

**Coastal GeoTools 2011 Special Interest Meeting
Charleston, South Carolina, USA
March 21, 2011
8:30-11:45 a.m.**

Building Regional Portals and Coastal Web Atlases to Support CMSP: Best Practices, Lessons Learned, and Requirements

PROCESS AGENDA

Purpose – Convene a multi-regional group with experience in developing and maintaining regional portals to share information and lessons learned and cultivate future collaboration in support of coastal and marine spatial planning.

Objectives -

- Increase the amount of knowledge shared between national, regional and state portal and web based mapping efforts
- Discuss the state of knowledge, lessons learned and best practices associated with portal development and web based mapping applications
- Find commonalities across the landscape that can be used as a basis for building a community website around coastal atlases and regional portals
- Start a dialog on how the participants and additional groups could work together both within and between regions to support regional coastal and marine spatial planning data needs
- Gather info to eventually inform National Ocean Council on data mgmt needs

Time	Activity	Role
8:30-8:45 15 min	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David welcomed participants, and spoke about the purpose of the SIM and what the objectives were. • Quick overview of the NIMS – show a couple of slides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is NIMS? What’s the status of National Ocean Policy Data Sub-group. Conceptual Document and initial implementation Plan. • What is happening at the NOAA level? • Dave is member of the National Ocean Council NIMS working group (governance structure for policy itself). Christine Taylor and Tony LaVoi are on the working group too. Their charge is to develop a national system - use existing assessments, define NIMS, National Info Mgmt System; build off of what is already out there. Outreach 	David Stein

	<p>including working w/IOOS and ICAN.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NIMS conceptual design has now been approved by NOC and now figuring out who lead agency will be. • NIMS is a single point of entry, framework data sets, common search and discovery, map viewer, initial list of TOOLS, documentation • NIMS hosting - delivery of prototype needs to be by AUGUST 2011; will use data.gov as the host, similar to new health community led by Health and Human Services • Technical Community of Practice concept - build capacity, central location for regional CMSP practitioners to access NIMS guidance over the network; but also a network of practitioners • NIMS is a system of interoperable systems, woven together with common standards • Introduce the idea of a community website. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What does this mean? What is “community” about it? 	
<p>8:45 – 9:00</p> <p>15 min</p>	<p>International Coastal Atlas Network (ICAN) Overview</p> <p>What is ICAN (focus on US)? Status. Connections to National Ocean Policy and CoP. Direction. Priorities. Hurdles/Challenges. Opportunities. Lessons Learned. Point out similarities between NIMS and CoP to show they are complementary</p> <p>**Adam has a list of differences between ICAN and the community site – will provide as a handout. ICAN Community of Practice, synergy w/NIMS, tease out similarities and differences in discussion w/Dave Stein et al. before the meeting. Quickly mention NCEAS and NRC/OSB activities about science behind CMSP too. ICAN brochure included in audience packet. Mentioned ICAN book and let them know which chapters are downloadable.</p>	<p>Dawn Wright</p>
<p>9:00 – 9:05</p> <p>5 min, then 10 min for each speaker.</p> <p>Brian, please make sure each speakers</p>	<p>Regional Activities - Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State the purpose of the regional overviews. • Mention that all questions should be held until the end when there will be a question session in panel format. • Introduce each speaker as they are ready to present. • Bios will be provided in a handout. • Speakers will talk about their regions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional portal activities. ○ Technical and Organizational issues ○ Challenges, Issues 	<p>David Stein</p>

<p>does not go over 10 minutes.</p> <p>Brian will provide a 2 min warning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data priorities – not an exhaustive list ○ Portal design. ○ Anticipated future involvement. ○ Best practices and lessons learned. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each region will have a one-pager on Level of involvement and who involved w/ their efforts. Level of involvement and who involved w/ their efforts. Governance. Regional Ocean Governance relationship. Contact information. Website. Roles and responsibilities – Adam is going to draft a one-pager for each region that we will hand out. <p>Keep this at the “right” technical level – focus on technology aspects of portal development. Most attendees will have a technical background. Don’t be afraid to “geek out” as needed! ☺ Organizational governance and data priority stuff welcome but should be tied to. Highlighting issues that NIMS might address would be terrific for breakout sessions.</p>	
<p>9:05 – 9:15</p>	<p>Regional Activities – West Coast</p> <p>Tanya mentioned data priorities, high priority and comprehensive regional data needs; highlight atlases at state programs in service to WCGA: Oregon, Washington, and nascent Coastal & Marine Data Information Mgmt System (CA Ocean Protection Council); CA going through user needs assessment, interoperability scoping right now before putting together a major atlas; lots of data portal discussions around NOAA Regional Ocean Partnership Grant Funding Opportunity, cross-cutting theme; can’t have a regional portal w/o people willing to share services, technical expertise, as well as data; regional portal challenges - state, regional, timelines conflict</p>	<p>Tanya Haddad</p>
<p>9:15 – 9:25</p>	<p>Regional Activities – Northeast Regional Ocean Council</p> <p>Northeast Ocean Data Portal in support of CMSP</p> <p>Their web site has maps and tools, data warehouse, announcements/blog (thoughts of Dan Martin!), policies & standards, info about working group activities; portal runs on ArcGIS server, Flex viewer, want to go to the cloud</p> <p>NE Regional Ocean Council is their main client; quarterly meetings with them and coordinate with MARCO and national levels</p> <p>Challenges for them:</p> <p>Technological - standards (data & metadata standards and tell users what it will take to provide a dataset); infrastructure (what technology to use; ArcGIS Server and Flex vs. open source? Go</p>	<p>Nick Napoli</p>

