



## **Geographic Information Program December 2014 and January 2015**

Prepared for the February 11, 2015 Commission meeting  
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**Goal One – Content** - Montana State Library (MSL) acquires and manages relevant quality content that meets the needs of Montana library partners and patrons.

Continuing work started last summer, the program is working under a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) to provide up to 200 hours of support to determine statewide seasonal water use. For the 2006 and 2007 growing seasons we will use the reference relative evapotranspiration grids along with Agrimet evapotranspiration data to produce statewide grids of estimate water use. Rainfall data will be subtracted out of the water use estimates to create statewide effective irrigation estimates. Work started in January and is expected to continue through April.

**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.

In January MSL management signed a project charter empowering a team made up of MSL IT and Geographic Information staff to implement the recommendations compiled by the Digital Atlas Replacement Options Team last fall to rewrite the outdated Digital Atlas application. A Digital Atlas Replacement Team will be tasked with implementation of the core map, table and report, data download and other functionality contained in the original investigation. The team will be meeting to develop a project time line and intend to complete the project within the calendar year.

**Goal Four – Consultation and Leadership** - MSL provides consultation and leadership to enable its patrons and partners to reach their goals.

The program worked with State House Representatives Jenny Eck (HD79) and Tom Steenberg (HD99) to create House Joint Resolution Number 7 <http://leg.mt.gov/bills/2015/billpdf/HJ0007.pdf> requesting an interim study of next generation 9-1-1 in Montana. This resolution recognizes the criticality of including GIS

planning as part of implementing the technology that will drive the 9-1-1 systems of the future.

In accordance with the duties of the department under the Montana Land Information Act (MLIA) the program released the FY16 criteria for MLIA grant applications on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Applications are required to be submitted by February 15<sup>th</sup> and will be evaluated by the MLIAC Grant Subcommittee in March and April.

**Goal Five – Collaboration** - MSL promotes partnerships and encourages collaboration amongst its partners and patrons so that their information needs can be met.

In December the program met with DNRC to discuss options for a synchronized workflow that would allow for accuracy enhancements to state trust lands data as the accuracy of the public land survey system is improved through the CATSPAW initiative. Subsequently staff developed several different scenarios that could work and delivered those to DNRC in January. An early February meeting is scheduled to discuss those options. As a part of this project we are also attempting to find common data elements from the Trust Land Management Database that we can expose as attributes of the trust land parcels in the cadastral database application.

**Goal Six – 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.

With the approval of the Water Information System Manager position by the Legislative Appropriations Subcommittee on Education, we will now begin the recruitment process to fill the vacant GIS analyst position that has been open since October when Erin Fashoway left the agency.