

Steering Committee Meeting

Friday, June 12, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ET



Virtual Meeting Using Microsoft Teams

Contents: Agenda (p1), Actions (p2), Minutes (p5), Attendance (p16)

AGENDA

10:00 – 10:10 Welcome & Introductions

Tim Petty, DOI, FGDC Chair; James Wolff, OMB, FGDC Vice Chair (representing)

- Introductions, review of meeting objectives
- Approval of Meeting Minutes (October 2019, March 2020)
- Update on A-16 Revision and Federal Data Strategy

10:10 – 10:25 NGAC Report

Mark Reichardt, NGAC Chair

- Report of June 9-10, 2020 meeting and activities update

Expected outcome: Awareness and engagement

10:25 – 11:15 Geospatial Data Act

- GDA Team/Agency Reporting Templates – Tony LaVoi, DOC
Expected Outcome: Status/Next Steps
- Planning and Proposal for the 2020 GDA Report to Congress – Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC
Expected Outcome: Update and approach concurrence, agency participation
- Development of NSDI Strategic Plan – Carrie Stokes, USAID
Expected Outcome: Consensus on approach and engagement

11:15 – 11:30 Geospatial Platform

Tod Dabolt, DOI, GP Managing Partner

- GeoPlatform/GDA Activities

Expected Outcome: Awareness and engagement

11:30 – 11:40 Federal Data Strategy FGDC Actions

Ken Shaffer, FGDC

- FGDC and Federal Data Oversight Bodies Engagement to Spatially Enable the Federal Data Enterprise
- GeoPlatform – Improving Access to National Geospatial Data Assets
- National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDAs) Standards Inventory Baseline
- GDA High-Value Federal Investments and Incentives Assessment Pilot

Expected Outcome: Consensus on approach and actions, call for leadership and participation

11:40 – 11:50 Proposal for New NGDA Theme

Lee Schwartz, DoS

- International Boundaries

Expected Outcome: Proposal in preparation for electronic vote on NGDA Theme and dataset changes

11:50 – 12:00 Meeting Wrap up

Tim Petty, DOI, FGDC Chair

- Summary of meeting actions

12:00 ADJOURN

Actions

Action#: 20200612-1		Status: Vote will be sent in early July
Lead(s):	FGDC OS	
Action:	<p>Steering Committee Vote: NGDA Theme and Dataset changes Changes recommended by the NGDA Theme Lead and Dataset Managers community to the list of National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) datasets and the addition of a new International Boundaries NGDA Theme, will be voted on via email for endorsement by the FGDC (Steering Committee). Endorsement by the FGDC implements official changes to the list of federally managed NGDAs per the Geospatial Data Act. The updated list with the endorsed changes included will become the updated, official version of what was previously listed in OMB Circular A-16 Appendix E.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The FGDC OS will prepare and send an email vote for the FGDC (Steering Committee) to approve proposed changes to the NGDAs. Members will submit their votes to the FGDC OS, per email instructions. 	
Contact:	Lorna Schmid, FGDC OS, lorna@usgs.gov	
Resolution/ Response	(Updated from 20200312-1)	
Action#: 20200612-2		Status: In Planning: URGENT – Due Oct. 2020
Lead(s):	Steering Committee champion(s) and support team needed	
Action:	<p>2020 GDA Report to Congress – Phase 1: GDA Implementation Progress A Steering Committee member(s) is needed to serve as FGDC Executive Champion(s) to lead the team developing Phase 1 of the 2020 GDA Report to Congress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead a core team to develop content and timeline (utilizing the 2-phased approach presented at the meeting) Help identify supporting representatives for the team The core team will work with OMB to define the report’s review and submission process, including responsibilities and timelines – for both the Phase 1 and Phase 2 reports. Report regularly to the FGDC on progress, coordinating with the NGAC, and raising issues for FGDC or OMB resolution. Develop the report, get required approvals, finalize for submission. 	
Contact:	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS, ideloatch@usgs.gov	
Resolution/ Response	(Action updated from 20191031-5 and 20200312-4)	
Action#: 20200612-3		Status: Pending – Due April 2021
Lead(s):	Steering Committee champion(s) and support team needed	
Action:	<p>FY 2020 FGDC Annual Report and 2020 GDA Report to Congress – Phase 2: Agency GDA progress summaries The GDA requires an FGDC annual report that is a roll-up of GDA required agency submitted reports of their progress summaries and evaluation ratings on their NGDAs (if applicable) and agency mission strategies/plans. The FGDC annual report is the primary input into the Phase 2 Report to Congress. A Steering Committee member(s) is needed to serve as FGDC Executive Champion(s) to lead the team developing the FGDC annual report (from the agency summary and evaluation reports’ content now being developed); and, the Phase 2 GDA Report to Congress report that is developed from the FGDC annual report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead a core team to develop the approach, content and timeline (utilizing the 2-phased approach presented at the meeting) Help identify supporting representatives for the team 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The core team will work with the Phase 1 team to get the OMB reporting process requirements and timeline. Report regularly to the FGDC on progress, coordinating with the NGAC, and raising issues for FGDC or OMB resolution. Develop the report, get required approvals, finalize for submission.
Contact:	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS, ideloatch@usgs.gov
Resolution/ Response	
Action#: 20200612-4	Status: On Schedule
Lead(s):	Carrie Stokes, USAID, cstokes@usaid.gov ; Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS, ideloatch@usgs.gov
Action:	<p>NSDI Strategic Plan:</p> <p>The NSDI Strategic Plan core team will be sending to the FGDC and announcing for public comment the draft plan. FGDC members shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide agency comments to the Draft Plan during the July public comment period. Be prepared to review and approve the final draft Plan in the October 2020 timeframe.
Contact:	John Mahoney, FGDC OS, jmahoney@usgs.gov
Resolution/ Response	
Action#: 20190612-5	Status: Ongoing – Due Date: December 2020
Lead(s):	Steering Committee champion(s) needed
Action:	<p>FY20 FDS Action Plan Part 4 – FGDC: NGDA Standards Baseline (NOTE: this is an input into the priority action on agency GDA reporting for the biennial Report to Congress)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, inventory, and publish the status and standards being used for each of the NGDA data themes and content and services metadata, leveraging the efforts of a small team developing a standards baseline survey for agency completion, to be hosted on the Geoplatform. Develop FGDC policy on assessing when standards are required Further details of this action are included in the Federal Data Strategy FY 2020 Action Plan, Action 10.
Contact:	Ken Shaffer, FGDC OS, kmschaffer@usgs.gov
Resolution/ Response	
Action#: 20190612-6	Status: URGENT: Due September 2020 - Pending Contract Award (1-year PoP)
Lead(s):	Steering Committee champion(s) needed
Action:	<p>FGDC (Committee) FDS FY 2020 Pilot Project: Geospatial Data Act high-value federal investments and incentives assessment – survey of Federal agencies</p> <p>Utilizing contract support, design, build, execute, interact with agency points-of-contact, and build reports on the results of the Federal agency survey. Results may be used to identify potential investment areas that advance the GDA and NSDI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interagency contract review in-process and eminent – on schedule for September 2020. One-year period of performance (PoP) upon award. Identify FGDC lead. Develop a small team to oversee and guide this contractor executed survey assessment.

