

Program Partners Working Group (PPWG)

ESRI Federal Users Conference

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Background

- Long term partnership between U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) has existed due to complimentary missions of domestic and international mapping.
- Events of 9/11 expanded collaboration to include homeland security/defense and emergency preparedness/response missions.



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New USGS and NGA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- Umbrella agreement
- Establishes framework to coordinate and cooperate to create and maintain geospatial information and perform scientific analysis.
- Effective May 19, 2006
- Signed by then Directors General Clapper and Dr. P. Patrick Leahy.



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Geospatial Information for Homeland Security Annex

- First annex under the MOU.
- Annex describes:
 - The partnership and responsibilities of the participating organizations to create and maintain geospatial information needed to support homeland security.
 - How these organizations will cooperate to create and provide a compatible and complementary, nationally consistent set of geospatial data and information for homeland security.
- Program Partners Working Group formed to develop, monitor and evaluate a plan to implement the Annex.



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Partners in the PPWG

- Partnership further extended to include the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as a participating partner on the PPWG to further coordinate execution of the responsibilities that the organizations share, or contribute toward, with the common goal of providing geospatial information for homeland security.
- With the agreement of the partners, other organizations may be invited to participate in the PPWG as non-voting members.
- Invited Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and America's Security Affairs as a participant.
- All Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-level Data (HIFLD) sponsors now participate in the PPWG.



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Partners in the PPWG

- PPWG Membership
 - Wendy Budd (USGS Geospatial Information Office)
 - Jim Neighbors (NGA Office of Americas)
 - Dan Cotter (DHS Geospatial Management Office)
- Meetings
 - USGS Reston on a monthly basis.
- Working Groups
 - Data Acquisition
 - Homeland Security Infrastructure Program (HSIP) Freedom
 - Other working groups may be created to perform specific program tasks and functions to meet PPWG goals.



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Data Acquisition Working Group

- Purpose
 - Improve coordination on imagery and LIDAR acquisitions by PPWG members.
 - Improve communication of acquisition information to other agencies outside the PPWG.
 - Expand the user community to bring in more partners for imagery and LIDAR acquisition.
 - Builds on successful 133 Urban Area initiative.
- Chaired by NGA Office of Americas
 - Bill Nellist, william.e.nellist@nga.mil
- Responsibilities
 - New data acquisition / data purchase
 - Data licensing
 - Contracting
 - Program data acquisition requirements
 - Seek partnership opportunities
- Immediate focus on LIDAR and commercial airborne data



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Data Acquisition Working Group Highlights

- Bare-Earth LIDAR data release to USGS with no restrictions.
- Collaboration with agency priorities.
- Cost-sharing of commercial airborne data.
- Leverage USGS state liaison network.



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HSIP Freedom Working Group

- Purpose
 - Collaborate on acquisition strategies, quality assurance, partnership development, information content as well as processing, storage, maintenance and dissemination of HSIP Freedom data.
- Chaired by DHS
 - Mike Lee, michael.p.lee@dhs.gov
- Responsibilities
 - Defining data content
 - Prioritizing data content
 - Developing data model
 - Directing and monitoring data acquisition
 - Dissemination of data and related products
 - Developing data quality standards
- Immediate focus on establishing base-level guidance for HSIP Freedom data-sharing program and planning for initial data release (Fall 2008).



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HSIP Freedom Working Group Highlights

- Writing HSIP Freedom White Paper and Business Plan.
- Determining candidate HSIP Freedom data sets.
- Establishing use and access constraints and user agreement statements.
- Finalizing initial HSIP Freedom dissemination list.
- Communicating with HSIP Freedom contractor.



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