

This list was developed by NRIS Advisory Committee Members to help prioritize NRIS functions managed by the MSL Geographic Information program from the Member’s point of view. These priorities were requested to be in support of and alignment with Member business needs as well as beneficial to the State as a whole.

The following are the responses by the Members for discussion at the November 20, 2012 meeting:

	Priority Category					
	WIS/NHD	GIS Portal	MSDI Standards	MSDI Development	Marketing	Consultation
DEQ	1	2	3	4		
DNRC	1	2	3	4		
FWP	1	3	4	2		
MHS		2		1	3	4
LEGIS	1	3		2	4	

**Water Information System (Hydrography focus)**

**DEQ**

- The MT Water Information System and NHD Stewardship
  - FTE(s) dedicated to maintaining, coordinating, and providing a central source for MT Water Information based on MTs version of the USGS NHD and its related information (aquatics, regulations, uses, rights, etc.)

**DNRC**

- Additional staffing or support for the maintenance of Water Information System data. Coordination of hydrologic data, as well as the ongoing stewardship and enhancement of this data, is critical to many of our agency’s business functions.
- Multiple agencies have articulated a need for increased support of hydrologic data stewardship

**FWP**

- Provide stable version of 24k hydro line work. This will allow FWP to establish a whole stream identifier for managing fisheries information.

**GIS Portal**

**DEQ**

- Coordination focus as well as a service focus
  - MT GIS Portal as a card catalog of where to get GIS data
  - Ease of getting your data into the Portal
    - o The easier it is to register and then find your metadata will mean more entries
    - o Metadata harvesting from compatible GIS systems

- Archive section based on publication dates to distinguish current from past datasets
- Allow card catalog to full metadata entries
  - o Just because full metadata isn't in the Portal doesn't mean it doesn't exist
  - o Allow a minimum entry of a data title and point of contact

## **DNRC**

- We are supportive of the recent efforts to redesign the web site and make it easier for users to discover geospatial information. We also support discussions on the future of the portal and evaluating what option makes the most sense for the portal managers, data consumers, and data contributors.

## **FWP**

- Based on scoping, improve clearinghouse integration/transparency/functions for GIS resources among NRIS, BMSC, NHP, all agencies providing data/services.
  - Challenging for the uninitiated (and initiated) GIS user to find resources in a "one stop shop" fashion. For example, users need to go to all of these pages to get a comprehensive view of what's available: <http://nriss.mt.gov/> vs <http://nriss.mt.gov/gis/default.asp> vs GIS Portal vs MSDI vs NHP.

## **MHS**

- Provide our partners and patrons with convenient, high quality and cost effective access to geographic information.

## **LEGIS**

- As staffers, we need to get better at realizing what a great resource NRIS can be in our work. Along those lines, making the information available in various formats might help.

## **MSDI Development**

### **DNRC**

- Continued acquisition and hosting of NAIP and other imagery datasets

### **FWP**

- Scope users'/agencies web mapping and GIS data needs related to MSDI and basemap layers and develop implementation plan with stakeholders. Increase communication with agencies to help users (and NRIS) understand what information and services are available, needed, and how to best discover them. Ideas for scoping mapping services:
  - Identify most needed/desired services

- Identify projections needed/desired of MSDI services (web Mercator, state plane). Feed basemap data to Esri if not feasible to provide web Mercator services?
  - Identify functions needed/desired of MSDI services
    - o Identify/query
    - o Labeling
    - o Scale dependencies
- Improve discovery/access to most current energy layers/information (wells, transmission lines, wind, pipelines, etc).

## **MHS**

- Acquire and manage relevant quality geographic information that meets the needs of users.
- Provide consultation, leadership and training for the development and use of geographic information and spatial technologies

## **LEGIS**

- From the standpoint of Legislative Services, I would say that our top priorities are still the acquisition, storage and retrieval of natural resource information.

## **MSDI Standards**

### **DEQ**

- Standardize MSDI
  - Create MSDI discovery & delivery best practices and standards
  - Streamline and define process of how user submits updates to MSDI
  - Focus efforts on those layers that do not have a State or Federal steward

### **FWP**

- Provide improved MSDI data services - currency and documentation
  - Consolidate all MSDI web pages into one page with publication date, update schedule (or indicate unknown if no set schedule), contact, and metadata link for each layer along with download options (shp, fgdb, rest endpoint for services). Idea > include "more info" link to action plans and/or additional detailed info currently on individual MSDI layer pages.
  - Work with MSDI stewards to insure MSDI layers are available in seamless statewide formats:
    - o Shp
    - o Fgdb
    - o Mapping service
  - Provide reliable and rapidly performing mapping services of most current version of the following MSDI and basemap layers
    - o Cached service for NAIP 2011
    - o Land cover

- Public land ownership/stewardship
- Wetlands
- Topo
- Cadastral
- Hydro

## **Marketing**

### **MHS**

- Insure sustainable success through efficient and effective management of both geographic data and staff resources. (I believe marketing NRIS and MSL as the primary location for Geographic Info is important. Many people, outside of the GIS community, are unaware of the great data that is available here)

### **LEGIS**

- For instance, a news release might announce a new acquisition or an update. The link in the news release goes to the web page where the map is featured. And from there are links to the download and related information.

## **Funding**

### **DEQ**

- MSL GI budget and work plan alignment with the priorities of NRIS AC
  - Use of provided funds directly related to communicated Agency priorities
  - NRIS MOU realignment with each Agencies priorities and funding support

## **Consultation**

### **MHS**

- Promote partnerships and encourage collaboration both within and beyond the spatial technology community.
- Provide consultation, leadership and training for the development and use of geographic information and spatial technologies