The National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) held a public meeting from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on August 26, 2009 and from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on August 27, 2009. The meeting was held at the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in Shepherdstown, WV.

In accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the meeting was open to the public.

NGAC Members present:
Anne Hale Miglarese (NGAC Chair)
Steven Wallach (NGAC Vice-Chair)
Sean Ahearn
Michael Byrne
Richard Clark
David Cowen
Donald Dittmar
Dennis Goreham
Kass Green
Randy Johnson
Randall Johnson
Jerry Johnston
Barney Krucoff
Timothy Loewenstein
David Maune
Charles Mondello
Zsolt Nagy
Kim Nelson
John Palatiello
Jay Parrish
Mike Ritchie
Eugene Schiller
David Schell
Chris Tucker

Ivan DeLoatch, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the NGAC, and Karen Siderelis, acting Chair of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), were also in attendance.

NGAC Members not present:
Timothy Bull Bennett
Allen Carroll
Jack Dangermond
Matthew O'Connell

Other attendees:
Jim Bjostad (NGA), Bill Burgess (NSGIC), Pat Cummens (ESRI), Mark DeMulder (USGS), Francis Derby (ACSM), Randy Fusaro (Census Bureau), Michelle Gallinger (Library of Congress), Tricia Gibbons (LEAD Alliance), Shirley Hall (USDA), Steve Jackson (NGA), Russ Kauffman (NJ SPLS), Dennis Klein (Boundary Solutions), Roxanne Lamb (FGDC), Mike Lee (USGS), Stephen
TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

Call to Order & Welcome
NGAC Chair Anne Hale Miglarese called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m., welcomed the committee members and audience to the meeting, and summarized the meeting agenda. Ms. Miglarese noted that an opportunity for public comment would be provided during the morning of August 27th. Public observers were introduced to the Committee.

Review and Adoption of May 2009 Meeting Minutes
Ms. Miglarese reviewed the draft minutes from the May 12-13, 2009 NGAC meeting and called for approval.

DECISION: The NGAC adopted the minutes of the May 2009 NGAC meeting.

FGDC Briefing
Ivan DeLoatch, Executive Director of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), provided a summary of recent FGDC activities and initiatives. He discussed several topics, including SmartBuy, the Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP), the FGDC Annual Report, the Geospatial Line of Business (LoB), a recent meeting with the Mapping Sciences Committee of the National Research Council, the Administration's Place-Based policy initiative, and organizational updates.

SmartBuy
The Technical Evaluation Board final vendor selection process for the Geospatial SmartBuy contract has been completed. An announcement will be issued in the near future.

CAP Program
The CAP Categories for FY 2010 are being finalized. The final draft of the CAP announcement is pending final review and release from the USGS Office of Acquisitions and Grants. The target date for announcement of CAP awards is February 2010. Funding will continue at 2009 levels. Additional information about the CAP program is available at: www.fgdc.gov/grants.

FGDC Annual Report
The feature story in the FY 2009 FGDC Annual Report will be “The Mortgage Crisis and Land Parcel Data.” The target date for completing the report is November 1, 2009.

ACTION: FGDC will include a summary of NGAC activities in the FGDC FY 2009 Annual Report.

Geospatial Line of Business (LoB)
OMB issued a request to LoB lead agencies for the status, plans, and projected funding levels for LoB initiatives for FY 2011. The FGDC developed a proposal and the Steering Committee voted to continue LoB activities through FY 2011. The FGDC will focus work group activities on key areas, including Common Services, Geo-Enabled Business, and Lifecycle Management. A dashboard metrics approach is also being explored by the Geospatial LoB, building upon the Federal IT dashboard currently being used to track IT investments within the federal sector.

Mapping Science Committee Meeting
The Mapping Science Committee of National Research Council met on August 6, 2009. The meeting focused in part on the future of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). Ivan
DeLoatch made a presentation on FGDC activities and activities related to the NSDI, and Bill Burgess from NSGIC also made a presentation on the value of the NSDI. Mr. DeLoatch indicated that FGDC would invite Dr. Keith Clarke, the Chair of the Mapping Science Committee, to attend the December meeting of the NGAC to engage in a dialogue with the committee.

