

February 2, 2017 FGDC HIFLD Subcommittee Meeting



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1.0 Logistics

1.1 Date and Time

Thursday, February 2, 2017
 1430 - 1600 PM EST
 IAFC Headquarters
 4025 Fair Ridge Drive, Fairfax, VA 22033

1.2 Call-in/Webinar Instructions

Call Bridge: 1-800-320-4330
 Conference Pin: 637879
 Webinar Link: <https://share.dhs.gov/r7vxj86husn/>

2.0 Agenda

2.1 Introductions

Primary	Affiliation	Comments
Mike Donnelly	DHS	Secretariat
Georgette Holmes	NPPD	Call-in/webinar
Amy Youmans	FEMA	Call-in/webinar
Chris Vaughan	FEMA	
Nate Workman	FEMA	Call-in/webinar
Mike Piscotti	NGA	
Bill Nellist	NGA	Call-in/webinar
Rex Tugwell	NGA	
Erica Bickford	DOE	Call-in/webinar
Thomas Dabolt	DOI	Call-in/webinar
Dave Saghy	USGS	Call-in/webinar
Greg Matthews	USGS	Call-in/webinar
Gita Urban-Mathieux	USGS	
Dierdre Bevington-Attardi	DOC	Call-in/webinar
Lynda Liptrap	DOC	Call-in/webinar
Charles Spicer	DOC	
Tina Smith	DOJ	Call-in/webinar
Mark Tuttle	ORNL	Call-in/webinar
Tommy Hicks	IAFC	
Jeff Snow	IAFC	
Rebecca Harned	NAPSG	Call-in/webinar
Peter O'Rourke	NAPSG	Call-in/webinar
Travis Hardy	ArdentMC	
Julie Sokol	ArdentMC	
Sarah Spalding	ArdentMC	Call-in/webinar
Justin Reed	BAH	
Tom Springsteen	BAH	Call-in/webinar
Talbot Brooks	Delta State	

2.2 Welcome

Mr. Donnelly welcomed everyone to the HIFLD Subcommittee meeting and thanked IAFC and Jeff Snow, for hosting the event. Mr. Snow and Mr. Hicks welcomed the group and introduced some of the members of IAFC present for the meeting. They mentioned the stewardship of Fire Station data that would be discussed in further detail later in the meeting.

2.3 Key Questions

Mr. Donnelly highlighted the three thematic questions that would frame the February subcommittee meeting:

- What is the status of HIFLD data enhancement efforts?
- How are HIFLD capabilities evolving in the near term to support long-term data quality and currency objectives?
- What are recent or upcoming HIFLD community happenings on the horizon that are of importance to the subcommittee?

2.4 Review and Approval of HIFLD Subcommittee Meeting Agenda

Agenda was endorsed by all subcommittee attendees.

3.0 HIFLD Governance

3.1 Action Item Review (Informational)

The action items for the Subcommittee meeting are as follows:

Item #	Action Item	Owner	Status
2016-02-02-04	Plan parcel data workshop	HIFLD Exec Sec	Completed
2016-04-05-01	Replace FEMA Recovery Centers layer with Joint Field Offices	FEMA	Approx 1 year
2016-04-05-02	Inquire with NPPD regarding status of IAL	Georgette Holmes	Completed
2016-04-05-03	Decide whether to maintain IAL in HIFLD	Subcommittee	Completed
2016-04-05-04	Promote NAPSG symbology efforts to solicit feedback	Exec Sec and NAPSG	Completed
2016-06-01-01	Have follow-up conversation with OCIA to discuss potential inclusion of the new asset list in development for HIFLD	Exec Sec and OCIA	In work
2016-06-01-02	Provide lack of currentness disclaimer in IAL metadata record	Exec Sec	In work

2016-08-02-01	Disseminate data list of currently available HIFLD layers	Exec Sec	Completed
2016-08-02-02	Determine if REST services on HIFLD Open are derived from their original format/ensure FGDB replacements are aligned with data delivery schedule	Exec Sec	In work
2016-08-02-03	Determine file format requirements from community	Exec Sec	Completed
2016-08-02-04	Vote on file format dissemination and how to address conversion errors	Exec Sec	Completed

Mr. Donnelly highlighted two of the action items listed. First, he inquired about the status of the Infrastructure Asset List (IAL) layer which was maintained by NPPD and shows where baseline critical infrastructure assets are throughout the country. Because the layer is no longer maintained, NPPD has discussed providing HIFLD with a replacement layer. Ms. Holmes said this new replacement layer contains Infrastructure of Concern (IOC) and is only incident related. It is expected to take about a year for the layer to be pushed out and provided to HIFLD. Ms. Holmes recommended that HIFLD schedule a meeting with Tracy Young of the Prioritization branch to discuss the layer in further detail which the Exec Sec marked as an action item.

