

Idaho Technology Authority (ITA)
IDAHO GEOSPATIAL COUNCIL – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (IGC-EC)
MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 16, 2025 | 9:30 a.m. (*Mountain*)

Webex link (with video): [IGC-EC bi-monthly meeting](#)

Teleconference (audio) only/dial-in:

Toll-free phone: 1-833-695-0549 / Access Code: 2633 708 7163 # / No attendee ID required, press # to join

Physical Location: Office of IT Services

11331 W Chinden Blvd, Building 8, 2nd Floor, Boise ID 83714

Members Present:

Sydney Lewis, ITD (Chair)
Wilma Robertson, Office of IT Services
Elaine Guidero, USGS
Gabe Osterhout, SOS
Eric Buehler, USDA FPAC GEO
Cyndi Andersen, City of Meridian
Laurie Ames, Nez Perce Tribe
Sue Parsons, City of Chubbock
Tom Kearns, Dept. of Lands
Bruce Godfrey, U of I- Inside Idaho
Keith Weber, ISU
David Duty, USDA
Jackie Reader, Office of IT Services
Stewart Ward, Dioptra
Bob Folsom, City of Post Falls
Wendy Largent, NLI Cooperative

Others Present:

Margie Wilkins, IDWR
Robin Dunn, IDL
Josh Enterkine, BSU
Bill Reynolds, Nez Perce County
Megan Wheatley, Office of IT Services
Brad Bean, Office of IT Services
Catherine Thies, Office of IT Services

Members Absent:

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Lewis welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:41 am MST. Roll call attendance was taken, and a quorum was established.

MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Weber moved, and Ms. Robertson seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2024, meeting; the motion passed unanimously.

OPEN COMMITTEE SEAT- FEDERAL (SEAT 4)

Potential committee member Mr. David Duty introduced himself and outlined his background in GIS, imagery and time with the Forest Service.

MOTION: Ms. Robertson moved, and Ms. Andersen seconded a motion to approve David Duty from the USDA Forest Service office to fill the open committee seat- Federal (Seat 4), vacated by the recent departure of Dan Determan; the motion passed unanimously.

UPCOMING IGC-EC ELECTION

Ms. Lewis announced the upcoming committee elections. Each year the two-year term ends for six of the 12 seats. Seats included in the election this year are State 2 (Seat 2), Federal 1 (Seat 3), Local 1 (Seat 5), Utility (Seat 9), and Open (Seats 11, 12). The nomination period extends to February 7, 2025, followed by voting from February 24 to March 14, 2025. The newly elected members will serve from April 1, 2025, until March 31, 2027.

IGC OUTREACH

Ms. Robertson and Mr. Bean presented an update on the IGC outreach efforts. Two outreach mechanisms were proposed:

Revamping the GIS.idaho.gov website to be a resource for the IGC and the public.

Creating a newsletter to highlight IGC activities and data sets.

The use of social media, specifically LinkedIn, was also discussed as a way to reach a wider audience.

THE IDAHO MAP (TIM)

Ms. Robertson informed those in attendance that The Idaho Map is tentatively scheduled to be released on March 14, 2025. Feedback on the map can be submitted through the feedback tab on the website.

A call for volunteers was made to help plan an event for the release of the map. And a suggestion was made to create a press release or package of materials to promote The Idaho Map.

GIO UPDATES

Mr. Bean provided an update on the GIO's work with Boise State University's Master's program students. The students are conducting a feasibility study for a statewide imagery program in Idaho. They will survey government organizations to assess the value and cost-benefits of such a program, including potential savings from avoiding individual RFP processes. The IGC is asked to help identify and connect with stakeholders for the survey. The study will also include questions about Lidar usage. The students will complete their work by late April/early May, with the survey results expected earlier.

Ms. Robertson will invite representatives from the Idaho State Historical Society and the National Board of Geographic Names to an upcoming IGC-EC meeting to discuss the process in Idaho for naming natural features.

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Biosciences TWG

Ms. Wheatley stated that the new chair for the working group is Ailvie Freestorm from Idaho Fish and Game. The first meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2025.

