
Summary of March 21-22, 2017 NGAC Meeting

Julie Sweetkind-Singer, NGAC Chair

FGDC Steering Committee Meeting

March 23, 2017

National Geospatial Advisory Committee

Ms. Julie Sweetkind-Singer (Chair)*
Stanford University

Mr. Keith Masback (Vice-Chair)*
U.S. Geospatial Intelligence Foundation

Mr. David Alexander
Department of Homeland Security

Mr. Frank Avila
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Dr. Sarah Battersby
Tableau Software

Mr. Talbot Brooks
Delta State University

Mr. Gar Clarke*
State of New Mexico

Mr. Garet Couch*
National Tribal GIS Center

Ms. Patricia Cummins*
ESRI

Mr. Stuart Davis*
State of Ohio

Mr. Matthew Gentile
Deloitte Financial Advisory Services, LLP

Mr. Frank Harjo
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Mr. Xavier Irias
East Bay Municipal Utility District

Ms. Roberta Lenczowski*
Roberta E. Lenczowski Consulting, LLC

Mr. Roger Mitchell
MDA Information Systems, Inc.

Ms. Rebecca Moore
Google, Inc.

Mr. Kevin Pomfret*
Centre for Spatial Law and Policy

Dr. Laxmi Ramasubramanian
Hunter College, City University of NY

Major General William N. Reddel III*
New Hampshire National Guard

Dr. Carl Reed
Carl Reed and Associates, LLC

Ms. Amber Reynolds
City of Topeka, KS

Dr. Douglas Richardson
Association of American Geographers

Mr. Cy Smith*
State of Oregon

Ms. Rebecca Somers*
Somers-St. Claire GIS Consultants

Ms. Jennie Stapp*
State of Montana

Dr. Harvey Thorleifson*
Minnesota Geological Survey

Mr. Jason Warzinik*
Boone County, MO

Dr. May Yuan
University of Texas – Dallas

*Appointed/Reappointed January 2017



National Geospatial Advisory Committee

March 2017 NGAC Meeting – Agenda

- Leadership Dialogue
- Federal Geospatial Highlights
 - NGDA Portfolio Management
 - Geospatial Platform
- Perspectives – Key Issues Facing the Geospatial Community
- Spotlight on Geospatial Programs
 - National Address Database
 - USGS National Geospatial Program
 - Parcel Data
- NGAC Subcommittee Reports
 - Standards Coordination Subcommittee
 - Landsat Advisory Group
- Lightning Sessions

FGDC Activities

- Leadership dialogue with Kerry Rae (DOI).
- Update on Federal Geospatial Activities:
 - Transition activities
 - NSDI Strategic Framework
 - National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Portfolio management
 - Geospatial Platform



Spotlight on Geospatial Programs

National Address Database:

- Update from Steve Lewis (DOT) & Tim Trainor (Census)
- NGAC has provided extensive input on development of the NAD and looks forward to continued progress.

National Geospatial Program:

- Update from Mike Tischler (USGS) on 3DEP, Hydrography, Alaska mapping, etc.
- USGS will ask for NGAC feedback on 3DEP Multi-year plan at June 2017 NGAC meeting.

HIFLD/Parcel Data:

- Update from Mike Donnelly (DHS) and Mike Piscotti (NGA).
- Parcel data available through HIFLD Secure later this year – NGAC organizations encouraged to utilize.

Standards Subcommittee

- NGAC adopted paper on “Geospatial Standards: A National Asset” in principle, pending minor edits
- Paper addressed task from 2016 FGDC guidance:

“The FGDC requests NGAC advice on greater adoption and utilization of standards resulting in enhanced interoperability of geospatial data, services, and systems. The FGDC will also request recommendations on collaboration with voluntary standards organizations to enhance the implementation and uptake of endorsed standards.”
- **Subcommittee Membership:** Carl Reed (chair), Gen. William Reddel (vice-chair), Talbot Brooks, Xavier Irias, Harvey Thorleifson, and Frank Harjo.

Standards Paper – Recommendations

1. Discovery - Create a national inventory of key geospatial standards

FGDC should coordinate the development and maintenance of a publicly accessible inventory (registry) of relevant geospatial standards. The initial contribution to this inventory could be those international or national standards already vetted and endorsed by the FGDC and the GWG.

2. Role of the FGDC

The FGDC should continue to collaborate with voluntary consensus standards organizations to provide requirements and to facilitate the development of standards in these SDOs that meet national requirements. The FGDC is already heavily engaged in the work of geospatial SDOs. This work should continue and perhaps increase in scope.

3. Outreach & Education

FGDC, in collaboration with its partners, can provide leadership to:

- ❑ Communicate the benefits of standards
- ❑ Provide use cases and exemplars to allow users to determine the business value of using open geospatial standards
- ❑ Determine which standards to use
- ❑ Co-sponsor seminars and workshops for partner organizations
- ❑ Consider which standards should (or can) be specified in legislation

Landsat Advisory Group

LAG Study Tasks:

■ Task #1 – Revisit Smallsat Investigation

- USGS asking LAG formulate comprehensive **narrative on pros and cons** of *existing* smallsat technology **juxtaposed with Landsats 8 and 9**.
 - Task Lead: Kass Green
 - Status: Draft report in June 2017

■ Task #2 – Temporal Data Cube Study

- Study the **feasibility and utility** of implementing temporal data cubes **to support projection** or 'forecast' models of land change trends
 - Task Lead: Bobbi Lenczowski
 - Status: Draft report in June 2017

NGAC Dialogue – Ideas for Study Topics

Geospatial technology and infrastructure

- Recognize that geospatial infrastructure is part of the nation's critical infrastructure
- Demonstrate how geospatial technology and information is needed to address critical infrastructure issues

Workforce & Education

- Scope of geospatial industry has grown dramatically; growing demand and opportunities
- How to train next generation of geospatial professionals
- Related skill sets - data management, visualization, analysis, etc.

Address the geospatial community's needs for Data as Services

- Think 3-5 years out
- Push and pull analysis

NGAC Dialogue – Ideas for Study Topics

Cultural and historical geospatial assets held by Federal agencies

- Strategies for effective management of protected data with geospatial component
- Assess need & approaches to develop standard/consistent processes

Other topics emerged:

- Risk Assessment - how geospatial framework data sets would help to lessen the risk
- Importance of geospatial information more broadly, underpins or is a component of critical data
- Guidelines for maintaining currency of data; best practices for current and historical data
- Role of U.S. in the broader geospatial community (UN, GEO, etc.)

Lightning Talks

- ❑ **U.S. Geological Mapping Strategic Plan** – Harvey Thorleifson
- ❑ **RFID and GNSS for Underground Asset Management** – Xavier Irias
- ❑ **Beyond Open Data** – Pat Cummins
- ❑ **Preparing Students for the Workforce** – Talbot Brooks
- ❑ **National Assessment of GIS&T** – Doug Richardson
- ❑ **Exchange Network Conference** – Frank Harjo
- ❑ **State of GeoInt Report** – Keith Masback
- ❑ **NAPSG Foundation Standards Overview** – Gen. William Reddel/Rebecca Harned
- ❑ **DOD Shared Situational Awareness Memorandum** – Gen. William Reddel

Next Steps

- Form short-term working groups to address key issues
- Plan for imagery/Landsat session at June meeting
- Form subcommittees to address FGDC guidance (June meeting).

- Next NGAC meetings:
 - June 13-14 (Department of Interior)
 - Sept 6-7 (NCTC – Shepherdstown)
 - December webinar meeting (date TBD)