Contact:	Rich Frazier, FGDC OS, efrazier@usgs.gov
Resolution/ Response	

Action#: 20200612-7	Status: Pending – Anticipated July 2020
Lead(s):	Steering Committee members
Action:	Agencies’ should be prepared to review the revised OMB Circular A-16: OMB anticipates the release of the revised OMB Circular A-16, OMB’s guidance to agencies on implementation of the Geospatial Data Act (GDA), in the 4th Quarter of 2020. The review period may be limited to 2 weeks.
Contact:	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS, ideloatch@usgs.gov
Resolution/ Response	

Action#: 20190612-8	Status: Not Started – Due Date: December 2020
Lead(s):	Steering Committee champion(s) needed
Action:	FY20 FDS Action Plan Part 2 – FGDC/CDOC representation and coordination: FGDC members to work with the Chief Data Officer’s Council (CDOC) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure cross-council/committee coordination • To work with OMB and the appropriate data coordination bodies of the CDOC to establish a process for evaluating how to enable the use of spatial and non-spatial data together using machine interpretable methods. • Further details of this action are included in the Federal Data Strategy FY 2020 Action Plan, Action 10.
Contact:	Ken Shaffer, FGDC OS, kmshaffer@usgs.gov
Resolution/ Response	(Action updated from 20191031-2)

Action#: 20190612-9	Status: Ongoing – Due Date: December 2020
Lead(s):	Steering Committee champion(s) needed
Action:	FY20 FDS Action Plan Part 3 – FGDC: Operate the Geoplatform to provide access to geospatial data and related metadata for and National Geospatial data Assets (NGDA): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the FDS reporting requirements and metrics • Develop the reporting approach and response • Leverage on-going work with Portfolio Management Team, Geoplatform Managing Partner, and data.gov. • Further details of this action are included in the Federal Data Strategy FY 2020 Action Plan, Action 10.
Contact:	Ken Shaffer, FGDC OS, kmshaffer@usgs.gov
Resolution/ Response	

Action#: 20200312-2	Status: On Hold
Lead(s):	Tony LaVoi, DOC and Harvey Simon, EPA

Action:	The Covered Agencies team, led by Tony LaVoi and Amy Nelson, and the GDA Budget Initiative team, led by Harvey Simon, will collaborate to discuss the next steps for a budget initiative. This will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping of the GDA roadmap required investments and recommend roadmap activities that will not be executed due to lack of resources. • Engage with OMB on a funding proposal approach • Engage with OMB on alternate methods of collecting agency funding, beyond an annual pass-the-hat approach Drafting an initial budget request for FY 2022
Contact:	Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS, ideloatch@usgs.gov
Resolution/Response	(Action from March 2020 meeting) Originally due 4/22/20, action is on hold due to higher priority use of available resources.

Action#: 20200612-10	Status: Pending
Lead(s):	Tod Dabolt, DOI, Geoplatform Managing Partner
Action:	Tod will send to the Geoplatform funding agencies information on the planned work to be done under the contract's technical task order in FY 2020.
Contact:	Tod Dabolt, DOI OCIO, thomas_dabolt@ios.doi.gov
Resolution/Response	
Action#: 20200612-11	Status: Complete: here and in the Roadmap table
Lead(s):	FGDC OS
Action:	Provide the meeting summary of actions, deliverables, and FGDC member representation from the meeting actions.
Contact:	Ken Shaffer, FGDC OS, kmshaffer@usgs.gov
Resolution/Response	

MINUTES

10:00 – 10:10 Welcome & Introductions

Tim Petty, DOI, FGDC Chair; James Wolff, OMB, FGDC Vice Chair (representing)

- Introductions, review of meeting objectives
- Approval of Meeting Minutes (October 2019, March 2020) – did not occur.
- Update on A-16 Revision and Federal Data Strategy

Tim Petty, Chair of the FGDC, welcomed everyone and made the following comments:

- The participant's list in Teams was used to track attendees. The chat option in Teams it is being monitored by the FGDC OS so it can be used to pose questions.
- Ivan and his team have been working diligently on moving forward the effort to manage GDA

James Wolff, OMB offered his welcome and noted that Maria Roat, the new OMB Deputy CIO will be the principle member, i.e. the FGDC Vice Chair. He noted OMB has not yet release the Revised A-16 yet, it should be ready soon for agency comment.

