

**ITAC Conference Call
October 16, 2014**

Attendance:

Michael Lewis
Terri Moore
Nate Booth
Bob Avery
Gary Krammes

Kate Flynn
Kris Lund
Marijke van Heeswijk
John Bumgarner
Gary Cottrell

David Boldt
Daniel Pearson
Kim Martz

Agenda:

- Meeting attendance (final head count)
- Meeting logistics – Hotel confirmations | vehicles/carpooling
- Review/revise draft agenda

Minutes:

Michael opened the meeting with a quick review of the agenda and noted that the call will be devoted to discussion of the draft agenda.

Head count for F2F meeting – A quick head count for the F2F was made. Kate will not be attending the meeting. Joe Nielsen can represent discipline interests during the meeting.

Local logistics – Bob Avery updated the group on local IT arrangements for the meeting.

- The hotel is located across the channel with footbridge access.
- No luncheon; we can order in if ITAC would like to do so.
- Bob will send local contact information to Michael
 - o Josh Foster – Supervisory IT Specialist
 - o Greg Denn – Admin support
- WSC overview – Eric Reichard will give the overview
- Any questions/issues can be sent to Bob, and he will get a response.
- Bob will look into coordinating a group dinner on Wednesday evening.

F2F agenda discussion – **Michael will try to finalize the agenda by Friday, October 17, 2014 (post to SP)**

Terri asked Bob about CA WSC presentations. Bob responded that Al Caldwell will talk about a new tablet the Center is testing in the field. There will be a presentation on high-performance computing by IT staff. For field cams, Bob noted that there are contacts in the CA WSC who can present on this topic. Invitation will be extended to those individuals for input during the F2F.

Michael commented that we need to decide how we will approach the agenda. We need to control our time due to the volume of topics on the agenda. It was recommended that Center staff that have expertise in a particular topic be invited to participate in applicable discussions. It's important to be respectful of normal office operations.

Nate requested that we lock down the time for the high performance computing session as there are folks he would like to have listen in to the session.

Terri asked about a WRET update. After discussion, Terri will take the action to ask Tim Woods when he can call in (30 minutes should be sufficient). Michael suggested that the All-Hands timeframe would be a suitable area for this update.

Discussion continued about the draft agenda. Terri commented that when ITAC receives the agenda, they will need to send it out and request that they send any questions by October 27, 2014. Forward any questions received to Terri. She will follow-up with appropriate contacts to get responses to the questions. Terri will brief the group at the F2F and responses will be included in the final meeting minutes.

Marijke asked how the field cam topic relates to the proposed initiatives. Michael responded that the individual topics discussed will give an idea of what ITAC may try to take on.

Michael noted that GIS is not on the agenda. Daniel Pearson put together a GIS initiative, and we should make time to discuss it on the agenda. Daniel will be at the meeting on November 4 – fit that discussion into Tuesday's schedule. Daniel asked what kind of preparation is needed or if discussion will be free-form. Nate commented that it will be good for ITAC to become familiar with what USGS does with its GIS datasets. Michael asked Daniel if there were other topics of interest he would like to hear. Daniel responded that he is most interested in the code database discussion.

Michael commented that it would be ideal to assign a champion to each topic prior to the meeting. Discussion of the agenda continued with an initial Champion being identified.

- Moore – Network upgrades (may also have a Cloud update)
- Avery – Field cams, ITAC SP
- Booth – OWI FY15 initiatives, data visualization/OWDI, .csl template, supergages
- Goree – Field computing update
- Nielsen – SMART, NWISWeb and 3rd party data (NOAA)
- Bumgarner – code database
- Lund – “ADR” process needs

John Bumgarner asked what makes up data visualization. Would the GIS discussion fit here? Nate commented that the intent with data visualization is to show value with the Open Water Data Initiative (OWDI).

Michael suggested that ITAC approach the issues by determining what is needed and who is doing the work. Next steps will evolve after our initial discussions.

Nate would like to have a discussion on the use of R. A lot of folks are doing cool stuff with R, and it would be good to put some sort of structure around it. The goal is to make some capabilities available nationally. Nate added that he can have someone call in. John asked if this falls under the code database topic with Nate responding yes. He would also like to introduce GITHUB. Nate commented that his thought is that the code database discussion be focused on GITHUB and software lifecycle. He would prefer a separate slot for R on the agenda. Nate suggested that the data visualization session could be shortened.

Kris will give an update related to ADR process needs. Kris commented that release of the manuscript approval tool has resolved many of the concerns/questions that precipitated this topic. Shorten the time slot to 20-30 minutes as Nate would like to hear about this. Incorporate the update into the minutes as well.

Joe Nielsen will be the Champion for SMART. Nate added that he would like for Joe to talk about more general things as well.

Terri asked about the field computing topic and who will give that update. Michael noted that five items were combined into this initiative. Terri asked if Burl can give the update. She took the action to contact Burl and will talk with Michael to determine what topics he would like Burl to address.

Nate asked about .csl – what is it? Michael will look at previous notes to find more information to pass along to Nate. Nate has a contact if needed. Nate will be the Champion for this issue.

Nate suggested that a discussion of the OWDI would be good during the data visualization session.

Regarding supergages, Michael asked if Nate can frame the goal. Nate agreed to do so and commented that Brian Pellerin and the CAWSC staff are good contacts for this topic.

For SP and Web – look at and critique as a group

Vehicles/Carpooling – Brief discussion of travel arrangements

ACTION – Post your travel arrangements to SP