Idaho Technology Authority (ITA)

IDAHO GEOSPATIAL COUNCIL – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (IGC-EC)

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 21, 2026 | 9:30 a.m. *(Mountain)*

Microsoft Team link (with video): IGC-EC bi-monthly meeting

https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/2225611181452?p=mAU2OtcFNrlCLHVZzI

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:

Megan Wheatley (Chair)
Keith Olson, ITS
Keith Weber, ISU
Ryan Howerton, NNL
Tom Kearns, IDL
Nico Martinez, City of Pocatello
Gabe Osterhout, SOS
Eric Buehler, USDA FPAC GEO
Katey Jones, Idaho Power
Stewart Ward, Dioptra

Members Absent:

Cyndi Andersen, City of Meridian
Bruce Godfrey, U of I
Elaine Guidero, USGS
Wyatt Peterson, Shoshone Bannock Tribes
Bob Folsom, City of Post Falls
Vacant, Open Seat 11

Others Present:

Margie Wilkins, IDWR
Eric Wing, City of Boise
Danielle Fareau, IDWR
Cory Scoffield, ISU
Josh Enterkine, BSU
Wendy Largent, Northern Lights, Inc.
Nico Martinez, City of Pocatello
Bill Reynolds, Nez Perce County
Bradley Bean, ITS
Jennie Anderson, ITS

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

ICG-EC Chair Megan Wheatley welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:31 am MST. Roll call attendance was taken, and a quorum was established.

MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Ms. Jones moved, and Mr. Weber seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2026, meeting; the motion passed unanimously**.**

NEW BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCATIONS

Ms. Wheatley introduced new members Nico Martinez and Wyatt Peterson.

Nico Martinez, City of Pocatello. Local Seat 7.

Mr. Martinez has served as the City of Pocatello GIS Coordinator for over a year, previously having worked as a GIS consultant in Wyoming for airport and municipal projects. Nico is a graduate of Cornell University with a background in civil engineering and enthusiasm for contributing to IGC-EC policy initiatives.

Wyatt Peterson, Shoshone Bannock Tribes. Tribal Seat 8.

Ms. Wheatley summarized Wyatt Peterson's academic and professional journey, including his roles as GIS specialist, database manager, and director of the Tribes Department of Energy, emphasizing his commitment to technology, GIS, and policy development within tribal communities.

EARLY WITHDRAWALS

Ms. Wheatley announced upcoming vacancies for State Seat 1 and Open Seat 11 and explained that elected members, not standing members, are eligible to fill the chair or chair pro-tem position. A chair pro-tem option may be used to avoid indefinite appointments for committee members. GIS community members are welcome to express interest for either open seat.

LUNCH & LAYERS OVERVIEW

Event Overview and Attendance: Ms. Wheatley reported a successful turnout of 37 participants at the Lunch & Layers event, thanked presenters, and expressed interest in continuing the series with broader participation.

Survey and Volunteer Coordination: Ms. Wheatley suggested distributing a survey to identify topics and potential presenters, called for volunteers, and arranged for Keith Olson's team to facilitate survey creation and outreach, inviting interested members to contact Keith Olson directly.

Lessons Learned and Technical Issues: Ms. Wheatley and the committee discussed technical challenges such as microphone issues and Teams links, recommending early arrival for speakers and improved meeting management. The committee noted the importance of posting recorded sessions for broader access.

Recording and Distribution Logistics: The committee discussed options for posting the event recording,

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suggesting an optimum posting window of one week after the event. Options for posting to YouTube and the TownHall website were discussed as well as parallel posting of information on Geotech listserv and the GIS website for accessibility.

DISCUSSION: PIN YOUR PERSPECTIVE

Survey Results on Community Engagement and Communication: Ms. Wheatley presented results from the IGC survey that gathered 55 responses across the GIS community and college campuses. The following surveys were discussed:

- **Professional Experience and Engagement Frequency:** Survey results showed 41% of respondents had over 10 years of GIS experience, and most participants engaged with the Geotech listserv, LinkedIn, or direct collaboration. Users interacted with these platforms a frequency of weekly, followed by daily.
- **Preferred Communication Channels:** Geotech listserv was ranked as the preferred channel for announcements, discussions, training, job postings, and events, followed by newsletters, the website, LinkedIn, and Slack. Geotech listserv has been around for 10-20 years and may account for it being the strongest preference. The committee discussed the active (go to a website to check for information) versus passive (an email sent to inbox) nature of these platforms.
- **Barriers to Engagement:** Time constraints were identified as the primary barrier to engagement, followed by lack of relevant content, difficulty finding information, platform fatigue, and website organization issues.
- **Content Preferences and Central Source of Truth:** Respondents valued local events, data and resources, job postings, training, and technical Q&A, with a majority expressing preference for a single central source of information, though the specific platform was not determined.
- **Modernization of Listserv and Website:** Mr. Olson described ongoing efforts to modernize the listserv and update the GIS.idaho.gov website, considering parallel posting of information and balancing licensing costs and usability.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Ms. Wheatley invited board members from ITS, ISU, state, federal, local government, utilities, private, and open seats to share updates.

