

January 11, 2011
Rocky Mountain Geospatial Technology Committee
10:00 a.m.
Meeting Notes

Attendees:

John Guthrie, US Geological Survey
Natalie Dovgan, Bureau of Land Management – Colorado State Office
Susan Guthrie, Bureau of Land Management, contractor
Elise Bowne, U.S. Forest Service
Dave Hammond, National Park Service
Skip Edel, National Park Service
Mark Browning, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Agenda –

- **Natalie Dovgan – report on Colorado BLM’s use of ArcPad and plans for use of ArcMobile**
 - For Mobile Mapping, it is best to have standardized data.
 - BLM- Colorado is using ArcPad8, with local offices using Trimble Juno devices.
 - ArcPad10 hasn’t been approved yet for BLM use.
 - They are collecting prescribed fire perimeters with attributes, mostly as shapefiles, though they can also collect into geodatabase. Can check out from ArcMap, geodatabase, and the symbology comes with it.
 - It is a bit more “techie” than ArcMobile, especially since ArcMobile can be simplified more easily.
 - Also works with Magellan devices. It needs Windows Mobile 6.
 - BLM is using the camera support with it.
 - Purchasing – BLM is going to one GPS brand. Natalie is the BLM – Colorado state lead for GPS
 - For post-processing, Trimble’s extension is needed. PFOffice can now post-process shapefiles. The PFOffice license is available to the BLM throughout the state.
 - ArcPad is much cheaper than Terrasync. ArcPad is \$379.15.
 - They are planning 2 day classes for the Field Offices this spring.
 - John Guthrie – Sean Triplett presented what Bob Roth is working on to the GTG at their most recent meeting. It is an application for Android. It may be going to other operating systems, but apparently Android was the easiest to start with.
 - Natalie – George Heine (BLM – National Operations Center) has been asking why they are not using ArcMobile, so probably will be moving to ArcMobile soon. ArcPad10 supports relational databases, but ArcMobile does not. However, ArcMobile does provide from more standardization.

- The standards are ready for review. Task for all committee members: Please review the standards from the point of view of your individual agency and provide comments (through Survey Monkey).
 - GTG wants to become a regular committee under NWCG rather than the current standing of a task group within the IRM Working Group. This would limit the actual committee members to people from the NWCG member agencies. The current members from non-NWCG agencies would presumably become technical advisors.
 - Sean Triplett will be the new GTG chair in January, 2011.
 - GTG does plan to rewrite or update the GIS Standard Operating Procedures. They were approved for a small budget to work on it, but are waiting until January or later to start the work.
- **Review of proposed GIS data standards and the NWCG GTG Geospatial Framework**
 - NWCG GTG Geospatial Framework is too long (almost 150 pages) and too complex for a simple review. Message to Sean that we would like more time and that the document is too complex for simple review. Elise will forward comments to Sean.
 - Proposed GIS data standards – a few committee members have looked at some of the standards, but not formally replied.
 - Cultural – BLM’s cultural data is all kept at the SHPO. The intent of this standard appears to cover data entered for specific incidents and/or possibly for larger datasets uploaded to WFDSS. Suggestions include – getting rid of Point and Line options, to just keep the Polygons, also that a domain field be added to include appropriate fire management tactics for the area within the polygon.
 - General comments on all the standards – Field names and domains are not consistent and should be standardized between the layers. Also the “FS slant” needs to be removed, including use of CFF_Codes, which most other agencies do not use. Also had a note here about First ID = “Survey_ID”.
 - Water Sources – name is inconsistent, way too many attributes, needs domains, with attributes combined into a domain.
 - Aviation Hazards need much simplification.
 - Action Item – by 1/25/11, committee members are to review the agreed upon GIS standard and enter their comments line and send the text to Elise for collection and redistribution to the rest of the committee.
 - Assignments are as follows: Natalie – Cultural and WUI, Mark – WUI and FMU, John – Engine Water Sources, Dave – Fire History and Point of Origin, Elise – Fire History, Point of Origin and Aviation Hazards, Skip – Aviation Hazards, Rich Sterry – Point of Origin and FMU (assignment made by phone), Esther – FMU and Aviation Hazards (?).

- **Issue Paper of WFDSS data issues – tasked by RMCG**
 - Issues were brought up about whether or not this could be done effectively. Skip thinks it is national in scope and that our paper won't have the desired effect, also that the issue is superseded by GTG's Geospatial Framework.
 - Follow-up: John took this forward to the GTG call which was directly following our meeting. GTG thought it important that we go ahead with the issue paper.
- **GISS Mentees**
Names were submitted to Todd Richardson via Mike Davin. Goal was to get more depth at the GISS position within the RM GACC.
- **RMIRS – Rocky Mountain Incident Mapping System - Update**
John, Elliot (the programmer) and Marco Perea will be talking about this on Friday, issue is ongoing.
- **RMCG Committee Charter Review - report**
Elise reported that all requested changes have been made to the charter and revised charter has been submitted for approval.
- **RMGTC presence on RMCG Website - report**
We now have a spot on the website at:
<http://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/administrative/geospatial.html>
It is pretty basic at this point, but we can add to it.
- **Other Issues –**
 - Fuel Treatment Standard alive again –**
This is the standard our group started a number of years ago. Kathie Hansen (GTG) wants to update and redo it as the NFPORS attributes don't match those on the Management Dashboard. Other pertinent information – NFPORS revision is in work. BLM is no longer using NFPORS directly either – their data is uploaded every 6 months (Susan Goodman). Need unified plan of how to do the revision. Tables are available.

Windows 7 – there may be some issues plotting to older HPs. – John Guthrie

Rocky Mountain IMT Spring Meeting is scheduled for April 12-14th in Loveland, CO at the Embassy Suites.

Action Items:

- **Each committee member to review the GTG proposed assigned spatial data standards from their agency's perspective and provide comments both on the website and to Elise for distribution.**
- **Elise will invite Victoria Smith to join us at the next committee meeting in March.**