Boundary TWG

Discussion touched on efforts by the Next Generation 911 team to clean up county boundaries, including resolving topological errors through collaborative meetings with counties.

Also Ms. Robertson noted that two bills were passed during the legislative session last year that changed county boundaries in northern Idaho. One change affected the boundary between several counties (including Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, and Clearwater), aiming to clarify a previously ambiguous line based on a river's flow. The changes involved section lines and quarter lines and were intended to minimize impact on county assessors.

The TWG is meeting in early February 2025.

Cadastral TWG

Mr. Bean informed the attendees that the group is close to finalizing the PLSS Standard which will shortly be sent out for review and comment. The expectation being that it will be on the March meeting agenda for approval.

Climate TWG

Mr. Bean noted that the meeting discussion covered adding frost-free days and growing days as potential layers. Also discussed was the possibility of historical imagery or historical data sets for temperature and precipitation. On hand for the meeting was Jon Bonjean from the Idaho Dept of Agriculture.

The next meeting will be held Feb 11, 2025.

Elevation TWG

Mr. Enterkine shared that the TWG will next meet on Feb 6, 2025. The new BSU postdoc who has been assisting with the state elevation plan and data collection prioritization will be introduced.

Pit-filled, bare earth digital terrain models are now available for download.

A well-attended LiDAR workshop was held in early January with more planned for late spring/early summer.

Ms. Guidero noted that there has been a delay in the Idaho Southern Gaps D23 project, with final delivery expected by October 2025.

Energy & Utilities TWG

Ms. Largent stated that information sharing, security and legal policies need to be navigated in order to move forward on the development of a utility provider service area layer. Mr. Bean is leading a subcommittee on boundaries for electric service areas.

The TWG is reaching out to Stephanie Lenhart from the Energy Policy Institute at Boise State to attend a future meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 11th.

Geodetic TWG

Mr. Ward made the attendees aware that the geodetic analyst Cory Scoffield was named as Geodetic Advisor at Idaho State University. Mr. Scoffield intends to provide training on the MCPD for surveyors and GIS professionals around the state.

The TWG meets the fourth Thursday of every other month at 3p.m. MT.

Geoscience TWG

Ms. Reader stated that the TWG will host speakers from the Idaho Geological Survey to discuss potential layers for nomination.

The next meeting is January 21st at 3:00 PM.

Hazard TWG

Ms. Robertson informed the attendees that the next meeting is scheduled for early March and will revisit the fire hazard layer and discuss the FEMA flood data set.

Human Interest TWG

The next meeting will focus on incorporating census boundaries and demographic data.

Imagery TWG

Ms. Wilkins stated that the group is working on survey questions for the public policy group's feasibility study.

The TWG meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. MT.

Parcel TWG

Ms. Wheatley relayed that the next meeting will review the standalone parcel viewer application and the Idaho Map's parcel viewer.

Ms. Wheatley will speak at the Idaho Association of County Assessors conference on January 30th.

The TWG meets the fourth Wednesday of every month at 2p.m. MT.

Public Safety TWG

Mr. Reynolds remarked that the group is working on uploading data to the National Addressing Data Set.

Also, the Location Enterprise Addressing Public Safety (LEAP) 2025 conference is taking place virtually on the 28th – 30th. RSVP at GIS.Idaho.gov to attend “watch parties” at various locations around the state.

The TWG meets the third Thursday of every month at 2p.m. MT.

The Addressing group meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 11a.m. MT.

Transportation TWG

Ms. Lewis stated that a collaboration is being formed with federal and local rail agencies to discuss rail data. Progress is also being made on boat ramp data for drafting the corresponding standard.

OTHER BUSINESS

Spring 2025 IGC meeting planning has begun.

Ms. Guidero announced the hiring of the new USGS Pacific Northwest Liaison. Robert Hairston-Porter will hold the standing seat designated for the USGS. He will be introduced at the March meeting.

Northwest GIS Conference will be held in Boise from October 21 to 23, 2025.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Ms. Reader moved, and Ms. Andersen seconded a motion to adjourn; the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:18 am MST.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 20, 2025 9.30a.m. MST

C Thies, Office of IT Services