

**MINUTES OF THE ARIZONA GEOGRAPHIC
INFORMATION COUNCIL
Natural Resources Committee**

DRAFT

A Public meeting of the Arizona Geographic Information Council (AGIC) was convened on Tuesday, October 8th via Google Meets. Present at the meeting were the following members or designees of the AGIC Natural Resources Committee:

Table 1: Committee Voting Members

Member	Agency/Company	In Attendance
Elisabeth vanderLeeuw, Co-chair	Pima County	Yes, phone
Andy Weflen, Co-chair	Maricopa County	Yes, phone
Karen Fisher, Co-chair	Central Arizona Project	Yes, phone
Aryn Musgrave, Secretary	Desert Botanical Garden	No, phone
Robert Davis	Arizona GIS	Yes, phone
Jami Dennis	Geodetic Analysis	Yes, phone
Jenna Leveille	Sanborn	No, phone
Ben Hickson	Anderson Optimization	No, phone
Tanya Owens	Westland Resources	No, phone
Jatta Sheehy	TerraSystems Southwest	Yes, phone

Table 2: Public at Large

Member	Agency/Company	In Attendance
Wolfgang Grunberg	DFFM	Yes, phone
Gerardo Armendariz	USDA-ARS	Yes, phone
Alene McCracken	ADWR	Yes, phone
Alexandra Permar		Yes, phone
Jen Wennerlund	SRP	Yes, phone
Ken Gishi	DOI-BIA	Yes, phone
Cynthia Ritmiller	USGS	Yes, phone
Lucas Murray	ADOT	Yes, phone

This meeting was not recorded.

I. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 2:02pm; Introductions were made by the committee; ensuring attendance list was managed and quorum established.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes: (2:00)

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Motion to approve June meeting minutes was made by Karen Fisher and seconded by Andy Wefflen. Only Jami Dennis abstained, the rest of the members approved.

III. Announcements: (2:00)

Elisabeth vanderLeeuw briefed the group on moving from work group to committee. She reminded everyone that the AGIC Mentorship program sign-up is open from October 1st through December. Also provided a link to [AGIC 4th Quarter Newsletter](#).

IV. AGIC Education and Training Symposium recap (Elisabeth vanderLeeuw)(7:00)

Elisabeth vanderLeeuw led a discussion on what was presented at the Natural Resources SIG. This included the following:

Natural Resources SIG presentations

- ADWR Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR) Data and AZCORS Network, Brian Conway, ADWR
- When water doesn't flow downhill, Mischa Hey, NV5
- USGS: Custom Topographic Maps and National Digital Trails Program (Drew Decker, Cynthia Rittmiller, USGS)

Natural Resources SIG panel on Invasive Species and Drones

- Use of Drone Imagery for Invasive Species Detection and Monitoring (Pros & Cons)

V. USGS on Topo Builder and USGS trails (Cynthia Ritmiller): (26:00)

- Cynthia presented on [Topo Builder](#) and how to use the tool to build a custom USGS Topo map. There was a good amount of interest in utilizing this tool from the committee.
- Cynthia also presented on the USGS National Trails Database and [USGS Trails Explorer](#). She discussed how they are collaborating to have an authoritative dataset on trails on public lands. You can contact Cynthia for questions on the program or if your public entity wants to contribute.

VI. Protected Areas Database Work Group (Jen Wennerlund): (8:00)

- Jen Wennerlund updated us on the workgroup's efforts. She has submitted new data for: Audubon Society, Pinal County and AZGFD. She will be organizing a workgroup meeting to update the remaining counties. Also need to meet with ASLD to work on redacting some of the State Land that is not protected.

VII. Hub Site Updates Work Group (Wolfgang Grunberg): (10:00)

Wolfgang Grunberg updated us on our Hubsite and that there are no surveys submitted. The only updates needed for the website is to change from Workgroup to Committee. Gerardo Armendariz updated us on the collaborations as he is maintaining this and he will get into details at our next committee meeting. We discussed obtaining analytics from AZGeo, but will wait until the new Deputy State Cartographer is hired.

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VIII. Mobile GIS workgroup (Robert Davis) (10:00)

Robert led a discussion on different GIS mobile software and volunteered to generate a matrix of them and their integrations and pros/cons. Software included are: Avenza, QGIS, Google Earth, Alltrails, CalTopo, Peakfinder, Felt maps, ESRI mobile products

• **USGS Update (Cynthia Ritmiller)(9:00)**

- Cynthia Rittmiller provided information on the [3DHP report](#). If you are interested in participating the local workgroup for 3DHP, reach out to Cynthia.
- 3DEP update showed that most of the outstanding data collections will be completed by June 2025. Grand Canyon is in preplanning with NPS with a timeframe of 2026. The White Mountain Apache tribe has requested to not be a part of the program, however they have their own LiDAR data and you can contact the tribe directly for more information.
- Once all of the US LiDAR data is complete, they will be reviewing areas that are older than 5 years to determine a new update schedule.

IX. NRC Winter Presentation Series (3:00)

Committee discussed potential topics for the presentation series. Some ideas included: How we are using drones for natural resources, Survey data with drones, Mobile data collection, OpenET, Phoenix archaeological Pueblo Grande project

X. Spring 2025 Event (2:00)

We made a call for volunteers to collaborate with the Emerging Technologies group. Also asked the members to send us any suggestions for topics to be covered at the event.

XI. Future topics and Adjourn: (4:00)

Andy asked the group for future topics and themes.

XII. Adjourn The meeting adjourned at **3:29pm**. Elisabeth vanderLeeuw motioned to adjourn the meeting and Robert Davis second the motion.