To avoid confusion or issues for users, Mr. Donnelly suggested that HIFLD not distribute the current IAL layer on the HIFLD Secure platform since the data layer was last updated in 2012 and does not have an “owner” currently. He stated that the discussion would be tabled and a formal ask regarding the termination of this layer would be made for the next Subcommittee meeting and that it would not be published on HIFLD Secure in the meantime. It will, however, continue to be available on the HSIP 2015 DVDs. Ms. Holmes said that she can be the POC for those who would like access to critical infrastructure data in IP gateway.

The second action item regarded REST Services on HIFLD Open. Currently, the HIFLD team is replacing static versions of layers with functional REST services, when available. Ms. Liptrap mentioned that Census has some WMS versions of HIFLD datasets that users can access by going to GeoPlatform and asked if users are being driven to the Census site directly or to GeoPlatform in the event that these layers are NGDAs. Mr. Hardy responded, stating that HIFLD pulls NGDAs from the data steward and that HIFLD is currently in conversations with data.gov about harvesting CKAN from HIFLD Open. They are working to “de-dupe” when data.gov is already disseminating a layer that is contained in HIFLD (e.g. NGDAs).

As a new action item, Ms. Liptrap requested that HIFLD and Census have a follow-on conversation regarding their web services.

3.2 Leadership and Membership Actions (Decisional)

Mr. Donnelly stated that the Subcommittee currently lacks a Chair and Vice Chair. Ms. Youmans has been nominated and has accepted her nomination. And there are

discussions with Mr. Todd Debolt regarding a nomination for Chairmanship. Mr. Donnelly asked that members let the Subcommittee know if they have any nominees in mind so a vote can be made. He clarified the roles of these two positions, emphasizing that the Chair and Vice Chair set the agenda and strategy for the meeting while the Secretariat does the heavy lifting and carries out the actions.

Mr. Donnelly also mentioned that he had met with Erica Bickford of DOE recently and learned about DOE's unique use case for HIFLD data in support of a presidential directive on nuclear stockpiles. DOE was offered membership into the Subcommittee and there were no objections to welcoming them as voting members.

Ms. Bickford explained DOE's use case in further detail. Her group is responsible for nuclear waste management from nuclear power plants and is focused on transportation. They have a GIS web routing tool that generates modal and routing options, taking into account factors such as emergency response capabilities and residential lands. This tool is mostly for internal use and has a few external stakeholders. However, they have had requests from external organizations such as universities and would like to create a publicly accessible version and determine which HIFLD layers can and cannot be incorporated into this.

3.3 HIFLD Executive Secretariat Workplan for 2017 (Informational)

Mr. Donnelly briefly reviewed the HIFLD Executive Secretariat workplan, mentioning the three different buckets: outreach, data enhancement, and data publication. He said the Exec. Sec. is happy to discuss this in further detail offline for those with any questions.

4.0 Discoverability, & Online Dissemination

4.1 HIFLD Open Data Usage (Informational)

Mr. Donnelly went into some HIFLD Open uses cases and the associated metrics. He first mentioned Hurricane Matthew and the demand for HIFLD datasets at that time. He thanked Mr. Piscotti, Oak Ridge National Lab, and the HIFLD team for making updated datasets available. He highlighted the uptick of HIFLD Open data during the hurricane which is a testament to the importance of data. Mr. Hardy followed Mr. Donnelly, mentioning that there was a hot-burning need for mobile home parks data and the team moved rapidly to exchange and expose the data which was then provided to President Obama in a hard-copy map. He also highlighted that the landfall for Hurricane Matthew was on October 8th and the increase in data usage prior to the event. Mr. Donnelly also showed that there was a gradual incline of usage of HIFLD Open datasets prior to inauguration.

4.2 HIFLD Open Data Analytics (Informational)

Metrics on data usage by file type from HIFLD Open were presented to the group.

4.3 HIFLD Secure Update (Informational)

Mr. Donnelly stated that a lot of traction has been gained since the release of HIFLD Secure last year. It has been stocked with data and the HIFLD team continues to add more data layers.

5.0 Data Analysis, Prioritization, & Enhancement Efforts

5.1 Data Enhancement Update (Informational)

Mr. Piscotti reviewed what data layers are in the pipeline for release. He first went over commodity datasets, with Transportation data now in the hands of the GMO. NGA had completed their review and developed an MXD to maintain as much continuity with the deliverable on the HSIP 2015 DVDs. An interim deliverable has been received for Parcel data and some key issues have been fixed. However, there are some issues that they are hoping to resolve in the long term. They plan to have the data delivered to the GMO soon. NGA has also been in discussions with Dun & Bradstreet regarding quality of data and they are still working on making improvements to data. They will be meeting with them again in the near future but have no updates on when the data will be refreshed. NGA will also be receiving more ORNL data over the coming months such as Schools data and LandScan USA. Six Federal datasets are set to be released this month.

