

State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Georgia

FINAL

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FEMA

State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Georgia

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State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Purpose of the Procedure

Flood Insurance Studies involve searching for geospatial data during Discovery (formerly pre-scoping and scoping) tasks. If needed data are not available, studies might include funds that allow for the collection of new data and, where applicable, encourage cost sharing among existing organizations. Detailed information about the role geospatial data coordination plays in studies is in the *Geospatial Data Coordination Implementation Guide*, which is available at https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/docs/GeoDataImplem_V3.pdf, and in *Scoping Guidelines: Pre-scoping and the Scoping Meeting*, which is available through the Regional Service Center (RSC).

Resources developed through FEMA's geospatial data coordination activities provide information about data and contacts for organizations that have geospatial data that cover large areas (like States) in which many agencies are interested. Dead-end searches and cold calls can be avoided by starting with these proven sources of information.

One resource is this Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure. It outlines sources of geospatial data and contact information, preferences for base map data and State geospatial participation in studies, and other useful information for the State.

If you have questions about this procedure or other geospatial data coordination resources, contact the geospatial data coordination lead in your RSC:

Mckenzie Houston
COMPASS Regional Support Center 4
1360 Peachtree Street, Suite 500
Atlanta, GA 30309
(404) 965-9710
mckenzie.houston@aecom.com

This document will be shared with the appropriate Regional and State geospatial leads for feedback and comments.

Default Flood Hazard Base Map for the State

The default base map for flood hazard maps for the State is an image base map (orthophoto).

Geospatial Data Coverage

Below, you will find links to statewide (and Federal agencies' national) geospatial datasets and information about them. The list is provided to save time when building a list of candidate geospatial datasets available for the study during Discovery activities; it is not a prescription of datasets that must be used in a flood insurance study.

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Major State Holdings

Orthophotos

Dataset name: National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)

Data currentness: varies

Accuracy/Scale: 1:12,000

Ground sample resolution: 1 meter

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: <http://data.georgiaspatial.org>

Dataset contact: USDA-FSA Aerial Photography Field Office, 2222 West 2300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84119-2020 Phone: (801) 844-2922, Fax: (801) 956-3653

Transportation (roads, railroads, and airports)

Dataset name: Roads & Highways – Base Map

Data currentness: various dates

Accuracy/Scale: 1:12,000

Horizontal datum: UTM, NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: <http://data.georgiaspatial.org>

Dataset contact: Eric McRae, Associate Director, mcrae@uga.edu, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, ITOS Division, University of Georgia, 1180 East Broad Street, Suite 2058, Athens, GA, 30602-5418, Phone: (706) 542-5308

Hydrography (rivers, streams, lakes, and shorelines)

Dataset name: National Hydrography Dataset

Data currentness: varies

Accuracy/Scale: 1:24,000

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Are hydrography names part of the dataset? Yes

Dataset source: <http://nhd.usgs.gov/> and <http://viewer.nationalmap.gov/viewer/nhd.html?p=nhd>

Dataset contact: National Geospatial Technical Operations Center, U.S. Geological Survey, <http://ngtoc.usgs.gov/>

Notes: This dataset is currently the best available statewide, but Georgia is preparing to take stewardship and revise this dataset in the coming months, so this dataset may change in the near future.

Political boundaries (county, municipal)

Dataset name: Administrative Boundaries - DOT

Data currentness: varies

Accuracy/Scale: 1:31,680

Horizontal datum: UTM Majority Zone

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

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Dataset source: <http://data.georgiaspatial.org>

Dataset contact: Geoffrey Garland: ggarland@cviog.itos.uga.edu, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, ITOS Division, University of Georgia, 1180 East Broad Street, Suite 2076, Athens, GA, 30602-5418, Phone: (706) 542-0246, Fax: (706) 542-6535

Notes: As some community boundaries may be out of date, it is best to consult the local community about recent updates and new data.

