



**Federal Geographic Data Committee
Coordination Group Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EST Open Meeting
12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST Federal Only**

Agenda

9:00 – 9:10	Welcome and Introductions	<i>Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC</i>
9:10 – 9:15	Previous Meeting Action Item Review	<i>Pat Phillips, FGDC</i>
9:15 – 9:45	FGDC Business and Secretariat Report (CG Co-Chair selection, National Geospatial Forum, National Transportation Forum)	<i>Ken Shaffer, FGDC</i>
9:45 – 9:55	SmartBuy Roll - Out	<i>Lew Sanford, FGDC</i>

Topics of Interest

10:00 – 10:30	IFTN: Next Steps	<i>Vicki Lukas, USGS</i>
10:30 – 10:50	National LiDAR Concept	<i>Larry Sugarbaker, USGS</i> <i>Greg Snyder, USGS</i>
10:50 – 11:05	New Geospatial Factsheets	<i>Sharon Shin, FGDC</i>
11:05 -11:25	Homeland Security Work Group Update	<i>Jonathan Hassee, DHS</i>
11:25	Lunch	

Federal Only Meeting

12:15 – 2:45	Refinement of 2010 and 2011 Tasks for GeoLoB	<i>Lew Sanford, FGDC</i>
2:45 – 3:00	Summary of Action Items / Next Meeting Agenda	<i>Pat Phillips, FGDC</i>
3:00	Adjourn	

*Read-ahead Documents (provided by Wednesday 10.7.09)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 9/1 CG Action Items 2. FGDC Business and Secretariat Report 3. IFTN Next Steps 4. Homeland Security WG 5. National Lidar Concept 6. GeoSpatial Factsheets
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) - Welcome and Introductions; - Previous Meeting Action Item Review; - FGDC Business Update; - FGDC Secretariat Report; - Summary of Action Items / Next Meeting Agenda; - Adjourn
October 13, 2009, Tuesday, 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C. update on Homeland Security WG
November 3, 2009, Tuesday 9-2 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C. update Geodetic Control SC.
December 8, 2009, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C. updates on Metadata WG and Geologic SC
January 12, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C. updates on Standards WG and Cadastral SC.
February 9, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C. updates on Technology & Architecture WG and Marine and Coastal Spatial Data.
March 9, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C. updates on Users/Historical Data WG and Spatial Water Data SC
April 13, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C. updates on Vegetation and Wetlands SC
May 11, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C. update on Cultural and Demographic Statistics WG
June 8, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C.
July 13, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C.
August 10, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C.
September 14, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C.
October 12, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C.
November 9, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C.
December 14, 2010, Tuesday 9-3 EST, NCPC Washington, D.C.
Pending Topics (date topic was identified)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining the NSDI (20090602-02) • Standing up a Transportation Subcommittee (20090602-03) • Define/recommend how programs, like <i>The National Map</i> and the National Atlas, are identified, included, tracked, and involved in the CG efforts. (20090602-05) • One or two SC and WG to present status at each CG meeting (from July 7 meeting) • Harvesting issue with GOS and geodata.gov. 20090707-02 Doug Nebert, FGDC • Invite EPA to showcase the metadata tools as displayed at the ESRI International Conference (from August 4 meeting)

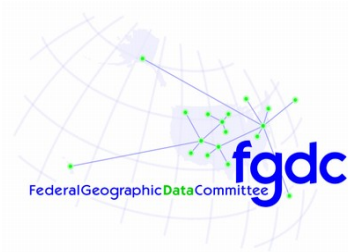
- Get an update on Geospatial One Stop to include the use of the National Map viewer and the harmonization of the lexicon (Sept. 1 meeting)
- Common Services Survey Results (Sept. 1 meeting) 20 minutes
- SmartBuy follow-up (Sept. 1 meeting)
- IFTN Next Steps (Sept. 1 meeting)
- Cultural and Demographic Statistics SC and Homeland Security WG summary presentations (Sept.1 meeting) 30-45 minutes each. This is postponed to the November meeting
- National Geospatial Forum planning Update (Sept. 1 meeting)
- 2010 Schedule for the CG (Sept. 1 meeting)
- Select a CG Co-Chair (Sept. 1 meeting)
- Select the ExCom Liaison scenario (Sept 1. meeting)
- Issues to take to the ExCom meeting (Sept. 1 meeting)
- Best Practices and product of the Lifecycle WG (Sept. 1 meeting)
- Ideas for the Placed-Based memo
- Digital Map – Beta (schedule Mike Cooley for Dec.)
- Charlie Adler, FAA to provide a presentation to the CG (11.13.09)



