

WBD Steering Committee Minutes

Thursday, November 14, 2013

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

Teleconference

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

<http://usgs.webex.com>

Invited Attendees:

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

USGS-David McCulloch (Chair), Jeff Simley, Nate Booth, Vicki Lucas, Stephen Daw, Steve Aichele, Pete Steeves, Karen Hanson

BLM

EPA-Wendy Blake-Coleman, Tommy Dewald

USFS-Mike Eberle

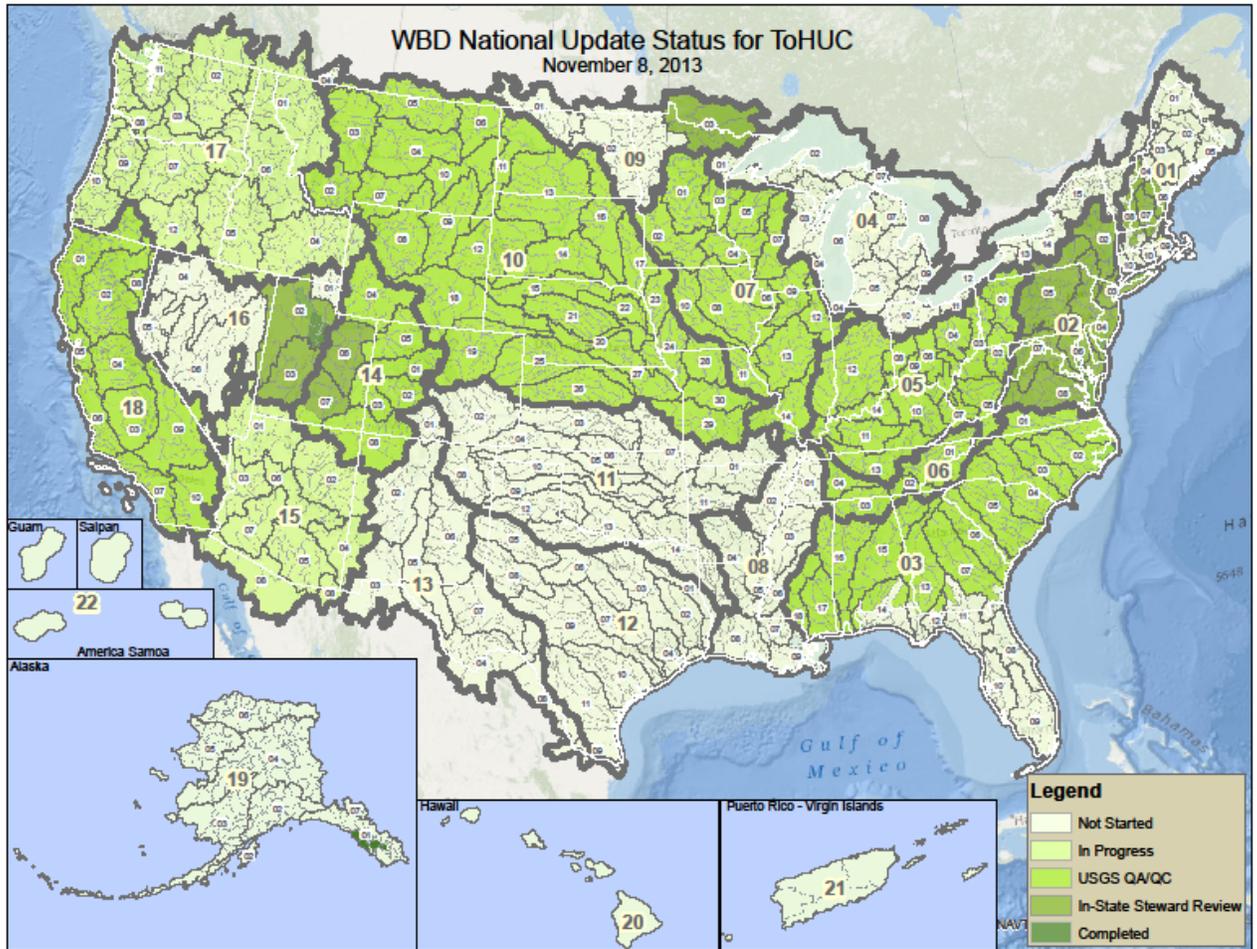
1. **Welcome** (*David McCulloch-Chair*)
Katherine Lins would like to rejoin our group and assist in whatever way we can utilize her as a volunteer. She should be on the next call.
2. **Chief Office of Water** (*Nate Booth*)
Introduced himself-been with USGS 17 yrs., started as surface water hydrologist
Where NHD and WBD come together to support water projects
How they support indexing
3. **Hydrography Program** (*Jeff Simley*)
 - a. New National Geospatial Program Structure
 - i. Reorganized, hydro and elev now combined into the same program
 - ii. **Vicki Lucas** introduced herself and said a few words about the program. She is the **Topographic Services Lead** over the new reorganization for hydro and elevation, which WBD falls under
 - b. NHD Mgt Team Meeting, December 4-5th, 2013
 - i. Ele-Hydro
 1. Integration of both themes, looking at how these two datasets integrate
 2. WBD is the common integration factor for both
 3. Making WBD, NHD and Elevation and derivative products.... more powerful datasets
 4. Note: EDNA was predicated on synthetic flow whereas we will be able to enforce actual flow with these new products
4. **Water Information** (*Steve Aichele*)
 - a. Status Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data
 - i. First call since 18-mo. ago took place yesterday
 - ii. Will work toward rallying broader participation for next call in December
 - iii. What should the data model look like 3 to 5 years from now...next generation of hydrography data?
 - b. USGS Water Liaisons
 - i. 8 full time liaisons, 3 associates
 - c. Inland Water Theme (Steve is co-chair with Bill Wilen, USFWS)
 - i. Working on getting metadata registered and communities stood up
 - ii. Wendy offered a lot of insight into the need to move this forward
 1. Need key representatives from all themes to serve on surface water committee
5. **NWIS in WBD** (*Karen Hanson*)

