

Tom Karier
Chair
Washington

Frank L. Cassidy Jr.
"Larry"
Washington

Jim Kempton
Idaho

W. Bill Booth
Idaho



Joan M. Dukes
Vice-Chair
Oregon

Melinda S. Eden
Oregon

Bruce A. Measure
Montana

Rhonda Whiting
Montana

March 1, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Peter Paquet

SUBJECT: Update on the Comprehensive Plan for Data Management

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memo is to provide the Council members with an update on regional efforts to develop a comprehensive data management plan that establishes a coordinated fish and wildlife data management system that addresses regional needs for monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

SIGNIFICANCE:

In its 2007-2009 project funding recommendations the Council stated that it considered project funding recommendations regarding all data management projects to be interim until a coordinated data management plan is developed and comprehensive recommendations can be made in this area. Efforts are underway to develop such a plan and to identify necessary funding requirements.

BACKGROUND:

Over the last several months Council staff has met on a number of occasions with state, tribal, federal agencies and others to discuss the framework for the development of a comprehensive plan for data management for the region. These discussions have focused both on specific data needs (e.g. tribal data, habitat data, etc.) as well as the larger questions of managing and distributing large regional data sets. It has been generally accepted that because of the scale of the problem and the limited availability of resources, that we will start the effort with a series of pilot projects focused on a limited number of subbasins. In addition, entities such as StreamNet and Northwest Habitat Institute (NHI) are developing workplans that will focus on serving

ongoing regional efforts eliminating data gaps in abundance data and identifying habitat indicators.

As anticipated by the Council's decision and recommendation on the FY 2007-2009 projects there are likely to be a number of additional elements related to data management that will require additional funding in order to implement a comprehensive data management plan. Figure 1 provides a framework for developing such a comprehensive plan. The upper portion of the figure describes the general model from which the Council efforts have been proceeding. The lower portion describes the normal data cycle and various entities and coordinating bodies associated with the various tasks. The strategy for developing the comprehensive plan is to define the products and develop budget estimates for each of the data cycle elements and to identify who will perform these tasks. This effort is being coordinated throughout the Northwest Environmental Data-Network (NED). At this meeting staff will discuss the major work elements that have been identified to date and the potential need for additional funding to carry out these efforts. Staff is currently analyzing what effect the Bonneville funding decisions on data management might have on the potential size and scope of the effort for FY 2007-2009 and will provide a preliminary analysis at the meeting.

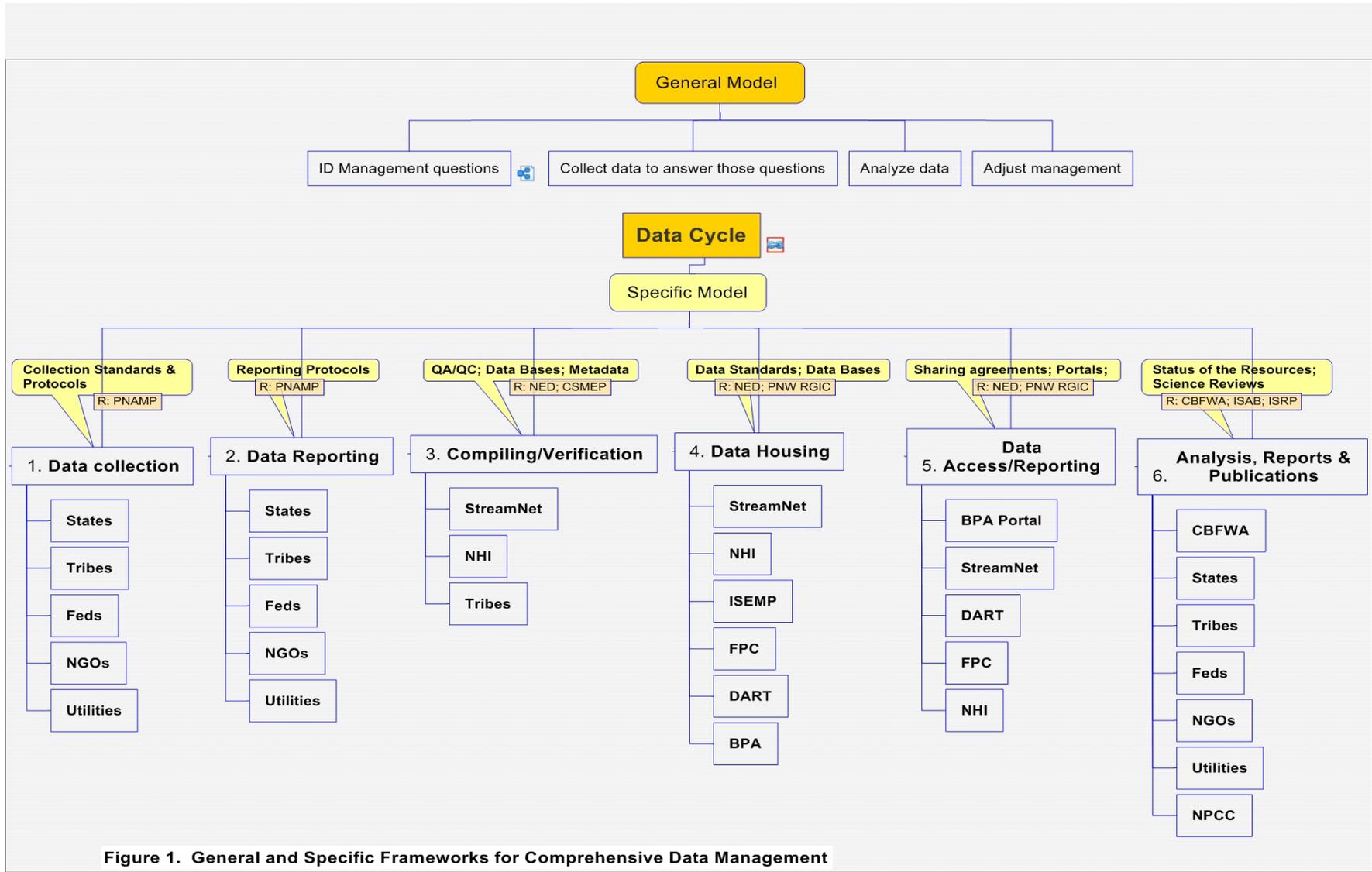


Figure 1. General and Specific Frameworks for Comprehensive Data Management