Ivan DeLoatch asked for a clarification on the review: Will there be a formal agency review rather than just an FGDC (committee) review? OMB said no, the anticipated process was not to have a formal agency review. Ivan stated that OMB has previously stated their intent of a formal agency review, that FGDC is looking to OMB for

that decision and that there may be some agencies that would like more time for review. Jamie will circle back with Rebecca Williams to review the process that will be used.

Tim recommended that the FGDC consider reviewing it, rather than a full agency review, so the process of finalizing it is not slowed down further. Having the A-16 guidance by the end of the summer would be great.

10:10 – 10:25 NGAC Report

Mark Reichardt, NGAC Chair

- The following is a report of June 9-10, 2020 meeting and includes activities updates.
Expected outcome: Awareness and engagement

Mark thanked Tim Petty for his engagement in the NGAC and opportunity to report to the Steering Committee. There has been excellent participation in the NGAC efforts. New members were not bashful, and the commitment of the members is very much appreciated. Mark walked through the NGAC report presentation. Topics included:

- NGAC membership update – first full meeting with this year’s new members included.
- Meeting Agenda
 - Leadership Dialogue
 - FGDC Report
 - NSDI Strategic Plan
 - **Decision:** The NGAC approved the paper, “Recommendations on the 2020 NSDI Strategic Plan.”
 - NGAC Subcommittee Reports
 - Cultural and Historical Geospatial Resources
 - **Action:** The subcommittee will work with FGDC staff to plan briefing sessions for FGDC Cultural Resources Subcommittee agencies and other key stakeholders on the recommendations included in the NGAC paper, “Protecting Federal Cultural and Historical Geospatial Resources.”
 - Landsat Advisory Group
 - Public-Private Partnerships
 - **Action:** The subcommittee will continue meeting on a bi-weekly basis. The subcommittee will provide a draft recommendations paper to the NGAC in September and seek final approval at the October NGAC meeting.
 - GDA Congressional Report
 - **Decision:** The NGAC approved the following use case papers, pending minor editorial changes:
 - Addressing the Opioid Crisis
 - Improving Foster Care Outcomes
 - NC Flood Mapping Program
 - Road Maintenance
 - Successful 2020 Census Enabled with Geospatial Tools
 - Summary of 2020 NGAC Use Cases
 - GDA Report to Congress – NGAC passed the following Resolution:

The National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) is encouraged by the progress the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) community is making in implementing the Geospatial Data Act of 2018 (GDA). The NGAC has provided initial comments on GDA implementation through its paper, “Initial Comments on Geospatial Data Act Implementation” (May 2019), and through ongoing inputs to the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) strategic plan and the FGDC’s GDA biennial report to Congress.

The NGAC recommends:

1. Given the vital and growing role that integrated geospatial information and technology plays in our society, ***the NGAC strongly supports the GDA and believes it to be a comprehensive approach and roadmap for advancing the NSDI.***
2. Given the NGAC believes that the GDA planning and reporting requirements are considerable and highly complex, ***the NGAC recommends streamlining of the reporting processes to ensure focused, efficient, and consistent reporting across government.***

3. Given the NGAC's May 2019 Comments on the GDA, the NGAC believes the FGDC community does not have sufficient resources, either within the FGDC Office of Secretariat or within FGDC covered agencies, to adequately meet the implementation requirements of the GDA. This lack of resources puts successful implementation of the GDA at significant risk. *Specifically, NGAC recommends that FGDC work with congressional authorizing and appropriating committees to ensure adequate resources are made available to FGDC and covered agencies to:*
 - a) Accomplish the coordination, planning, communication, reporting, and collaboration duties of FGDC as required by the GDA in Sections 753(c) and 755(c);
 - b) Enable lead covered agencies to provide the leadership, coordination, and management required in Section 756(b) of the GDA to advance nationwide development, maintenance, and open accessibility of the NGDA data themes for all organizations and the public, through partnerships with all appropriate stakeholders;
 - c) Transform interagency service delivery collaboration to take advantage of the most efficient and effective technologies for providing access to integrated geospatial data from all appropriate NSDI stakeholders, as required in Section 758 of the GDA;
 - d) Strengthen the content, quality, data management, and service delivery for each of the NGDA data themes by responsible covered agencies, as required in Sections 756 and 759 of the GDA.
 - o Future Topics – COVID 19
 - **Action:** The NGAC established a team to explore and scope possible NGAC engagement related to geospatial support for COVID 19 response, leveraging feedback from a potential seminar/workshop in Summer 2020.

Materials from the meeting: <https://www.fgdc.gov/ngac/meetings/june-2020/index.html>

Next NGAC Meeting: Scheduled for October 6-7, 2020. Additional information to be provided prior to the meeting.

Questions:

Tim Petty – The recommendations are very good and am interested in how NGAC got to these recommendations.

Mark – Several members have been very engaged in the review process and the content of the GDA so have a good understanding of its parts and impacts. The NGAC produced a report last year on implementation of the GDA and that content was also considered in the formulation of the recommendations.

Dierdre Bishop – Census has several new tools and contributes to the COVID response and would be happy to share that with you.

Tim – I highly recommend that you and your organization reach out to Mark to have a 5-10 minute dialog on how the data being provided by your Agencies for COVID-19 is being mashed up in the geospatial presentations daily at the White House level.

Paulette Hasier, LOC: the library is web archiving these presentations.

Mark - Having a dialog with Agencies will help us with the seminar this summer to get the best information and be ready to better respond to the next pandemic, its not if but when the next one will occur. Addressing issues of broadband access, hot spots, and contract tracing, to name a few, need to be looked at and information utilized.

