

AGIC
Data Resources Committee Meeting
May 2, 2007
Arizona State Land Dept. Building

Attendees:

Keith Larson, NRCS
Lucas Murray, DES
Lee Dexter, NAU (by phone)
Lee Harbers, APLS (by phone)
Victor Gass, ADEQ
Paul Barbeau, DHS
Candace Bogart, FS
Glen Buettner, State Forestry
Tim Coleman, SCO
Gary Irish, State Lands
Tom Sturm, USGS
Sharon Nicholson, DPS
Nicole Brown, GFD

1. Update on NAIP 2007:

Tom Sturm reported that the contract for the AZ NAIP project has been awarded to NW Geomatics. As we hoped, the project will include 4-band imagery and the use of absolute control. NW Geomatics was the contractor used for the initial absolute control pilot project over UT in 2006. They are also a digital camera-based company with 4-band capture experience. Tom stated that the imagery acquisition for the project will occur between mid-June to mid-August.

Gene, Dave Minkel, and Tom had a telecon with USDA Aerial Photography Field Office (APFO) staff to talk about requirements for absolute control. APFO is depending on the State to provide two sets of control information for the project. The first set will need to be provided to the contractor, probably by the end of June. APFO will work with the contractor to come up with a fixed number of points that will be required. The second set of points will be required by APFO for QC purposes around the end of August. The State Cartographer's Office is working out details for how this data will be acquired.

In addition to these new points, APFO is looking for existing control points to use during the QC process. The USGS and Forest Service are providing information. We will also be looking for data that might be available from counties to aid with this effort.

Keith Larson asked if the image acquisition window was larger than Tom stated. He believed that it could start by mid-May. A check of the contract documentation after the meeting indicates that the acquisition window is June 1 to August 31.

Keith also asked about the compressed county mosaic specifications in the new NAIP contract. A check of the contract documentation after the meeting indicates that the specifications call for the compressed mosaics to be delivered in LizardTech's MrSID Generation Three format at a 15:1 compression ratio. These will be delivered with an ESRI compatible .aux file containing projection information for each compressed mosaic.

2. Discussion of materials related to Goal 1 of the committee work plan.

Tom mentioned that the intent of this exercise, along with survey from Goal 2, will be to aid the committee in identifying a few high priority data themes that we will build business plans for (Goal 3).

Victor Gass prepared a draft data matrix spreadsheet from a variety of sources, including previous data survey efforts. This document was e-mailed out with the meeting announcement and also handed out at the meeting. Victor pointed out issues related to scales and level of detail that complicate our ability to summarize information in spreadsheet form. He also mentioned that we may not need all the columns included in the draft and that we need to address the issue of definitions of framework data.

Discussion ensued about these issues and about the fields that will be needed in the next iteration of the draft. In response to the discussion, Victor has modified the spreadsheet to add a priority column, changed column E and F to reflect homeland security issues, and rename column H to Arizona Data Host. Lucas mentioned commercial datasets that are in use in the State. These should be included and indicated via a comment regarding their commercial origin.

Tom will make additions to the draft related to column D (National Map (1)) before the end of the week of May 7 and return it to Victor who will then send it to Sharon for updates related to homeland security. After that it will be passed out the rest of the group for other additions and input on priorities. We will all need to review other items, such as Host and Owner, to make sure they are accurate and complete. Our plan is to have a final version of the matrix ready for the July 11 meeting of the committee.

Additional discussion during the section of the agenda revolved around the California Framework Data Survey that was handed out at the meeting. Much of this discussion crossed over with the subject of item 3 and will be reported on below. For this topic, the primary point was that California came up with two lists of data priorities. The first was a prioritization of National framework themes as defined by the Federal Geographic Data Committee. The second set was a list of priorities for California specific data. Our intent is to work through a prioritization process that identifies a few of the highest priority themes for Arizona, irrespective of whether they are Arizona specific or fit into National priorities.

3. Data survey and presentation at the Annual AGIC conference.

Tom mentioned that our plan is to conduct a survey at the AGIC conference and have a session at the conference about the subject. We are also thinking about using the survey, possibly with modifications, at workshops around the State later in the year. Gene has had some discussions with a vendor about getting assistance in developing the survey in a manner that is similar to that used in California.

Sharon mentioned the possibility of obtaining FEMA funds for the data survey if it was tailored to meet address their interests. She will follow up on this and find out what the requirements might be.

Paul talked about homeland security related workshops and surveys that were done in the State a couple of years ago. There was some concern expressed about our new survey appearing to be redundant. Hopefully the Data Resources Committee effort will be seen as something with a broader scope.

When Gene returns to the office we will begin preliminary planning for the survey, put together a presentation abstract for the conference, and get some further information out to the committee prior to the July 11 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:45 am. The next meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2007.