

National Collection Strategic Plan and the National Collection Service Areas – Transcript of audio

Welcome back, everyone. This session is a national collection strategic plan and national collection service areas. Please remember to check your question, commented the chat box, lower right-hand corner of your screen. We will monitor the chat box, capture the questions then when the present as I finish, we will relate questions to them. I would now like to turn the call over to Cindy Etkin, to get us started.

Thank you, Kelly. Welcome, everyone, to this afternoon's first session, depository library Council meeting. This is the national collection strategic plan and the national collection service areas. We have heard a lot about the national collection strategic plan in the last few weeks, we have gotten comments back. We don't want to spend a whole lot of time on each of the individual part of the strategic plan. We want to look at those that particularly deal with the national collection, let you know about what we heard from your comments, how the plan has changed that we do want to focus on the national collection service areas, by the time a turnaround, start talking about something, no matter what it is, tactically everything the national collection service areas into the conversation, so we wanted to talk with you about that. Kate will be coming on later to talk about that area, in just a bit. We will go ahead and get started. Can everyone hear me okay? Let me get going. So this is what the record will look like for the request for comments that we did for the national collection strategic plan. This is the history of when it was opened, when it was closed. The comments received, the final plan that was issued as a result of reviewing the comments and making any changes. All of those links are hyperlinks, they will take you to those parts of the record that you want to look at. We hope that you will be particularly interested in looking at the revised plan, because we did make some changes as a result of some of the comments that we received. The strategic plan focuses on building and curating the national collection. Ensuring the public right to a free, equitable, convenient access to the past, present public government information resources and our depository collection and online resources. Additionally, we are looking at focusing on ways that we can transform our library services and content management organization to better meet the needs of a digital first environment, are merely digital content that is at risk, most at risk, of the content that is available to us. We want to have a service organization that will handle primarily digital content and services. So we have share the long-term goals with you before. Excuse me. Those will be goals that will take 10 years or perhaps longer to achieve. Depending on how the organization changes. You will see that we do have the opportunity to add additional types of positions into the organization. If we can do that, become more digital first, then maybe we could speed up the timeline on some of these things, but we are looking at the catalog the government publications being a comprehensive, federal index to public information. We are looking at the potential of the CGP being a union catalog for Federal depository holdings. We are looking at tangible holdings in federal depository library, having digital versions accessible through the CGP. Where looking at digital components of the national collection not held by GPO partners, being accessible through government info. The preserve national collection will fulfill government obligation for permanent, public access to its information. So nothing there has changed with the long-term goals. Just recognize that it may become [Inaudible static] faster achieved, prior to 10 years, perhaps. Organizational goals, as well as national collection boasts in the plan. The organization goals have six objectives while the national collection goals have 25 object lives. These are, again, something that will take place over the next five years. Some of them will be at the beginning of the calendar scale. Others will be later, later in the five year cycle. For those of you who were with us last week for the library services management preconference, you heard Laurie Hall iterate some of the goals for FY23. Those aren't the only thing that we will be working on. Like I said, there are a list of 25 objectives for the national collection. Six objectives for organizational goals.

