NYS Geospatial Advisory Council Meeting
March 25th, 2015
Federal Report

Department of Interior - released the first major federal regulations on hydraulic fracking. The rules only cover oil and gas wells drilled on public lands. It allows well inspections, requires disclosure of chemicals used, provides safety standards, and includes requirements to submit detailed information on well geology.

U.S Geological Survey, National Geospatial Program – the national *Hydrography Requirements and Benefits Study* questionnaire closed on March 13th. The top 5 business uses reported were, 1) water quality, 2) river and stream flow management, 3) water resources planning and management, 4) flood risk management and 5) river and stream ecosystem management. Dewberry & Davis is summarizing the responses (over 500) and the final report will be released in the fall.

USGS announces Hydrography Seminar Series – the first topic will be the response to the January 2014 Elk River chemical spill in West Virginia using the RiverSpill model and the Incident Command Tool for Drinking Water Protection. Registration information will be posted on the NY GIS listserve.

Federal Lidar Status for New York

- New York City 2014 – delivered
- Long Island 2014 – 4/2015
- Orange-Ulster-Dutchess – 6/2015
- Schoharie County – 5/2015
- Schoharie Creek Watershed Expansion – 5/2015
- Clinton-Essex-Lake Champlain – 3/2016
- NY Great Lakes - Chautauqua shoreline is available; Orleans County complete and should be available soon; Lake Ontario shoreline collected in Fall '14; additional Lake Ontario & Jefferson County areas to be collected in Spring '15.

NOAA / National Geodetic Survey - Sandy topo/bathy lidar (LAS and DEMs) for the Long Island Atlantic coast will be available this summer.

U. S. Interagency Elevation Inventory (USIEI) – Worked with Tim and Jeff in the GIS Program Office to complete the New York update. Also updated several 2007 FEMA lidar collection footprints, so the USIEI and NYS lidar collection maps are now in agreement.

3D Elevation Program, USGS 2015 Broad Agency Agreement – NY was awarded partnership funding for a 1,840 square mile lidar collection in central NY.

3D Elevation Program, USGS 2016 Broad Agency Agreement – to be announced in July, 2015. Public meetings/webinars to occur in May and June to discuss potential partnerships will be announced in the Federal Register.

New York NRCS - has contracted with Farm Service Agency APFO to scan and georectify NY National High Altitude Program (NHAP) aerial photography from 1981-1985 (date varies across the state). NRCS will utilize these images for historical documentation of wetland compliance issues. Delivery of digital scans is due the end of September 2015. If there is interest in hosting the data on the NYS Orthos Online, it would allow wider distribution of the data outside of NRCS.

Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) – released the first *"Report Card on the National Spatial Data Infrastructure"* (NSDI).

Background from the 2009 National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) report *"The Changing Geospatial Landscape":*

- The Federal government jump-started many of the innovations and collaborations that create the current geospatial environment.
- The detailed street maps that support Web-based mapping applications and in-car navigation systems can be traced to the innovations made by the Census Bureau approximately 40 years ago.
- Nearly all the data, technology and applications we see today can be traced to innovative policies and government policies of the past.
- The relative shifts in data production from the federal government to private sector and state and local government call for new forms of partnership.

Recommended actions from NSDI Report Card:

- The concept of the NSDI Framework needs to be reaffirmed.
- A new model for Framework data needs to be to be adopted, and this new model must acknowledge the importance of local partners.

- The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) needs to emphasize that the Framework is part of its Strategic Plan, and that it will work in collaboration with non-federal and non-governmental partners to build an effective NSDI Framework (datasets and delivery systems).

REPORT CARD GRADES (Figure 1)

The average grade for the seven Framework data themes is C. The NSDI as a comprehensive entity is assigned a grade of C-. Individual grades are identified below. The rationale for these grade assignments can be found in the remainder of this report.

GRADE REPORT OF: National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) **SEMESTER:** Fall 2014

Subject	Dept.	Grade
CADASTRAL DATA	DOI	D+
GEODETIC CONTROL	DOC	B+
ELEVATION DATA	DOI	C+
HYDROGRAPHY DATA	DOI	C
ORTHOIMAGERY DATA	DOI & USDA	C+
GOVERNMENT UNITS DATA	DOC	C
TRANSPORTATION DATA	DOT	D
OVERALL DATA GRADE		C

Subject	Dept.	Grade
CAPACITY	FGDC	C
CONDITION	FGDC	D
FUNDING	Various	D
FUTURE NEED	FGDC	D
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	FGDC	C
PUBLIC USE	FGDC	C
RESILIENCE	FGDC	C
COMPREHENSIVE GRADE		C-

TO: Federal Geographic Data Committee
590 National Center
Reston, Virginia 20192

FROM: Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO)
http://www.cogo.pro
See the full report for an explanation of each grade.

U.S. Government Accounting Office (GAO) – released a Report to Congressional Requesters, *"GEOSPATIAL DATA- Progress Needed on Identifying Expenditures, and Building and Utilizing a Data Infrastructure, and Reducing Duplicate Efforts."*
GAO objectives were:

- Describe the geospatial data that selected federal agencies and states use and how much is spent on geospatial data.
- Assess progress in establishing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI).
- Determine whether selected federal agencies and states invest in duplicate geospatial data.

GAO findings were:

- Federal agencies and states use a wide variety of geospatial data to support their missions, but the reported costs are understated.
- Federal agencies and states reported significant spending on geospatial data and systems, but the amount is understated because not all costs are tracked.
- FGDC has made progress on the NSDI, but shortfalls on key initiatives exist, and states are dissatisfied with coordination efforts.
- Federal departments have made progress on NSDI initiatives, but shortfalls remain and states have concerns about changes in, restrictions on, and limits of coordination.
- Duplicate address data exists within state and federal governments. The multiple initiatives (National Address Database Initiative, Census Geographic Support System Initiative, Next Generation 9-1-1) under way to reduce duplication and increase the sharing of address data face the challenges of statutory restrictions and lack of federal sponsorship.

GAO recommendations are:

- Congress considers assessing statutory limitations on address data to foster progress toward a national address database.
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) improve oversight of FGDC and federal agency initiatives.
- FGDC and selected agencies fully implement initiatives.
- The agencies generally agreed with the recommendations and identified plans to implement them.

The Hatch-Warner Geospatial Data Act of 2015 – a bipartisan bill that will go a long way toward addressing the problems reported in the GAO report. The bill was assigned to a congressional committee on March 16th, 2015, which will consider it before possibly sending it on to the House or Senate as a whole. The act rehashes the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and National Geographic Advisory Council (NGAC), and codifies National Geographic Data Assets (NGDA) and Geoplatform (electronic service to provide access to geospatial data and metadata).