

VERTICAL REFERENCE SYSTEMS WORK GROUP

ACTION PLAN

October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010

1. Maintain communications with international community (Mexico, Canada) with regards to Vertical Reference Frame issues at common borders.
 - a. Canadian participation in Great Lakes Regional Height Modernization meetings encouraged
 - b. Canadian participation in annual Alaska Surveying and Mapping Conference, Feb 22-26, 2010
 - c. GRAV-D and geoid model group are in active dialog with Canada; possible participation in GRAV-D symposium planned in Boulder in October
2. Continue to build membership in Work Group.
 - a. Not successful yet likely because of no meetings held. Federal forum in Spring (see below) should provide opportunity to solicit more participation.
3. Develop technical document on the future of vertical datums in the U.S. Document will be starting point for other white papers, 1-pagers, and articles addressing issues related to Vertical Reference Systems. Document will include Case studies highlighting today's issues and how a new vertical datum will support those applications.
 - a. List was developed in preparation for workshop presented at ACSM 2009 in Salt Lake City. This will become the starter list.
 - b. Technical document will be the basis for guidance for NGS partners to focus their activities in a direction that will support the transition to the new vertical datum. HM Partners are asking for this kind of guidance.
4. From technical publication in 3, topics for other papers and target audiences will be identified, including but not limited to:
 - a. What will be the impact of a new vertical datum. i.e. What will various agencies need to do to implement a new datum, and what will the roles be for each agency.
 - b. Develop presentation material aimed at managers and other agencies.
 - c. Target minimum of 2-3 papers for publication by end of FY2010.
5. VRSWG will reconvene quarterly, currently planned for the first Thursday of each 3rd month, beginning with October 1, 2009, from 10:00-11:30. If necessary, additional meetings will be held more frequently.
6. Hold a Federal Height Mod or Vertical Datum Forum or Symposium in Spring 2010. At a previous planning meeting Nancy Doyle offered to help with this but

we have not yet followed through. Roy Dokka is still interested in promoting this with the idea we would have it in Denver or some other location, but have decided the DC area is better for a federal event.