

16.2. MIRC-NPEM meeting agendas and minutes

16.2.1. Seattle Meeting agenda, August 14-15, 2006

Time	Event	Facilitator
Day 1		
09:00	Introductions; Overview of NPEM and Isite	B. Megrey, A. Macklin
09:45	MIRC's data overview and metadata needs	T. Suzuki
10:30	Walking tour of AFSC and PMEL	All
11:30	LUNCH	
13:00	FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata	K. Bahl
14:00	NSDI Clearinghouse Network overview	K. Bahl
15:00	Comment, discussion	All
Day 2		
09:00	Isite implementation overview	K. Bahl
11:30	LUNCH	
13:00	MIRC metadata and node development strategy	All
15:30	Preparation for October meeting	All

16.2.2. Seattle meeting minutes, August 14–15, 2006

Participants

Kimberly Bahl, UW/JISAO
Allen Macklin, NOAA/PMEL
Bernard Megrey, NOAA/AFSC
Toru Suzuki, MIRC

Introductions

Overview of NPEM and Isite. Bernard Megrey and Allen Macklin opened the meeting by introducing all participants and presenting a history and overview of the NPEM and PICES federation project. The overview was based on a presentation given at the annual PICES meeting in Vladivostok, October 2005. Two elements are needed for federation: metadata in a standard format and a common communication protocol. The PICES federation uses FGDC metadata standard and Z39.50 protocol.

Locating ongoing funding for NPEM and federation is a challenge

PICES has been very supportive but has limited resources. At present, NOAA funding is unlikely. We have been unsuccessful in attracting money

from international funding organizations. There is a possibility that NOWPAP can provide support for federation. Also, a new 3-year funding cycle at MIRC will start next year.

MIRC's Data Overview and Metadata Needs

Toru Suzuki informed participants of the hierarchical structure of MIRC, JODC, and Japan Hydrographic Association (JHA). He then discussed the varied types of data holdings available through JODC. JODC's data holdings are extremely valuable to scientists working in the North Pacific. They maintain data from several million stations dating back to the early 1800s. Although there is no formal metadatabase, metadata information are extensive in the form of header records, etc.

Walking Tour of AFSC and PMEL

Toru Suzuki was introduced to leadership at AFSC and PMEL and viewed essential laboratory spaces.

FGDC and NPEM Websites: Overview and Search Demo. Kimberly Bahl introduced FDGC and NPEM websites and provided a live metadata

search demonstration. Presently the NSDI Clearinghouse legacy search gateway fails to connect with the NPEM Clearinghouse node. The legacy search gateway is built with propriety software that is no longer maintained and supported by the vendor, Blue Angel Software. The legacy interface will eventually be replaced with GeoNetwork, a user-maintained and open-source solution with similar and enhanced capabilities compared to the legacy interface. The GeoNetwork gateway (beta version of the new search gateway that is in development) will be implemented in 6 months to a year. A demonstration of GeoNetwork (via a demonstration sever) provided successful search results. NPEM will work with NSDI to determine the cause of the legacy search gateway failure.

FGDC Metadata Content Standard

Kimberly Bahl, who received training from FGDC last spring, introduced the FGDC metadata content standard and its sections and elements. This gave Toru Suzuki the metadata rules to write FGDC-compliant metadata records from MIRC information.

Metadata Creation and Validation Tools

Kimberly Bahl demonstrated several open source metadata creation and validation tools, Metavist 2005 and Metadata Parser (MP). These tools allow easy creation of individual metadata records in XML file format (required for any clearinghouse node) and validation that they are FGDC compliant. Participants used Metavist and

MP to create and validate an XML metadata record from a JODC Cruise Summary Report. This completes the first requirement for federation: FGDC compliant metadata.

Isite Implementation

The second requirement for PICES federation is to supply a common communication protocol: Z39.50. Kimberly Bahl provided specific instructions of how to install and configure the Isite application that allows the use of Z39.50 protocol. The Isite software suite is a free, open-source application available from the FGDC website.

MIRC Metadata and Node Development Strategy

This year MIRC will request proposals for three-year projects to begin April 2007. Participants of this meeting will work with Toru Suzuki to develop a MIRC proposal to their funding agency, the Nippon Foundation. The proposal will provide support for ongoing MIRC participation in the PICES federation. A primary component will be development of a MIRC metadatabase. As soon as possible, MIRC will develop a demonstration site using Isite and the XML record created at this meeting. This will be a registered node of the PICES federation.

