

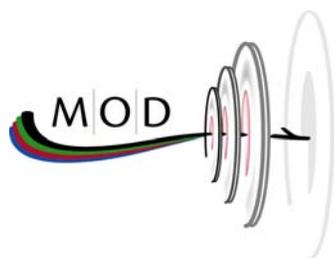
# Geospatial Data Coordination

# Geospatial Coordination

# Appendix A

Version 1.2

September 2006





## Document History

### Document Location

<b>Location</b>
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### Revision History

Version Number	Version Date	Summary of Changes	Team/Author
Draft 1.0	January 10, 2006		JT, XL, DL/SB, XL
Draft 1.1	March 10, 2006		JT, XL, DL/SB, XL
1.1	June 16, 2006	Formatting changes only	J.McCarty
1.2	August 25, 2006	Updates Spring 2006 Report	J.McCarty, XL, DL, SB

### Approvals

This document requires the approval of the following persons:

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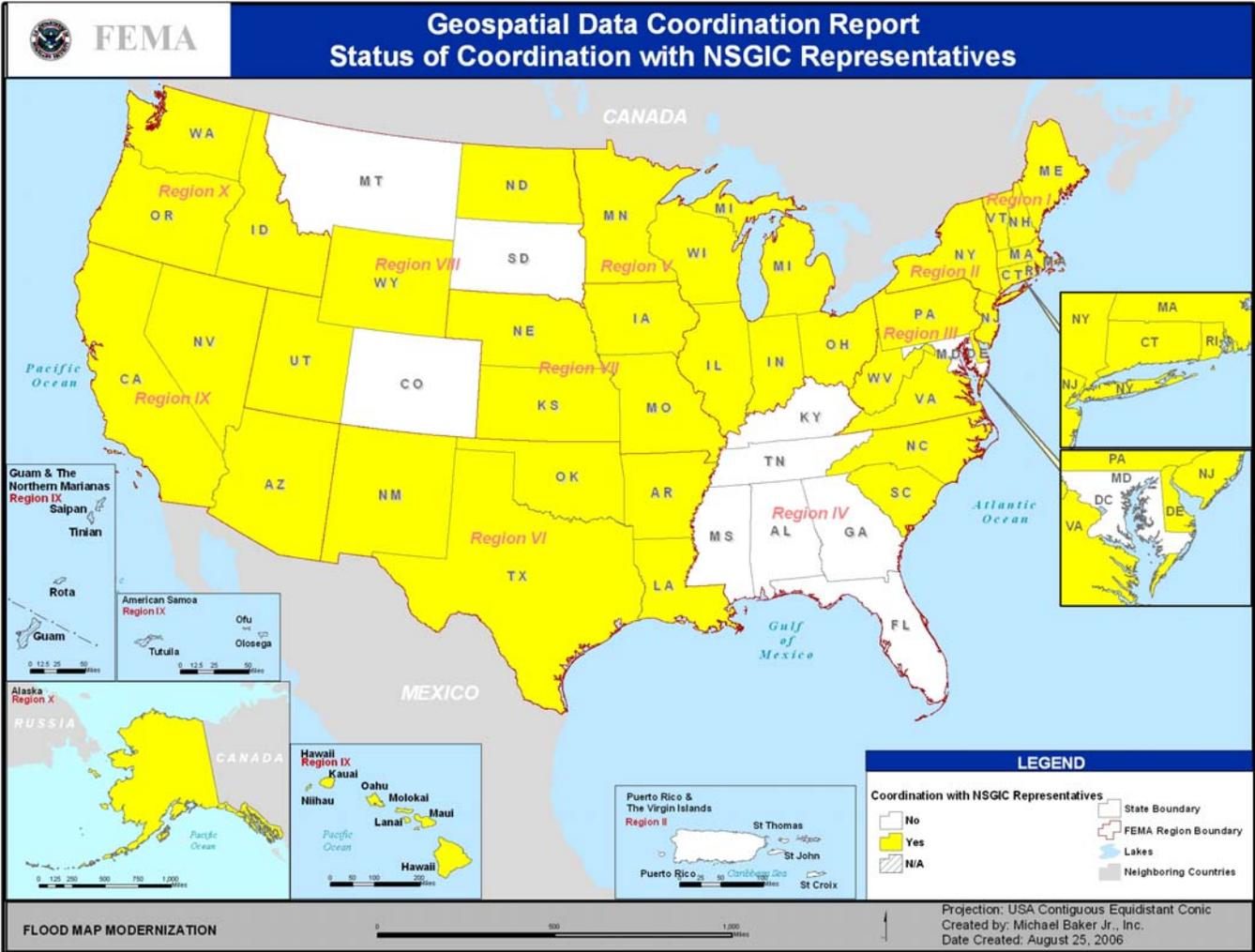
## 1. Introduction