Ms. Bevington-Attardi mentioned that Census has a few NGDAs for some of the ORNL datasets that were brought up such as Canada and Mexico borders. She was happy to link NGA up with the authoritative sources and Mr. Spicer would also be able to assist.

Mr. Reed provided an update on data enhancement, stating that 38 layers have already been posted. He thanked the data providers for their help in this effort. He also provided an overview of the process. Mr. Donnelly encouraged the SC members to look at the list of datasets undergoing enhancement and requested that they contact Mr. Reed if the dataset falls within their agency so no one is blindsided once the enhancement process begins.

6.0 HIFLD Community Issues

Mr. Donnelly discussed the October Feedback Session and a few issues that were brought up for discussion with the Subcommittee. Ms. Sokol added that there are also more detailed meeting notes that will be circulated. The issues brought up during the meeting are new, but potentially familiar, issues that the Exec. Sec. would like input on in terms of their prioritization.

Workflows to Support User Access

Ms. Sokol stated that users have been commenting about HSIN and that obtaining the HIFLD Secure data can be a lengthy process. To improve upon this, HIFLD is working with NSGIC for strategic messaging for state users, in particular. Mr. Donnelly mentioned improving the communications process and helping users become more acclimated with the HSIN account creation process and thinks that working with NSGIC is one of those

efforts. He asked if the Subcommittee thinks that some of these issues can be solved by improving communications.

Download Options for HIFLD Inventory

Ms. Sokol said that for both HIFLD Open and HIFLD Secure, there have been cries for bulk download and HIFLD is considering exploring this effort, depending on the priority. DTRA is one example of an impacted agency; they work in a closed environment and have difficulty bringing the data over to their high side. Ms. Smith of DOJ also expressed experiencing these difficulties with HIFLD. Mr. Hardy reemphasized Ms. Sokol's points, stating that in closed environments have specific needs that HIFLD would like to help support. HIFLD felt it was important to go to the Subcommittee and see what kind of priority this should be, knowing that other needs and priorities will shift as a result. Mr. Donnelly also mentioned that this option will require an engineering solution within Esri which presents a challenge. He said that if the Subcommittee thinks HIFLD should be proactive about this, then they should notify HIFLD who will tally up the votes and determine the priority.

Feedback Requested: Do these issues require a reassessment of current tasks by the HIFLD Executive Secretariat?

HIFLD has been made aware that some organizations liked the yearly releases of HIFLD since they were able to have uniformity and version control across the organization. Currently, as soon as HIFLD receives the data, it is uploaded to either HIFLD Open or Secure. This can sometimes cause updates to URLs which users will have to remove and re-add if they are incorporated in their systems. As a result, HIFLD has considered slowing down the operational tempo to quarterly releases. Mr. Donnelly was interested in getting an opinion from the Subcommittee regarding this.

Ms. Youmans thought that pushing out more notifications about datasets being updated in advance would be helpful so organizations can make it a priority to update the URL. She also recommended creating a sign up list serve email where users can be notified about upcoming updates as well as completed ones. Ms. Harned added that she would be happy to help with the dissemination of major updates to states and locals so they aren't exhausted with updates. HIFLD could provide templates with messaging and NAPSG can post them on the website and through email blasts.

Mr. Piscotti recommended possibly doing updates on a monthly basis. Mr. Vaughn mentioned that some commodity datasets were scheduled to be quarterly updates and companies themselves scheduled them.

Mr. Donnelly said that the Exec. Sec. would compile proposed solutions and open them up for feedback in terms of whether the Subcommittee finds any to be good ideas or if they have other recommendations.

7.0 HIFLD Community Topic – Parcel Data Coordination

7.1 BLUF: Feedback request for Approach to Parcel Data Coordination Efforts (*Decisional*)

Mr. Hardy provided an overview of the Parcel Data Workshop that was held in September and said that the purpose of the workshop was to articulate the federal case for parcels. There were two main themes that resonated during the workshop—geometric accuracy and business requirements. HIFLD was able to capture some of the initial requirements and provided the parcel data attribute list for feedback from the Subcommittee. This will be provided in a package to the FGDC Cadastral Subcommittee and Coordination Group to see how the broader community outside of homeland security and homeland defense can use it. In summary, HIFLD has bundled up what it believes to be their requirements based on actions taken and will circulate and work from a federal interagency standpoint.

Ms. Liptrap stated that while parcel data is nice to have for Census, it is not a must. She appreciates the Subcommittee stepping up and helping the overall community with this effort. She was interested in hearing the result of how it is coordinated with FGDC. Mr. Hardy added that this was to complement what was already being done with the National Address Database. Mr. Vaughn spoke about how having parcel data during Hurricane Matthew was enormously helpful in expediting money for 25,000 homes. Ms. Smith mentioned that parcel data is discussed at FGDC Steering Committee meetings although many people do not have emergency response requirements so they do not lean towards it. She mentioned the benefit of HIFLD being an advocate for the emergency response and counterterrorism communities in the FGDC committee since HIFLD is valuable for their data needs.

