

# WBD Steering Committee

Wednesday, March 14, 2012

1:00 p.m. MDT, 2:00 p.m. CST, 3:00 p.m. EST

Attendees: Tommie Parham, Kenneth Becker, Laura Davenport, Karen Hanson, Dan Wickwire, Stephen Daw, Katherine Lins, Lee Koss, Pete Steeves, David McCulloch, Jeff Simley

Excused: Tommy Dewald (sick), Mike Eberle, Wendy Blake-Coleman, Brian Sanborn

## **STEERING COMMITTEE**

### **USGS Chair** (*Katherine Lins*)

- Welcome, introductions and new member (Lee Koss, BLM Lead for Water)
  - Future of WBD Steering Committee-questioned group whether to continue to function under ACWI, and meet twice a year?
    - Yes, continue to function under ACWI
    - Need to meet quarterly
    - Need to revisit role
    - Need to update website with Lee Koss name
- Steering Committee provides oversight and is also available on an as needed basis for key issues. The technical team manages daily WBD events.
- Need to review and update MOU between USGS and NRCS
  - May want to add content-Steve Nechero could review and provide content (allow 3 weeks)
  - Steve would send to Katherine to pull together
  - Katherine will talk to Mark DeMulder for signage (it may go up or down a level)
- Statement on WBD as “authoritative” dataset for Water (to be sent out once USGS goes “Live” with delivery (*estimated to happen in April*)
  - Katherine will make available what she has already drafted for NRCS
  - Should this actually be distributed more broadly....FGDC?
- Need to review current WBD charter against the NHD mgt. team charter (Karen or Dan will provide), may need to relook at participants on committee

### **NRCS** (*Tommie Parham*)

- Continues to support WBD Steering Committee on its own as separate from NHD mgt. (at least for the foreseeable future)
  - may want to meet quarterly- geospatial emerging issues that we could be involved in
- NRCS will continue to provide support the WBD Data Management Process
  - Assist with data quality reviews
  - Attend WBD tool training to ensure NRCS can propose edits through state data stewards for mission critical applications and analysis
  - NGMC is contacting NRCS State personnel to get an estimate of the data steward support from NRCS
- Would like to keep the MOU active
- Statement on WBD as “authoritative” dataset for NRCS
  - Katherine will provide what she has drafted for USGS
- Representation at NHD/WBD Stewardship Conference
  - Laura will be there-WBD panel and tools training

- NRCS would like our SDE/ArcGIS Server/Web Services technical team to meet with the appropriate USGS staff to pick the streamline approach of transferring the data to NGMC to support the NRCS publication of the content for data provisioning and web services. Currently NRCS serves WBD/NHD on the Geospatial Data Gateway <http://datagateway.nrcs.usda.gov> for the public and on ArcGIS Server for internal agency map and data services only available within the USDA intranet.

#### **USGS Hydrography lead** (*Jeff Simley*)

- AWRA and NHD/WBD Stewardship Conference (110 attending stewardship conference)
  - Several sessions focused specifically on WBD
    - Panel-update on activities
    - Interbasin transfers example
    - WBD Stewardship
    - WBD Edit Tools workshop
- Future direction WBD with NHD
  - Diversions/Interbasin transfer – Water Smart (Pilot in AZ CAP)
    - End goal-navigation via web services
  - Request in FY13 budget to fund implementation
  - Pour points attached to NHD at every HUC8 outlet
    - Can carry significant information and cross reference NHD and units upstream
    - Funded by NGP
    - “Frontal” hydrologic units are being addressed as well
  - Web services
    - Long-term goal for delivery as web feature service (currently a mapping service)
- National Wetlands Inventory
  - Pilot in FY13 to explore and integrate NHD/NWI/WBD

#### **USEPA** (*Tommy Dewald/Wendy Blake-Coleman*)

- Would like for us to keep moving forward on how we might better align the WBD with NHDPlus catchments (Karen, Tommy, Jeff can discuss), so events can roll up to catchments, which can roll up to HUC12's and so on.
  - A very powerful concept that would greatly benefit the water resources community for years to come if we can pull it off.

#### **BLM** (*Lee Koss/Dan Wickwire*)

- Supports the WBD Steering Committee staying in tact
  - Inquiry as to how the WBD Steering Committee relates to the NHD Mgt. Team?
- BLM sent out instruction in 2009 that both NHD and WBD were to be viewed as “authoritative” datasets for BLM
  - BLM was presented with challenges when they did this-other agencies that make this statement should expect the same
- Need for WBD Steering Committee to review the role of the NHD Mgt. Team to see if there is more opportunity to guide/impact the overall program
  - Provide NHD Mgt. charter to Katherine for review and comparison to WBD Steering Committee Charter
- NHD Reach code changes impact reports and data that other agencies have which are tied to old reaches
  - Dan and Lee will discuss off line

#### **USGS** (*David McCulloch, Pete Steeves*)

- NHD program (under NGP) needs to fund WBD at necessary level
- Now that WBD is being incorporated into the NHD users may not be aware that it 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.

Jeff, Karen, Katherine will continue to make case for this

- WBD Steering Committee could possibly help make this as well

## **TECHNICAL TEAM**

### **USGS (Karen Hanson)**

- WBD State Stewardship Workgroup
  - Still driving things at grass roots level, such as changes to the modification field to better integrate with NHD
- WBD documentation-Standards, product plan, fact sheet
  - Karen will update and make WBD product plan available within the next week
- WBD will be hosting National Water Information System (NWIS) drainage area boundaries as a feature class within WBD
  - NHD is hosting the gages as an event on the NHD
  - Data model has been designed
  - Initial effort will focus on “active” gages
  - WBD team is working with StreamStats team to do preliminary preparation to make it easier on the USGS Data Sections at the Water Science Centers.
- Summary of national data updates
  - All states have had a suite of edits (attribution, linework updates, etc) in all states since certification was granted. There are 28 states that have submitted edits 5 or more times, with some as many as a dozen times since 2009.
  - Since 2009 Guam, Saipan, American Samoa and the 8-digit trans-boundary subbasins with Canada and Mexico have now been included into WBD
- Coastal
  - Current focus is on the Great Lakes region
  - International data harmonization
- International
  - All 8-digit cross-border shared hydrologic units with Canada and Mexico are now in WBD
  - 10- and 12-digit continue to be worked on
  - Canadian Team received the geospatial world excellence award
- Data review and preparation for GNIS integration is underway (all codes, all names at all levels)

### **USGS (Stephen Daw)**

- Timelines for WBD Edit Tool and USGS going “Live” serving WBD
 

• Reach Migration	January 28, 2011
• WBD in NHD database first refresh	December 20, 2010
• WBD in NHD database second refresh	May, 2011
• WBD in NHD database third refresh	September, 2011
• WBD in NHD database fourth refresh	January, 2012
• WBD beta tools release	March, 2012
• Check-in/Check-out process implementation	April, 2012
• Final tools testing	April, 2012
• Tools training	March – April, 2012
• Final load/Operations switch over	April, 2012
- Next steps with Tools: ArcGIS 10.1, Coastal tool, etc.

### **NRCS (Laura Davenport)**

- NRCS will host a snapshot
  - Refresh cycle between USGS and NRCS needs to be determined

### **WRAP UP**

Next WBD Steering Committee Meeting:

- Mid May or early June- Karen will set up doodle poll
- Focus on WBD Steering Committee and Management Team future structure and purpose on the next call