**National Hydrography Dataset (NHD)**

**Stewardship Coordination Meeting**

**Meeting Notes**

October 14, 2009

10:00am-2:00pm

USGS Water Sciences Center, Charleston, WV

**Attending:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Daugherty, Chris | WVDEP Water | Chris.A.Daugherty@wv.gov |
| 2 | Donaldson, Kurt | WVU WVGIS Technical Center | Kurt.donaldson@mail.wvu.edu  |
| 3 | Fedorko, Evan | WVU WVGIS Technical Center | Evan.fedorko@mail.wvu.edu  |
| 4 | Lammie, Sam | USDA Forest Service | slammie@fs.fed.us |
| 5 | McNeer, Janette | Canaan Valley Institute | janette.bennett@canaanvi.org |
| 6 | Neidig, Craig | USGS WSC, Charleston, WV | cneidig@usgs.gov |
| 7 | Simental, Tony  | WV GIS Coordinator | Tony.A.Simental@wv.gov |
| 8 | Strager, Jackie | WVU NRAC | jmstrager@mail.wvu.edu  |
| 9 | Bevans, Hugh | USGS WSC, Charleston, WV |  |
| 10 | Paybins, Katherine | USGS WSC, Charleston, WV |  |
| 11 | Evans, Larry | WVDEP TAGIS |  |
| 12 | Wu, Yueming | WVDHHR |  |
| 13 | Starcher, Jennings | WVDHSEM |  |

Notes:

**Speaker: Hugh Bevans, USGS**

* Hugh Bevans kicked off this meeting by welcoming attendees and talking in broad strokes about water related projects at the USGS WSC.
* Discussed in relative detail the stream gage network West Virginia Gage Council, which works to maintain and improve stream gages in West Virginia.
* Discussed the ambient groundwater quality network, a partner project with the WVDEP.
* Mentioned an ongoing project to update the statewide flood frequency and magnitude equations.
* Mentioned a research project dealing with underground mine water quality and assessing the feasibility of using mines for water storage for use.
* Briefly discussed USGS WSC involvement with the endochrine intersex (fish) problems being observed in the Potomac River drainage.
* Spoke at length about some joint projects with the Leetown Science Center (USGS), the Opequon Creek groundwater model project in particular.

**Speaker: Craig Neidig, USGS**

* Craig started off by talking about the new USGS 10 year plan, published as Circular #1309 under the title "Facing Tomorrow's Challenges; USGS Science in the Decade 2007-2017." He made particular note of the six areas of emphasis and how they relate to West Virginia and NHD Stewardship.
* Craig sent the MOU to Carl Nelson at USGS Rolla but had not received a reply at that time.
* Evan Fedorko added briefly that the MOU names The WV Office of GIS Coordination as the principal steward of NHD in West Virginia with the WVGISTC becoming the Technical Lead. The MOU is between Tony Simental's office and the USGS.

**Speaker: Tony Simental**

* Tony informed the group about a potential source of new, high-resolution aerial photography for the state. More information will be released as it is obtained.

**Speaker: Evan Fedorko**

* Evan updated the group on the plans for the first year of NHD stewardship in West Virginia.
* The year one proposal will fund the West Virginia GIS Technical Center and the Natural Resource Analysis Center.
* The project has four major tasks: stewardship program establishment, editing of known errors, flood zone targeted editing (research) and high change area targeted editing (research). Chris Daugherty of the WVDEP will participate in the last task.
* Lastly, Evan discussed (along with Kurt Donaldson) some recent conversations with the EPA et al and how the EPA may be a potential source of funding in the future. As part of that, Evan created a one page (front and back) handout about NHD Stewardship in WV. This is available from the NHD Stewardship portal website.

**Comments following morning session:**

* Chris Daugherty made two comments. First, she suggested focusing the majority of effort on organizing the principal sub-stewards in the first year. This lead into a point about compiling some guidance for those sub-stewards as to how they can best contribute. Chris suggested that it would be best to try and standardize contributions at the beginning if possible.
* Lots of people made mention of prioritizing watersheds to edit. As an example, Yueming Wu noted that most public water systems are in the Eastern panhandle and SE part of WV and for this reason, DHHR would like to see NHD edits in that area.
* Sam Lammie built upon this by simply noting that he is interested in understanding the geospatial priorities of other agencies in WV. He suggested working this into the Roll Call document somehow.
* Generally, participants agreed that outlining specific needs and roles early on will be important.

**Speaker: Katherine Paybins**

* Katherine discussed several of the hydro oriented projects she has been involved with at the USGS WSC.
* These include: a groundwater flow budget project in the eastern panhandle; development of a groundwater model in the Opequon Creek watershed which drew upon resistivity and geologic structure, among other things; stream gage maintenance; FEMA flood map development.

**Next Steps/To Do/Next Meeting**

* The group anticipates that the MOU will be signed at (or in time for) the next WVAGP meeting, scheduled for November 13, 2009.
* Evan will prepare a model letter of support for agencies to utilize in preparing letters of support for NHD Stewardship proposals.
* Evan, Craig, Kurt and Jackie will continue pursuit of funding.
* Evan and Jackie will work on draft guidance for sub-stewards.
* No next meeting date was discussed, but we will schedule something as soon as the MOU is signed.