Dataset name: TIGER/Line® Shapefiles and TIGER/Line® Files

Data currentness: 2010

Accuracy/Scale: CE95 at 7.6 meters (about twenty-five feet) or better

Horizontal datum: GCS NAD83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: <http://www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/>

Dataset contact: Geographic Products Branch Geography Division, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233

Publicly owned lands (national, State, and local parks, forests, etc)

Dataset name: DNR Managed Lands – most recent update 4/1/2013

Data currentness: 2013

Accuracy/Scale: 1:24,000

Horizontal datum: UTM Zone 17, NAD83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: <http://data.georgiaspatial.org>

Dataset contact: Chris Canalos: DNR Nongame Conservation Section, 2065 Highway 278 Southeast, Social Circle, GA, 30025, Phone: (706) 557-3032

Dataset name: National Park Service lands

Data currentness: 2009

Accuracy/Scale: 1:24,000

Horizontal datum: UTM Zone 17, NAD83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: <http://www.nps.gov/gis/>

Dataset contact: Christopher Barrow, National Park Service, 100 Alabama Street Southwest, 1924 Building, Atlanta, GA 30303, Phone: (404) 507-5811, Fax: (404) 562-3201

Dataset name: U.S. Forest Service Lands

Accuracy/Scale: 1:24,000 , 10 meters at best

Horizontal datum: UTM Zone 17, NAD83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: <http://data.georgiaspatial.org> (but data should be collected directly from the Forest Service - Contact Erika Mavity for further details).

Dataset contact: Erika Mavity, Biological Scientist, United States National Forest Service, 1755 Cleveland Highway, Gainesville, GA, Phone: (770) 297-3059 Email: emavity@fs.fed.us

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Terrain (elevation)

Dataset name: National Elevation Dataset (NED) (10 meter set is the only national dataset)

Data currentness: varies

Accuracy/Scale: 10 meter resolution

Vertical datum: NAVD 88

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: <http://ned.usgs.gov/>

Dataset contact: Customer Services, U.S. Geological Survey, EROS Data Center, 47914 252nd Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57198-0001, Phone: (1-800) 252-4547, Phone: (605) 594-6151, TDD: (605) 594-6933, Fax: (605) 594-6589, Email: custserv@usgs.gov,

Notes: Also available from the USGS through <http://nationalmap.gov/viewer.html> or <http://ned.usgs.gov>

Notes: LIDAR is available in several areas of the State; contact the local communities for further information.

Useful Risk MAP Discovery Data Sources

Preliminary information on Discovery data sources is provided in this document to reduce the level of effort needed on each subsequent Discovery data collection effort. Coordination with local community sponsors for additional local data still remains an integral part of Discovery and local data should be used where appropriate.

The National Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure document contains information on data resources available from other Federal agencies (OFAs), including those that FEMA maintains at the national level, and should be used in conjunction with this State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure document. In addition, FEMA and its contractors have created a geospatial Discovery Data Repository to host data that are not readily accessible through direct sources such as Web sites or subscription services and/or are not updated on a frequent basis. Instructions for accessing the Discovery Data Repository are provided in the National Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure Document.

Table 1 identifies data resources that are available at the regional and State levels, and also if there are no data available other than the national datasets. Resources in this table have been identified as appropriate for Discovery projects and may not represent the best data sources for FIRM production (please see the Preferred Base Map Sources section of this document for geospatial data that meets FIRM production requirements).

Table 1. Discovery Data Resources

Data	Data Source	Location
Watershed boundaries	National	See National Operating Procedure
Jurisdictional boundaries	State SOP	http://data.georgiaspatial.org
Tribal land boundaries	National	See National Operating Procedure
State lands	State SOP	http://data.georgiaspatial.org

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Data	Data Source	Location
Federal lands	National	See National Operating Procedure
Major roads	National; State SOP	See National Operating Procedure http://data.georgiaspatial.org
Streams	National	See National Operating Procedure
Coastal Barrier Resource Areas	National	See National Operating Procedure
Coordinated Needs Management Strategy	National	CNMS data is available by request from each of FEMA's Regional Service Centers (RSC). Contact information for each RSC is available at the following website: https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/wps/portal/usercare_guidesAndDocs#ContactList
Topographic/ bathymetric data	National; State SOP	See National Operating Procedure http://ned.usgs.gov/
AAL data from HAZUS	National; FEMA Regional Office	See National Operating Procedure R4 Contact: eugene.longenecker@fema.dhs.gov
Coverage areas for known community and Tribal risk assessment data	FEMA Regional Office	eugene.longenecker@fema.dhs.gov henrietta.williams@fema.dhs.gov (Tribal)
Status of Hazard Mitigation Plans	FEMA Regional Office	joan.bryant@fema.dhs.gov
Flood control structure data	National; FEMA Regional Office	See National Operating Procedure RSC4 contact for MLI Data – mckenzie.houston@accon.com
Locations of stream gages	National – USGS	See National Operating Procedure
Locations of past flood claims and repetitive loss properties	National	See National Operating Procedure
Locations of clusters of Letters of Map Change	National – FEMA	See National Operating Procedure
Known flooding issues not represented on effective FIRMs or listed in Coordinated Needs Management Strategy database	Local	No statewide coverage
Areas of planned development	Local	No statewide coverage

