

Minutes from NHD TWG meeting Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Participants: Jason Lyon, City of Conway
Susan Horvath, AGS
Doug Hanson, AGS
Mary Barnett, ADEQ
Katy Hattenhauer, ADEQ
Randy Puckett, ADEQ
Shelby Johnson, AGIO
Tony Davis, Brown Davis, Inc.
Tracy Moy, AGFC (on phone)

We started off the meeting discussing the current Fayetteville Shale grant. As of right now, Jason has completed 1 8-digit HUC, and is currently working on his 2nd one. The cooperative agreement has an ending date of July 31, however Bill Sneed and Katy Hattenhauer had requested September 30 on the original proposal. Katy is waiting to hear back from the USGS to see if this can be changed, or if we'll need to ask for an extension to this grant. There are still 2 8-digit HUCs left to be completed per the cooperative agreement. The group discussed some of the errors and questions Jason has encountered.

Katy and Bill are working on a few upcoming grant proposals. We are requesting another Fayetteville Shale grant which will focus on 46 different 12-digit HUCs. Another proposal is one that we requested last year, but were denied. It will focus on all other existing HUCs that we could minimize down to specific project areas. In other words, if a sub-steward is working in a specific area, part of this particular cooperative agreement could go toward that project area to edit the NHD. This is an undefined proposal, and would include some travel money, and also would be set up as contractual. Louisiana received an EPA grant to edit their NHD. Bill Sneed is there this week, and is checking into that to see if we can do the same thing.

Update on ArcInfo licenses: waiting to hear back from ESRI to see if there's any other documentation they need, and/or how we proceed next. Not sure at this time when we might hear back from them.

NHD WET Tool: This is an NHD Web Edit Tool that will be made available to the public when it becomes available. This tool will allow the user to mark-up a web viewer application, and submit those mark-ups to Katy, the NHD Steward. This will aid in the editing of the NHD across the state, since the public will be able to add streams, lakes, etc., and will be able to submit a name proposal with those as well. These will NOT be official edits of the NHD. Once a user submits these mark-ups, our NHD TWG will determine their validity, and will edit those into the NHD. Details on how we'll make the decisions will be discussed at our next meeting. Also, there's not a deadline yet on when this will be made available to all states. Currently, Katy and a small group of other state stewards and a USGS employee are creating Use Cases for the various parts of this tool, so that the USGS can approve it and can fund it, so that each state can get this and can

publish it to the public for free. Katy hopes to have an estimated timeline on when this will be available at our next meeting.

Katy will begin editing the last couple of HUCs along the Oklahoma border by the end of May. The Oklahoma steward is ready to work with Katy if necessary on these HUCs. Also, once the USGS has completed their changes to the statewide NHD, Katy needs to go back into a part of the Fayetteville Shale area to re-enter some pipeline data to delineate pipeline stream crossings.

Our next meeting will be Friday, June 25th at 10:00. Ray Postolovski, who is our new USGS Point of Contact (POC) will be coming to meet us that day. Katy will send out a meeting request very soon.

Katy proposed a goal to complete the statewide 1:24,000 scale NHD editing by December of 2011. After some discussion about the feasibility of completing the entire state in that time frame the group reached consensus that goal is achievable. The group talked about promoting awareness of this goal and making stakeholders aware of this effort.

There is a GNIS Conference to be held in Springfield, MO October 5-9, 2010. Katy will be attending, and will either be giving a presentation and/or participating in a panel discussion to express needs, concerns, etc., with the NHD and GNIS names for Arkansas. Katy encouraged anyone in the group to attend as well. The link to the GNIS website for this conference is: <http://cogna50usa.org/> Conference registration will appear within the next month. All conference details will be on this site. As of right now, there's an estimated cost of \$125 for the registration fee, with additional fees involved (optional additional fees). We'll discuss this more at the next meeting as well.

Katy mentioned that we have a new sub-steward – Dr. Darmendra Saraswat has joined our TWG! Katy will get with him in the very near future, and will get him a training manual and get him set up.

Katy checked on the NHDGeoEdit Tools version that will work with ArcGIS 9.3.1, and YES, they are available...just rolled out this week. Katy will get the tools to anyone who can get started using 9.3.1.

The meeting closed with discussions about future priorities. Shelby helped Katy remind the group of our goal of making state recommendations on strategy moving forward, and Shelby mentioned using specific project areas as a part of this priority setting. For instance, the group brought up a few specific projects that are going on right now that we can integrate editing the NHD such as profile regions of the state with surface water issues such as the Grand Prairie, Buffalo River, Fayetteville Shale, and Ouachita's are just to name a few. Also, Mary Barnett brought up involving EAST Lab students to help us edit the NHD via the NHD WET Tool when it becomes available as well as one of their projects.