

## **Oregon Geoscience Workgroup**

### Minutes of November 13, 2003 meeting

**Attendees:**

Courtney Cloyd, USFS    Doug Terra, OWEB    Margi Jenks, DOGAMI    Paul Staub, DOGAMI  
Ron Geitgey, DOGAMI

The focus of this meeting was to further review details of the Geologic Data Model, and to hear progress in its application in a pilot project at DOGAMI. The northeast Oregon pilot is compiling uniform geologic data for twelve 100k quadrangles.

Examples of the spatial data development were provided. Over 100 source maps of the pilot area's geology have been scanned and are being processed to develop vector data. The map images are first georeferenced and projected into the Oregon Lambert state projection. Next, each map is converted through one of three vectorizing methods – depending on characteristics of the map. Vectors are organized into attributed polygon, line, and point files, developed at the scale of each original reference map. The intention here is to remain as honest as possible to the original mapping.

The geologic database tables were reviewed and discussed extensively. Margi explained the process she follows to distill content from the geologic map unit explanations into the database entries. She distributed a list of 'Rules for filling in geologic data tables'. Main points of discussion included:

- A suggestion was made to elaborate on the thinking behind designations of no data (nd) versus not applicable (na). Wording will be added to the Rules list
- Regarding Geologic Map Unit Character table, a field name change from Related landform/Geomorphology to Paleogeomorphology was agreed to.
- Concern was expressed with the plan to provide five mineral describer fields. This info is to be searchable, not sortable. A suggestion was made to just use a text string and this may benefit from 'verticalizing' a number of the geologic database tables (currently under consideration by database consultant to the Geologic Data Model)
- Regarding Map Subunit Name field in Litho Texture table - suggestion to define use of 'unspecified' which is used in a number of entries. Wording will be added to Rules list.
- The concept of data validation testing was raised to ensure consistency in populating the geologic data tables - both for new mapping and bringing older mapping into the Model. This is a concern due to the interpretive nature and 'art' of geologic mapping. Presently, this is being tested internally at DOGAMI and will come up again later, in the OGIC data testing process prior to adoption of a statewide Geologic Map Data Standard.
- Documentation is needed regarding the Compilation Map Unit decision process. This will allow users to understand the thinking leading to decisions about final compilation map units, and likely will be in the form of a memo field.

The northeastern Oregon pilot project is now in an intensive data development and loading phase. The next meeting will occur when enough data has been entered to allow testing the functionality of the Model, likely in Spring, 2004.

The next meeting of the Geoscience workgroup will concern the Soils data layer. A meeting is being planned to address soil data issues related to land use and land assessment. Representatives from the Oregon Dept. of Revenue, private consultants, and the Natural Resource Conservation Service will present the issues. The meeting is being planned for February 2004.