

NOAA, National Geodetic Survey
HEIGHT MODERNIZATION COORDINATION MEETING
AGENDA
SSMC3, Room 8836

Date: Thursday, April 8, 2010

Time: 2:00-3:30 pm East Coast time

Call In Number: 877-426-5014, PASSCODE: 8484480

Attendance:

Call-ins from: AK (Pat Kalen), ID (Rayce Ruiz), IL (Sheena Beaverson, Amy Eller), NGS (Vicki Veilleux), WI (Dr. Dave Moyer), PA (Brad Foltz), CO (Dan Winester), Wolfgang Ziegler (KY)

Silver Spring: NGS (Christine Gallagher, Tim Hanson, Gilbert Mitchell, Ajit Singh, Gordon Adams)

Advisors/Coordinators: Jim Harrington (AL), Dave Newcomer (FL), Chris Pearson (IL), Ross Mackay (KY), Dave Rigney (MI), John Ellingson (WI), Denis Riordan (LA), Bill Stone (NM), Mark Armstrong (OR), Cliff Middleton (TX), Dan Martin (VT), Dave Steele (WA)

Grants/Budget status (Gilbert)

No new developments, and Sonita is working with the states who will receive funding this year.

Infrastructure, Models and Tools, Standards, Specs, and Guidelines

1. TX HM level tool – no updates

2. LOCUS (Singh),

Previously, LOCUS was functional, but a problem existed because it used only a default gravity value. Frank Mowry has updated the program, and Ajit will begin testing it the week of April 12. It will hopefully be ready for use in 7-10 days. Then a revised copy will be sent to PSC for approval.

3. OPUS – no updates

4. GRAV-D project status (Childers)

We are still preparing for the summer Alaska survey. We will be flying about 300 hours in the NOAA Turbo Commander out of Anchorage and Kodiak. We have new personnel (a new contractor plus we'll be involving more personnel from Norfolk) that will be joining us for the airborne surveys. We have an advance team (Tim Wilkins, David Schmerge, Justin Dahlberg) that will leave at the end of this week to coordinate with the FBO managers/employees and to provide us with a gravity tie.

5. Geoid models/activities – no updates

6. RTK/RTN Guidelines and activities – no updates

7. CO-OPS – no updates

Outreach and Education

1. Website (Vicki Veilleux)

Almost all current content has been transferred to the new template, and some pages (eg events) should go live soon.

2. Corbin – no updates

3. Workshops, upcoming events

-ESRI map gallery (Sheena Beaverson, IL)

Sheena has volunteered to coordinate a group map display for Height Mod at the 2010 ESRI conference in San Diego. We held a brief telecon the other day, but we are still hoping to get more participation. ESRI allows any one person to register a group to submit a group of maps or posters. Sheena created two groups for a total of 12 displays. Anyone attending can sub-reserve a panel (or 2 or 3). Sheena needs to know if any state has any existing maps, posters or information even if they cannot go to ESRI. Sheena created an information sheet and sent it to Christine. Sheena will make sure maps get up for those that cannot attend. Set-up is Sunday and Monday, and the only requirement is that someone is at the map display for one hour at the opening on Monday night. A few other states will be there, but the commitment is only one hour plus the set-up time. If you get the maps to Sheena in time, she can print and laminate them. The ultimate deadline is June 21, and Christine will send out more detailed information. Right now, NGS will create national map, Sheena will make Great Lakes Region poster, IL already has a map. MI, CA, TN, NC, and WI are considering submitting, and WI has already sent Sheena a map. There is room for more because we have 12 large panels.

Recent past events

-March 16-17, Baton Rouge, LA – Central Gulf of Mexico Hurricane Conference

-March 23-24, West Lafayette, IN - Great Lakes Regional Height Modernization Consortium Meeting and Workshop

Bev Herzog and Chris Person reported that 35 people were in attendance, and it was a good two-day meeting. The 2nd day was focused on RTN.

-Bill Stone reported Professor Earl Burkholder and Bill Stone collaborated on a 4 hr session for New Mexico Professional Surveyors on Height Mod with about 30 people in attendance.

-Bev Herzog reported they presented at the Illinois Association of Stormwater and Floodplain managers with about 75 people in attendance, and it was the first opportunity to reach this new audience. IL Height Mod is currently presenting to two surveying groups at Southern Illinois University.

Upcoming events

April 11-16, Sydney, Australia – XXIV FIG International Congress 2010

-April 12-14, Charleston, WV – Ross McKay will attend the GIS-Transportation National Conference, and he will give a general presentation on the NSRS.

-April 14-15, Illinois – Illinois GIS Association is hosting the Spring meeting in Champaign, IL. Chris Pearson will be giving a workshop on the 14th. Members from the IL Height Mod team will give related presentations in a session on the 15th.

-April ?? - Chris Pearson will also be giving a lecture at Northern Illinois University during the week following the Spring Illinois GIS Association meeting.

April 24-28, Phoenix, AZ - ACSM

April 26-30, San Diego, CA - ASPRS 2010 Annual Conference

May 11-12, Silver Spring, MD - Federal Geospatial Summit on proposed improvements to the National Spatial Reference System: Replacing NAD 83 and NAVD 88

-May 13-14, Galveston, TX – Houston Geological Society hosting a conference on Coastal Subsidence and Sea Level Change

May 16-20, Oklahoma City, OK - Association of State Floodplain Managers

- May 17-21, Silver Spring, MD – NGS Convocation which will be open to public on 19th -20th and in-house only on the 18th and 21st.

-May 26-27, Albuquerque, NM – Bill Stone reported the USACE Vertical Datums workshop will be in the region, and he was asked to give a brief presentation on his perspective.

-June, Buffalo, NY - Dave Conner reported he will attend the USACE Vertical Datums workshop in Buffalo in June, one of a series of workshops that will be held at all regional offices, and he will try to find out more information when he attends.

-July 11-16, San Diego, CA – ESRI Conference

-October 20 and 21, Illinois GIS Association will have a conference in Chicago area at the NIU Naperville campus facilities. Bill Henning will present the keynote on the 21st.

-October 21-November 3, Denver, CO - Geological Society of America meeting in Denver, CO is looking to host a session on LIDAR Applications for Geologists. Members from the IL Height Mod team have tentatively agreed to speak there.

***Make sure to send information on the events to Vicki V., so they can be posted on the NGS webpage.

Updates from States

-TX (Cliff Middleton)

Meeting in Bomont, TX last week, and they have a plan to expand 360K grant when the money comes through. The project will improve heights in the Jefferson County area. There will be 2 CORS, 20 new benchmarks and 20 existing benchmarks observed. The observers will be volunteers, and the data will be handled by Cliff and Dan Prouty. The plan initially looked at a project to cover the entire coast, but the resources are not available for that large a project.

-PA (Brad Foltz)

PA is trying to make agreement with a vendor who is willing to set up CORS sites at no cost at state maintenance facilities. State would have access to the information to do real time. Currently, the state has 15 CORS stations, and the state could possible add another 50 at no expense. The vendor would then sell licenses to all the local surveyors and consultants for use of system while PennDOT can use the system for free. For the licenses, PennDOT would need to spend \$250,000 and save about \$1 million. The goal of 50 would give statewide coverage, ideally one in each county (total of 67). The vendor approached PA, and it looks like it could work out.

-AL/Mobile Bay (Jim Harrington)

Project is getting underway to create storm surge flood modeling. They are tying into a line that MS ran over to FL, and AL will expand the line. They will tie the line into tide stations, and AL is excited to contribute to the project.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 13, 2010, 2:00-3:30 East Coast Time