



**Federal Geographic Data Committee
Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 19, 2013
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EDT**

Location: Main Interior Building
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Room: Room 5160

Agenda

2:00 – 2:10	Welcome and Introductory Remarks	<i>Anne Castle, DOI</i>
2:10 – 2:20	Response to GAO Report	<i>Anne Castle, DOI</i>
2:20 – 2:40	NSDI Strategic Plan	<i>Dan Cotter, DHS; Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS</i>
2:40 – 3:00	A-16 Implementation Plan	<i>Adrian Gardner, NASA; Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS</i>
3:00 – 3:30	Geospatial Platform	<i>Jerry Johnston, DOI</i>
3:30 – 3:50	FGDC OS FY2012 Budget and Accomplishments	<i>Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS</i>
3:50 – 4:00	2013 FGDC Guidance to NGAC	<i>John Mahoney, FGDC OS</i>
4:00	Adjourn	



Federal Geographic Data Committee Steering Committee Meeting ACTION ITEMS From March 19, 2013

Due Date: ASAP		
Lead:	Stephen Lowe, USDA	Action#: 20130319-01
Action:	A small work group of Steering Committee members will be formed to coordinate with OMB RMOs on budget coordination regarding geospatial data investments. Mr. Stephen Lowe (USDA) will lead this work group, along with participation from Mr. Joe Klimavicz (NOAA) and Mr. Dan Cotter (DHS).	
Contact:	Stephen Lowe, USDA, Stephen.Lowe@ocio.usda.gov	
Resolution/ Response:		
Due Date: ASAP		
Lead:	Steering Committee Members	Action#: 20130319-02
Action:	Steering Committee members are asked to contact Mr. Dan Cotter and Mr. Ivan DeLoatch with ideas or assistance regarding the development of the NSDI Strategic Plan.	
Contact:	Dan Cotter, DHS, daniel.cotter@hq.dhs.gov ; Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS, ideloatch@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/ Response:		
Due Date: ASAP		
Lead:	Steering Committee Members	Action#: 20130319-03
Action:	Steering Committee members are asked to contact Mr. Adrian Gardner and Mr. Ivan DeLoatch with ideas or assistance regarding the development of the A-16 Implementation Plan.	
Contact:	Adrian Gardner, NASA, adrian.gardner@nasa.gov ; Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS, ideloatch@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/ Response:		
Due Date: 3/21/13		
Lead:	Steering Committee Members	Action#: 20130319-04
Action:	Steering Committee members are asked to submit feedback on the FGDC Draft Guidance to NGAC to Mr. John Mahoney by COB Thursday, March 21.	
Contact:	John Mahoney, FGDC OS, jmahoney@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/ Response:		



Federal Geographic Data Committee Steering Committee Meeting MEETING MINUTES March 19, 2013

*Non-voting members denoted with an asterisk**

*Quorum = 2/3 of voting members. Voting members = 23 **Quorum**
= 15*

√	Steering Committee Primary Members	Organization	√	Steering Committee Primary Members	Organization
x	Anne Castle	FGDC Chair/ Department of Interior		Dat Tran	Department of Veterans Affairs
	Lisa Schlosser	FGDC Vice Chair/ Office of Management and Budget		Harvey Simon	Environmental Protection Agency
x	Stephen Lowe	Department of Agriculture		Julius Knapp*	Federal Communications Commission*
x	Joseph Klimavicz	Department of Commerce	x	Angela Smith	General Services Administration
x	Michele Motsko	Department of Defense		Ralph Ehrenberg	Library of Congress
	James Dalton*	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*	x	Adrian Gardner	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
	Jack Buckley	Department of Education		Paul Wester	National Archives and Records Administration
	TheAnne Gordon	Department of Energy		VACANT*	National Capital Planning Commission*
	Keith Tucker	Department of Health and Human Services		VACANT	National Science Foundation
x	Dan Cotter	Department of Homeland Security	x	Darren Ash	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
	VACANT	Department of Housing and Urban Development		VACANT	Office of Personnel Management
	Jerry Johnston	Department of Interior		Deborah Anderson	Small Business Administration
	Nick Loulou	Department of Justice		VACANT	Smithsonian Institution
	VACANT	Department of Labor		Lew Sanford	Social Security Administration
	Cecelia Henderson	Department of State	x	Roy Teal	Tennessee Valley Authority
x	Patricia Hu	Department of Transportation	x	Carrie Stokes	U.S. Agency for International Development
	Jimmy Amoaka-Atta	Department of Treasury			

