

Cultural Resources Subcommittee Update to Coordination Group

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Introduction

The Mission/Purpose of the Cultural Resource Subcommittee is: to identify, prioritize, implement, coordinate and oversee the strategies and tasks required to support the national cultural resource data theme and to coordinate Federal, Tribal, state and local geospatial programs to that end.

Members include:

- ❖ Deidre McCarthy, National Park Service, Chair
- ❖ Deidre McCarthy, National Park Service, Theme Lead
- ❖ 20 Federal land holding agencies
- ❖ 10 State Historic Preservation Offices
- ❖ 10 Tribal governments, Tribal Historic Preservation Offices
- ❖ Membership has been updated since our last report (May 2016)

NGDA Data Themes and Data Sets

- ❖ The following data themes and data sets fall under the purview of the Cultural Resource Subcommittee:
 - Cultural resource data theme, National Park Service, theme lead: Deidre McCarthy
 - National Register of Historic Places data set, National Park Service, Matthew Stutts
 - National Map-Geographic Names Information System, USGS, Lou Yost

Recent Meetings

- ❖ The Cultural Resource Subcommittee met on 8 Nov. 2016, 31 Jan. 2017, 22 Mar. 2017 (webinar), 26 Apr. 2017 and will meet in July 2017 (webinar) The topics discussed at this meeting include:
 - Finalization of a draft of a set of feature level metadata fields that would compose the working draft of the proposed cultural resource spatial data exchange standard, and finalization of domain values for feature level metadata fields
 - Webinar sessions demonstrated the model GeoDatabase, test data and methods of data exchange

Some of the outcomes arising from this meeting include:

- Development of a draft GeoDatabase template to help organize the draft transfer standards, and a draft set of menu values for the associated fields
- Refinement of the draft GeoDatabase template following comments and testing of data exchange process from various states
- Agreement to begin drafting a guidance document to describe the working draft standard contents and purpose
- Development of test data exchange from 2 states and 3 Federal agencies

Recent Developments/Projects

- The Cultural Resource Theme Executive Champion, Stephanie Toothman retired in June 2017. The Subcommittee is pursuing identifying a new Executive Champion.
- The Subcommittee has committed to constructing a cultural resource spatial data transfer standard to facilitate sharing data between Federal agencies. Federal, State and Tribal agencies all maintain inventories of cultural resources and are heavily involved in the standard creation process in anticipation of using the FGDC standard created. The Subcommittee continues to work toward creating a draft standard in 2017, making significant progress in developing consensus on feature level metadata fields and working to finalize a structure for the draft standard. The Subcommittee expects to complete the working draft of the standard by the end of calendar year 2017.

Recent Developments/Projects, Cont'd.

- The Subcommittee continues to work with the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers to gain consensus on security of the data being exchanged. This resulted in the development of new collaboration with the NCSHPO technology committee, which continues to work with the Subcommittee.
- The Subcommittee is working toward identifying additional data sets that will fall within the cultural resource theme and identifying data set stewards for them. Two potential data sets have been identified and are being explored for inclusion in the theme: National Historic Landmarks, Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record/Historic American Landscapes Survey
- The theme lead and data set stewards continue to participate in the regular theme lead meetings, the most recent in June 2017.
- The data set stewards have completed the 2017 life-cycle maturity assessments requested and the theme lead completed the theme strategic plan, as well as the theme implementation plan. All are now available on GeoPlatform.

Coordination Group Vote

- ❖ No Coordination Group action is requested at this time

Next Meeting

- ❖ The next meeting of the Cultural Resource Subcommittee will be held in the third week of July (date TBD). It will take place via webinar.
- ❖ Some of the topics to be discussed at the next meeting include:
 - Discussion of the proposed domain values for the feature level metadata fields, focusing on security of the data being exchanged
 - Discussion of finalizing the working draft of the standard and completing documentation of a user guide

Next Steps

- ❖ In the coming months, the <Name of SC/WG> hopes to accomplish/discuss:
 - Finalize domain values for the feature level metadata fields and how to secure sensitive resource information during data exchange.
 - Finalize a working draft cultural resource spatial data transfer standard
 - Development of a guidance document to describe the standard elements and purpose
 - Continue to explore the possibility of adding more data sets to the Cultural Resource theme

Questions?

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