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ACTION ITEMS**

Incomplete		
Lead:	CG members	Action 20091013-01
Action:	Share ideas on ways to forward the LiDAR Program. The LiDAR program would like to start an on-going dialog with the FGDC and should get on the agenda for the December meeting of the National Geospatial Advisory Committee.	
Contact:	USGS, Greg Snyder, gsnyder@usgs.gov	
Resolution/ Response:		
Complete		
Lead:	FGDC Secretariat	Action #: 20091013-02
Action:	Develop a process for sending out information to the CG on new products.	
Contact:	FGDC, Pat Phillips, paphillips@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/ Response:	Currently, new information and products are posted on the FGDC website. Pat Phillips will send monthly updates beginning the first of each month.	
Complete		
Lead:	Department of Homeland Security	Action #: 20091013-

		03
Action:	The Homeland Security Work Group will meet to revise the WG charter and report back to the CG for consensus and approval.	
Contact:	DHS Jeff Booth and Jon Hassee Jeffrey.booth@dhs.gov , Jonathan.hassee@dhs.gov	
Resolution/ Response:		
Incomplete		
Lead:	All members	Action #: 20091013-04
Action:	All of the Geospatial Line of Business Working Groups are in need of additional federal members. The Common Service WG is in need of a new Chair.	
Contact:	FGDC, Lew Sanford, Sanford@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/ Response:		
Incomplete		
Lead:	GeoLoB Geo-enabled WG	Action #: 20091013-05
Action:	The Geo-enabled WG needs to better define its tasks.	
Contact:	FGDC, Sharon Shin, sshin@fgdc@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/ Response:		
ID (yyyymmdd-#)	Decision/Description	
	Decisions provide a position/foundation on which actions are taken.	



Federal Geographic Data Committee Coordination Group Meeting October 13, 2009 MEETING MINUTES

Next Meeting Agenda Items: Geo-enabling, Doug Nebert; Lifecycle Outcome of meeting, Wendy Blake-Coleman; Transportation Summit, Jean Parcher; Data.gov, Geospatial One-Stop, Open Government Initiative, Rob Dollison; TNM Leadership decision on becoming an FGDC WG, Vicki Lukas.

Welcome and Introductions: Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC

The meeting commenced with opening remarks. Ivan DeLoatch discussed the OMB place-based memo and the fact that FGDC is developing a white paper on the initiative. The final white paper will be shared with the Coordination Group.

Previous Meeting Action Item Review: Pat Phillips, FGDC

The action items from the September CG meeting were discussed. It was noted that the revised Coordination Group Charter had been adopted by Steering Committee vote on September 11, 2009. The liaison to the ExCom will be the elected Co-Chair of the CG and will serve a one year term in the liaison position.

FGDC Business and Secretariat Report: – Ken Shaffer, FGDC [[presentation](#)]

The FGDC Business and Secretariat report is used to supplement the meetings read-ahead materials and should be used as a walk-through of the topics covered at the meeting. The October 13 meeting contains two separate sessions, the morning portion is the traditional CG meeting and the afternoon is a closed, Federal only session to discuss the 2010 Geospatial Line of Business work plans.

Business and Secretarial Highlights

- Revised CG Charter was approved by the Steering Committee on September 11
- Liaison to the ExCom will be the TBD CG Co-Chair.
- Additional members from the agencies may now be added to the CG roster.
- An e-mail asking about new CG nominations and a call for nominating a Co-Chair will be sent out soon. The e-mail will include the Co-Chair roles and responsibilities.

National Geospatial Forum

- Stephen Lowe from the Department of Agriculture is leading the team developing

the National Geospatial Forum that will take place on December 9. The forum will use forms of social media tools and is focused on the place-based initiative. Please let Ivan know if you have any suggestions or ideas for the forum. He would like all of the CG members to participate if possible.

Comment: There should be a tutorial sent to participants beforehand to introduce the type of social media that will be used during the forum. There appears to be a generation gap in accessing social media.