√	Steering Committee Alternate Members	Organization	√	Steering Committee Alternate Members	Organization
	Tony LaVoi	Department of Commerce		Pheakdey Lim	Department of Veterans' Affairs
x	Nancy Blyler	Department of Defense/USACE		Autumn Wallin	General Services Administration
x	Tai Phan	Department of Education	x	Jacque Nolan	Library of Congress
	Cuttie Bacon	Department of Energy		Stuart Reiter	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
x	Steve Lewis	Department of Transportation			
	Other Attendees	Organization		Other Attendees	Organization
x	Wendy Blake-Coleman	Environmental Protection Agency	x	Butch Lazorchak	Library of Congress
x	Bill Burgess	National States Geographic Information Council	x	Arista Maher	FGDC Office of the Secretariat
x	Pat Cummins	Environmental Systems Research Institute	x	Tim McCrosson	Office of Management and Budget
x	Lori Caramanian	Department of Interior	x	Damien Rabach	U.S. Agency for International Development
x	Kevin Gallagher	U.S. Geological Survey	x	Ken Shaffer	FGDC Office of the Secretariat
x	Shawn Gravatt	FGDC Office of the Secretariat/COMSO	x	Vaishal Sheth	FGDC Office of the Secretariat
x	Robert Houser	Department of Justice	x	Paul Weise	Lockheed Martin

Welcome and Introductions - Anne Castle, DOI, Chair

Ms. Anne Castle, FGDC Chair and Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at the Department of the Interior (DOI), called the meeting to order and asked meeting attendees to introduce themselves. Ms. Castle reviewed the agenda.

Response to GAO Report – Anne Castle, DOI, Chair

Ms. Castle reviewed the recent developments regarding the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, GAO-13-94: *Geospatial Information – OMB and Agencies Need to Make Coordination a Priority to Reduce Duplication* (November 2012). Three of the report’s recommendations applied to the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) as a whole. The report also included recommendations for the Department of Commerce (DOC), the Department of Interior (DOI), and the Department of Transportation (DOT). Ms. Castle stated that the GAO report was galvanizing, and will be used as a catalyst for making the FGDC’s intended initiatives more directed and more timely.

The first of the three recommendations to FGDC is to “establish a time frame for completing a plan to facilitate the implementation of OMB’s portfolio management guidance, and develop and implement the plan within the established time frame. The plan, at a minimum, should include goals and performance measures, and the FGDC should report annually to OMB on the progress made on efforts to improve coordination and reduce duplication among themes.” Ms. Castle noted that Mr. Adrian Gardner (NASA), who is co-leading the response effort to this recommendation with the FGDC Executive Director, Mr. Ivan DeLoatch, would be presenting on the progress of this response regarding the A-16 Supplemental Guidance and portfolio management approach later in the meeting. The second GAO recommendation, the response to which is being led by Mr. Jerry Johnston (DOI), is to “develop and implement guidance for identifying planned geospatial investments using the Geospatial Platform, and establish a time frame for doing so.” Mr. DeLoatch will present on the progress of the Geospatial

Platform effort, in Mr. Johnston's absence. Finally, the third recommendation regarding the development of a National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Strategic Plan ("Establish a time frame for creating and updating a strategic plan to improve coordination and reduce duplication, and create and implement the plan within the established time frame") is being co-led by Mr. Dan Cotter (DHS), would also be reported on later in the meeting. Ms. Castle noted that in recent weeks, a great deal has been accomplished on each of these response efforts, and that progress would continue to be made, with the assistance of the FGDC Steering Committee, Executive Committee, and Coordination Group.

Mr. Tim McCrosson (OMB), who was representing Vice Chair Ms. Lisa Schlosser (OMB) at the meeting, commented that he believed the trajectory currently being followed is on target for realizing issues identified in the GAO report, and that he recommended continuation of this path. He emphasized the need for setting near-term deadlines in order to achieve success with those issues.

Ms. Castle recounted that she sent out a memorandum in January 2013 to all FGDC member agencies regarding the FGDC response to the recommendations. Mr. Stephen Lowe (USDA) commented that he believes that some means of coordination from Ms. Castle's office and the OMB Resource Management Office would be especially helpful. Mr. McCrosson stated that he has dealt with Department of Energy and Department of Interior Resource Management Officers (RMOs) on this effort. He noted that there is great support and partnership from both budget and management sides of OMB. He went on to say that there is an opportunity to pool and channel investments so that they are complementary and not overlapping. Moreover, specific OMB RMOs are very engaged in seeing these coordinated investments deployed. Mr. McCrosson indicated that an executive-level policy on data, which will reset the default for how data is treated in the Federal sphere, would be released in the near future. Ms. Castle stated that it might be useful to have a small group of Steering Committee members coordinate with an appropriate group of RMOs on budget issues.

