



1994 National Spatial Data Infrastructure Competitive Cooperative Agreements Program

The National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Competitive Cooperative Agreements Program was established by the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) to help form partnerships with the non-Federal sector that will assist in the evolution of the NSDI. This program provides funding for cooperative agreements to State and local government agencies, institutions of higher education, and private organizations. The goal is to encourage resource-sharing projects through the use of technology, networking, and more efficient interagency coordination.

For further information about the program, contact the FGDC Secretariat, c/o U.S. Geological Survey, 590 National Center, Reston, Virginia 22092; telephone (703) 648-5514; facsimile (703) 648-5755; or Internet gdc@usgs.gov.

The 1994 Program

In September 1994, the FGDC completed granting awards for the first year of the program. The nine grants totaled nearly \$225,000. These awards support the development and implementation of the National Geospatial Data Clearinghouse (NGDC) for finding and accessing geospatial data, or the development and promulgation of FGDC-endorsed standards in data collection, documentation, transfer, and search and query. The FGDC received 37 applications for the fiscal year 1994 competition.

A brief summary of each funded project follows. The summary includes the list of participating agencies and the name and contact information for the project director.



An NSDI Internet Node for the State of Texas

The Texas Natural Resources Information System (TNRIS) plans to create an Internet node for distributing Texas' digital environmental data to the public and private sectors. The TNRIS will use Mosaic and Spatial Wide Area Information Service (WAIS) software to create an accessible user interface to its GIS data base. The node will incorporate FGDC policies and standards for data collection, storage, and transfer. Users will be able to download TNRIS GIS data, obtain data information, and communicate with the TNRIS staff. Internet users will also be able to access other State, Federal, and local servers through the TNRIS node. Listings of other agencies' holdings will be available through the TNRIS node. The node will promote FGDC goals and provide a major point of access for Texas' natural resources data.

Collaborating Organizations: 18 State agencies: Texas Natural Resources Information System; Texas Water Development Board; General Land Office; Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Texas Department of Transportation; Railroad Commission of Texas; Bureau of Economic Geology; Office of the Governor; Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission; Texas Forest Service; Texas Department of Commerce; Texas Department of Health; The University of Texas at Austin; Texas Department of Agriculture; Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board; Texas Historical Commission; Texas Office of the State-Federal Relations; Office of the Attorney General of Texas.

The 1995 Program

The 1995 program will invite proposals on three elements of the NSDI: the development and implementation of the clearinghouse, implementation of FGDC-endorsed standards, and development of software tools or techniques to aid in the evaluation of geospatial metadata or data through the National Geospatial Data Clearinghouse. Proposals must involve two or more organizations. The participants must provide matching funds or resources. Funding for 1995 will total \$500,000.

*An explanation of the program and application materials will be available in November 1994. The open period for proposals will be 90 days. Formal announcement of the program will be published in the Commerce Business Daily and the Federal Register, and also will be available from the FGDC anonymous FTP server (<ftp://fgdc.er.usgs.gov>). Copies of the materials may be requested in writing from Nedra Stallone, U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Procurements and Contracts, Mail Stop 205A, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 22092. Requests also may be made by facsimile to Cindy Sather at (703) 648-7901. Please note **Program Announcement 8110** in the request.*

Point of Contact: Roger Jaster; TNRIIS; Texas Water Development Board; P.O. Box 13231; Austin, Texas 78711-3231; telephone (512) 463-7957; facsimile (512) 463-9893; Internet jaster@twdb.texas.gov

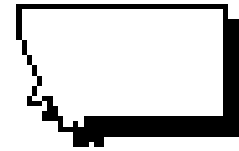


The Integration of Florida Citizens and State and Local Governments into NSDI Initiatives

This project will collect geospatial metadata for data sets developed by Florida State agencies and by counties surrounding Tallahassee, Florida, in accordance with the FGDC-approved Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata. This collected information will be put on an Internet node running WAIS server software on the Tallahassee Free-Net and will be incorporated into the clearinghouse. The experiences gained in collecting these metadata will help identify impediments to the adoption and use of the clearinghouse and other NSDI initiatives by local and State governments and will help solve these problems. The metadata information and selected data sets will also be accessible to local citizens. Citizens will be provided with access to the clearinghouse through the Tallahassee Free-Net. Data sets will be made available through customized CD-ROM's developed for each participating library branch. User feedback will be evaluated to help improve local and State geospatial data access and usage.