- a. The NWIS Drainage Area Boundary proposal was resubmitted to the NGP Data Product Review Board on October 31, 2013. This proposal requests NGP support to host the NWIS Drainage Area Boundaries within the NHD Geodatabase.

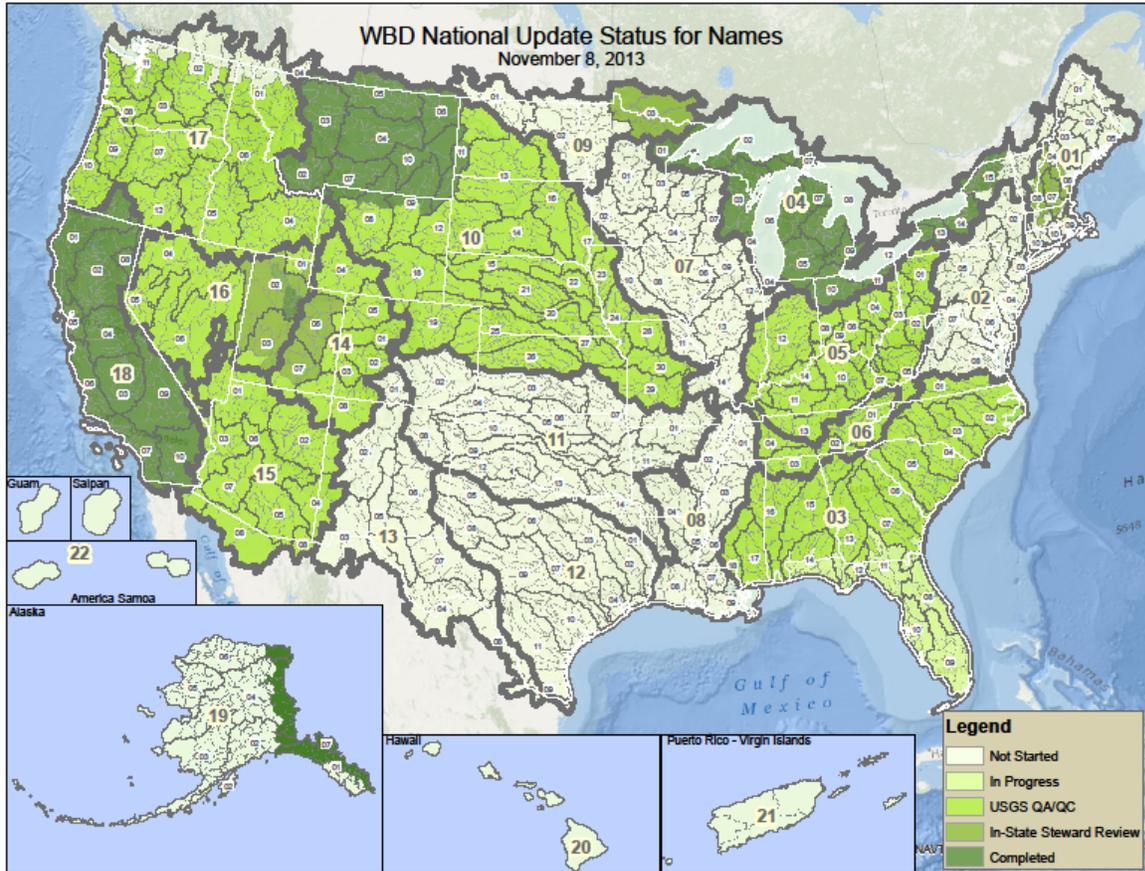
6. **WBD FY14 data improvements** (*Karen Hanson*)

The WBD National support shop in the Utah Water Science Center is working on a number of data improvements. Below is the status graphic of those efforts.

