

## Part B

### **LEAD AGENCY/BUREAU AND/OR SUBCOMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP REPORT (Agencies with Lead Responsibilities Assigned under Circular A-16 in Appendix E)** (Please provide a separate report for each activity for which you have the lead)

**1. Program/Activity Name:** Biological Data Working Group  
Michael Ruggiero, U.S. Geological Survey

**2. What are the specific federal programs this data supports?**

Any program that uses biological data, whether they are geospatial or not.

**3. Uses of Data: How does your data benefit customers and support agency missions?**

The work of the group focuses on cross cutting standards related to biological data, e.g. the Biological Profile of the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata and ongoing work to develop a Biological Nomenclature and Taxonomy Data Standard.

**4. Charter/Plan: Do you have a current charter or plan for collection? If so - please describe (include how recently the charter/plan was implemented and whether it is in need of update).**

There is a current charter for the FGDC Biological Data Working Group that was approved in 1997 and does not need additional updating at this time.

**5. Performance Measures: Does your agency have performance measures for your data theme? If so, please list the measures and whether you achieved your goals.**

All USGS performance measures are provided in the FY 2004 Annual Performance and Accountability Report (<http://www.doi.gov/pfm/burrept.html>).

**6. Metadata Status: Is metadata discoverable and served through the NSDI Clearinghouse? What percentage of this theme's data has metadata and is in a Clearinghouse node?**

The Biological Profile of the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata is used in the NSDI Clearinghouse.

**7. Standards: What is the status of this theme's data, process, transfer, and classification standards?**

Biological Profile of the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata, FGDC-SDT- 001.1-1999 is complete and is included in the ongoing ISO standards process. Work continues on the development of a Biological Nomenclature and Taxonomy Data Standard.

**8. Progress: List FY 2004 activities/progress to date (quantify where possible).**

Work to adjudicate differences in the candidate data models for the proposed Biological Nomenclature and Taxonomy Data Standard and consensus building continue. All information relevant to the activities of the FGDC Biological Data Working Group are maintained on its website <http://biology.usgs.gov/fgdc.bio/index.html>.

**9. Participation: List participating Federal agencies.**

**10. Planned Activities: What are your planned activities for FY05?**

(See #'s 7 and 8, above.).

**11. Policy: Do you have a formal agency policy in place for full and open access or data sharing? Are you able to fulfill this policy and provide public access with your current agency financial resources as allocated or are you in pursuit of collaborative federal partnerships to support data access?**

Please note answers to #'s 6, 11, and 14 in Part A, USGS Bureau-Level Response.

**12. Are there areas or issues regarding lead responsibilities for spatial data themes that require attention, or lessons-learned that you would like to share with others? Please describe.**

None.