Tim thanked Mark for his leadership, it is welcomed and appreciated.

10:25 – 11:15 Geospatial Data Act

- GDA Team/Agency Reporting Templates – Tony LaVoi, DOC
Expected Outcome: Status/Next Steps
- Planning and Proposal for the 2020 GDA Report to Congress – Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC
Expected Outcome: Update and approach concurrence, agency participation
- Development of NSDI Strategic Plan – Carrie Stokes, USAID
Expected Outcome: Consensus on approach and engagement

Ivan asked Maria Roat, new FGDC Chair if she would like to address the group and Tim congratulated Maria on her new position.

Tony LaVoi, DOC, and NGAC member – I want to recognize Mark Reichardt’s leadership and the FGDC OS’s high-level support. The NGAC is spread across the nation and world and the meeting was really effective and well run.

GDA TEAM/AGENCY REPORTING TEMPLATES – TONY LAVOI

Tony reviewed the GDA slides content.

Agencies have come together to develop a common, standardized approach to the GDA implementation and reporting requirements.

Highlighted five things that are being focused on:

- Covered Agency Reports
- Lead Covered Agency Reports (National Geospatial Data Asset)
- Covered Agency Inspector General Audits
- FGDC Report to Congress
- National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and Covered Agency Strategic Plans

For Section 759 – Agencies will respond through a self-assessment of their activities aligning to the 13 requirements for Covered Agencies to respond to compliance with the GDA.

For Section 756 – Agencies who are Lead Covered Agencies for National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDAs) will report on their activities, including participating in an NGDA Standards Baseline Inventory (also an activity that supports one of the FGDC’s Federal Data Strategy Action Plan 2020 action elements.

The general timeline (subject to adjustment) for these activities:

- **June:** Finalize Covered Agency and Lead Covered Agency self-assessment survey documents
- **July - September:** Develop and test online tool using GeoPlatform & Survey123
- **October - December:** Covered Agencies complete self-assessment measuring performance during FY20; Theme Leads (Lead Covered Agencies) complete similar assessment
- **January - March:** FGDC develops summary reports on agency and theme performance per GDA requirements for inclusion in Report to Congress

Described that the GeoPlatform and Survey123 will be used for the on-line self-assessment work.

While the agencies are excited about the release of the A-16, it is not a silver bullet and there remains significant work by the Agencies to begin complying with the GDA.

Questions:

Tim Petty – First of all thank you, Tony for all your great leadership. Do we have a list of the Agencies that are participating and those that are not participating?

Tony – We do have a list of agencies participating in the team, but the survey won’t begin until after the fiscal year.

Melissa Chiu, VA – VA is a large agency and there is a lot of heterogeneity. How will the survey handle input from multiple programs within a Dept.?

Tony – We intend to set up the survey so that an Agency could either do the self-assessment once, or they can deploy the questionnaire across the agency and roll up responses for a single submission to the FGDC OS.

Melissa – Roll up of responses will we do that ourselves?

Tony – Still working on that, but the single response must come from the Agency (Dept.) level. This is our first time so it may look a little different.

Melissa – Will we have access to all the responses?

Tony – We’re determining how that will work.

Kimberly Petit, DHS, provided insights on being able to have a 2 phased approach.

Tony – Thanked the group for the opportunity to brief the Steering Committee.

Ivan – We are learning a lot as we move along managing these complex requirements.

Rebecca Williams, OMB joined the call – Stated she is happy to be on the line and that Jamie did a great job covering where we are with the A-16.

GDA REPORT TO CONGRESS – IVAN DELOATCH

Ivan covered a set of slides. And stated that we are moving towards having a report for 2020.

- The biennial Report to Congress is one part of an extensive, complex planning and reporting process required by the GDA.
- The Report to Congress summarizes multiple agency reports and GDA requirements, including the following:
 1. A summary of the status and evaluation of the progress for each National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) data theme based on reports submitted by lead covered agencies
 2. A summary and evaluation of the achievements of each covered agency, based on the covered agencies' annual reports to the FGDC on their achievements complying with GDA responsibilities
 3. Comments from the NGAC on the summaries and evaluations (items 1 and 2 above), and responses of the FGDC to the comments.
 4. Comments of the covered agencies on the FGDC summaries and evaluations (items 1 and 2 above), and responses of the FGDC to the comments.

Reporting Challenges:

- GDA includes extensive annual/biennial reporting involving agency, OMB, Congressional, Inspector General, NGAC, and FGDC requirements
- There are interdependencies between many of these reports, and they include requirements for close engagement with non-Federal entities, the NGAC, and users of geospatial data
- GDA did not include additional resources to support the additional management and reporting requirements, changes in governance, or additional activities required for GDA implementation
- The FGDC Office of the Secretariat does not have staff or contract resources to fully support the GDA's reporting & coordination requirements. Additionally, FGDC agencies are attempting to address the new GDA requirements using existing agency resources, while also supporting the FGDC-led enterprise GDA planning & reporting activities.

Status

- FGDC staff has had a series of discussions with FGDC and DOI leadership, congressional affairs staff, and OMB about the approach and timing of the report to Congress.
- FGDC is proposing a two-phase approach – with a high-level GDA report being delivered to Congress this fall, followed by a more detailed GDA reporting appendix which will be completed and transmitted to Congress early next year.

