

Minutes: BioFIT

Monday, February 6, 2017
Steelhead Room, ODFW

Attendees

Tera Hinkley, BLM
Jon Bowers, ODFW
Jimmy Kagan, INR
Theresa Burcsu, GEO
Jeff Kern, ODFW
Arty Rodriguez, ODFW
*Dave Fox, ODFW
*Sara Marvin, Measure 49 specialist DLCDC
*Don Pettit, DEQ
*Tanya Haddad, DLCDC

Desired outcomes

1. Shared knowledge of ongoing and planned BioFIT-related activities
2. Consensus on data element categories to be used in funding process and planning
3. List of potential work areas for BioFIT for next 3 - 12 months

Agenda

Time	ITEM	Who
1:30 – 1:35	WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS	Jimmy
1:35 – 1:40	BACKGROUND	Jimmy
	BUSINESS ITEMS	
1:40 – 2:00	Review existing BioFIT data elements and sources/stewards	Jimmy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Status reports of recent projects	All
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current or planned data element development efforts/major updates/improvements	All
	<u>Outcome 1</u> : list of data elements & description of project/updates/improvements <u>Outcome 2</u> : list of possible additions/subtractions	
2:00 – 2:20	Categorize existing data elements <u>Outcome</u> : tier assignments for all data elements	Jimmy, Theresa
2:20 – 2:40	Brainstorm session Potential work areas & tasks for BioFIT (e.g., standards updates, new data development, data updates, stewardship, coordination needs, FIT funding proposals).	Jimmy

	<u>Outcome</u> : brainstormed list of potential work. <u>Bonus outcome</u> : 2-5 work project highlight for continued discussion/action over the next 3-12 months	
2:40 – 2:50	Discussion: next actions for BioFIT <u>Decision point</u> : how to communicate and interact with each other on the next actions	All
2:50 – 2:55	Identify additional members and stakeholders	All
2:55	Next meeting timeframe and desired location	All
3:00	ADJOURN	

Background

Jimmy and Theresa discussed the structure of Framework and how the Bioscience FIT fits into the Framework for Oregon. The Oregon Framework is focused on developing and maintaining base data that meets the needs of a wide user base and has been in existence for about 16 years.

Review Data Elements

Jimmy asked that participants provide an update on work related to each data element and to think about combining data elements such as fish abundance and distributions. Below is a summary of the discussion for each data element included in the conversation. The Brainstorm session was folded into the following discussion.

Anadromous fish abundance and habitat distributions, aquatic habitat, aquatic species & ranges, fish passage barriers, & fish stock status

Currently anadromous fish abundance and habitat distributions are separated from fish passage barriers and fish stock status data elements. Jon Bowers noted that anadromous fish abundance and habitat distributions are managed separately by ODFW while anadromous and residence status types are managed in the same database, so it would make sense to merge fish data elements. Dave Fox and Jon B. noted that marine fish species are quite different.

Decision: Resident and anadromous together.

Decision: separate freshwater from marine fish species.

Next action:

1. more clearly define the data elements around "fish" and "aquatic species".
2. Work with Coastal Marine FIT on overlapping data elements to more clearly define which theme has "ownership" of which data elements.
3. Change the name of "fish stock status" to "non-anadromous, resident fish stock status"

Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification (CMECS)

See notes under Marine species habitat distributions and Wildlife Habitat Distributions

Existing, historic, and potential vegetation

Participants expressed interest for an Oregon-specific version of this data. Jimmy noted that no resources for maintaining an Oregon-specific product exist, but that there are national programs, especially LANDFIRE, who support maintenance of national-level data.

Next action: Jimmy will follow-up with members (Sarah Marvin, Tara Hinkley, Arty Rodriguez, and ODF (Steve Timbrook) to better define the uses cases for an Oregon-specific product.

There is no current funding for maintaining a statewide historic vegetation data element, just a few pieces here and there. Some work is under way on the eastside of the Cascades.

The potential vegetation data was developed about 5 years ago. LANDFIRE's Biophysical Settings data set is a national-level potential veg data set that is refreshed regularly.

Hatchery release locations

It was noted that these are still needed and that the spatial component of ODFW's database is the weakest part of the data. Don Pettit noted that DEQ and other also need the actual hatchery locations. Tanya Haddad mentioned that the DCLD Coastal program has the hatchery locations and locations of shellfish aquaculture sites.

Next actions:

1. clarify the data element name and description to ensure that its content is accurately represented.
2. Address the need for hatchery locations.

Marine species habitat distributions

Group felt that it makes sense to keep this element in BioFIT. SeaMex (CMECS?) was mentioned because it contains some relevant data that would fit into this data element. For example, SeaMex habitat data includes clam and eelgrass habitats, but it is oriented toward habitat-forming species. "Fish" wouldn't work well in SeaMex, however, fishery landings are tracked, and it has some very good habitat pieces related to oceanfloor habitats and fisheries distributions.

Proposal: refine and split this element - potentially fish and other critters and habitat.

Next actions:

1. establish subgroup to address the proposal and set a timeline
2. Subgroup to flesh out refinement of "marine species habitat distributions" data element and include discussion of shore zone data.
3. Dave to propose attributes that need to be completed and would be most valuable to the BioFIT.

Riparian areas

INR is working on this with DEQ and ODA. Modeled riparian areas, but not habitat.

Seed zones

Status is unknown. An old note states to ask Emmor or Diana about this.

Next action: Jimmy will follow up with ODF for status.

Terrestrial species/distribution

This is a data element about plants/non-vertebrate distributions maintained by INR and USFS.

Next action: refine name to better reflect content

Wetlands: Local wetland (LWI) and national wetland inventory (NWI)

LWI is developed by local authorities with DSL. INR imported these features to the LWI data element, but is incomplete. DSL is interested in a completed LWI map for the state and is working with INR to accomplish this by the end of 2017.

NWI is a USFWS product that is 5-10 years old. USFWS is incorporating LWI features into the NWI.

Wildlife habitat distributions

The data element name is unclear. Access to this data could be improved, and a suggestion was made that GEO may have a role to play in improving accessing this data. Stewardship work needed. Critical species and critical habitat are not captured in the BioFIT theme in any way at present.

Decisions:

1. Threatened and endangered species to be added as a Framework data element in the Bioscience theme.
2. Critical habitat to be added to BioFIT

Next actions:

1. Wildlife habitat distribution to be renamed; suggestion to change "vertebrate habitat distribution" and to discuss how to integrate or make distinct from marine habitat data element
2. Jimmy to convene a group to describe and name a T&E and critical habitat data element(s), as well as describe connections to other FITs in relation to this new data element(s). He will work with ODFW, Tanya H, Dave F, Don P, and other interested people.

Categorize Existing Data Elements

Oregon Framework is ramping up for its next funding cycle. All of the FITs have been involved in identifying the most fundamental data elements of Oregon's framework, known as the foundational data elements, to create focus for a portion of the available funding. Foundational data elements are those elements that serve as the references or basis for the majority of Framework data elements. To help uncover the foundational data elements, all Framework data elements are being categorized based on their lineage. Lower tiers reference geodetic control and PLSS data. Higher tiers reference data that was not directly tied to geodetic control and PLSS data.

Next action: Members should review and approve/reject the current tiers for BioFIT data elements in the [Framework data element spreadsheet](#). An overview is available in the [Foundational data elements slides](#). A detailed description of the tiers is available in the white paper "[Identifying Foundational Data Elements for Oregon's GIS Framework](#)". All of these are available on the GEO webpage (<http://www.oregon.gov/geo/Pages/fit.aspx>). **Please send your approvals to Jimmy by Feb. 20**