Parcel Workgroup Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2010
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Attendees:

Anne Kawalec, Chair	Ada County Assessor
Bernadette Acker-Hoffman	Bureau of Land Management
Brent Adamson	Boise County Assessor
Dixie Booker-Lair	Idaho Department of Lands
Donna Pitzer	Bureau of Reclamation
Gary Wilbert	Idaho Power (IPCO)
Jack Clark	Ada County
Jason Copperdock	Canyon County Assessor
Jeff Servatius	Idaho State Tax Commission
Michael Ciscell	Idaho Department of Water Resources
Michele Porter	Bureau of Land Management
Mike Bruce	Unaffiliated
Scott VanHoff	USGS
Sheldon Bluestein	Unaffiliated
Walt Bulawa	Idaho State Tax Commission
Wendy Eklund	Idaho Department of Fish & Game

Online:
Bob Smith - Office of the GIO
Joel Hall – Blaine County GIS
Chris Corwin – Idaho Dept of Health and Welfare
Dawn Leatham – Bonneville County
Gary Young – Bureau of Reclamation
Bryant Ralston - ESRI
Bonnie Moore – Fremont County
Craig Rindlisbacher – Madison County GIS

Election Consolidation and GIS – Jeff Servatius and Walt Bulawa, Idaho State Tax Commission (ISTC)

Earlier this year, Walt was a part of a sub-committee that was appointed by the Chair of the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee of the Idaho Association of Counties (IAC) "…to research and develop an implementation plan for counties as they undertake the legislative mandate to consolidate elections….". Jeff read the draft of the white paper.
In short:
The Secretary of State's, Idaho Voter Registration System (IVRS) is a comprehensive statewide database containing all registered voters by name and address. The county election staff is responsible for maintaining and updating information in the IVRS database. The sub-committee agreed that counties conduct an annual quality control cross check of the elections code area data with the assessor's parcel based tax code area coverage and verify that the county's tax code area boundaries agree with those of the State Tax Commission

When the white paper has been approved by the IAC, we will post it on the Framework website.

Walt demonstrated a GIS on-line application that was developed, at the request of the sub-committee, to provide an easy-to-use geospatial method of identifying the tax districts for any given address or location in Idaho. The application that Walt developed is available at: http://www2.idaho.gov/gis/google/districts/. Walt pointed out that the results of using this geospatial approach are limited by the accuracy of the parcel and district boundaries.

Parcels For Federal Land, Who is the authoritative source? – Donna Pitzer, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

Direction for federal agencies and spatially data comes from circular no A-16. Assigns roles responsibility for NSDI. The document can be found at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a016/a016_rev.html

In A-16, the BLM is identified as the lead agency for Federal Land Ownership Status. The responsibilities of a lead agency include facilitating development of standards and the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of each data theme.

Circular A-16 does not say that BLM is the custodian of the data nor the authoritative data source. BOR is cooperating with BLM to provide them the information, but because both agencies are mapping the data, their processes are not the most efficient.

However, BOR has provided only a fraction of BOR deeds to BLM and it is not known how long it will take BLM to map the descriptions. Therefore, if you want to know where Reclamation fee land is located, you need to contact Reclamation. The same is true for Fish and Wildlife, Dept. of Defense, Dept. of Energy etc. BLM does have most of Forest Service's ownership information.

The Status of Surface Management data from BLM shows management and not ownership and does not have Reclamation fee ownership on it. BLM does not have a code/attribute to show ownership information. BLM also uses Idaho Dept of Lands data for state information.

Idaho Code and Legislation – Sheldon Bluestein

Sheldon discussed "Some thoughts about parcel mapping and the Public Records Act". He has put his thoughts to paper in a document that highlights the many questions we have concerning Idaho Code and Legislation as it has evolved over the years. Sheldon's document will available on the framework website.

As Sheldon presented his thoughts, we discussed what data is considered public information and how it is to be shared according to Idaho law/code. Each agency represented at our meeting seems to have at least one issue regarding accessing data or handing out data that may be consider public information.   There is proposed legislation that would exempt the home addresses and police & correction officers, judges, and probation and parole officers from public records. We are not sure how that will affect GIS data.

Many counties in Idaho already show owner name on their websites. Most of them can be searched by name but some have limited their search to parcel number or addresses. Ada County has asked for advice from the Ada County Prosecuting Attorney's office concerning owner name on the website. Although no legal precedence was sited, it was suggested that they do not show owner name.

Open Discussion –
Anne asked everyone to take a look at the ISDI so that we can discuss how parcels fit into the big picture.

Donna suggested that we take a look at RAMONA (a GIS Inventory Tool developed for NSGIC).
        The website is: http://gisinventory.net/

We will talk about both of these at our next meeting.

Bryant Ralston mentioned the May 6 ESRI event, Better Ways to Design and Share Maps. Bryant would be available to set up something to discuss ArcGIS online tools.

Next Meeting – April 1, 2010