

**Federal Geographic Data Committee  
Coordination Group Meeting  
Tuesday, November 8, 2011  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **FED ONLY****

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**Location:** National Capital  
Planning Commission  
(NCPC)  
401 9<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20004

**Room:** Suite 500 (5<sup>th</sup> Floor)

### **AGENDA**

9:00 – 9:10	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	<i>Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA; Arista Maher, FGDC</i>
9:10 – 9:15	<b>Previous Meeting Action Item Review</b>	<i>Arista Maher, FGDC</i>
9:15 – 10:05	<b>FGDC Business Report</b>	<i>Ken Shaffer, FGDC</i>
10:05 – 10:35	<b>Wetlands Subcommittee Report</b>	<i>Bill Wilen, FWS</i>
10:35 – 11:05	<b>Transportation for the Nation Subcommittee Report</b>	<i>Steve Lewis, DOT</i>
11:05 – 11:45	<b>Metadata Summit Report</b>	<i>Jennifer Carlino, USGS; Vivian Hutchinson, USGS</i>
11:45 – 1:00	<b>Lunch</b>	
	<b>*** FED ONLY SESSION BEGINS ***</b>	
1:00 – 2:45	<b>Data Themes Discussion</b>	<i>Wendy Blake-Coleman,</i>

*EPA; Randy Fusaro,  
Census*

2:45 – 3:00     **Action Item Review & Next Meeting Agenda**

*Arista Maher, FGDC*

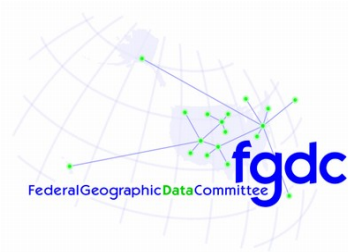
3:00             ***Adjourn***

<b>*Read-ahead Documents</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. FGDC Business Report CG 20111108 v1.pptx</li> <li>2. FGDC Metadata Summit Overview 2011 - Hutchison and Carlino.pptx</li> <li>3. Standards Update - 2011-11-08.pdf</li> <li>4. Standards Update 2011-11-08.xlsx</li> </ol>
<b>Other Relevant documents</b>	

\* Read-ahead documents are located at the [my.usgs.gov](http://my.usgs.gov) site for member access.

## CG Meeting Planning

<p><b>Coordination Group Meetings Topics</b> (in addition to the following standing items)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome and Introductions; - Previous Meeting Action Item Review; - FGDC Business Update; - FGDC Secretariat Report; - Summary of Action Items / Next Meeting Agenda; - Adjourn</li> <li>- All meetings are scheduled from 9am to 3pm EST at NCPC in D.C., unless otherwise noted</li> </ul>
<p><b>December 13, 2011</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from: <b>Geologic SC (Dave Soller); Spatial Water Data SC (Tod Dabolt and Bob Pierce).</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>January 10, 2012</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from: <b>Cadastral SC (Don Buhler); Marine and Coastal Spatial Data SC (Tony LaVoi).</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>February 14, 2012</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from: <b>National Digital Orthoimagery Program (NDOP) SC (Anne O'Connor).</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>March 13, 2012</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from: <b>Cultural and Demographic Statistics WG (Randy Fusaro); Users/Historical Data WG (Colleen Cahill).</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>April 10, 2012</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from: <b>Vegetation SC (Ralph Crawford); Geodetic Control SC (Juliana Blackwell).</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>May 8, 2012</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from: <b>Transportation for the Nation SC (Mark Bradford); Wetlands SC (Bill Wilen).</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>June 12, 2012</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from: <b>Metadata SC (TBD); Geologic SC (Dave Soller).</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>ExCom Liaison Schedule</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBD – on hold, pending FGDC Chair’s decision on ExCom’s role.</li> </ul>