**Place-Based Policy and Programs**

On August 11, the Executive Office of the President issued Memorandum M-09-28, “Developing Effective Place-Based Policies for the FY 2011 Budget.” Mr. DeLoatch indicated that ongoing discussions with Administration officials were taking place to better understand the scope and objectives of the initiative and to offer FGDC and geospatial community support.

**ACTION:** FGDC will work with OMB and other executive offices to identify opportunities to support the Administration’s Place-Based Management initiative.

**Organizational Updates**

Mr. DeLoatch indicated that as of October 1, the FGDC Secretariat will be relocated to the Geography discipline within USGS.

**NGAC Appointments Update**

John Mahoney provided an update on the review process for the next round of NGAC appointments. Approximately one-half of the current appointments to the NGAC will expire in January 2010. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar issued a call for nominations for NGAC appointments on July 6, 2009. Nominations were due by August 21. Mr. Mahoney indicated that the call for nominations generated a strong response, with over 50 nominations received. The nominations will be evaluated by an interagency review panel using common criteria. The panel will provide recommendations on appointments to the Office of the Secretary of the Interior. The final decisions on appointments will be made by the Secretary. FGDC anticipates that the decisions on appointment will be finalized by the end of December 2009. In addition, the NGAC charter must be updated every two years. The current charter will be updated by January 2010. FGDC expects only minor changes to the charter.

**FGDC Cadastral Subcommittee Land Parcel Data Update**

John Mahoney provided a brief update on the recent activities of the FGDC Cadastral Subcommittee. The Cadastral Subcommittee hosted a Land Parcel Data Stakeholders meeting on May 7th, which included over 50 participants. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the potential uses of land parcel data for more effective management of mortgage and financial oversight programs and activities, seek input and feedback from key stakeholders, and demonstrate tools and capabilities. The key recommendations resulting from the meeting were as follows:

1. Add the local Parcel ID to Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data
   - The Federal Reserve is moving toward adding the parcel number to the HMDA

2. Develop a Parcel Early Warning System
   - Early Warning Level
   - Triage Monitoring Level
   - Response Level

3. Complete the standardization and availability of parcel data nationwide

Dave Cowen and John Palatiello also provided information on other recent parcel data activities, including issuance of a Congressional Research Service report on “Issues Regarding a National Land Parcel Database” and a briefing for Congressional staff on parcel data issues.
ACTION: The FGDC Cadastral Subcommittee will coordinate with the Federal Reserve to determine if there is authority under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act to collect parcel-level data.

Imagery for the Nation Update
Karen Siderelis, Geographic Information Officer for the Department of the Interior and Acting Chair of the FGDC, provided an update on recent Imagery for the Nation (IFTN) activities. On August 20, the FGDC Executive Committee unanimously approved a Record of Decision (ROD) for the IFTN initiative. The purpose of the ROD is to document interagency agreements and decisions on key elements of the IFTN initiative. The ROD includes sections on Technical Program Design, Governance, Funding, Contracting, and Data Hosting and Archiving. Copies of the ROD were distributed to the NGAC members. The ROD is posted on the FGDC website at: www.fgdc.gov/iftn/IFTN-rod-excom-endorsed-08202009.pdf

Ms. Siderelis noted that the ROD is an important milestone for the progress of IFTN. She indicated that next steps include continuing communications with stakeholders (internal and external), refinement of a prioritization framework by the Technical Plan Work Group, and revision of the draft executive summary for review.

ACTION: FGDC will provide a summary of how NGAC’s comments on Imagery for the Nation (IFTN) have been addressed in the IFTN Record of Decision.

Recovery.gov and Data.gov Update
Ken Shaffer, Deputy Executive Director of the FGDC, provided an update on recent FGDC activities related to Recovery.gov and Data.gov. FGDC organized a GeoRecovery.gov Team to support the development of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) website, Recovery.gov. The GeoRecovery.gov Team was initially organized to support OMB/GSA, and has now transitioned to support the Recovery Act Transparency Board (RATB), which has assumed responsibility for the website. Team members include FGDC member agency representatives and contractors. The GeoRecovery.gov Team has supported Recovery.gov by providing geo-enabling guidance to Recovery.gov developers (use cases), providing support through the FGDC representative on the development team, and providing subject matter expertise in use-case development, application testing, and services identification. The Team is working with RATB’s new Recovery.gov geospatial contractor, Smartronix, to provide information on available federal data services and to identify federal experts to participate in Beta testing.

