

Montana State Library Report
Brief summary prepared for Spring 2011 Meetings
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Version dated March 23, 2011
http://msl.mt.gov/About_MSL/MSLReport.pdf

Certification Program: The Montana Certification Program for Library Directors, Staff and Trustees has awarded certificates to 60 individuals (including 5 trustees) since the new program began in January 2010. The online continuing education tracking form created by MSL staff is proving to be very popular.

http://msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Training/certification/default.asp

Collection Management Honor Roll: The 2010 Collection Management Honor Roll has been compiled and will be announced at the MLA awards luncheon. 83 libraries will receive Honor Roll certificates from the State Library Commission.

Connecting to Collections: The preservation survey for the MT Connecting to Collections (CTC) grant project has been completed. 138 survey responses were received, many from public, academic and special libraries – thank you! The data is currently being compiled and analyzed to be used to document the most pressing preservation needs of MT’s cultural organization and to make recommendations for future actions to address these needs statewide. CTC is funded by Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Courier Pilot: The Courier Pilot now includes 39 library locations. The Pilot has moved over 13,000 items since its inception last April.

http://msl.mt.gov/For_Librarians/Statewide_Projects/default.asp

Digital Atlas: As part of the on-going development of the Montana GIS Portal, the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) is developing a beta version of our new Digital Atlas. Launch of this tool was delayed following the resignation of the NRIS Web Developer but we look forward to a renewed effort when this position is filled. The new Digital Atlas takes advantage of new technology to combine the functionality of many of our well-known applications including Topofinders 1 and 2, the Data Bundler and the old Digital Atlas providing a one-stop-shop for information previously provided by these individual applications. We will be seeking feedback from the library community about this application over the coming months.

Digitization Project: As part of MSL's on-going effort to digitize our legacy print state publications collect, Library Information Services (LIS) staff worked with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) to process, ship, and have scanned the complete series of the popular title, *Montana Outdoors*. The digital series includes all of the title variations dating back to 1928, including *Montana Wildlife Bulletin* and *Montana Wildlife*. Additionally, FWP will provide the Montana State Library with digital copies of all future issues for online access and all but the two most recent issues of the magazine will be made available online for free to anyone who is interested.

This winter LIS also reached a major milestone. One million pages of state publications have now been scanned and are freely available online. These publications can be found at <http://www.archive.org/details/MontanaStateLibrary>. All publications are available in PDF and text formats as well as Daisy format for use with screen readers, audio format, Kindle format and EPUB format for use with popular e-book readers.

Learn more at: <http://msl.mt.gov/digitization/>. Contact for more information or questions: Jim Kammerer, LIS Manager, jkammerer@mt.gov or 406-444-5432.

Geographic Literacy Campaign: Continuing our effort to encourage geographic awareness among librarians and library patrons and to increase use of online applications that highlight Montana's natural resources, the Montana State Library will launch the second natural resource companion, the Fishing Companion, in time for the spring fishing season. Based on the very popular Hunting Companion launched last fall, this online website includes links to resources from the State Library, Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Base Map Service Center. The website is designed to help anglers answer four basic questions: what to fish, when to fish, where to fish and how to fish. Testing for this site is underway. You will soon be able to visit the Fishing Companion at <http://msl.mt.gov/fishing/>. Resources to market the Fishing Companion to your patrons will also be available on the What's Your Story site and print resources, including posters and postcards, will be distributed at upcoming the MLA conference in Billings.

GeoMAPP: NRIS was recently selected as a team member of the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program Geospatial Multistate Archive and Preservation Program (GeoMAPP). With funding from the Library of Congress, this team of five states (North Carolina, Utah, Kentucky, Missouri and Montana) is researching best practices for archiving geospatial data. NRIS plans to use this opportunity to complete a geospatial data inventory of the NRIS Clearinghouse. Significant components of this project will focus on appropriate archival metadata, storage and access technology and business planning. NRIS also plans to test the capabilities of MSL partner the Internet Archive to preserve and provide access to geospatial data. Our long term goal for this program is to develop a geospatial

collection development policy and archives plan for Montana spatial data. The GeoMAPP program is funded through December, 2011. More information about GeoMAPP is available at: <http://www.geomapp.net/>.

Legislative update: House Bill 2 will be heard on the full Senate floor sometime late this week or early next week. The State Library's budget is still facing the 5 % reduction and 4% vacancy savings as noted below.

The Joint Committee of Appropriations for Education has taken executive action on the State Library's budget. This action includes a recommended 5% reduction as well as a 4% vacancy savings request. If this recommendation carries forward throughout the session the impacts will be:

- Reduction of 2.25 FTE out of 30.5 current level FTE, a cut that seriously weakens the agency across the board. This reduction will have a critical impact on staffing, particularly on individual(s) whose jobs will be lost and on those services affected by lost positions.
 - This reduction in personnel will directly and indirectly impact citizens of Montana. For example, if the Natural Resources Librarian position, which has been left vacant to meet vacancy savings requirements, is not filled, acquisition of new natural resource materials will be slower, outreach to agencies will be less routine and patrons may not know about all the information we can provide to them for their research.
 - And if a support position is reduced, librarians will not get answers to their inquiries as quickly as necessary and remaining professional staff will be required to spend more time on administrative tasks.
- The 5% reduction will also significantly slow the process to digitize the state publications collection and
- Will require longer replacement schedules for computers and other critical information technology used by the State Library.