	<p>ahead and pick something but wary that there is need to work with other technologies no matter what you pick</p> <p>How best to combine local datasets into a regional data product?</p> <p>How to communicate intent and scope of effort; keep CMSP effort now to be sustainable, not land-based suitors who want to put their data in too</p> <p><i>We're all ID-ing data needs and need to turn that into actual data exchange to meet the needs of CMSP</i></p>	
9:25 – 9:35	<p>Regional Activities – Mid-Atlantic Regional Council for the Ocean</p> <p>Jay Odell from TNC</p> <p>MARCO's Mapping and Planning Portal</p> <p>ArcGIS Server 10 w/Flex API</p> <p>Wind resource strength is a data layer - wind energy is main driver behind CMSP in their region</p> <p>They focus on metadata light version of FGDC</p> <p>www.midatlanticocean.org</p> <p>Many sectors of CMSP</p> <p>They are having trouble w/ VMS & FVTR and need to develop socio-economic data</p> <p>They did subcontract w/ MarineMap Consortium</p> <p>They made comic book/storyboard</p> <p>Comic book is a great communication tool!</p> <p>Going after funding sources - which ones?</p>	Jay Odell
9:35 – 9:45	<p>Regional Activities – Great Lakes</p> <p>A Great Lakes Perspective</p> <p>Wisconsin, Ohio, New York, Minnesota, Indiana Lake Rim, Ontario Conservation Authorities. Pennsylvania?</p> <p>Ohio is the grandfather of coastal atlases in the Great Lakes region</p> <p>Funded by UW Sea Grant as a research project - research to build and link coastal atlases gives you the actual atlas</p> <p>Kathy, the new fellow will help build decision-support tools</p> <p>David gives nice overview of ICAN-Great Lakes meeting</p> <p>Great Lakes Context for CMSP</p> <p>Uniqueness of Great Lakes: Freshwater, bi-national resource but states own the lakebeds to the international border</p> <p>Great Lakes proposal to NOAA FFO</p> <p>Great Lakes Commission - Great Lakes Information Network GIS Clearinghouse (demo-ed that KML more popular download than</p>	David Hart

	<p>ESRI shapefiles)</p> <p>Great Lakes GIS moving more towards an atlas platform</p> <p>Dave's thoughts:</p> <p>Advancing CMSP in Great Lakes will require participatory process that matches or exceeds that used to build the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration strategy - concerns about new regulatory approaches in Great Lakes</p> <p>Reduction of conflicts is a good focus - commercial fisherman getting gear entangled</p> <p>Create a Great Lakes Coastal Atlas Network - how do atlases help to feed CMSP; bottom up approach; develop use cases for networked coastal atlases</p> <p>Workshops in each of the Great Lakes on mapping mashups; empower people to make their own; who knows better on how to use info than the users themselves;</p> <p>www.greatlakesmashup.net</p>	
<p>9:45 – 10:05</p> <p>20 min</p>	<p>Regional Panel – Question and Answer Session from the Regional Presentations</p> <p>Participants can ask questions of the regional panel.</p> <p>If no questions we could have probing questions to get dialog started.</p> <p>MARCO/NROC - do you guys plan to harvest data or ...? - Harvesting and centrally hosting; Designing the system to match a new federal process; authoritative source data; WMS to consume from NOAA MMC but people also need to make decisions on other drivers of CMSP such as wind energy, so being more flexible with data types</p> <p>How to decide whose data gets included and then once you've decided, if something better comes along, how do you determine whether to keep the original dataset?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - haven't been forced to make that decision yet on east coast. MARCO has portal working group. More formal process in works to make those kinds of choices. <p>Mississippi working on a conservation atlas and wants to participate. Dave will raise issue at next portal IMS working group.</p> <p>Cindy: only one mention of cartography. Discussion about base cartography, basemap, use of land-based basemaps an issue?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NROC consistent basemap has been discussed but not solved - Great Lakes wants to put forward strong cartographic 	<p>David Stein facilitate</p> <p>All</p> <p>Christina (note-taker)</p>