## Federal Geographic Data Committee Coordination Group Meeting ACTION ITEMS Through November 8, 2011

<b>Due Date: 12/13/11</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Coordination Group Members	<b>Action#: 20110809-09</b>
<b>Action:</b>	CG Members who have contacts in their agencies' E-Gov offices are asked to contact those offices if there are any outstanding interagency agreements relating to GeoLoB to help "close the loop," if necessary.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC, <a href="mailto:ideloatch@fgdc.gov">ideloatch@fgdc.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/ Response:</b>	As of 11/4/11, the following agency's contributions are still outstanding: USDA (\$102,000), USDOL (\$15,000), NSF (\$15,000), DOT (\$62,000), USACE (\$57,000), USAID (\$15,000).	
<b>Due Date: 12/13/11</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Coordination Group Members	<b>Action#: 20110920-01</b>
<b>Action:</b>	The Coordination Group will develop a white paper on recommendations regarding address data based on the results of the Questionnaire on Agency Use of Address Data files. CG members are asked to contact Randy Fusaro with input on this topic.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Randy Fusaro, Census, <a href="mailto:randy.j.fusaro@census.gov">randy.j.fusaro@census.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/ Response:</b>	No input has been received to date. Randy will continue to follow up on this.	
<b>Due Date: 1/10/12</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	FGDC Secretariat	<b>Action#: 20111019-01</b>
<b>Action:</b>	The FGDC Secretariat will look into creating a "canned webinar" as part of the GeoPlatform web environment so that interested users can have an interactive understanding of how the Platform operates.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC, <a href="mailto:ideloatch@fgdc.gov">ideloatch@fgdc.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/ Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 2/14/12</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	FGDC Secretariat	<b>Action#: 20111019-02</b>
<b>Action:</b>	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.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC, <a href="mailto:ideloatch@fgdc.gov">ideloatch@fgdc.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/ Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 1/12/12</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Coordination Group Members	<b>Action#: 20111108-01</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Coordination Group members who have contacts in their agencies who are interested in	

	participating in standards are asked to contact Julie Maitra.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Julie Maitra, FGDC, <a href="mailto:jmaitra@fgdc.gov">jmaitra@fgdc.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 12/13/11</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Doug Nebert	<b>Action#: 20111108-02</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Doug Nebert will report back to the Coordination Group about the status of the GeoCloud Sandbox Initiative and whether it has been extended to December.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Doug Nebert, FGDC, <a href="mailto:ddnebert@fgdc.gov">ddnebert@fgdc.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 1/10/12</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Viv Hutchison/Gita Urban-Mathieux	<b>Action#: 20111108-03</b>
<b>Action:</b>	The Metadata Summit team (Viv Hutchison, Jen Carlino, Gita Urban-Mathieux, Lynda Wayne) will put together language clarifying that the FGDC is transitioning from FGDC standards to ISO metadata standards and will bring that language to the Coordination Group for endorsement.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Viv Hutchison, USGS, <a href="mailto:vhutchison@usgs.gov">vhutchison@usgs.gov</a> ; Gita Urban-Mathieux, FGDC, <a href="mailto:burbanma@fgdc.gov">burbanma@fgdc.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 12/13/11</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Dick Vraga	<b>Action#: 20111108-04</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Dick Vraga (USGS) will look into whether USGS can serve as the co-lead for the Cultural Resources theme.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Dick Vraga, USGS, <a href="mailto:rsvraga@usgs.gov">rsvraga@usgs.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 1/10/12</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Anne Ball	<b>Action#: 20111108-05</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Anne Ball (NOAA) will look into whether NOAA can participate as the co-lead with USGS on the Elevation theme. She will work with Dick Vraga (USGS) on this.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Anne Ball, NOAA, <a href="mailto:anne.ball@noaa.gov">anne.ball@noaa.gov</a> ; Dick Vraga, USGS, <a href="mailto:rsvraga@usgs.gov">rsvraga@usgs.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 1/10/12</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Dick Vraga	<b>Action#: 20111108-06</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Dick Vraga (USGS) will work with Doug Vandegraft (BOEMRE) on determining the Geology theme lead.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Dick Vraga, USGS, <a href="mailto:rsvraga@usgs.gov">rsvraga@usgs.gov</a> ; Doug Vandegraft, BOEMRE, <a href="mailto:douglas.vandegraft@boemre.gov">douglas.vandegraft@boemre.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 1/10/12</b>		

