State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Virgin Islands

FINAL

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State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Purpose of the Procedure

Flood Insurance Studies search for geospatial data during Discovery tasks. If needed data are not available, studies might fund the collection of new data and would like to know about other organizations that might share in these costs. Detailed information about the role geospatial data coordination plays in studies is in the Geospatial Data Coordination portal, which is available at http://pm.riskmapcds.com/riskmap_usergroups/GeoCoord/default.aspx (password required).

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 studies are interested. Studies can avoid wasting time with dead-end searches and cold calls 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 territory geospatial participation in flood insurance studies, information for the project Discovery stage, and other useful information for the Territory.

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

Curtis Smith, Geospatial Data Coordination Lead
RAMPP Regional Support Center 2
(646) 434-4364
Curtis.S.Smith@urs.com

Default Flood Hazard Base Map for the Territory

The default base map for flood hazard maps for Virgin Islands is an orthoimagery-based map.

Geospatial Data Coverage

Find below information about and links to territory-wide (and Federal agencies' national) geospatial datasets. The list is provided to save time during Discovery activities when building a list of candidate geospatial datasets available for the study; it is not a prescription of datasets that must be used in a Flood Insurance Study.

Major Territory Holdings

The Geographic Information Systems Program for the U.S. Virgin Islands is a subdivision of the Tax Assessor's Office. The Geospatial Strategic Plan reports that a territory-wide

GIS Program is still under development. The Territory has geospatial holdings for some coverage on parcels, elevation, and orthoimagery and coverage and specifications on these data should be coordinated with the Virgin Islands Geographic Information Council (VIGIC). The VIGIC website is: http://ltg.gov.vi/geographic-information-systems.html. There are not Territory holdings for transportation, hydrography, or political boundaries. The orthoimagery viewer is available at: http://host.appgeo.com/USvirginIslands/.

Data Distribution Process for Territory Data

FEMA studies should be coordinated with the VIGIC for information on data and metadata held by the Territory. There is currently no GIS Clearinghouse for the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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 Discovery 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 on accessing the Discovery Data Repository are given in the *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure* document.

Table 1 identifies data resources that are available at the regional and Territory 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 Major Territory Holdings section of this document for geospatial data that meet FIRM production requirements).

Table 1: Discovery Data Resources

Data	Agency	Location
Watershed boundaries	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Jurisdictional boundaries	VIGIC	Office of the Lieutenant Governor 1131 King Street, Suite 101 Christiansted, St. Croix, VI 00820 Phone: (340) 776-8505 (GIS extension 4293)
	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Tribal land boundaries	N/A	N/A

Data	Agency	Location
State lands	VIGIC	Office of the Lieutenant Governor 1131 King Street, Suite 101 Christiansted, St. Croix, VI 00820 Phone: (340) 776-8505 or (340) 776-6737
Federal lands	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Major roads	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Streams	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Coastal Barrier Resource Areas	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Coordinated Needs Management Strategy	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Topographic/ bathymetric data	VIGIC National	Office of the Lieutenant Governor 1131 King Street, Suite 101 Christiansted, St. Croix, VI 00820 Phone: (340) 776-8505 (GIS extension 4293) See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
AAL data from Hazus	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Coverage areas for known community and Tribal risk assessment data	Local	Local
Status of Hazard Mitigation Plans	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Flood control structure data	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Locations of stream gages	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Locations of past flood claims and repetitive loss properties	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Locations of clusters of Letters of Map Change	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Known flooding issues not represented on effective FIRMs or listed in Coordinated Needs Management Strategy database	Local	Local

Data	Agency	Location
Areas of planned development	VIGIC Local	Office of the Lieutenant Governor 1131 King Street, Suite 101 Christiansted, St. Croix, VI 00820 Phone: (340) 776-8505 (GIS extension 4293) Local
Areas of land use change datasets	Local	Local
Locations of ongoing projects or updated stream studies (e.g., highway improvements)	Local	Local
Locations of wave and tide gages	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Locations of wind gages	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Proposed inland limit of the Primary Frontal Dune, if present	Local	Local
Locations of any beach nourishment or dune restoration projects Required	Local	Local
Comparison of preliminary stillwater elevations with effective stillwater elevations	Local	Local
Available effective study data	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Orthophotography	VIGIC National	Viewer at: http://host.appgeo.com/USvirginIslands/ Office of the Lieutenant Governor 1131 King Street, Suite 101 Christiansted, St. Croix, VI 00820 Phone: (340) 776-8505 (GIS extension 4293) See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Proposed discussion areas, problem areas, areas of proposed mitigation projects	Local	Local