Next Steps

- Organizing team to develop report
- Establish timeline/work plan
- NGAC input on key messages and use cases
- Include both Agency and FGDC requirements

Proposed 2-Phase Approach

Part 1: High-level GDA Report to Congress

- Will include:
 - Executive Summary
 - Background/Overview (Primary “messaging” component of GDA report)
 - GDA Implementation Activities to Date (Brief summaries of key GDA implementation activities)
 - GDA Reporting – Status Report (Summary of current status)
 - NGAC Inputs (Summary of comments and inputs from NGAC on GDA implementation)
 - Challenges/Recommendations
- **Delivery date: Submit to Congress in October 2020**

Part 2: GDA Reporting Appendix

- Will include:

- A summary of the status of each NGDA data theme and an evaluation of its progress
- A summary of achievements and a determination of progress of each covered agency in implementing their agency's strategy for advancing geospatial activities appropriate to their mission
- Any comments from the covered agencies on the FGDC summary reports, NGAC comments on the FGDC summary reports, and any responses to those comments
- **Delivery date: Posted online and provided to Congress in April 2021**

FGDC (committee) ACTIONS:

1. Designate a Steering Committee Executive Champion(s) to 1) lead the Report to Congress effort and 2) identify their supporting representatives for the team.
2. Work with OMB to define the review and submission process and timeline for the Report to Congress.

ACTION asked during the meeting: SC Members - Please volunteer for Executive Champion role(s) by Friday, June 19 next week by sending an email to Ivan ideloatch@usgs.gov

Tim Petty encouraged Agencies to step up and volunteer and contribute to the process. The two-phased approach is a good one.

Questions?

Tim Petty – For the designated Champions, what are 2 or 3 things for them to address? Tim will be working closely, and participating, with Ivan as well.

Ivan – Executive Champion will provide leadership and act as a sounding board on direction while the team will execute the content development for the first phase of the report and status updates for the Champions. FGDC OS will meet with these Champions every other week. We have been looking at some example reports to Congress for examples.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NSDI STRATEGIC PLAN – CARRIE STOKES

Carrie spoke to the slides and described weekly meetings with an immense level of participation from the team.

- Draft plan developed with inputs from FGDC agencies, NGAC subcommittee, partners
- FGDC has held two NSDI Leaders Forum Sessions (March 10, May 28)
- Initial draft strategic plan (v1) distributed to FGDC Steering Committee & NGAC for review and comment in May
- **Dialogue/discussion – NGAC & FGDC meetings in June**
- Next draft version (v2) to be provided for public comment in July
- Final draft version (v3) to be provided for FGDC approval & NGAC endorsement in October
- FGDC agency geospatial strategies to be completed by December 2020

Carrie presented the slides that covered the summary of the feedback received.

More than 110 comments on v1 received from 25 FGDC representatives and NGAC members and comments from 2 NSDI Leaders Forum events.

Comments included:

Implementation:

- Concerns about implementation – significant amount of work described in strategic plan; unclear about resources to accomplish the work
- Need to define relationship between monitoring/reporting for the NSDI plan and for GDA reporting
- Who is the project manager for implementation? Roles of FGDC OS & Champions need to be defined more clearly.

Timeframe for plan

- Timeframe described in plan (2020-2022) seems too short. Consider making it a longer-term plan.

Next Steps

- Next draft version (v2) of strategic plan to be provided for public comment in mid-July

- ***Please encourage your agencies to review and provide feedback on the public comment version***
- Final draft version (v3) to be provided for FGDC approval & NGAC endorsement in October
- FGDC covered agency geospatial strategies to be completed by December 2020

Agencies should have taken advantage of the opportunity to review the initial draft and provide comments. The team is reviewing and incorporating comments.

SC members please encourage your agencies to review and provide feedback during the public comment period next month, in July, as it will be critical to our success.

Tod Dabolt, DOI – kudos Carrie on shepherding this through, it is very readable.

From Chat: Sammie Jackson, NGA – Definitely like to have the NGA Strategy Team review this document.

Mike Donnelly, DHS – Do you see major changes prior to the public comments, or do you see this as being an 80% completed product? Major changes are not expected at this phase, but it will depend on the input received.

FGDC (committee) ACTIONS:

1. Agencies are to provide comments on the NSDI Strategic Plan drafts during the July public comment period.
2. Agencies should be prepared to review and comment on the NSDI Strategic Plan final draft in the September 2020 timeframe.

11:15 – 11:30 Geospatial Platform Tod Dabolt, DOI, GP Managing Partner

- GeoPlatform/GDA Activities

Expected Outcome: Awareness and engagement

Tod DaBolt presented the GeoPlatform from his slides. Geoplatform 2020 Goals:

1. Simplify the Geoplatform Environment
 1. Clean House and Reduce Technical Debt: Years of Incremental changes, Outdated technology, Sprawl
 2. Why? – Lower Operating Costs (labor & compute), Improve Security, Improve Performance, and Free up labor for more useful work
 - Geoplatform databases run on multiple servers using “Infrastructure Cloud” Model. We are eliminating many of those servers, migrating to “Platform Cloud” for databases and services whenever possible. This means few servers to patch, monitor and maintain.
 - Geoplatform currently maintains user accounts and passwords for federal and non-federal users. Support for users across federal, state and local users has been a key capability of Geoplatform. Maintenance has been costly, and majority of HelpDesk tickets are account issues. Geoplatform will migrate to a shared GSA hosted authentication platform
 - Using login.gov will simplify our code, improve security, and have the added benefit of allowing PIV holders to use their federal credentials to login, rather than having a separate Geoplatform account
2. Simplify the Geoplatform Experience
 1. Problem: Organization of NGDA Theme Communities is Complex and Inconsistent, with relatively little current authoritative content
Solution: Reduce reliance on Wordpress as exclusive means for management of content in Geoplatform. Focus on content rather than design. Implement “community lite” format for easy maintenance.
 2. Problem: The Geoplatform Home Screen and Initial impression Is daunting to new and experienced users alike.

