**NZ Marine Geospatial**

**Working Group**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date of meeting** | September 11th 2019 |
| **Time** | 8.30am – 3.30pm |
| **Venue** | Wharewaka Function Centre, Matiu Room, Taranaki Wharf, 2 Taranaki Street, Wellington 6011 |
| **Facilitator** | David Udy (WsquareD) |
| **Attendees** | Andrew Lee (Statistics NZ), Anna Meissner (LINZ), Arne Pallentin (NIWA), Barb Hayden (NIWA), Bradley Cooper (LINZ), Cait Giles (The Office for Māori Crown Relations - Te Arawhiti), Daniel Baker (EPA), Daria Kwon (Statistics NZ), David Field (IxBlue), Deborah Frost (LINZ), Dijana Sneath (X4 Consulting), Emily Tidey (Otago University, School of Surverying), Evgenia Bazhenova (NIWA), Gabrielle Chin (MFAT), Gareth Palmer (GWRC), Gemma Couzens (EPA), Heiko Philippi (MPI - Spatial, Forestry Land Management), James Ford (LINZ), Jenny Black (GNS), John Forne (Statistics NZ), Juliane Sellars (MPI), Julie Jakoboski (MetOcean), Karen Lisa Tunley (MPI), Karl Majorhazi (Statistics NZ), Katherine Short (Terra Moana), Keith Hastings (Jacobs), Kevin Mackay (NIWA), Kevin Smith (Discovery Marine Ltd), Kim Picard (GA, AusSeabed), Lisa Floerl (Cawthorn Institute), Matt Grose (DOC), Merissa Shahrulzaman (Davanti), Moninya Roughan (MetOcean), Oliver Wade (Marlborough District Council, Coastal SIG), Paddy Plunket (Leadership Information), Paul Barter (Cawthorn Institute), Paul Sieberhagen (Moana), Paul Stone (Statistics NZ), Paul Trudgian (Royal Navy NZ), Philippa Fogarty (X4 Consulting), Pierre Tellier (MFE), Rachel Gabara (LINZ), Rebecca McAtamney (LINZ), Richard Garlick (MBIE), Rupert Sutherland (Victoria Uni), Shane Thompstone (LINZ), Simone Rewa Pearson (Information Leadership), Sorrel O'Connell-Milne (ESRC, Coastal SIG), Vaughan Stagpoole (GNS) |
| **Apologies** | Adam Greenland (LINZ), Anna Madarasz-Smith (Hawkes Bay Regional Council), Barbara Breen Bolard (Auckland University), Ben Sharp (MPI), Bonita Gestro (MOT), Dave Kelbe (Xerra), Dimitri Colella (Auckland Council), Duane Wilkins (LINZ), Duncan Steele (Xerra), Geoffroy Lamarche (Seabed2023, NIWA, UoA), Helen Kettles (DOC), Iain Dawe (GWRC), Ian Lancaster (MNZ), Janelle Palmer (Northland Regional Council), Jason Mackiewicz (Statistics NZ), Joanne O’Callaghan (NIWA), Jochen Schmidt (NIWA), John Donaldson (NZDF), John Gibson (Greater Wellington Regional Council), Jonathan Ball (LINZ), Jonathan West (The Office for Māori Crown Relations - Te Arawhiti), Jordan Markham (NZ Royal Navy), Jose Borrero (Ecoast), Jovanna Leonardo (Auckland Council), Julie Hall (NIWA/Sustainable Science Challenge), Karen Pratt (South Taranaki Underwater Club – Project Reef Life), Libby Liggins (Massey University), Lucy Jacob (WWF), Marjan van den Belt (WEED), Matt LYTHE (Lynker Analytics), Moritz Lehmann (Xerra), Peter Browmar (DTA), Riki Mules (MPI), Sally Garrett (DTA), Sheridan Waitai (Taiatea), Steven Hunt (Waikato Regional Council, Coastal SIG), Steve Urlich (Lincoln University), Te Aomihia Walker (Te Ohu Kaimoana), Te Taiawatea Moko-Mead (Te Ohu Kaimoana) |

**Minutes**

**Welcome** – Apanui Williams (Manager Business with Māori, Business with Māori, LINZ) and Rebecca McAtamney (Group Manager Hydrography, Hydrographic Authority, LINZ).

**Ice breaker and introductions** of attendees with a quick overview of each organisation’s interest in Marine Geospatial Information (MGI).