They are not all going to be happening at the same time, but we will be having more than what Lori reported on, be worked on. The one set Lori reported on, we will be reporting upscale, the channel to GPO administration, those are the ones that we will be tracking for those purposes. Others we have already started working on, will continue to work on. Others will come into the different timeframe as we continue to work on the national plan. So we had six submissions that were received during the 30 day comment period. The response identify themselves as two regional depository coordinators. Two coordinators from selected depository libraries. One from an association/organization. And one from a public library staff member from a non-depository library. Quarter were from academic journal entries, two from public libraries. Again, one was a non-depository library. Week that not many comments, but we got some interesting ones. Given the demographics of those who completed the comments. When they filled out this particular sentence, I, blank, the national strategic plan, Potter like to, two are neutral, the two who were neutral were from regional depository coordinators at academic general libraries. Four liked the plan. Added three objectives to the plan based on comments. The first one increase the findability of congressional oversight resources in the CGP and government info. This came actually from the comments from the GPO strategic plan. Director Helprin had members of the different business units look at what came back and anything that related to any of the goals and the business unit plan, plans, had to make sure that what was being suggested for the GPO program plan, be worked into our business unit plan. So this is one area where we found, yeah, we are looking about increasing findability in material, so there was this suggested that we increase the findability of congressional oversight resources in the CGP and government info so we did at that objective. The second objective we added the italics portion. We already had that we were going to investigate new options for delivery of metadata, videographic records. It was also suggested that we develop flexible and custom metadata, which is more useful for discovering access so we added that to that existing objective. The third one is to develop a strategic plan and service framework for the national collection service agreements. This is something we were thinking about doing, but it was outright mentioned as a comment that they would like to see a strategic plan for the framework. Of the service areas. We thought that is a good ADF. Every time, again, like I said, you talk about something and enter into the conversation of the national collection service areas, how they might be used to be a framework for particular services, again, Kate will talk more about that, but that was an objective that was added as a result of comments received on the national collection plan. We saw these goals from Laurie, again the LSCM goals for FY2023. They are not all of them. They are the ones we are going to report on. The library technical services, projects and systems, objectives that we were looking at. There is going to be some overlap, because of responsibilities at the different areas, where you have a library technical services working on the integrated library system. Already a pilot project, looking at GitHub, outreach to agencies. You will find some of that also happening and projects and system based responsibilities of that area and managing the contracts and managing the systems. So again, a little bit of overlap there. For federal depository support services, area priorities that will be looked at, what we will focus on today, regional service models. In addition to the national collection strategic plan, there are also a couple of policies that we had suggested some revisions on. They were out for comment we released the strategic plan, the comment period has since closed both of these documents. A revision to the regional libraries been able to select solely the online version of something without having to select a tangible corresponding item. Also, the ability for regionals to discard materials from their collection now, these have been revised in such a way that they allow for national collection service areas to be the geographic region, excuse me, rather than waiting for four, preservation stories, one for each of the national collection service areas. We thought the approval from the General Counsel to say, okay, we don't have to have all four areas covered at one time before we can allow regionals to discard. Our threshold that was given to us by the joint committee on printing says that we can have no fewer than four tangible copies throughout the library network that are geographically dispersed. They are the ones that set the four geographic areas.

So we had implemented this before, but we had to wait, allow us to have four preservation stores, one in each of the geographic areas before libraries could discard. And became clear as we look more closely at these national collection service areas, that we would still have no fewer than four, if we let one service area allow for discard, as long as it had, excuse me, a preservation Stewart. We did not have to wait for four. We could [Inaudible static] work on their own. If they decided to collaborate in such a manner, go ahead and let them do that. So that is what went out for comment. We received a very small number of comments on both of these policies. I talked with our new Superintendent of documents, and Scott has indicated that we did not receive anything that should prohibit us from going ahead and making those changes. So next week after the depository library Council meeting is over, we will be readying those two policies for signature that allow for collection management decisions to be made, based on a given national collection service area. So this is something that Cates group, federal depository group, support services has looked at now as we look through the collection management issues within those geographic areas. This will be or both of these policies, regional discard, for allowing regionals to select solely online version of something well without having to select the tangible once. We are working on the standard operating procedures, writing those up. They will be available in the not too distant future. With that, I will let Kate focus more on the national collection service areas themselves. The thoughts that she and her folks in federal depository support services have about how we could provide service in these areas of geographic areas. Kate, I will give you the ball. Kate? We cannot hear you, if you're speaking. You might be muted.

I am sorry. Icon through me. Good afternoon, everyone. Kate Pitcher, federal depository services. I will be talking today in my part of presentation on national collection service areas. Here is an online of what I will be talking about, covering in today's portion. I will be talking about the definition and goals, looking at some maps. Introducing the webpages, that are now on fdlp.gov for the NCSA is, talk about the quarterly meetings for the regional sediment occurring throughout the year and going to a little more detail about the regional servicing model that we are looking at for supporting the depository libraries in the NCSA. National collection service areas, definition, they group federal depository libraries into four regions as a means of ensuring geographically dispersed permanent, public access to the federal government information products, sharing resources amongst the depository libraries, receiving services from GPO library services and content management. Where did the NCSA come from? In 2015, SMB mentioned early, the joint committee on printing specified that no fewer than four tangible copies needed to be geographically dispersed. Inside the FDLP. There is a threefold purpose here to this. One is to ensure geographic dispersal collections and access to collections. Effectively sharing resources at a wider level than just within regions or states. Then also as a means of effectively receiving services from GPO it at at each of the NCSA levels. So as a national collection service areas group these federal depository libraries what are some of the goals for this? Well, one and a partly, to improve opportunities for regional collecting and weeding flexibilities within regions and states within those NCSA areas. Ensure for adequate tangible copies for access. Localized services to the depository libraries and the Council NCSA areas. Also foster collaboration among the depository levers in the service areas. One important note I want to make is that GPO is going to work very closely with the regionals in the states to make sure collaborations work for the regionals and their operations. We recognize that one tangible copy her NCSA may not be feasible and want to ensure flexibility and options are open for regionals as they have local needs and uses and impact collection guarding philosophies, goals, policies. So many of you may have seen this when we were or had several meetings earlier in this calendar year 2022 on microfiche discontinuation, we rolled out the map of the national collection service area so again these are the four geographic areas. In the red is, pinkish area there is the Northeast national collection service area. In this NCSA, 259's electives, seven regionals that are within that geographic area. The Midwest, which is in the yellow, contains 294's electives, 12 regionals. The South, there in the Kelly blue, contains 344's electives, 17 regionals. The West, green, contains 214 selective, 10 regionals. So I invite