<b>Lead:</b>	Dick Vraga	<b>Action#: 20111108-07</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Dick Vraga (USGS) will work with Bill Wilen (FWS) on determining the lead for the Water-Inland theme.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Dick Vraga, USGS, <a href="mailto:rsvruga@usgs.gov">rsvruga@usgs.gov</a> ; Bill Wilen, FWS, <a href="mailto:bill_wilen@fws.gov">bill_wilen@fws.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 12/13/11</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Heather Sumpter	<b>Action#: 20111108-08</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Heather Sumpter (Grant Thornton) will post the draft copy of the Summary Table of Theme Lead Agency Comments and Final Recommendations to the Quickr folder.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Heather Sumpter, Grant Thornton, <a href="mailto:heather.sumpter@us.gt.com">heather.sumpter@us.gt.com</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: Pending Briefing Material</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	FGDC Secretariat	<b>Action#: 20111108-09</b>
<b>Action:</b>	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.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC, <a href="mailto:ideloatch@fgdc.gov">ideloatch@fgdc.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 1/10/12</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	FGDC Secretariat	<b>Action#: 20111108-10</b>
<b>Action:</b>	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.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC, <a href="mailto:ideloatch@fgdc.gov">ideloatch@fgdc.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 1/10/12</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Coordination Group Members	<b>Action#: 20111108-11</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Coordination Group members will look at the data theme leads list and provide validation on points of contact and whether the Grant Thornton team has eliminated the correct items on the Quickr site. This feedback will be provided to Catherine Nolan (GT).	
<b>Contact:</b>	Catherine Nolan, Grant Thornton, <a href="mailto:catherine.nolan@gt.com">catherine.nolan@gt.com</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: 1/10/12</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Colleen Cahill, Randy Fusaro, Wendy Blake-Coleman	<b>Action#: 20111108-12</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Colleen Cahill (LoC), Randy Fusaro (Census), and Wendy Blake-Coleman (EPA) will create a process for maintaining volume control on the data theme lists, and will brainstorm requirements on a potential Access database.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Colleen Cahill, LoC, <a href="mailto:cstu@loc.gov">cstu@loc.gov</a> ; Randy Fusaro, Census, <a href="mailto:randy.j.fusaro@census.gov">randy.j.fusaro@census.gov</a> ; Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA, <a href="mailto:blake-coleman.wendy@epa.gov">blake-coleman.wendy@epa.gov</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		

<b>Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date: ASAP</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Coordination Group Members	<b>Action#: 20111108-13</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Any Coordination Group member wanting to participate on the Business Plan Development team is asked to contact Ken Shaffer (FGDC) and Hank Garie (GT).	
<b>Contact:</b>	Ken Shaffer, FGDC, <a href="mailto:kmshaffer@fgdc.gov">kmshaffer@fgdc.gov</a> ; Hank Garie, Grant Thornton, <a href="mailto:henry.garie@gt.com">henry.garie@gt.com</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		
<b>Due Date:11/14/11</b>		
<b>Lead:</b>	Coordination Group Members	<b>Action#: 20111108-14</b>
<b>Action:</b>	Any Coordination Group members who have comments on the outline of the Business Plan are asked to send those comments to Ken Shaffer and Hank Garie by COB Monday, November 14.	
<b>Contact:</b>	Ken Shaffer, FGDC, <a href="mailto:kmshaffer@fgdc.gov">kmshaffer@fgdc.gov</a> ; Hank Garie, Grant Thornton, <a href="mailto:henry.garie@gt.com">henry.garie@gt.com</a>	
<b>Resolution/Response:</b>		



