

WBD Steering Committee

Esri – San Diego

Monday, July 23, 2012

4:00 p.m. PST

Location: Omni Hotel, San Diego, CA, Gaslamp 1 room

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

Attendees:

Members in the room: Tommy Dewald, Jeff Simley, Katherine Lins, Karen Hanson, Wendy Blake-Coleman

Guests in the room: Tim Bondelid, Cindy McKay, Al Rea, Pete Steeves

Members participating by phone: Dan Wickwire, Stephen Daw, Laura Davenport, Mike Eberle

1. Update WBD Steering Committee Charter (*Katherine Lins*)
A hard copy was distributed during the meeting that had the WBD Technical Team's review comments (Laura, Stephen, Karen)
 - a. *Karen will email out a copy to the Steering Committee for review (2 week review)*
 - b. *Signatures will be principals from each agency*
2. *Steve Aichel may be the USGS A-16 theme lead for the Inland Waters USGS and Wetlands may share the Theme. Katherine believes this may be difficult to have multiple leads. However, associated organizations can coordinate. The suggestion is for Bill Wyland (USFWS) as Wetlands contact and, Pete Steeves will be the USGS Water Contact All still to be determined.*
3. Update USGS–NRCS WBD MOU (*Katherine Lins*)
A hard copy was distributed during the meeting that had the WBD Technical Team's review comments (Laura, Stephen, Karen)
 - a. *Karen will email out a copy to the Steering Committee for review (2 week review)*
 - b. *Tommie Parham will sign for NRCS*
 - c. *SES USGS person will sign*
4. Statement on WBD as "authoritative" dataset can go out by Katherine.
 - a. *Katherine will get memo out and will coordinate with Jeff on how the message goes out. \Only waiting to know when the NGTOC can provide a persistent url for the download of the data to include in the memo.*
5. Frequency of WBD/NHD refresh by NRCS (*Laura Davenport*)
 - a. *Planning on refreshes twice a year*
 - b. *SDE Export file has been working*
 - c. *Need to have dialogue between USGS Denver and NRCS Data Gateway to determine format*
 - d. *Steve and Karen will facilitate moving this forward*
6. Hydrography updates-USGS Hydrography Lead (*Jeff Simley*)
 - a. *The NHD/WBD Stewardship conference successful and showed strong integration*
 - b. *Consistent adequate funding for both NHD and WBD remains a challenge*
 - c. *The "Pour Points" project is underway (Chris Lunds group in Denver)-adding events on NHD at every 8-digit hydrologic unit intersection*
 - d. *NWI pilot*
 - i. *Determined that it is not practical to spatially integrate NWI with NHD (USGS internal meeting minutes)*

1. *NWI built for sole purpose*
 2. *NWI will be an ancillary layer in TNM*
 - e. *Web services*
 - i. *Distribute NHD as a feature service (on hold...challenge of serving so much load under current architecture)*
 - ii. *Bandwidth is an issue as well*
 - iii. *Will continue to serve as a mapping service*
 - f. *Water Smart*
 - i. *Already identified by 12-digit hydrologic units*
 - ii. *Discussions with lead contacts within Water Smart are underway with the NHD Mgt. Team (WBD, NHD, NHDPlus represented)*
 - g. *Diversions*
 - i. *Web feature service would be great to show navigation in WBD*
7. *WBD Current efforts (Karen Hanson, Stephen Daw)*
- a. *WBD Navigation Tool*
 - b. *GNIS integration*
 - c. *Hosting NWIS basin boundaries in WBD*
 - d. *WBD Edit Tool*
 - i. *Have a new direction on the edit tool, estimated to be ready in 2 months*
 - ii. *Stephen will notify Steering Committee when WBD Edit Tool is released*
 - e. *WBD Coastal Tool*
 - i. *The WBD Technical Team decided to see if another agency will step up and develop this tool that will extract the NHD shoreline and ingest into WBD upon checkout. USGS just doesn't have the resources at this time*
 - f. *WBD State Stewardship Work Group (SSWG)*
 - i. *Karen will provide Communications Plan developed by the SSWG to the Strg. Committee*
 - ii. *SSWG would like a more active role in building the requirements for WBD related tools*
 - iii. *SSWG is in the process of drafting an issue paper on WBD Stewardship, would like to submit this via the WBD Strg. Committee to USGS National Geospatial Program managers*
8. *USEPA Report (Tommy Dewald, Wendy Blake-Coleman)*
- a. *NHDPlus catchments in WBD*
 - i. *Benefit to sync up WBD with NHDPlus catchments*
 - ii. *Examples have been tested and a summary paper is available to those interested, in general four major challenges will need to be addressed:*
 1. *Major discrepancies: HUC12 outlet not falling at end of NHD stream flowline*
 2. *30-meter grid cell can't accommodate WBD delineations in deep canyons or where delineations follow levees as the high point*
 3. *Where WBD delineations still follow a shoreline*
 4. *Areas with sparse flowlines*
9. *NRCS Report (Laura Davenport)*

- a. *Suggest that we look at the capability of the WBD Steering Committee meetings offering video conferencing*
 - b. *Request a follow up call for NRCS in 2 weeks (Karen and Katherine will offer this if still needed after minutes are reviewed)*
10. BLM Report (*Dan Wickwire*)
- a. *Dan talked with Lee Koss*
 - i. *BLM is fully invested in helping with tool development and involvement on NHD Mtg. Team and WBD SSWG*
 - ii. *Trying to get BLM more involved from state to state in stewardship*
 - 1. *Communication will help...packaging up information*
 - b. *Tool development-follow up call needed*
 - i. *Internal vs. external-a follow up call needed*
 - 1. *Project mgt. techniques*
 - 2. *Support for funding from mgt. for sustainable resources*
 - 3. *Can govt. continue to do this effectively*
 - ii. *Need written letter from other agencies to make recommendation to USGS mgt.*
 - iii. *Can Dan or someone agree to follow- up?*
11. USFS Report (*Mike Eberle*)
- a. *Nothing to report*
12. Other
- a. *Need to continue to communicate that WBD is more than the ancillary data of the HUCs. Rather it is an active watershed feature dataset in the NHD and needs to have ongoing support for refresh and maintenance. It is not a static dataset.*
 - b. *Retirement of USGS Circular 878-A: INCITS 145-1986 [R2007]*
 - i. *Katherine has issued a statement to Julie Binder-Maitra indicating there is no need to continually maintain this cover sheet for the Circular 878-A. the current Federal standards supplant it.*
 - c. *How do we work out priorities between what NGP has and what the WBD Steering Committee sees as the direction WBD is taken?*
13. Next meeting-(agreed on quarterly), early fall, or do we need a follow up call for those not in attendance shortly after the conference....tentatively last week in September.
- a. *Quarterly-next mtg. need to focus on WBD Edit Tools*