ACTION: A small work group of Steering Committee members will be formed to coordinate with OMB RMOs on budget coordination regarding geospatial data investments. Mr. Stephen Lowe (USDA) will lead this work group, along with participation from Mr. Joe Klimavicz (NOAA) and Mr. Dan Cotter (DHS).

NSDI Strategic Plan – Dan Cotter, DHS; Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS

Mr. Dan Cotter provided an overview of the NSDI Strategic Plan, which is being developed with the intention of creating a concise, updated strategy to guide the Federal government's activities toward the further development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). Some of the major drivers behind the creation of the NSDI Strategic Plan include: OMB Circular A-16, the aforementioned GAO report released in November 2012, the National Geospatial Advisory Committee's paper released in December 2012 (*Toward a National Geospatial Strategy*), the Digital Government Strategy, the Open Government Directive, and the soon-to-be-released Open Data Policy. The NSDI Strategic plan will address the shared vision of the NSDI, along with definitions of the roles and relationships among Federal and non-Federal entities. The document will identify several strategic goals, informed by the geospatial community, for the Federal government to pursue within the next three years. The NSDI Strategic Plan will also include follow-up implementation plans and associated performance measures for each of the identified goals.

The time frame for major milestones on the NSDI Strategic Plan was reviewed. Following the FGDC Steering Committee meeting, the NGAC will meet via webinar on April 3 to discuss forming subcommittees to provide initial feedback on the first draft of the NSDI Strategic Plan. The first draft will be developed within the April/May 2013 time frame. In June 2013, both the NGAC and the Steering Committee will each meet again and provide more detailed comments in preparation for a second version of the document, which is targeted to be completed in July. Subsequently, there will be a public comment period on the second draft in August. Following the comment period, as well as the September NGAC and Steering Committee meetings, the final version of the NSDI Strategic Plan will be developed for NGAC and FGDC endorsement in October. The document should be finalized by the end of the 2013 calendar year.

The project team membership was shown, and Mr. Cotter thanked the FGDC Secretariat team members for their efforts in driving the NSDI Strategic Plan effort. In order to engage stakeholders in the process, two workshops were held in early March to brainstorm for the development of the document and overall approach. An all-day strategic visioning workshop with 35 participants from 22 Federal agencies was held on March 5, 2013. They discussed the vision for the NSDI and the environmental landscape, and developed many suggestions for the Strategic Plan, which will be shared on the FGDC website.

Similarly, a wide range of non-Federal partner organizations with diverse geospatial interests participated in the NSDI Leaders Forum, which was held on March 7, 2013. There was also a high level of engagement and feedback from this workshop. There were 18 participants, representing 16 professional and geospatial organizations. Participants in the NSDI Leaders' Forum discussed the Federal government's role, and suggested that a key factor is leadership. Mr. Cotter noted that there was a good deal of discussion about standards and the confirmation of the Federal community's role in the development and promotion of standards. Industry leaders emphasized the utility of geospatial data, especially in the technology realm. Another theme was the question of what "National" means in the NSDI. Is the focus on the "Federal" role instead? Are state, local, private sector, and other partners included in the definition? There was robust discussion on all of these topics. Other notes from the Leaders Forum included a comment from Bill Burgess of the National States Geospatial Information Council (NSGIC), who stated that, "What we are doing will have dramatic impacts on the quality of human life, but we need to think about things to be successful." An overall observation was that the Federal government needs to address authorities, budget, and FGDC structure. The National Alliance for Public Safety GIS (NAPSG) attended the Leaders' Forum as well. They asked whether the geospatial community understands the state and local vision and mission, and that there is a need for the NSDI to be truly *national* and not Federal. "Avoid the apps business," is another comment they made in relation to application development without looking at needs of state and local entities. Mr. Tim McCrosson commented that he believes the Federal government is only in the "apps business" insofar as it is making data available for apps. The Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS) also attended the NSDI Leaders' Forum; Mr. Cotter noted that they represent a strong user group and provided positive feedback regarding the discussions at the meeting. In general—he concluded-- there was good, high energy feedback from the Leaders' Forum. Now, the challenge is to take all the ideas and narrow them down to a few targeted solutions. Mr. Cotter also strongly encouraged Steering Committee members to get involved in the process of developing ideas for the NSDI Strategic Plan.