## Federal Geographic Data Committee Coordination Group Meeting MEETING MINUTES November 8, 2011

√	Coordination Group Attendees	Organization	√	Attendee	Organization
x	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	x	Dick Vraga	DOI – USGS
	Ralph Crawford	USDA – US Forest Service		Bob Pierce	DOI – USGS
	Juliana Blackwell	DOC – National Geodetic Survey		Dan Sandhaus	DOI - USGS
	Tony LaVoi	DOC - NOAA		Edward Hugler	Dept of Labor – OASAM
x	Randy Fusaro	DOC – Census Bureau	x	Roy Standing	Dept of State
x	Anne O’Connor	DOC – Census Bureau	x	Mark Bradford	DOT - Research & Innovative Technology Admin
x	Jim Bjostad	DOD - NGA		Raquel Wright	DOT – Federal Railroad Admin
	David LaBranche	DOD - DISDI		Elaine Boston	Dept of Treasury
	Mitchell Fiedler	DOD - DISDI		Pheakdey Lim	Dept of Veterans’ Affairs
	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		George Brilis	EPA
	Carl Kinkade	DHHS – CDC		Tod Dabolt	EPA – Office of Water
	Robert Shankman	DHHS – Office of Preparedness and Emergency Ops	x	Sandra Downie	GSA
	Jeff Booth	DHS – Office of the CIO		Philip Klokis	GSA
	Dennis Hardy	DHS	x	Autumn Wallin	GSA
x	Jon Sperling	HUD – Policy Development & Research	x	Colleen Cahill	Library of Congress
	Salvatore Sclafani	HUD - Office of Community Planning & Development	x	Jacqueline Nolan	Library of Congress
	Antoinette Sebastian	HUD – Office of Environment & Energy		Gregory Mann	NASA



	David Chase	HUD – Policy Development & Research		Brett Abrams	NARA
	Don Buhler	DOI - BLM		Clifford Jacobs	National Science Foundation
	Doug Vandegraft	DOI – Bureau of Ocean Energy Mgmt, Regulation & Enforcement		Trisha Christian	Small Business Administration
	Steven Schwartz	DOI - BOEMRE	x	David Timmons	Social Security Administration
	Joe Gregson	DOI – Nat’l Park Service		Ray Mitchell	Tennessee Valley Authority
	Tim Smith	DOI – Nat’l Park Service			
	Robert Welsh	DOI – Office of Surface Mining			
	Christina Lett	DOI – US Fish & Wildlife Service			
	<b>Other Attendees</b>	<b>Organization</b>		<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Organization</b>
x	Anne Ball	NOAA	x	John Mahoney	FGDC
x	Bill Burgess	NSGIC	x	Julie Binder Maitra	FGDC
x	Jeff Cullen	GT	x	Kristie McLeroy	
x	Teddy Dyer	DOE	x	Catherine Nolan	GT
x	Leonard Gore	BLM	x	Ken Shaffer	FGDC
x	Glen Guempel	USGS	x	Vaishal Sheth	FGDC
x	Kate Kase	DOI	x	Heather Sumpter	GT
x	Steve Lewis	DOT	x	Gita Urban-Mathieux	FGDC
x	Roxanne Lamb	FGDC	x	Linda Zellmer	WIU
x	Arista Maher	FGDC			

**Welcome and Introductions - Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA; Arista Maher, FGDC**

Wendy Blake-Coleman (EPA) welcomed the Coordination Group members to the meeting, noting that she would be acting as chair for this meeting. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves.

**Previous Meeting Action Item Review - Arista Maher, FGDC**

The previous meeting action items were reviewed for the Coordination Group, and the resolutions/responses to each action were discussed.

**FGDC Business Report – Ken Shaffer, FGDC**

[\[Presentation\]](#)

Ken Shaffer (FGDC) gave a summary of recent FGDC activities and meetings. An overview of the meeting’s agenda was given. The various committees’ activities and decisions were reviewed. The FGDC Steering Committee met on October 6, 2011. They recommended the establishment of a business case and funding strategy for the Geospatial Platform so that Steering Committee members can incorporate these items into their respective agencies’ budget requests. Since the October Steering Committee meeting, efforts on the Business Plan—including the Business Case and the Joint Investment Strategy – have begun. The Steering Committee also recommended the formation of a new FGDC working group on UN Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM).

Tim Trainor (Census Bureau) will serve as the Chair of this working group. The next meeting of the Steering Committee will likely be held sometime in late January 2012. It was noted that the FGDC Executive Committee has not met for the last couple of months, as the FGDC is waiting for a decision from the FGDC Chair on how the Executive Committee will be utilized going forward. The National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) met on October 4 – 5, 2011 in Shepherdstown, WV. NGAC members provided comments on the Geospatial Platform Value Proposition document. One of the NGAC subcommittees will be providing comments on the detailed outline of the Business Plan very soon. The NGAC is also working on revisions of their Innovative Strategies and Workforce Development white papers. Additionally, the FGDC Secretariat met with the USGS National Land Imaging Program to discuss the establishment of an NGAC LandSat Subcommittee. The next NGAC meeting will be a half-day webinar, to take place on December 8, 2011, during which the members will discuss the revisions to the two white papers, as well as an update on the Geospatial Platform. A meeting announcement will be sent out shortly for those wanting to participate. The next FGDC Coordination Group meeting will take place on December 13, 2011 at NCPC, and will feature updates from the Geologic Subcommittee and the Spatial Water Data Subcommittee, as well as a Federal only session on the Platform Business Case and the A-16 Supplemental Guidance.

