

Public Access to Results of Federally Funded Research at the U.S. Geological Survey: Scholarly Publications and Data

Biannual Implementation Update

July 1, 2016

Current Status of Implementation:

Activities and Accomplishments (January-June 2016)

- Initiated extensive outreach program for USGS scientists and awardees, including 30 seminars and presentations across the entire USGS.
- Completed initial **integration of available public access/embargo information** from [CHORUS](#) participating journals into the USGS [Publications Warehouse](#) citation records and associated web service.
- Reappraisal of **USGS records disposition authorities** to include science data and the Information Product Data System is in progress. Reappraisal will continue into FY17.
- Proposed a **FY18 budget initiative** to introduce new and update existing processes and services to maximize public access to USGS science results and data, including:
 - **USGS Data Warehouse**, a new cloud-based, bureau-wide storage infrastructure to permit efficient storage and easy retrieval of very large data sets.
 - [ScienceBase](#), a science data management platform developed and maintained by USGS to provide shared, permission-controlled access to scientific data products and related bureau resources.
 - **Data Release Workbench**, which includes multiple online, enterprise-wide data management tools, including the USGS [Science Data Catalog](#), that support creation and management of metadata and digital object identifiers, and a dashboard to support user progression in the data release process.
 - **USGS Publications Warehouse**, the official index to USGS-authored publications, with access to metadata about and links to full-text USGS funded and authored publications.
 - **Information Product Data System (IPDS)**, the internal online application that documents and tracks the review, approval, and dissemination of information products that are subject to USGS [Fundamental Science Practices](#) (FSP).
- USGS sponsored a 3-day meeting in early March that brought together leaders of the various online systems necessary to meet public access and open data requirements. A coordination team has since met weekly to foster communication and maintain awareness of progress in updating and improving technical processes and services. Monthly update meetings of all involved and interested in the progress toward

meeting the USGS Public Access Plan implementation date of October 1, 2016, including executive sponsors and technical experts, have been conducted since March. In addition, three technical working groups were created that are actively addressing topics including connectivity between online science publishing systems, repository and storage considerations such as how trusted repositories will be identified in USGS, and ensuring that communications regarding the Public Access Plan requirements and the tools and services available to support its full and efficient implementation are provided to all far-flung areas of the Bureau.

Anticipated Next Steps (July-December 2016)

- Effective date for full implementation of the USGS Public Access Plan is October 1, 2016.
- Moving forward with identification and certification of trusted USGS digital repositories using processes and criteria that are part of internationally recognized [Data Seal of Approval-World Data System](#) assessment programs.
- Continued communication throughout the USGS of new policy requirements and methods via presentations to Science Centers and Programs, and to various levels of management.
- USGS Office of Acquisition and Grants (OAG) will, as of July 1, 2016, include Data Management Plan requirements in program announcements and award terms and conditions for new awards issued on or after October 1, 2016.
- Coordination with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) regarding disposition of USGS data for accessibility and reuse in the context of Public Access policy while ensuring compliance with NARA disposition requirements.

Modifications to the Plan (January-June 2016)

- Minor editorial changes made since approval in January to correct punctuation and grammar.

Challenges and Risks

- Impact of National election cycle on funding decisions.
- Funding levels in FY18 budget request are not achieved, resulting in delayed or incomplete implementation of required system improvements.
- Identification and preservation of USGS data sets for ensuring compliance with NARA standards, including requirements and budgeting for the migration strategies.

Key Metrics and Related Statistics

Publications

- The USGS [Publications Warehouse](#) provides access to over 130,000 publications authored by USGS scientists.
- Publications Warehouse citations are indexed in Google Scholar, and were accessed over 1,000,000 times in 2015.
- As of June 2016, there are over 770 USGS-authored and USGS-funded publications indexed in [CHORUS](#). The USGS [CHORUS dashboard](#) will be updated continuously to incorporate additional content as it becomes available.
 - 306 publications from CHORUS have been linked to Publications Warehouse records.
 - 110 records include information regarding publically accessible dates (examples below):

- <https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/70003339>
- <https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/70168563>
- 101 records are verified as publically accessible.

Digital Data

- [USGS Science Data Catalog](#):
 - 8,373 records are currently discoverable and accessible; note that some records give access to data collections containing hundreds of thousands of data points.
 - 4,732 sessions from 3,838 unique users recorded from January 1 to June 27, 2016.
- Implementation of Data Management Plan requirement:
 - Applied to all intramural USGS R&D projects starting in February, 2015.
 - Requirement will apply to 100% of agency's new extramural R&D projects commencing on or after October 1, 2016.