



Standards Oversight Council (SOC)

Developing effective technical standards that protect Wisconsin's natural resources

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01 Verification of Land Features in Silurian Bedrock/Karst Areas Standard Team

MEETING NOTES

Thursday, February 28, 2019 ▲ 9:30am – 3:00pm ▲

UW Division of Extension - 625 E County Road Y, Meeting Room B, Oshkosh, WI

9:30 Welcome & Introductions

Goal: Familiarize team with other members and their experience related to this standard.

- Review bathroom location, food/beverages
 - Kate may be recording audio for meetings – not for public use but to help my notetaking. You can talk to me if you have concerns about this; it's not necessary.
 - Overall Meeting Goal: Build our understanding of SOC, each other's experience and expectations; identify the main standard issues to be addressed; and develop steps to start addressing them.
 - Introductions around the table: Each in attendance share their name and employer.
 - Present: Kate Brunner, Mark Jenks, Rachel Rushmann, Joe Baeten, Francisco Arriaga, Travis Engels, Amy Haak, Matt Komiskey, Jason Nemecek, Nathen Nysse, Jamie Patton, Tony Reali, and Matt Woodrow.
- Absent: David Hart, Maureen Muldoon.
- Invited guest: Esther Stewart from WGNHS is guest for second half of meeting.

SOC Process, Team Responsibilities

Goal: Establish understanding of SOC process & member expectations.

Kate - Presentation describing SOC process and Kate's role and responsibilities. See slides for details. General points:

- SOC Handbook provides rules for how the process will work. SOC Handbook has details on responsibilities of all participants, including Team Members. It includes a template on style for the standard and defines what a technical standard is, and what it is not.
- We can create a companion document or provide recommendations if there are things outside the scope of a technical standard, but our requirements aren't flexible. DATCP will identify clear sideboards that we have to stick to.
- Team members are encouraged to speak to their colleagues and others in their network to represent broad perspectives as the process moves forward.

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- This is a team process and we strive for consensus. If there is a situation with a dissenting opinion, that party or parties can prepare a statement though in general we strive for true consensus with each team member buying into the final product.
- The team meetings are open to the public, though public may not participate in the process at a routine meeting. There is a public review step near the end.
- Kate maintains a team website with agendas, meeting notes, and other resources for the team to use and for public to stay informed. We will use the closed group email address to communicate directly to each other.

Some key points on Kate's role:

- Coordinate and facilitate standard teams – meeting logistics, agenda, facilitation, recording & distributing meeting notes, maintaining communication via listserv & website, food, drink
- Monitor team progress, follow up on action items, ensure multiple perspectives are represented
- Facilitate the initial & broad review periods, including distributing comments to team
- Assist Team Leaders with meetings and documentation, like drafting Meeting Notes for Team Leader review and distribution
- Lead team evaluation process and implement changes as needed
- Finally, outreach and training upon final publication of standard

DATCP Team Leader role and responsibilities: (co-leaders Rachel and Mark)

- Assist in clarification of goals, provide background materials
- Assist SOC Program Manager with team discussions, meeting mgmt., agenda
- Call out when group is on a tangent OR when topic needs focus offline
- Help identify and assign tasks to appropriate team members
- Serve as main editor of draft standard and revisions
- Review & edit Meeting Notes prior to sharing with full team
- Communicate team progress with Team Sponsor (Matt Woodrow at DATCP)

DATCP Custodian Responsibilities: (Matt W)

- Authorize staff time & resources to commit to standard projects
- Provide guidance and support in the event we have proposed companion documents
- Assist at meetings as requested to define/clarify broad goals and sideboards
- Oversee training & education associated w/ proper implementation of the standard
- Matt W is an agricultural engineer so he can also provide technical input

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Current Resources, Goals & Sideboards

Goal: Provide an overview of NR 151, including the goal/objective of this new standard, how it will be used and by whom, and why it is being created. Define mission & set sideboards.

DNR leads presentation on NR 151 targeted performance standards. See slides for details. Some key points from presentation and team discussion:

- NR 151 targeted performance standards apply to areas of the state with Silurian bedrock is less than 20 feet below ground.
- Requirements are less restrictive as depth increases.
- Maps will be the basis for decisions. If an owner wants to contest the map, then field verification is required—that process is what this standard is defining.
- There are a series of maps by county. **Joe** will share with the team the table of maps for each of the counties with Silurian dolomite and dates the maps last updated.
- UW Green Bay is currently updating depth to bedrock map for Kewaunee County, contracted by WDNR.
- WGNHS is expected to publish bedrock elevation maps for Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties with 10-foot contours.
- Manitowoc County may also have recently updated bedrock maps (or will soon).
- Verification of Land Features standard is related to depth of bedrock. NR151 requirements do not vary by soil type. Team acknowledges that soil type may impact technology used.

DATCP leads presentation. Some key points below:

- DNR has set the targeted performance standards and DATCP sets the procedures for achieving them.
- DATCP Goals
 - Determine appropriate technologies – considering varying depths, costs, and qualified persons for each AND by soil type/condition;
 - Develop methods that are scientifically defensible, practically implementable and cost effective (for both field verification and mapping);
 - Develop standardized method, protocol and documentation procedures for in-field verification;
 - Identify most suitable repository for data collected;
 - Create standard with awareness of possible applicability to other parts of the state.
- Sideboards for this technical standard

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- This standard is being developed to apply to the Silurian Bedrock/Karst areas as included in NR 151;
- This standard is not to create a new regulation or revise or critique NR 151;
- Standard should be scientifically defensible and practically implementable;
- Cost sharing is possible, but not scope of this team. This would require rule changes to be implemented after standard publication.
- Sideboards need to be maintained to keep on track and productive toward preparation of the standard. The team may decide (vote) to provide an official recommendation (for instance to DNR or DATCP), but sideboards are not expected to change.