Collaborating Organizations: Florida State University; Growth Management Data Network Coordinating Council; Leon County Public Library; Wilderness Coast Library Coalition; Tallahassee Free-Net; Leon County Growth and Environmental Management.

Principal Contact: Dean K. Jue; Florida State University; Office of Research; 101 Morgan Building; 2035 East Paul Dirac Drive; Tallahassee, Florida 32306-3067; telephone (904) 644-3410; facsimile (904) 576-2207; Internet djue@opus.freac.fsu.edu



Montana GIS Data Clearinghouse

The State of Montana will establish multiple nodes on the National Spatial Data Infrastructure, implement the FGDC metadata standards, facilitate implementation of the Spatial Data Transfer Standard, update the Montana GIS Standards Plan to bring it in line with FGDC goals, design tools for accessing geospatial data, and provide more communication opportunities for geospatial GIS users within the State.

Collaborating Organizations: Natural Resource Information System, Montana State Library; The Montana GIS Interagency Technical Working Group comprised of: U.S. Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management; Fish and Wildlife Service, Charles Russell Wildlife Refuge; U.S. Geological Survey; Bureau of Indian Affairs; Bureau of Mines, Western Field Operations; National Park Service, Grant Kohrs Ranch); U.S. Department of Agriculture (Forest Service, Region 1; Soil Conservation Service, Montana State Office); U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Region VIII, Montana Office); U.S. Department of Energy (Bonneville Power Administration); State of Montana (Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; State Library, NRIS; Montana State University; University of Montana; Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission; Department of State Lands; Department of Transportation; Bureau of Mines and Geology; Legislative Council).

Principal Contact: Fred Gifford; Natural Resource Information System; 1515 East Sixth Avenue; Helena, Montana 59620-1800; telephone (406) 444-5357; facsimile (406) 444-0581; Internet fgifford@nrms.msl.mt.gov

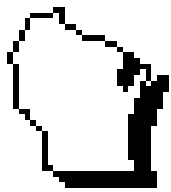


Establishing a National Geospatial Data Clearinghouse Node in Iowa

This project will create a prototype node of the clearinghouse in the State of Iowa. The node will be developed and maintained by two State agencies, the State Library of Iowa and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The Iowa Geospatial Data Clearinghouse will initially offer three services. The first is a directory of geospatial data information sources will be created and maintained on an Internet server at the State Library of Iowa. This directory of geodata sources will provide locators to frequently requested information, with particular emphasis on subjects typically handled by the State Data Center of the State Library of Iowa. Secondly, access will be provided to Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Natural Resource Geographic Information System (NRGIS) library, consisting of 380 ARC/INFO coverages in ARC/INFO export format. Finally, users will have access to FGDC metadata text files for the NRGIS library coverages. The NRGIS library's existing set of documentation will be converted to comply with the FGDC-approved Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata.

Collaborating Organizations: Iowa Department of Natural Resources; Iowa Department of Education.

Principal Contact: Bernie Hoyer; Iowa DNR; Geological Survey Bureau; 109 Trowbridge Hall; Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1319; telephone (319) 335-1575; facsimile (319) 335-2754; Internet bhoyer@gsbth-po.igsb.uiowa.edu



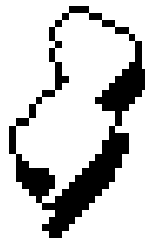
Wisconsin NSDI Clearinghouse Initiative

The Wisconsin NSDI Clearinghouse Initiative is a pilot project structured to accomplish four primary objectives: (1) establish and manage an NSDI clearinghouse network node on the Internet for posting and accessing various Wisconsin digital geospatial metadata; (2) to collect, compile, and post metadata in accordance with the FGDC approved Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata; these metadata describe primary data holdings of cooperating Federal and Wisconsin State and local agencies; (3) to establish NSDI clearinghouse activities as an integral component of the geographic and land information system services in Wisconsin; and (4) make the compiled metadata and the metadata content standards used in this project available to all participating agencies.

Collaborating Organizations:

Wisconsin Land Information Board; Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office; U.S. Soil Conservation Service; Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey; Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Wisconsin Department of Transportation; Dodge County Survey and Description Department; Marathon County Planning Department; Winnebago County Planning and Zoning Department.

Principal Contact: Ted Koch, Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office, 550 North Park Street; Madison, WI 53706; telephone (608) 262-6852; facsimile (608) 262-5205.

