

# State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

## Massachusetts

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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 in studies is in the Geospatial Data Coordination Implementation Guide, which is available at [https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/docs/GeoDataImplem\\_V3.pdf](https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/docs/GeoDataImplem_V3.pdf) and the Geospatial Data Coordination Guidance Document, which is available at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/34953>.

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 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 Region 1 Service Center:

Diana Rodriguez  
Compass Regional Service Center 1  
(312) 780-7710  
[rodriguezad@cdmsmith.com](mailto:rodriguezad@cdmsmith.com)

# State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

## 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

Find below information about and links to statewide (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.

## Datasets for DFIRM Production

### Orthophotos

Dataset name: 2015 WorldView Orthoimagery

Data currentness: 2015

Accuracy/Scale: varies

Ground sample resolution: The pixel resolutions of the delivered data varied due to off-nadir viewing angles and the altitudes of the sensors:

0.46 - 0.73 m panchromatic and 1.87 - 2.94 m multispectral (WorldView-2)

0.40 - 0.46 m panchromatic and 1.60 - 1.83 m multispectral (WorldView-3)

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Datum: WGS 84, Units are decimal degree

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? No

Dataset source: MassGIS <http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/colororthos2015wv.html>

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes: This high resolution imagery of Massachusetts from the spring of 2015 was acquired by DigitalGlobe™ of Longmont, Colorado. MassGIS had the WorldView-2 and WorldView-3 satellites tasked to collect swaths of panchromatic and multispectral imagery in 43 separate overflights from March 16 - May 7, 2015. WorldView-2 operates at an altitude of 770 km (478 mi.), and WorldView-3 at 617 km (383 mi.).

Dataset name: USGS Color Ortho Imagery (2008/2009)

Data currentness: April 2008/2009, updated June 2010

Accuracy/Scale: 1:5,000; 15cm and 30cm (approx. 0.6-in. and 1-ft.)

Ground sample resolution: 15cm does not exceed 0.424m RMSE in X or Y, diagonal RMSE (XY) was 0.21m; 30cm does not exceed 2.12m RMSE in X or Y, diagonal RMSE (XY) was 0.44m.

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Vertical datum: NAVD 88

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

# State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Dataset source: MassGIS <http://www.mass.gov/mgis/>

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes:

Dataset name: USGS Color Ortho Imagery (2013/2014)

Data currentness: April 2013/2014, updated August 2015

Accuracy/Scale: The design accuracy is estimated not to exceed 1.52-meters NSSDA 95% confidence (0.88-meters Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE)) XY (0.62 meter RMSE X or Y).

Ground sample resolution: The Horizontal Positional Accuracy Values are 0.50 meters (Boston-Providence and Worcester) and 0.52 meters (Springfield).

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Vertical datum: NAVD 88

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: MassGIS <http://www.mass.gov/mgis/>

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes: In spring 2013, the U.S. Geological Survey contracted for true-color imagery covering three urban areas in Massachusetts as defined by the USGS. Those areas are the metropolitan Boston area (and beyond), the greater Worcester area, and the greater Springfield area. Image type for all of the areas is 24 bit, 4-band (red, green, blue, and near-infrared RGBN) portions of the spectrum. Each band has pixel values ranging 0-255. Pixel resolution is 0.3 meters (30 centimeters), or approximately one foot. Areas of the State that were not flown in 2013 were flown in the spring of 2014. That data should be available in October, except for Barnstable County, which will be available in November.

## ***Free Download***

Images in the MrSID Generation 2 format, at 15:1 lossy compression ratio, 3 bands (RGB), as 1,500 m x 1,500 m tiles are available for [download](#) (based on the [2008/2009 USGS Color Ortho Index](#) and [2013/2014 USGS Color Ortho Imagery Index](#) tiling scheme).

## **Transportation (roads, railroads, and airports)**

Dataset name: Mass. Dept. of Transportation (MassDOT) Roads

Data currentness: December 31, 2013, Published: June 2014

Accuracy/Scale: 1:5,000

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Are road names part of the dataset? Yes

Dataset source: MassDOT

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes: This layer is the official state-maintained street transportation dataset available from MassGIS and represents all the public and a good portion of the private roadways in Massachusetts, including designations for Interstate, U.S. and State highways.

