SAN DIEGO REGION GIS COORDINATORS' GROUP
MEETING MINUTES
October 11, 2000

## 1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

George Silva with the Sweetwater Authority welcomed the group to the fall quarterly meeting. We had a total of 25 attendees, including staff from the cities of Carlsbad, Chula Vista, Escondido, La Mesa, National City, Oceanside, San Marcos and the County of San Diego. Other agencies in attendance were San Diego County Water Authority, San Diego Unified Port District, Sweetwater Authority, SanGIS, SANDAG, Caltrans, and the Navy.

## 2.	GEONEWS

GIS Day
George Silva opened a discussion on GIS Day 2000. GIS Day is being held on November 15 and is a grassroots event that formalizes the practice of GIS users and vendors opening their doors to schools, businesses, and the general public to showcase real-world applications that use GIS. This year several of the local agencies will be focusing GIS day on educating their own staff about GIS. Some of the outreach efforts this year will be through online informational presentations and classroom visits. It was suggested that GIS Day press releases or activity announcements be posted on the San Diego URISA home page. Please email the webmaster at www.sandag.org/urisa with your information.

CGIA News
Fred Wong (San Diego County Water Authority) informed the group about California's efforts to move the major State agencies forward in their GIS capabilities and the role CGIA is taking to help the process. Fred also brought attention to some of the recent legislation that was signed into law by the Governor that affects GIS.

AB2799 – Public Records Disclosure Act: This legislation requires that any agency that has information that constitutes an identifiable public record (not otherwise exempt from disclosure) that is in an electronic format, to make that information available in an electronic format when requested by any person. It is recommended that each agency consult with their legal counsel about the implication of this Act.

AB1584 – Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection and Flood Protection Act: Among other things, this act will provide State grants for the development of data related to water resources.

AB2054 – Balance of Jobs and Housing Act: This bill contains another grant funding source from the State to help with GIS development, integration, and mapping that focuses on socio-economic and housing related data.

SANDAG Image Acquisition

Paul Hardwick (SANDAG) informed the group that all the imagery for the region has been acquired. Approximately two-thirds of the imagery has been scanned, half has been georeferenced and orthorectified, and the contractors are currently working on techniques to color balance the imagery. The final products will be digital, false color infrared, image mosaics with two foot resolution that will be in MrSID format. Due to large file sizes the region will be divided into sub-areas. The number and location of the sub-areas are undetermined at this time. Final products are expected in early 2001. Sue Carnevale (SANDAG) said that there is still time to become a partner, but she will need to start finalizing everything by November. If anyone is interested please contact either Paul Hardwick at pha@sandag.org or Sue Carnevale sca@sandag.org.

GIS for Local Agencies

John Hofmockel (SANDAG) gave a brief description of the Regional Information System dataset provided on CD to member agencies that have purchased a SanGIS license. John was looking for feedback on who was using the data, data content and format, and improvements that could be made. Only two representatives were present that had used the dataset. They gave favorable reviews of the data and made some suggestions on ways to improve the delivery format of the data. Future updates of the data will either come bundled with the SanGIS dataset or be available via the internet and ftp. In addition, the SANDAG Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program will be more involved in the distribution and providing assistance with the data. John would still like to receive more feedback so please contact him at jho@sandag.org.

3. ARCINFO 8 IMPLEMENTATION AND TRAINING

Steve Kunkel (SANDAG) queried the group as to who was using ArcInfo 8 Desktop, how it was going, and what training is needed. None of the cities or agencies had fully implemented the Desktop version but five or six are currently experimenting with the product. Most have been using the ArcMap module to create map products and like the tools available in ArcCatalog. Some of the comments made included the following.

- The Desktop version is designed to work more efficiently with geodatabases instead of coverages, which makes coverage access very slow
- Editing of coverages is slow, buggy and caution should be taken when attempting this
- Doing a Build of coverages with lines that cross but do not intersect causes intersections to be created
- Need a powerful PC to run the software
- Difficulties in producing map series with ArcMap
- ArcCatalog metadata solution is very good

Training

The people who attended the "What's New in Arc 8" training last June reported that it was a good informative class that provided an overview of the new tools available in Arc 8 Desktop. However, design of geodatabases and data conversion was not adequately covered. It was

suggested that an ESRI representative be invited to do a half-day presentation on the migration of existing GIS datasets to the new geodatabase model. In addition, George Silva will work on arranging another Arc 8 class to be held in January and possibly again in June 2001 at SDSU.

4.   REGIONAL GIS SURVEY UPDATE

Paul Hardwick presented the findings of regional GIS surveys that were conducted in 1995 and again in 1997. These surveys have helped to create an understanding of the nature of digital data maintained by public agencies in the region, to identify the capabilities and knowledge available at each of the agencies, and to provide information about sources of digital data available. The types of information that were collected in the past include the following.

