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Coordination Group Meeting

# Users/Historical Data Working Group Update to Coordination Group

Jacqueline Nolan  
Library of Congress  
Member, U/HDWG  
[jnol@loc.gov](mailto:jnol@loc.gov)

# Introduction

The Users/Historical Data Working Group (U/HDWG) promotes and coordinates activities among Federal agencies who are primarily users of, not generators of, geospatial data.

The U/HDWG promotes an awareness among Federal agencies of the historical dimension to geospatial data; facilitates the long-term retention, storage, preservation and accessibility of selected geospatial data; and works to establish mechanisms for the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of historically valuable geospatial data.



# Organizations

Participating Members include:

- ◆ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- ◆ Department of Homeland Security
- ◆ National Archives and Records Administration
- ◆ Library of Congress
- ◆ North Carolina Center for Geographic Information and Analysis
- ◆ North Carolina State University
- ◆ Center for International Earth Science Information Network, Columbia University
- ◆ Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA), Pennsylvania State University
- ◆ Tennessee Valley Authority
- ◆ Benjamin Harrison Society
- ◆ San Diego Supercomputer Center
- ◆ Western Illinois University
- ◆ USGS
- ◆ USDA



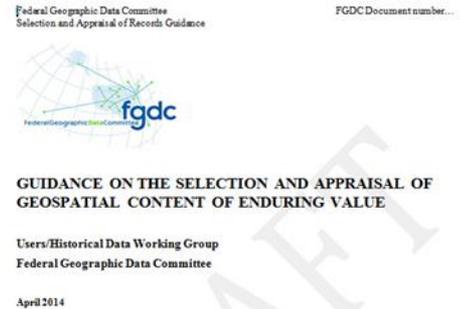
# Recent Discussions

- ◆ The U/HDWG meetings on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month.
- ◆ Topics discussed at recent meetings include:
  - Updates to the “Guidance on the Selection and Appraisal of Geospatial Content of Enduring Value” document
  - USGS Offline Archive Media Trade Study (<http://eros.usgs.gov/government/records/tools.php>)



# “Guidance on the Selection and Appraisal of Geospatial Content of Enduring Value” document

- ◆ The U/HDWG prepared this guidance document to help Federal agencies and data stewards define geospatial content of enduring value to the nation. This guidance suggests possible priority approaches on how resources might be allocated to support long-term preservation and access through appropriate Selection and Appraisal (S&A) processes in a challenging funding environment.
- ◆ While still under review, the document provides inputs to future FGDC lifecycle planning, including future iterations of the National Geospatial Data Asset Management strategy
- ◆ Butch Lazorchak, Chair U/HDWG, petitioned the CG for this document be considered for release as an official FGDC publication
- ◆ Copy at <http://www.fgdc.gov/participation/working-groups-subcommittees/hdwg/index.html>



## 5 Key Points from the “Guidance on the Selection and Appraisal of Geospatial Content of Enduring Value” document

- ◆ “Archiving” is a required step of the lifecycle of digital geospatial information
- ◆ Archiving is not something that happens only at the end of the lifecycle
- ◆ “Archiving” needs to be defined to make it clear that it includes proper management at each stage of the lifecycle to ensure long-term value
- ◆ There are common elements of geospatial appraisal and selection processes that can be optimized for different agencies and circumstances
- ◆ The current National Geospatial Data Asset portfolio efforts provide valuable support to long-term archiving efforts



# Exploration Topics for FY2015

- ◆ Continue Working Group outreach to all interested parties, both inside and outside the Federal Government
- ◆ Continue to provide input on the Geospatial Platform
- ◆ Continue to engage and assist with FGDC efforts to document data stewards and dataset managers as part of the National Geospatial Data Asset Management Plan
- ◆ Continue work to incorporate the “Guidance on the Selection and Appraisal of Geospatial Content of Enduring Value” document into future FGDC guidance
- ◆ Continue to provide coordinated input to the Geospatial Data Preservation Resource Center ([www.geopreservation.org](http://www.geopreservation.org))
- ◆ Explore the impacts and costs of government shutdowns on access to, and preservation of, historical data
- ◆ Continue work with the International Council for Science CODATA Task Group (<http://www.codata.org/>) on data at risk, identifying resources at risk and exploring early warning and rescue efforts



# Next Meeting

- ◆ The next meeting of the U/HDWG will be held on Thursday June 25th, 11am-12pm ET
- ◆ Contact Butch Lazorchak at [wlaz@loc.gov](mailto:wlaz@loc.gov) for webinar information
- ◆ Questions?