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Data	Data Source	Location
Areas of land use change datasets	National – USGS and Local	<p>The USGS Land Cover Institute (LCI) provides access to a wide variety of land use change and land cover data sets including the National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD). Data sets can be downloaded from the USGS at http://landcover.usgs.gov/</p> <p>The GLUT Canopy Cover 2008, County Extent was produced by the Natural Resources Spatial Analysis Laboratory (NARSAL). One of the primary goals of the project is to generate a current, consistent, seamless, and accurate Land cover dataset circa 2008 for the state of Georgia at medium spatial resolution. Data can be downloaded at http://data.georgiaspatial.org</p>
Locations of ongoing projects or updated stream studies (e.g. highway improvements)	Local	No statewide coverage
Locations of wave and tide gauges	National – NOAA	See National Operating Procedure
Locations of wind gauges	National – NOAA	See National Operating Procedure
Proposed inland limit of the Primary Frontal Dune, if present	<p>For ongoing studies contact the PTS;</p> <p>For completed studies contact the FEMA Map Library</p>	<p>Ongoing: Michael DelCharco – mdelcharco@tayloengineering.com</p> <p>Completed: http://msc.fema.gov/</p>
Locations of any beach nourishment or dune restoration projects	Local	No statewide coverage
Comparison of preliminary stillwater elevations with effective stillwater elevations	Local	No statewide coverage
Available effective study data	National	See National Operating Procedure
Orthophotography	State SOP	http://data.georgiaspatial.org
Proposed discussion areas, problem areas, areas of proposed mitigation projects	Local	No statewide coverage

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Data	Data Source	Location
Land use and soil information	National – NRCS	The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) maintains national soil data in a GIS format. Data can be downloaded from their Data Mart at this address http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm or from the NRCS Data Gateway listed in the Other Resources section of this document.
Reference points to locate areas with flooding issues	Local	No statewide coverage
Hydraulic structures	National	See National Operating Procedure
Coastal structures, including flood protection structures, shoreline structures, manmade embankments, surge conveyance pathways, and shoreline change data	For ongoing studies contact the PTS; For completed studies contact the FEMA Map Library	Ongoing: Michael DelCharco – mdelcharco@taylorengeering.com Completed: http://msc.fema.gov/
Local structure and topographic data from the existing hazard mitigation plans	State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) Local Community Mitigation Planning Lead	Terry Lunn (SHMO) terry.lunn@gema.ga.gov
Historic inundation areas and high water marks	FEMA Regional Office	eugene.longenecker@fema.dhs.gov
Clusters or locations of Individual Assistance/Public Assistance grants and locations of grant projects completed, planned, or underway	National; FEMA Regional Office	See National Operating Procedure R4 Contact: claude.hyacinthe@fema.dhs.gov
Locations of projects and structures completed or planned for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs or mitigation funds from other agencies or entities, such as the Small Business Administration	National; FEMA Regional Office	See National Operating Procedure R4 Contact: linda.byers@fema.dhs.gov
Other information on FEMA grants, as described in G&S Appendix I	National	See National Operating Procedure
Any data deficiencies identified in hazard mitigation plans	FEMA Regional Office	joan.bryant@fema.dhs.gov
Information from FloodSmart on market penetration	National	See National Operating Procedure

