Montana State Digital Library
October 2007 – November 2007

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

- LIS updated journal collection guideline to align it with the MSL strategic plan.
- LIS updated online database collection guideline to align it with the MSL strategic plan.
- LIS reviewed and approved EBSCO spring renewal list for journals according to our collection development policy.
- LIS created MSL Web Archive Collection development policy.
- LIS wrote the Internal Staff Workflow for Digitization document to guide the process of sending off for digitization the 200 most circulated state publications and the 200 oldest state publications.
- LIS branded the search interface of ReferenceUSA and the LEXIS-NEXIS databases with the MSL logo and "Provided by MSL for Montana state agency employees."
- LIS met with LOCKSS staff at Stanford University to continue discussion of how to implement a peer-to-peer, distributed preservation system for LIS content. Beginning in November, LIS is testing the Stanford LOCKSS system. The purpose of the test is to determine if LOCKSS could be used as the basis of a system to provide Montana with a local dark archive for state publications and other digital content. Additionally, the test will be used to determine if it would be feasible for the State Library to provide a fully OAIS (Open Archival Information System) compliant digital archive including public access.
- LIS met to discuss crawl schedule for Archive Montana collections. Decided to increase crawl schedule from quarterly to monthly rate.
- NRIS added satellite imagery acquired from the Upper Midwest Aerospace Consortium to the MontanaView archive.
- NRIS added an updated version of the National Wetlands Inventory to the GIS clearinghouse, which increased our wetlands data holdings by fifty percent, to 1/3 of the state.
- NRIS added an updated version of the Geographic Names Information System, the nation's official inventory of names for both natural and manmade features.
- NRIS added the Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) which is published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- NHP staff finished updating Element Occurrence records for all animal Species of Concern – this marks the culmination of a huge project that has taken over a year to complete.
- Users have now contributed more than 2200 new animal observation records to the NHP databases through the Natural Heritage Tracker web application.
- NHP staff are processing data that was collected during summer field projects. These projects fill critical data gaps identified by partners, and are funded through partnerships with other agencies. One example is a 3-year statewide of freshwater mussels funded by a State Wildlife Grant from FWP. The first year focused on the Western Pearlshell mussel, covering 18 river basins to check 40 historically documented populations and search for new ones. The results showed a major decline in this species, with only 5 sites supporting healthy populations and 25 others that are in fair to poor condition.
- New data entered or updated since September 1:
  - New Observations Records: 1,616
  - Updated Observation Records: 2,921
  - New Occurrence Records: 821

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.

- LIS provided new employee orientations about MSDL services and resources on October 25th.
- LIS continued a series of internal meetings with MSL agency web master to update web content and improve the navigation of our website in particular the Research Databases webpage.
- LIS created catalog records for Internet Archive start seeds to better access Archive Montana content.
- LIS met with software engineer and a librarian at Google headquarters to discuss their book digitization program and how LIS might provide greater access to Montana state publications via Google's massive digitization program.
- LIS worked with LDD staff to facilitate the migration of the Montana Memory Project from a local server to an OCLC hosted server in order to increase librarian use of CONTENTdm.
- NRIS continued development of the Montana GIS Portal, which will facilitate patrons' efforts to publish GIS metadata records and share GIS data. The launch of the portal is scheduled for mid-Fall.
- NHP released a major update to the Tracker website, adding Occurrence records that show occupied habitat areas for Species of Concern (rather than just observation points). Agency partners are very excited to have access to this data, which is critical for project planning, environmental review and habitat management.
- Use of the Natural Heritage Tracker website continues to grow. Usage totaled over 1400 user sessions and 379 hours during October and November. The top four users were the general public, MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the US Forest Service.
- NHP processed 280 mediated requests during October and November with 258 of those being species of concern project reviews.
- The new Montana Field Guides website – a collaboration between MSL-NHP and FWP – went live in mid-October. It features a new look, more user-friendly organization, and lots of great new information and features.