The purpose of Data.gov is to “increase public access to high value, machine readable datasets generated by the Executive Branch of the Federal Government.” As of August 2009, over 400 datasets were available on Data.gov. The Federal geospatial community has been actively involved in supporting Data.gov and has populated the site with a significant number of geospatial datasets.

Summary of Recent FGDC Executive Committee Meetings/Dialogue with OMB
Ivan DeLoatch, Karen Siderelis, and Anne Miglarese provided a brief summary of recent FGDC Executive Committee meetings and other discussions with OMB officials.

Overview of the House Natural Resources Committee Oversight Hearing on Federal Geospatial Data Management
Karen Siderelis, Mike Byrne, and John Palatiello provided a report on their testimony at the July 23, 2009 hearing of the House Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources on "Federal Geospatial Data Management." Ms. Siderelis noted that there was substantial interest and knowledge of geospatial policy issues from legislative policymakers and their staff. Mr. Byrne also noted that the committee staff was very well-prepared and knowledgeable. Mr. Palatiello provided background information on the reasons for the hearing and possible follow-up actions from the Subcommittee. He noted that one expected outcome of the hearing would be a letter from the Subcommittee to the Recovery Board regarding possible duplicative data acquisition.
National Geospatial Policy and Strategy
Anne Miglarese led a discussion about the development of a new National Geospatial Policy. Ms. Miglarese and Tricia Gibbons provided a summary of a poll of NGAC members seeking information on priorities and approaches related to a new National Geospatial Policy. The results of the poll are posted at: (http://www.fgdc.gov/ngac/meetings/august-2009/index_html) under “National Geospatial Policy/Strategy – NGAC Survey Results.”

Based in part upon the results of the poll, the FGDC Executive Committee developed a guidance letter to the NGAC on the roles and expectations for NGAC support related to the development of a National Geospatial Policy and Strategy. Copies of the letter were distributed to the NGAC members. Members of the FGDC Executive Committee led a discussion summarizing the different components of the guidance, including:

- Benefits of a National Geospatial Policy
- Governance and Management
- National Geospatial Forum
- Cloud Computing

Governance Subcommittee Update
Members of the NGAC Governance Subcommittee — Dennis Goreham, David Schell, Chris Tucker, and John Palatiello — provided an update on recent Subcommittee activities. The Subcommittee developed a draft paper describing an approach for a system of metrics to gauge the development and implementation of the NSDI. The draft paper includes several categories of measurement, including societal metrics, NSDI environment statistics, data metrics, technology metrics, and organizational/governance metrics. The Subcommittee asked for comments on the draft paper from the rest of the NGAC and from the FGDC Executive Committee.

ACTIONS:
- NGAC members will send comments on the draft metrics paper to the Governance Subcommittee by September 4.
- The FGDC Executive Committee will review the draft metrics paper, provide comments, and hold a conference call with the Governance Subcommittee to discuss the paper.
- The Governance Subcommittee will revise the metrics paper prior to the December NGAC meeting.

Planning for a National Geospatial Forum
Roxanne Lamb of the FGDC provided a presentation on the planning process for holding a National Geospatial Forum. Ms. Lamb recognized members of the FGDC planning committee, including Stephen Lowe, Roxanne Lamb, Arista Maher, and John Mahoney. Ms. Lamb stated that the Committee’s initial vision for the forum is to engage the geospatial community of practice in meaningful dialogue about the direction and goals regarding major geospatial issues, including policy, technology, and data/information. Ms. Lamb noted that the discussion will leverage Web 2.0 resources to make the meeting more accessible. The discussion format will likely include video presentations and online discussion. NGAC members expressed some concern about successfully organizing a widely-attended public conference in the November/December timeframe. They also suggested focusing the content of the forum on a specific topic area, such as the Administration’s Place-Based policy initiative. The FGDC representatives indicated that the planning committee would revise the plans for the forum to address the feedback and report back to the NGAC.