- GIS status
- Software
- Database
- Hardware
- GIS data

- Reference system
- Coordinate system
- Precision
- Using parcel or lot data
- Digital orthophotography

SANDAG is going to conduct the survey again for the year 2000. The coordinators at the meeting were asked what other types of information should be collected that would be beneficial to them. Ideas that were suggested were internet mapping applications, other database links, programming languages used, software version, other applications tied to GIS layers such as permitting and document management systems, and suggested topics for upcoming meetings. The new survey will go out to the GIS Coordinators mailing list sometime in November or December. If you have any other suggestions for information that should be collected as part of this survey please send those to Paul Hardwick at pha@sandag.org by November 6, 2000.

5.   PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

SANDAG is currently in the process of updating their land use inventory. As part of that effort they will be updating public ownership as well as current and planned land use, including designated parks and open space. SANDAG wants to work with other interested agencies in developing this type of database to create an agreed upon comprehensive parks/open space coverage for the region.   Such a coverage could include attributes such as ownership, administration, facilities, and allowed uses.

Lisa Stapleton (SanGIS) and Lisa Lubeley (City of Escondido) pointed out that a document was put together a few years ago towards a similar effort that could be used as a basis for this current effort. Several people were interested in a coordinated effort. They included Lisa Lubeley, George Silva (Sweetwater Authority), Tom McDowell (City of Chula Vista), and Rob Winslow (County of San Diego). It was recommended to involve representatives from Federal agencies and non-profits such as The Nature Conservancy and the Anza Borrego Foundation. If you are interested in participating in this effort or providing information for the effort please

contact Paul Hardwick at pha@sandag.org by November 6, 2000. A scoping meeting will be scheduled for sometime in November to begin this project.

6.   WATERSHED AND STORM WATER RUNOFF MANAGEMENT

Rob Winslow (County of San Diego), Mike Binge (SD County Dept of Public Works), and Pam Villa Clay (SD County Dept of Environmental Health) talked about current and possible future projects concerning watershed management and storm water runoff. The County held a conference on October 18 to discuss watershed management issues and data needs. A Wetlands Recovery Project conference was held at Sea World on October 19, 2000 and October 20, 2000.

Some of the current projects being conducted include

- A wetland recovery pilot project in Carlsbad,
- A storm water management project using SIMS software (Stormwater Information Management System) to map infrastructure and help predict where problems may occur,
- A Caltrans effort being conducted with SANDAG to collect and map runoff and outfall information for the major highways.

Rob pointed out that watershed and storm water management are becoming major topics in the region and that the County is considering putting together a watershed management data set that will include several GIS databases. Rob can make a draft list available to those that are interested. Please contact him at rwinslpl@co.san-diego.ca.us.

7.   MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

- SanGIS CD updates were mailed at the beginning of October to members with a SanGIS license

- New data sets will soon become available from SanGIS. These include,
    – Road right of ways and road centerlines
    – Water facilities, sewers, and storm drains for the City of San Diego
    – High resolution black and white orthophotography in MrSID format.

- SanGIS will have their self-service data site available this month. The site will be set up with a shopping cart that you can use to purchase data straight off the web. The data will be split into 8 different data groups and distributed in ArcView shape file format. Check it out!

- The County Assessors Office is adding building permits to their database. In order to populate the database, the Assessors Office is willing to trade their Master Property Record data for your jurisdictions building permit information. If this is of interest, please contact Sandy Woodhouse at (619) 531-5232.

Attachment

Attendees at October 11, 2000 San Diego Region GIS Coordinators Group meeting:

Name	Agency	Phone
Barbra Kent	Caltrans/SANDAG	619-595-5609
Karl Von Schlieder	City of Carlsbad	760-608-2434
Tom McDowell	City of Chula Vista	619-476-5339
Lisa Lubeley	City of Escondido	760-839-4033
Kathy Feilen	City of La Mesa	619-667-1144
Michael Long	City of National City	619-336-4386
Lisa Luers	City of Oceanside	760-966-4563
Talli Carey	City of Oceanside	760-966-4864
Kathlyne Barnum	City of San Marcos	760-744-1050
Rob Winslow	County of San Diego	858-694-3295
Bob Canepa	Couty of San Diego	858-694-2826
Paul Hardwick	SANDAG	619-595-5319
Steve Kunkel	SANDAG	619-595-5318
Kim Mathis	SANDAG	619-595-5351
John Hofmockel	SANDAG	619-595-5386
Lisa Stapleton	SanGIS	619-702-0404
Sandy Woodhouse	SD County Assessor	619-531-5232
Michael Binge	SD County DPW	858-495-5775
Pam Villa Clay	SD County Environmental Health	858-694-3583
Fred Wong	SD County Water Authority	619-683-8665
Malcolm Meikle	SDUPD	619-686-6590
Garret Hollarn	SDUPD-Airport Noise	619-686-8112
Lisa Carman	SW Div Navy	619-532-3504
Vivian Sanchez	SW Div Navy	619-532-1168
George Silva	Sweetwater Water Authority	619-420-1413