Montana State Digital Library
April 2007 – May 2007
Prepared by Jim Hill

Goal One, Content: MSL acquires and manages relevant quality content that meets the needs of Montana library partners and patrons.

- NHP staff mapped 6000 new animal Occurrences and updated another 4000 in a major overhaul of the primary database used by the public and private sectors in conducting environmental reviews for sensitive species.
- The huge updating process of our NHP Observation data continues. Since April 1, NHP staff have added nearly 30,000 Observation records and revised over 18,000. These Observations records provide critical information for determining areas of probable Occurrence – i.e., the home ranges of breeding animals.
- NHP staff completed and web-published three new reports from 2006 field studies:
  - Aquatic Invertebrate Species of Concern on USFS Northern Region Lands, May 2007. (This study added 218 new locations for 9 invertebrate Species of Concern and documented 4 species new or rediscovered in Montana.)
  - Filling the distribution gaps for small mammals in Montana, May 2007. (This study added 13 new county records for several bat species, including 3 Montana Species of Concern.)
  - Watershed Assessment of Portions of the Lower Musselshell and Fork Peck Reservoir Subbasins, May 2007
- NHP field studies underway for 2007 include:
  - Watershed assessment and aquatic surveys in Carbon County ;
  - Wetland& riparian mapping in the Upper Clark Fork watershed (Deer Lodge, Granite & Powell Counties) and the Flathead River valley;
  - Distribution and status of isolated wetlands in Montana;
  - Sagebrush vegetation patterns & recovery/succession in southeast Montana;
  - Population assessment & monitoring of Spalding's catchfly and Water Howellia (Montana's two listed plant species);
  - Surveys of various animal species: amphibian & aquatic reptiles (statewide), pearl dace fish (Big Muddy Watershed of northeast MT), grassland birds (central high-line), and bats & terrestrial mollusks on National Forest lands;
  - Plant Species of Concern on BLM lands in southwest Montana and the Missoula district.
- LIS received substantial gift from FWP of historical copies of Journal of Wildlife Management and Wildlife Society Bulletin.

- LIS cleaned up old files and renaming folders on the network shared folder. This opened up considerable space on our server. Old files to be discarded were sent to the MSL agency records manager to review for disposal.

- LIS reviewed and renewed contracts for BioOne and ReferenceUSA licenses.

- With the assistance of ITSD and state agency web masters, LIS developed a domain list of 145 domains to be crawled quarterly in the Archive Montana web Archive.

Goal Two, Access: MSL provides libraries, agencies, and its partners and patrons with convenient, high quality, and cost-effective access to library content and services.

- NRIS continued the visioning process for a new, more comprehensive Montana Digital Atlas that will include the capabilities of the current Montana Digital Atlas, Topofinder I, Topofinder II and the Data Bundler.
- NRIS worked on development of the Montana GIS Data Portal, a community website where patrons can discuss GIS issues and publish metadata records for their GIS data holdings. The launch of the portal has been delayed until mid-Fall.
- NRIS staff fine-tuned the performance of the MSL data center.
- NRIS met with ITSD's network design group to plan some next steps for improving network connectivity and load-balancing in the data center.
- Made arrangements for the electrical contractor to install the new generator for the data center. There is one more test to perform before MSL signs off on the installation.
- NHP staff revised the web-published Public & Conservation Land Management map series to consistently include special designations such as Federal Wilderness, Research Natural Areas and National Monuments.
- NHP released a major update to the web Tracker, adding access to statewide distribution data for over 300 species of amphibians, reptiles, mammals, fish and invertebrates. Also added was a Photo Viewer providing access to digital images of over 8000 lakes and wetlands throughout Montana, as well as new data submission features. Public announcement of the site is planned for July, when work will be completed on several important new search functions.
- LIS proposed that MSL develop RSS feeds for new publications and developed a prototype for MSL. LIS discussed RSS feeds with Library Development Division and Montana Shared Catalog Staff. They proposed to the MSL webmaster that RSS feeds be created for new resources for all libraries in the Montana Shared Catalog. During April and May, RSS feeds were developed

for all libraries in Montana Shared Catalog. Feeds are available for both old and new browsers, covering more than 90% of all users.