An update on the LightSquared Impact on GPS issue was given. The current status is available on the Space-Based Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) website, which includes responses to reports, recommendations, and Congressional actions (<http://www.pnt.gov/interference/lightsquared/>).

An update on the Geospatial Platform's current status was given. Regarding Task 1: A-16 Supplemental Guidance Phase I Implementation: the team is working on developing training and a template for use by Federal agencies, and implementation of Phase 1 of Portfolio Management is progressing. The new data themes categories are being used to organize data in the Geospatial Platform. Task 2: Support Geospatial Platform Implementation includes the identification of 2-3 geospatial services/applications to populate GeoPlatform.gov. Supporting steward agencies to ensure readiness for publishing to the Geospatial Platform, collaborating with Federal officials on the development of the full business plan, and developing a business case for the FY 2014 business cycle are all included within this task. Task 3 is the Implementation of the Outreach and Communications Strategy, which includes the maintenance and updating of electronic communications and the development of messaging.

The Value Proposition was finalized on November 1, 2011 and sent to the Coordination Group and Steering Committee, and posted to the new Geospatial Platform website. Some of the comments and suggestions will be incorporated into the Business Plan, as they are more appropriately addressed there. The internal release of the Platform Version 1 "Beta" occurred on September 30, 2011, thanks to joint efforts from key Federal agencies. Approval from the White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) was obtained to utilize a shared catalog as long as non-Federal data is not provided through Data.gov and non-Federal data is flagged as such in the Platform. The current site is operational; CG members are encouraged to visit the site. He noted that the content is still in the process of being populated. There was a joint Geospatial Platform news release (developed by DOI, EPA, DOC, and NOAA) that was supposed to come out yesterday, but it should be out today.

The next step is the Business Plan, which will include guidance from the FGDC Steering Committee. It will build on the Modernization Roadmap and the Value Proposition documents. The vision for the Business Plan includes a Concept of Operations for the Platform, and include content that can be

utilized for the OMB Business Case Exhibit 300. Governance, the managing partner, and funding strategy are key issues to be discussed. A meeting on the Business Plan was held on November 2 to develop a common understanding of agency expectations for the Business Plan; to develop an approach and schedule; to develop the Business Plan's outline; and to create component development teams and assign the writing of the Business Plan sections. The NGAC's feedback on what lingering questions the Business Plan must address will be considered. The proposed schedule is to have the Business Plan completed by January 30, in time for the next Steering Committee meeting. The proposed Business Plan outline was shared with the CG members, as well as the leads for each major component. The next steps are to organize the development team and provide the Business Plan outline to the NGAC for their review.

Mark Bradford (USDOT) asked whether each agency that is contributing data or services to the Geospatial Platform is responsible for developing those data and services. Wendy responded that yes, agencies will be responsible for their own data and services. However, there will be a governance process put in place to provide oversight, either via a central approval or some other method. Ken noted that this process will continue to evolve, and Coordination Group members' input is welcomed in this process. Glenn Guempel (USGS) agreed that there needs to be definitions of services, as well as a "seal of approval" for meeting certain thresholds.

The 2012 NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP) announcement has been posted at Grants.gov. The announcement closes on January 24, 2012. More information is available at: <http://www.fgdc.gov/grants>. The GSDI Small Grants Program closed for proposal submissions on October 31, 2011. Thirty-six proposals have been received, and awards are expected to be announced in February 2012.

The FGDC Annual Report has been proofed by the printer (November 3). The html version is currently in work. Both printed and online versions will be available in December 2011.