ACTION: Steering Committee members are asked to contact Mr. Dan Cotter and Mr. Ivan DeLoatch with ideas or assistance regarding the development of the NSDI Strategic Plan.

Mr. Stephen Lowe commented that feedback on the FGDC website regarding the NSDI meetings is valuable. However, he noted, the "Customer and Stakeholder Needs" section is not as robust. He suggested that there exists an opportunity for integration between customers and stakeholders, and a broader conversation on this topic at some point might be useful. Mr. Cotter responded that he and Mr. Lowe might benefit from a conversation offline with Mr. John Palatiello (MAPPS) on developing this idea. Mr. Joe Klimavicz (NOAA) mentioned that he chairs the Shared Services Subcommittee and can arrange for Mr. Lowe to attend so that he can participate more on this topic.

A-16 Implementation Plan – Adrian Gardner, NASA; Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS

Mr. Adrian Gardner reviewed the GAO recommendation related to implementation of the OMB portfolio management guidance and implementation plan. The direction from GAO states that the plan should include goals and performance measures, and make progress on improving coordination and reducing duplication among data themes. The FGDC is required to report to OMB on its progress regarding this topic annually. The FGDC Steering Committee will establish a plan with a phased approach that outlines the steps and associated timeframe for implementing the requirements of OMB Circular A-16 and its Supplemental Guidance, "Coordination of Geographic Information and Related Spatial Data Activities." Part of this process will include developing an

approach for tracking the value of geospatial assets for a wide range of consumers. Mr. Gardner noted that there will be a “bite sized” approach to accomplishing these goals in smaller milestones.

Mr. Gardner stated that part of the challenge that theme leads and SAOGIs face is the charge within their agencies, i.e. the direction provided by leadership to programs on the requirement and need to implement A-16 and portfolio management practices. One approach for alleviating some of this challenge is the FGDC Chair issuing a memorandum that lays out that agency charge at the Deputy Secretary level of each agency. The implementation will utilize a phased approach; first, they will pre-select by focusing on a few themes (e.g., Elevation), then they will select themes by disseminating guidance and lessons learned from the pilot themes. The third phase will be evaluation; they plan on reviewing progress by having theme lead agencies present on theme status and activities at future Steering Committee meetings. Following that, the control phase will allow for modification of the approach based on evaluation. Mr. Gardner suggests periodically validating the NGDA portfolio approach to ensure feedback is implemented. Dissemination of information and coordination of efforts will be another action for the team to execute.

The proposed timeline includes developing the Theme Lead’s community. Mr. Gardner will present at the NGAC webinar on April 3. The targeted date for sending the memorandum from the FGDC Chair out to agencies is April 15. Between April 15 and May 15, they will identify early adopters of A-16 portfolio management and choose one or two themes to validate the approach. The USGS Elevation Theme Lead (USGS and NOAA) will report on their theme’s status during the next Steering Committee meeting on June 13th. This first report could provide insights and be useful to other Theme Leads.

Mr. Stephen Lowe asked when the discussion occurred around consolidation/retirement of themes, noting that one area of question was around statistics. He commented that statistics as a value-added set of data applying algorithm to produce data is arguably a legitimate theme. He stated that he advocates for this and encourages discussion of including it as a theme somehow. Mr. Lowe believes that statistics is a high visibility theme with possibility for broad relevancy.

Mr. DeLoatch stated that he believes that all of these areas intertwine – for instance, A-16 Supplemental Guidance and portfolio management will be part of the NSDI Strategic Plan. There are some good ideas about how to organize around portfolio management, and the question now is how we manage and track it. Mr. DeLoatch stated that the FGDC hopes to take advantage of the Geospatial Platform to assist in portfolio management. Moreover, he stated, all of these ideas are interconnected in order to avoid duplication of effort.

Ms. Castle commented that it is incumbent upon Steering Committee members to be engaged in the process. She said that between now and June 13, Steering Committee members should check in with FGDC Coordination Group members so that informed decisions can be made at the next Steering Committee meeting.

ACTION: Steering Committee members are asked to contact Mr. Adrian Gardner and Mr. Ivan DeLoatch with ideas or assistance regarding the development of the A-16 Implementation Plan.