An additional 4% vacancy savings will also require that we leave up to two critical positions open for extended periods of time. This is in addition to the 2.25 FTE that may be permanently lost.

Library courier project request from Montana Library Association has generated some interest and was offered as an amendment to HB2 in Senate Finance and Claims, but amendment failed so no funding yet.

Thank you to Judy Hart as MLA's Government Affairs chair she has done a great job with testimony and support through the session.

Legislative Snapshot: In January MSL made available our fourth Legislative Snapshot. Since 2005 the State Library has produced these legislative snapshots to provide important information about topics of interest to our Legislators. The information provided includes a variety of resources made available through MSL's collections and highlights the valuable research services offered by MSL staff. Topics in this year's snapshot include the economy, Recovery Act programs, education, water, environmental impacts, libraries and more. As in previous editions, the snapshots are organized by senate district and each Legislator receives a print version customized for his or her district. The 2011 Legislative Snapshot is available online at:

http://msl.mt.gov/legislative_snapshot/default.asp.

Long Range Plan evaluation and strategic planning: Please know that 2011 marks an important year in our agency's strategic planning process. It's hard to believe but this is the final year of our current 5-year strategic plan

(http://msl.mt.gov/About_MSL/strategic_plan/StrategicPlan0611.pf).

We will use this year to evaluate our accomplishments as they relate to our strategic plan and to develop a new long range plan. To help facilitate this process, we have prepared an online wiki that breaks down our current long range plan into its goals and strategic objectives. This wiki is available at: <http://montanastatelibrary.pbworks.com>.

Please know that you must have a PB Works account and be logged in in order to add comments however please feel free to use anonymous logins if you do not wish to identify yourself. A link to create an account is found in the right hand Side Bar of the wiki or you may use this URL: <https://my.pbworks.com/?p=create>.

Through March we are seeking comments about how we're doing using the comments field on each page of the wiki. As it relates to our current strategic plan, what have been our successes? Where can we do better? What have we accomplished and how? What was not accomplished and why? Your feedback as part of the library community is very important to future planning so please during the next few weeks take a few moments to tell us how we are doing. If you have any questions about the use of the site please speak to Jennie Stapp or your statewide consulting librarian. Inquiries about

the evaluation and planning process can be addressed to Darlene Staffeldt, Jennie Stapp or Bob Cooper at the State Library.

In April we will expand this wiki to take comments and recommendations on a new long range plan.

Thank you for taking a few minutes out of your very busy schedules to let us know how we are doing.

MontanaLibrary2Go: MontanaLibrary2Go annual meeting is the afternoon of May 5, 2001 in Missoula, in association with the Montana Shared Catalog spring meeting. Location and time to be announced soon. Five new libraries have joined MontanaLibrary2Go. The consortium added downloadable e-books to the formats available to their patrons.

Montana Shared Catalog (MSC): The MSC has added 30 libraries and library branches during the past few months to bring the total membership to 133 libraries. During the MSC Members meeting in Great Falls last October, the membership voted to fund a proposed upgrade to the MSC Tech position which the state has subsequently approved. The MSC's integrated library system (ILS) was upgraded to SirsiDynix Symphony version 3.3.1 in December and it has been installed on a new and more powerful server purchased by the membership last spring.

Montana State Library Commission (MSLC): The next meeting of the MSLC is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, 2011 and will be held at the conference hotel at the Montana Library Association Conference in Billings. Agenda items will include but are not limited to:

- LSTA FY'11 budget
- Legislative update
- State Librarian Evaluation (Executive Session)

Commission information can be found at:

http://www.msl.MT.gov/About_MSL/commission/default.asp

Montana State Library Staff updates:

- Montana Shared Catalog accepted the resignation of Mary Fouts as the Shared Catalog Assistant. Thank you Mary. Applicant screening is currently underway for Mary's replacement.
- Donci Bardash has joined the staff as the BTOP Project Director

- Sarah Elkins has joined the staff as the BTOP Compliance Officer
- Lee Madison, Reader/Machine Lending agent in the Talking book Library, retired in May, 2010. He worked in state government for a total of 32 years, 16 years spent in the Talking Book program. We wish Lee well in his new adventures.
- Martin Landry joined the Talking Book Library as Readers' Advisor in April 2010.
- Claudia Bickel joined the Talking Book Library as Readers' Advisors in February 2011.
- Allison Badger has joined the staff as the Digital Services Technician
- Library Development Department accepted the resignation of Maggie Meredith as a Statewide Consulting Librarian. Thank you Maggie for all your efforts.
- Tracy Cook has accepted the position as Lead Statewide Consulting Librarian
- Lauren McMullen has accepted the position of Statewide Consulting Librarian
- Joann Flick has accepted the position of Statewide Trainer
- Grant Austin will soon join the staff of NRIS as the Web Developer
- Bob Cooper, Director of Statewide Library Resources has announced his retirement after many great years of service in Montana's Library Community.