An update on FGDC Standards was given, including FGDC, INCITS L1, OGC, and GWG Standards activities. It was noted that more detailed information on these activities is posted on the myUSGS share site. Regarding some of the FGDC standards-- the Federal Trails Data Standards (FTDS) team is preparing the publication version of the standard now that the Steering Committee has endorsed the standard. The Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard (CMECS) project team plans to have a final draft ready by January 9, 2012. Maintenance and Review of the National Wetland Classification Standard requires only minor changes to the standard. The project team is working with the FGDC Standards Coordinator on next steps.

INCITS L1/U.S. TAG met on Monday, October 31. Several contentious issues were outlined. These issues will likely be discussed in more detail at the ISO/TC 2011 plenary and meetings in South Africa on November 13 – 18.

It was noted that the OGC web site, [www.geospatial.org](http://www.geospatial.org), has been completely redesigned and organized along communities of interest. The September 2011 OGC newsletter was OGC's last monthly newsletter. OGC will provide more frequent updates through its blog (<http://www.opengeospatial.org/blog>), and through its LinkedIn group

([http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=55322&trk=myg\\_ugrp\\_ovr](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=55322&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr)). The next OGC TC/PC meetings are scheduled for November 28-December 2 in Brussels, Belgium.

The GWG plenary was held Thursday, November 3, at the U.S. Geological Survey. The GWG Secretariat has indicated that the change request package for the 12-1 voting session will be released in late December for a voting session to be held in late January or early February 2012.

**ACTION: CG members who have contacts in their agencies who are interested in participating in standards are asked to contact Julie Maitra.**

### **Wetlands Subcommittee Report – Bill Wilen, FWS**

#### [Presentation]

Bill Wilen, Chair of the Wetlands Subcommittee, gave an update on the Subcommittee's recent activities. He began by giving a current status of the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI). The NWI covers 66% of the entire nation, and 73% of the coterminous United States. 16% includes raster data. 32% of Alaska is covered, as well as 100% of Hawaii, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and Saipan. Fewer than 65% of the coastal areas of Puerto Rico are covered. The characteristics of NWI data were discussed. It was noted that new data are more refined and based on finer-scale imagery. The Riparian Status within the NWI was discussed, along with the justifications for using this classification system and its usefulness to wetlands mapping.

A recent report – the *Fifth Report to Congress: Status and Trends of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the Coterminous U.S. – 2005 to 2009* – was discussed. 458,000 acres of wetlands are being lost a year (equivalent to half of the size of Rhode Island), according to an older version of the report. The current wetland loss number is not statistically significant, so it was not included in the most current version of the report. \$1 billion has been spent to date on wetlands re-establishment; however, current lack of funding requires different approaches.

There is a Wetland Mapping Training Course, which is available online at: [http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/nwi/wetlands\\_mapping\\_training/index.html](http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/nwi/wetlands_mapping_training/index.html) . Several training modules are offered (i.e., classification standard, national wetlands mapping standard, etc.) This effort allowed for greater participation than in-person classes due to budget constraints.

The Landscape Position, Landform, Waterflow Path, and Waterbody (LLWW) classification was discussed. LLWW is a hydrogeomorphic-type classification system for estimating wetland functions on a landscape scale for planning. LLWW, combined with NWI, is collectively referred to as NWI+. The mapping capability is faster, more refined, and includes more data layers.

The Wetland Mapping Consortium was discussed. The public site is accessible at: <http://clic.cses.vt.edu/WMC> and the member site is accessible at: <http://scholar.vt.edu/portal/site/9c21338c-48e4-4055-8a2d-6464887a859b> .

Bill noted that NWI participated in the GeoCloud GSA/FGDC initiative, and launched their Wetlands Mapper as the first Department of Interior geospatial service in the cloud.

**ACTION: Doug Nebert will report back to the Coordination Group about the status of the GeoCloud Sandbox Initiative and whether it has been extended to December.**

The 2011 Cooperators for Mapping were outlined. This list includes Federal agencies, Tribes, academia, and non-profit partners. Cooperators for Data have been accepted and entered into the master geodatabase, and are delivered via the mapper. NWI has over 100 partners that have provided either direct or indirect funding over the last 30 years. Customers of the NWI include users from Federal government, state government, Tribes, territories, local governments, and the private sector. There have been between 50 and 60 million data requests to date.

The Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) Program was also discussed. There has been development of the GeoCBRA, which is being managed as part of the NWI IT business case. There has been partial CBRA funding in FY 2012 and complete funding in FY 2013.

### **Transportation for the Nation Subcommittee Report – Steve Lewis, DOT**

[\[Presentation\]](#) [\[Charter Updates\]](#)

Steve Lewis gave an update on the Transportation for the Nation Subcommittee. He reviewed the strategic planning effort for Transportation for the Nation (TFTN). They identified and engaged stakeholders at all levels of government, the private sector, and average citizens. They also defined requirements, challenges, and opportunities and documented progress already made. The implementation issues and funding sources were explored as well.

Stakeholder outreach interviews were conducted regarding safety, the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Highway Performance Management System, Intelligent Transportation Systems, and Asset Management. Participating agencies were reviewed. Several presentations and workshops were held.

The Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) serves as the model for TFTN. FHWA reporting requirements for HPMS include the submission of a geospatial network of all Federal-aid roads by each state DOT. Current reporting requirements for the HPMS could be expanded to require all roads. The obstacles associated with this model were reviewed, including that the FHWA would have to change the HPMS reporting requirements to include all roads in the geospatial submission; that states are not required to work with neighbors for connectivity; that no USDOT resources are currently available for aggregation, assembly, and publication of a nationwide data set; that the level of quality/accuracy varies from state to state; and although there is general agreement that the state DOTs are the authoritative source for street centerlines for their respective jurisdictions, there is very little independent verification of their accuracy.

A diagram of the vision for TFTN was shown to the CG members. The roles and collaborating relationships were highlighted. The three major steps in the process are to: catalyze and standardize; produce; and aggregate and publish. These steps require interaction between the

USDOT, state DOTs, the U.S. Census Bureau (via TIGER), private sector partnerships, and engagement with county or regional governments. Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI) also plays a part in creating an opportunity for authoritative sources to detect data updates. Case studies of “mini TFTNs” in various states were outlined.

The status of the TFTN Strategic Plan was reviewed. The Strategic Plan is complete. The initial review was completed by USDOT in late March, followed by an Exec-Com review in mid-April. The Strategic Plan was then released to the At-Large Committee and distributed to the FGDC Coordination Group and National Geospatial Advisory Committee in late May. The public release is accessible at [TFTN.org](http://TFTN.org).

The TFTN Strategic Plan was presented to the NGAC on June 8, 2011. The NGAC endorsed it, with the recommendation that the USDOT develop a business plan as the next step in the development of TFTN. However, the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA) lacks the funding for a business plan. While FHWA has the funding and supports the Strategic Plan’s recommendations, they do not want to fund a business plan. The next steps are to determine whether the TFTN stakeholders believe a business plan is really necessary, and if so, how can those stakeholders voice their support for it. The perceived advantages of TFTN without a business plan were presented. If stakeholders do not express their concerns of TFTN without a business plan, TFTN will proceed without one. The FGDC Transportation Subcommittee will be looking at the best ways to expand TFTN to other modes of transportation.

Randy Fusaro asked whether they have a list of all data items included in HPMS to get the CG started in socializing what its components are. Steve replied that yes, there is such a list, and he would be happy to provide it to her.

### **Metadata Summit Report - Vivian Hutchinson, USGS**

[\[Presentation\]](#)

Vivian Hutchinson reported on the Metadata Summit, which took place on October 26-27, 2011 at USGS Headquarters in Reston, VA. The purpose of the Summit was to cooperatively determine a course of action for moving forward with ISO metadata implementation. The first day of the Summit was an optional ISO training session, which included 25 participants. The Metadata Summit itself was held on the second day, with 52 participants. Other members of the Summit Planning Committee included Lynda Wayne (GeoMaxim, contractor to FGDC), Gita Urban-Mathieux (FGDC), and Jacqueline Mize (NOAA). There was wide participation in the Summit from many organizations, including a variety of Federal agencies, Columbia University, ESRI, the New Jersey Office of Information Technology, the Rahall Transportation Institutions, and Westat. Agenda overviews of both days of the Summit were presented, noting that the afternoon of Day 2 included sessions for break-out groups to identify common issues and make recommendations on solutions.