- **The National Transportation Summit** will be held on October 19 at the Department of the Interior's North Penthouse. This summit will look at federal requirements, focused first on roads then on other transportation layers and will later include state and local needs.
- New appointments to the **National Geospatial Advisory Committee** will take effect on January 28, 2010. It is likely 15 vacancies will be filled.
- **Georecovery.gov** is up and running. Inspector General of DOI, Earl Devany speaks highly of it.

- **SmartBuy Rollout** – all but a single vendor has been awarded

Comment: Can a drop dead date for this last award be set so that everyone can start to take advantage of SmartBuy.

Answer: All of the contracts currently in place are available to use right now. We don't want to make a public announcement until the one vendor issue is settled. Contact Lew Sanford at lsanford@fgdc.gov if you are interested in receiving vendor contact information.

Imagery for the Nation, Vicki Lukas, USGS [[presentation](#)]

Vicki gave an update on the Imagery for the Nation, (IFTN) phase 1 project. On August 20, 2009 a record of decision was approved by the Executive Committee. The ROD is located at <http://www.fgdc.gov/iftn>

The purpose of the ROD is to document and share decisions on key strategies and policy issues.

IFTN Technical Design

The two components of the technical design include the high resolution, 1 meter leaf-on imagery with buy-up options for ½ meter, and, the very-high resolutions 1 foot and greater, leaf-off imagery with buy-up options. The IFTN governance structure, under the FGDC will be used to oversee priority-setting in the long-term. The Technical Plan Work Group is developing a preliminary priority-based framework for the IFTN to be coordinated across federal, state and local communities.

IFTN Governance

- The Executive Committee will provide policy-level guidance
- The National Digital Orthophoto Program (NDOP) will be re-chartered as an FGDC subcommittee to provide operational – level coordination
- A virtual Program Management office will be staffed by key agencies to provide project and performance management, coordination and communication
- The Farm Service Agency will manage the NAIP high-resolution
- The U.S. Geological Survey will manage the very high-resolution

IFTN Funding

- The PMO will be jointly funded in 2010
- The ExCom will coordinate the development of a 2011 budget initiative
- An FY 2011 appropriation language will be drafted to create specific line items in USDA and DOI budgets
- USDA and DOI will establish working capital funds to accommodate the potential need to carry forward funds and re-capitalize infrastructure.

IFTN Contracting

- Both Best Value and Quality Based Selection procurement procedures may be used.

IFTN Data Hosting and Archiving

- USGS EROS will host the very- high resolution component
- USDA APFO will host the high-resolution component

National LiDAR Concept: Greg Snyder, USGS; Larry Sugarbaker, USGS **[\[presentation\]](#)**

LiDAR is a powerful tool in itself and even more so when combined with remotely sensed imagery. LiDAR can be collected day or night (except if flown with photography) but is not an all-weather capability.

The National Elevation Dataset is being upgraded with high-resolution LiDAR to support applications requiring higher accuracy, such as flood risk assessment.

Traditionally, LiDAR point clouds have been filtered to obtain bare earth topography and otherwise unused. There is now great emphasis placed on preserving and exploiting the full point cloud for ecosystems, forestry, climate change, feature extraction, and other applications.

The geospatial and science communities are seeking systematic national LiDAR data that can support nationally consistent assessments and derivative products.

An interagency process is needed to formalize what a national program and data set should look like. USGS plans to fund national LiDAR cost benefit and project design study in 2010.

A national program would use an enterprise approach, based standards and specifications, partnerships and data management, archiving and distribution. A-16 lifecycle guidance would be considered.

National LiDAR data are 3-D landscape measurements. The term "elevation" traditionally connotes bare earth versus full 3-D data sets, multiple surfaces and features, etc.

new group and leveraging existing groups. Parallel conversation has begun within the National Digital Elevation Program, whose members represent the main Federal agencies with ongoing operational LiDAR programs.

Last slide indicates a 2010 goal of recommending a national program - this refers to a refined preliminary concept, and not a detailed or fully vetted final program proposal.

Comment: This presentation is a vast improvement over the LiDAR presentation made at the December 16, 2008 FGDC Steering Committee Mtg.

Comment: Great concept. For obstructions and airport mapping, LiDAR could be used in highly specialized models combined with photogrammetry.

Comment: This particular dataset does not uniquely fit in with the other data categories defined in Circular A-16. LiDAR is technology that produces a 3-D dataset of interest to both mapping and many science communities. Please share your opinions with us on how we can move this approach forward. Some possible solutions are to establish a LiDAR Council and to use the NGAC for additional advice.