Solution: We will be working with user Interface/User Experience (UI/UX) to simplify access to the many functions of Geoplatform

3. Continue to Focus on Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable (FAIR) Data Principles
Geoplatform will expand support for machine readable metadata, automated data discovery, linked open data, machine learning, and modern cloud-based workflows including open data caches. This will provide the greatest value to public and industry for the investment in national spatial data.
4. Support Implementation of GDA & NSDI Strategic Plan

Quick side note: The Geoplatform technical support transitioned, with the new contract award, to Xentity as the contractor and there was a month-long transition period with Image Matters, and it was both a professional and smooth transition. This demonstrates the soundness of the design, the quality of work, the quality of documentation, and the dedication to our mission the team provided under the previous contract.

The NGAC had some comments about the GeoPlatform and that's good, we do need to have more conversations. We need to focus on ensuring we have access to the authoritative data, getting to the right data, not a copy of the data. The issues that need to be discussed are governance, human resources, and ensuring metadata provides the correct information to enable efficient data and services discovery and access. Focus on moving from metadata discovery to data discovery.

Harvey Simon, EPA: Slide about usability challenges? Will you be doing focus groups and usability tests?

Tod: Yes, there is some of that in the roadmap for this year.

Harvey: Are there tools available for metadata?

Tod: We need an injection of new thought in the metadata community to ensure that we are thinking about making the right choices to benefit our customers.

Moving to login.gov will free up 80-90% of the help desk tickets since they are on password management and ensuring from a security perspective that we can appropriately manage accounts for defunct users.

Tony LaVoi: Asked about the work plan for the year and if what was presented is final or will there be an opportunity for agency feedback. Can you provide the SOW to the funding agencies?

Tod: I will get something out. Looking at the work of Xentity and Ardent in concert and Tod will look at that and get something back out to everyone.

Tim thanked Tod for continuing to support this and for all the agencies who step forward. Also, thank you to Carrie on your work on the NSDI Strategic Plan.

FGDC (committee) ACTIONS:

1. Tod Dabolt will send to the Geoplatform funding agencies information on the planned work to be done under the contract.

11:30 – 11:40 Federal Data Strategy FGDC Actions

Ken Shaffer, FGDC

The OMB led Federal Data Strategy (FDS) Action Plan for 2020 includes an action with four parts for the FGDC (member agencies) to implement. In 2019 the previously released draft plan action for FGDC was reviewed and edited by the FGDC (committee) and incorporated into the Final FDS Action Plan for 2020. This session provides a summary of the status/activities of each of the four parts of the action and the support required by the FGDC (member agencies) to implement the action elements. Without the identified support, the committee risks not completing these actions by the December 2020 target date in the FDS.

Expected Outcome: Consensus on approach and actions, identification of leadership and participation

Action 10: Integrate Geospatial Practices into the Federal Data Enterprise

By December 2020, FGDC, in coordination with the OMB Federal Data Policy Committee (FDPC), will improve the value of, and access to, geospatial data and services for use across the Federal data enterprise and the public through the implementation of the GDA. Through this action, FGDC members will coordinate with their agency Data Governance Board (DGB), their SAOGI, and the FDPC on the use and integration of geospatial data into broader Federal efforts.

Part 1: Develop an NSDI Strategic Plan

- Milestone: Establish the NSDI strategic Plan
- Measure: Completion
- Status: Progressing on schedule
- Approach: NSDI Core Team is executing this action
- Co-leads: Carrie Stokes (USAID) and Ivan DeLoatch (FGDC OS)

FGDC (committee) ACTIONS for Part 1: see actions for NSDI Strategic Plan earlier in document.

Part 2: OMB SAOGI will assist the FGDC in ensuring FGDC cross-representation on appropriate data oversight bodies to help spatially enable the Federal data enterprise. To establish a process to develop consistent identification of the spatial attributes of both spatial datasets (that contain spatial geometry) and non-spatial datasets to facilitate machine interpretable methods of relating or joining data for analytics and innovation.

- Milestone: Engage with other relevant councils
- Measure: Number of engagements
- Status: Pending
- Approach: FGDC to identify CDO representatives. Once CDO Council is operational, representatives are to determine how this topic is best addressed within the council structure and recommend next steps to the FGDC. NOTE: The CDO council just met for the first time and is still establishing itself.

FGDC (committee) ACTIONS for FDS Action Part 2 – Cross-representation on appropriate data oversight bodies to help spatially enable the Federal data enterprise:

1. Identify members who are also CDO Council members/representatives.
2. Identify a lead for this action from those members

Part 3: Operate the GeoPlatform to provide access to geospatial data and related metadata for all National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDA), ... and provide standards-compliant metadata and web services for all NGDA data assets, registered with data.gov and available as web services through the GeoPlatform.

- Milestone: Publish a GeoPlatform providing standards-compliant web services for NGDAs
- Measure: Completion
- Status: Ongoing
- Approach: Leverage Ongoing efforts between the FGDC's portfolio management team, GeoPlatform.gov team and Data.gov teams to improve agency metadata guidelines and technical processes to increase the number of successfully registered NGDA datasets with Data.gov and the GeoPlatform.

FGDC (committee) ACTIONS for FDS Action Part 3 – Operate the Geoplatform to provide access to geospatial data and related metadata for and National Geospatial data Assets (NGDA):

1. Identify FGDC executive lead.

Part 4: GDA Lead Covered Agencies for NGDA data assets will identify, inventory, and publish the status and standards being used for each of the NGDA data themes and content and services metadata.

- Milestone: Track NGDAs for implementation of standards
- Measure: Percentages of NGDAs with: i) metadata standards, ii) established content standards, iii) standards in process, iv) data assets not requiring standards, v) no established standards
- Status: Ongoing
- Approach: The NGDA Portfolio Team in conjunction with the DOI SAOGI to 1) provide an online survey to NGDA theme and dataset managers to create a baseline of standards to report initial measures, 2) propose FGDC technical guidance defining when a standard is required.