Kass Green updated the NGAC on the role of the NGAC Communications Subcommittee in providing input on the Forum. The group also discussed communications tools that could be used to market and implement the National Geospatial Forum.
ACTIONS:
- The FGDC Executive Committee will review feedback from the NGAC, refine the plans for the Forum, and provide an updated plan/schedule to NGAC.
- FGDC will narrow the focus of the Forum and examine opportunities to align with the Place-Based Management initiative
- NGAC Communications Subcommittee will support the Executive Committee in planning/organizing the Forum

Adjournment for Day 1
The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

Welcome, Summary of Day 1, Overview of Agenda
The Chair convened the second day of the meeting at 8:30 a.m., reviewed the previous day’s activities, and provided an overview of the agenda for the day.

Partnerships Subcommittee Report and Discussion
Gene Schiller and Jerry Johnston provided a report on the recent activities of the NGAC Partnerships Subcommittee. At the May NGAC meeting, the committee agreed to continue providing feedback to Partnership Subcommittee’s Call for References. Over 60 case study examples of partnerships that have been submitted, and are now indexed on the NGAC wiki site. The Subcommittee has identified an initial set of success factors for geospatial partnerships, including:
- Leveraged financing
- Intergovernmental collaborations – everyone in partnership shares information
- Private sector provides services through contracts
- Establishment of favorable legislative, regulatory, and executive policy and procedure framework for creative partnership investments
- Implementation of an integrated contractual framework to allocate risks among the partners, public and private in an equitable manner
- Active engagement with political, staff and community stakeholders

The Subcommittee identified several next steps in preparation for the December NGAC meeting, including the following:
- Discuss legal framework enabling or limiting partnerships between and among federal agencies, state, regional, tribal and local governments, and the private and non-profit sectors with the objective for NGAC to:
- Identify potential recommendations for federal statutory, regulatory and executive policy and procedure changes to facilitate partnership options including non-traditional financing within the Federal Government
- Identify model or recommended federal, state, tribal and local (ordinances) statutory, regulatory and executive policy and procedure changes to facilitate partnership options including non-traditional funding and service delivery

The NGAC also discussed a hypothetical partnership-focused paper developed by Barney Krucoff, titled: “A Public-Private Utility is the Most Efficient Way for the United States to Build and Maintain a National Parcel Map.”

ACTION: Members will send additional partnership examples and best-practice ideas to the Partnerships Subcommittee.
ACTION: FGDC will provide link to DOI Partnership Legal Framework Analysis to NGAC members.

Geospatial Policy and Strategy/IFTN Record of Decision – Follow-Up from Day 1
The committee reviewed the geospatial policy and strategy items discussed on Day 1 of the meeting. To address the FGDC Executive Committee’s guidance to the NGAC, the group agreed on the following actions:

Benefits
ACTION: Zsolt Nagy, Dennis Goreham, and Barney Krucoff will review NGAC documents and other materials and develop a brief summary of the benefits of developing a National Geospatial Policy.

Governance/Metrics
ACTIONS:
- NGAC members will send comments on the draft metrics paper to the Governance Subcommittee by September 4.
- The FGDC Executive Committee will review the draft metrics paper, provide comments, and hold a conference call with the Governance Subcommittee to discuss the paper.
- The Governance Subcommittee will revise the metrics paper prior to the December NGAC meeting.

National Geospatial Forum
ACTIONS:
- The FGDC Executive Committee will review feedback from the NGAC, refine the plans for the Forum, and provide an updated plan/schedule to NGAC.
- FGDC will narrow the focus of the Forum and examine opportunities to align with the Place-Based Management initiative
- NGAC Communications Subcommittee will support the Executive Committee in planning/organizing the Forum

Emerging Technologies
ACTION:
NGAC established a new Subcommittee to address emerging technologies, including cloud computing. Several members volunteered, including Kim Nelson, Chris Tucker, Anne Miglarese, Jack Dangermond, Mike Byrne, Tim Loewenstein, Sean Ahearn, and Gene Schiller. Stephen Lowe of USDA will serve as the FGDC ExCom liaison to the Subcommittee.

