

Working Group	Lead Agency	1) Programs Supported By This Data	2) Uses Of This Data	3) Do You Have A Current Charter/Plan For Collection?	4) Is Metadata Discoverable Through The NSDI Clearinghouse?
A) Biological Data Working Group	USGS	Any program that uses biological data whether they are geospatial or not.	Creating cross-cutting standards related to biological data.	The Charter was approved in 1997 and does not need updating at this time.	Yes. The Biological Profile of the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Data is used in the NSDI Clearinghouse.
B) Clearinghouse Working Group	FGDC	No Report Received.			
C) Earth Cover Working Group	NRCS	No Report Submitted. Group not active. Recommended for Discontinuation.			
D) Facilities Working Group	USACE/CADD GIS Technology Center	Facility Management activities on Federal Installations.	The Facilities Working Group does not collect data, but develops standards for the Facility Management community.	The CADD/GIS Center was adopted as the FGDC's Facilities Working Group in Oct. 1999. The Charter was updated in 2000 to expand the Center's mission to other Federal agencies. The current Charter does not require an update.	N/A. It is the responsibility of the Agencies to serve metadata, not the subcommittees or working groups.
E) Geospatial Applications and Interoperability Working Group	NASA	Not a data project - focus on promoting technical standards for software interoperability across all Federal programs with a geospatial component.	Not a data project.	Charter was implemented in Nov. 2001. Scope includes: Promoting the use of interoperability standards, influencing those standards to ensure they meet Federal Agency needs; and assisting Agencies wishing to adopt those standards.	Not a data project. Standards focus on the data access layer above the metadata search capability provided by the Clearinghouse, and can apply to all data cataloged in a Clearinghouse.
F) Historical Data Working Group	NARA	No Report Received.			
G) Homeland Security Working Group	USGS/NIMA	Ensures that the NSDI supports all elements of homeland security. Member agencies' programs provide geospatial data that enable readiness for, response to, and recovery from events.	Homeland security requires timely, accurate information easily accessed and shared across Federal, State, and local jurisdictions.	Charter approved May 2002.	N/A
H) Marine Boundary Working Group	NOAA/MMS	Through its partnership building, standards development, and outreach, the Marine Boundary Working Group supports all agencies that use and develop marine boundaries. Including NOAA, MMS, NIMA, FWS, NPS, FCC, Navy, State, Census, and EPA.	The data, products and standards produced by agencies participating with the Working Group benefit those interested in marine boundary development, legal description, documentation, and use.	Charter developed in 2001 and is not in need of update. Available at: http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mbwg/htm/charter.htm .	N/A

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I) Metadata Ad Hoc Working Group	FGDC	No Report Received.			
J) Sample Inventory & Monitoring of Natural Resources & the Environment (SIMNRE) Working Group	NOAA	Supports several Federally funded national probability surveys monitoring the status/trends of terrestrial natural resources. Within USDA supports National Resource Inventory, Forest Inventory and Assessment, and others.	Data are used to determine environmental trending thereby assisting in long-term strategic planning and assessment for resource management. Data provide natural resources health indicators.	Charter is in need of review and update. Merger with the Sustainable Forest Working Group was discussed but not adopted.	SIMNRE focuses on standards development for natural resources inventory techniques and monitoring efforts rather than database development. There is no specific theme for which to generate metadata. National Resources Inventory System and Forest Inventory Assessment metadata are not available through the Clearinghouse.
K) Standards Working Group	FGDC	The FGDC Standards Working Group does not have <i>direct</i> responsibility for data themes; rather, it provides guidance on FGDC standards policy and procedures, facilitates coordination, and reviews and makes recommendation on approval of standards.	Geospatial data standards developed and endorsed through the FGDC standards process provide common descriptions of objects, features, or items and thereby promote interoperability among automated geospatial information systems.	Yes. The charter of the FGDC Standards Working Group may be viewed at http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/organization/wgcharter.html	The FGDC Standards Working Group does not have direct responsibility for data, nor does it have direct responsibility for collecting metadata and serving metadata through the NSDI Clearinghouse.
L) Sustainable Forest Data	USGS	Supports USFS Forest Inventory and Analysis, NRCS National Resources Inventory, USGS Breeding Bird Survey and other forest resource surveys and assessments.	Fosters the standardization and implementation of criteria and indicators (C&I) of sustainability. Seeks to coordinate activities of programs dealing with spatial data to reduce duplication and increase data interoperability and availability.	Current charter approved on February 6, 2001 and is scheduled for review after completion of the National Report on Sustainable Forests in 2003. (http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/brd/SFDcharter.htm)	N/A

