

Montana Land Information Advisory Council

Issue Action Form
For Council Resolution Date
(Date of next MLIAC meeting)

1. What action is requested of the council?

2. Please attach a brief (One-page or less) narrative describing the issue. This form and the narrative must be provided to MLIAC staff so that it can be provided to Council members no less than one week in advance of the scheduled meeting.

3. The following organizations endorse this action:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MAGIP | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MARLS | <input type="checkbox"/> University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Private |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency | |

Specify:

4. What are the benefits of supporting this issue?

5. What are the costs or resource requirements to support this issue?

6. Signature of Submitter

7. Signature of Council Member if different than 6

8. Date

This portion to be completed by the MLIAC Chair and forwarded for action.

This Issue has been presented, discussed, and voted upon by The Montana Land Information Advisory Council and has been: accepted for council action. denied for council action

The following action will be taken and reported on at the next council meeting:

This action is assigned to: _____ Date: _____.

Motion to request Dick Clark, Montana CIO, to assess the current state of a common operating picture for the coordination and distribution of State of Montana geographic information assets and report at MLIAC on 9/7/2006

Common Operating Picture: A common operating picture (COP) is a term that is referenced in current emergency management doctrine. In the context of this discussion, the goal of a common operating picture is to facilitate collaborative planning and assist MLIAC in developing a common situational awareness. Over time the goal could expand from a collaborative planning and monitoring tool to a robust business model. Some of the initial components might include:

- Developing and maintaining policy and doctrine
- Promoting a capable workforce
- Building and maintaining coalitions
- Promoting organizational communication
- Learning

Current Condition: Montana legislative and administrative actions may have unintentionally introduced confusion in regard to a common operating picture for the coordination and distribution of State of Montana geographic information assets. A number of GIS professionals have recently expressed their frustration over a confused picture of roles and responsibilities, and perhaps conflicting missions due to overlapping legislative or administrative authority. In any case, the operating picture for the coordination and distribution of State of Montana geographic information assets may not be as clear as needed for MLIAC to operate decisively. At least part of this picture is captured by the Montana Statutes 2-15-1514: Natural Resource Data System Advisory Committee, 90-15: Natural Resource Information System and 90-1-401: Montana Land Information Act. There are significant geographic information assets, both data and personnel, within the Department of Administration, the Montana State Library, and a host of other state agencies. The Legislative Services Divisions Performance Audit Number 01P-07: Geographic Information System (GIS) Implementation and Development in Montana Federal, State, Local and Private Sector Entities adds even more intrigue to the discussion. MLIAC might documents using terms like “state GIS coordinator” and “state clearinghouse” or “clearinghouse” without clearly understanding the scope of these roles and their relationship, and perhaps unclear authority.

Need: For the benefit of the Council members and the GIS community at-large, the primary need and request is a clear articulation of current roles and responsibilities regarding the coordination and distribution of geographic information assets within the State of Montana. If the picture is confused, then to determine\recommend\consider whether or not administration or legislative changes need to be advanced by MLIAC.

Benefit: Clear lines of communication and clearly defined roles and responsibilities will result in improved services and clearly articulate the current business model for the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of geographic information assets with the State of Montana. This provides producers, consumers, and MLIAC with a common operating picture for advancing geographic information services in Montana.

Cost: No additional resources anticipated. Cost is the times required to research and prepare a proper assessment.