Ms. Angela Smith (GSA) stated that use cases can be helpful in showing leveraging of geospatial assets. Mr. Gardner agreed, and emphasized the importance of creating a value proposition and “telling a timely story” (for instance, showing how using geospatial products can be used to address national emergencies). Regarding this point, Mr. Kevin Gallagher (USGS) noted that all Steering Committee agencies contributed to a cost benefit analysis for the National Elevation Enhancement Assessment (NEEA), which documented \$13 billion in benefits to the economy. He commented that a formal study such as NEEA is a great example of the creation of a value proposition and benefit analysis for geospatial.

Geospatial Platform – Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC OS

Mr. DeLoatch gave an update on the Geospatial Platform, in the absence of Mr. Jerry Johnston, who was unable to participate in this meeting. Mr. DeLoatch noted that Mr. Johnston has provided strong leadership as the conduit between Data.gov and partner agencies in developing the Geospatial Platform. The next version of the Geospatial Platform will likely be released sometime in the May timeframe. A preliminary demonstration of the Platform took place at the Esri Federal User Conference in February 2013. Exciting applications and decision making tools are being developed, and these will help geospatial gravitate towards a shared services environment.

The next version of the Geospatial Platform is not focusing on data, but *use* and *applications* of data. The next version will also focus on National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDAs). It will allow communities of practice and interest to work together and share important information (for instance, the Hurricane Response Group, which served as a pilot tester for the Platform, developed a “lessons learned” document).

The new GeoPlatform.gov interface was demonstrated. The components of the site were walked through for the Steering Committee members. The Geospatial Platform site’s capabilities include opportunities for collaboration, discovery, and sharing of information. The abilities to provide relevant and current news and to provide an easy opportunity for developers to use data to create applications are featured on the site as well. This site will continue to be developed and enhanced over the next few weeks. By the June Steering Committee meeting, full capabilities of GeoPlatform.gov will be demonstrated.

Geospatial Platform communities on the site give users the ability to enhance maps and data. The Hurricane Response Group’s pilot efforts were briefly reviewed. One of the conclusions of their “lessons learned” was capturing data upfront instead of afterwards. The web maps and templates from the pilot project are now available for production and re-use. The pilot raised a significant need for contextual info beyond simply maps. The pilot project resulted in discussions of how agencies interact with and on the Geospatial Platform.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has been one of the early adopters of the Geospatial Platform. Their site was demonstrated. It has a significant level of consistency with the GeoPlatform.gov site, which is a big advantage. The Department of Energy (DOE) has also been an early adopter; Mr. Johnston has been meeting with the DOE team in developing their site (energy.geoplatform.gov) as well. Ms. Michele Motsko (NGA) asked about cyber threat prevention on the sites. Mr. DeLoatch responded that the team is working with site developers on this. Ms. Angela Smith noted that GSA is working with Mr. Johnston on this as well.

Mr. DeLoatch stated that there is also a great deal of interest related to the development of applications as value-added products by third parties, and they are publishing APIs toward that end. They are broadening the developer overview of the Platform. A-16 theme communities will allow theme managers to be content administrators. Lifecycle metrics will also be populated on the Geospatial Platform to understand maturity of the datasets and identify gaps in data. A notional dashboard was displayed.

The goals of the Geospatial Platform Marketplace include: brokering partnerships, avoiding duplicative or redundant spending, and measuring interactions or deals made. The features of the Marketplace include: searchable metadata for data to be acquired; access info on available contracts (Data as a Service, or DaaS) and a policy on Federal use of the Marketplace. Mr. DeLoatch stated that the Platform team plans to have this functionality available by September 30, 2013.

The next steps on the Geospatial Platform include: continuing to work with development teams to continue execution on technical milestones; clearly defining the service catalog so Departments can make choices and plan investments; developing guidance on hosting options for NGDAs; working with USDA on FISMA documentation; developing guidance on use of the new Marketplace; establishing reporting dashboard content for NGDAs; and training, support, and outreach. Mr. DeLoatch noted that in terms of these efforts, the FGDC

Office of the Secretariat will be challenged in support. They are looking at establishing a new contracting mechanism for FY 2014 to support the core capability for the Geospatial Platform. The current plan is to have a multi- year IDIQ contract.

Ms. Castle commented that she believes that the Geospatial Platform has dramatically evolved over the last couple of years. She thanked FGDC for their work on this effort. Mr. Joe Klimavicz noted that when services begin to be registered more consistently and thoroughly on the Geospatial Platform, its utility will be highlighted even further (now the focus is mostly on data). The validation process for services such as apps is a future question for discussion. Mr. Stephen Lowe commented that consistent symbology on the Platform would be helpful.

