Land Use Land Cover TWG Meeting
August 16, 2010

Attendees

Bob Smith	Idaho Geospatial Office
Wilma Robertson	Idaho Geospatial Office
Angie Schmidt	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Bruce Eggleston	City of Boise
Gary Wilbert	Idaho Power Company
Keith Weber	Idaho State University
Leonna Svancara	Idaho Fish and Game
Mike Verdun	Idaho Department of Water Resources
Tim Williams	Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Review of land use action items from last meeting

Bob Smith: BLM Land Surface Management Dataset is not as detailed as the parcel layer. Within cities the BLM layer is mapped at the 40 acre level. This BLM layer may be used to derive land use depending on user required scale and other expectations.

Overview of land cover datasets

- GlobeGov. International dataset with a 300 meter resolution
- GAP. This dataset is developed state-by-state and is more detailed, and state-specific (in terms of the different land cover types that are being mapped) than GlobeGov.
- NASS. Most recent version maps crops grown in 2009. The dataset is nationwide, but mapped on a state by state basis. Land cover types are comprised of the different crops that are grown.
- NLCD. National dataset
- Northwest ReGAP data. Completed for 5-State area at 30 meter resolution. Landfire (about 5 years ago) was working with ReGAP to improve consistency. The dataset was released in 2010, but based on slightly older satellite imagery.

Action item: Angie Schmidt will send link for ReGAP data to Keith Weber

To determine which datasets will suffice as, or become the starting point off, TIM datasets will depend on current uses and requirements.

- Keith Weber uses land cover data for research in semi-arid land, specifically sage-brush steppe. This type of information is used for example to model fire susceptibility. For vegetation surveys the land cover and land ownership are used in tandem to identify optimal study areas on public land.
- Angie Schmidt prefers to use the ReGAP data which can be rolled up in more general classes.

- Mike Verdun uses NASS data for mapping irrigated land near the Bear River to distinguish wet lands from potential irrigated land.
- Gary Wilbert uses land classification to identify private ownership. He uses the BLM Land Surface Management Dataset, since it covers entire Counties and helps to show where there is private ownership. Tim Williams mentioned that this data set is too course for some of their uses.
- **Action item**: Keith will talk to Brian Holmes about resolution and update frequency of BLM Land Surface Management Dataset

Requirements of potential TIM dataset(s)

- Accuracy
- Resolution (need to know the minimum mapping unit)
- Update cycle
- Potential to submit updates for inclusion into the dataset. For example, use fire polygons to indicate where changes in land cover probably occurred.

Action item: Keith and Wilma will put together a SurveyMonkey Survey to gauge which land cover datasets people use in Idaho and what requirements they have for such databases.

Tim Williams mentioned that they like using parcel level data, and that is would be great to have a state-wide depository for such data.

Action item: Gary will mention interest of LULC TWG in Parcels and possibly function as a liaison between both TWGs.

Vertical integration: Wilma explained that there are different ways in which different TIM can relate to each other:

1. A **Fundamental Dependency** exists when one dataset cannot be completed before a different dataset is completed. For example, the parcel dataset depends on the cadastral reference layer to be correctly referenced.
2. **Interdependency** exists where two or more framework datasets need to align correctly relative to each other. For example the roads framework needs to be properly aligned with the hydrographical dataset so that roads and rivers are positioned correctly relative to each other.
3. Some framework datasets **impact** the data found in other framework datasets. For example, soil type is one of the drivers determining the vegetation growing on those soils. Elevation is one of many factors impacting erosion, and thus soil type. Understanding impacts can help with the QA/QC of data.

Wilma maintains a matrix showing all possible relationships using an Excel spreadsheet. A survey exists to help identify those relationships.

Action item: Keith and Wilma will use vertical relationship survey to identify how landuse/land cover datasets vertically integrate with other existing and proposed datasets.