all of you to, at your leisure, after today's conference, to take a look at the new national collection service area webpages. I am going to take a moment here to copy and paste in the chat, the URL, to the webpages so everyone has it. You visit the webpages to find out more information about the directory, with axes or links to the directory, federal depository lobby directory of the's electives and regionals by their NCSA areas . There is also links to the titles that are eligible for regional online selections, per their NCSA . We also have links to the title eligible for regional discard. There are prior recordings of the national collection service area regional meetings that were held earlier this week in February. We have other helpful guidance articles or regional discards, selective housing agreement information, ships, preservation steward information to name a few of the handy articles that are available on that webpage or those series of webpages, rather. Each of the NCSA areas actually has its own webpage with information available for that particular geographic region. Now I will talk a little bit about the quarterly national collection service area meetings. These a been facilitated by LSCM and GPO, but really the purpose for these meetings is to provide and opportunity for the regionals and the NCSA to collaborate a potential collection development projects, or preservation steward, in partnership information, in the newly defined NCSAs . They were also, like are, we have them in February, April, July, October, a REGIL meeting at the conference. There are also opportunities for the libraries to get status updates, so the quarterly meeting that we have had so far have given status updates to the regionals on a fish, discontinuation, preservation steward agreements, print select agreements, information about regional copies held. Again, selected by LSCM staff, but the discussions are guided by regional depository needs. Are happy to convene the meetings, but really they are designed for the regionals to talk to each other. So I want it to share with those of you especially those who have not attended any of these quarterly meetings to give you some takeaways and some highlights from some of the quarterly meetings held this year. One of the takeaways for the audience is the information that has been shared with the group about LSCM active outreach and recruitment of preservation steward, partnerships. Our team at LSCM includes David Walls, Abby McDermott, Susanna Brandis, have met with the regionals to discuss the work that they been doing on identifying possible candidates in the different NCSAs during the spring, summer of this year . They have held numerous meetings with interested depositories who are interested in learning more about becoming preservation steward's. They have a lot more outreach plan for the upcoming fiscal year 2023. Information was shared with attendees on the process of updating the regional online selection policy. The information was shared to LSCM will continue outreach by two depositories to update selective housing agreements, note where regional copies are held within those NCSAs . To let me now pivot to talk a little bit about the national collection service areas and the service framework we are in the midst of developing. As you heard in Cindy's previous slides, the national collection strategic plan was released on September 1st, of this year. In my next few slides we will be talking, focusing on goal four, increasing services to federal depository libraries. Even more specifically and objective six, developing a strategic plan, service framework for the national collection service areas. So, on NCSA service framework , a lot of considerations to take into account here. Some of the think that I will be talking about for this next light include the impacts of initial collection service area framework on the FDLP. On the select is, national collection service area framework, has a potential to provide more targeted collect in federal information, to meet local needs as a result of greater emphasis and cooperative collection to moment and management in each region at NCSA. Redefined local, for federal information collections, strengthen the safety net for tangible materials across a wider area, reducing the need for just in case collecting, but again will depend on the local needs of libraries in each region and at the NCSA level. Again a service framework will assist selective depository fabric coordinators in the maintenance of the federal depository collections and the work that they do in those collections. For regional federal depository libraries, providing opportunities to facilitate management of federal depository collections in their regions. Increases the coordination of collections between reasonable depositories in their geographic service area. Enable more flexibility for regionals to lead,

deselect tangible formats. Some titles covered by the superintendent of documents authorization original online selection or regional discards. It also increases the potential for resource sharing to ease burden, the burning, of space planning as they microfiche is phased out and dissemination. The impacts for labor services and content management including more active role in managing the tangible punishment lecture materials across the FDLP. Localizing services to depository libraries and to the national collection service area including targeted reservation and training opportunities for the selective and regionals in the special collection service areas. Allows us to address safety net concerns for 19 public permanent access. Provides a framework, services for monitoring collection levels to ensure adequate number of copies to meet the joint committee on printing criteria developed. Also provides more flexibility for the authorization policies to alleviate space and processing pressure on regional depositories.

