

NSSI OG Meeting  
Alaska State Office  
January 28, 2008

Present

Oversight Group

John Payne, Executive Director  
Dick LeFebvre, Chair, ADNR  
Tom Melius, Vice Chair, FWS  
Thomas Lonnie, BLM  
Karla Kolash, NSB  
Cleve Cowles, MMS (representing John Goll)  
Ken Taylor, ADFG  
Lawson Brigham, ARC

Senior Staff Committee

Tim Jennings, FWS  
Gary Shultz, ADNR  
Dave Yokel, BLM  
Sharon Warren, DOI

Visitors/Presenters

Bob Schneider, BLM  
Ted Murphy, BLM  
Peter Hickman, UAF  
Cheryl Haase, UAF

**Welcome, Dick LeFebvre**

Dick greeted the group.

**Past minutes Approval; New Agenda Items:**

Dick LeFebvre asked for any comments on the December 4 minutes prior to their approval and there were none. He also asked if anyone wanted to add any agenda items, but no one did.

**ACTION:**

Minutes approved.

**Director's Report:**

The Director's Report for January 28, 2008, was handed out at the meeting and will be posted on the NSSI website.

**ACTION:**

John will send out an email to the OG once the charter is approved.

## **Geographic Information Network**

This presentation will be posted on the NSSI website. Peter Hickman and Cheryl Haase, of UAF, introduced themselves and presented a PowerPoint on GINA's current interface and where they want to go with it. Peter announced that they will meet with the STAP next week to present a live demonstration of GINA and its capabilities thus far. Peter suggested a visit to the URL: <http://catalog.northslope.org>.

Highlights of the database:

- The database has a searchable browser format.
- The plan is to create a granular ID or unique ID for GINA. This will allow them to track data over time. The string will be as follows: orgAlaska.gina.nssi.20080128\_1234 (unique ID number).
- There will also be ongoing ingestion capability and the ability to search by keyword.
- The ability to sort data layers.
- Ability to place interactive graphics on the maps.
- Important links built in to pertinent documents.
- Ability to send feedback to the database administrators.
- Ability to download data through the download link.
- Ultimate outcome to streamline the data to an internet format.
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### **Questions/Comments:**

Ken Taylor asked how data sets will be placed into the system. Peter said they are still trying to define the standards and then they will move forward.

Karla Kolash asked who they are working with to do this. They have worked with the STAP on some of these. John Payne also said they have started on design requirements to make the data sets more user friendly.

Karla Kolash asked about the versioning. They are starting work on that now. It should be implemented fairly soon. John Payne has received the North Slope subsistence study data layers and will send them to Peter.

Leslie Holland-Bartels referenced some flat maps and asked if they could be used. Cheryl said they can be incorporated into the system. Leslie said she would forward the files to GINA.

Cleve Cowles asked if there would be a standard legend as to how layers would be merged. Peter and Cheryl had not addressed this and said it would be a great idea.

Tim Jennings asked if the location of data storage is invisible to the individual user. Peter said it would be invisible to the individual user.

Ken Taylor asked how versioning data would be maintained. The owners of the data would maintain it.

**ACTION:**

Leslie Holland-Bartels will send the maps she has to Peter and Cheryl.

**Executive Session (OG Members only)**

**ACTION:** None

**Presentation and Discussion of Business Plan**

John Payne presented the group with the latest version of the NSSI Business Plan. He thanked everyone for their input into the plan. He especially thanked Sharon Warren for her concise comments. John Payne requested permission to send it to a writer-editor in WO for editing.

**ACTION:**

Motion to accept the plan by Ken Taylor and seconded by Tom Melius. The plan was approved.

John Payne will send the plan to WO for review after the writer-editor finalizes.

**Federal Fiscal Plan for FY 08:**

John Payne explained the function of the plan as follows:

- Will guide the year's work within NSSI as follows:
- This plan gives a review of the budget of FY 07 and what the budget is for FY 08.
- Administrative costs (staffing costs)
- Operational costs (projects already being pursued, GINA, website, Fisheries and Cultural Workshops were pushed back to FY 09, gauging stations were paid for in FY 07 and there is no maintenance on those this year. In FY 09 each station will cost \$60000.00, Land cover costs (this depends on who we go with), Water Quality Assessments will be sun-set after this year.)
- The carryover from FY 07 will be used to continue to run on-going projects.
- New projects coming in will have to be funded in FY 09

**Questions:**

Ken Taylor asked about the website funding. John said the website has been running with minimal input for the past year. The allocated funding will now pay for servers, staff time and web design. The new agreement with MTRI will be for five years.

Ken Taylor asked about hydrology information and the water gauging stations and whether those could be funded through USGS in the future. Leslie said most of their water gauging is co-funded with other agencies. John Payne said USGS would like to see them funded through them, but if NSSI is doing this it makes it hard for him to get funding.

Lawson Brigham asked why the Fisheries Workshop was pushed back. It was pushed back because there has not been enough planning yet. NOAA and MMS could partner on this. NPRB could also be involved.

Dick LeFebvre said he would like to see milestones incorporated into this plan. That way there were be some measurable progress.

Leslie Holland-Bartels also suggested that projects be agreed upon by two established groups.

Dick LeFebvre wants the group to look at emerging issues throughout the year.

**ACTIONS:**

John Payne will get deadline information from the STAP.

Milestones will be built into the plan and for the report to Congress.

The Senior Staff Committee will address emerging issues through Strategic Planning discussions and incorporate them into the plan.

John will send the plan out to the Oversight Group will have their comments on this plan to John Payne by February 8, 2008.

Dick LeFebvre suggested the group meet more frequently, possibly every month until the group has all these documents in place.

**ACTION:**

The next NSSI OG meeting will be held the week of February 24. John Payne will send out an email for the following possibilities: February 25 or 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Comments:**

None

Meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.