

NRIS Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

June 17, 2010
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Montana State Library,
Grizzly Conference Room
1515 E. Sixth Ave., Helena

9:04 a.m. Welcome & Introductions (Jennie Stapp)

NRIS Advisory Committee Members

- **Welcome Jim Robinson – DNRC (not here)**
- **Stu Kirkpatrick for Robin Trenbeath, DOA
- **Nat Carter for Chris Yde, DEQ
- **Stan Sternberg, MDT
- **Janet Hess-Herbert, FWP
- **Amy Bamber, Ag
- **Damon Murdo, SHPO

NRIS Staff – Allan Cox, Gerry Daumiller, Evan Hammer, Diane Papineau, Jennie Stapp

Guests – Cathy Maynard, NRCS, Lory Palm, CEIC, Debbie Wambach, MDT

Minutes from Last Meeting

http://msl.mt.gov/About_MSL/NRIS_Advisory_Committee/archive/2009/NRISAdvisoryCommitteeAgendaDec2009minutes

9:05 a.m. Project Updates (Evan Hammer)

MSDI Stewardship Update

Imagery

FY11 Business Plan – close to having ready, will be sent out with detail

EXISTING GOALS -

- Re-establish Work Group, two meetings held to day
- Co-stewardship – Continued coordination with the Base Map Service Center
- Serve NAIP
- Imagery Inventory – basic inventory completed but needs to include more imagery available across the state
- Imagery Archive Plan – NRIS is a state partner with GeoMAPP. We are in communication with them regarding archival best practices. GeoMAPP activity has slowed significantly, had initial report on first couple of years, no action on adding other states, hoping for more defined best practices

NEW GOAL

- long term funding strategy

Hydrography

FY11 Hydrography Work Plan – have developed active and core group of people to show up for meetings; Interest in developing business plan

PROJECTS - We're close to having hydrography data from 3 different agencies based on the national hydrography dataset (NHD), this will be big threshold point to demonstrate the value and cost effectiveness of using a consistent dataset.

- FWP and Streamnet – we're working with them to identify a whole stream identifier which is not currently included in the NHD; USFS have whole stream identifier requirement also,
- DNRC Points of Diversion – water rights data, working on editing work flow to migrate data as ongoing MLIAC grant, continuing as pilot to establish feasibility
- DEQ Water Quality – indexing permit data,

FUNDING - FY11 MLIAC Grant and USGS Partnership Funding

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

- Stream Status application being developed by DNRC, funding requested, looking at using medium resolution data
- DNRC also put in grant app for state water resource inventory, old surveys were very helpful, if can recreate in digital world would be very valuable

Updates on Active Projects

ArcGIS Server Migration - Hardware migration has been slower than preferred, initial server was rolled out with Portal which went out in October on new server, biggest challenge is secondary server which will be configured for more secure map services.

GIS Portal – Portal was updated to 9.3 on October 1, 2009, we've received lots of good feedback. Current challenges include how to organize collections of data such as Superfund data, how to make framework data more apparent and how to organize archival data

Montana Place Names – built companion to place names book published by the Montana Historical Society, web app was completed in Jan and went live in January.

Montana Digital Atlas Update – biggest holdup is server migration

New Projects

Water Rights Query System Update – DNRC has contracted to provide updates to water system, queries based off web services created by ITSD; should standardize the data delivery, overhaul interface to be used that will use ArcGIS Server

Geographic Literacy Campaign (Jennie Stapp & Diane Papineau) - Looking for more integration between Statewide Library Resources Division and Montana State Digital Library (including NRIS). Sarah McHugh, Statewide Projects Librarian, went to ESRI user conference last year to get GIS intro, for past year talking about making resources more available for libraries and patrons. To that end we are creating a Geographic Literacy Campaign for librarians and their patrons. Goals include to:

- Educate librarians to identify geographic (spatial) inquiries
- Develop a suite of subject guides and packaged web resources to respond to geographic and natural resources inquiries (Natural Resources Companions)
- Develop a curriculum for web-based online trainings to educate librarians and patrons about geographic and natural resources principles and topics

- Develop a marketing campaign to promote geographic literacy as a party of the wider MSL literacy campaigns
- Increase Montanans familiarity with and use of the Montana Natural Resource Information Systems ([NRIS](#))

As a prototype we are developing a hunting companion that provides information hunters need to plan a successful hunt. It includes resources from FWP and the Base Map Service Center. Currently being reviewed by subject matter experts and a taskforce of librarians. Scheduled for launch in August. Need feedback and direction from NRIS AC for future companions, goal to launch 2 or 3 a year. Designed to be very modular so that patrons will begin to recognize and become familiar our natural resource applications.

Additionally, we want to help librarians understand how GIS data can help them serve their patrons and understand trends and so on. A GIS coordinator from Colorado who has worked extensively with his local library will do a workshop for the State Library in September.

9:49 a.m. Break (snacks provided)

10:15 a.m. Montana Natural Heritage Program (Bryce Maxell)

Website focus – checkout announcements and what’s new sections,

Wetland mapping - wetland data is now part of standard request in environmental reviews (do several environmental reviews a day)

Have 6 digitizers on staff, probably hire 1 or 2 more

Geo reference photos, about 10,000 wetlands with photos

Montana Field Guide with FWP, launched ecological systems guides, document characteristics of the ecological systems, allows for information about predicted animal species as well as documented species

10:30 a.m. NRIS Strategic Planning (Evan Hammer)

Year in Review – Accomplishments (based off of commission reports, following libraries strategic plan goals)

Hardware migration is big item

Outreach and training whenever possible including the MAGIP technical session and the Intermountain GIS Conference in Bozeman.

NAIP (National Aerial Imagery Program) flew MT in 2009 and downloadable imagery available through NRIS

Hydrography emphasis

Work Plan Progress -

Financial Report

Planning for FY11

MSdL Strategic Plan with NRIS Priorities – early identification, coincides with larger library goals, long term strategic goals, will need to add metadata priorities

Workplan Priorities –

- Top priority is getting IT issues up to date, servers, out of date apps,
- Data inventory and archiving
- Outreach, including portal, geographic literacy program, more organized plan

- Commitment to reviving water information system
- Streamline management and administration through better project management
- Pursue contracts that emphasize core goals

11:00 a.m. Data Ownership Discussion – lifecycle (archival), data storage

Cathy – important to be proactive in acquiring and restoring data onsite, keep current collections and meet legislation requirements

Evan – see a need to provide data from other sources through the Portal as well as own data, should not host just for the sake of hosting if there are other reliable sources. Other perspectives?

Allan – Future directions need weighed against reasons for legislation, there is concept that data only needs to be in one place, feels instead that data should be redundant for archive purposes because access can change so quickly although delivery need not be duplicated.

Janet – An example of how things change is the new GIS services fees proposed by ITSD. Janet suggested a letter from NRIS AC go to ITSD opposing these fees. Others feel that reps can't speak for members agencies and that it may be difficult to get consensus; NRIS AC agreed that it may be better for State Librarian to discuss with ITSD rather than council

Evan – need to more fully develop a lifecycle plan for data; in new model users may need to access original source but a copy should be kept at NRIS for archival purposes. Usability is important but older data still needs to be accessible for comparison purposes

Will proceed with conceptual archival methods, be sent out for follow-up

11:30 a.m. Open Discussion

Advisory Committee Organization – interest in formalizing organization? Having chair?

Janet – Always had chair before

Evan will talk to members about chair

11:55 a.m. Next meeting (Evan Hammer)

Looking at first or second week of December

Will make better use of commission website

12:04 p.m. Adjourn