

Geographic Information Program Report February and March 2015

Prepared for the April 8, 2015 Commission meeting
by Stu Kirkpatrick, State GIS Coordinator

This report represents accomplishments of the Geographic Information Program (includes Natural Resource Information System and Water Information System) staff: Keith Blount, Bob Holliday, Troy Blandford, Gerry Daumiller, Maya Daurio, Michael Fashoway, Duane Lund and Diane Papineau.

Goal One—Content

1. MSL Geographic Information Program will acquire and manage relevant quality geographic information that meets the needs of users.

1.1. The team will complete documentation for Cadastral, Geodetic Control and Boundaries started under the FY14 CATSPAW project. The (landownership) team will determine whether a general workflow documentation template will meet the needs of the entire program.

(Update: April 2015) The landownership team has adopted Microsoft One-Note as a standard for documenting workflows. Documentation for loading geodetic control into the Multi-state Control Point Database (MCPD) was completed in March. Documentation of the boundaries workflow is 75 percent complete.

1.2. Move a minimum of three feature classes from the Natural Heritage Managed Areas geodatabase into the parcel fabric

(Update: April 2015) Staff member Daurio is leading this project. The team has met three times and is in the process of determining the format in which the data shall be maintained and an assessment of what data from the managed areas geodatabase is maintainable in the long term. Actual migration of the data will occur this spring in time to prepare our annual public and private landownership maps in August.

1.3. Complete a Land Ownership and Water sections of the annual Land Information Plan, the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) Work Plan and the FY16 MSL work plan.

(Update: April 2015) Staff member Papineau has been charged with developing the FY16 MSDI work plan. All fifteen MSDI theme stewards have been interviewed and the

plan is in draft form. The plan should be ready to submit to the Montana Land Information Council in May and for final Commission approval in June.

1.4. Complete a hydrography web application for submitting revisions and viewing completion status

(Update: April 2015) The Water Team continues to process edits submitted through the online Hydrography Edit Request Viewer. In February and March, staff member Daurio completed over 400 edits in the Bitterroot subbasin. Edits were also made in the Flathead and a subbasin of the Yellowstone. The queue of pending revision requests is currently 180.

1.5. Document procedures to efficiently process incoming hydrography update requests submitted through the hydrography web application.

(Update: April 2015) The Water Team adopted Microsoft One-Note as a standard for documenting workflows. Documentation for processing proposed hydrography revisions and updating the statewide MSDI Hydrography dataset was completed in February.

1.6. Work with the Montana Climate Office to package climate products by watershed

(Update: April 2015) Staff members Blandford and Fashoway met with Michael Sweet from the Montana Climate Office via GoToMeeting in February to identify which and how climate products will be added to the GIS Data Bundler and Data List.

1.7. Work with partner agencies and the Hydrography Working Group to identify the hydrography features of most value to partner agencies.

(Update: April 2015) A survey asking partners to identify the hydrography dataset features and attributes of most importance to their agency was sent to the Hydrography Working Group. Survey results were discussed at a follow-up working group meeting in February. Gathered information is being used to identify MSDI Hydrography and Water Information System work tasks for FY16 and beyond.

Goal Two—Access

2. The MSL Geographic Information Program will provide our partners and patrons with convenient, high quality and cost effective access to geographic information

2.2. Re-engineer the Digital Atlas

(Originally reported February 2015) 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. 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 with intentions of completing the project within the calendar year.

(Update: April 2015) The digital atlas replacement team has been formed. It has documented over twenty user stories (use cases) that, after prioritization, will form the core requirements. Prioritization of the user stories is scheduled for the last week of March.

Goal Four—Consultation and Leadership

4. The MSL Geographic Information Program will provide consultation, leadership and training for the development and use of geographic information and spatial technologies

(Originally reported February 2015) 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.

(Update: April 2015) Staff members Fashoway and Kirkpatrick have worked with Representative Tom Steenberg (HD 99) to finalize the language contained in HJ 7, a bill to form an interim legislative committee to study next generation 9-1-1. Staff met with representatives of the telecommunications industry to address their concerns and adopt some compromise language. In the process a dossier of documents and internet links to next generation 9-1-1 topics was developed and will be provided to local 9-1-1 providers to assist them in making informed decisions in the future. HJ 7 passed third reading in the House on 3/14 and will likely be referred to the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee.

(Update: April 2015) Staff member Kirkpatrick, along with MSL CIO and Digital Information Manager Evan Hammer, attended the NSGIC Mid-year meeting in Annapolis, Maryland. They visited the offices of Senators Daines and Tester to explore ways MSL and their office could share mapping resources available at MSL. They also gained valuable information related to imagery and next generation 9-1-1 that will be shared with the Montana GIS community.