8.0 Upcoming Events (Informational)

8.1 Program Highlights for HIFLD Community Update at FedGIS: (Informational)

HIFLD will be hosting a community update at the Esri FedGIS conference on February 13th from 1:45 – 4 PM. There will be strong FEMA voices, including the director of Public Policy and Program Analysis, Josh Dozor. There will be a governance update and interactive breakout sessions.

Subcommittee members suggested that HIFLD also have a presence at the upcoming NSGIC and NAPSG conferences.

Event	Dates	Location
HIFLD Community Update at FedGIS	February 13 th -14 th , 2017	Washington D.C.
Summer Meeting	TBD 2017	TBD
2017 HIFLD Feedback Session	August TBD, 2017	TBD
National Fusion Center Association (NFCA) Training Event	November 7 th -9 th , 2017	Alexandria, VA

9.0 Fire Stations Data Stewardship

Mr. Donnelly opened the floor for Mr. Snow to discuss International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and their recent involvement in HIFLD. Mr. Snow provided some background on IAFC, mentioning that they were the one of the oldest non-profits in the country and has a mission to lead, educate, and serve the members of the fire service. IAFC wants to offer more products and they are very excited to partner with HIFLD in updating the fire station data. Mr. Snow thanked everyone in HIFLD that he has worked with thus far and gave the floor to Mr. Tugwell for further background on the fire stations data partnership.

Mr. Tugwell stated that HIFLD is continually looking into older HIFLD content. NGA was recently put into contact with Delta State University which has an NGA Center of Excellence to see if they could assist in data collection and improvement. DHS had brought in the IAFC and the groups established a partnership for establishing a more comprehensive fire stations dataset for HIFLD.

Mr. Brooks followed Mr. Tugwell, thanking the group and emphasizing that IAFC has the contacts for obtaining the data, the University is developing the content, and the NGA team has the institutional wisdom. Mr. Tugwell, Mr. Snow, and Mr. Brooks aim for this to be a great experience for the students that will open doors for them in their careers.

Ms. Harned expressed her enthusiasm for this new effort, mentioning that the fire stations data layer is one of the most frequently used HIFLD datasets by the state and local community. She added that, because the data will be curated and managed by the fire service community, it will bring a great deal of validity and confidence in the dataset.

10.0 Open Discussion

Mr. Donnelly allowed for open discussion during which Mr. Matthews commented that there are some features in Open Data that USGS has been making updates on for their own internal purposes. While USGS is not the authoritative source, they have been collecting the data for years for mapping and internal products and believe the updates are accurate and high quality. USGS would like to collaborate and help the authoritative data providers on enhancing their datasets. He offered to be the POC for this. Mr. Donnelly suggested he talk to Mr. Reed regarding data enhancement.

Mr. Donnelly concluded the meeting at 4:09 PM, thanking all for attending and stated that notes, items for voting, and action items will be delivered in the upcoming weeks.

11.0 Action Items

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2016-02-02-04	Plan parcel data workshop	HIFLD Exec Sec	Completed
2016-04-05-01	Replace FEMA Recovery Centers layer with Joint Field Offices	FEMA	Approx 1 year

2016-04-05-02	Inquire with NPPD regarding status of IAL	Georgette Holmes	Completed
2016-04-05-03	Decide whether to maintain IAL in HIFLD	Subcommittee	Completed
2016-04-05-04	Promote NAPSG symbology efforts to solicit feedback	Exec Sec and NAPSG	Completed
2016-06-01-01	Have follow-up conversation with OCIA to discuss potential inclusion of the new asset list in development for HIFLD	Exec Sec and OCIA	In work
2016-06-01-02	Provide lack of currentness disclaimer in IAL metadata record	Exec Sec	In work
2016-08-02-01	Disseminate data list of currently available HIFLD layers	Exec Sec	Completed
2016-08-02-02	Determine if REST services on HIFLD Open are derived from their original format/ensure FGDB replacements are aligned with data delivery schedule	Exec Sec	In work
2016-08-02-03	Determine file format requirements from community	Exec Sec	Completed
2016-08-02-04	Vote on file format dissemination and how to address conversion errors	Exec Sec	Completed
2017-02-02-01	Meet with NPPD Prioritization Branch to discuss IAL replacement layer in detail.	Exec Sec	In work
2017-02-02-02	Have follow-on conversation regarding web services with Census.	Exec Sec	In work
2017-02-02-03	Have presence at NSGIC and NAPSG conferences.	Exec Sec	In work