	<p>design principles; some guidelines to share after research project is done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oregon/W Coast - need to collaborate on a symbol set that goes on top of basemap (e.g., buoy symbols); all regions could benefit - Art and aesthetics, consistency, but also different ways to explore information 	
<p>10:05 – 10:50 45 min</p>	<p>Breakout session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David announced that the larger group will break into 4 smaller groups (depending on number of participants) • Slide w/ goal and question <p>**facilitators are reminded that we want to be careful about using “NIMS”. We should refer to the portal as “a national portal”.</p> <p>Goal: To gather information that would be used to shape a community website and how to help encourage user interaction within the site. Add state atlases to this too!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What types of information should be provided to assist with coastal atlases and regional data portal development? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are the guidelines, standards, and best practices needed to assist in portal, and decision support tool development? ○ What are the guidelines, standards, and best practices needed to assist in developing web services or making your data publicly accessible? ○ What are current challenges your region faces with developing, maintaining, or accessing data portals? ○ What are the analytical, decision support, and visualization tool requirements in your regions? <p>Watch out for this one as it could be a huge sidetrack. We really want to focus on portal development. Standards, interop, format are more important.</p> <p>Q instead might be: What do you want the community of practice to provide?</p> <p>Are there additions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decision Support Tools ○ Functional needs/functional requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kind of communication mechanism would be useful to assist with coastal atlases and data portal development? 	<p>David Stein introduce</p> <p>All</p> <p>Breakout facilitators: Adam, Brian, Christina, Cindy</p> <p>Note-takers: Daniel, Cami, Kathy Johnson</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How would we get and keep users engaged? • What do regions need from a national portal? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In what ways do you see your regional data portal interacting with a national system? ○ What kind of data products are needed or useful? ○ System Design and integration ○ Interoperability standards and specs • Participants split into 4 groups 	
10:50-10:55	5-minute cushion for room change that will not be accounted for on the participants' agenda.	
10:55 – 11:30 (5 min for each)	<p>Report out from Breakout group and group discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator from each group will report out on the outcome of the group. • What types of information should be provided to assist with coastal atlases and regional data portal development? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Summarize 3 things that stood out • What kind of communication mechanism would be useful to assist with coastal atlases and data portal development? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One or two things that stood out • What do regions need from a national portal? • What needs to be provided by a community of practice to assist with regional data portal development and integration among regions and with a national portal? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are major challenges your region faces with developing, maintaining, or accessing data portals? <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is what it sounds like we are hearing • How can this help feed the community website? • Any other thoughts or things we need to take into consideration? • How can we ensure communication across regions can be accomplished and sustained? 	<p>David introduce</p> <p>Breakout facilitators: Adam, Brian, Christina, Cindy</p> <p>David facilitate</p> <p>Adam – note-taker</p>
11:30 – 11:45	<p>Next Steps and Wrap-up</p> <p>Dawn spoke about how this all ties back in with ICAN and how all can eventually support NIMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If any next steps jump out from break out mention these. • What will CSC do? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Keep the attendees apprised of ideas and updates ○ Have a sign-up sheet for those who want to be involved, provide feedback, give input ○ Take the notes from the break out to shape the 	<p>David</p> <p>Dawn</p> <p>David</p>

	framework and the layout of the site.	
	Revisit objectives/goals and make sure they were met.	
11:45	Adjourn	

Packets included:

Agenda

Bios

Regional Round-up

ICAN brochure

ICAN 2-pager

Evaluation

Outreach materials

MMC rack card

'11 COASTAL GEOTOOLS - SIM Outcomes

Special Interest Meeting - "Building Coastal Web Atlases and Regional Portals to Support Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning"

Information Needs

Technical

- Data
 - Metadata requirements/standards
 - Suggested format(s)
 - Best practices for data modeling/attribution
- Services
 - Best practices for web service creation
 - Format standards (OGC, WMS, WFS?)
- Architecture
 - Options and limitations of:
 - Open Source
 - ArcServer
 - Use of Different APIs (Flex/Silverlight/JavaScript)
- Best Practices / Standards / Conventions
 - Difference between what is required (standards), what is suggested (best practices) and business practices (conventions)

Community

- Data Hosting
 - Options for hosting data (cloud storage, etc)
- Distribution – Standards and Formats
 - Where and how – cloud, common server
- Roles & Responsibilities –
 - Roles/responsibilities of partners
 - Individual data providers
 - Agencies/NGOs
 - Need to better understand the role of stakeholders to provide input, understand how decisions are made
 - Data Maintenance
 - Data Provisioning
- Funding
 - Grants and other options for funding

Communication Methods

- Listserv(s)
 - Should be theme/category specific
 - Most useful for announcements and in digest form (weekly, biweekly, monthly)
- Blog / Forum
 - Should be used for real-time information exchange and/or discussions
- Newsletter
 - Example of successful newsletters – CSO Weekly, MPA News
- RSS Feeds
 - Can be used to track blog/forum posts as well as web updates
 - Easily consumed and read by GoogleReader and other online aggregation tools
- Wiki
 - Location where partners can share/contribute content