This report tracks the current status of the following aspects of the Geospatial Data Coordination effort:

- Status of coordination between each Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Management Center (RMC) and the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) representative of each State. Under the Geospatial Data Coordination effort, each RMC is expected to develop working relationships with the NSGIC representatives of States in its region. Through this coordination, the NSGIC representatives would help the RMC identify existing and potential data resources at the local, regional, and/or State levels.
- Status of updating the Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure (State Standard Operation Procedures (SOP)) for each State. These SOPs were originally developed using the results of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) State survey. These data were inserted into a standard template provided to each RMC. The RMCs have been responsible for maintaining these documents since then. These SOPs provide geospatial data contacts and resources to help FEMA's mapping partners coordinate, access, and utilize the most up-to-date information on the current status of data holdings and future projects for Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) in the respective State.
- Status of project entry into the National Data Elevation Program (NDEP) and the National Digital Orthophoto Program (NDOP) project tracker. The NDEP/NDOP project tracker is a metadata catalog with a query and map interface that allows user to find planned data collection projects in their area of interest. The intent is to facilitate data sharing and cost sharing for elevation and imagery data. NDEP is a multi-agency program that was established to promote the exchange of accurate digital elevation data among government, private, and non-profit sectors, and the academic community. NDOP is a consortium of federal agencies with the purpose of developing and maintaining national orthoimagery coverage in the public domain by establishing partnerships with Federal, State, local, tribal, and private organizations.

