



INFORMATION RESOURCES FROM THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Government Printing Office

Thursday, July 29, 2010

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

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Overview

- The model for publishing scientific research is changing in every arena
- Government agencies are behind commercial publishing in embracing changes to models of information dissemination
- The USGS is committed to disseminating the products of its scientific research
- There are challenges facing both the producers of products and those that would collect and/or share the information



Literature

- The USGS continues to publish in official numbered series including:
 - Professional Papers
 - Open File Reports
 - Investigation Reports
 - Geologic Quadrangle Maps, etc.
- USGS staff also continue to publish in peer-reviewed journals in order to broadly disseminate the results of their research



Literature - Reports

- All USGS Series reports are required to be published in a digital format
- Digital publications are required to be posted in a shared Web space and listed in the USGS Publications Warehouse
- Previously digitized publications (in DJVU format) are being converted into a standard PDF format
- In 2010, all digital publications will be receiving a Handle for persistent linking



Literature - Articles

- In a pilot project, the Publications Warehouse has created a new series of records for articles authored by Biological Resources Division (BRD) staff
- This was initiated in order to more accurately reflect the contributions of BRD to science
- The goal will be to provide a more comprehensive view of the literature authored by USGS staff
- The application of this new service will include:
 - ▣ Dynamic bibliographies on Project Web sites
 - ▣ Author profiles with more complete citations of their contributions
- Ultimately, the USGS Publications Warehouse will provide extensive access to the literature authored by USGS staff in all disciplines



Maps

- The USGS continues to produce maps that express scientific analysis and interpretation as well as base data for the presentation of science
- Mapping and Geographic Information Services (GIS) are converging to produce better information in a more timely manner
- The USGS is working to identify approaches to disseminating map information, current, historical, and future



Maps - Topographic

- The National Map program began producing new digital topographic maps in 2009
- These new products integrate aerial photography with current map layer data from the National Map
- In 2010, they will add elevation and hydrology to the layers available
- As part of this effort, all prior topographic maps (all scales, all editions) are being digitized
- Future goals are to integrate historical maps with current data for analysis
- New topographic maps are not being printed by the USGS but they are available as print-on-demand



Maps - Thematic

- USGS research programs continue to produce thematic maps when appropriate for the presentation of their research
- Their decision to print is one based on their own goals and financial capability
- Programs like the National Geologic Map Database continue to actively pursue digitization of historical thematic maps
- Thematic maps are also being provided as data, shape files, and Web Services for use in other scientific research and education efforts



Imagery

- The Landsat imagery is now free and every effort is being made to offer new imagery online for free in the future
- Some fee-based services are still available for acquiring enhanced resolution or other special requests
- The EROS Data Center is changing its business model to offer free access to digital imagery
- EROS is now an authorized repository for the National Archives, ensuring long-term stewardship of this information at the USGS



Photography

- There are three primary resources for photography on the USGS Web site:
 - NBII Life (Library of Images from the Environment)
 - <http://life.nbii.gov/>
 - USGS Multimedia Gallery
 - <http://gallery.usgs.gov/>
 - USGS Photographic Library
 - <http://libraryphoto.cr.usgs.gov/>



Audio, Video, and Social Media

- USGS is producing Audio and Video Podcasts on a regular basis:
 - <http://www.usgs.gov/corecast/>
- There is a collection of USGS videos as well:
 - http://education.usgs.gov/common/video_animation.htm
- USGS is using Facebook, Twitter, and other social media outlets to communicate:
 - <http://www.usgs.gov/socialmedia/>



Data and Data Systems

- The USGS maintains a number of important data sets for access and use by the public:
 - National Water Information System (NWIS)
 - Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)
 - Mineral Resources Data System (MRData)
- The USGS is including these data sets in the new federal government portal:
 - <http://www.data.gov/>
- USGS is investigating strategies for archiving data sets - large and small - for ongoing availability in the future
- The USGS Library is participating in these investigations and is a partner in the NSF-funded DataOne Project



USGS Library Resources

- The Publications Warehouse is now programmatically aligned with the USGS Library
- The USGS Library is piloting repository services as one solution for managing digital assets effectively
- The potential exists to also digitize some collections held in the USGS Library
- The USGS Library is now considering “curation” of digital assets to be part of its core mission
- Managing the metadata for all of these different digital assets is a common challenge: and one libraries are poised to address



USGS Library Resources (continued)

- The USGS Library continues to manage an exchange program with national research bodies world-wide
- The products acquired through exchange continue to be valuable additions to the collections of the USGS Library
- The USGS Library subscribes to over 1,000 research journals in the earth and natural sciences - primarily online
- Managing access to online resources is a growing challenge for the USGS Library staff



Conclusion

- As the publishing models change, the process of providing access to literature will have to change as well
- USGS is trying to navigate these challenges in ways that can support access to the literature for discovery, citation, and long-term access
- The USGS Library wants to be the connection between libraries and the Bureau



Contacts and Links

- USGS Publications Warehouse
 - <http://pubs.usgs.gov/>
- USGS Topographic Maps
 - <http://www.thenationalmap.gov/>
- EROS LandSat Imagery
 - <http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>
- USGS Social Media page:
 - <http://www.usgs.gov/socialmedia/>
- Richard Huffine,
USGS National Library Coordinator
 - <http://library.usgs.gov/>
 - 703-648-7182,
rhuffine@usgs.gov
- NBII Life (Library of Images from the Environment)
 - <http://life.nbii.gov/>
- USGS Multimedia Gallery
 - <http://gallery.usgs.gov/>
- USGS Photographic Library
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