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                      OCLC Digital Archive Access Summary
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Institution Name	Institution Location	Access Requests
MONTANA STATE LIBR	Montana	40
STATE LIBR OF IOWA	Iowa	15
US GEOL SURVEY, NAT CTR	Virginia	10
UNIV OF MONTANA, MANSFIELD LIBR	Montana	8
MONTANA STATE UNIV, MSU LIBR	Montana	6
MONTANA STATE UNIV, NORTHERN	Montana	4
BOZEMAN PUB LIBR	Montana	3
FLATHEAD CNTY LIBR	Montana	2
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIV, CHICO	California	1
COLORADO STATE LIBR	Colorado	1
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS	Distr. of Columbia	1
HOCKING TECH COL	Ohio	1
HWA HSIA INST OF TECH	TAIWAN	1
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIV	Illinois	1
UNIV OF MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS	Minnesota	1

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE                        California                    1
STATE LIBR OF OHIO                           Ohio                          1
OKLAHOMA DEPT OF LIBR                         Oklahoma                      1
GEORGE MASON UNIV                             Virginia                      1
WYOMING STATE LIBR                            Wyoming                       1
MILES COMMUN COL LIBR                         Montana                       1
Public                                                                    723
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NOTE: The following web statistics were generated using a new software product. Our web traffic has not declined, but the numbers are lower than usual because the new software is more efficient at filtering out "robots" and "spiders" which are automated web crawlers and not actual visitors.

NHP Web Statistics:

nhp.nris.mt.gov averaged 335 visitor sessions per day in October and 271 visitor sessions per day in November.

The five most requested pages in November were:

1. Animal Field Guide http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/animalguide - 5784
2. Plant Field Guide http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/plants/guidebook.asp - 4642
3. Montana Natural Heritage Program http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/ - 4054
4. Tracker http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/tracker - 3338
5. Species of Concern Reports http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/SpeciesOfConcern/ - 1493

The five most downloaded files in November were:

1. http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/community/community_list_2002.pdf - 2023
2. http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/reports/aqinvert_soc_r1.pdf - 1068
3. http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/plants/reports/squarebutte.pdf - 418
4. http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/reports/rocky_mtn_front.pdf - 334
5. http://nhp.nris.mt.gov/plants/reports/koot_class.pdf - 329

NRIS Web Statistics:

nris.mt.gov averaged 1,651 visitor sessions per day in October and 1,489 visitor sessions per day in November.

The five most requested pages in November were:

1. GIS Bundler http://nris.mt.gov/gis/bundler/ - 29012
2. Public/Private Land Ownership Maps http://nris.mt.gov/gis/ownmaps.asp - 15089
3. Montana Geographic Information Clearinghouse http://nris.mt.gov/gis/ - 11745
4. Montana Maps http://nris.mt.gov/gis/gisdatalib/mtmaps.aspx - 10968
5. TopoFinder2 http://nris.mt.gov/topofinder2/ - 10369

The five most downloaded files in November were:

1. http://nris.mt.gov/gis/gisdatalib/downloads/hwymapmdt.pdf - 2782

2. http://nris.mt.gov/gis/gisdatalib/downloads/100kpub_bozeman.pdf - 585
3. http://nris.mt.gov/gis/gisdatalib/downloads/ab105.pdf - 549
4. http://nris.mt.gov/gis/gisdatalib/downloads/100kpvt_bozeman.pdf - 512
5. http://nris.mt.gov/gis/gisdatalib/downloads/mtrange.pdf - 439