**Terms of References (ToR) –** Rachel Gabara (Manager Hydrographic Data and Products, Hydrographic Authority, LINZ).

Introduction of the draft ToR following discussions and feedback from the first meeting in February 2019. Introduction of the need and establishment of a Steering Group. Attendees were asked to comment and complete the draft for final approval.

**Towards FAIR Data –** Paul Stone (NZ Open Government Data Programme Leader, Statistics NZ); Anna Meissner (Senior Marine Geospatial Data Specialist, Hydrographic Authority, LINZ); Andrew Lee (Senior Advisor System & Partnerships Open Data Programme, Statistics NZ); Paddy Plunket (Consultant, Information Leadership); Philippa Fogarty (Principal Consultant, x4 Consulting); Panel Discussion (see below).

Paul Stone presented the Open Government Data Programme, covering points such as the responsibility of government agencies in publishing their data.

Anna Meissner and Andrew Lee introduced the partnership between Statistics NZ, LINZ, MPI, DOC, NIWA, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Hawkes Bay Regional Council, Environment Southland Regional Council and efforts to progress a national marine geospatial data inventory, covering the importance of a national stocktake, the benefits of open marine data to support research, innovation and resource management.

Paddy Plunket and Philippa Fogarty explained the process of the stocktake, listing benefits of data management, expectations and outcomes for agencies.

Panel discussion invited Sorrel O’Connell-Milne (Coastal and Marine Environmental Scientist, Environment Southland Regional Council), James Ford (Marine Geospatial Data Analyst, Hydrographic Authority, LINZ), Heiko Philippi (Team Leader Spatial Intelligence, MPI), Kevin McKay (Principal Technician, NIWA), Matt Grose (GeoSpatial Information National Lead, DOC), Gareth Palmer (GIS Analyst, Greater Wellington Regional Council) and Paddy (Consultant, Information Leadership, covering for Hawkes Bay Regional Council). The panel provided feedback on the experience and benefits for undertaking a data inventory for their organisation. Lessons learnt covered areas related to:

* Knowledge and skills: It is very common within organisations that people collecting data also manage the data, without necessarily being specialised in data management or being aware of best practise, if the organisation does not have a dedicated data management team.
* Data management processes:There are lots of unknown at the beginning of the stocktake process as data is often not managed consistency. Manual search through folders and file to retrieve data reveals to be time consuming. The stocktake will however highlight areas that will require attention.
* Strategic oversight: The stocktake can be resource intensive and it can be difficult to find commitment to undertake the inventory and get buy-in at a senior level.
* Benefits: The inventory improve access to data and help understand what the organisation holds. It reduces duplication for future data capture and enables better decision making, besides reducing time responding to Official Information requests and improve customer experience.

**Workshop activity – Attendees were asked to provide recommendations following the panel discussion and suggest what the next steps for the national inventory should be.** Outputs are summarised below and refer to the appendix for raw material:

The NZMG-WG needs to:

* Seek commitment from 80% of organisations to contribute to the NZ marine geospatial stocktake and prioritise support
* Measure performance for CES (stocktake status)
* Report on progress (e.g. via dashboard and centralised by project manager)
* Promote use of end product (e.g. database on data.govt)
* Communicate benefits to state services

A subgroup of the WG should be established to seek options on how to build on the current stocktake by progressing efforts with Statistics NZ, establishing an online survey or providing guidelines to organisations to work individually. This subgroup should also identify what resources are required and establish a long-term vision.

A subgroup of the WG should be established to provide support for undertaking the stocktake in areas such as:

* Building capacity
* Providing process guidelines, training and secondment opportunities
* Seeking mentors and trainers to communicate with teams undertaking stocktake
* Building a stocktake framework

A subgroup of the WG should be established to provide technical advice and support related to:

* Sharing templates, guidelines, recommendations on formats, standards, metadata, QA/QC for data collection and management
* Recommending a common vocabulary
* Establishing and implement processes for data classification
* Aligning efforts with international best practices

A subgroup of the WG should be established to provide technical advice on the publication of the stocktake and the most appropriate platform for it.

A subgroup of the WG should be established to develop compelling stories and case studies explaining the importance of the stocktake and identify the value of data to organisations and to wider NZ Inc. Increasing usage of datasets and mitigating the threat of lost knowledge are examples that will support a shift in culture and raise metadata profile. Organisations can also act as champions for other organisations.

