

Record of Decision: Dissolution of the WBD Steering Committee

The WBD steering committee was established under the SSWD in the late 1990s. The committee, co-chaired by representatives from NRCS and USGS, was charged with facilitating and standardizing development of a nationally consistent dataset of hydrologic units for the nation and served to strengthen partnerships between NRCS, USGS, EPA, BLM, USFS, and other international, state, and local partners around requirements for, and development of, seamless hydrologic unit data. The steering committee was rechartered under SSWD in 2012 when the data were transferred from NRCS to USGS and the data became companion dataset to the NHD and part of The National Map.

In December of 2016, members of the WBD Steering Committee and the NHD Management Team met to discuss ways to streamline and improve governance related to national framework hydrographic geospatial datasets. A joint governance structure encompassing NHD, WBD, the new NHDPlus High Resolution, and systems and services that enable linking and discovery of hydrologic data emerged as the most appropriate option. Ultimately, the new governance group will advance a national hydrography infrastructure that continues to support legacy needs of WBD and NHD but expands to underpin inter-agency hydrologic observing networks and modeling systems. Information about the new governance group will be made available at <https://nhd.usgs.gov/> as it is developed.

Pursuant to title XI of the WBD Steering Committee charter, a formal request for a vote to dissolve the WBD Steering Committee was made to the Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data (SSWD) on November 17, 2017. A majority of voting members have agreed to the proposed dissolution. The results of the vote were announced during a SSWD meeting on January 26, 2018 and are as follows:

Vote	Voting member	Organization
Yes	Ed Clark	NOAA, SSWD Co-chair
Yes	Jerad Bales	CUAHSI
Abstain	Adam Carpenter	AWWA
Yes	Tommy Dewald	EPA
Yes	Michael Eberle	USDA - USFS
Yes	Sandra Fox	St. Johns River Water Management
Yes	Steve Kopp	ESRI
Yes	Sarah Larsen	Western States Water Council
Yes	Chris Mickle	Cardno
Yes	Emily Read	DOI - USGS
Yes	Bill Samuels	Leidos
Undelivered email	Alex Porteous	Booz, Allen, Hamilton