

Interagency Workshop on
**Integrating Biodiversity and Ecosystems Information Systems:
 Transparency, Participation & Collaboration**

29 – 30 June 2009

George C Marshall Conference Center

US Department of State Main Building

Please use entrance on 21st Street between C and Virginia, Washington, DC

29 June

Time	Speaker	Agency Affiliation	Presentation Topic / Title
0900	Gladys Cotter	Associate Chief Biologist, USGS-BRD	Introduction to the workshop
0910	Cristián Samper	Director, NMNH	The importance of information integration
0930	Ann Bartuska	USDA Acting Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment	Challenges to information integration within and among agencies
0950	Panel Session: Meeting challenges to information integration		
	Doug Nebert	FGDC Clearinghouse Coordinator	Integration basics: Standards, protocols and agreements to use them
	Andrew Battin	Deputy Director, EPA Office of Information Collection	An example of integration: EPA's National Environmental Information Exchange Network
1020	Coffee Break		
1040	Steven Fancy	NPS National Inventory and Monitoring Program Leader	DOI Climate Change Task Force Recommendations for Improved Data Sharing and Integration
1100	Panel Session: Who wants and needs to use integrated data and information?		
	Lynne Corn	Congressional Research Service	Wolves, and Snakes, and Maps — Oh My?
	Mark Sarmiento	FHWA Office of Interstate & Border Planning	TBA
	Hal Balbach	US Army Engineer Research and Development	Army use of Shared Resource Data
	Jack Hill	National Biological Information Infrastructure	The NBII: Integrating Datasets and Tools to Answer Questions

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1200	No-host lunch, State Department cafeteria		
1300	Panel Session: Information Integration: Different approaches		
	Gerald Guala	Plant Systematist, USDA / NRCS	PLANTS: A highly accessible, accessed, and much used database
	Matthew Jenkins	Director, Mission Systems Division, Smithsonian Institution OCIO – OSM	EDAN: The Smithsonian’s middle layer index architecture
1400	Breakout Session One: Introduction and instructions		
1410	Group One (management related)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can differences within/among agencies be mitigated so that information can be more readily shared and integrated? • How can Information Integration be better incorporated into budgeting and planning? • What will it take to bring Information Integration to a higher priority level in the budgeting and planning process? • What steps are needed to bring existing information not currently online into an integrated, sharing environment? 	
1410	Group Two (IT related)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What steps are needed to integrate existing online information? • What existing pieces can be most readily woven together? • What steps are needed to bring existing information not currently online into an integrated, sharing environment? • What short / medium / long-term goals can be set for information integration? 	
1510	Coffee Break		
1530	Demonstrations: Examples of what USGovt agencies have online now		
	EPA Earth	Richard Allen & Steve Young, EPA	
	NISbase	Pam Fuller, USGS Florida Integrated Science Center	
	GRIN	Gary Kinard, USDA-ARS	
	NPSpecies	Steve Fancy, NPS	
1700	Adjourn for the day		

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30 June

0900	Recap of Day One	
0910	Reports from Breakout Session One	
0930	Breakout Session Two: Introduction and instructions	
0940	Group One (management related)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kind of working structure is needed among agencies to facilitate the information integration process? • What means can be used to ensure that the agencies involved will move forward with information integration?
0940	Group Two (IT related)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What existing standards and protocols can be used now to integrate information and make it available? • What is the least-onerous set of standards and protocols that must be developed and adopted at this point?
1040	Coffee Break	
1100	Reports from Breakout Session Two	
1120	Plenary discussion: Next steps toward achieving transparency, participation and collaboration in integrating information on a government-wide basis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the time frame over which USG agencies can optimistically / realistically integrate information systems? • What short / medium / long-term goals can be set for information integration? 	
1300	Adjourn workshop	

Final from M. Lane, 09-22-09

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