

Montana State Digital Library October 2006 – November 2006

Report for Library and Information Services (Kammerer, Klauss, Madison, Smith, Stapp, and Stockwell – compiled by Kammerer), Natural Resource Information System (Govan, Daumiller, Lund, Metcalfe, Ratz, Donnafield, and Nehring – compiled by Govan), and Natural Heritage Program (University of Montana contract - compiled by Crispin)

Goal One, Content: *MSL acquires and manages relevant quality content that meets the needs of Montana library partners and patrons.*

- LIS continues to ingest into the digital archive a backlog of Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology Open file reports.
- LIS reviewed and renewed the EBSCO fall subscriptions for print and online periodicals.
- NRIS is updating web content and maps with information about the 2007 State Legislature. Legislative Services, the Secretary of State and the Montana Arts Councils link to this content so that website visitors can easily find the names and addresses of their legislators. NRIS is also updating the Legislative District Highlights publications that will be provided to each legislator.
- NRIS is awaiting the remainder of the new statewide color infrared (CIR) aerial imagery. These data products will be forwarded to MSL via the Department of Administration as soon as they are released from the quality assurance process at the USGS. Once they arrive, the CIR will be made available to the public.
- NHP staff have completed the annual update of the statewide Land Stewardship Map of public and conservation lands. This year, the map has been expanded from a single data layer (shapefile) to a GeoDatabase with four types of “feature classes” – ownership, easements, leases and managed areas. This relatively new file format provides an ideal way to more easily manage different types of designations while maintaining overall integration. We are still waiting on ITSD to align the geometry of the Cadastral (land ownership) database with the Stewardship database, to allow better integration of these two complementary datasets.
- NHP Zoologist Bryce Maxell worked with the Avian Science Center at the University of Montana to incorporate over 200,000 additional observation records from the Landbird Monitoring Program Database into the Montana Bird Distribution database, which is managed as part of the NHP data system; this data import process should be completed by the end of 2006.

Goal Two, Access: *MSL provides libraries, agencies, and its partners and patrons with convenient, high quality, and cost-effective access to library content and services.*

- Staff resumed the monthly hands-on computer-based presentations “Overview of Montana State digital Library Resources and Services for State Government Workers,” organized by Outreach Librarian, Julie Klauss. The event takes place at the Library in the Grizzly room and includes presentations on state government publications, using the catalog, finding digital reference materials, accessing electronic journals, NRIS and Natural Heritage Program offerings. On October 26, there were 19 attendees and on November 9 there were 12 attendees from the

Departments of Administration, Environmental Quality, Natural Resources and Conservation, Public Health and Human Services, Revenue, Transportation, and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks as well as the Public Service Commission. Evaluation responses are recorded for developing specialized training.

- On October 26 and November 9 the Outreach Librarian presented a library overview for the new state employee orientation in the Glacier Room at the Metcalf Building (DEQ). Attendees filled out library card applications. The new Director of the Montana State Historical Society attended the November orientation and added their agency to present at future orientations.
- The Library Systems Programmer/Analyst attended the Internet Librarian Conference 2006 at Monterey in October including the weekend sessions. He focused on access issues and reported on the conference in a blog available at <http://mslstatepubs.blogspot.com/>. He is currently using insight garnered at the conference to inform various LISD efforts.
- The Library Systems Programmer/Analyst worked with the Client Services Assistant to improve access to the Montana Core Collection. See the latest version at <http://msl.mt.gov/spc/core.asp>.
- The Library Systems Programmer/Analyst worked with the Government Information Specialist to redesign the Federal Documents page to make it more user friendly: <http://msl.mt.gov/spc/feds.asp>.
- Library Systems Programmer/Analyst working with the administrative assistant brought the shipping lists page up to date <http://msl.mt.gov/spc/publists.asp>. This is now a monthly task.
- NRIS participated in the Montana Education Association conference, sharing a booth with the Library Development Division. It was a good opportunity to demonstrate MSL information resources to the K-12 teaching community.
- NRIS participated in two Library Overview sessions held in October and November, presenting information resources available from NRIS and NHP.
- At an October NRIS seminar, Sibyl Govan demonstrated how patrons can view and download free LandSat images from the Montanaview.org archive hosted by MSL. Catherine Maynard, Ph.D. showed patrons how remote sensing data products such as LandSat are being applied in Montana.
- MSL hosted a successful GIS day for 63 fourth and fifth graders from Smith Elementary School. Tim Metcalfe, Gerry Daumiller, Karen Walker and Scott Blum gave exciting presentations about GIS and the Natural Heritage Program's Animal Field Guide that kept the kids' attention for over two hours. First lady Nancy Schweitzer stopped by to check out the action, as did a reporter from KTVH.
- Allan Cox of the NHP trained County Weed Coordinators in how to tap NHP web resources for information needed in planning weed control efforts and developing weed management grant proposals.

