Final draft

DATA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP, ALL SCIENTISTS MEETING, 9/20/93

I. Reports

A. Chinese Data Management Training Program -James Brunt (SEV)

1. joint funding NSF and Chinese Academy of Sciences
2. Brunt, Conley, and other LTER dm's provide training
3. training program proposed as prototype
4. training manual to be developed

B. Moroccan Connection -El Haddi (CDR)

1. U. of Minn. managed and USAID trained staff and faculty for research in agronomy, soil science, forestry, ecology, etc. in Africa
2. data exists, with little data management or QA/QC
3. Government of Morocco wants to develop data management center and opportunity exists for LTER to play a big role

C. All Site Bibliography -Harvey Chinn (NET)

1. all 18 sites will be included in the all-site bibliography soon (compiled from 12 different systems)
2. has been researching scientific data formats and network data access
3. suggestions were made for updating all-site bibliography
4. need to distinguish between storage format and usage format

D. Environmental Information Management Symposium -Susan Stafford (AND)

1. reviews were on WAIS, but were taken down as per agreement with publisher
2. book is in editing stage, to go to publisher October 30 '93

II. Working Groups

A. 1994 Data Management Workshop Planning group -Barbara Benson (NTL)

1. Seattle, Sept 1994 3 days (1 day dm only, 2 days open)
2. tour of Network office
3. outreach: include representatives from other ecological research networks eg. LMER, OBFS, CML
4. theme: spatial data and metadata
5. working groups to explore possible collaboration

B. Spatial data group -Martha Coleman (CPR)

1. need standards for metadata
2. proposed to use e-mail to work on draft metadata format
3. can't wait until other groups develop (i.e. GIS) -we need it now!

C. Data Exchange group -John Porter (VCR)

1. characteristics: intelligible, retrievable, long time frames, hard/software independent, wide range of data, intraconvertable, extensible, includes standards
2. proposed solutions: NetCDF, SGML, Kirchner, HDF adopt standard data management systems at each site
3. genome white paper available from John Hopkin's Gopher work on federated databases, need to query all, use SQL and remote data access protocols