



INFORMATION RESOURCES FROM THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



2012 Interagency Depository Seminar
Thursday, August 2, 2012

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
- 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
 - Scientific Investigation Reports
- 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 have been converted into a standard PDF format
- Digitization of older reports is continuing as resources are available



Literature - Articles

- The USGS Publications Warehouse now includes citation records for articles authored by USGS staff
- The goal is to provide a more comprehensive view of the literature authored by USGS staff
- The USGS Publications Warehouse services include:
 - RSS Feeds for keeping users informed of new content
 - Web Services allowing integration of USGS content into other services
- Ultimately, the USGS Publications Warehouse will provide extensive access to the literature authored by USGS staff



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
- As part of this effort, almost all historical topographic maps (all scales, all editions) have been digitized – over 180,000 maps to date!
- Future goals include integrating 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 free and available on-line
- Some fee-based services are still available for acquiring enhanced resolution or other special requests
- The EROS Data Center is now an authorized repository for the National Archives, ensuring long-term stewardship of this information at the USGS



Photography

- There are two primary resources for photography on the USGS Web site:
 - 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 :
 - <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:
 - <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 a federal government data 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 USGS Library was realigned within the USGS in 2010
- The Libraries Program is now part of the Core Science Systems Mission Area along with:
 - National Geospatial Program (the National Map)
 - Cooperative Geologic Mapping
 - Geologic and Geophysical Data Preservation
 - Core Science Analytics and Synthesis
 - Geological and Geophysical Data Preservation
- The USGS Library Director has direct management responsibilities for library planning, funding, and operations



USGS Library Resources (continued)

- USGS Libraries are now digitizing public domain literature for the Internet Archive and Biodiversity Heritage Library projects
- The Publications Warehouse is operated by the Libraries Program
- Creating and managing metadata for all of these different information resources is a common challenge: and one libraries are poised to address



USGS Library Resources (continued)

- The USGS Library subscribes to over 700 research journals in the earth and natural sciences - primarily as online resources
 - On-site research is supported in the branch libraries:
 - Reston, VA; Denver, CO; and Menlo Park, CA; Flagstaff, AZ; Lafayette, LA
 - There are some library services available in USGS Science Centers around the U.S. that meet the needs of the researchers in those centers
 - Access to many of the licensed resources available to USGS staff are also available to on-site visitors
- 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 Libraries Program 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/>
- Historical Topographic Maps
 - <http://nationalmap.gov/historical/index.html>
- EROS LandSat Imagery
 - <http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>
- USGS Social Media page:
 - <http://www.usgs.gov/socialmedia/>
- Richard Huffine, USGS Library Director
 - <http://library.usgs.gov/>
 - 703-648-7182, rhuffine@usgs.gov
- USGS Multimedia Gallery
 - <http://gallery.usgs.gov/>
- USGS Photographic Library
 - <http://libraryphoto.cr.usgs.gov/>
- Audio and Video Podcasts
 - <http://www.usgs.gov/corecast/>
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