

## CADASTRAL REFERENCE WORKGROUP

Bureau of Reclamation  
230 Collins Rd.  
Boise, ID

**January 29, 2010**  
**1:00 – 3:30 p.m. MST**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Donna Pitzer	Reclamation, Chair Cadastral Reference group
Renee Bettis	Idaho Department of Lands
Jack Clark	Ada County Assessor's Office
Mike Bruse	Unaffiliated
Walt Bulawa	Idaho State Tax Commission
Jeff Servatius	Idaho State Tax Commission
Eric Rafn	Idaho Dept. of Water Resources
Gary Wilbert	Idaho Power
Tim Fox	Fox Land Surveys
Gail Ewart	Idaho Geospatial Office/Department of Administration
Sheldon Bluestein	Retired
<b>By Phone</b>	
Kevin De Rossett	BLM
Bob Smith	Idaho Geospatial Office
Stewart Ward	Dioptra
Marc Thomas	FGDC Cadastral Committee
Eric Smith	Fremont County
Craig Rindlisbacher	Madison County

### **Review meeting notes of December 2, 2009 meeting.**

Some grammatical and affiliation corrections.  
The meeting notes were approved.

### **Review of Work Done on ICPI Spreadsheet**

ICPI – Idaho Control Point Inventory

Eric Smith and Stewart Ward have examined the spreadsheet that would be used by surveyors to populate the ICPI.

Eric and Stewart's purpose was to "Idahoize" the spreadsheet. Most of their suggested changes or points of discussion were to the selections associated with the pull down menus. One significant suggested change was to reclassify several of the selections for **Monument Type** to **Location** as they seem to refer to where a monument is located rather than what type of monument it is.

Some discussion on whether the location selections offered here are relevant and/or querable. Is it information that a surveyor would collect in his field notes? Possible to make Location an optional field.

Marc Thomas asked if it is too much for the purpose of the database? They put it on the documents that they record and putting it in the database may be too much. It is not the official record. This database is just to let surveyors know that there is something there. A surveyor has an official duty to examine the record and this is not the official record. Ideally one could link to a county database where the official record is kept. It was noted that connecting to county web sites could be in a future version.

Eric recommended that surveyors should take over to refine the spreadsheet further.

Could the Location field offer a selection and have the ability to type in something not found in the list? The answer is no.

**Action Item** – Donna will send a copy of the spreadsheet to Tim Fox and Jack Clark for further examination.

**Action Item** – Once the spreadsheet is “stable”, Eric will put in the control information that he has for Fremont County.

Stewart remarked that some aspects of this spreadsheet might be overwhelming. For example, in the Point Type category, there are 95 selections. Perhaps that could be cut down to around 5 or so choices. It seems that there is a lot of redundancy in the list. Should make the process as smooth and easy to use as possible.

**Action Item** – Stewart will look at point type and come up with his suggested short list.

**Action Item** – Try to get Curt Smith involved and perhaps to try to convene a small group of surveyors to take a detailed look at the spreadsheet and try to reduce the number of selections in the longer lists.

### **NSGIC RAMONA Database**

Examined the RAMONA database as a refresher on what the purpose is and what type of information is stored on this system.

<http://www.gisinventory.net/>.

Gail gave some background information about the system. It is a NSGIC tool and site that allows people to have access or knowledge of data sets that may not have full blown metadata. Also bridges between all levels of government allowing counties to update their information, states can update their information, etc. Funding entities are starting to use this as a measure of how well individual counties/states are doing and sometimes basing their funding decisions on the information found at this website.

**Action Item** – BLM contact information needs to be updated.

Examined the parcel information in the database and focused on Cadastral Reference questions shown there. Several of the questions had no response. Who would answer those questions and how do we get the information into the system?

**Action Item** – Jeff and/or Donna will try to get the PLSS questions to Jack and he will provide answers to the questions that he can. Gail and/or Donna will provide the best answers possible for State policy or programmatic questions.

During exploration of the system, in the individual county information, the answer to “Percent Complete” was polygon.

**Action Item** – Marc Thomas will contact Nancy Von Meyer to find out the meaning of the question or if there is some type of error here.

## **I Plan**

Sheldon reviewed the 2003 I-Plan. His conclusion is that the plan is sketchy and needs updating and revision. The key issues identified in 2003 are still relevant issues today. It needs more substance.

**Action Item** – Sheldon will take the document and update the language and then a small group will convene to work on the substance.

Discussion of what an I Plan is, what a stewardship plan is and how does it fit into the Strategic and Business Plan for the State?

**Action Item** – Gail will bring a few slides to the next meeting to refresh us on the relationship between the Strategic and Business Plans and the documents that each Framework group should produce.

## **Montana CPDB**

Last meeting we looked at the test site for the MCPDB and saw some problems and issues. Donna contacted Stu Kirkpatrick to see what progress they were making in correcting the issues and/or if they knew how long they expected the fixes to take. The problems are still there and they can't put a timeline on when they expect to get them resolved. They are going to move it to production and start training in February. In light of that, Donna asked and received the code for the application.

**Action Item** – Bob and Walt will take a look at the code to make sure everything is there and see if they can get it to work.

## **Repository for Cadastral Reference In Idaho**

Michael Ciscell at IDWR has collected statewide parcels and cadastral reference information for internal use in IDWR's water rights work.

IDWR is not the only agency that has created their own GCDB based cadastral reference layer.

Sheldon points out that this risk of several agencies creating and using their own cadastral reference needs to be addressed in an Implementation/Work plan.

Kevin reports that the BLM is in the process of awarding contracts to take 1,000 energy townships and run FIXLX and FIXAN processes that should fix some of the problems that we see in the data. In particular the points not being the same along a township line from one township to another and the attributing problem. The contractor hasn't been selected to date. The schedule is not set, but as this is stimulus money, the work should be 70% done by next October, but nothing for sure yet.

BLM plans to take approx. \$400,000.00 to use existing contractors to go out and collect control. The amount of money could be more. However, collecting control and using it to recompute the GCDB are separate efforts and issues.

Premier data is developing a process to assist with State boundary edgematching in the GCDB.

Kevin does support this groups efforts to try deal with some of the cadastral reference problems on their own as BLM processes may not be able to address them in the near future.

The Geospatial Information Office has stepped forward and is volunteering to house and steward the Idaho Spatial Data Infrastructure Cadastral Reference Framework layer. Meaning that they will take the flat file information provided by BLM, create feature classes from that information, correct attribution errors and provide that to the GIS community and the public.

**Action Item** – the group wants to know more about IDWR's GCDB layer. Invite Michael Ciscell to give a presentation on his process and results. This needs to be compared to the NAIP, 24K PLSS etc.

Craig would like to see a centralized location for flat files.

The workflow and the responsibilities for stewarding this layer will have to be documented and this will be a main topic for the next meeting.

### **Other Business**

Tax Commission is in the process of updating the Tax Code Area Boundaries and they are looking at doing some counties in Eastern Idaho next. Walt requests a copy of the control points from Eastern Idaho in shapefile format.

**Action Item** – Donna will compile those points and get them to Tax Commission.

Jack announced that House Bill 425 has been printed for legitimizing the single zone projection (IDTM83). Dave Curtis from the Board of Registration is the contact. Please review the language and get any comments back to Dave Curtis if something is incorrect.

Donna and Gail will be giving a presentation on the PLSS Position Inventory concept at the ISPLS meeting in Moscow in March. The presentation will concentrate on the interface and the spreadsheet to invite surveyor's feedback.