Alaska Hydrography Technical Working Group Meeting

Meeting Minutes
USGS Glenn Olds Hall REx Conference Room, Anchorage and Online
1/27/2014

In Attendance

Anchorage:
Becci Anderson    USGS
Wendy Steinberger    ADNR
Bret Christensen    USFWS
Bill Rice    USFWS
Kacy Krieger    UA

Online:
Angie Southwoold    NPS
Branden Bornemann    Kenai Watershed Forum
Mike Plivelich    AK Hydro – UAS
Matt Varner    BLM
Erik Johnson    USFS
Kim Homan    UA
James DePasquale    The Nature Conservancy
Cliff Jones    ADEC
Kristina Yamamoto    USGS
Jeff Knopf    Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
Barb Featherly    Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
Andy Roberts    Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota

Introductions and Welcome to New Participants (Becci)

Kacy Krieger was introduced as the AK Hydro Coordinator for Alaska. Kacy will officially start in May when funds have moved from USGS to UAA for his position.

LiDAR and IFSAR Elevation-Derived Streams Presentations

Kenai Peninsula / Kenai Watershed Forum – Branden Bornemann

The project reviewed the Western Kenai for Homer Soil & Water Conservation District outside of the Conservation System Units. Goals were to utilize the Kenai Peninsula Borough LiDAR data to create a DEM and hydro-enforce stream locations. Problems were encountered and streams ended up being hand digitized. The original local objective to achieve a broader more consistent DEM was achieved. Having local project managers helped the project. Having a committed stakeholders interest with MOU were successes. Considerations of GIS vs hydrologist are also important. Going from small pieces to the big puzzle engaging in local data mining are important. Data was reviewed by aerial photography with
public input and discussions. On the ground confirmations of where streams are located provided by land owners were very helpful for the project.

**Denali National Park (DNP) / Saint Mary’s University – Andy Robertson**

Purpose of the project was to update the hydrography for the US Topo project in the DNP area. Derive hydrography from IFSAR data using and comparing to current NHD. Found that the accumulation density for a stream is 100 Acres. Found that there was a 50% time savings by utilizing the procedure used. The conflation tool was not used.

**Various Areas in AK / USGS National Geospatial Technical Operations Center (NGTOC) – Kristina Yamamoto**

The project utilized IFSAR data to extract stream networks for positional accuracies. Utilized Intermap X-Band IFSAR. Utilizing Larry Stanislawiki’s tool to compare to NHD; this tool may only be used for comparison. The results showed errors with the higher and lower elevation areas. The data required multiple runs through the process to obtain usable data.

**Matanuska-Susitna Watershed / The Nature Conservancy (TNC) – Jim DePasquale**

Jim DePasquale is a spatial ecologist working for TNC. The project is to cover the entire 16 million acres of the Mat-Su Borough with DEMs and produce a 1D & 2D hydrography product. For HUC 10 areas hydro-enforcing would take place. Balance of contributing areas, perennial vs intermittent. TNC is collecting partners for the project, including USGS, USFWS, ESI (Netmap) contract. Validation contracted with Saint Mary’s for 2D features and cleanup/NHD preparation of 1D layer. Findings – This is a complex process led by mappers & hydrologists with a very large QA piece after the initial analysis. RSVP with Jim @ TNC for the February 5, 2014 presentation on the Mat-Su Watershed project.

**Future Meetings**

Mat-Su Hydro Mapping Meeting February 5, 2014 at TNC
Next AHTWG – April 28, 2014

**Brief Updates on Current Work (Group)**

**Becci Anderson (USGS):** Randolf Glacier Inventory Meeting Thursday. Western AK LCC scheduling a presentation for NHDPlus with Cindy McKay of Horizon Systems, Corp. Date to be announced.

**Bill Rice (FWS):** Nothing to report since last meeting.

**Wendy Steinberger (ADNR):** Nothing to report since last meeting.

**Bret Christensen (FWS):** Nothing to report since last meeting.

**Angie Southwould (NPS):** Nothing to report since last meeting.

**Brandon Borneman (KWF):** Updated NOAA MHT line & Intertidal zone for his area.
Mike Plivelich (UAS): Nothing to report.
Matt Varner (BLM): Nothing to report.
Erik Johnson (USFS): Nothing to report.
Jim DePasquale (TNC): Nothing to report.
Cliff Jones (ADEC): Water Quality program meeting to generate Geospatial Data.

General Updates (Becci Anderson)

AK Hydro Editing and Workflow Training: Class February 3-5 is full. Another class has been scheduled for online presentation in March 2014.

ACCER: Becci will be presenting at the next ACCER meeting.

ASMC: There was a new call for presenters. The presentations that Becci has submitted abstracts to present were presented. NOAA is presenting a coastline short course on Monday.

Future Steps: Standing up Regions & Northern Steward Investment.

Focus Group Discussions

Editing Standards Focus Group Discussion (Bill)
The next meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2014 from 10-11 am by teleconference. The document is almost finished and trying to have it finished for the training next week.

Data Standards Focus Group Discussion (Erik & Mike)
Review of the NPS data model presented by Angie.

Mike – The group will want to review service windows. These windows will be used for schema changes of 1-2 per year, layer additions and NHD update. There is also the consideration of ESRI Fees for Replicas @ ArcGIS online.

For 2014 two service windows after 2014 1 service window.

There was a large discussion regarding the NPS Data Model presented.

Meeting adjourned.