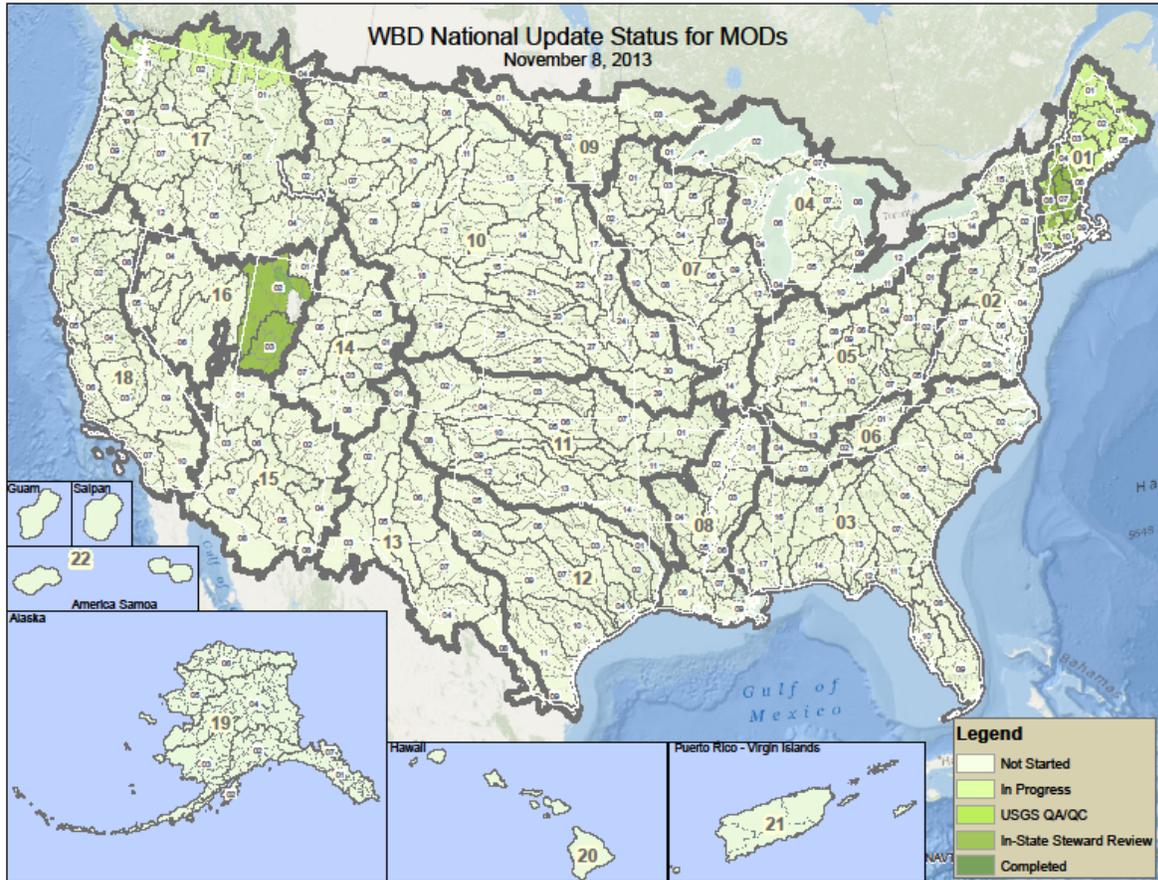
- a. Downstream coding status-



b. GNIS Names integration status



- c. Coastal status
 - i. Currently the coastline in Massachusetts is being worked on
 - ii. Also, the Great Lakes coastlines is 75% completed and available in WBD
- d. Modification field migration status



- e. Alaska subregion 1904 recode status
 - i. These edits are not complete and through Steward review. They will be checked back into the national database over the next several weeks
- f. International harmonization
 - i. Canada
 1. All of the 8-digit hydrologic unit boundaries and hydro, are completed across the shared border and available within NHD and WBD
 2. 3 workshops are planned in FY14 for 10- and 12-digit completion
 - a. St. Mary's Milk
 - b. St. Johns
 - c. Lake Champlain, St. Lawrence
 - d. Workshops have taken place for the rest of the border along the lower 48
 - e. Alaska will be worked in FY15