Natural Heritage Program Strategic Plan: The Montana Natural Heritage Program has released the final version of a strategic plan to guide the overall program as well as the Botany, Zoology, Ecology, and Information Services program areas from July 2010 through June 2014. The plan was developed by Heritage staff in coordination with state, federal, and private partners. Sections covering the overall administration of the program and the individual program areas include goals for staffing, data acquisition, data management, and data dissemination over the next four years. The plan is posted on the Heritage Program's website at: http://mtnhp.org/docs/2011_strategic_plan.pdf

Natural Heritage Program Webinars: The Montana Natural Heritage Program is hosting a series of webinars between January and March to help patrons make better use of our information and web services. Topics include an overview of data resources offered by the Montana Natural Heritage Program, accessing wetland data resources, and use of the Natural Heritage MapViewer, Tracker, Field Guide, and Species of Concern web applications. All webinars will be posted on the Heritage Program's website for viewing by those that were not able to attend. You can view previous webinars or register for upcoming webinars at: <http://mtnhp.org/webinars/>

National Library Service: The National Library Service celebrates 80 years of service to the blind, low vision, physically and reading handicapped this year. The Montana Talking Book Library celebrates 43 years of direct service to Montana citizens. The Talking Book Library launched digital talking books and online downloadable e-books (BARD) to individuals in the fall of 2010. The Talking Book Library will be able to provide institutions with BARD services by summer, 2011.

Network Advisory Council (NAC): Council information can be found at:
http://msl.MT.gov/About_MSL/network_advisory_council/network_tf.asp

NRIS and the Base Map Service Center Co-locate: NRIS and the Montana Dept. of Administration's Base Map Service Center (BMSC) completed a physical move in mid-November. Like NRIS, the BMSC serves as a theme steward for framework layers of the [Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure](#) (MSDI) including transportation, administrative boundaries, critical structures and land ownership. This means that they are responsible for creating, maintaining and providing public access to this data. One of the many advantages of this relationship is that all the state-stewarded MSDI themes will be under one roof, allowing easy interaction between the Montana Natural Heritage Program, NRIS and BMSC. Staff and management are excited about this new level of improved coordination and the many benefits this coordination will bring to the GIS community in Montana. We look forward to future opportunities for increased collaboration that will result in even more effective and efficient management of spatial data content, data access and archiving, and GIS coordination, education and outreach efforts.

Open URL resolver/integrated discovery system: A request for proposal has been issued for a statewide "open URL resolver/integrated discovery system", to be implemented initially across the Montana Shared Catalog libraries, with expansion to other libraries and resources beginning in FY2013.

Some upcoming library meeting dates:

March 26, 2011, Saturday – Sagebrush Federation meeting, Miles City, MT

April 6-9, 2011 – Montana Library Association conference, Billings, MT

April 6, 2011, Wednesday, State Library Commission – Billings, MT

April 7, 2011, Thursday – Conversations with Commission session at MLA, 2:15 to 3:30 pm, Billings, MT

April 14, 2011, Thursday – Golden Plains Federation meeting, Wolf Point, Mt

April 29-30, 2011, Friday and Saturday – Tamarack Federation in Big Fork, Mt
May 5, MontanaLibrary2Go meeting, Missoula, Mt
May 5-6, Montana Shared Catalog membership meeting, Missoula, Mt
May 17, 2011, Tuesday – NAC Meeting, Grizzly – Helena, MT
May 19, 2011, Thursday – Pathfinder Federation Meeting, Fort Benton, MT
June 1, 2011, Wednesday – NRIS Advisory Committee – Grizzly – Helena, Mt
June 8, 2011, Wednesday – State Library Commission, Grizzly – Helena, MT
July 12, 2011, Tuesday – NAC Meeting, Grizzly – Helena, MT
August 10, 2011, Wednesday – State Library Commission, Grizzly – Helena, MT
September 23-24, Friday and Saturday – Fall Workshop in Bozeman, Mt
October 12, 2011, Wednesday – State Library Commission, Grizzly – Helena, MT
November 3, 2011, Thursday – NAC Meeting, Grizzly – Helena, MT
December 7, 2011, Wednesday – State Library Commission, Grizzly – Helena, MT

Statewide database: A request for proposal (RFP) process will launch in mid-April for a new suite of statewide database subscriptions. The State Library Network Advisory Council will participate in the RFP process, with review of responses taking place in mid-May, in order to have the new subscriptions implemented before Fall, 2011.

SWIM project: The 51 SWIM (South Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana professional education and employment) scholarship students have successfully completed the first semester of their MLIS or school Library Media distance programs. 17 of these students are residents of MT and will be at the MLA conference in Billings to meet the State Library Commission and librarians from across the state. SWIM is funded by Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).