[Captioners transitioning] WE ARE WORKING -- what we are working on a new customer service model that deploys NCSA staff throughout the U.S. to better service for those customer libraries in the federal depository library program. What made this look like at a higher level more proactive outreach to regionals and select across the FDLP. Increased opportunities for training and consultation on site in the depositories. Increase collaboration with regionals to assist electives in their depository operations. During 2021 and 2022, we developed a model to better service that depositories. One possible model we are exploring right now is the placing of outreach library and user support library designated for each national collection service area to work with the regionals and selective in that national collection service area. This type of model -- one idea is to employ outreach and user support staff that would be working with designated libraries in those NCSAs. It may mean a remote employee working, for instance looking at the west, perhaps having someone who made work and reside in the Western geographic service area and would be contact and the outreach library working with that depositories in that area. Some of the services that may have been include visiting and consulting with depositories on a more frequent basis. Providing on-site or virtual training. Attending state and regional meetings on behalf of GPO. Additionally, working with LSCM back in Washington, D.C. to provide teams of expertise and support to come out to the national collection service areas to work with libraries in those areas whether it's preservation or collection management training and consultation. To begin in 2022, we began by hiring new user support libraries. We have four that were on board this year and who will be worked one and a national collection service area. We have two new supervisory librarians and are planning to add more outreach librarians to our team. This fall, we will develop strategic planning to serve the libraries. This planning includes the development of outreach and communication strategic plan. One outcome of this strategic planning is an outreach strategy into medication planning for working within those four NCSAs. Deciding on how we will assess the needs of regional selectors. Developing a communication plan. Developing and the capacity and building in the GPO staffing to support the four NCSAs and depositories that reside within those NCSAs and providing training and on-site consultation as appropriate, working with the regionals. Of course, limitation and rollout. In addition to this upper and communication strategic planning, develop FDLP Academy educational programming. One item that is in the plans for fiscal year 2023 is the hiring of an education specialist to develop curriculum and training courses for the FDLP Academy. Much of our long-term work will be to support the national collection strategic plan and the goals outlined as indicated in previous slides. It will mean more localized and proactive outreach and service to depository libraries as well as working with the superintendent of documents at LSCM in each of the NCSAs. More of the long-term goals will include collaborative collective development among libraries. More preservation opportunities and opportunities for shared training amongst regionals and the NCSA levels. That concludes our presentation. Thank you so much for your attendance today. Now we have more than enough time for questions from the audience. I think I will hand it over back to you Kelly.

We have one comment and question. I will go back towards the top. Some of these are just coming but I will call them out and give you a chance to react to that. Jenny says apologize for my colleagues in advance the changes to regional collection policies impact selective's. When I was a coordinator, I would not have made collection development decisions if I had known the decisions I did that regional could later discard items. Jane says this a special for regional discard is even lower that is extremely disappointing. A lot of folks concurring with that. My LAS students were surprised with the copies especially that they had just learned a number of depositories over the decades. Jenny says what happens with the federal government shutdown and online documents are not acceptable. Charlie says this will up and so many policies. James says having a single copy only in one regional is already a burden especially in Western states where the regional maybe [Indiscernible].

Kelly, let me jump in and say something about those comments about regionals. And discarding materials. There's nothing in the policy that makes regionals discard or makes regionals select only a digital version without a corresponding tangible version. Those are just options to provide more flexibility to those regionals that need it. This is not something we are forcing regionals to do. It is still their choice. We are providing options for flexibility that they may or may not choose to incorporate. There's a question related to that. What happens if a print copy is damaged, circulated and not returned?

They can get another copy from another existing tangible copy.

Amy says she's concerned for those depositories who serve underserved populations got issues with Internet, wireless connection. These are the same populations that cannot travel. Four copies is not nearly enough. Jenny says since first presented people have commented no more fewer than four is not enough. It comes up every time I see this topic presented.

Again, we are not making regionals do this. It's just an option should they want to take advantage of them. We are allowing this at the national collection service area so the area covered is actually smaller. We are building in as many catch all possibilities as we can and still allow regionals the flexibilities they may need. I don't see all 46 regionals going out and wanting to get rid of all their tangible material. That's not how it's turned out when they serve a it's. Again, it's just an option they may consider. And perhaps implement or not.

Jane is asking another activation. If a library is a partner for a particular title, will they still do I LL for that title?

Some may and some may not depending how many copies they have. There are some libraries that collect additional libraries so they can have copies circulating. Others don't.

