

NGAC Data as Services Subcommittee Report

NGAC Meeting
June 26, 2018



Data As Services Subcommittee

- Task: Provide forward-looking advice and recommendations addressing current and future needs for data as services from Federal data repositories that provide online data access (GeoPlatform, Data.gov, etc.). Include documentation of user needs and recommendations regarding formats and standardization for users to more effectively consume and incorporate Federal spatial datasets.
- Membership:
 - David Alexander (Chair), Sarah Battersby (Vice Chair), Stu Davis, Rebecca Somers, Jennie Stapp, Harvey Thorleifson, Jason Warzinik, May Yuan
 - Assistance from our special counsel, Kevin Pomfret

Deliverable (5 page-ish)

- Rough, rough draft presented at June meeting
- Subcommittee discussion on re-shaping, cleaning up, strengthening message
- Would like general feedback from NGAC on current direction, new areas to be emphasized, case studies or examples needed, etc.

Deliverable (5 page-ish) – re-shaped

Intro, background context, benefits, user profiles

New opportunities that DaaS provides

- Making data more accessible in more places (on phone, in the field, etc.)
 - Access in more places, to answer more questions, that helps us with....
- Driving data to decisions and actions
 - “Anticipatory” services, Answers as services, Enriched data services
 - Foundational for AI, ML, IOT, wearables, etc.
 - Opens new doors for considering
- Public-private partnership pathways
 - Federal government provides *data* as a service, and makes the opportunity for answers as a service, augmentation, etc.
 - Commercial sector, academia, non-profit, etc.
 - When we do this, we also introduce a new challenge...

Deliverable (5 page-ish) – re-shaped

New challenges specific to DaaS

- Licensing and legality

And we still haven't solved the earlier data access / delivery challenges

- DaaS not the silver bullet that has solved all of the problems we've had in the past
 - Discoverability and access
 - Authoritativeness, etc.
 - Need for leadership to drive success

Case studies

- Missouri emergency response (Jason)
- NOAA Big Data project (May)
- Montana SDI (Jennie)

And...

- Google Earth Engine??
- Esri?

Project Timeline

- a. Develop Outline - October - December 2017
 - i. Working Definition
- b. Draft Deliverable - January - April
- c. Draft Feedback - Engage subcommittees May -June
- d. Develop Final - July – August
- e. Final - September 2018

Goals

- a. Advise FGDC
- b. Inform Community Stakeholders



Discussion

What are the key challenges that *are specific* to DaaS?

What success stories do you know of? Models we can highlight for where DaaS are working well? Local? State? County? Private sector?

Thoughts on content from draft (recognizing that it is likely to be revamped significantly based on discussion in subcommittee & in larger NGAC group)