

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

Thursday, January 15, 2026 | 9:30 a.m. (*Mountain*)

Microsoft Team link (with video): [IGC-EC bi-monthly meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/2225611181452?p=mAU2OtcFNrLCLHVZzl)
<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/2225611181452?p=mAU2OtcFNrLCLHVZzl>
Meeting ID: 222 561 118 145 2 Passcode: zU7jp9p4

Teleconference (audio) only/dial-in:
Phone: 1-208-985-2810 / Access Code: 585 612 78# / No attendee ID required

Physical Location: Office of IT Services
11341 W. Chinden Blvd, Building 4, 2nd Floor, Suite #200 Boise Idaho

Members Present:

Cyndi Andersen, City of Meridian
(Chair Pro Tem)
Keith Olson, ITS
Bruce Godfrey, U of I/Inside Idaho
Keith Weber, ISU
Elaine Guidero, USGS
Laurie Ames, Nez Perce Tribe
Gabe Osterhout, SOS
Eric Buehler, USDA FPAC GEO
Ryan Howerton, NNL
Tom Kearns, IDL
Sue Parsons, City of Chubbuck
Jackie Reader, GIS Consultant
Stewart Ward, Dioptra

Others Present:

Margie Wilkins, IDWR
Heather Studley, Bannock County
Wilma Robertson, Polder Mapping
Cory Scoffield, ISU
Josh Enterkine, BSU
Bradley Bean, ITS
Orion Cardenas-Ritzert, ITS
Jennie Anderson, ITS

Members Absent:

Megan Wheatley, IDFG (Chair)
Katey Jones, Idaho Power
Bob Folsom, City of Post Falls

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

ICG-EC Chair Pro-Tem Cyndi Andersen welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:33 am MST. Roll call attendance was taken, and a quorum was established.

MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Godfrey moved, and Mr. Olsen seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Nov 20, 2025, meeting; the motion passed unanimously.

STATE OF IDAHO LIDAR PLAN

Mr. Enterkine presented an update on the State of Idaho Lidar Plan, highlighting contributions from Ashley Bosa, Keith Weber, and Elaine Guidero.

Plan Background: Mr. Enterkine explained that the Idaho Lidar Plan was first published in 2018 and has now been updated to reflect statewide coverage and new priorities for future data collection. The plan was rewritten due to significant improvement in coverage for the State of Idaho, which is now 100% statewide coverage.

MOTION: Mr. Weber moved, and Ms. Ames seconded a motion to approve the updated State of Idaho Lidar Plan; the motion passed unanimously.

Funding Streams: Mr. Godfrey posed a follow-up question about dedicated funding streams for lidar in other states. Mr. Enterkine and Ms. Guidero responded that states like Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, North Dakota, Ohio, Michigan, and New York have such funding, whereas Idaho lacks a mechanism for dedicated state-level funding, a challenge noted in the plan.

OFFICE OF GIO

Mr. Olson presented the following updates on the Office of GIO's activities:

ESR License Renewal and Agency Consultation: Mr. Olson reported that the Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) Geographic Information System (GIS) team is consulting with supported agencies in preparation for the consolidated ESR license renewal in March, which covers ArcGIS Online and hub sites used by multiple state agencies and local governments.

Indoor Mapping Initiative: The team is collaborating with the Idaho Office of Emergency Management (IOEM), which has allocated funding for a project under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) earthquake hazard reduction grant. The project scope is being finalized with plans to begin work in the coming months.

ITS Organizational Restructuring: Mr. Olson explained that the GIS team was moved within the ITS organizational structure and is now integrated with the application development team, resulting in less autonomy but improved project management and accountability. All work now requires additional levels of approval, but ITS leadership remains supportive of GIS statewide infrastructure.

Comparison with Other States' Geospatial Offices: Mr. Olson clarified that, unlike some states with independent geospatial offices and dedicated budgets, Idaho's GIS team operates within the IT office and must align initiatives with state IT strategy and goals. This presents unique challenges as compared with other states. The IGC-EC remains separate and unaffected by ITS restructuring.

Other States: Ms. Robertson provided an update that many GIS offices in other states are struggling, and many do not have dedicated offices or funding. For example, Wyoming and New Mexico are without GIS offices. This is a topic being discussed in National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC).

BROWN BAG SESSIONS

Ms. Andersen led a continuing discussion about plans for regular brown bag session to foster engagement among GIS professionals statewide. Ms. Parsons volunteered to organize a schedule and create a survey to gather member input about formats, topics, and outreach strategies.

Session Format and Scheduling: Members agreed to hold brown bag sessions in alternating months from regular meetings, with flexible formats such as presentations, problem-solving, and sharing local projects. Ms. Parsons volunteered to create a schedule and reach out to potential speakers.

Topic Collection and Survey: Ms. Parsons proposed distributing a survey to collect ideas for session topics, gauge availability, and identify contributors. The group supported this approach to ensure relevant and practical content.

Outreach and Communication Channels: Suggestions included using the existing website events calendar, listserv, and potentially developing a LinkedIn presence for broader outreach. The committee discussed leveraging social media and local government channels to maximize participation.