Imagery for the Nation – Record of Decision
The Chair introduced a draft resolution offering the NGAC’s endorsement of the IFTN Record of Decision. The following amendment to the resolution was proposed by John Palatiello: “The NGAC also requests that a legal analysis of the NAIP contracting strategy be produced or released.” This amendment was not approved by the NGAC. The NGAC then voted to approve the resolution endorsing the IFTN ROD.

DECISION: The NGAC approved the following resolution:

“The National Geospatial Advisory Committee endorses the outcomes documented in the August 2009 FGDC Executive Committee Record of Decision (ROD) on Imagery for the Nation (IFTN). The NGAC strongly encourages the FGDC and the Administration to seek authorizing legislation for IFTN, develop a Fiscal Year 2011 budget initiative to support IFTN, and move aggressively to implement the IFTN program as described in the ROD.”
**ACTION:** Steve Lowe, USDA FGDC Executive Committee member, will contact USDA’s Office of General Counsel (OGC) to determine whether OGC’s legal opinion on NAIP contracting can be released.

**Public Comment Period**
The following input was provided during the public comment period:

**Dennis Klein – Boundary Solutions, Inc.**
Mr. Klein provided comments on open records policy related to County parcel data. Mr. Klein advocates that open records should be instituted as a national policy.

**Tim Trainor – U.S. Census Bureau**
Mr. Trainor thanked the committee members for their service and their work on FGDC issues. He provided historical perspective on the organization of federal geospatial coordination activities, and he provided perspectives on the Census Bureau’s approach to managing FACA committees. Mr. Trainor suggested that the NGAC should focus on providing advice, rather than identifying specific solutions. He also suggested that the NGAC should focus primarily on data issues. Mr. Trainor observed that if data issues can be successfully addressed, then governance and management problems will become much more manageable.

**Subcommittee Reports/Updates**

**Economic Recovery Subcommittee**
Kim Nelson provided an update on the work of the Economic Recovery-Lessons Learned Subcommittee. The team was established to document lessons learned from the drafting/passage of the American Recovery and Rehabilitation (ARRA) and to develop suggestions as to how the geospatial community could be better prepared in the future to articulate the value of geospatial information. The team developed a draft paper which Ms. Nelson summarized for the NGAC. The paper identified several initial lessons learned, including the following:

- Short timeframe for position development
- No common vision for multiple groups to rally around
- Disparate groups focused on disparate parts rather than focusing on national program
- Few authorize programs for Congress to quickly attach funding
- Too much focus on data rather than apps means it is difficult to articulate priorities
- Metrics do not exist for measuring need in priority areas

Initial draft recommendations included the following:

- Eliminate zero-sum mentality
- Support currently-authorized programs
- Support tactical steps while National Geospatial Policy is under development
- Build common ground around a national geospatial base map

The Subcommittee requested NGAC member feedback on the draft paper. The goal is to finalize and adopt the paper at the December NGAC meeting.

**ACTION:** FGDC will provide copy of Western Governors Association resolution on GIS

**ACTION:** NGAC members provide any comments on draft Lessons Learned/Recommendations paper to Kim Nelson

**The National Map Subcommittee**
Steve Wallach provided a brief overview of the recent activities of The National Map (TNM) Subcommittee. Mark DeMulder (USGS) and Larry Sugarbaker (USGS) provided updates on TNM program and planning activities.
Mr. Wallach provided an overview of a white paper on the TNM program prepared by the USGS as a follow-up to previous NGAC TNM subcommittee meetings. The white paper provides a summary of the current state of the TNM program and a snapshot of the current status of USGS datasets.

Mr. DeMulder provided a summary of recent TNM program activities, including dataset activities (hydrographic, elevation, imagery, transportation, geographic names), implementation of a new National Map Viewer, scanning of historic USGS quadrangles, and development of the next generation of USGS topographic maps. As of August 2009, over 7,000 maps were available for download through the on-line USGS Store (available as free GeoPDF downloads).