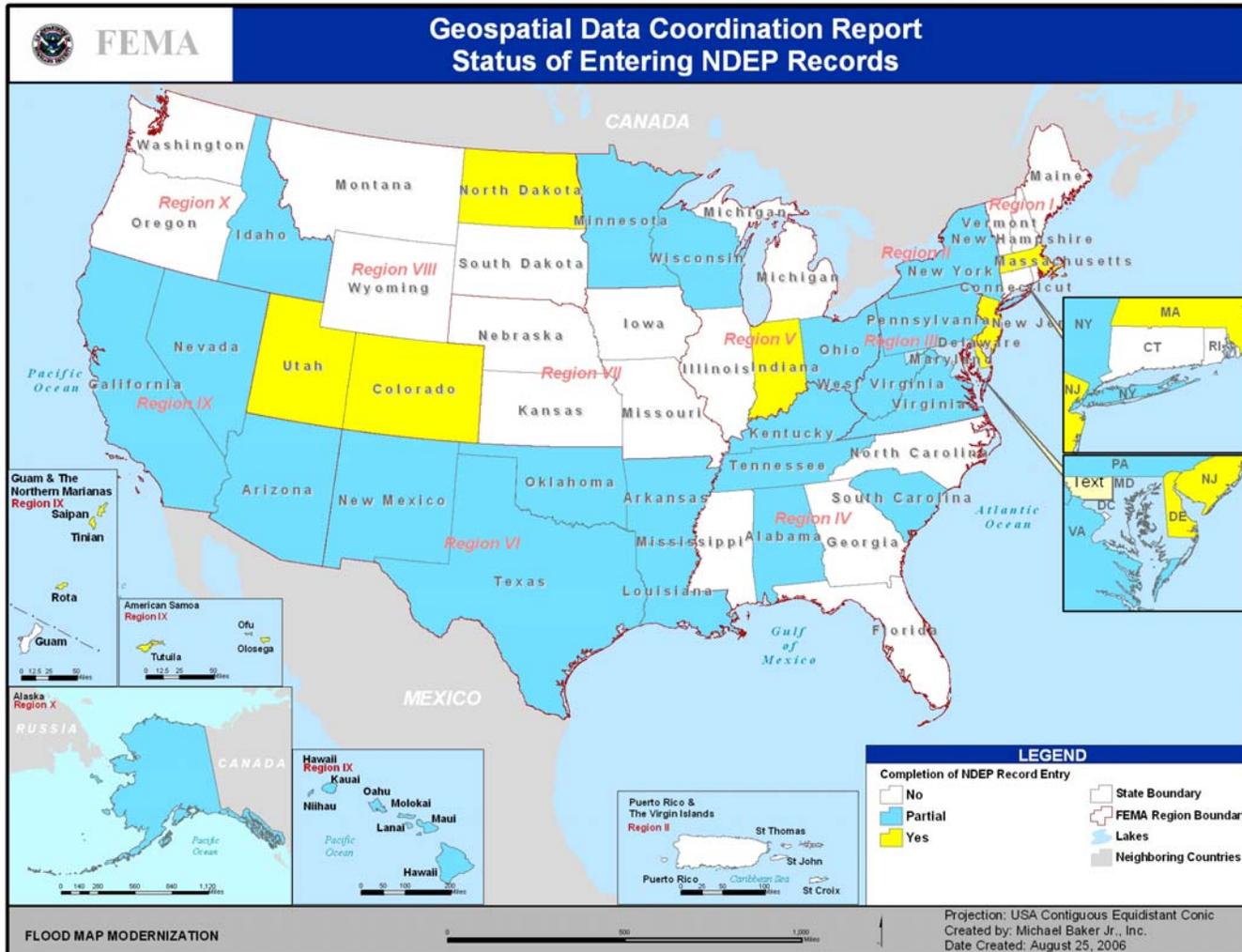


## 2. Status of NSGIC Coordination Map

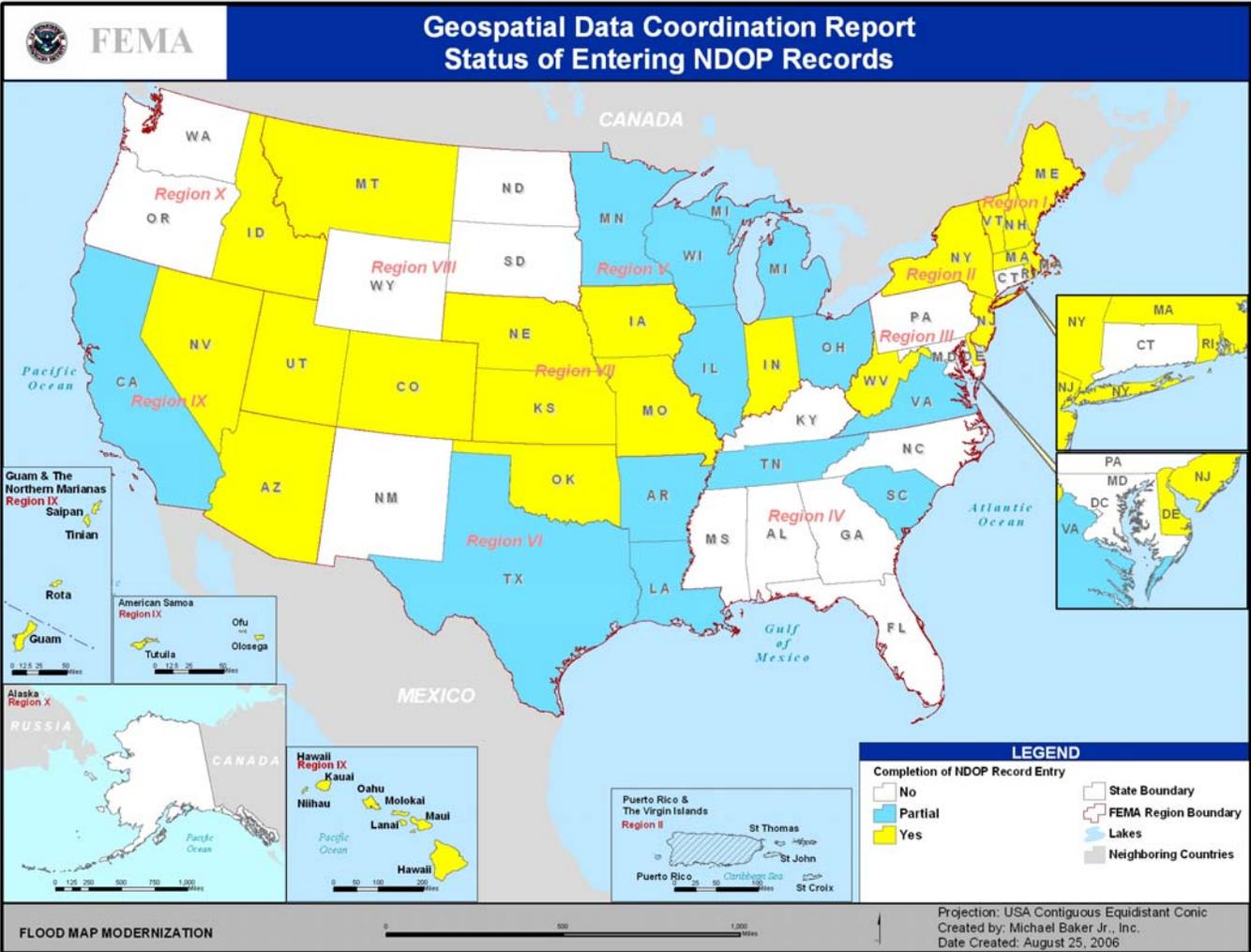


# Geospatial Data Coordination

## 3. Status of NDEP Data Entry Map

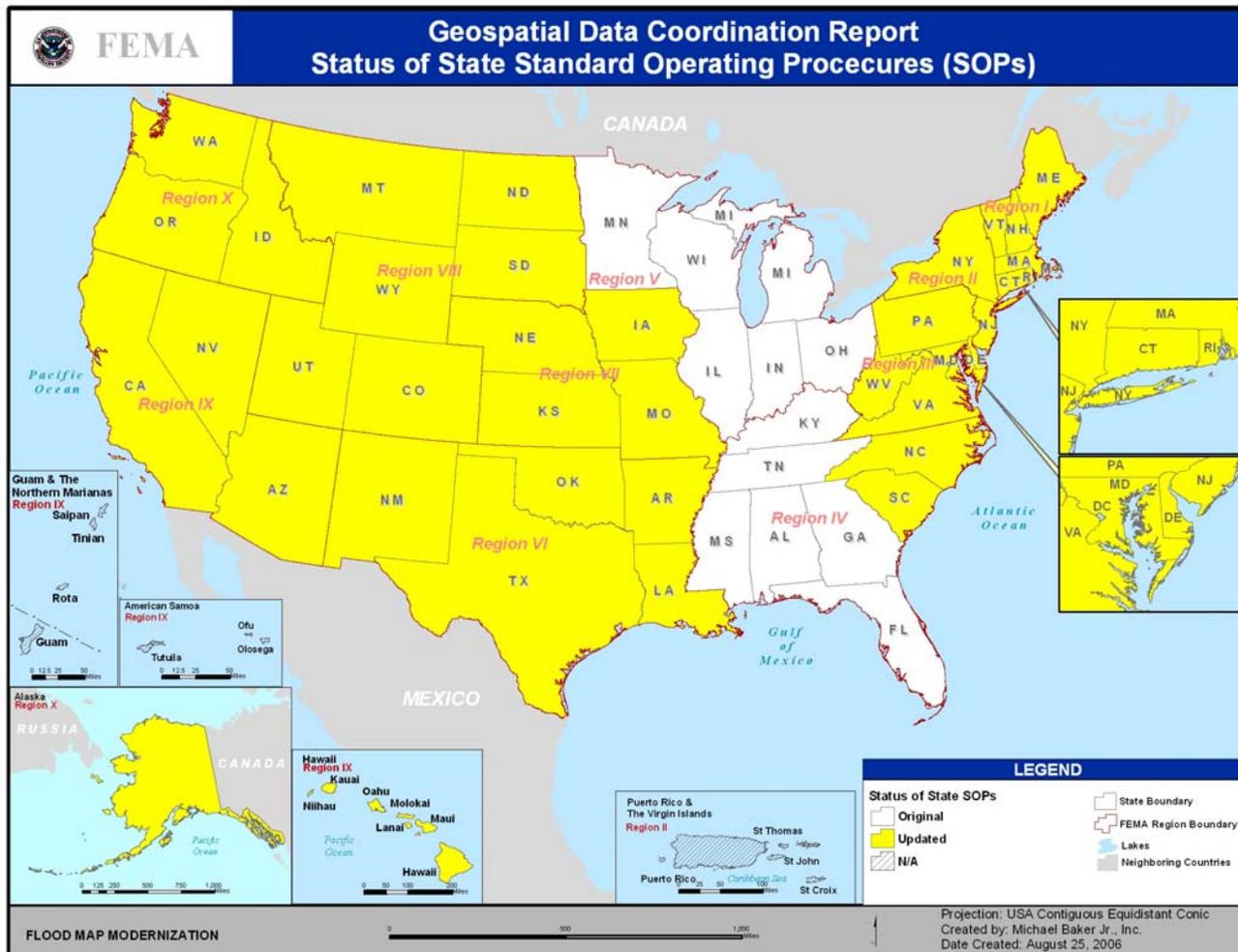


### 4. Status of NDOP Data Entry Map



# Geospatial Data Coordination

## 5. Status of State Geographic Data Coordination Procedures (State SOP's) Update Map



# 6.0 Region Specific Issues, Comments, and Corrective Actions

## 6.1 Region I

RMC 1 has not reported problems with any of its coordination efforts. The RMC is actively working with its NSGIC representatives to keep their State SOP documents up to date or to update those which have not yet been addressed.

## 6.2 Region II

RMC-2 maintains communication with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, in particular Ricardo Lopez, the NSGIC Elevation data contact for New York State. RMC-2 also maintains communication with Suzy Hess from New Jersey Office of Information Technology who is the NSGIC representative for orthoimagery and elevation data for the state of New Jersey.

## 6.3 Region III

RMC 3 has continued to develop relationships with NSGIC representatives in Region III and continues to work on the SOP's for their region. Metadata entries into the NDEP/NDOP project trackers continue as additional data sets are identified for use in Region III projects.

## 6.4 Region IV

RMC 4 is in the process of updating the NDEP/NDOP spread sheet. They have two of the SOP's updated (SC and NC) so far. They are also in the process of coordinating with the NSGIC representatives and getting their input to update the state SOPs.

## 6.5 Region V

RMC 5 has several different issues associated with documenting the elevation and imagery data for their projects. There is a large number of studies that require metadata documentation (166), the scoping documents for these studies do not usually contain the information that is needed for the metadata record, supplying the necessary information to the RMC has not been a priority of the mapping partners, and response to the hurricanes in 2005 pulled resources from this activity to support the Regional office in Fiscal Year 2006. A reporting gap continues to exist between the RMC and NSGIC representatives of the respective states.