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

- LIS attended Academic and Special Libraries Division fall retreat. LIS presented Archive Montana.
- LIS attended Open Content Alliance meeting in San Francisco, October 17th.
- LIS gave a presentation about the Archive Montana collection at the members meeting of Archive-It in San Francisco, October 18-19th.
- LIS hosted meeting with members of Secretary of State's office and the Montana Historical Society to discuss a joint invitation to partner with the Arizona State Library and Archives PeDALS project (Persistent Digital Archives and Library System).
- LIS hosted BPE planning meeting for upcoming Best Practices Exchange, May 2008 in Helena.
- LIS designed online web site and registration system for the upcoming Best Practices Exchange, May 2008 in Helena. Web site was launched 11/15/2007, http://www.bpexhange.org/2008/.
- NHP was featured in a TV news story focusing on the Idaho Giant Salamander, produced by MT-FWP.
- NHP staff initiated a Needs Assessment to inform development of a new Land Cover – Land Use data layer for Montana, in partnership with the Dept. of Administration and the Natural Resource Conservation Service.
- NHP provided training to 8 Montana Department of Transportation employees on Heritage program data and information services and on how to use NHP data in a new ArcGIS map services available to MDT employees (see below for new agreement information).
- NHP provided training to six Natural resource Conservation Services (NRCS) field biologists on Heritage program data and information services and how to use the Natural Heritage TRACKER. The training was part of a recent partnership agreement with NRCS.
- MSdL sponsored GIS day activities for 75 fourth and fifth graders from Smith School. NRIS staff presented basic cartography concepts, NHP staff led a session that featured the Field Guide and Tracker, and the Department of Administration showed the kids 3-D maps using Google Earth. Montana's First Lady, Nancy Schweitzer walked with us from the School to MSL, and the event was featured on two Montana news stations.

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

- LIS participated in the Montana Shared Catalog full membership fall meeting in Kalispell, October 5th.
- LIS met with Historical Society to review agreement for continued development of distinct print and digital repositories for state publications.
- LIS met with Permanent Public Access Committee working group to discuss current projects of respective members.
- LIS met with Lewis and Clark County Library managers to discuss how Digital Library Transition Plan might impact their services. LIS participated in Connexion Digital Import web conference discussing OCLC move of content from Digital Archive to CONTENTdm. LIS attended organizational meeting of government Public Information Officers seeking to form a networking group, November 29th.

- NRIS made maps of Indian Reservations and Forest Preserves for a Historical Society textbook project.
- NRIS made significant progress updating the Montana portion of the National Hydrography Dataset, the nation's official inventory of surface water features such as streams, lakes and ponds. The responsibility to work on this data was delegated to NRIS under a stewardship agreement with the USGS and the work is being funded by both the USGS and the Montana Land Information Council.
- The NHP Partners Committee met in late October – 21 participants attended, representing 12 Partner agencies/organizations. There was lively discussion about how to portray increasingly complex NHP map data (overlapping distributions for multiple species), and the group endorsed formation of a User Group to continue providing input and to review new products and web tools. Meeting materials, including a program update and meeting summary, are available at http://mtnhp.org/docs/partners/.
- NHP kicked off a partnership with the Montana Department of Transportation to provide access to the NHP species occurrence database via a live, internet map service.
- Allan Cox, Systems and Services Manager for NHP, attended and presented at a strategic planning workshop for NatureServe to identify standard data products that could implemented across the national network to provide consistent natural heritage data for the nation. NHP is required by statute (MCA90-15-302) to ensure that our data are compatible with "similar programs in other states."
- Sibyl Govan of NRIS attended a conference hosted by the Montana Chapter of the American Water Resources Association.
- Sibyl Govan attended meetings of the Montana Groundwater Steering Committee, the Montana Information Technology Manager's Council, the Natural Heritage Program partners' group and the Montana Wetlands Council.
- Sibyl Govan gave a presentation about the Water Information System as part of a Montana Watershed Coordination Council workshop for Watershed Managers.
- Sibyl Govan gave a general overview of NRIS programs and initiatives to members of the Governor's staff and other interested parties.

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.
- LIS interviewed four applicants for Cataloging Metadata librarian position.
- Perry Donnafield resigned from NRIS and moved on to a position with the Montana Department of Administration.
- NHP added two wetland mapping technicians to keep up with demands for progress with statewide wetland mapping (currently funded for 25% of the state).