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Data	Data Source	Location
Community Assistance Visits / Community Assistance Contacts	National; FEMA Regional Office	See National Operating Procedure R4 Contact: Timothy.Russo@fema.dhs.gov Lynne.Keating@fema.dhs.gov janice.mitchell@fema.dhs.gov
Community Rating System class information	National; FEMA Regional Office	See National Operating Procedure R4 Contact: janice.mitchell@fema.dhs.gov
Information from other Federal agencies	National	See National Operating Procedure
Information from State agencies, non- profit organizations, universities, etc.	Local Only	No statewide coverage
Current community plans, ordinances, or programs to alleviate flooding or manage stormwater	Local Only	No statewide coverage
Other known hazards with geographical boundaries (e.g. earthquake faults)	Local	No statewide coverage
Information on active disasters	FEMA Regional Office	harlie.clark@fema.dhs.gov
Campgrounds, recreational areas, emergency access routes, etc.	National	See National Operating Procedure
Any other data that might be appropriate	Local Only	No statewide coverage

Data Distribution Process for State Data

Online GIS Data Clearinghouse at <http://data.georgiaspatial.org>

Federal Nationwide Geospatial Data Holdings

Information on nationwide holdings and Federal agencies' programs is available on the Mapping Information Platform website at <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/docs/ProgFacts.pdf>.

Finding and Accessing Other Existing Geospatial Data

Listed below is information about, and links to ways of searching for additional geospatial data available for the State. These capabilities can be useful for finding geospatial data other than the statewide and Federal data listed above, including those of special governments, counties and parishes, municipalities, tribes, universities, and other organizations. Of course, local community data should be sought as a primary source, as it is likely to be the best available.

Clearinghouses and Inventories for the State

- Georgia GIS Data Clearinghouse at <http://data.georgiaspatial.org>

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National Digital Orthophoto Program (NDOP) and National Digital Elevation Program (NDEP) Tracking Systems

The NDEP and NDOP tracking systems can be used to search for elevation data and orthophoto projects that may impact your area of interest. Projects are entered into the NDEP and NDOP tracking systems by Federal agencies and other organizations. The NDOP system can be accessed at <http://www.ndop.gov>, and follow the link “Project Tracking.” The NDEP system can be accessed at <http://www.ndep.gov>, and follow the link “Project Tracking.”

All of the topographic data and/or orthophoto data used in a FEMA flood study project(s) is required to be entered into the NDEP and NDOP tracking systems. Contact RiskMAP.GDC.Support@accenture.com for more information.

Geospatial One-Stop

Geospatial One-Stop, available at <http://geo.data.gov/geoportal/>, provides access to geospatial data from many sources. Two parts of the site that should be investigated are the “data categories” for existing data and the “marketplace” for data that are planned or in progress, and for potential partners for new data collection activities.

Working with People

Useful State and Federal Contacts

The main contacts for the State’s geospatial activities and Federal agencies’ representatives in the State are available on the Mapping Information Platform web site at <https://hazards.fema.gov/contacts/statecontacts/contacts.asp?page=GA>

US Geological Survey Liaisons
Keith McFadden
Atlanta, GA
(770) 903-9150
keithmc@usgs.gov

Involving the State’s Geospatial Coordinator in Flood Studies

Tom Shillock
Georgia Floodplain Management Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection Branch, NonPoint Source Program, Floodplain Management Unit
200 Piedmont Ave., S.W., Suite 418
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 651-8496
Tom.shillock@dnr.state.ga.us

In order to participate in the FEMA flood hazard mapping effort, the State contact prefers to be contacted in all of the following ways:

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- a. Send project list at the start of each year
- b. Conference call at the start of data discovery for each individual project
- c. Attend each kickoff/discovery meeting

Finding Local Geospatial Contacts

Local contacts, including those from special government districts (for example, a regional planning commission); counties, parishes, or equivalent governments; tribes, municipal governments; and other organizations (for example, local universities) also have geospatial data that can help a Flood Insurance Study. Contact information is available from the FEMA archives and government link portals such as <http://www.statelocalgov.net>. The State also maintains information about local geospatial contacts. Eric McRae (mcrac@cviog.itos.uga.edu) for local geospatial contacts. Of course, local community data should be sought as a primary source, as it is likely to be the best available data.

Provide Feedback on This Procedure

When you find information in this Procedure or in other FEMA or State resources that are outdated, please tell the geospatial data coordination lead in the RSC what was wrong and the correct information (if you know it). Use the contact information for the lead listed in the section *Purpose of the Procedure*. The lead will use your feedback to update this Procedure.