Potential Session Topics: Ideas for session topics included data pipelines to mapping platforms, experiences with software upgrades, and training initiatives, with an emphasis on practical, actionable content that addresses common challenges.

TWG CONSOLIDATION

Mr. Bean led a presentation on the status of potential consolidation of the Technical Working Groups (TWG), proposing unified efforts to create Super TWGs and collaboration between groups.

Highly Requested Data Sets and TWG Functions: Mr. Bean identified several key datasets not yet on the Idaho map, such as roads, county boundaries, city boundaries, census areas, Public Land Survey System (PLSS), and parcels, and explained that some TWGs have completed their initial functions while others remain active or dormant.

Proposal for Unified Efforts: Mr. Bean suggested that instead of consolidating TWGs, the IGC-EC could facilitate collaboration between TWGs on priority datasets, forming temporary subgroups for specific projects and eliminating non-functioning TWGs where appropriate.

Discussion of TWG Roles and End Users: Mr. Weber and Mr. Scoffield emphasized the importance of TWGs in maintaining statewide data cohesion, adapting to new technologies, and considering the needs of end users such as assessors and emergency management. The group discussed outreach responsibilities and the potential for an outreach TWG or designated champions.

Challenges of Data Integration: Members discussed the technical and organizational challenges of integrating datasets across agencies, including standardization, vertical integration, and the need for central guidance, particularly in areas like 911 data and parcel mapping.

TWG CHAIR & BOARD MEMBER EXPECTATIONS

The committee reviewed expectations for TWG chairs and board members, considering term limits, volunteer roles, and the informal nature of TWGs, with input from Mr. Buehler, Mr. Weber, and Ms. Wilkins on balancing continuity and avoiding burnout.

Term Limits and Volunteerism: Mr. Buehler and Mr. Weber discussed the pros and cons of setting term limits for TWG chairs, noting that while terms could help prevent burnout, they should remain voluntary to avoid unnecessary overhead and ensure continuity.

TWG UPDATES

Geodetic Control Point: Mr. Scoffield provided an update on the Geodetic Control Point. He reported that 308 new control points were added to the multi-state control point database in the past year, with a total of 24,785 points, and announced the rollout of a new experience builder web map for feedback.

Statewide RTN Initiative: The Geodetic Control group is discussing the creation of a statewide real-time network (RTN), currently relying on neighboring states' networks, and is considering stakeholder summits and funding opportunities.

INL Low Distortion Projection Proposal: Idaho National Laboratory (INL) has requested a custom low distortion projection due to overlapping coordinate system zones, and Mr. Scoffield is working with National Geodetic Survey (NGS) to design the new zone with plans to extend the opportunity to other organizations and tribes.

Current MCPD:

https://services1.arcgis.com/z5tlnpYHokW9isdE/arcgis/rest/services/MCPD_Points/FeatureServer

Public Safety: Mr. Reynolds was unable to attend the meeting.

Human Interest Group Census Block Efforts: Mr. Osterhout provided an update on the Human Interest TWG. This group is working to involve the executive branch in redistricting, aiming to improve census block boundaries and leverage group expertise, with Ms. Robertson noting significant issues such as structures intersected by block boundaries.

ELECTIONS

Ms. Andersen announced the upcoming elections, detailing the nomination deadline, seats up for election, and the new Microsoft Forms voting process, with Ms. Jennie Anderson coordinating candidate bios and ballot distribution.

Election Process and Timeline: Nominations for committee seats are due by February 6, with candidates required to submit bios by Feb 13. Voting begins Feb 23 and runs to March 13. Ballots will be distributed via Microsoft Forms. Seats up for election include:

State Seat 1 (Megan Wheatley, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Chair)

Federal Seat 2 (Ryan Howerton, Naval Nuclear Laboratory)

Local Seat 2 (Bob Folsom, City of Post Falls)

Local Seat 3 (Sue Parsons, City of Chubbuck)

Tribal (Laurie Aimes, Nez Perce Tribe)

Private (Stewart Ward, Dioptra LLC)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming conferences and training events were provided by Ms. Studley.

Intermountain GIS Conference Details: Ms. Studley announced the conference will be held in Pocatello at the Red Lion Hotel, with affordable rates, two keynote speakers (Tim Nolan and Jamie Christiansen), and a strong need for presentation and workshop submissions. Registration is expected to open soon.

GIS Conference: [Intermountain GIS Conference: About](#)

LEAP Conference and GIS Leadership Academy: Ms. Studley highlighted the LEAP conference in March, focused on addressing and public safety, and the GIS Leadership Academy in June in Boise, recommending both events for professional development and networking.

LEAP Conference: https://thegpn.org/page/LEAP_Conference

GIS Leadership Academy: <https://thegpn.org/page/GLA>

Questions: please email heathers@bannockcounty.gov

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Mr. Weber moved, and Mr. Beuhler seconded a motion to adjourn; the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:13 am MST.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2026, 9.30 a.m. MST

J Anderson, Office of Information Technology Services