

**North West Data Sharing Network
Technical Meeting, Logpile Lodge Smithers
December 7, 2004**

Attendees: Barry Watson, Fred Hankins, Bonnie Potulick, Paul Schwarz., Karen Broadworth, Wren Gilgan, Tom MacKinlay, Tim Penninga, Jim McCormack, Ruth Edwards, Francois Depey, Kevin Eskelin, William Elliott, Don Morgan

Agenda

Review Agenda

Review of July 15 Technical Committee Minutes

- Standardized schema for consolidated coverage
- Identification of where translation didn't work addressed, what are the challenges, now we can identify solutions in the SOP and this years work.
- Missing data
- Used for MoF timber allocation
- Next step to automate
- Fraser Lake – submitted as Shape, didn't work with IGDS
- PIR – submitted as shape, attributing needs to be addressed, currently addressing internal business flow and internal data flow and upgrade. Need feedback on submission.

Availability of Wet'suwet'en GIS students to other members of NWDSN

- Moricetown band has funding for 2 students in GIS sending them to OCC in Salmon Arm. Trained in ARCGIS, programming (AML, DB).
- Getting more training in OTW office.
- Moricetown plans for the reserve, OTW plans for territory, two different organizations.
- Available January to March to get exposure in different shops, possibility April to June.
- Contact Francois to coordinate.

NWDSN role in the short term (1-2 years), and in the long term (5 years)

- Role of non-government organizations in the provincial government
 - Provincial pilots – Ft St John, Selkirk College, NWDSN. Some Provincial concern with nodes, inconsistent with central model proposed by government. NWDSN has been flying low on the radar.
 - LRDW, iTRIM, Integrated Land and Resource Registry have been the main focus of government.
 - PG meeting called by Canfor, Alex Ferguson, who had observed data sharing in the Kootenay (Selkirk College). Meeting to discuss data sharing initiatives. Discussed success and challenges. Kootenay looked at FSP exclusively, had local custodians for local data (MoF, WLAP, etc). NWDSN doesn't have

formal process for local custodial approval. Canfor interested in an organization in the north east.

- Concern for corporate level, who are focused on large projects.
- FSP nodes, built on NWDSN/Selkirk type model, where organizations have data sharing agreements.

Action: Ruth will check if FSP document can be distributed and distribute to the group.

- MSRM concern that nodes are not private, however, they are only sharing data among themselves.
- Accessibility to MSRM files and role of NWDSN
 - LRDW status and access – custodian data mainly.
- Accessibility to local data sets
 - Local data access – local data can be requested and Kevin will post to NWDSN.
- New initiatives – electronic submission framework how NWDSN fits in.
 - LRDW available for download in the future, may not contain local data. Which type of information shared with other licensees.
 - Stream classification data, MSRM/licensee have copies, however, it is not on line and would be very expensive to bring on line.
 - What business processes to support? Keeping local data up to date.
 - Adopting FTA/RESULTS standard for submission and NWDSN.
 - NWDSN has multiple objectives –
 - Strategic projects that require shared data
 - Establishing integrated data sets
 - FSP is main focus?
 - FTA/RESULTS/ABR
 - Sustainable forest management/LRMP monitoring. SFM provides context for FSP.
 - Operational data still needs to be managed by licensees
 - How to identify past inventories, what their status is, how they can be shared. Some could be brought on line as required for a specific area.
 - NWDSN as a place for information that needs to be shared, not a place for all data.
- Role in updates associated with FTA/RESULTS/ABR submissions.

Action: Licensees to identify layers required for FSP, can use Arrow spreadsheet of FSP layers as a reference. Contacts Jim McCormack, Tim Penninga, Karen B

Action: Identify what merged data sets would be of value, beyond blocks and roads. Such as BEC, UWR, watersheds, other layers not defined by administrative boundary.

Action: Identify off line data, such as terrain stability or streams, as future projects for bringing on line. Including identifying custodians of off line data.

Action: Set priorities for managing data sets. Including local custodian contact.

Coffee

NWDSN IFAP phase 2 update

- Status of data translation
 - See July 15 review
 - Fraser Lake – only 25% translated, was fine when shifted to shape. Export from Microstation Geographics module.
 - PIR – sent Vanderhoof data, other data is ready for translation.

Action: Review July 15 schema, small team (Barry, Karen, Fred) to formalize and document schema. Report to committee by January 15th. Schema must have FTA, RESULTS and ABR attributes.

- FTA, RESULTS, ABR one item at a time, not large submissions.
- Keep electronic submission to government as a separate approach to block aggregation approach.
- New standards
 - Aggregation will be to government FTA, RESULTS, ABR standard.
- Data translation modification
 - Refractors will re load data with new schema and automate process.
- West Fraser internally, needs to make its operational data consistent. West Fraser data can be transformed to government standard, the IFPA project assumes consistent internal data for aggregation. IFPA project takes partners data and translates to government standard.
- Partner data to interim shape to FTA/RESULTS/ABR standard, FORSITE has tool then to extract to FTA, RESULTS, ABR from interim, can provide some customization.