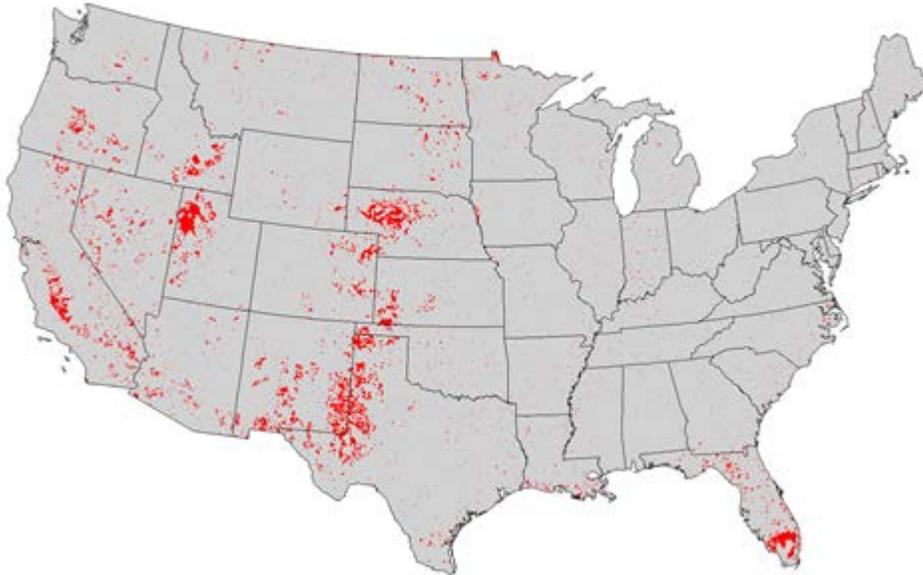
- ii. Mexico
 - 1. Mexico line work is all completed at the 8-, 10-, and 12-digit. Attribution is 1/3 completed. This should be ready to check into the national database by the end of November.
 - g. WBD Version 4.0 Standards
 - i. Are now published and available on line at: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/11/a3/>
- 7. **Data and Stewardship support update** (*Stephen Daw*)
 - a. Tool development/stewardship (Stephen)
 - i. WBD Edit Tool
 - 1. Version 2.0 of the tools is now ready and working great
 - ii. Check out/check in process
 - 1. Working successfully
 - iii. Training
 - 1. Is being provided twice a week upon request
 - iv. Website
 - 1. WBD portion of the NHD Stewardship website is being updated and enhanced based upon suggestions from the WBD State Stewardship Work Group
 - v. Latest sprint-tool improvement
 - 1. Add ins for populating the Modification field
 - 2. Topology check on newly checked out data
 - 3. Code migration of the old Esri Names Tool to current code
 - vi. Next steps
 - 1. Will create a version for 10.2 when it is released
- 8. **NRCS update** (*Laura Davenport*)
 - i. Tools
 - 1. NRCS working with Tools in ArcGIS 10.0, and ArcGIS 10.1
 - ii. NRCS Data distribution
 - 1. NRCS has a directive to serve the authoritative version once annually (October 1st version). It has been decided that the NRCS will host both the October 1 and April 1 versions on their ftp and label as such. The Gateway will carry the most recent snapshot.
- 9. **Agency round table**
 - a. **NRCS** (*Tommie Parham, Steve Nechero*)
 - i. NRCS is looking to send one person to the NHD Mgt. Team
 - b. **USFS** (*Mike Eberle*)
 - i. Had a call with the Geospatial Service and Technology Center in Salt Lake City
 - 1. USFS will step up as NHD editors on USFS lands
 - c. **BLM** (*Lee Koss*)
 - d. **EPA** (*Tommy DeWald, Wendy Blake-Coleman*)
 - i. Tom Wall mentioned to Wendy that they may start reporting against the NHDPlus catchments
 - 1. Catchments solve problems with receiving mixed resolution problems from states
 - 2. Also addresses overlapping assessment units
 - ii. Clarification from Tommy via email to group, post-meeting:

“A quick note following up on our brief discussion about EPA performance measures at the end of last week’s WBD call. I’ve since confirmed that current plans are to use HUCs and catchments in combination with each other moving forward – retaining the existing watershed measure, while considering several new catchment-based measures. My comments during the call highlighted past

and planned coordination aimed at strengthening the relationship between HUCs and catchments. My interest in doing so goes back to the 2010 AWRA conference when I first considered the potential benefits of leveraging our collective surface water framework datasets for Web access to water resources information - in the manner shown in the attached graphic. Jack Dangermond and David Maidment co-authored a paper on a Web GIS for water resources, which Jack presented during the conference keynote.

As Karen and I mentioned during the WBD call, we plan to continue our discussion how we might more tightly couple HUCs and catchments during early December in conjunction with the annual NHD Management Team meeting to be held at USGS in Reston. This topic might also warrant some time on a future.”

97.0 % agreement between aggregated NHDPlus catchments and WBD HUC 12s
(Red = areas of disagreement)



10. Next quarterly meeting

- a. January 2014
- b. Karen will set up doodle poll for this meeting