

FGCS VRSWG Draft Meeting Notes

April 5, 2012 (morning)

In attendance: Renee Shields, Ajit Singh, Jeremy McHugh, Jim Frederick (NGA), Larry Hothem (USGS), Carl Brown (NPS)

Renee asked who would be at the FGCS meeting in San Diego in July. No one on the phone will be able to be there either because of conflicts or travel cuts. Jeremy said teleconference capability is planned for those who can only attend remotely. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 24, 8-11 a.m. Pacific time. Teleconference information will be disseminated in advance.

Renee Shields recapped some NGS activities:

- Renee emailed notes from the January meeting just prior to the meeting and welcomes comments when people have time to look them over.
- Renee and Christine have written a Height Modernization National plan, a strategic plan that has been presented to the NGS Executive Steering Committee (ESC). The ESC feedback was favorable and they supported to concepts outlined in the plan. NGS leadership is meeting within the month to discuss updating the NGS Ten-year plan with intent to better define a strategy for implementation as NGS moves forward. The Height Modernization plan will be evaluated as the NGS strategic plan is developed to ensure objectives are consistent and properly integrated. Renee expects to have a revised draft to present by the July FGCS meeting if not sooner, but may decide to distribute the draft to the VRSWG in advance of that meeting for comment. Renee mentioned the basic components of the plan included NGS systematically evaluate the way users access NAVD 88, the condition of the infrastructure, what strategies are need to address gaps in the infrastructure and maintain that until the new datum is in place, and an education and outreach component. An implementation plan complete with milestones will be developed on an annual or bi-annual schedule.
- Renee mentioned GRAV-D progress-web page for information:
<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/GRAV-D/>
- Status of NA2011 and GEOID12 which will be completed by June 30. GEOID12 is dependent on NA2011 ellipsoid heights together with the results of special leveling adjustments completed in WI and the Gulf Coast states.
- Renee again raised the idea of having brief meetings with each agency individually to have more focused discussions on products and services that should be captured in the spreadsheet. People thought this would be a good idea. Jim Frederick and Larry Hothem both said I should get the full list of who to invite from them.

National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (Jim Frederick)

NGA finally officially approved EGM08. They are updating the manual which will be circulated through NSG for review. Jim thought some folks on the phone might be members. Regarding the agency-focused meetings, Jim suggested Steve Kenyon be one of the people to invite, and others that are listed in alternate membership on the VRSWG.

Department of Interior

An informal discussion expanded to discuss many of the related DOI efforts ongoing:

- USGS (Hydro and Coastal Hydro), NPS, and FWS have been very active
- Extensive lidar data collection and management efforts are ongoing
- Extensive Surface Elevation Table (SET) and bench mark networks have been or are currently been established, sometimes complete with GNSS or leveling observations
- Efforts have also included the development of training and guidelines (Paul Ryland and Brenda Woodward from USGS have drafted guidelines about how to establish geodetic control, and they have been circulated within DOI as of January 5, 2012)

USGS (Larry Hothem)

Also recommended contacting Larry Sugarbaker, Larry Moore, Kari Craun, and Greg Snyder as well as points of contact with their “earthquake” groups)

NGA (Jim Frederich)

Branches of NGA also important to contact include the aeronautical and maritime groups. The most critical pieces will be a transformation tool that can get data into WGS 84. It is already practice to ingest data from others and then convert it.

NPS (Tim Smith)

There is a growing interest and CORS and streaming data, as well as continued interest in passive monumentation. Working more closely with CO-OPS would be of tremendous benefit as well.

USACE (Jim Garster)

All projects are tied to the NSRS. Major focuses of USACE right now include planning/designing for sea level change and also lidar data collection. There is continued focus in the coastal and near coastal areas, and interest in the intersection of the water level surface and the NSRS.

Current Concerns

NGS Updates (Joe Evjen)

Geoid12 and NA2011 continue to progress. Please continue to submit GPS on bench marks to OPUS. You can now use OPUS in both reference frames. When NA2011 is complete, OPUS-DB will be “re-booted” so that all positions are published in new reference frame. There should be a capability to have the position in the old reference frame in a superseded control section.

Actions (Renee Shields)

- All please continue to share and update/revise the spreadsheet with others at your agency
- The SET discussions seems to merit a monthly meeting along with the issues archiving data and monitoring vertical motion
- There is interest in seeing the USGS guidelines outside of DOI
- Possible addition to the HMOD web page is to identify “Other Resources” for data

- USMART – water level gages for more links?

Events

- May 6-10: FIG Working Week (Rome)
- May 22-25: HSRP Spring Meeting (AK)
- June 12-15: ION Joint Navigation Conference (CO)
- July 16-17: RTN Symposium (Memphis, TN) **CANCELLED, MAY BE RESCHEDULED to coincide with ION in September in Nashville**
- July 23-27: IGS 2012 Workshop (Poland)
- July 21-24: ACSM/ESRI Survey Summit (San Diego, CA)
- July 24 & 26: NGS Geospatial Summit (San Diego, CA) **CANCELLED**
- July 23-27: ESRI International UC (San Diego, CA)
- September 17-21: ION GNSS 2012 (Nashville, TN)
- September 17-18: CGSIC (Nashville, TN)