

# Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data

## Meeting Details:

Date/Time: October 23, 2015, 1:00 - 3:00 PM Eastern Time

Location: Teleconference only (administered from USGS Headquarters, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20192)

Conference Line: 703-648-4848

From non-DOI locations, dial toll free 855-547-8255

Conference code 1712-0464#

### JOIN WEBEX MEETING

When it is time to attend the meeting, please visit this link:

<https://usgs.webex.com/usgs/j.php?MTID=m9d6f264cf4268301448e8625ad8ea6a8>

Meeting number: 716 325 658

Shared document space:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B877MDsx9pIFTmpocGE1d0M4TVE&authuser=0>

## Agenda

All Times Eastern Time Zone

1:00 - 1:10 Introductions for new attendees

1:10 - 1:40 Discussion

1:40 - 2:10 Work Group Reports

2:10 - 2:20 New Issues

2:20 - 2:30 Adjourn

## Attendees:

### Returning (attended 8/28/14 or later meeting)

Al Rea, USGS ([ahrea@usgs.gov](mailto:ahrea@usgs.gov))

Ed Clark, NOAA ([edward.clark@noaa.gov](mailto:edward.clark@noaa.gov))

Angela Adams, BOR ([aadams@usbr.gov](mailto:aadams@usbr.gov))

Wendy Norton, USGS ([wenorton@usgs.gov](mailto:wenorton@usgs.gov))

Bill Samuels, Leidos ([samuelsw@leidos.com](mailto:samuelsw@leidos.com))

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Pete Steeves, USGS ([psteeves@usgs.gov](mailto:psteeves@usgs.gov))

## Of interest:

Crowd Sourcing/Citizen Science  
<https://crowdsourcing-toolkit.sites.usa.gov/>

Fine-scale targeting of cell phone warnings  
[http://gcn.com/blogs/emerging-tech/2015/08/aslat-accurate-wea.aspx?s=gcntech\\_051015](http://gcn.com/blogs/emerging-tech/2015/08/aslat-accurate-wea.aspx?s=gcntech_051015)

Open Data Glossaries  
<https://github.com/project-open-data/project-open-data.github.io/issues/521>

18F Cloud Foundry  
<https://docs.18f.gov/>

1:00 - 1:10 Introductions for new attendees

1:10 - 1:40 Discussion

Wiki discussion:

Draft wiki on GeoPlatform:  
<https://www.geoplatform.gov/node/4480>

Discussion:

Plan to convene a Wiki group, with reps from each of the main work groups to flesh out the content further. Each group to nominate a rep. Please send to AI.

Content Draft:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/15TrklUj3fr\\_FnL2VU06tL4CwPFNWnUxRnVTfLJTisB4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/15TrklUj3fr_FnL2VU06tL4CwPFNWnUxRnVTfLJTisB4/edit?usp=sharing)

Wendy Blake-Coleman has a contact who can help us figure out the GeoPlatform wiki, and she will forward the contact info to Al Rea. Al demonstrated the model wiki page he has set up, with suggestion for a landing page, an OWDI featured applications page, and OWDI featured data sources pages. There are some problems here (overstated number of datasets in the Inland Waters theme, for example), arising from the lack of a standard vocabulary.

Question: How would the wiki page work? Would it be organized like the GitHub page? Answer: We haven't gotten far enough yet to know what the visual organization would look like. Organizationally, it's likely that each resource (page) would be controlled by whoever contributed it.

All the datasets need to be referenced against NHDPlus or some other standard; this is a critically important point that will enable us to "connect the dots" in bringing together all the disconnected datasets that are out there. SSWD can help to identify/filter important datasets (or aspects of datasets) and highlight the core datasets that are integral to the concept of a framework for spatial water data. Thus far, we've been pretty good at identifying the key datasets, but not at envisioning/explaining how the "system" of these datasets will work, once they're linked together via a common hub.

DOI Github page: <https://github.com/usinterior/usinterior>

## HY\_Features

What does this mean to OWDI?

There has been a discussion paper circulating that would provide a structure for a UNESCO glossary for hydrology. The way the terms in this glossary relate to each other (catchment versus reach, for example) is described in HY\_Features. This is intended to document the data we publish in a way that has no ambiguity. This standardization of terminology will help our task of data integration.

## Linked Data Catalog:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YeWaXEfj\\_yBm0m4AacF8JXy3hpgD6wthaD9VXUpfp0U/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YeWaXEfj_yBm0m4AacF8JXy3hpgD6wthaD9VXUpfp0U/edit?usp=sharing)

Idea: OWDI Technology Work Group will morph into working on this issue. Dwane and Rob both volunteered, and they're both already on the technology work group. Mike Tinker and Kevin McNinch also volunteered. Add catchment-based indexing.