In addition we discussed the strategies for long term funding and progress reports on this project and overall PICES federation:

Priority	Task	NPEM	MIRC	Due Date
1	Develop proposal to Nippon Foundation to assist with metadata transcription and translation.	X	X	Sept. 30, 2006
1	Configure Isite server, register PICES-MIRC node with NSDI, test sample XML record.		X	Oct. 1, 2006
2	Prepare project meeting minutes.	X		Sept. 1, 2006
2	Check with NOWPAP office in Toyama to see if UNEP has a program that could help fund federation.		X	Sept. 1, 2006
2	Check NODC and CDMP as possible sources of support.	X		Sept. 1, 2006
3	Prepare project report for PICES TCODE	X	X	Sept. 1, 2006
3	Prepare article for PICES Press after Tokyo meeting.	X	X	April 1, 2007
4	Determine proper Japanese affiliation (MIRC/ JHA, JODC)		X	Oct. 1, 2006

Preparation for October meeting: Participants developed the following draft agenda for the next meeting to bring MIRC into the PICES federation. The meeting will be held on Thursday and Friday,

October 19 and 20, in Yokohama and Tokyo, respectively. The agenda will be finalized at the TCODE meeting on Wednesday, October 18.

16.2.3. Tokyo meeting agenda, October 19–20, 2006

Start	Event	Participants
Thursday, October 19, 2006 at Yokohama		
14:00	Review TCODE meeting	MIRC–NPEM–NOWPAP
14:30	Discussion of the MIRC–NPEM federation, including metadata mapping, node registration, <i>etc.</i>	MIRC–NPEM–NOWPAP
15:30	Review progress on tasks	MIRC–NPEM–NOWPAP
Friday, October 20, 2006 at Tokyo		
10:30	Walking tour of Tsukiji Fish Market	MIRC–NPEM–NOWPAP
11:00	Walking tour of JODC/JHOD	MIRC–NPEM–NOWPAP–JODC
12:00	LUNCH	
13:30	Introduction and Overview	MIRC–NPEM–NOWPAP
14:00	PICES-MIRC Metadatabase demo	MIRC–NPEM–NOWPAP
15:00	Comment, discussion	MIRC–NPEM–NOWPAP
16:00	Review tasks and draw up future plans	MIRC–NPEM–NOWPAP
18:00	Dinner in Tokyo (Tsukiji)	
20:00	Train to Yokohama	

16.2.4. Tokyo, meeting minutes, October 19–20, 2006

Participants

Norio Baba, NOWPAP RCU
 Kimberly Bahl, UW/JISAO
 Allen Macklin, NOAA/PMEL
 Bernard Megrey, NOAA/AFSC
 Toru Suzuki, MIRC/JHA

Participants reviewed TCODE meeting on October 18 and discussed with (1) promotion using metadatabase in NOWPAP DINRAC, (2) capacity building, (3) investigation utility of Asian-side metadatabase mirror server, and (4) review and revise a PICES TCODE technical report.

Toru Suzuki introduced that a PICES-MIRC metadatabase registered to NSDI clearinghouse and he reported that there were some problems for installation and configuration on the site. Participants discussed to resolve them.

Participants reviewed the progress on tasks described in Seattle meeting (see Sec. 15.2.2). Toru Suzuki promised to develop a proposal to Nippon Foundation on October 23. He also reported that Isite had been installed on MIRC's site and registered it as a node to NSDI clearinghouse named 'PICES–MIRC metadatabase' on October 18. Kimberly Bahl finished a meeting minutes of Seattle meeting on August 25. Participants discussed about relationship between PICES TCODE and NOWPAP DINRAC activities and new program for capacity building.

Toru Suzuki introduced a summary of MIRC and JODC activities. Allen Macklin asked about running cost of MIRC after termination support by Nippon Foundation and Toru Suzuki answered that MIRC profit from distribution of value adding data products and commission from Fisheries

Research Agency, National Institute for Environmental Studies and so on.

Toru Suzuki demonstrated to entry two sample metadata to PICES–MIRC metadatabase and pointed out some problems in searching results. Toru Suzuki also reported that Isite compiled from source package on Solaris machine successfully but searching results was not correct, nevertheless Linux binary package show the correct results using the same sample metadata. Participants discussed about them and Kimberly Bahl and Toru Suzuki decided to keep contact and ask to Isite support by email after this meeting. Toru Suzuki also tried to register with Geonetwork.

Participants drew up future plans. Participants deeply discussed about NSDI CAP 2007 proposal relation with NPEM–China federation and decided to contact China delegation of TCODE. Norio Baba said that the different agency in China delegate to DINRAC and therefore it may require any help to establishment of metadatabase in NOWPAP. Norio Baba also said that NOWPAP has worked on capacity building of metadata and might be able to invite a specialist from NPEM. Toru Suzuki said that representatives of the Republic of Korea and Japan may also assist the DINRAC activity.

Priority	Task	NPEM	MIRC	Due Date
2	Contact FGDC about Geonetwork Beta-version	X		Oct. 30, 2006
1	Contact FGDC about Isite issues	X	X	Oct. 30, 2006
1	Revise PICES technical report No. 1 (NOWPAP to review)	X	X	Nov. 22, 2006
1	NSDI CAP 2007 proposal Category I	X		Jan. 19, 2007
1	Contact China delegation of TCODE	X		asap
1	Develop proposal to Nippon Foundation			Oct. 23, 2006
1	Prepare article of PICES press	X		Nov. 23, 2006
1	Minutes of this meeting	X	X	Oct. 30, 2006
2	Prepare conversion to FGDC standard from CSR stored in JODC		X	Mar. 30, 2007