

## CITATION

### UNIT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE OF SERVICE

#### COMMERCIAL ADAPS REPLACEMENT PROJECT (CARP)

In recognition of the outstanding contributions of the CARP Team in the successful conversion of the Automated Data Processing System (ADAPS) to the AQUARIUS Time-Series software.

The date, July 25, 2017, marked a major Information Technology (IT) accomplishment for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Water Mission Area (WMA). On that date, the real-time data feed from the Kansas Water Science Center was converted from ADAPS to AQUARIUS, thus completing the roll out of the new National Water Information System (NWIS)-Time Series system. In May 2011, the WMA pulled together a team of experts to form the CARP. The CARP was charged with replacing the three-decade old USGS mission-critical WMA time-series data processing system (ADAPS). Over the next 6 years, the project faced significant challenges, including a redesign of the entire data workflow from the field to the web (which included the complex interactions between ADAPS and other NWIS and non-NWIS systems), consolidation of 45 independent databases into one national aggregate database, significant data cleanup, transition from distributed physical hardware to implementation within the USGS Cloud Hosting Solution, and comprehensive analysis leading to significant network upgrades. The technical expertise and collaborative work ethic of each member of the CARP was critical to the success of the project. In addition to developing a complete blended training curriculum with delivery to over 1,500 core users, the team also maintained a strong working relationship with the commercial vendor. With the number of high-profile IT modernization challenges both in the Government and the private sector, as well as the numerous administrative difficulties, such as the October 2013 Government shutdown and associated stop work order, and the staged seven-month implementation with no loss of real-time data delivery, the CARP can take pride in this impressive accomplishment. For the outstanding contributions to the USGS WMA, the CARP Team is granted the Unit Award for Excellence of Service of the Department of the Interior.



William H. Werkneiser  
Deputy Director

Members of the Commercial ADAPS Replacement Project (CARP):

Scott D. Bartholoma (West Valley City, UT)

Nathaniel L. Booth (Reston, VA)

Elizabeth A. Hittle (Williamsport, PA)

Joseph P. Kalfsbeek (Anchorage, AK)

Scott R. Lewein (Middleton, WI)

Kris D. Lund (Middleton, WI)

Joseph P. Nielsen (Middleton, WI)

Patrick P. Rasmussen (Lawrence, KS)

Charles W. Schalk (Augusta, ME)

Wade J. Walker (Pueblo, CO)

Gary L. Wilson (Rolla, MO)



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#### COMMITTEE ON EARTH OBSERVATION SATELLITES 2017 CHAIR TEAM

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS) Center, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Chair Team has distinguished itself by providing exemplary leadership for 60 international space Agencies. As an international organization, CEOS ensures international coordination of civil space-based Earth observation programs and promotes exchange of data to optimize societal benefit and inform decisionmaking for securing a prosperous and sustainable future for humankind. The Chair of CEOS rotates annually among members. As the 2017 Chair, the USGS CEOS Chair Team brought together 60 Agencies operating over 150 satellites to collaborate on space missions, data systems, and global initiatives to benefit society while remaining aligned with Agency missions and priorities. This Team organized and led a dozen international meetings culminating in the annual CEOS Plenary held in Rapid City, South Dakota. The Team executed a unified approach to ensure the maximum opportunity at the CEOS Plenary for decision and debate regarding high priority topics related to future satellite data architectures and the interoperability of satellite data. These fundamental and enabling technologies ensure the broader application of all CEOS agency Earth observation satellite data to supporting sustainable development goals and societal benefits. By effectively engaging the international satellite information community, the CEOS Chair Team ensured that the USGS has a significant role on the global stage in conducting the systematic and scientific characterization of the Earth system. The outstanding quality of the work of the Team earned the respect of their colleagues, resulted in accolades from many international space agencies, and reflects their dedication to accomplishing the mission and objectives of the USGS and the Department of the Interior. For their outstanding contributions to the USGS, the CEOS 2017 Chair Team is granted the Unit Award for Excellence of Service of the Department of the Interior.