FGDC OS FY 2012 Budget and Accomplishments – Ivan DeLoatch

Mr. DeLoatch provided a review of the budget and accomplishments of the FGDC Secretariat during FY 2012. His intention for the presentation is to provide transparency and clarity of the activities and responsibilities of the FGDC Office of the Secretariat. He began by stating that the Secretariat provides a tremendous amount of technical and administrative support, including support to the FGDC Chair and Vice Chair; Steering Committee; Executive Committee; Coordination Group; Subcommittees and Working Groups; annual reporting requirements; and the National Geospatial Advisory Committee. Support for the Geospatial Line of Business (GeoLoB), Data.gov, Geospatial Platform, and Cloud Computing are components of the FGDC Secretariat's duties as well. Furthermore, the FGDC oversees implementation of the A-16 Supplemental Guidance, and administers the NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program (CAP).

Special projects are also included among the list of the Secretariat's tasks and accomplishments, including the recent GAO evaluation and responses, research and discussions with the Federal Trade Commission on geolocation privacy, coordination with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau on a national parcel data database, among other items. International activities of the FGDC Secretariat include participation in the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) and the Group on Earth Observations (USGEO). Other activities include standards development and implementation, NSDI training, and support for the Department of Interior (including the Position, Navigation, and Timing group) and the U.S. Geological Survey (including metadata and data stewardship activities).

Mr. DeLoatch provided a summary of the Secretariat's budget, with a breakout of costs for each of the major program areas. He also summarized FGDC governance activities in FY 2012, including FGDC leadership support, and arranging four Steering Committee meetings, four Executive Committee meetings, twelve Coordination Group meetings, and four National Geospatial Advisory Committee meetings.

Some of the FGDC's key committee accomplishments in FY 2012 were reviewed. In FY 2012, the Steering Committee established the Geospatial Platform Business Case and Funding Strategy; formed the UN Global Geospatial Information Management (UNGGIM) FGDC working group; endorsed the establishment of an ad-hoc working group on Interagency Coordination of Geospatial Support for Presidential Policy Decision – 8: National Preparedness; recommended DOI as the Geospatial Platform Managing Partner; concurred that a tiered, shared funding strategy (with potential for a reserve fund) be used to fund the Geospatial Platform operations and Program Management Office activities; endorsed the Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard; and approved the Geospatial Platform Business Plan, governance approach and model including the Geospatial Platform Oversight Body, and shared investment strategy.

The NGAC's FY 2012 accomplishments included adoption of the Geospatial Workforce Development paper and Innovative Strategies for Geospatial Programs and Partnerships paper, approval of a resolution endorsing the national elevation program (3DEP), and adoption of papers on *The Value Proposition for Ten Landsat Applications* and *Statement on Landsat Data Use and Charges*. In addition, the NGAC made recommendations on the Geospatial Platform, Tribal land records, and the impacts of the LightSquared proposal on GPS.

Various FGDC accomplishments regarding the Geospatial Platform, A-16 Supplemental Guidance, GeoCloud Initiative, Standards activities, NSDI training, CAP grants, international activities and DOI/USGS geospatial activities were described as well.

Mr. Stephen Lowe commented that he thought the FGDC Annual Report should connect more to FGDC agencies' work in its next version. He believes the Annual Report can be completed more effectively in the future using web content management and linking to examples of agencies' efforts.

2013 FGDC Guidance to NGAC – John Mahoney

Mr. John Mahoney (FGDC OS) gave an overview of the 2013 FGDC Guidance to NGAC, which is a paper developed by the FGDC that identifies specific issues on which the FGDC would like the NGAC's advice and recommendations during 2013. He noted that the next NGAC meeting will be held via webinar on April 3, 2013. There is a significant emphasis on the NSDI Strategic Plan in the guidance and specific questions asked in the guidance tie back to the GAO report. A section on the Geospatial Platform includes asking for feedback on developing optimum partnerships with other sectors on data services. There is also a section on Landsat, which is a new subcommittee of the NGAC as of last year. The A-16 Supplemental Guidance and portfolio management implementation plan is another focus of the paper.

ACTION: Steering Committee members are asked to submit feedback on the FGDC Draft Guidance to NGAC to Mr. John Mahoney by COB Thursday, March 21.

Wrap-Up Discussion – Anne Castle, DOI

Ms. Castle reviewed the major actions and decisions from the meeting, discussed next steps, and adjourned the meeting.

Adjourn