GDA Reporting Requirements Discussion

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National Geospatial Advisory Committee Meeting
December 5, 2019
Session Objectives

• Provide an overview of GDA reporting requirements

• Discuss opportunities for joint NGAC-Federal Agency engagement

• Identify next steps, including a realistic assessment of NGAC resources available for GDA activities
Covered Agency (CA) WG Progress to Date

• Team formed in December 2018 to focus on GDA Section 759, “Covered Agency Responsibilities”
  • One of four Tiger Team WGs / IMPORTANT: reporting requirements are not limited to Section 759

• Six CA WG meetings between March 13 and May 29

• Work completed to date [next slides]
  • Developed list of questions and clarifications for OMB input
  • Analyzed CA requirements in Section 759A
  • Created initial concept for a Covered Agency Annual Reporting Template
## CA WG Work Product – Clarification Requests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>GDA Sections</th>
<th>GDA Text (or paraphrase)</th>
<th>Clarification Requested</th>
<th>Target to Ask</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>covered agency requirements</td>
<td>Some agencies have NGDAs and/or lead data Themes, but are not a covered agency. What are their responsibilities under the Covered Agency section?</td>
<td>OMB</td>
<td>A foundational element of the GDA is understanding the responsibilities for covered and non-covered agencies. There multiple agencies currently participating in the FGDC that are not considered as Cover Agencies under the GDA. Clearly defining responsibilities and best practices is important for the successful development the NSDI under the GDA.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>759A</td>
<td>can’t expend funds on data that don’t meet standards</td>
<td>Does this only speak to officially designated NGDAs? Also other datasets that broadly fit in a data Theme? Or <em>all</em> Federal geospatial data, regardless of whether it fits within a Theme or NGDA?</td>
<td>OMB</td>
<td>This requirement overlaps with the Standards WG. Recommendation that their two WG’s discuss a recommendation for review.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>759A</td>
<td>timing cadence for reporting</td>
<td>No time period is specified for the various reporting requirements</td>
<td>FGDC</td>
<td>Recommend a standard bi-annual report measure agency performance under GD requirements.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>“the term ‘geospatial data’….”</td>
<td>Require more guidance, hoping to limit the datasets that are subject to GDA requirements. This is a foundational issue that spans all working groups.</td>
<td>OMB</td>
<td>Data becomes geospatial data when it ent a coordinate reference system that leverag the geospatial aspect of the dataset.</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>GDA Requirement</td>
<td>Deliverable Definition</td>
<td>Initial Timing</td>
<td>Update Timeline</td>
<td>Dependencies</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Prepare and implement a strategy for advancing geospatial data activities</td>
<td>Agency Geospatial Strategic Plan [or part of overall department data strategy]</td>
<td>TBD [get guidance from OMB as part of A-16 memo]</td>
<td>Possible every other year, in alternate years from other report</td>
<td>NSDI Strategic Plan</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Collect, maintain, disseminate, and preserve geospatial data such that resulting data, information, or products can be shared</td>
<td>BiAnnual Report, with a section for each of these requirements (templates, best practices, samples, pick lists with free text additions) - what is the scope for all of these, just NGDAs or all agency datasets?</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Annual update?</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Promote geospatial data integration</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Ensure that geospatial information is included on agency record schedules that have been approved by the National Archives and Records Administration.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Allocate resources to fulfill geospatial data responsibilities</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Use geospatial data standards</td>
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<td>Coordinate with other federal agencies, state, local, and tribal governments, institutions of higher education, and the private sector</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Make federal geospatial information more useful to the public, enhance operations, support decision making, and enhance reporting to the public and to Congress</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Protect personal privacy and maintain confidentiality in accordance with federal policy and law.</td>
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Source: FGDC.GOV - FEDERAL GEOGRAPHIC DATA COMMITTEE
Covered Agencies Annual Report Template

Draft 1.2, by Covered Agencies WG

Overview
As part of meeting the requirements under the Geospatial Data Act (GDA), covered agencies have responsibilities regardless of whether they lead an NGDA Theme or manage NGDA datasets. This report provides information on implementing actions outlined Section 759 of the GDA: Covered Agency Responsibilities.

759(a)(1) Geospatial Data Strategic Plan
<Agency> has published a strategic plan for managing its geospatial data assets, in support of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure strategic plan.

OR <Agency> has published a strategic plan for managing its data assets. Geospatial data strategy, in support of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure strategic plan, is addressed in <section number> of the overall data plan.

The agency plan was most recently updated on <date> and is available online <here>.
Recent Activities

- Reconvened CA WG in November
  - Confirmed membership and held two CA WG meetings
  - Held joint ‘GDA 101’ meeting with NGAC members
  - Convened meeting of FGDC Staff and Tiger Team WG leads

- Main Agreements
  - Strong interest in providing guidance/templates to agencies to support GDA implementation
    - Need to figure out how to organize the guidance
  - Need to identify FY20 ‘Top Ten’ list for GDA requirements
  - Desire to work with NGAC in alignment with NGAC member expertise and available resources
  - Really need to get moving!
Potential Topics for NGAC Discussion

• What are the defined requirements for NGAC in the GDA? Do we understand the resources it will require to complete?

• What are some ideas from the NGAC that could assist the Federal Agencies in complying with the GDA?

• How do we maximize the opportunities/impacts of the reporting requirements → make it more than a bureaucratic exercise [ROI, branding, impact stories, etc.]

• What are the priority GDA next steps for the NGAC?
Thank You

Questions?