- LIS staff created metadata for 145 domains to be crawled in the Archive Montana Web Archive. Metadata is based on the Dublin Core schema and will allow for future interoperability with the Open Archive Initiative.
- LIS developed its website for Archive Montana using web design standards in Jakob Nielsen's book, "Prioritizing Web Usability." LIS continues to upgrade its website in light of these usability standards and recommends an MSL web committee to pursue continuous quality improvement on the MSL website.
- LIS representative to TAWSE is pursuing an employee request for a bike rack for employees and patrons of the library.

NRIS AND NHP WEB STATISTICS

- NHP Web Statistics: **nhp.nris.mt.gov** averaged 1,000 visitor sessions per day in April and 1,105 visitor sessions per day in May. Currently, the five most requested pages are:

  Montana Natural Heritage Program http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/
  Bird Distribution http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/animal/latilong_bird.asp
  Community Field Guide
  http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/community/guide_report.asp
  NHP Tracker http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/NHIP/BirdMap.aspx
  Natural Heritage Program Publication
  http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/Reports_List.asp

- NRIS Web Statistics: **nris.mt.gov** averaged 2,054 visitor sessions per day in April and 2,140 visitor sessions per day in May. Currently, the five most requested pages are:

  Montana Maps http://nris.mt.gov/gis/gisdatalib/mtmaps.aspx
  Montana Geographic Information Clearinghouse http://nris.mt.gov/gis/
  NRIS Home Page http://nris.mt.gov/
  DNRC Water Right Query System
  http://nris.mt.gov/dnrc/waterrights/default.aspx
  Interactive Mapping and Database Applications
  http://nris.mt.gov/interactive.html

OCLC Digital Archive Access Summary
APR-07

Inst Name	Inst Location	Objects Accessed
UNIV OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE	California	471
MONTANA STATE LIBR	Montana	222
UNIV OF MONTANA, MANSFIELD LIBR	Montana	6
STATE LIBR OF IOWA	Iowa	5
US GEOL SURVEY, NAT CTR	Virginia	4
OLD DOMINION UNIV	Virginia	3
DENTON PUB SCHS	Montana	2
UNIV OF VIRGINIA	Virginia	2
UNIV OF WYOMING LIBR	Wyoming	2
MILES COMMUN COL LIBR	Montana	2
VIRTUAL LIBR OF VIRGINIA, THE	Virginia	1
UNIV COL OF THE FRASER VAL LIBR	British Columbia	1
HELENA SCH, INSTRUL MEDIA CTR LIBR	Montana	1
NORTHWESTERN UNIV	Illinois	1
MONTANA STATE UNIV, MSU LIBR	Montana	1
OCLC LIBR	Ohio	1
SAN ANTONIO COL	Texas	1
MSU-GREAT FALLS CAMPUS LIBR	Montana	1
DRUMMOND SCH COMM LIB	Montana	1
SALISH KOOTENAI COL LIBR	Montana	1
N/A		907

OCLC Digital Archive Access Summary
MAY-07

Inst Name	Inst Location	Objects Accessed
MONTANA STATE LIBR	Montana	72
MSU-GREAT FALLS CAMPUS LIBR	Montana	16
UNIV OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE	California	10
US GEOL SURVEY, NAT CTR	Virginia	9
UNIV OF COLORADO AT BOULDER	Colorado	4
FRENCHTOWN HIGH SCH LIBR	Montana	4
STATE LIBR OF IOWA	Iowa	4
MONTANA STATE UNIV, MSU LIBR	Montana	4
BRYN MAWR COL	Pennsylvania	2
COLORADO SCH OF MINES	Colorado	1
UNIV OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS, SHIELDS LIBR	California	1
MICHIGAN TECH UNIV	Michigan	1
KANSAS DEPT OF TRANS	Kansas	1
FLATHEAD CNTY LIBR	Montana	1
VIRGINIA TRANS RES COUN	Virginia	1
UNIV OF VIRGINIA	Virginia	1
MONTANA STATE UNIV, NORTHERN	Montana	1
NATIONAL INST OF HEALTH	Montana	1
SALISH KOOTENAI COL LIBR	Montana	1
KALISPELL REG MED CTR LIBR	Montana	1
N/A		323

Goal Three, Consultation and Leadership: MSL provides consultation and leadership to enable its patrons and partners to reach their goals.