The first issue-- related to the integration of the ISO metadata standard into the geospatial data management and workflow—was discussed in break-out Group 1. Group 1 recommended the following regarding the need for a compelling case for ISO metadata implementation:

“Demonstrate benefits to using ISO (e.g., ability to document services); demonstrate opportunity in transitioning (e.g., opportunity to review/clean up metadata holdings); develop and promote comprehensive ISO tools and metadata demonstration projects; identify ISO metadata features that can be tied to the general mission of organizations (e.g., data sharing); and identify ISO metadata features that can be tied to key initiatives (e.g. Geospatial Platform). Regarding the need to establish ISO metadata implementation directives from above, Group 1 also recommended that they: “draft and promote Federal language specific to ISO metadata implementation; and draft and promote ISO metadata implementation directive model language for use by non-Federal organizations.” On the ability to learn from and build upon one another’s implementation efforts, Group 1 recommended the “establishment of an ISO metadata implementation wiki workspace and regular webinars that feature ISO implementation efforts and outcomes.”

Group 2 discussed issues related to the tools needed to effectively create, transform, validate and publish ISO metadata. On issue 1, the lack of comprehensive user-friendly tools, Group 2 recommended that they: “Wait for final draft schema and volunteer to review standards documents; provide good guidance for use of tools; update FGDC tool review by vendors; and provide desired requirements list to vendors.” On issue 2, schema development not in-step with standard development, Group 2 decided that they must: “Wait until UML is stable and then communicate standards updates; communicate and provide better understanding of the standards process; and create mailing lists to provide updates on ISO status.” Regarding issue 3, that ISO 19115-2 records not available for publishing, Group 2 suggested that they: “Have geo.data.gov and data.gov provide ISO 19115-2 support; and meanwhile, store records in a repository (such as Geonetwork) or a web-accessible folder.”

Group 3 discussed issues related to outreach and training required to support transition to ISO metadata, including: guidance documents, instructional materials, promotional materials, tutorials, websites, and training events. On issue 1, that there is uncertainty in government agencies about which standard to choose right now (FGDC, ISO, etc.), Group 3 recommended that they: “Offer situational ‘use cases’ and workflow solutions (i.e., a decision tree) for making decisions.” On issue 2, that training is expensive and travel budgets are tight, Group 3 recommended that they: “Develop and host webinar training, in addition to classroom training; offer recorded sessions where users can attend on their own schedule, and leverage cross-agency resources to support training requests.” Regarding issue 3, that existing ISO training is focused on the advanced metadata practitioner, Group 3 recommended that they: “develop a 3-tiered approach to training (Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced); consider a role-based approach based on the audience (data manager, scientist, etc.); and offer Train-the-Trainer for current FGDC metadata trainers to transition to teaching ISO.

A summary of the audience feedback was presented, including that the audience thought it was a good forum to communicate about ISO implementation; that the quality of presentations was good; the break-out groups were well-facilitated; and that there was opportunity to express opinions and ask questions. The audience also commented that this information will be helpful to them in job performance. There was an overall recognition that Federal agencies should be moving to ISO now. Participants saw value in the implementation of ISO on a larger scale.

Furthermore, there was high interest from participants in seeing another Metadata Summit offered within 6 months.

Several CG members asked about the reasons for transitioning standards to ISO. Lynda Wayne (GeoMaxim/contractor for FGDC) commented that they currently do not have the tools to implement the standard. The FGDC has endorsed a fleet of standards. Another issue is that the ISO 19115 standard is currently under 5-year review, which means it will be changing in the next 6 months. After that, the other standards will also have to change. Lynda explained that they have never been on solid ground on this issue. The Metadata Summit was valuable for bringing more awareness to the issue. Randy Fusaro commented that she believes there ought to be many more Metadata Summits held, which will allow many more people to participate in the future.

**ACTION: The Metadata Summit team (Viv Hutchison, Jen Carlino, Gita Urban-Mathieux, Lynda Wayne, etc.) will put together language clarifying that the FGDC is transitioning from FGDC standards to ISO metadata standards and will bring that language to the Coordination Group for endorsement.**

#### **Action Item Review & Next Meeting Agenda – Arista Maher, FGDC**

The action items from the meeting were reviewed, and CG members were asked if there were any items they would like to add to the next CG meeting agenda.

*Adjourn*

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