

WBD Steering Committee Mtg., July 11, 2011 at ESRI Conference

Attendees:

Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA
Steven Nechero, NRCS
Katherine Lins, USGS
David McCulloch, USGS
Paul Kimsey, USGS
Stephen Daw, USGS
Karen Hanson, USGS

Absent:

Dan Wickwire, BLM
Tommy Dewald, EPA
Tommy Parham, NRCS
Laura Davenport, NRCS
Michael Eberle, USFS
Brian Sanborn, USFS
Jeff Simley, USGS

NRCS REPORT (Steve Nechero)

Steve Nechero provided a summary of current NRCS resources for WBD:

- NRCS has 26 WBD in State “Principal” Stewards, with an additional 29 NRCS personnel listed as WBD in state point of contacts
- In state Stewards have expressed concern that NRCS maintain a national active role in WBD management and oversight
- Version 3.0 of the WBD Standards, which will be the next version worked on should incorporate the following:
 - Reference to the most current tools
 - Reference to the most current technology
 - Availability of high resolution elevation data
- NRCS will use the WBD edit tools being developed by USGS
- For as long as NRCS is under the current WBD structure their involvement should remain the same as it has been, Laura continues to work on standards, policy and qa/qc.
- NRCS has cached NHD, NAIP, roads-6 mo. Refresh
- NRCS is developing tools for applications at the field level (analysis and assessments) CTA-Conservation Technical Assistance Program. CRP-Conservation Reserve Program
- NRCS may have resources to assist with vertical integration of the WBD with NHD and would be open to talking about that

INTEGRATION (Stephen Daw)

The status of integration was discussed

- Program
 - WBD website is being developed
- Spatial (vertical integration)
 - Pour points, navigation tables, coastal tools will
- WBD Editing Tools

- Close to being beta tested: states will continue to use ArcGIS Desktop until injector tools are beta tested.
- Estimating moratorium will take place December 2011
- USGS estimating hosting the dataset of record February 2011
- Next Steps for Tools (WBD State Stewardship Work Group (SSWG) will work with Stephen Daw to prioritize)
 - ArcGIS 10 migration
 - Import lines tool
 - Names tool
 - Navigation tool
 - Coastline management tool
 - Pour point tool
 - Web tools

DATA (Karen Hanson)

Karen gave an update on the following:

- NHDPlus
 - The UT WSC WBD staff has completed for the nation a series of edits to accommodate the NHDPlus refresh
 - Added “SL” (shoreline) and “PL” (playa) modifications for easy query of non-topographic features
 - HU_LEVEL checks (especially “0” to query out international
 - Linesource-NOAA 3 nm
- Coastal (West coast is now completed, Great Lakes are underway)
 - Wendy has name of person to coordinate with-Fran Leitstrom????
- GNIS names are under review and edit by the UT WSC staff in preparation for GNIS integration
- International data harmonization
 - Karen passed out a status graphic
 - Canada
 - 8-digit harmonization is 90% complete
 - 10- and 12-digit harmonization
 - Souris and Columbia workshops have taken place and all conceptual lines approved
 - Mexico
 - 8-digit containers are digitized (however a few new edits needed)
 - 10- and 12-digit have been digitized by the UT WSC WBD staff for 10 of the 28 Subbasins
 - New INEGI staff in Mexico are reviewing all other 10- and 12-digits
- Interbasin transfer pilot is underway in Arizona between WBD and NHD to develop a guidance process to be applied elsewhere, and possibly provide Water Census (WaterSMART) funding for other areas.
- National edits needed to the MODIFICATION field
 - migration poly to line/consistency
- Hi res
 - Many edits now being submitted using hi res base information (LiDAR, IFSAR)
 - WBD SSWG have developed metadata requirements (currently in white paper format)
- 14-digit

- New Jersey has statewide 14-digit edits underway

PRODUCTS (Karen Hanson)

Version 2.0 standards are now completed and available on the web:

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/tm11a3/>

This version has expanded the domain of the modification field, enhanced definitions and addressed inconsistencies, clarified processes, added the 14- and 16-digit guidance

Version 3.0 will include:

- Line/poly mod improved definitions
- Line/poly mod updates-post Water Transfers pilot
- Improved "Closed Basin" definition
- Hi resolution incorporation/requirements
- Better definitions (for instance "Closed Basin", needs to be expanded and agreed upon by broader user base)
- GNIS Integration
- New NHD Geodatabase model
- Items NRCS listed above:
 - Reference to the most current WBD tools
 - Reference to the most current technology
 - Availability of high resolution elevation data

Communications Plan:

WBD Communications plan has been completed and includes many details under these four categories:

- Management
- Stewards
- Data
- Outreach
 - Karen presented on WBD Apps, at the following in FY11:
 - NHD Managers Meeting in Austin and at the University of Austin (Maidment group)
 - National Surface Water Conference in Tampa-March
 - The National Map Conference in Denver-May (3 different panels)
 - CUAHSI at Utah State-June
 - ESRI International User Conference in San Diego-July
 - Fairbanks Watershed Application Conference-September
 - Canadian Harmonization workshops
 - Souris Basin
 - Columbia Basin
 - Stephen presented on WBD Tools, at the following:
 - National Surface Water Conference in Tampa-March
 - The National Map Conference in Denver-May
 - ESRI International User Conference in San Diego-July

Karen is working on the Data Lifecycle Management Plan in coordination with other National Map layers and product and service leads.

The WBD 5-yr. plan is available on MyUSGS.

A Geofabric fact sheet (WBD, NHD, NED, NHDPlus and StreamStats) is now available (Wendy and Steve were emailed a copy of this afterward, as requested). Others can contact Karen for a copy.

A WBD information sheet has been updated and available on MyUSGS (or contact Karen).

It was stressed by Katherine Lins that a “Funding Model” is needed (how much current WBD activities are Geospatial Program, how much are water data, etc .) Wendy Blake-Coleman stressed the importance of needing an “operation plan”. We need to look at those things that build off of NHD or visa versa...cost vs. benefit for Katherine to have conversations with the appropriate folks on sustainable funding.

We need improved WBD Web visibility through the following sites and others:

- Advisory Committee on Spatial Water Information (ACWI)
 - We need to prepare a briefing for next summer, and next May at National Water Quality Monitoring Conference (Portland)
- Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data (SSWD)
- The National Map
- Water Census
- WBD Website (Paul Kimsey, Jerry Ornelas, Stephen Daw...input from WBD SSWG)

We need a manual for NWIS drainage area updates using WBD (further discussion of this will take place within USGS-Office of Water and others).