William H. Werkheiser  
Deputy Director

CEOS Chair Team 2017 Members:

Thomas Cecere  
Eugene Fosnight  
Francis Kelly  
Steven Labahn  
Jennifer Lacey  
Karen Reiser  
Eric Wood



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#### LAB CENSUS TEAM

#### JEFF McCOY

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the Lab Census Team in support of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) mission.

The Lab Census Team distinguished itself by assembling, analyzing, and compiling the first-ever comprehensive census of USGS laboratories. As part of the Strategic Laboratory Committee, which was formed to ensure the Bureau's laboratory assets were being managed to best support the science mission of the USGS, the Lab Census Team's dedicated efforts resulted in the report "Status of Quality Practices in USGS Laboratories." This comprehensive report gives leadership a full view of the breadth of laboratory capabilities and activities within the USGS—ultimately allowing for better strategic management of these assets. Working together, the Team developed and issued two Bureau-wide data calls, ensuring all identified laboratory managers responded with 100 percent compliance. The Team then assembled and synthesized the data representing 361 laboratories. This census and report mark a milestone in USGS history, as these data have never before been compiled on a Bureau-wide basis. Data from this report now support an entirely new dynamic database in the new USGS Web Portal for Laboratory Information at: <https://labportal.usgs.gov>. In addition, the findings will be shared with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM), which will be conducting an independent 24-month review of USGS laboratories. For his outstanding contributions to the USGS as a member of the Lab Census Team, Jeff McCoy is granted the Unit Award for Excellence of Service of the Department of the Interior.

William H. Werkheiser  
Deputy Director

Awardees:

Jeff McCoy  
Patrick Phillips  
Amy Ludtke  
James Mosely  
Andrea Foster  
Donna Myers

Organization:

WMA, NWQL  
NY WSC  
Former WMA  
EMMA, EMERSC  
GMEG SC  
Former WMA

Duty Station:

Denver, CO  
Troy, NY  
Retired  
Reston, VA  
Menlo Park, CA  
Denver, CO

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#### ADVANCED RESEARCH COMPUTING TEAM

For the outstanding contributions of the Advanced Research Computing (ARC) team in enhancing the computing capabilities of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

The mission of the ARC team is to provide advanced computing capabilities and expertise to USGS scientists for the acceleration and expansion of scientific discovery. Until recently, USGS scientists could not process big data and complex models on existing USGS computers because the equipment lacked the processing capability needed. Scientists had to look outside the USGS to work with other Federal agencies and universities to meet their computing requirements, often requiring them to independently adapt their research models to run on a variety of supercomputers, and to direct valuable USGS project resources towards obtaining requisite training and supercomputer access. Recognizing this gap, the ARC team of USGS experts, put together a pilot to help USGS researchers gain access to advanced computing technologies and expertise. The success of the pilot developed into a high-performance computing strategy that provides USGS scientists access to USGS computer clusters and big data storage, training materials, expert consulting in optimizing models, and centrally negotiated access to partner supercomputing capabilities for use when needs exceed USGS capacity. The ARC team also established an Advanced Computing Cooperative that brings together USGS offices to work on common approaches to help sustain and support advanced computing capabilities, reducing duplication across the bureau. Because of the efforts of the ARC team, USGS researchers are now able to improve modeling performance using software parallelization methods that expand the scale and scope of models and simulations. For outstanding contributions to the USGS, the ARC team is granted the Unit Award for Excellence of Service.