# AWRA Meeting

Denver, CO, Nov 16-19 (<http://www.awra.org/meetings/Denver2015/>)

OWDI Track (5 sessions)

Who is going? Al Rea, Dave Blodgett, Ed Clark, David Maidment (Wednesday), Michael Tinker, Bill Samuels, Sara Larsen, Angela Adams, Steve Aichele, Dwane Young, Ellen Finelli, Tad Slawewski, Roland Viger

## 1:40 - 2:10 Work Group Reports

### NHDPlus Data Workgroup:

In March 2015, the NHDPlus team released a draft version of NHDPlus 2.1 as a seamless national geodatabase in support of the NFIE effort. This version provides a single national geodatabase to simplify data management, which has also been denormalized (flattened) to make many feature attributes directly accessible from the feature geometries for ease of use. In preparation for our first production release of the seamless national geodatabase, we are soliciting feedback from users of this data. The March data, along with a User Guide dated July 10, and component version document dated May 7, are available at: <ftp://ec2-54-227-241-43.compute-1.amazonaws.com/NHDplus/OWDI/>

Note you'll probably need FTP client software to download the geodatabase itself, which is 6.4 GB.

A draft of a new User Guide, containing updates suggested by the NHDPlus team and others users, is available [here](#) as a Google Doc. Please look it over and provide us with your feedback. We're proposing to drop quite a few fields that we think may not be particularly useful in the national geodatabase version. (Note that the complete NHDPlus V2.1 content is still available in our standard regional shapefile/grid format.) In particular, we welcome your thoughts on which flow estimates to include in the national geodatabase format. We've cut back from all six flow estimates to just the "A" (runoff), "C" (reference gage regression-best estimate of "natural flows"), and "E" (gage adjusted-best estimate of actual flows) for the Mean Annual Flows, and we'd like to know how useful you find these three flow estimates, and whether you'd like us to include these flow estimates for monthly flows as well, which would add 72 fields for 3 flows and 3 velocities for each month. Please add your comments/suggestions right in the Google Doc. If you have used the March national geodatabase, and would like to see the differences between the User Guide that matches that gdb, and the current proposal, see that [here](#). Also note that the geodatabase matching this modified User Guide has not been produced yet, but will be made available after we complete this feedback cycle. Please provide feedback in the document (or by email to Tommy Dewald).

### Water Use Data Workgroup

Zach Clement (DOE) gave an update on some DOE water use data efforts. Molly Maupin (USGS) gave an update on the Water Use Data Research Financial Assistance Program (WUDR) (<http://water.usgs.gov/watercensus/wudr/>) and stakeholder meetings held throughout the country. Talked about getting baseline water use program from Interstate Council on Water Policy's (ICWP) state survey (30 states responded, looking for 40+ states). Workgroup finished

uploading water use data catalog listing to Sciencebase. Will work with Dave Blodgett (USGS) to add more GIS data and build a more refined application from that repository. Will work to incorporate WUDR program water use dataset survey results. Will update Sciencebase with new information as it is available also. Have an outline for a status report back to the larger SSWD group. The report, the Sciencebase repository, and its interface are proposed as the workgroup's deliverables.

It might be useful to set up an OWDI community in ScienceBase. This would give some additional functionality in ScienceBase. ScienceBase can also push metadata records up to data.gov.

## Spill Response Workgroup

Meeting held on 10/22/2015. First topic was an update on the Gold King mine spill. The focus was on the use of the calibration tool (a new feature in ICWater) to adjust the flow-velocity relationship for time-of-travel and dispersion calculations. Model validation was performed by comparing data from EPA sampling efforts (metals) to model predictions. Comparisons improved significantly after model calibration was performed. The second topic discussed was outreach efforts including the upcoming OWDI sessions at the AWRA meeting, and JAWRA and IMPACT issues. The third topic was an open discussion on future workgroup activities. This included: (1) use of automated sensors to provide real-time data on water quality parameters to spill models, (2) more outreach and education to On-Scene Coordinators on the availability of modeling tools for spill response, (3) brief update on StreamStats and the USGS effort to improve Jobson's equations and (4) update on the testing and deployment of the Drinking Water Mapping Application for the Protection of Source Waters (DWMAPS).

## Drought Visualization / Decision Support System Workgroup

Work continues on the development of the drought visualization. There will be an English and Spanish version - work is underway to translate the English text and Imperial units to Spanish text and metric units. Working on refining figures and cleaning up shape files. The visualization may be hosted on a DOI Website, possibly this page: <https://www.doi.gov/water>. Due date for launch is the week of December 14. There will be a lightning talk at AWRA in Denver and a presentation at the Colorado River Water Users Association meeting in December on the visualization. The Drought Use Case team will discuss a team meeting at AWRA to review progress and look forward to next year.

## 2:10 - 2:20 New Issues

Water Resources IMPACT issue on OWDI coming out soon.  
Face-to-face at AWRA Denver?

## 2:20 - 2:30 Adjourn

**Next meeting: December 18, 2015, at 1:00 p.m. Eastern**