

State Librarian's Report
July 17, 2009 through September 20, 2009
Prepared for October 7, 2009 Commission Meeting
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As you will see from the Manager reports, we have been very busy and we have accomplished many activities, tasks and services under all five of our goals. I would like to focus my report this time on our advisory groups.

The State Librarian and/or Commission have established two ongoing advisory Councils:

The first group is the Network Advisory Council (NAC) composed of fourteen members representing various library stakeholder groups from around the state. I have attached a list of the current membership. The NAC was originally established many years ago as the Networking Task Force. This advisory body provides direction for the Montana State Library, and advice to the State Librarian and Commission on all things related to library cooperation, resource sharing, online content and services, and library access, content and programming. It has since been decided that the Council's important advice and efforts meet an ongoing need and thus it was made an ongoing Advisory Council rather than a limited time/subject only task force. We greatly appreciate the time and effort that the NAC members put into studying the various issues brought before them. For more detailed information on the NAC see the Website at: http://msl.mt.gov/About_MSL/network_advisory_council/network_tf.asp

The second ongoing advisory group for the State Librarian and Commission is the Natural Resource Information System or NRIS Advisory Committee. There are currently nine members of the NRIS Advisory Committee. This Committee is established by statute MCA 2-15-1514 to provide advice and recommendations related to the natural resource information or data systems as noted in MCA 90-15-201. For more detailed information on the NRIS Advisory Committee see the Website: http://msl.mt.gov/About_MSL/NRIS_Advisory_Committee/default.asp

We are very grateful for the work and advice that the NRIS Advisory Committee brings to our attention.

In addition to the above ongoing advisory groups, we do appoint for limited terms special work groups, task forces, or advisory committees to help us with specific topics that need the benefit of a statewide advisory group rather than just state library staff input. Such groups as the Certification Update Focus Group, the Fulfillment Task Force, the PEEL Scholarship Committee, SWIM Advisory Committee, etc. have all been appointed and brought together as we need them to help us move forward with statewide input on statewide library services and resources issues.

I thank all those members of the Library Community who have said “yes” to serving on one or more of these critical advisory groups.

In addition to the two membership lists attached to this report, you will also find a copy of the acronyms list recently added to the website and the most recent revision of the Montana State Library's Fall report that we share with the federations and other meetings throughout the state this Fall.