William H. Werkheiser  
Deputy Director

ARC Team Members

Jeffrey T. Falgout

Michael T. Frame

Janice M. Gordon

Bradley T. Williams





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### IMT DICTIONARY and BETA TESTING TEAMS

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) distinguishes itself at being at the forefront of technology and strives to implement policy that adheres to the requirements and at the same time supports the science mission. When Congress passed the Federal IT Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) in 2014, it required transparency in information technology (IT) acquisition and centralized accountability of all information management and technology (IMT) activities through the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Chief Information Officer, who has complete authority to approve all IMT actions and activities within the DOI. Under its decentralized organization, implementing the planning and tracking of IMT acquisitions posed a challenge for the USGS. To lead this effort, the USGS Associate Chief Information Officer convened subject matter experts from across the USGS to define what should be included as IMT, to improve the process and guidance for centers to complete an IMT operating plan (OP), and to improve the process for approving and tracking IMT expenditures. Two teams were formed. The IMT Dictionary Team concentrated on what should be included at IMT for budget and investment planning and how to approach Departmental guidance on developing the USGS 2018 IMT OP. The Beta Testing Team reviewed, discussed, developed, tested, improved, and implemented processes and tools to capture the information for the OP and followed that with changes, approved by the DOI, to financial operating procedures to identify and capture IMT spending. They increased communication about the OP, developed guidance, held listening sessions, monitored email box questions, and put in place an approval process. As a result of their efforts, all centers and offices (117) completed plans documenting almost \$250 million in planning IMT acquisitions in 2018. This is \$100 million more than was documented for 2017 when only 74 percent of centers and offices completed plans. For their outstanding contributions to improving USGS IMT planning and accountability and opening opportunities to reduce IMT costs through strategic sourcing, these teams are granted the Department of the Interior's Unit Award for Excellence of Service.

  
William H. Werkheiser  
Deputy Director

Members (\*denotes IMT Dictionary Team)

Edward Brown*	CVO, Vancouver, WA
William (Boyce) Blanks	SC WSC, Columbia, SC
Tom Sohre*	EROS, Sioux Falls, SD
Nicholas Andros	UMESC, La Crosse, WI
Dianna Jarvis	SC WSC, Columbia, SC
Sharla Van Beek	EROS, Sioux Falls, SD
Randall Mulholland	UMESC, La Crosse, WI
Sheryl Markham	Ecosystems, Reston, VA
Nate Wenger	Water, Reston, VA
Pamela Ambrose	Patuxent, Laurel, MD
Kimberly Allington	EROS, Sioux Falls, SD
Pam Haverland*	OEI, Reston, VA
Michele Holland	NE Region, Reston, VA
Melissa Bentz	EROS, Sioux Falls, SD
Susan Kim	OEI, Reston, VA
Mark Wimer	Patuxent, Laurel, MD
Helena Buchanan	CLU, Reston, VA
Kimianne Lee*	OEI, Reston, VA
Linda Pratt*	GHSC, Golden, CO
Anne Dayton*	CLU, Reston, VA
David Newman*	OEI, Reston, VA
Glenn Henz	CA WSC, Sacramento, CA
Nick Cotton	EROS, Sioux Falls, SD
John Parks*	OEI, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico
Dominique Horvath	PIERC, Honolulu, HI
Dan Hirschman	EROS, Sioux Falls, SD
Rob Davis*	OEI, Sacramento, CA
Rodolfo Obstaculo	CA WSC, Sacramento, CA
Jackie Lynch*	OA, Reston, VA
Tina Solomon*	OEI, Reston, VA



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#### PUBLIC ACCESS LEADERSHIP TEAM