FGDC (committee) ACTIONS for FDS Action Part 4 – identify, inventory, and publish the status and standards being used for each of the NGDA data themes and content and services metadata:

1. Identify FGDC executive lead.
2. Develop FGDC policy on assessing when standards are required.

FDS FY2020 Pilot Project – Geospatial Data Act high-value federal investments and incentives assessment – survey of Federal Agencies.

OMB awarded FGDC an FDS Pilot

- Geospatial Data Act high-value federal investments and incentives assessment – survey of Federal agencies
- Where will potential investments/partnerships/innovation provide key improvements/advancements/high-value services, etc. for the NSDI
- Includes elements from the GDA, NSDI, GeoPlatform, Covid-19

Next Steps

- Compete and award Task Order (TO) – TO in final review, FGDC OS identifying 2 interagency reviewers
- Identify SMEs to support contractors (e.g. FDS, FGDC, OSTP) (OMB) - pending

FGDC (committee) ACTIONS for FDS FY 2020 Pilot Project – Geospatial Data Act high-value federal investments and incentives assessment – survey of Federal agencies

1. Identify FGDC lead.
2. Develop a small team to oversee and guide this contractor executed survey assessment.

From chat: Deidre Bishop – Is there a list of all of the activities for which you need agency support as discussed in this meeting? That would really help determine where we can provide you with the best representation and support.

From Chat: Mike Donnelly - or a comprehensive list of deliverables, due dates, and responsible parties?

From Chat: Shirley Hall - Would also appreciate a comprehensive list of needed representation that Deidre and Michael mentioned.

FGDC OS Action: Provide the Actions, deliverables, and representation requested as part of this meeting.

11:40 – 11:50 Proposal for New NGDA Theme

Lee Schwartz, DoS

- International Boundaries

Expected Outcome: Proposal in preparation for electronic vote on NGDA Theme and dataset changes

FGDC (committee) ACTION vote on updates to the NGDA datasets and addition of a new NGDA Theme: Review and respond to pending vote that will be sent to the SC via email.

The purpose of the vote is to allow Agencies to weigh in on any impacts of the changes to their agency.

Currently the NGDA Portfolio contains: 170+ datasets across 17 themes.

LEE SCHWARTZ INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES AS A NGDA THEME

Lee presented slides describing how this data was only available to the .gov community in the past but is now available to Google Earth and other public organizations. State Department has been the lead for International Boundaries and there is a jeopardy that their lead role will be lost without the theme. See slides (52-68).

Lee described that sensitive international boundary information on maps and US products is a key responsibility. A-16 has always called out the Department of State's role in providing guidance on international boundaries to other agencies. DoS offered up language to describe a new International Boundaries Theme.

Given the intersection of foreign policy and geography, the Department of State feels strongly that international boundaries* require being returned to the status of a "theme" (as it was under OMB A-16, Appendix E) in the National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) portfolio list. *Other than the U.S.-Canada and U.S.-Mexico boundaries.

- International land boundaries are a fundamental expression of the extent of a state's sovereignty.
- Their depiction on US Government products has strong foreign policy implications.
- The State Department is the preeminent U.S. government agency that has primacy over foreign policy.

Landon Van Dyke, Deputy Director, highlighted that Lee has expressed the State Department's responsibility to declare and make explicit that materials that show international boundaries expressly use the DoS Large Scale International Boundaries data as US perspective are delivered by Agencies, there should be guidance and input provided from the State Department. Question is where and how can that be made explicit, should that be part of the language in the A-16?

Tim, DOI and Chair, thank you very much I think that was a compelling presentation and I think members can read through this and provide any questions or comments and Ivan and his team can provide insights.

Ivan stated that this will be included in the vote. ACTION: State Department will provide this language to include in the vote

11:50 – 12:00 Meeting Wrap up

Tim Petty, DOI, FGDC Chair

- Summary of meeting actions

Ivan: Quick action summary: Key action A-16 coming out soon, be prepared to review. GDA implementation process, please participate. Active involvement in Report to Congress. NSDI strategic plan will have another review. The vote on modifications to the NGDAs, including the new Theme, will be coming out soon. Responses on the Federal Data Strategy. A full list of actions will be coming out from the FGDC OS soon.

FGDC (committee) Action: Agencies should be prepared to review the Revised OMB Circular A-16 when it is released for review.

Tim thanked everyone for their input and comments and thanked Ivan and the FGDC OS staff.

The next Steering Committee Meeting is tentatively set for:
October 9, 2020 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm ET.

The next NGAC meeting is scheduled for:
October 6-7, 2020 @ DOI (or virtual depending on operating status)

