



NGAC Overview

NGAC Administrative Meeting
February 28, 2014

NGAC Background

- ◆ Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Committee established in 2008
- ◆ Provides advice and recommendations on management of Federal and national geospatial programs, development of the NSDI, and the implementation of OMB Circular A-16 and Executive Order 12906. Provides a forum to convey views representative of non-Federal stakeholders in the geospatial community.
- ◆ Balanced membership:
 - 15 members from non-governmental organizations (private sector, non-profits, academia)
 - 15 members from governmental organizations (federal, state, local, county, tribal, regional)

◆ Reports to FGDC Chair through Designated Federal Officer (DFO)



NGAC Charter/Bylaws

NGAC Charter/Bylaws:

- ◆ **Charter:** Required by FACA and follows DOI/GSA format. Must be renewed every two years. Current Charter signed January 2014.
- ◆ **Bylaws:** Describes operational procedures. Adopted by NGAC in 2008.

Meetings:

- ◆ **Committee Meetings:** As a FACA committee, meetings of the full NGAC committee are public meetings.
- ◆ **Subcommittees:** Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees may be formed for the purpose of compiling information or conducting research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Committee for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. The Committee Chair, with the approval of the DFO, will appoint subcommittee members. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.



NGAC Charter/Bylaws

Roles:

- ◆ **Chair/Vice Chair.** Provide leadership, run the NGAC meetings, and coordinate with DFO and FGDC Chair to jointly establish priorities to be addressed by NGAC.
- ◆ **Members.** Represent the viewpoints of interests they were appointed to represent on the NGAC. Work collaboratively develop consensus on matters of common concern.
- ◆ **Designated Federal Officer (DFO).** Serves as the government's agent in all matters related to the NGAC's activities. Responsible for fulfilling all administrative and operational requirements for the committee.

Attendance:

- ◆ Members should make a good faith effort to attend all NGAC meetings. Members who cannot attend a meeting in person may send a proxy to observe. However, only members can participate in and vote on NGAC matters.



NGAC Charter/Bylaws

Decision Making

- ◆ Consensus is the preferred decision making model for the NGAC. When consensus cannot be achieved, the Chair may request a motion for a vote when a decision or recommendation of the NGAC is required. A quorum of members and a balance of viewpoints must be present for any vote at an NGAC meeting. A quorum will consist of two-thirds of the voting members. Each NGAC member is entitled to one vote. Votes will be decided by a simple majority of votes cast. When a decision or vote is scheduled for an NGAC meeting, members may authorize the Chair to cast proxy votes, with or without instructions, on their behalf. The proxy vote must be submitted in writing to the Chair and DFO in advance of the meeting.



NGAC Guidance

- ◆ FGDC provides guidance to the NGAC each year outlining study topics and research questions for the NGAC to address
- ◆ Guidance is based on input from FGDC and NGAC leadership, FGDC member agencies, and NGAC members
- ◆ 2014 guidance is under development and will be provided prior to April NGAC meeting. Potential topic areas include:
 - Ongoing FGDC Initiatives (Geospatial Platform, NSDI Strategic Plan, A-16/Portfolio Management Implementation Plan)
 - NGAC Subcommittee Activities (Landsat Advisory Group, Geolocation Privacy, Geospatial Education and Workforce Development, National Address Database)
 - Additional Study Topics (DOI/Administration Priorities, Tribal Geospatial Issues, Sustainability/Continuity of NSDI Activities)



NGAC Operations

- ◆ Sponsored by Interior Department – administrative support provided by USGS/FGDC
- ◆ 3-4 public meetings per year – including opportunities for public comment/input
- ◆ Subcommittees meet between committee meetings – develop materials for consideration by full committee
- ◆ More information, including all meeting minutes and materials, posted at: www.fgdc.gov/ngac
- ◆ NGAC Members – provide travel request and voucher information in a timely manner