The RMC's proposed corrective actions are:

1. Work with the Region to underscore the importance of collecting this metadata information from the mapping partners.
2. Work with the Region to ensure appropriate metadata information is collected at the scoping meetings in Fiscal Year 2006.
3. Work with the NSGIC representatives on a monthly basis to build a stronger relationship.

### 6.6 Region VI

RMC 6 spent considerable time and effort filling in gaps for metadata by contacting counties and communities to obtain contact information and data specifications. Currently 75% of all Elevation records have been entered into NDEP by RMC staff. NDOP has not yet been populated but is scheduled for completion by September 1, 2006.

### 6.7 Region VII

RMC 7 has not reported any problems with geospatial coordination; they continue to be very active in the Region's geospatial activities. Region VII recently held their semi-annual NFIP meeting with the four states, August 15-16, 2006. RMC7 made a presentation on the status of Geospatial Coordination in the region. The states would like to review the SOPs again and suggest changes. RMC7 will follow-up with each state and send the updated SOPs to Alexandria as soon as they are returned by each state. Monthly coordination takes place with the NSGIC representatives as they are members of the MidAmerica GIS Consortium which meets on a monthly basis.

### 6.8 Region VIII

RMC 8 reports that although they have been actively pursuing working relationships with all of their NSGIC representatives, they have not yet been able to establish contact with two of them. All of their State SOP's have been updated either by simply cleaning them up to make them more readable, or by updating the information in them in conjunction with their NSGIC representatives. The RMC's gap in their NDEP/NDOP reporting is a lack of information for documenting several of the projects in their Region. The information is not in the scoping documents and has not yet been provided by the partners.

The RMC's proposed corrective actions are:

1. The RMC will continue their attempts at building working relationships with the NSGIC representatives they have not yet been able to reach.
2. The RMC is going to work with the Region on stressing to the partners the importance to FEMA of documenting this information.

### 6.9 Region IX

RMC 9 has made the effort to bridge the gaps in its coordination with NSGIC representatives. The RMC staff initiated conference calls to discuss geospatial data coordination needs with the HI and NV NSGIC reps on May 4 and May 10, respectively. The RMC also met with the NSGIC rep from AZ at the CalGIS conference and discussed data sharing opportunities in the context of FEMA MapMOD initiatives. RMC IX has formed close working relationships with the CA NSGIC rep and USGS liaison, and has been actively involved in the imagery workgroup and CA geospatial framework activities in the state.

As a follow-up to these conference calls, RMC IX sent the SOPs to the NSGIC reps and solicited feedback from them to update the SOPs.

Identifying and obtaining adequate and complete metadata from mapping partners is still a challenge for RMC IX to support NDEP/NDOP metadata entry. However, the RMC has assumed a more proactive role in contacting the original data owners and obtaining metadata directly from them. The RMC has also looked into Technical Support Data Notebooks (TSDNs) as an additional source for study information. Future effort will be directed towards collecting the missing information from the mapping partners.

### 6.10 Region X

The RMC10 staff is waiting for responses from all parties. A disconnect between the NDEP/NDOP effort and the need from the ID/IQ's, Study Contractors or CTP's to provide Metadata in a timely manner has been found. Furthermore, numerous partners did not have time to create or save the metadata. This deficiency is the biggest gap in recording data in the NDEP/NDOP.

### 6.11 NSP Headquarters

The Geospatial Data Coordination and Standardization (GDSCS), based in the NSP headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia has continued to coordinate geospatial data coordination activities through a dedicated Field Team that assists GIS staff and management with geospatial coordination procedures and tools. Regular conference calls are also held to discuss and resolve the issues outlined above as well as to geospatial coordination and standards and to resolve issues each RMC may be experiencing.