NWDSN phase 3 update

- Project activities
 - OpenIMF web site that connects to remote map services
 - MSRM map server – corporate data – view only, require SDE connect
 - UNBC map server – local data and replicated corporate data for download but not viewed.
 - IMF Web service views and exports interim shape from local data holdings and exports to XML/GML FTA, RESULTS, ABR format. Explore option of using FORSITE's easy link at the export utility.
 - Ability to put single blocks into interim standard and use the XML/GML translator.
 - Options for replace and update for translations. Currently replace only.
- Modify work plan to reflect discussion
- Customized Views for communication, eg Wet'suwet'en, or Guide Outfitters. Further refinement through potential Wet'suwet'en funding.
- Schedule once modified work plan is put together.

SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) for access and download

- Internal business process to get data into submission, each does internally, not shared with group.
- Standard schema will be posted after January 15th meeting.
- FTP

- How to upload and to download
- Approved strategic and non-approved strategic
- Operational – blocks, roads, etc, approved by licensee.
- Share – everyone can upload/download for review. Can make folders in share.
- Security issues and account privileges
 - Data security and privileges. Partner currently have one, can expand. Who is contact to manage security, currently Scott. Contact list within each organization. Organization organizes it self.
 - Directory permissions. Master list of who has access to what directories.
 - Local data
 - Corporate custodial, we can look at their data, still download local till corporate is able to distribute.

Action: Scott and Don SOP FTP access and account privileges. Also check accounts to see who can download what.

Action: Don to check with Scott download speed, check in with Tom.

Action: Kevin E. to report on data sharing agreement between MSRM and NWDSN.

Non member access policy

- NRFL, woodlots, other tenures, community forests, consultants don't have sharing agreements.
 - Members partner with non-members.
 - They join and gain access and participate if NWDSN has a blanket data sharing agreement.
 - NWDSN data sharing agreement may require the NWDSN to provide TRIM/veg update vs the individual licensees.

Action: Update policy and SOP to reflect that non-members need to work with members if they want access and not through NWDSN formally.

Standardization

- Items covered in the January 15th sub committee report:
 - Gross block status schema
 - Depletion schema
 - Silviculture schema – forest cover update.
 - Roads, interim standard

Strategic Data Set Update and Amendment Business Process

- Identify the best available information
 - Local custodian approval process with representative for each layer and the local steward has been corporately blessed.
- Accessing off line data – process and contacts for old data, such as hydrology and terrain stability see NWDSN short term long term discussion above. One option is to upload data in current format and user manipulate as required.
- BCTS – Babine Timber Sales is doing a contract to review data layers and identify best available and work with the NWDSN technical committee. This will be done in conjunction with the data steward identification project that Kevin Eskelin is leading.

Action: Kevin to identify local custodians for identified FSP layers and contact for February technical meeting to review data layers. Also identify off line data custodians for bringing forward off line data.

Action: William to discuss loading of air shed to NWDSN.

Orthophoto Data Management

- Licensee Orthophotos:
 - Canfor has 80% of Morice, 2001, Whitesale missing.
 - Managing in Mr. Sid.
 - Babine has 90%, 1996, of orthos for their operating area in the Lakes
 - PIR has 100%, 2003, of Bulkley.
- Orthos on line for government through MSRM, DIM Server, however, Bulkley has not been loaded to map server, not inspected. MSRM currently stores as ER mapper and Mr. Sid all future will be in ER mapper. Not available to licensees, licensees have electronic copies in house in TIF or COT.
- Options – NWDSN buy Mr. Sid (6k) and translates TIFs to compressed format for distribution to members through FTP site. Or members gain access to MSRM DIM server and get ER mapper versions from MSRM directly.
- How to distribute imagery to users, in-house through LAN. External users?
- How to make orthos available to members? MSRM can download Mr. Sids or ER mapper by quarter letter block.

Action: Kevin will discuss NWDSN access to DIM server for download.

Maintain Metadata of the NWDSN Data Sets

- FGDC standard?
 - Currently using old MELP meta data standard.
 - Government is building meta data standard, currently in flux.
- Ensure meta data is up to date on local coverages.
- In the future attach meta to corporate to identify updated local version.

Action: Don to identify meta standard on web page and check that there is meta associated with all of the coverages.

Cultural Heritage Standards

- Some of the Wet'suwet'en Stewardship plan data will possibly be available at the conclusion of the plan end of March.
- Recent court decision would indicate that only government is required to consult with First Nations and not with industry. However, it may be more efficient for licensees and First Nations to informally consult then the government consultation would be more efficient. Currently need more information from province.
- Wet'suwet'en is developing standards for cultural features for entering and searching through the Wet'suwet'en Cultural Heritage Resource Database.

What Schedule should we commit to for Regular Reporting/Updating of Operational Data Sets

- Annually, every six months, quarterly, end of logging season?

- Perhaps in sync with RESULTS, ABR submission, people can submit more frequent if required.
- Next update end proposed end of January, then maybe end of March
- Defer decision to next technical meeting.

Other Funding

- Western Economic Diversification
- Geoconnections
- Federal infrastructure

Next Meetings and Reporting

- SOP distributed for comment – December 14th, 2004.
- Updated work plan for Phase 3 distributed for comment – January 15th.
- December/January standards sub-committee report by January 15th.
- Full technical committee meeting, review progress and status and planning for 2005/2006– Feb 2005.
- Review of 2004/2005 NWDSN activities – May 2005.