

Tech & Data Committee- minutes

Chair: Doug Cummings (AZ)

Friday, March 30, 2018

8-10am

Attendees = 11

- Introductions- Doug
- Review of committee charge
 - Current charge= to assist state fish and wildlife agencies with the evaluation of new and emerging technology and data management systems, and to provide guidance or recommendations for using and improving these applications to sell licenses, collect and utilize data, disseminate information and build customer relationships
- Work Plan review
 - We've tried to provide remote participations
 - This has proven difficult and has recommended to the directors we not pursue this at this time
 - Should add 'provinces and states' to the work plan to be inclusive of the purpose of our work
- CIO Network
 - Moving towards completion with 37 state contacts, all Canadian provinces, and 4 NGOs on list
 - Looking to send out a survey to directors in the near future
 - Discussion: when/how should we share this information
 - Can share this list soon (Gary)
 - Suggestions to share this on the AFWA website; with concern for privacy we can put this contact list in a protected area of our website
 - John Lord- yes this is something we can do if we find value
- NCN submitted through this group to the National Grants Committee
 - Standardizing migratory bird information (data)
 - Providing information to USFWS
 - All states do this but with varying degrees of quality
 - To provide consistent and usable data
 - Will solicit proposals to create a national migratory bird information system for all states to use
 - NCN was approved this week

- State of Fish and Wildlife Agency's Technology – document review
 - Goal= to finalize how these questions are asked and getting them distributed as appropriate
 - CIO's to fill out the survey; agency directors want to look at the results
 - Have 4-5 weeks to get this survey out
 - Challenge= in getting the information from the states based on 'hoops' you need to jump thru and the systems they use
 - Data from: Server, network, apps, desktop support, security, database storage, GIS, major project management, ERP
 - Might need to ask what systems they use in to one of the questions; ie what system you use for license sales?
 - Question 1 a)- needs clarification as many states may be either/or –or- both
 - The answer might vary by function; so separating the question out by function; provide a matrix to answer this question
 - Will likely get hybrid answers where some things are handled in house and others outside of state agency
 - We need to be clear with the scope of this question
 - Will work out list of categories/functionality to fine-tune this question for approval before survey distribution
 - Keep in mind that you only have a few minutes of their attention to fill out the survey- so be sure to not make it too complicated or long
 - Question 1 b) - need to clarify the terminology; formal process?? Should we use different terminology
 - Perhaps use the word 'strategic plan'; used most commonly throughout state agencies
 - Question 1 c) – 'outsourced' can sometimes be a hard question to answer
 - Question 2 a) – listed some of the common methodologies known in the tech world
 - Question 2 b) – should we clarify what is being developed or maintained?
 - May need to list out categories (break in to 2 questions instead of 1)
 - Development language
 - Development platform/framework
 - Question 3 – looking to restructure this question
 - Native mobile apps vs. responsive web apps
 - Internal vs external mobile apps → not consistent throughout North America.
 - What is it we're really looking for here and what type of data will we receive?
 - Perhaps update to ask what mobile apps states have delivered with some categories
 - Question 4 – some fine-tuning of question but overall good to go
 - Adding new question asking about CRMs being used by the states
 - Question 5 a)- overall question is good; no edits
 - Might ask if it is funded

- Question 5 b)- might also add if this is funded in the current budget
- Loren- I would suggest they the questions are prioritized so the most important questions are first; that way if people get tired you have the most important data submitted
 - Move software development items down on the priority list
 - Loren in finalize the survey list/questions for the group for final review in the near future
 - Work on a definition of “BIG DATA” and add that to the survey
 - Also may want to add what it is they’re doing with it, if anything
 - Doug- will consolidate and have ready to present at next meeting
- Data/Dashboard- Rob Southwick
 - Have a grant to start working on a national dashboard
 - Purpose: have better tracking monitoring on the trends of fishing, hunting, shooting sports
 - See if money is being used in the right place, and if not where
 - Currently have 6 dashboards in place; need to have at least 16 states with dashboards
 - Looking to see what states are interested
 - Want to have equal representation so can look at data regionally
 - Want to look at general trends by age group and other categories
 - When grant comes in (2 weeks) then will formally invite states to join this project
 - Will be going to AFWA to get the word out
 - Currently need more states in the northeast
 - Want 4 states per region, ideally
 - Hoping states will use this and keep it after the initial 2 year pilot
 - Data is updated 2x per year
 - Not substitute for national survey; but to be used to track overall trends
 - See handout for more information.
- Loren- update on IT with Oregon DNR
 - Budgetary system issues → asking what other members are using for their budgetary systems
 - Missouri has a home-grown system; but looking to replace it in the near future
 - Colorado- using Advantage 360
 - Canada- using a SAP based system
- Other Business?
 - None
- Adjourned