

Imagery TWG Meeting Notes
Idaho Water Center
February 4, 2009

Attendees:

Margie Wilkins, IDWR	Chris Clay, IDL	Anne Hillyer, BPA*
Keith Weber, ISU	Gail Ewart, DoA/IGO	Janet Cheney, Bonneville Co. *
Eric Rafn, IDWR	Frank Mynar, Idaho Power	Paul Schneider, Bingham Co. *
Jerry Korol, NRCS	Bill Kramber, IDWR	Don Patterson, USFS-R1*
Toni Williams, FSA	Todd Quast, Cassia Co.*	Bruce Godfrey, INSIDEIdaho *

*via telephone

1. Deliverables Survey Results

- Margie started off the meeting by giving a quick summary of what has been called the “Deliverables Survey” responses. The survey and a summary of the responses have been posted on the Framework website (<http://gis.idaho.gov/framework.htm>). Responses were received from 24 of 32 partners.
- Some notes taken from the survey:
 - Those interested in only one county preferred to receive the Compressed County Mosaics (CCMs) on a mailed DVD.
 - Those interested in more than one county preferred a Do It Yourself (DIY) download station or INSIDEIdaho
 - Those having statewide geographic area of interest also preferred a Do It Yourself (DIY) download station or INSIDEIdaho
 - There was little preference for the 100k tiling scheme among the partners
 - Responses to “Do you anticipate wanting delivery of the final product in its original QQ tiles?”
 - yes – 13 partners
 - no – 9 partners
 - maybe – 2 partners
- Bruce was asked how INSIDEIdaho would like to receive the CCMs. Bruce said either FTP download (from APFO/FSA) or by shipping an external drive for download. He expects INSIDEIdaho’s download interface to be in place prior to the availability of the CCMs; therefore, the turnaround for partner download capability is expected to be just a few days.
- Gail suggested that QA/QC responsibility should be spread out among the partners in order to balance the load (APFO/FSA will be the primary lead in QA/QC). Eric offered to create a map and distribute to partners. Partners will be expected to sign up for areas they will review. It is estimated that the turnaround time between delivery of the CCMs and the QQ geotifs is 3 months. Toni said it is best to get any problems reported back to APFO/FSA prior to delivery of the QQ tiles. Priority for corrections will be lower once the QQ tiles are delivered because contractors will have most likely moved on to the next project eventhough there is a one year deadline from final product delivery for corrections to be submitted. Get corrections in early!!!

2. High Resolution Upgrade Update

- Margie reported that she received back a few responses from NAIP contractors regarding the estimated costs for high resolution upgrades. Unfortunately, the estimates were all over the map leading to a concern that we weren’t comparing apples to apples. Costs appear to be vendor specific and even within each vendor’s estimates, ranges were large depending on multiple variables. She suggested tabling this issue until a contractor is assigned by APFO/FSA. More definitive questions

and specifications may be submitted to the assigned vendor at that time. There was agreement by those in attendance.

- Toni provided an updated timetable for 2009 NAIP
 - mid Feb – RFI is sent to NAIP contractors
 - March 30 – deadline for vendors to submit bids
 - April 10 – contract will be awarded
 - mid June – start flying!!!!!! woohoo ☺

3. Funding/Legislative Action

- Gail has met with JFAC (the budget setting committee of the Legislature) on Feb. 3rd and 4th. There have been no comments/concerns regarding the spending authority -- a good sign! JFAC seems to understand the collaborative nature of this project and the importance of current statewide imagery at an affordable price. The state budget is scheduled to be set by Feb. 24
- Wording/language for the APFO contract is still being worked out. There has been some difficulty in contacting the necessary people involved but should move forward soon.
- Idaho Military Division is interested in supporting higher resolution imagery.
- Deadline for spending account dollars is June 30th, 2010
- Gail has asked Bruce to spec out equipment to move forward with delivery through INSIDEIdaho.

4. Other topics

- Toni provided some notes from a teleconference in which she participated last week.
 - **National Stimulus Package - Imagery For The Nation (IFTN) and 2009 NAIP:**
 - Dept. of the Interior had submitted a proposal for the stimulus package that requested specific funding for IFTN (for both NAIP and the high resolution components). The House version of the bill passed, and the Senate version is currently being debated. Neither House nor Senate version had specific language for IFTN, but it is expected that should the funding remain intact, the conference language will be more specific. The IFTN proposal had stated that the administration of the program would be jointly administered by FSA and USGS, and if funding is received, it is expected that will stay in place. Regardless of the stimulus outcome, we expect the current 2009 NAIP states will still receive imagery as planned.
- also this information regarding “blurring” issues on JPG2000 CCMs for 2008 data capture
 - 4-band JPG2000 issues**

A “blurring” effect on 4-band CCMs in JPEG2000 format has been documented through APFO QA on 2008 states with 4-band deliverables. A thorough retest of the 2008 NAIP JP2 specifications was completed by APFO with Lizardtech GeoExpress 7.0.0, ERDAS Imagine 9.1, and ArcGIS. No significant change to the 2008 NAIP specifications will correct the blurring noticed in 2008 4-band JP2 CCMs, as it seems to be an inherent part of the encoding process, due to the specific encoder, library, or other factors. The blurring is not noticed in 3-band JP2s

Lizardtech’s newest GeoExpress version, v7.0.2, does correct the blurring issue in 4-band JP2s. However, 4-band JP2s from this version have a problem in ArcGIS 9.3 and ERDAS Imagine 9.2 and earlier (confirmed by LizardTech and ESRI), which renders the 4th (IR) band practically unusable. The problem does not exist in ArcGIS 9.2 and earlier. Lizardtech and ESRI have been made aware of the situation, and have done initial research to see if this is a

fixable problem. ESRI believes it has something to do with a problem in the open source libraries they use, and have logged a bug accordingly.

As a result, deliverables for 4-band states in the 2009 NAIP contract will include a 3 band “natural color” CCM in JPEG2000 format and a set of uncompressed quarter quad tiles, with 4 bands (blue, green, red, and NIR), in GeoTIFF format. If the issue logged with ESRI is resolved before NAIP 2009 contract awards, the contract will be modified to include a 4 band CCM in JPEG2000 format.

Image Servers

- Keith talked about LizardTech’s new Express Server web mapping service (WMS) imagery demo that is available. He has tested it against ESRI’s Image Server and thinks it provides much faster redraw/refresh, pan, and zoom capabilities.
- Bruce had questions regarding Express Server’s ability to extract raw data in multiple projections. Keith didn’t know it’s full potential.
- Margie suggested that we try out the demo as a group at a specific time to see if heavy (?) traffic bogs it down because IDWR typically has 100+ people using imagery at any one time. She will send out an email to those present at today’s meeting to provide the WMS link and instructions. Testing date and time is set for this Friday, Feb. 6th at 10:00 (MST).
- Gail said that a WMS would probably work as general access for public users, but we would need variability in our deployment methods in order to serve the needs of all partners.
- Keith offered to find out the specifications that LizardTech is using so if it does work well with heavy traffic, then we would have some standard equipment requirements to shoot for.

Action Items

- **Eric will map the spatial distribution of partners. Partners will then be asked to take responsibility for QA/QCing particular areas of the CCMs. We will try to have two partners per CCM to balance the load.**
- **Margie will email instructions and details for the LizardTech Express Server imagery demo.**

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 4th