In 2013, the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) issued a memorandum "Increasing Public Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research" directing all Federal agencies with more than \$100M in research and development funding to create a plan to make the results of federally funded research freely available to the public and to improve management of digital data used to support the research conclusions. A team was assembled to write the plan for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) which was approved in 2015. Several of the writers recognized that successful implementation of the plan would require extensive coordination among a much larger group of stakeholders including parts of USGS not traditionally associated with scholarly publishing. A Public Access Leadership Team (PALT) was formed to enhance communication and integration, encourage shared problem-solving, identify funding opportunities, and to track progress. The team held a workshop in March 2016 at which each stakeholder shared their role in public access, tasks were prioritized, obstacles identified, and a roadmap created to help the USGS meet OSTP's October 1, 2016, deadline. The meeting brought together organizations that had not previously worked together and resulted in the development of strong collaborative relationships among all parties. Four working groups were established to overcome key barriers: Communications and Training; Trusted Digital Repositories; Storage; and Systems Interconnectivity. The PALT continued to oversee tasks, even after the OSTP compliance deadline had been met, as meeting participants implemented further improvements. In 2017, an article in the Data Science Journal highlighted the USGS as the top scorer among 19 Federal science agencies for thoroughness of discussion of the issues outlined in the OSTP memorandum. For their outstanding contributions to providing public access to USGS research and data, the PALT is granted the Unit Award for Excellence of Service of the Department of the Interior.

William H. Werkheiser  
Deputy Director

Public Access Leadership Team Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>
Keith Kirk	OSQI	Santa Cruz, CA
Catherine Canevari	USGS Library	Reston, VA
Leslie Jones	OCAP	Reston, VA
Vivian Hutchison	CSASL	Denver, CO
Michael Frame	CSS	Reston, VA
Steve Longsworth	SPN	Helena, MT
Michael McDermott	CSS	Reston, VA (retired)



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#### ELWHA RIVER SCIENCE TEAM

The 2011-2014 removal of two century-old dams from the Elwha River in Washington State was the world's largest dam-removal project and the National Park Service's second largest restoration project. By most metrics, the effort was a stunning success. Removal of the dams opened miles of pristine wilderness river habitat to all seven species of Pacific salmon and other critical fish, and the release of sediment and wood restored the river and coast back to an ecologically healthy state. Before, during, and after the removal, Department of the Interior (DOI) scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation worked tirelessly to understand and explain dam-removal effects on the river's aquatic ecosystem, geomorphology, and marine environment at the river mouth. From 2011 to the present, the team produced 27 peer-reviewed scientific articles and delivered over 150 scientific presentations at conferences and workshops around the world. This is a remarkably productive compendium of scientific products disseminated into the public realm representing seamless teamwork and coordination across agencies and disciplines. The Team's accomplishments reflect exemplary scientific leadership of the DOI to understand natural systems and produce world-class science to aid decisions in resource management. The legion of scientific insights from the Elwha effort is informing future dam-removal projects around the world and enabling greater understanding of ecologically productive rivers and associated downstream marine and coastal ecosystems. For their outstanding contributions to the USGS and the DOI, the members of the Elwha River Science Team are granted the Department of the Interior's Unit Award for Excellence of Service.