There may be more copies within a title in a region but puts additional burden on the library for digitizing I LL document. There should be a process where the library can document a deposit that document into gov info.

We do have some library partners that do that. Right offhand, we see state does that. Washington does that. When they digitize for interlibrary loan they provide us a copy to gov info.

Do they digitize the tangible items?

Some do and some do not. Some don't have the facilities, the operations to do to isolation.

We had a common adding extra burden to preservation libraries may cause them to choose not to be a steward. Our library doesn't digitize tangible items. Jenny says what is regional if it isn't required to keep documents. If a selective sees another selective discard list, there's an assumption the regional will have all those documents listed. Jane says I would like to see regional get together and provide digital archives. Perhaps as part of their institutional depositories for those titles they decide to only select in digital format. There's agreement there but I'm not sure it will be possible for some regionals.

Regionals may choose to do that. We are collaboratively to ensure those types of precautions are taken. Always a possibility.

Chris says if a library does not have the ability to digitize preservation documents, is that something GPO can take on?

I will ask David to address that. I saw something he wrote in the chat earlier about that. David, if you would like to answer that, I would appreciate it.

David, I can enable your microphone. When I enable you it will unmute you.

Okay. Can you repeat it as it was asked again?

I am looking for it. Something about if the regional does not have the capability of digitization can GPO take it on? Those aren't the exact words but that's what I'm looking for in the chat.

Okay. That was my gist of it also. We do have collection development plans for dimensioning imaging that goes into a year or two into the future. In terms of taking it on, I would like to know about it and like as we like to expand digital imaging and build the budget for it. I think it's a good idea to know what's going on but I can't honestly say we can just take it on. I think it's all a question of size, resources and all those things that you can think of that have to be sort of planned first. Go ahead.

Is there a grant program that may take the digitization of the depository item?

Unfortunately not. We don't have grant authority to be able to get money to the libraries to digitally image content. Unfortunately, not. Janel says it may be helpful to share a link for the specific publications that are currently audible for regional discard and regional online only selection.

I put something in the chat. This is Kate. All those NCSAs webpages you have links to the geographic regions. For the West, Janel for the Western area, if you go to the West national collection service area webpage, it will link out to the titles eligible for both regional discard in the West as well as regional online selections.

Cindy and Kate, this is Lisa. May I ask a question for my own clarification?

Sure.

The pilot projects that have looked for specific content and gone into some libraries to digitize those collections, is that an example of while you can't give grant funding you can have some projects that may be target an area of known need for tangible publications. Could you tell me how those fit in with this broader discussion?

Good observation, Lisa. It's exactly why and how those pilot projects got started because we are not a granting authority but it was one way we could help. Not provide grant money to a library but work with a library in a library to achieve certain things. When you looked at for instance, pilot project one and part of the description wise from agencies that no longer exist or from the war years. I forget exactly how it was described. That does lend itself to those areas in which digitization was needed. Kind of steered towards projects we know were not done, or not applicant of. That's exactly why we started up those pilot projects.

Okay. Thank you. That's in my mind what I thought of. Perhaps it's a small way to address the issue. We do -- I know Jen from Utah will be speaking about one of those projects. So if attendees want to learn more how that worked at her library, I think I will put in a plug for that right now.

Thank you, Lisa for plugging that program. The connection for everyone in the audience. I appreciate that.

One thing I wanted to highlight. It's in the chat. It may get buried. Suzanne made a discussion that is important to point out. That's a preservation Stewarts who are tangible focus partnerships. If you are digitizing, you would want to consider become a digital content contributor which is a different type of partnership. One in which the preservation team could help you figure out which one will be better for your library.

This has been answered. This GPO have computing hardware to small libraries?

This is Lori Hall. That is a definite no. That's what grants do. We've never had that authority to do that. It was talked about in the past. Way past. We don't have authority to give specific hardware and other things to libraries.

James says maybe GPO could reach out and partner with IMLS to advocate for more gov info projects granted through IMLS grants.

This is Lori Hall again. We've had these conversations over the years. Write a change over in staff. We are continuing and maybe we can take up those conversations again.

Anyone else have a question that has not been addressed?

You see on the screen that Kate's email address is there. My email address is there. If you think of something later, feel free to reach out to either or both of us with questions you may come up with that we have not addressed here today. I see Tonya is running a little short. This has been an interesting session. We continue this discussion off-line.

I'm not seeing any additional questions come in and close to the end of our session. Kate and Cindy's contact information is on the screen. We will be back at 3:15 eastern for think like an archivist. Thank you, everyone.

Thanks, everyone for attending that session and asking good questions.

Thank you.