Working Group	5) Status Of This Theme's Standards	6) FY 2001/2002 Activities	7) Data Sharing Policy	8) Lessons Learned
A) Biological Data Working Group	Biological Profile of the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial data is complete and in ISO standards process. Work continues on Biological Nomenclature and Taxonomy Data Standard.	4 facts were published and are being distributed; 2 FGDC sponsored workshops were held to develop candidate data models for the proposed FGDC Biological Nomenclature and Taxonomy Data Standard; consensus building continues in candidate data models.	N/A	N/A
B) Clearinghouse Working Group				
C) Earth Cover Working Group				
D) Facilities Working Group	This Working Group developed the "Spatial Data Standard for facilities, infrastructure, and environment" (SDSFIE) and "Facility Management Standard for facilities, infrastructure, and environment" (FMSFIE).	ANSI adopted the SDFIE as a national geospatial data classification standard for use in GIS implementations in Nov. 2001. The ANSI designation is NCITS 353 (or INCITS 353).	It is the responsibility of the individual Agencies to develop policy.	None.
E) Geospatial Applications and Interoperability Working Group	No data, process or classification standards at this time. Data transfer standards are either published or under development by OGC or software vendors and government agencies. The ISO CD 19128 Web Mapping Service standard has been forwarded to ISO.	Geospatial Interoperability Reference Model (GIRM) prepared. Public-private partnership for Digital Earth Community Meetings initiated. Implementation Plan proposal for Geospatial One-Stop portal in progress. Draft Procurement Language for geospatial interoperability implementation.	GAI WG is not a data project. NASA has policies regarding data dissemination. GAI focuses on improving mechanisms for data access. Collaborative Federal partnerships are sought and encouraged.	Not a data project.
F) Historical Data Working Group				
G) Homeland Security Working Group	Map symbology, information content, and extensions to metadata standards that may be needed to support Homeland Security. (see response for more detail.)	Developed position paper "Homeland Security and GIS" that identified factors preventing effective use of data; tracking changes in public access to Federal geospatial data caused by security concerns; creation of map symbology and information content standards and extensions; outreach and education (see response for more details)	N/A	Important Issues: Process for 'fast and broad' consensus; Need for continual resources for standards; Security concerns (see response for more detail)
H) Marine Boundary Working Group	This Working Group is collaborating with the Cadastral Subcommittee to incorporate a marine boundary component into the Cadastral Data Standard.	Developed a Web page for the group (http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mbwg/); Held 5 meetings for the Working Group in 2001/2002; Developed a work plan for the Working Group; Coordinating a joint meeting with the Cadastral Subcommittee in Jan 2003; Developing a Best Practices handbook regarding marine boundaries; Participating in the Geo 1 Stop.	N/A	None at this time.

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I) Metadata Ad Hoc Working Group				
J) Sample Inventory & Monitoring of Natural Resources & the Environment (SIMNRE) Working Group	Standards are in preliminary stage. Process standards vary based on program - with no formal discussion of standardization within membership. Transfer standard will follow recognized data exchange protocols.	FY 2001 and 2002 activities focused on coordination of the National Resources Inventory System and the Forest Inventory Assessment system in Minnesota. Coordination activities involve NRCS, USFS, MN DNR, and USGS-EDC. Investigated ways to strengthen Multi Resolution Land Characteristic Consortium Data with survey data.	The group will address data access and privacy issues during standards discussion in FY02. Data access information policies vary by program. Sometimes raw data is not available due to privacy issues, however customers are provided tools to derive the generalized data or are provided with the product requested.	There continues to be confusion regarding the role of Working Groups and Subcommittees and theme generation as defined in A-16.
K) Standards Working Group	A complete list of endorsed or developing standards may be found at: http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/status/textstatus.html .	FGDC Standards endorsed in FY 2001/2002: Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata; Extensions for Remote Sensing Metadata; Geospatial Positioning Accuracy Standards, Part 4: Architecture, Engineering, Construction, and Facilities Management, FGDC-STD-007.4-2002; Standard for a US National Grid, FGDC-STD-011-2001;	The FGDC Standards Reference model states that FGDC Standards will have a broadly based public notice of their availability. For more, see http://www.fgdc.gov/standards/refmod97.pdf .	This working group participates with State, local, and tribal governments; NSGIC, and others. There is greater reliance on standards developed through voluntary consensus standard organizations.
L) Sustainable Forest Data	A group is developing FGDC standard definitions of forests and rangelands, which includes representatives of the Roundtable on Sustainable Forests, Federal agencies, professional societies, etc. (see response for more info)	Coordinated Federal agency input into national Report on Sustainable Forests, scheduled to be published in 2003; organized subgroups to work on definitions of forests and rangelands; held monthly meetings.	It is the goal of the Working Group to promote full and open access and data sharing. The major Federal datasets are now available to the public online.	None.