Mr. Sugarbaker provided an overview of plans for the strategic planning process for the National Geospatial Program, including The National Map. The planning process will build upon recent customer survey information collected by USGS. The planning process will involve several iterations of a draft strategic draft plan over the next 15 months, with a target completion date of September 2010. The NGAC TNM Subcommittee will be a key resource during the development of the plan, and USGS and the Subcommittee will report back to the full NGAC on a regular basis during the development of the plan.

**ACTION:** The TNM Subcommittee will take the lead role for NGAC in participating in the development of the new strategic plan for The National Map.

**Communications Subcommittee Update**

Kass Green provided an update on recent activities of the Communications Subcommittee and highlighted several recent and upcoming communication opportunities, including the following:

- The NGAC Changing Landscapes paper was published in *PE&RS* in July
- A successful NGAC Town Hall session was held at the ESRI conference in August
- Michael Byrne will work with FGDC to revise his Op-Ed piece to focus on the Place-Based Management initiative.
- Several NGAC members have given recent presentations that focus, in part, on the activities of the NGAC. For example, Dave Cowen has given several recent presentations.
- Dave Maune offered to help organize an NGAC Town Hall meeting at the November ASPRS/MAPPS conference.

**ACTION:** Schedule Subcommittee meeting to plan NGAC Town Hall session at November 16-19 ASPRS/MAPPS Conference in San Antonio.

**ACTION:** Communications Subcommittee will revise draft Op-Ed article to focus on Place-Based Management initiative. Karen Siderelis will coordinate with DOI Office of the Secretary.

**News and Notes Forum**

Zsolt Nagy and Michelle Gallinger (Library of Congress) provided an overview of the GeoMAPP program, which is a collaborative effort involving the Library of Congress (LOC) and the States of Kentucky, North Carolina, and Utah. The goal of the partnership is to collaborate on strategies to promote the preservation of geospatial content. The project is funded by the LOC’s National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program. Mr. Nagy and Ms. Gallinger provided information on the history and objectives of the program and encouraged NGAC members and state governments to support and participate in the program.
Next Meeting
The next NGAC meeting is scheduled for December 1-2, 2009 at the Metro Center Marriott in Washington, D.C. Potential agenda topics include the following:

- Partnerships
- Subcommittee Reports
- Revised NSDI Metrics Paper
- NTIA Broadband Mapping
- Dialogue with NRC Mapping Science Committee
- Geospatial Revolution project

Additional Topics:
- Briefing on Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA) Geospatial Profile
- Briefing from Mapping Science Committee on Licensing Study

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Certification
I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

Anne Hale Miglarese, Chair, National Geospatial Advisory Committee

Ivan DeLoatch, Designated Federal Officer, National Geospatial Advisory Committee

These minutes will be formally considered by the Committee at its next meeting, and any corrections or notations will be incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.

NOTE – These Minutes were approved by the NGAC on December 1, 2009
August 2009 NGAC Meeting
Summary of Presentations and Handouts

The following is a list of the presentations and handouts from the meeting. These meeting materials are posted along with the minutes at: http://www fgdc.gov/ngac/meetings/august-2009/index_.html

FGDC/NGAC Activities

- FGDC Update
- NGAC Appointments Update
- Land Parcel Data Update
- IFTN Update
- Recovery.Gov/Data.Gov Update

National Geospatial Policy/Strategy

- National Geospatial Policy/Strategy – NGAC Survey Results
- FGDC Executive Committee Guidance
- FGDC Executive Committee Guidance Presentation

NGAC Governance Subcommittee

- Draft Subcommittee Paper on NSDI Metrics
- Subcommittee Presentation on NSDI Metrics

National Geospatial Forum

- National Geospatial Forum Update

Partnerships Subcommittee

- Partnerships Presentation
- Partnerships Case Study
- Public-Private Partnerships for Parcels

Economic Recovery Subcommittee

- Subcommittee Presentation
- Draft Lessons Learned-Recommendations Paper

The National Map Subcommittee

- TNM Paper
- TNM Presentation