Each agency needs to:

* Commit to contribute to the NZ inventory
* Identify data champions within the organisation for each data types that will contribute to the stocktake
* Data champions engage widely across the organisation
* Champions seek support of sponsors within their organisation
* Organisation identify what data they master and prioritise their inventory
* Commit to managing own data
* Work with an open mind and agile way. Investigating automated ways to catalogue or query databases are worth considering
* Communicate benefits to Executive Team

**Workshop activity 2 – Attendees were asked to suggest on the future work plan.** Outputs are summarised below and refer to the appendix for raw material:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Areas of focus** | **Suggestions for actions** |
| Communication | Set up communication channels open for all interested parties to keep conversation going and break down silos  |
| Set up a website for the NZMG-WG to communicate on work plan, progress and opportunities |
| Data portals | Build a business case for central government funding to set up a data platform |
| Establish a national significant database  |
| Develop a national infrastructure for organisations to contribute (consolidated data model) |
| Identify and review international and national marine data portals (i.e. AODN, NZODN, LAWA, IRA Moana, data.govt, LDS, PBE, TEZ, Petlab ) |
| Identify processes to link data portals |
| Lead by example by publishing and making data accessible |
| Collaborate with the National Library/Archives NZ on data archiving |
| Create a webpage with links to portals |
| Review the legal framework around data access depending on the source (central, local government agencies, commercial organisations…) |
| QC | Find or build QC/data processing tools |
| Populate the database with QC-ed data |
| Strategy | Implement a fundamental policy on stewardship and data management (updated and aligned with others)  |
| Lobby the government to reinstate/set up a new Marine Geospatial Data Office (based on international examples) |
| Identify data gaps and develop programme to capture data |
| Standard | Identify hurdles for interoperability between datasets within and between organisations |
| Identify opportunities for standardisation |
| Project management | Establish a timeline with milestones (e.g. TOR, stocktake, gap analysis, portal review…) |
| Establish a project management plan |

**Stakeholders questions and replies are summarised below.**

Q1. Is the NZMG-WG repeating what the Geospatial Office did previously try to do and are efforts put into this project going to fail?

A1. We have demonstrated that the Working Group is taking concrete actions to improve accessibility and re-use of marine geospatial information, with the national stocktake being a great example of how collaboration can support our initiatives. If the working group commits to the work plan and take ownership for actions, progress can be made and benefit our community and organisations.

Q2. How to address the fact that Māori groups are not represented in the NZMG-WG and in the discussions?

A2. The NZMG-WG, through LINZ, has reached out to several interested groups including The Office for Māori Crown Relations, Te Atiawa Trust, Ngai Tahu, Taiātea, Te Ohu Kaimoana, Terra Moana and Moana Ltd. Invites were sent to those organisations to join the meeting and representatives from The Office for Māori Crown Relations, Terra Moana and Moana Ltd were present on 11th September. We encourage all stakeholders to reach out to their network, communicate our initiative and invite any Māori interested groups to join the WG. Our collective engagement with Maori iwi and groups will enable us to keep Maori interests at the heart of our efforts and fulfil our obligations towards our Treaty Partners.

Q3. How does this project align with the NZ Ocean Data Network?

A3. In 2016-147, NIWA launched the NZ Ocean Data Network (NZODN), a portal modelled on the Australian Ocean Data Network (AODN). NZODN allows third party users to discover, visualise, access and download a wide range of marine data. The philosophy of ‘collect once, re-use many times’ underpins NZODN and makes the portal a potential ‘one-stop-shop’ for marine-related data in NZ. Data ingestion into the NZODN can increase discoverability and accessibility of NZ marine geospatial data and is therefore well in line with the WG’s objectives to open and support access to MGI. LINZ is currently undertaking an investigation of NZODN to understand what resource are required and what processes are involved in third party data ingestion, and whether the NZODN is a suitable model of collating and distributing New Zealand’s marine data holdings.

Q4. How can the NZMG-WG will overcome the challenge of the network functioning only if the same people remain?

A4. To mitigate turnover of staff, governance and buy-in are needed. Identifying the “why”, the level of commitment required, and incentives can help WG Members getting organisational support.

**Closing remarks** – Rebecca McAtamney (Group Manager Hydrography, Hydrographic Authority, LINZ)

**Current Actions**

1. LINZ to finalise the Terms of Reference for the Working Group and circulate to the NZMG-WG by 25 September 2019.
2. LINZ to draft minutes of the meeting by 25 September 2019.
3. Slack channel to be established.
4. Attendees to communicate within their organisations and external network to grow the NZMG-WG and progress the goals.
5. LINZ to theme future work plan ideas for the Steering Group to prioritise. The Steering Group will then seek volunteers from the NZMG-WG for specific work items.

Next Meeting: February 2020