

WBD Steering Committee

Thursday, September 13, 2012

9:15 a.m. MT

Teleconference

Call in number 1-605-475-3200; Access code 1003945 #

Attendees: Tommie Parham, Katherine Lins, David McCulloch, Dan Wickwire, Wendy Blake-Coleman, Mike Eberle, Pete Steeves, Karen Hanson, Ken Becker, Laura Davenport

Excused: Tommy Dewald, Steve Nechero, Brian Sanborn, Lee Koss, Jeff Simley, Stephen Daw

1. **Status of WBD Steering Committee Charter** (*Katherine*)
 - a. Need a stronger statement for the role of NRCS in Section 3.
 - i. "USGS, "in collaboration with NRCS" is the lead..."
 - b. Under item 4 it lists what the responsibilities are of the Steering Committee
 - i. Committee responsibilities are listed in part 6 (redundant). Agreement to leave as is so we can ratify today.
 - c. Section 4 SSWG wording should be expanded to reflect that they are a "conduit".
 - i. Verbiage changed to include the word "identify" and address at the grass roots level
 - d. This Charter has been ratified via this phone call with the changes made above
 - e. Karen will send out an updated version to the WBD Steering Committee
 - f. Karen will provide this new version to Carol Lewis to post on the Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data website
2. **Status of updated USGS NRCS MOU** (*Katherine and Tommie*)
 - a. There has been an effort underway to re-establish and sign an updated USGS NRCS MOU
 - b. NRCS still needs to review authorities in the latest version with the new DOI template
 - c. NRCS Sr. Executive needs to sign (one person above Tommie, Tommie will identify that person)
 - i. NRCS will get back to Karen by the middle of next week with this information
 - d. Kevin Gallagher, at the SES level, will sign for USGS
 - e. Karen will verify updates with Dick Vraga and make sure he is the one that is running it through the National Geospatial Technical Operations Center required review process prior to signing
3. **Establishing a new WBD Steering Committee Chair** (*Katherine*)
 - a. Katherine is retiring October 1, 2012
 - b. Katherine nominated David McCulloch to take over as chair, Pete Steeves seconded
 - c. None opposed
 - d. Welcome to David,....and BIG thank you to Katherine
4. **WBD as the "authoritative dataset" for hydrologic units for the nation** (*Katherine*)
 - a. Katherine distributed memo to USGS Water
 - b. Wendy: by Dec. 31st, Jerry Johnston...wants datasets "registered" to The Platform
 - i. Need to run WBD through the "Maturity Model"
 - ii. WBD and NHD have been through the 7 Lifecycle steps

- iii. Wendy will contact Karen to initiate this
- 5. **Steve Aichele may be the USGS A-16 theme lead for the Inland Waters theme** (*Katherine*)
 - a. Bill Wyland "Wetlands" possible co-theme lead
- 6. **Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data needs to meet** (*Katherine*)
 - a. Katherine had sent out notice to Todd Dabolt and Bob Pierce for action
 - i. Todd is looking for a replacement within EPA
- 7. **WBD State Stewardship Work Group (SSWG) subgroup is planning to meet with NGP Managers on key issues (to offer Progress Report)** (*Karen and Dan*)
 - a. General issues are:
 - i. Communication
 - ii. USGS commitment to resourcing WBD program
 - iii. Project management
 - iv. Support and guidance to state stewards
 - v. Public access to WBD
 - b. Dan will send final draft to WBD Steering Committee for review next week
 - c. Steering Committee will have a special meeting the week of October 15th to discuss review comments and finalize
 - d. Karen will continue to pursue setting up a telecom between the appropriate NGP Mgrs. And the WBD subgroup (Stakeholders)
 - e. As per the WBD Steering Committee the message needs to come as stakeholder impact, rather than telling the managers what to do
- 8. **Data and Stewardship support update** (*Karen*)
 - a. **Data refresh and delivery:**
 - i. WBD is still in an edit moratorium so incorporating any updates back into the National Seamless WBD have to manually handled.
 - 1. The data for the next WBD national refresh is being finalized in Salt Lake City and will be passed to Stephen Daw next week. Stephen will be in Salt Lake City next week and will work with Karen to develop a check list of steps that need to occur once the dataset is in Denver. This is being done in order to (hopefully) avoid some of the geometry errors, missing attribution and data holes that occurred with the last refresh. Delivery of multi-part features for the users will also be discusses (as per stakeholder request).
 - b. **WBD Standards:**
 - i. During Stephen's visit next week, he and Karen will review the WBD Standards front to back to ensure that all content is still applicable with the WBD simplification of the edit tool.
 - ii. Dan reminded the group that the standard also needs to be aligned with NHD Version 2.2.
 - iii. Karen will let Katherine know how extensive these edits end up being so that we can estimate publishing support to revise. Hopefully, this will be minor only requiring a revised update to be posted and no major review required.
 - c. **WBD Edit Tool update:**

- i. Stephen, Karen and Kim Jones will test the WBD Edit Tool next week. This tool has now been simplified to basically offer check out, check in, and metadata tracking only. Esri tools will provide the editing functionality.

d. Alaska Mapping Initiative:

- i. Karen and Sheryl Boyack (NHD/WBD Steward for Alaska residing in Salt Lake) are closely involved with the multi-agency hydrologic unit group in Alaska.
- ii. Wendy pointed out that it will likely be a challenge to get enough multi-agency funding to move the Alaska Mapping Initiative along at the pace proposed.
- iii. Katherine encouraged proposal to NGP for future funding to update NHD and WBD against the revised elevation in order to keep data synchronized.

9. Other business

- a. Katherine pointed out to continue to keep the WBD Steering Committee informed of the US/Canadian Harmonization status

10. Next meetings

- a. Week of October 15, 2012
 - i. Will focus on review and comment in support of the WBD Progress Report to NGP (item 7 above)
- b. Quarterly meeting, January 2013
- c. Karen will set up doodle poll for these meeting