reach an end result.

Question: What did you mean by “preventing people from re-packaging/selling data”?

Answer: To clarify, there is no requirement to re-package and sell the data. Commercial entities are free to do so as they please.

Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee Report – Juliana Blackwell, NOAA

[\[Presentation\]](#)

Juliana Blackwell gave an update on the Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee (FGCS), which she chairs. She encouraged non-members to consider serving on the subcommittee. The Geodetic Control Theme Data Sets were enumerated. Those include: airborne gravity, terrestrial gravity, continuously operating reference stations (CORS), geoid models, precise global navigation satellite system (GNSS) orbits, and National Geodetic Survey datasheets.

The Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee last met on January 10, 2012. The topics discussed at this meeting include: geoid research and development, a GRAV-D project update, the initial results from the Geoid Slope Validation Survey of 2011, Vertical Reference Systems Work Group activities, real-time networks/data streaming from CORS, and the initial announcement of the 2012 Geospatial Summit.

The Virgin Islands Vertical Datum was approved by FGCS on November 17, 2011 and published in Federal Register. In the coming months, the FGCS plans to continue to prepare for the new geometric and geopotential datums. These activities will be covered at the second Geospatial Summit which will be held in San Diego, CA on July 23 and 25, 2012. The subcommittee also hopes to identify common objectives and find opportunities for cooperative

projects and tasks related to standardization and updates to vertical datums. The website--
ngs.noaa.gov – includes information about the geospatial summit.

Question: How long will creating a new vertical datum take?

Answer: Approximately ten years.

Comment: The theme lead for this group should be someone in the mid-level.

National Levee Database – Bryan Baker, USACE

[\[Presentation\]](#)

Bryan Baker (USACE) gave an overview of the National Levee Database (NLD). The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2007 established a levee database, which was required to include location information of all Federal levees, the general condition of the levees, and an estimate of the number of structures and population at risk.

NLD 3.0 incorporates the needs of the nation (Federal Governments, State Governments, and Public Entities) as it pertains to a national levee inventory. This includes feature-level metadata, and they are working on fully populating this database. The components of the NLD were described, including the modeling features and the data dictionary. A demonstration of the NLD was presented.

ACTION: Wendy Blake-Coleman will communicate the information about the National Levee Database to the members of the FGDC Executive Committee who lead the Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) Work Group (Dan Cotter and Jerry Johnston).

Results of the Geospatial Maturity Assessment (GMA) - Bill Burgess, NSGIC

[\[GMA\]](#) [\[Presentation\]](#)

The Geospatial Maturity Assessment (GMA) replaces the NSGIC State Summaries and was developed by a NSGIC Work Group. It provides a common, credible baseline assessment methodology to routinely and continuously monitor and validate statewide geospatial capabilities. There are 83 detailed questions that characterize the geospatial programs of each participating state. There are non-data sections and data sections. In non-data sections, the accomplishments, goals, challenges, unique funding sources, etc. are discussed. In the data sections, there is detailed information on parcels, orthoimagery, road centerlines, address points, governmental boundaries, hydrography, elevation, geodetic control, and buildings and structures.

The survey officially opened on August 2, 2011. They requested completion of the entire Assessment by November 4, 2011. The Assessment was downloaded in mid-November to represent 2011. The states will modify their results as needed in the future; they will be prompted for annual updates. The 2011 database will be maintained as spreadsheets and a relational database. A map of the participating states was shown. The survey is available online by going to <http://www.nsgic.org> and clicking on “State Info” or “Resources.” The survey was reviewed. One of the next steps is the need to determine how annual comparisons (gains and losses) will be demonstrated nationally and state-by-state. Thoughts or assistance from CG members are welcome.

GIS Inventory and State Clearinghouse Nodes - Bill Burgess, NSGIC

[\[Presentation\]](#)

The purpose of the GIS Inventory is to track the status of GIS in state and local government and to locate data and users. It works in concert with Federal programs for broad data discovery, and provides a single national inventory tool. Ramona is a management information system, not a metadata tool. An overview of the Inventory was displayed. The next steps are to build a basic function to ingest and manage State Clearinghouse information by September, including an ability to export this information in CSDGM and ISO formats. They plan on utilizing an incremental approach that will allow them to build additional functions into the system as funding is available.

ACTION: The FGDC Secretariat will add a discussion of the GIS Inventory and how it relates to the search capability of Geodata.gov and other catalogs to an upcoming Coordination Group meeting agenda. Bill Burgess will provide follow-up materials on the GIS Inventory regarding more information on the search capabilities to the FGDC Secretariat. These materials will be sent out to the Coordination Group.

ISO Metadata Implementation Recommendations - Jennifer Carlino, FGDC OS

[\[Presentation\]](#)

A brief overview of the timeline regarding the transition from CSDGM to the ISO metadata standard was given. As of 2008, the FGDC has recommended that “organizations currently using the CSDGM metadata standard remain to do so unless there is some compelling reason to change standards.” The FGDC Metadata team is currently proposing a change on the Geospatial Metadata Standards page. This will include the FGDC Endorsed ISO Metadata Standards list, which includes a description of which ISO Metadata standards organizations are utilizing, whether the agency should use ISO metadata, and a description of current efforts related to ISO metadata.

The suggested revised guidance is as follows:

“Non-Federally authored standards endorsed by the FGDC have same status as FGDC developed standards.

ISO 19115 and associated standards are endorsed by the FGDC and the transition to ISO metadata is anticipated to occur over the next few years.

While the selection of an appropriate standard is dependent on the nature of your metadata collection and publication process, ISO metadata can be considered an option now.”

CG members were asked to voice their opinions on the guidance. Dave LaBranche (DoD) commented that the guidance was confusing. He suggested the revised guidance be featured as the overall message. Another comment was that supporting multiple standards ought to be considered. There are a number of endorsed standards that overlap significantly. The suggestion

was to make it clear that other standards are acceptable. Ken Shaffer (FGDC OS) commented that not all agencies are ready or able to do a migration to ISO, and it is recognized in the guidance that multiple standards are a reality.

ACTION: Bill Burgess will send information to the FGDC Secretariat on CSDGM. The FGDC Secretariat will share this information with the Coordination Group members.

Discussion and Vote on CMECS Standard - Garry Mayer, NOAA

[\[Presentation\]](#)

Garry Mayer (NOAA) gave background information on the CMECS standard. Currently, no national standard exists for classifying coastal and marine habitats. CMECS is a catalog of terms that provides means for classifying ecological units in simple, standard format using common terminology, and a tool for organizing observational information. CMECS is not mapping guidance or an analytical approach for comparing ecosystem units. Its relationship to other standards was discussed. The history of the development of CMECS was discussed. The comment period closed in December 2010, and over 800 comments were received. The process of response generation was discussed. CMECS 4.0 is significantly improved and includes responses to the comments received.

The discussion was opened up to questions and comments and then the CMECS standard was put up for a vote.

DECISION: The Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard (CMECS) was endorsed unanimously by the Coordination Group.

***** FED ONLY SESSION BEGINS *****