Comment: LiDAR requires a vast amount of storage and processing space – recommend beginning planning requirements models for infrastructure.

Comment: The distribution, archive and buy-up option components have been key issues with IFTN. Consider clear provisions for buy-up, partnership mechanisms and transition of funds, progress reporting, etc. Take advantage of the movement on IFTN, there may be similar requirements between the two.

Comment: How will you let stakeholders know about your progress?

Answer: We will actively communicate with stakeholders through FGDC and NGAC, NSGIC, AASG, ASPRS and other communities of interest.

Comment: LAS specifications are being worked on by a subcommittee of ASPRS and they have begun version 2.0. This information is available on the ASPRS website at The LiDAR specification page:

http://www.asprs.org/society/committees/standards/lidar_exchange_format.html

The most recently approved document is the LAS 1.3 Specification which can be downloaded at

http://www.asprs.org/society/committees/standards/asprs_las_spec_v13.pdf

The LiDAR Committee doing this work, including development of LAS 2.0, is chaired by Randy Rhoads who can be reached at: randy.rhoads@optimalgeo.com.

Comment: Can't have IFTN without LiDAR for the Nation to supply good elevation data for ortho-rectifying high-resolution imagery. From a planning perspective, it may be beneficial to offer them up at the same time.

Comment: Tracking the lineage and updates to the data will be challenging and is

important to plan for.

Comment: Consider NGAC presentation in December

Comment: Possibility of coordinating activity under FGDC had been discussed with FGDC Secretariat.

Answer: The coordination question was left open - this presentation was intended to start the dialogue to determine advantageous coordination scenarios and possible roles for FGDC.

New Geospatial Factsheets – Sharon Shin, FGDC [[presentation](#)]

Sharon presented an overview of the GeoLoB Geo-Enabled Business (GEB) Work Group. The GEB WG developed factsheets that show solutions and examples of successful geo-enabled projects. To date the GEB has interviewed and developed use cases and fact sheets for 13 agencies. Best practices document describes lessons, trends, and benefits observed in use cases.

GEB sharing and outreach activities include:

- GEB article submitted to ArcUser
- 13 Fact sheets posted to the FGDC website
<http://www.fgdc.gov/geospatial-lob/factsheets>
- panels completed for ESRI IUC and Fed UC conferences
- additional publications are being pursued

Comment: This work goes hand and hand with the Administration's placed based initiative and is very well done.

Homeland Security Work Group Update – Jeff Booth, DHS, Jonathan Hassee, DHS [[presentation](#)]

Jeff presented a status briefing and proposed a future role for the Homeland Security Working Group (HSWG).

The proposed change

HSWG does not produce anything except for the exchange of information.

The WG recommends changes in the charter and proposes the group be chaired by another agency other than DHS.

The HSWG proposes their mission should be to review products and processes but should not contain policy.

The HSWG cannot take on any substantial work without sustained funding.

Comments: There is a very useful function for this WG. This body should get tethered as a group and see if something is falling through the cracks. This is a cross cutting WG and the purpose of this WG is to bring areas of concern to the Coordination Groups

attention.

The HSWG does not see the National Grid or Symbology going anywhere. A lot of time went into reviewing these but we did not see implementation.

Comment: This WG was developed to address the concerns that we all have and was designed to have leadership that should be doing this type of work anyway. This should not be a funding issue; this is an opportunity to share common issues. This WG has not identified what they should be doing.

Comment: Jeff Booth is not presenting this idea alone, the WG decided on this from a recent telecom. Does the CG disagree? We are trying to say we want to retain this WG at a functional level that tries to influence and create solutions to problems but nothing has worked so maybe it is time to back off a bit. We have looked at standards but no one is using them, they have not been implemented. Does the CG think this WG could enforce standards?

Comment: Possibly the WG should go away, the member are essentially volunteers. Some process is broken if things are not implemented. Folks get energized when their work is implemented. The process needs improvement. Possibly task the WG better.

Comment: DHS need to take a proactive role; this is what the WG is chartered to do. WG needs incentives, possibly mandates?

ACTION: The Homeland Security Work Group will meet to revise the WG charter and report back to the CG for consensus and approval.

Jeff Booth, DHS recommends that the National Map become a new WG not to replace the HSWG but in addition to. TNM touches each of the federal agencies.

NON-FED SESSION AJOURN: 12:30 p.m.