

David's notes for February 2012 LCDB Governance/Steering meeting

1. Action items from December

- Craig and Len will come up with suitable wording to formally link ETS and LCDB in order to enable data collected for ETS to be used by MAF for checking LCDB.
- Viv will look into governance issues and revise the draft terms of reference.
- Landcare will solve registration problem, Peter report next meeting, keep checking agencies informed of any implications.
- Len will investigate a higher level engagement with regional councils (CEOs?) to make sure land monitoring units have the resources.
- Craig to supply MAF contacts to coordinate checking.
- David to provide a written description of character for Stakeholder/technical Group – how and how often it will meet, function etc. and circulate to Governance Body with a deadline for additional suggested names of members.
- To ensure engagement, David and Rob will do the rounds of contacts with collegial offer of help after Christmas.
- David to check with Jeremy Cuff re presentations to Land Monitoring Group.
- Kevin will check in LINZ to see if anyone is in a position to check LCDB mapping.
- Kevin to investigate if there should be relationship between LCDB and Topomaps – implications.
- Kevin, provide name for new appointment to Fundamental Data Leader position as a representative on Stakeholder/technical group.
- Viv to check on when/how/if list of nationally significant databases is reviewed.
- James will give a fuller presentation next time on current methodology.
- David put 1990 LCDB concept to Stakeholder/Technical Group once formed.
- David report back on backup/disaster recovery situation.

2. Disaster recovery

Several components to the LCDB mapping project;

- Base satellite and imagery used in the mapping interpretation
 - These are backed up in safes at Palmerston North and in the Massey University vaults. However, primary copies of the corrected LUCAS SPOT imagery would also be available in Wellington (MfE).
- Programs and scripts on our UNIX system used in automated analysis of imagery to identify likely change.
 - Backed up via our normal backup processes and periodically copied to offsite machine.
- Mapping work being done interactively on seven workstations
 - Each backed up daily to a central “LCDB3 dump space” which is then replicated overnight to a machine in Lincoln.
 - Completed regions also copied to our Google Apps site and to collaborators.
- Licenses
 - Can be re-configured relatively easily (low network requirements)

Probably the larger issues are;

- New/replacement equipment and work location
 - Workstations are relatively generic so could probably use other machines or replace.
 - Christchurch experience indicates that people can get quite creative in finding new work locations.
- Staff
 - Probably the greatest risk is that key staff become unavailable due to personal circumstances – need to ensure that process are understood by several staff and/or well documented.

Summary: In the event of a significant natural disaster, we should still have access to the data and work in progress once recovered from backups. However, we are not set up for real-time recovery and the project doesn't warrant it. There would therefore be inevitable delays in getting equipment and staff organised to continue the work at a new location – probably weeks rather than months.

3. Steering Group report to Landcare

- Landcare will be reporting to MSI annually (but at any time if significant issues arise)
- Assume this will be in the normal MSI format (Progress, highlights etc plus metrics)
- A short annual letter from Steering Group chair would be sufficient – covering;
 - Progress
 - Any issues/problems and how we will address them
 - Can refer to minutes (publically available once confirmed)

4. Checking progress

- Northland* - Seem engaged but have only had for two weeks.
- Auckland – Haven't made much progress to date.
- Bay of Plenty – On track to send in updates later this week/early next
- Taranaki – On tract to get us updates by mid February.
- Tasman - Email received 17-Jan-2012 saying they are won't be able to start till mid-march due to floods.
- Nelson – Have indicated will return updates by end of February.
- Marlborough – Have received updates based on their own mapping
- Otago* - Only just starting – seems engaged. Possible rectification problems in Catlands)
- Southland* - Not really started yet but seems to understand process.

- MAF – still need contact, Craig thinks ETS data may be our best shot - if we can get permission.
- DOC – Only looking at DOC land. Farming this out to some Conservatories. Didn't press for timeframe.
- Fire Service – Only just responded. May be some misunderstanding as they seem to assume RFAs will be looking at this, whereas I would expect them to send it to RFAs.

Still to release:

- Waikato, Gisborne, Hawke Bay, Manawatu-Whanganui, Wellington, West coast, Canterbury