William H. Werkheiser  
Deputy Director

<b><u>Awardees:</u></b>	<b><u>Organization:</u></b>	<b><u>Duty Station:</u></b>
Jeff Duda	USGS-WFRC	Seattle, WA
Nancy Elder	USGS-WFRC	Seattle, WA
Marshal Hoy	USGS-WFRC	Seattle, WA
Steve Rubin	USGS-WFRC	Seattle, WA
Jon Warrick	USGS-PCMISC	Santa Cruz, CA
Amy East	USGS-PCMISC	Santa Cruz, CA
Andy Ritchie	USGS-PCMISC	Santa Cruz, CA
Guy Gelfenbaum	USGS-PCMISC	Santa Cruz, CA
Andrew Stevens	USGS-PCMISC	Santa Cruz, CA
Josh Logan	USGS-PCMISC	Santa Cruz, CA
Chris Curran	USGS-WAWSC	Tacoma, WA
Mark Mastin	USGS-WAWSC	Tacoma, WA
Pat Shafroth	USGS-FORT	Fort Collins, CO
Kurt Jenkins	USGS-FRESC	Port Angeles, WA
Rebecca McCaffery	USGS-FRESC	Port Angeles, WA
Christian Torgersen	USGS-FRESC	Seattle, WA
Chris Magirl	USGS-AZWSC	Tucson, AZ
Sam Brenkman	NPS_OLYM	Port Angeles, WA
Josh Chenoweth	NPS_OLYM	Port Angeles, WA
Pat Crain	NPS_OLYM	Port Angeles, WA
Anna Geffre	NPS_OLYM	Port Angeles, WA
Josh Geffre	NPS_OLYM	Port Angeles, WA
Heidi Hugunin	NPS_OLYM	Port Angeles, WA
Phil Kennedy	NPS_OLYM	Port Angeles, WA
Kathryn Sutton	NPS_OLYM	Port Angeles, WA
Tim Randle	BOR	Denver, CO
Jennifer Boutry	BOR	Denver, CO
Robert Hilldale	BOR	Denver, CO
Mike McHenry	LEKT	Port Angeles, WA
Matt Beirne	LEKT	Port Angeles, WA
Sonny Sampson	LEKT	Port Angeles, WA
Mel Elofson	LEKT	Port Angeles, WA
Raymond Moses	LEKT	Port Angeles, WA
Kim Sager-Fradkin	LEKT	Port Angeles, WA
Rebecca Paradis	LEKT	Port Angeles, WA
Roger Peters	FWS	Lacey, WA
Joseph Anderson	WDFW	Olympia, WA
Todd Bennett	NOAA	Seattle, WA
Steve Corbett	NOAA	Seattle, WA
Kinsey Frick	NOAA	Seattle, WA
Anna Kagley	NOAA	Seattle, WA
Martin Liermann	NOAA	Seattle, WA

Sarah Morley	NOAA	Seattle, WA
George Pess	NOAA	Seattle, WA
Keith Denton	NOAA	Seattle, WA
John McMillan	TU	Joyce, WA
Tom Quinn	UW	Seattle, WA
Andrea Ogston	UW	Seattle, WA
Emily Eidam	UW	Seattle, WA
Rebecca Brown	EWU	Cheney, WA
Helen Berry	WA DNR	Olympia, WA
Melissa Foley	USGS-PCMSC (formerly)	Santa Cruz, CA
Ian Miller	USGS-PCMSC (formerly)	Santa Cruz, CA



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### SCIENCE INFORMATION DELIVERY BRANCH

In December 2016, Congress passed the National Park Service Centennial Act. This Act authorized the increase in the price for an America the Beautiful Lifetime Senior Pass from \$10 to \$80. In consideration of seniors on a fixed budget, the legislation also established an annual Senior Pass for \$20. On April 2017, advocate groups for seniors publicized information about the pending price increase, which led to over a 100-fold surge in orders for the Lifetime Senior Pass. The Science Information Delivery (SID) Branch of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), located at the Denver Federal Center, has the responsibility for distributing USGS science products, including NPS park passes. A team of SID members quickly collaborated to develop plans to meet the customer service and product delivery demands for the increase in senior pass orders. For context, the backlog of the Lifetime Senior Pass requests were 64,468 on July 1, and increased to approximately 850,000 before the price change became effective August 28. Contrast with fiscal year 2016, when the total USGS yearly sales for Lifetime Senior Passes was 57,230. The SID deployed process improvements before the official Department of the Interior price increase was announced. They refined order processing and fulfillment procedures to improve the efficiency. As resources were added, the core team collaborated to successfully train more than 90 volunteers, 50 contractors, and 14 new interns to tackle the increase. The team also made personal sacrifices when a second work shift was added, extending the standard workday to 11p.m. These team members volunteered to work late and monitor the work of the newly trained team members. The core team demonstrated an incredible level of collaboration and commitment to the mission. Throughout the prolonged period of high demand, this team demonstrated resilience and their willingness to make personal sacrifices to ensure the success of the mission. For their outstanding contributions to the USGS and the Department of the Interior, the SID Branch is granted the Unit Award for Excellence of Service of the Department of the Interior.

William H. Werkheiser  
Deputy Director



**Award Nominees:**

Jennifer Boyea

Karen Katus

Felix (Randy) Schofield

Mary Buchwald