

## **Bios for FGDC Virtual Forum Event Participants:**



### **Karen Siderelis**

Department of the Interior

Karen Siderelis is the first Geospatial Information Officer for the Department of the Interior, responsible for creating agency strategies to provide innovative geo-enabled information management solutions. Ms. Siderelis is also the Acting Chair for the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC). She contributes her comprehensive expertise and leadership to National geospatial policy issues, strategies, and solutions development and implementation by facilitating best practices adoption in her key liaison role between OMB and the member agencies of the FGDC.

She previously served as Associate Director for Geospatial Information and Chief Information Officer for the U.S. Geological Survey, and served as vice chair of the Mapping Science Committee of the National Academy of Sciences, as well as the president and director of the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis. Siderelis, who received the Interior Secretary's Executive Leadership Award in 2005, Ms. Siderelis has a master's degree in park management and a bachelor's degree in education from the University in Georgia.

**William LeFurgy**  
Library of Congress



Bill LeFurgy is Digital Initiatives Project Manager with the Library of Congress, Office of Strategic Initiatives. He works with a broad range of stakeholders in the public and private sectors with a core interest in preserving essential digital assets. This work is part of the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program, a Congressionally mandated effort to develop a national approach to ensuring the long-term availability of significant digital data.

Bill is responsible for the Preserving State Government Information initiative, which features four projects working with 35 state archives and libraries to capture and make available a rich variety of government digital resources. The initiative is also focused on developing tools, services, and practices to help all states manage their digital heritage.

He is also leading a Library of Congress initiative to frame a national strategy for preserving and providing access to geospatial data. The initiative got underway in November 2009 with a meeting of 40 stakeholders from federal organizations (such as EPA, NOAA, and FGDC), state organizations (such as NSGIC and the North Carolina Center for Geographic Information and Analysis), and other interested parties. The Library is reviewing information from the meeting to determine how best to move ahead in developing stewardship models and expanding outreach activities.

Prior to joining LC in 2002, Bill served in a number of roles relating to federal electronic records management at the National Archives and Records Administration. Earlier in his career he served as the Baltimore City Archivist.

**Jerry Johnston**

US Environmental Protection Agency



Mr Johnston is Geospatial Information Officer at the US Environmental Protection Agency. In this role, Dr. Johnston leads EPA's efforts to coordinate and implement geospatial technology across the Agency to meet a wide range of mission goals. This includes providing a vision for geospatial interoperability throughout the EPA enterprise, as well as guidance and perspective on opportunities for adopting place-based approaches more broadly across Agency lines of business. Dr. Johnston joined EPA in 2005, initially working on applying geospatial approaches to ecological risk assessment for the Office of Pesticide Programs.

Prior to his work at EPA, he served as the Director of Midwest Technical Operations for Image Matters LLC of Leesburg, VA, a small business focused on the development of geospatial semantics and interoperability solutions for a diverse set of customers. Additionally, Dr. Johnston was previously Executive Vice President of Pangaea Information Technologies of Chicago, IL, a provider of geospatial information management products and services to both public and private sector clients. Dr. Johnston holds a B.S. in Environmental Science from Michigan State University as well as M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Environmental Science from Indiana University, Bloomington, and is a member of the National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC).

**Ivan B. DeLoatch**  
US Geological Survey



Mr. Ivan B. DeLoatch serves as the Executive Director for the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Secretariat, which supports the FGDC and its responsibilities. The FGDC is a Federal interagency committee that promotes the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of geospatial data on a national basis. The FGDC has 32 member agencies, including the Executive Office of the President, Cabinet level and independent Federal agencies. The Secretary of the Interior chairs the FGDC and the Deputy Director for Management of the President's Office of Management and Budget serves as Vice-Chair. Numerous stakeholder organizations participate in FGDC activities, representing the interests of state and local government, tribes, industry, and professional organizations. Mr. DeLoatch has over thirty years of experience in environmental and geospatial program policy serving at the Department of the Interior (USGS) and the Environmental Protection Agency.

He has also served in many leadership roles on interagency and international committees addressing geospatial and earth observation technical and policy issues in the use and coordination of geospatial data and information. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Bowie State University in the University of Maryland System.

**Stephen Lowe**

US Department of Agriculture



Stephen Lowe is the US Department of Agriculture Geospatial Information Officer. As the senior executive leader for enterprise-wide geospatial data and geographic information systems innovation, strategy and architecture, he is responsible for extending the power of geospatial solutions to diverse sets of stakeholders. His work increases agriculture mission operations capacity to solve complex public policy and governance problems through a place-based business model. Mr. Lowe is a executive member of the Federal Geographic Committee (FGDC), and participates on the Whitehouse broadband, innovation, and capital investment transformation workgroup initiatives

Mr. Lowe has 20 years of federal government business and technology change management experience, which includes two details with OMB. He also served as Senior Solutions Architect for Enterprise Innovation and Strategy with SRA International. Mr. Lowe holds graduate degrees in the Management of Information Technology from University of Virginia, and in Public Administration from Virginia Tech, as well as the bachelor of Political Science from James Madison University. He is a Ph.D. candidate at University of Glasgow, Scotland UK, researching strategic change and use of innovation and improvisation as organization development tools.