Note: Some issues brought up during discussion points responding to these presentations were incorporated into list of issues logged during afternoon session.

Group Agreements and Decision-Making

Goal: Allow group to develop a common understanding of how we'll operate as a group and have an opportunity to further define member expectations.

Group agreements are our meeting rules, set to ensure a comfortable and open environment throughout this process. We agree to:

1. Arrive on-time, ready to participate
2. Stay on topic, on agenda
3. Avoid side conversations
4. Respect the decision-making process
5. Respect other members' ideas – do not interrupt
6. Commit to formal team decisions – only revise if new info or reviewer input
7. ID next meetings topics at end of the current meeting
8. Kate/Rachel/Mark – send agenda and readings 1 week prior to next meeting
9. Strive to attend all team meetings **in person**.
 - a. If you can't attend in person, then participation remotely (via webinar style screen sharing and teleconferencing) is acceptable.
 - b. Stand-ins strongly discouraged, though okay if you can't attend in person or remotely. Stand-ins will not be allowed to vote in decisions.
 - c. Please keep Kate informed if you expect to be absent, attend remotely or send a stand-in representative.
 - d. If you miss a meeting, reach out to Rachel and/or Mark and they will discuss meeting details with you.

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Decision making:

- Disagreements are valuable but try to maintain a respectful discussion
- Create consensus: Consider there may be a situation where there may be 1 or 2 disagreeing outliers or evenly represented opposing positions. We may vote on issues with thumbs up, down, side. We may use a different system if we encounter a situation with shades of uncertainty.
In some situations, DATCP may provide clarity for uncertainty or they may make the call on a decision.

Quorums:

- We have 13 team members (includes the leaders)
- Team considers what constitutes a quorum and decides:
 - 75% must be in agreement for decision-making, with minimum of 9 of 13 members attending. (ex. 7 people if 9 in attendance)
 - No meeting held if <9 can attend.

Team Timeline and Meetings

Goal: Set timeline for drafting, reviewing, and completing the standard. Establish meeting frequency, future dates & location.

Review draft timeline:

1. Typical SOC process is 12 to 18 months before the standard is published. This timeline is flexible, it depends on things like progress and negotiations at team meetings, and magnitude of any comments received during initial review or broad review. We will have monthly, in-person meetings. After we get a written product to revise we may have more productivity via email, though that may be a year away.
2. Oshkosh is a good central location. We may move meeting location around as we establish speakers or to set up a field day for direct observations. Kate will arrange for a meeting room at this Extension building or somewhere else in Oshkosh.
3. We started setting up meeting dates —March 25, April 25, May 23, June 27, and July 18, 2019. We don't schedule beyond there but Kate will prepare a poll in a few weeks after some tentative August plans get solidified.

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4. Meetings will typically be 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Kate will set up calendar invitations for the team.

Key Issues for Standard

Goal: Gather input from team on criteria or themes expected to be important and/or challenging.

Team discusses and refines goals for the standard and identifies some key issues (in no particular order). We can revisit this as discussions proceed in subsequent meetings.

Goals:

1. Scientific
2. Cost – affordable to implement (big and small farms), land value impact,
3. Practical
4. Uniform – possible use elsewhere, standardized protocol and documentation

Issues:

1. Use of existing data (grandfathering?) – maps, farmers, county staff, agronomists
2. Define qualifications – initial and QA/QC
3. Flexible – techniques available and appropriate for different depths, soil types
4. Scale – account for variability across property and scale of field, uncertainty and liability
5. Invasiveness of investigation – ability to implement, creating preferential pathway, timing with manure application
6. Repeatable – GPS and mapping accuracy, projection, outliers
7. Time – static or confirm at some frequency?
8. Data management –
 - Whose data is it?
 - Keep available in public repository? (Like Snap Plus)
 - Build a larger map as dataset is built?
 - Soil data not being used for other purposes (regulation)

Prioritize Issues and Identify Research & Presentation Needs

Goal: Agree on the order in which key issues will be addressed, and identify steps to tackle the first item(s). Which issues that will need research, or presentation of research? Identify potential presenters.

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- Mapping – What’s available and in use now? What’s being updated soon? What does SnapMaps show? We should discuss issues with scale and mapping accuracy.
- **Travis** can bring examples of issues with GPS field accuracy.
- **Esther (or Dave, who is not present?)** can provide presentation on WGNHS bedrock map updates for Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties.
- **Matt K.** will look into USGS techniques of mapping.
- For subsequent meeting (2nd or 3rd meeting) – What are varying field methodologies? Discuss pros and cons. We could consider a field trip to see implementation techniques in action.

Next Meeting Topics and Plan of Action

Goal: Identify and understand the topics, concerns, and goals for next meeting. Set agenda items. Review Action Items for next meeting (**Note: assignments are highlighted yellow**).

Recap regarding future meetings:

- Expected to be in Oshkosh area. **Kate** will arrange meeting rooms and then set up invitation with exact location
- Next meetings will be March 25, April 25, May 23, June 27, and July 18, 2019.
- **Kate** will set up poll for August and beyond

Action Items for next meeting:

- **Travis** can bring examples of issues with GPS field accuracy.
- **Esther (and/or Dave, who is not present)** can provide presentation on WGNHS bedrock map updates for Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties.
- **Matt K.** will look into USGS techniques for bedrock mapping.

Reiterate other Action Items developed today:

- **Kate** will draft meeting notes, send them to **Rachel and Mark** for initial review, then on to the full **Team** for review. We will decide to finalize minutes at next meeting.
- **Joe** will share with the team the table of maps for each county and dates last updated.

3:00 End