- NRIS began a summer project for the State Historic Preservation office in which student interns will develop a GIS layer for the State Antiquities Database.
- NRIS provided an interactive map for the Montana Historical Society's upcoming conference, "Beyond Borders and Boundaries: David Thompson & the North American Fur Trade." The Historic Indian Lands map is being distributed to conference participants as a ".pmf" file, which is compatible with the free ArcReader software that is also included on the CD.
- NRIS signed an MOU with the USGS to act as the official steward for the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD), a GIS inventory of Montana's surface water features. Staff also attended a conference for NHD stewards; this three day event in Denver proved very informative for our new role as official steward.
- NRIS helped present two days of training for USFS Region 1 personnel who will be submitting updates to surface water features in the NHD.
- NRIS was awarded grants from both the USGS and the Montana Land Information Council for stewardship of the NHD.
- NHP staff met with Land Trusts, and representatives from the Depts. of Administration and Revenue on implementation of Senate Bill 317, which creates a formal process for statewide collection of conservation easement data, and integration of that data into the Cadastral dataset. In the past, NHP worked with land trusts to voluntarily provide and maintain this data, an effort that was highly commended and reported to be 95% accurate in a recent Legislative Audit. SB317 stipulates that easement data resulting from this new process will continue to be provided to the NHP for incorporation into our Public and Conservation Lands dataset and the web services that utilize it.
- NHP staff learned that the proposal submitted for coordination of statewide Land Cover (vegetation) data was not funded under the Montana Land Information Act grant program. Efforts are now underway to build other partnerships that will help support development of this important data resource.
- NHP ecology staff attended and made presentations at meetings of the American Water Resources Association and the North American Benthological Society.
- LIS organized the May 9th meeting of the Permanent Public Access Committee, at which we celebrated the passage of HB 132, presented an overview of the current processes for electronic state publications, discussed the issue of authenticity of government documents, and how we might build a state government digital preservation community.

Goal Four, Collaboration: MSL promotes partnerships and encourages collaboration among its partners and patrons so that their information needs can be met.

- NRIS hosted the annual meeting of the MontanaView Consortium and also expanded the MontanaView website.

- NRIS & NHP staff participated in a meeting of the Yellowstone River Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in Billings.
- LIS staff assisted MLA conference, April 25-28, in various ways. Julie Klauss chaired the Entertainment Committee. Chris Stockwell chaired the Technology committee. MSL provide 24 laptops, 2 printers, and 2 projectors to support the MLA Conference 2007. The technology committee also supported the registration database. Jennie Stapp assisted staffing the reception desk for 14 hours. We all attended various portions of the conference.
- Four LIS staff attended Best Practices Exchange for government libraries, May 1-4, in Phoenix, AZ. We made two presentations. We sent information on how we were doing RSS feeds to several libraries that heard our presentations at BPE. Attendees asked MSL to host the next BPE in Montana. A committee comprised of the Montana State Library, Montana Historical Society, State Law Library of Montana, and Records and Information Management Division of the Secretary of State's Office is now planning for BPE 2008 scheduled for May 21-23 in Helena.
- With an eye to creating future web archive partners for Archive Montana, LIS staff solicited interest by Montana Association of Counties (MACO) and the Montana Education Association/Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA/FTE) to participate in the Internet Archive's 2 Billion page world-wide crawl. They agreed and LIS submitted their URLs to the Internet Archive.
- LIS staff attended a Public Information Officer's lunch, in part to welcome Jon Ebelt newly hired media relations specialist at DPHHS and also to share agency news.

Goal Five, Sustainable Success: MSL is a well-run organization and a sought-after employer; it is efficient and effective (measured against partner and patron outcomes), and successfully engaged in its ongoing mission.

- MSdL managers met with MSL's consultant to work on the MSdL Competency Model.

- LIS staff met to review status of LIS long term projects list created earlier this year. LIS staff created the following categories for future projects list: technologies, people, marketing, web archives, digital archive/CONTENTdm, and current awareness tools. LIS then listed in bullet format specific actions for each long term projects category.

- LIS staff participated in a Content Cooperative Pilot (CCP) project teleconference discussing the current and anticipated means for submitting digital materials through the Connexion Client and Browser. OCLC personnel shared their current knowledge of the new infrastructure and digital content services being developed based on the CONTENTdm software.

- Based on our long-term projects list, the CCP teleconference and LIS need to understand the interrelationships of our various digital tools, the LIS staff created

the following diagrams: Current MSL Digital Strategy, OCLC's New Digital Strategy, and a possible new MSL Digital Strategy.