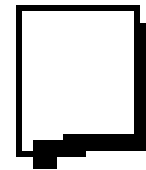


Contributing New Jersey's GIS User Network and Geographic Information to the NSDI

The State of New Jersey draws upon a statewide network of partners who use GIS's and collect geographic information. The project will foster a collaboration between the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Rutgers University and is coordinated by the New Jersey State Mapping Advisory Committee (NJSMAC), which serves to coordinate GIS activities in the State. The goal during the first year of the project is to provide the National Spatial Data Clearinghouse with a New Jersey node that will provide access to a statewide inventory of GIS users and digital data based on an already existing New Jersey GIS Resource Guide. Documentation of data holdings will be in accordance with the FGDC-approved Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata. Organizations that meet the standards will be encouraged by the NJSMAC to share data using the node managed by Rutgers University. A final component of the project will be the coordinating several regional GIS workshops throughout New Jersey to educate the public about NSDI, the Clearinghouse, and data sharing.

Collaborating Organizations: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; Rutgers University.

Principal Contact: Henry L. Garie; New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; Office of Information Resources Management, GIS Program; 401 East State Street (CN 428); Trenton, New Jersey 08625; telephone (609) 984-6639; facsimile (609) 292-7340.



Conversion of New Mexico's Resource Geographic Information System Metadata to FGDC Metadata Standards

This project supports the FGDC's NSDI requirement to promote sharing of spatial data. New Mexico's Resource Geographic Information System (RGIS) Program, begun in 1988, operates an on-call clearinghouse that uses a metadata system developed by the New Mexico Geographic Information Council (NMGIC) and the State's Geographic Information System Advisory Council (GISAC). This metadata system will be modified to fit the FGDC-approved Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata. The following four tasks were proposed to accomplish this: (1) learn the FGDC metadata standards during a training period; (2) compare and evaluate the two metadata approaches to determine what is immediately adaptable and what will require additional work (for example, the creation of a composite metadata template to facilitate data conversion); (3) implement the FGDC metadata standards for existing RGIS metadata and State agency holdings not currently contained in the RGIS clearinghouse; and (4) install and test metadata retrieval over the Internet.

Collaborating Organizations: Earth Data Analysis Center, University of New Mexico; State of New Mexico.

Principal Contact: Amelia M. Budge; Earth Data Analysis Center; University of New Mexico; 2500 Yale SE, Suite 100; Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131-6031; telephone (505) 277-3622; facsimile (505) 277-3614; Internet edac@spock.unm.edu

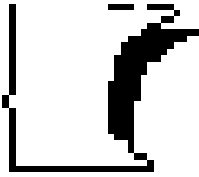


**North Carolina
Geographic
Data
Clearinghouse**

On behalf of the North Carolina Geographic Information Coordinating Council, the Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (CGIA), the agency responsible for coordinating the State's digital geographic information, plans to create and provide access to geospatial metadata over the Internet. The existing North Carolina corporate geographic data base, which has more than 60 layers, will be documented using the FGDC-approved Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata. Mosaic software will be used to provide access to both the corporate metadata and the applicable graphic status maps. Mosaic will be used to construct and serve a North Carolina Geographic Data Source Directory of digital geographic data resources from government agencies and other organizations across the State; the directory will have hypertext links to the source agencies. The CGIA will help agencies with construction of their own metadata in accordance with the FGDC metadata standards, through demonstrations and pilot projects.

Collaborating Organizations: Center for Geographic Information and Analysis, North Carolina Office of State Planning; North Carolina Geographic Information Coordinating Council; State Government GIS User Committee; Affiliated GIS User Group.

Principal Contact: Karen Siderelis, Director; Center for Geographic Information and Analysis; North Carolina Office of State Planning; 115 Hillsborough Street; Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-1721; telephone (919) 733-2090; facsimile (919) 715-0725; Internet karen@cgia.state.nc.us



**Geospatial
Data
Standards
Education in
Minnesota**

Alexandria Technical College (ATC) in Minnesota will develop training programs to address FGDC standards for producing geospatial data. These training programs will promote better management of geospatial data and more efficient collection, maintenance, access, and transfer of new data. The ultimate goal of this standards training will be to maximize data usefulness for users of multiple data. Also, a test site will be established in the GIS computer lab within ATC, where analysis functions can test the digital geospatial data for compliance with data standards.

Collaborating Organizations:

Alexandria Technical College;
Minnesota Department of Natural
Resources.

Principal Contact: Kevin Kopschke and Kathy Kvitek; Alexandria Technical College; GIS Customized Training Department; 1601 Jefferson Street; Alexandria, MN 56308; telephone (612) 762-4404; facsimile (612) 762-4634; Internet 0206atc@InforMNs.K12.mn.us