

NGAC

Cultural & Historical Geospatial Resources Subcommittee Report



NGAC Meeting Shepherdstown, WV
September 7, 2017

Subcommittee Background

Topic:

- The topic or focus area of the subcommittee will be to investigate and make recommendations to the FGDC and further to US federal government agencies on policies and procedures to protect geospatial data assets that have cultural and historical significance.

Problem statement or issue to address:

- There seems to be a lack of documented (or at least knowledge of) policies in place to address the protection of geospatial data assets that have cultural and historical significance. At a minimum, there is certainly no clear consistency concerning the management or protection of these types of geospatial data assets across federal agencies.

Membership: Gareth Couch (Chair), Frank Harjo (Vice Chair), Laxmi Ramasubramanian, Doug Richardson, Gar Clarke



Audience

- Land holding federal agencies and/or agencies holding cultural or historical geospatial datasets.



Current Tasks

- Draft a letter to target agencies jointly from the NGAC Cultural & Historical Geospatial Resources Subcommittee and the FGDC Cultural Resource Subcommittee identifying the scope of the initiative, the purpose of the forthcoming survey, and the expected recommended outcomes of this project.
- Prepare and administer survey to be delivered to target agencies.
- Developing a possible session during the March NGAC meeting with key respondents from the survey.
- Begin research for resources to be included in the deliverable documents.(possible candidate for student services).



Deliverables

- Best practices document
- Template policy with appendix of related sub-document examples
- Potentially decision tree / Infographic
- Likely more as work progresses..



Project Outline

- Between now and December:
 - Pull together relevant information and past survey documents/information with Deirdre and subcommittee
 - Formulate letter that will be sent out in conjunction with the subcommittee
 - Create survey with the help of the subcommittee
 - Discussion with NGAC/FGDC on a spotlight session for March/April meeting
- January - March:
 - Letter sent out in early January
 - Survey sent out in early February
 - Results analysis in March/April

