

Geospatial Modernization Blueprint Update

February 2007

Overview

The Geospatial Modernization Blueprint is being created through a planning process that defines how geospatial data and technology will be used to enhance the business activities of the Department of the Interior (DOI) in support of its mission and goals. All the DOI bureaus are participating in this process to ensure that their missions and goals will also be supported.

Why is a Blueprint needed?

The Geospatial Blueprint describes a recommended path to a target future state and milestones for measuring performance. It meets DOI strategic, business and technical requirements by improving cost management, business practices, investment planning and decision making.

Geospatial data and technology are strategic, national assets involving major investments. While geospatial capabilities have been implemented across all bureaus of DOI, these capabilities have not been documented and implemented in systematic ways, leading to breaks in potential interoperability and lost potential for cost savings.

The Federal and DOI Enterprise Architectures are the overarching guides for the Blueprint the process. The Geospatial Blueprint is harmonized with the OMB Geospatial Line of Business and the Geospatial Enterprise Architecture profile. All efforts are guided by the same principles: compliance with national policies and with all relevant national and international standards; business driven, not technology driven with emphasis on common solutions.

Blueprint Status

Expert planning and skilled implementation of the recommended strategies will maximize DOI's return

on investment in geospatial data, information and services. Providing nationally consistent authoritative data will greatly improve internal processes across all bureaus. Stakeholder surveys show that DOI bureaus are unanimous in support of the proposed investments.

Federal agencies and their data-sharing partners believe that opportunities for increasing internal effectiveness and efficiency while optimizing and creating new uses of geospatial resources for the Nation and its citizens can be achieved by architecting and investing in geospatial information and services in a well governed, coordinated and purposeful way.

These investments will be managed and delivered through trustworthy providers (commercial or federal) and create a common environment where:

- high quality and timely geospatial data and services are easy to find and use
- new sectors of government, the public and communities of interest will realize the benefits of national geospatial assets
- common mission business resource needs are quickly identified in the budget planning life-cycle to identify shared opportunities,
- long term geo-information access, delivery costs and efforts will be reduced.
- manual business processes will be facilitated and automated business processes improved,
- legacy application and system developments can be simplified or modernized.
- ongoing and future development activities will be less risky and costly,
- geospatial related investments and costs will be managed and accountable.

Short Term Recommendations

The Geospatial Blueprint team has almost completed the process and has identified these near term investments and improvement opportunities for:

- National Integrated Lands Systems: In accordance with A-16, establishment of service level agreements with BLM's National Integrated Land System (NILS) as the department-wide land management application.
- Enterprise Requirements Management Planning: Conduct a pilot project to align annual planning cycles with department wide requirements collection and analysis saves data acquisition costs and optimizes resource utilization.
- Designate Authoritative Data Sources and Authoritative Services (ADS): Conduct a pilot for geospatial data sets for land ownership and cadastre, Work through a prioritized list to ensure availability of robust, standards-based geospatial data sets and geospatial services that meet the business needs of Interior.
- Establish data management life cycle policy and practices: This recommendation deals with the need for standard business policies, processes and services for data. These policies will be needed to ensure the creation of the Authoritative Data Sources and Services as well as the implementation of other recommendations.
- Enterprise Licensing Agreements:
 Development of new enterprise license agreements or consortia for geospatial software and geospatial data sources.
- Establish Program Management Office (PMO): This office would be the main contact for coordination of enterprise contracts, service level agreements for data and services and other DOI wide geospatial functions.
- Governance: Establishment of an improved geospatial governance structure to develop and manage policy, blueprint implementation, data, infrastructure and services life cycle and investment portfolio.

The Geospatial Blueprint Team

The Geospatial Modernization Blueprint is supported by Colleen Coggins, Chief Architect, DOI, and is sponsored by Karen Siderelis, National Geospatial Program Office (NGPO), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). NGPO Project Managers are Leslie Armstrong and Bob Pierce.

Core Team: NGPO has assembled a Core Team of executives to represent DOI business and programs, existing investments, E-government and management accountability:

- Tom Weimer DOI Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
- Mark Limbaugh DOI Assistant Secretary for Water and Science
- Tim Petty DOI Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science
- Linda Gundersen USGS Acting Associate Director for Geology, E-Gov representative
- Leslie Cone BLM NILS Project Manager
- Mike Howell USFWS CIO
- Billie Clarke OSM, Chief National Technology Innovation and Professional Services
- Mike Gabaldon BOR, Director of Technical Resources
- Sue Hawkins NPS, Deputy CIO, Information Systems
- Bob Brown, MMS,CIO
- Debbie Clark, BIA, Deputy Assistant Secretary (Management)

The executive and business sponsorship will be required to review and approve critical work products generated by the project. The executives will act as the project's governance board and be referred to as the Geospatial Modernization Blueprint Core Team (CMBT). The CMBT is assisted by Subject Matter Experts known as the Enterprise Geographic Information Management Team (EGIM) as well as technical advisors and contractor support:

Subject Matter Experts/EGIM Team

BIA - Beth Wenstrom
BLM - Bob Bewley
BLM - George Heine
BOR - Lorri Peltz-Lewis
BOR - Bruce Whitesell
OSM - Rob Welsh
OSM - Alan Wilhelm
FWS - Deb Green
FWS - Gary Krauss
MMS - Leonard Coats
NPS - Dave Duran
NPS - Joe Gregson
USGS - Jennifer Sieverling
USGS - Jacque Fahsholtz

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