

## WBD Steering Committee Minutes

Monday, April 22, 2013

12:00 p.m. PST, 1:00 p.m. MST, 2:00 a.m. CST, 3:00 p.m. EST

Teleconference

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

### Attendees:

**NRCS**-Tommie Parham, Steven Nechero, Laura Davenport, Ken Becker

**USGS**-David McCulloch (Chair), Jeff Simley, Stephen Daw, Karen Hanson, Pete Steeves

**BLM**-Lee Koss

**EPA**-Tommy Dewald

1. **Welcome** (David McCulloch)
2. **Chief Office of Water vacancy status** (David McCulloch)
  - a. A selection has been made, but due to sequestration there will need to be a waiver in order to proceed. Terri Moore will continue as acting in the interim.
3. **Status of MOU between NGP and NRCS** (Steve Nechero)
  - a. Both Kevin Gallagher and Michael Golden have signed the MOU and it will soon be made available to the group
  - b. Karen will ask Carol Lewis to post on ACWI-SSWD
4. **WBD State Stewardship Work Group "Charter" is available on the Advisory Committee on Water Information-Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data-WBD website** (Karen Hanson)
  - a. <http://acwi.gov/spatial/wbd-huc/index.html>
5. **SWUDS/Diversions** (Jeff Simley)
  - a. WaterSmart funding on hold or gone, due to sequestration
  - b. Will still set up processes with internal funding
  - c. A pilot will be done in Georgia to incorporate real SWUDS data into the NHD
6. **NWIS in WBD** (Karen Hanson)
  - a. The proposed NWIS Database Model has been agreed to on the NWIS side and now proposed to the NHD database design team for consideration. A response
7. **WBD FY14 requirements planning** (Karen Hanson, Jeff Simley)
  - a. NRCS requested a copy. Karen-provided the committee a copy of this with the distribution of the minutes.
  - b. NRCS responded with the following information after reviewing the FY14 requirement planning document.
    - i. *During our meeting we discussed what new elevation data is available in Alaska to support WBD and NHD modernization. I found two USGS services on the web that show what elevation data is available. The maps are a little different but you get the idea that large areas are now available. For the most part, the new data is 5 meter IFSAR with some smaller areas with LiDAR. NRCS is interested on how to recommend priority areas for WBD and NHD for map modernization. We would contact the NRCS State Office in Palmer, Alaska to solicit feedback. In general our priority would be agricultural and native Alaskan areas.*
    - ii. *In addition to providing WBD via our data provisioning systems, NRCS users are also interested in consuming WBD and NHD as web services. EPA has taken an interesting approach to offering their geospatial content as web services to other agencies and the public. Is there an opportunity for the WBD group to gather business requirements from our user community to customize WBD services to support visualization and analysis capabilities? Do we consider the WBD services accessible on ArcGIS Online as authoritative? <http://www.arcgis.com/home/search.html?q=watershed%2>*

Oboundaries&t=content Have we published data management plans and metadata for WBD so that our user community understands the refresh cycle of the data provisioning and web services? I think this needs to be part of our authoritative data discussion.

- iii. NRCS has plans to create a WBD data mart on an annual basis to create map and data services to support agency specific requirements for analysis and reporting. We have worked on a national bulletin with NHQ to notify the states and users that when we published the WBD data mart it will be considered the “authoritative” version for agency business use. The details on how we published the WBD data mart to the cloud have not been worked out and we are looking for best practices.

8. **WBD as the “authoritative dataset” for hydrologic units for the nation** (Wendy Blake-Coleman)

- a. NRCS, and others-would still like to hear from Wendy on “authoritative” process
  - i. Karen will follow up with Wendy to send a note to the group. Wendy’s response via email, post meeting, follows:
- b. Wendy supports agencies declaring this as their authoritative data set- but think we must specify for what business lines at this point- think it might be a good idea to include this as part of the strategic plan for the Water Inlands Theme- See Steve on the list- think you might want to add his theme lead co-chair Bill Wilen.
- c. Wendy would like to continue the discussion on integrating NWI into the WBD and NHD as this is going to be important for EPA and others with respect to climate change and ensuring climate change adaptations are made.

9. **Report on WBD dialogue with NGTOC mid-level managers** (Karen Hanson, Jeff Simley)

- a. General issues discussed on January 18, 2013:
  - i. Communication
  - ii. USGS commitment to resourcing WBD program
  - iii. Project management
  - iv. Support and guidance to state stewards
  - v. Public access to WBD-data distribution (format, refresh cycle, delivery)
    1. EPA has impressive web portals (as per NRCS), should look at this for examples-targeting service oriented architecture, best practices
- b. NGTOC mid-level managers invited us to have a follow up call 6-months after
  - i. Tommy suggested that the WBD SSWG take advantage of this offer, and continue the dialogue. Tommy had followed up with the managers after the call to reiterate the NHD report card issues. Jeff agrees this is a good idea. Karen will relay this message to the WBD State Stewardship Work Group on their call April 29<sup>th</sup>.

10. **Data and Stewardship support update** (Stephen Daw, Laura Davenport, Karen Hanson)

- a. WBD Edit Tool (ArcGIS 10.0 (support minimal) and 10.1)
  - i. Final round of production tool testing is complete
  - ii. Email stating rollout and plans for training will go out today or tomorrow
  - iii. Web based to specify check out data
  - iv. ArcGIS desktop tool is used to download data
- b. WBD Standards
  - i. Currently updating Section 6 to match the new direction of the WBD Edit Tools and current version of the WBD Data Model
- c. International Harmonization
  - i. CANADA:
    1. Great Lakes coastal process being applied
      - a. Erie and Ontario in WBD, Superior and Huron in state review, Michigan-final prep prior to in-state review
    2. Red River Workshop end of February for 10- and 12-digit
    3. Lake Champlain/St. Lawrence workshop planned for early fall
  - ii. MEXICO:

1. Mexico reviewing 4 final edits, then will attribute and incorporate
- d. Subregion 1904 change in Alaska
  - i. Lee Koss and NRCS requested a copy of the jpeg with narrative description for further review which Karen attached with the distribution of the minutes.
- e. GNIS names review
- f. Downstream coding review

**11. Other business/agency reports**

- a. WBD will have presentation first Tuesday of each month on the NHD Advisory calls

**12. Next quarterly meeting**

- a. August 2013
- b. Karen will set up doodle poll for this meeting