12:00 ADJOURN

ATTENDEES

June 12, 2020 FGDC Steering Committee Meeting Attendees List

<u>Organization</u>	<u>FGDC Role</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Title</u>	<u>In Attend.</u>
DOI	Chair	Tim Petty	<i>Assistant Secretary for Water and Science</i>	x
OMB	Vice Chair	Suzette Kent	<i>Federal Chief Information Officer</i>	x
	Attending	Maria Roat	Deputy Federal Chief Information Officer	x
	Alt.	Rebecca Williams	Digital Services Expert	x
	Representing	James Wolff	EOP OMB James.A.Wolff@omb.eop.gov	x
	Attending	Kyle Connors	Budget Examiner	
Department of Agriculture	SAOGI	Shirley Hall	USDA Geospatial Program Manager, and Acting GIO	x
Department of Commerce	SAOGI	Tony LaVoi	NOAA Geospatial Information Officer	x
	Alt.	Deirdre Dalpiaz Bishop	U.S. Census Bureau, Chief, Geography Division	x
	Attending	Lynda Liptrap	U.S. Census Bureau, CG member, NGDA Theme Lead	
	Attending	Greg Hanks	U.S. Census Bureau	x
	Attending	Dierdre Bevington Attardi	U.S. Census Bureau	x
*Department of Defense, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	SAOGI	Larry D McCallister	Regional Business Director	
	Alt.	Nancy Blyler	Geospatial Community of Practice Lead	
	Attending	Jason Fairchild		x
Department of Defense, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency	SAOGI	Sammie Jackson	Director GEOINT Enterprise Office	x
	Rep.	Frank Avila	Director/Commercial GEOINT SCD and NGAC member	
		William Mullen	GDA Work Group Lead	
Department of Education	SAOGI	James Lynn Woodworth	Commissioner, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)	x
	Alt.	Douglas Geverdt	Director, Education Demographic and Geographic Estimates Program	x
Department of Energy	SAOGI	Pamela Isom	Chief Data Officer, Deputy CIO for Architecture, Engineering, Technology and Innovation	x
Department of Health and Human Services	SAOGI	Cynthia Colton	Office of Enterprise Architecture-undeliverable	
	Alt.	Robert Shankman	GIS Branch Chief	
	SAOGI	Mike Donnelly	GIO, Director, Geospatial Management Office (GMO)	x

Department of Homeland Security	Attending	Kimberly Pettit		x
Department of Homeland Security, FEMA	SAOGI	Ted Okada	Chief Technology Officer, SES	
	Attending	Omri Shafrir		x
Department of Housing and Urban Development	SAOGI	Ted Payne	Program Monitoring and Research Division Director	x
Department of Justice	SAOGI	Vacant		
	Alt.	Ron Bewtra	Chief Technology Officer	x
Department of Labor	SAOGI	Dennis Johnson	Acting Director, OASAM Performance Management Center	
	Alt.	Chad Hancher	Acting Deputy Director, OASAM Performance Management Center	
	Attending	Scott Gibbons		x
Department of State	SAOGI	Vacant		
	Acting SAOGI	Landon C. Van Dyke	Representing the CDO	x
	Rep.	Lee Schwartz	Director, Office of the Geographer and Global Issues	x
	Attending	Eric Doornbos		x
	Attending	Erica Jacobs		x
	Attending	Lloyd Samples		x
	Attending	Brian Reichenbach		x
Department of the Interior	SAOGI	Thomas Dabolt	Geospatial Information Officer	x
Department of Transportation	SAOGI	Steve Lewis	Chief Geospatial Information Officer	x
	Attending	Amy Nelson	GDA Roadmap Team	
	Attending	Derald Dudley	BTS, Transportation Theme Lead, SubCom Chair	x
Department of Treasury	SAOGI	Jimmy Amoaka-Atta	Program Specialist	
Department of Veterans Affairs	SAOGI	Melissa Glynn	Assistant Secretary for Enterprise Integration	
	Attending	Melissa Chiu	Director in Charge, Data Governance and Analytics	x
Environmental Protection Agency	SAOGI	Harvey Simon	Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator and Associate Chief Information Officer	x
		Owen McDonough		x
*Federal Communications Commission	SAOGI	Steven Rosenberg	Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology	
	Attending	Alexander Simmons		

General Services Administration	SAOGI	Kris Rowley	Chief Data Officer	
	Representing	Terry Forline	IPS	x
Library of Congress	SAOGI	Paulette Hasier	Chief, Geography and Map Division	x
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	SAOGI	VACANT		
	Rep.	Kevin Murphy	Program Executive for Earth Science Data, Science Mission Directorate	x
	Rep.	Dr. Gerald (Stinger) Guala	Detaillee	x
National Archives and Records Administration	SAOGI	VACANT		
National Science Foundation	SAOGI	VACANT		
Nuclear Regulatory Commission	SAOGI	VACANT		
Office of Personnel Management	SAOGI	VACANT		
Small Business Administration	Acting SAOGI	Guy Cavallo	Deputy Chief Information Officer	
Smithsonian Institution	SAOGI	Lee Robertson	Associate Director	x
Social Security Administration	SAOGI	Daryl Wise	Associate Commissioner	
	Alt.	David Timmons	Management Analyst	
Tennessee Valley Authority	SAOGI	Tiffany Gibby	Manager, GIS & Mapping	x
U.S. Agency for International Development	SAOGI	Carrie Stokes	Chief Geographer & Director of the GeoCenter	x
23 out of 32	TOTAL FGDC Agencies Represented (out of 32)			
Other Attendees				
Organization	FGDC Role	Name	Position/Title	
OGC	NGAC Chair	Mark Reichardt	Chair	x
FGDC OS	OS	Ivan DeLoatch	FGDC Executive Director	x
FGDC OS	OS	Ken Shaffer	FGDC Deputy Executive Director	x
FGDC OS	OS	John Mahoney	Senior Policy Advisor	x
FGDC OS	OS	Lorna Schmid	NGDA Portfolio Coordinator	x
FGDC OS	Tech Support	Vaishal Sheth	Contractor support	x
Visitor	NGAC	Mark Reichardt	NGAC Vice-Chair	x
USGS	Attending	Mike Tischler	USGS, Director NGP	x
USGS	Attending	Gita Urban-Mathieux	USGS	x
USGS	Attending	Ethan Weikel	USGS	x

CIV USARMY	Attending	Ronald Santos ()		x
	Attending	Meredith Richardson	Knauss Fellow	x
	Attending	Erin Bierbaum		x
	Attending	Katherine Smith		x
	Attending	Kim Valentine		x
	Attending	Sherry Dolan		x
	Attending	Gene Thorp		x
Total Person Count:			57	