Data	Agency	Location
Land use and soil information	Department of Planning and Natural Resources National	http://www.gov.vi/agency_directory.html Address: Cyril E. King Airport Terminal Building, 2nd Fl., St. Thomas, VI 00802 Phone: (340) 774-3320 See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Reference points to locate areas with flooding issues	Local	Local
Hydraulic structures	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Coastal structures, including flood protection structures, shoreline structures, manmade embankments, surge conveyance pathways, and shoreline change data	Division of Coastal Zone Management, Department of Planning and Natural Resources National	http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/mystate/virgin_islands.html Address: 8100 Lindberg Bay, Ste.#61 Cyril E. King Airport Terminal Building, St. Thomas, VI 00802 Phone: (340) 774-3320 Fax: (340) 714-9524 See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Local structure and topographic data from the existing hazard mitigation plans	Local	Local
Historic inundation areas and High Water Marks	Regional	Discovery Data Repository
Clusters or locations of Individual Assistance/Public Assistance grants and locations of grant projects completed, planned, or underway	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
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	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Other information on FEMA grants	Local	Local
Any data deficiencies identified in hazard mitigation plans	Local	Local
Information from FloodSmart on market penetration	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Community Assistance Visits / Community Assistance Contacts	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Community Rating System class information	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Information from other Federal agencies	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*

Data	Agency	Location
Information from State agencies, non-profit organizations, universities, etc.	Directory of Agencies	http://ltg.gov.vi/
Current community plans, ordinances, or programs to alleviate flooding or manage stormwater	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Other known hazards with geographical boundaries (e.g., earthquake faults)	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Information on active disasters	National	See *National Discovery Data Coordination Procedure*
Campgrounds, recreational areas, emergency access routes, etc.	National	See National Operating Procedure
Any other data that might be appropriate	Local	Local

Federal Nationwide Geospatial Data Holdings

Information about nationwide holdings and programs of Federal agencies is available from the Mapping Information Platform web site at https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/docs/ProgFacts1.pdf.

Finding and Accessing Other Existing Geospatial Data

Find below information about and links to ways of searching for additional geospatial data available for the Territory. These capabilities can be useful for finding geospatial data other than the territory-wide and Federal data listed above, including those of special governments, counties and parishes, municipalities, tribes, universities, and other organizations.

Clearinghouses and Inventories for the Territory

There is currently no GIS Clearinghouse for the U.S. Virgin Islands. Obtainment of geospatial data should be coordinated through VIGIC. Links to spatial data resources for the Virgin Islands are available through the USGS site at http://liaisons.usgs.gov/geospatial/VirginIslands/. As of September 2013, 2011 high-resolution (1-foot) orthoimagery is in its final phase of production.

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

These systems allow the search of orthophoto and elevation project information entered by Federal and other organizations. To access the NDOP system, go to the NDOP web site at http://www.ndop.gov and follow the link “Project Tracking.” For the NDEP system, go to the NDEP web site at http://www.ndep.gov and follow the link “Project Tracking.”

Geospatial One-Stop

Geospatial One-Stop, available at http://www.data.gov, 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-work and for potential partners for new data collection activities.

Working with People

Useful Territory and Federal Contacts

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

Involving the Territory's Geospatial Coordinator in Flood Studies

There is currently no Geospatial Coordinator for the U.S. Virgin Islands. However, VIGIC is formally recognized as the U.S. Virgin Islands entity for geospatial coordination and can be contacted through the Office of the Lieutenant Governor at http://ltg.gov.vi/contact-information-office-of-the-lieutenant-governor.html.

Territory Coordination Process for Building Geospatial Partnerships

The U.S. Virgin Islands completed its most recent Geospatial Strategic Plan in July 2012, which identifies data sharing partnerships as a current weakness of the geospatial plan. Finding and obtaining the Territory's geospatial data is reportedly difficult, with intensive coordination being necessary.

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 archive and web searches at government link portals such as http://www.statelocalgov.net.

Provide Feedback on This Procedure

When you find information in this Procedure or in other FEMA or Territory 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.