<u>Standing Seats</u>

ITS Organizational Restructuring and Water Data Workshop: Mr. Olson reported on ITS's completion of the ITS Modernization initiative. During Phase V of the Modernization initiative the GIS and Data teams were split and were kept under the operations branch of the ITS org chart. After completing Phase VI these teams have been merged back together under application development and the strategic branch. This will allow the GIS team more opportunities for collaboration and buy in across teams.

Mr. Olson also shared outcomes from the Idaho Water Data Workshop, including collaborative goals for data governance and accessibility. Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Fish and Game, and Department of Water Resources were among the agencies that contributed. The agencies will continue to

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foster a culture that focuses on the bigger state-wide picture. A report of this workshop will be sent to the GIS community.

ISU Lidar and Imagery Updates: Mr. Weber updated on new terrain surface services for 3D scenes, ongoing development of height above ground layers, and challenges with network storage affecting NAIP imagery availability, with anticipated releases in the coming weeks.

State Seats

State Seat Election and Precinct Data: Mr. Osterhout highlighted the use of precinct maps for recent elections, the update of authoritative precinct shapefiles, and the process for maintaining and updating these datasets in accordance with established standards. Standard S4235 Idaho Legislative and Congressional Districts allows for updating to the 2026 datasets without needing any committee approvals.

Local Seats

Local Government Budgeting and Addressing Challenges: Mr. Martinez discussed the onset of budget season, the importance of timely resource requests, efforts to standardize address issuance and compliance, and collaboration with county stakeholders to unify datasets across the metro area.

Utility Seat

Utility Network Transition and Data Sharing: Ms. Jones described the transition to the new utility network model, challenges in sharing service territory boundaries, and ongoing discussions about technical working group activities and training opportunities, with input from the members on boundary data availability and sharing difficulties. Ms. Largent shared a layer she discovered with all boundaries. Boundary Layer.

Private Seat

Private Sector Surveying Collaboration: Mr. Ward reported on the Idaho Society of Professional Surveyors' willingness to assist with control networks and cadastral layers, emphasizing opportunities for collaboration between surveyors and GIS professionals, and provided membership statistics for the society.

Open Seats

Open Seat and Customer Engagement: Mr. Kearns shared updates on enterprise licensing upgrades and database restructuring at Idaho Department of Lands, discussed challenges with certificate management, and proposed ideas for engaging GIS customers to gather feedback and improve service delivery.

Technical Working Groups (TWG)

Imagery TWG: Ms. Wilkins announced the next Imagery TWG meeting scheduled for June 3rd, noted ongoing delays with NAIP imagery due to federal system issues, and emphasized reliance on federal progress.

Elevation TWG: Mr. Enterkine confirmed the next Elevation TWG meeting for June 4th, referenced Keith Weber's earlier updates on elevation data, and expressed appreciation for ongoing work.

Geodetic Control TWG: Mr. Scoffield scheduled the next Geodetic Control TWG meeting for May 28th at 3 pm, invited feedback on the updated Experience Builder website for the Multistate Control Point Database (MCPD), and requested members to submit dummy entries to test functionality.

Public Safety TWG: Mr. Reynolds reported plans to update public safety layers to align with the National

Emergency Number Association (NENA) version 3 standard, with a meeting anticipated toward the end of June to review and adjust standards accordingly.

OPEN DISCUSSTION

Information Technology Authority (ITA) Updates: Ms. Wheatley thanked Keith Weber and Dr. Ashley Bosa for presenting the Idaho State Lidar plan at the ITA meeting.

- **GIS Standards Presentation:** Ms. Wheatley explained that some existing GIS standards were never presented to the ITA and going forward these will be brought to ITA in batches of six to ten.

  Ms. Wheatley presented the following six standards:
  S4269 Public Land Survey System Data Exchange
  S4244 Species Ranges Layer and Data Standard
  S4273 Emergency Services Boundaries
  S4272 Public Safety Answer Points
  S4271 Road Center Line
  S4270 Site Structure Address Points

  No changes were made but awareness was increased and these standards are now in compliance with ITA policy.

Upcoming Trainings & Conferences

ISU GIS Workshops: Keith Weber announced four day-long workshops at the GIS Center, covering ArcGIS Pro, geodatabase, lidar, and geo artificial intelligence, with options for in-person and online attendance. June 10, 11, 17 and 18.

Treasure Valley GIS Unconference: A semi-informal GIS unconference event is scheduled for June 4th at the Bound Crossing Library in Boise, open to all interested participants.

ESRI UC: Northwest GIS User Group will be having a meet up at the conference which will be happening in San Diego, CA from July 13-17, 2026. More information will be sent out to Northwest GIS Members.

Northwest GIS User Conference: The Northwest GIS User Conference will take place in Tacoma, Washington, from October 13th to 15th. The GIS community is encouraged to follow updates via LinkedIn and the conference website.

Items to table for the next meeting

Strategic Plan: Continue to discuss a revision of the strategic plan.
ESRI UC: Schedule time for those that attended to present and provide updates from this conference.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Mr. Weber moved, and Mr. Martinez seconded a motion to adjourn; the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 am MST.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2026, 9.30 a.m. MST

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J Anderson, Office of Information Technology Services