NRIS Web Statistics: **nris.mt.gov** averaged 3202 visitor sessions per day in October and 3670 visitor sessions per day in November. Currently, the five most requested pages are:

Montana Maps <http://nris.mt.gov/gis/gisdatilib/mtmaps.aspx>
Montana Geographic Information Clearinghouse <http://nris.mt.gov/gis/>
NRIS Home Page <http://nris.mt.gov/>
Montana Land Ownership Maps <http://nris.mt.gov/gis/ownmaps.asp>

Interactive Applications <http://nris.mt.gov/interactive.html>

OCLC Digital Archive Access Summary OCT – 06

Accessing	Inst	Inst Name	Location	Number of Object Access Requests	Number of Objects Accessed
MZB		MONTANA STATE LIBRARY	Montana	32	32
IOZ		STATE LIBR OF IOWA	Iowa	4	4
NPRKS		NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	California	3	3
DLC		LIBRARY OF CONGRESS	Dist. of Columbia	2	2
GIS		US GEOL SURVEY, NAT CTR	Virginia	2	2
WYZ		WYOMING STATE LIBR	Wyoming	2	2
CLU		UNIV OF CALIF, LOS ANGELES	California	1	1
EM2		MONTANA STATE UNIV, BILLINGS	Montana	1	1
LUU		LOUISIANA STATE UNIV	Louisiana	1	1
MZJ		MONTANA TECH LIBR	Montana	1	1
ORU		UNIV OF OREGON LIBR	Oregon	1	1
Public		N/A		96	96

Goal Three, Consultation and Leadership: *MSL provides consultation and leadership to enable its patrons and partners to reach their goals.*

- LIS staff toured 7 state depository libraries to listen to their experience of being a state depository library, to explain the proposed 2007 legislation to modernize the state publications statutes, to explain changes to the state publications distribution system in 2007, and to obtain feedback on the draft for new Administrative Rules of Montana pertaining to state publications. Most depositories understood and were open to the trend of digital only publications.
- The Outreach Librarian presented at the Montana Library Association's annual retreat for members of the Academic and Special Library Division and Public Library Division on October 15 at Chico Hot Springs, Montana. Her topics included useful web development tools, the basic contents for a library web site, and an introduction to RSS, blogs, wikis, and social bookmarking tools.
- The Library Systems Programmer/Analyst joined the Montana Library Association and was appointed Chairperson of the Technology/Internet Cafe Committee for the MLA Conference, April 25-28, 2007 by conference Chairpersons Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson and Judy Hart. Other committee members include our Outreach Librarian, Julie Klaus.
- Outreach Librarian appointed as Entertainment Chair for the 2007 MLA conference.
- Allan Cox (NHP) worked with the Dept. of Transportation GIS Coordinator to develop a pilot method for providing direct access to NHP species occurrence data, for use in project reviews. Staff are working on a use agreement to support full implementation.
- Allan Cox also met with Glenn Marx of the Montana Land Trust Alliance and Angus McIver of the Legislative Audit Division to provide consultation and information toward the final audit report on conservation easements.

- NHP Zoologist Bryce Maxell circulated a draft MOU on the Montana Bird Distribution database in preparation for an upcoming meeting among partners that will focus on database and website decisions, maintenance responsibilities and costs.
- Bryce Maxell also presented NHP information services and web resources to the Regional Information Management Board of the US Forest Service, encouraging increased cooperation and support for NHP services.
- NHP staff provided consultation to NatureServe and several other Heritage Programs regarding new approaches to database structure and data management.
- NHP Ecologist Greg Kudray conducted a one-day wetland information workshop and made a presentation on wetland change in Montana's large river valleys at the Montana chapter of the American Water Resources Association. Also attending the conference were Sybil Govan, Dave Stagliano and Linda Vance (who made a presentation on watershed assessment tools).
- Greg Kudray provided consultation to the Yellowstone Cumulative Effects Study technical advisory committee.
- NHP Botanist Scott Mincemoyer provided consultation to US Forest Service and BLM staff developing a conservation strategy for the Lemhi Penstemon.
- Scott also worked with the University of Montana staff on methods to develop spatial representations of Plant Species of Concern locations based on herbarium records.

Goal Four, Collaboration: *MSL promotes partnerships and encourages collaboration among its partners and patrons so that their information needs can be met.*

- LIS staff participated in biweekly online teleconferences with other participants in the Content Cooperative Project.
- LIS staff met with the Montana State Historical Society staff to discuss program changes affecting state publications.
- LIS staff met with Department of Natural Resources and Conservation staff to discuss concerns about their library resources and information related to the Montana State Agency Library Resources brochure.
- NRIS actively participated in the Land Information Plan and Framework Stewardship subcommittees of the Montana Land Information Advisory Council. NHP Ecologist Greg Kudray also chaired a meeting of the Land Cover I-Team and, with Ecologist Linda Vance, participated in a meeting of the Wetland Theme I-Team.
- NRIS participated in meetings of the Montana Ground Water Steering Committee, the Information Technology Managers Council, The Information Technology Board, Montana's Spatial Data Infrastructure Stewards and the MontanaView Consortium.
- NRIS led a meeting of the National Hydrography Dataset Working Group and attended a meeting of the Wetlands Theme Working Group.
- NHP Zoologist Bryce Maxell participated in a 2-day coordination meeting with MFWP staff focused on non-game species, the State Wildlife Grants program, database coordination, and implementation of the Comprehensive Fish & Wildlife Conservation Strategy. Bryce has also drafted an MOU on data exchange and database management with MFWP.

Goal Five, Sustainable Success: *MSL is a well-run organization and a sought-after employer; it is efficient and effective (measured against partner and patron outcomes), and successfully engaged in its ongoing mission.*

- LIS hired a metadata/cataloging specialist. She is meeting with various staff to learn current practices and workflow for state publications.
- LIS put together a presentation for major state agencies calling for support for the proposed modernization of state library law.
- LIS staff requested and received detailed comments from known satisfied library users about their information needs.
- NRIS solicited input from selected partners and users on how they use/value our services (for the upcoming annual report); we were overwhelmed with the volume of respondents and praise for our services.