# State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Dataset name: Trains (and MBTA Commuter Rail)

Data currentness: April 2015

Accuracy/Scale: 1:5,000

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Are road names part of the dataset? Yes; names of Line Branch for RR

Dataset source: Central Transportation Planning Staff/MassGIS

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes: The layer includes active passenger, freight, and MBTA Commuter Rail and Rapid Transit railways, along with abandoned rail lines and railroad beds now used as rail trails. In many instances there is more than one track per rail line, and rail yards and spurs are included.

Dataset name: Airports (AIRPORTS\_PT)

Data currentness: January 2012

Accuracy/Scale: 1:5,000

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Are road names part of the dataset? N/A

Dataset source: Executive Office of Transportation and Aeronautics Divion.

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes: This point datalayer contains the name and location of airports owned by the Massachusetts Port Authority or overseen by the MassDOT Aeronautics Division within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

## Hydrography (rivers, streams, lakes, and shorelines)

Dataset name: MassDEP Hydrography (1:25,000), HYDRO25K\_ARC;  
HYDRO25K\_POLY

Data currentness: April 2017

Accuracy/Scale: 1:25,000

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Are hydrography names part of the dataset? No, but feature names are stored in the "Hydro" subclass of the Geographic Place Names

Dataset source: MassDEP (Dept. of Environmental Protection)

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes:

Dataset name: DEP Wetlands

Data currentness: January 2009

Accuracy/Scale: 1:12,000

# State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Are hydrography names part of the dataset? No, but feature names are stored in the "Hydro" subclass of the Geographic Place Names

Dataset source: MassDEP (Dept. of Environmental Protection)

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes:

## Political boundaries (county, municipal)

Dataset name: Community Boundaries (Towns), TOWNS\_ARC and TOWNS\_POLY

Data currentness: February 2014

Accuracy/Scale: 1:25,000 scale datalayer containing the boundaries of the 351 communities (cities and towns) in Massachusetts

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: EOE/MassGIS

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes: The seaward boundary of coastal communities has been defined at mean high water in this datalayer. The datalayer is named TOWNS, and it is stored as a single statewide coverage. Note that the 351 communities are the official municipal names, not including "villages"

Dataset name: Community Boundaries (Towns) from Survey Points

Data currentness: June 2004; Last update: March 2017

Accuracy/Scale: Boundaries for each community were created by adjusting the existing 1:25,000 scale boundaries to connect the survey points (TOWNSSURVEY\_PT) of a community. The source for the coastal boundary was the DEP Wetlands (1:12,000)\_data layer, with the boundary being the upland-side boundaries of tidal flats and rocky intertidal zones. The coastline boundary was then appended to the town boundary (TOWNSSURVEY\_ARC).

Horizontal datum: NAD 83

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: EOE/MassGIS

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes: Note that the 351 communities are the official municipal names, not including "villages" or other sections of towns. The Secretary of State's office has prepared a web page listing the Unincorporated and Unofficial Names of Massachusetts Communities. Also see the List of Town Numbers and Names and Towns Index Map.

## Terrain (elevation)

# State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Dataset name: LiDAR Terrain Data

Data currentness: 2010 to 2015, updated 7/2016

Accuracy/Scale: 1-meter pixel resolution. The point data are in ASCII text files storing XYZ coordinates, binary LAS files (zipped as LAZ), or used to create bare-earth TINs; the rasters are GeoTiffs or Erdas IMG

Vertical datum: NAVD 88

Fee associated? No

Available for redistribution? Yes

Dataset source: MassGIS

Dataset contact: [massgismail@state.ma.us](mailto:massgismail@state.ma.us)

Notes: Each set represents a distinct data acquisition project with unique characteristics. Acquisition dates range from 2010 to 2015, and a variety of agencies and/or partnerships sponsored these missions – details can be found in the project-specific metadata.

Differences include the instruments used to acquire the data, processing software, accuracy, point spacing, format, projection, tiling schemes, and availability of derivative products such as contours and breaklines. Point and raster data derived from the original LiDAR acquisition are available for each project area: The point data are in ASCII text files storing XYZ coordinates, binary LAS files (zipped as LAZ), or used to create bare-earth TINs; the raster DEMs (digital elevation models) are GeoTiffs or Erdas IMGs. The horizontal datum for all data is NAD83; the vertical datum is NAVD88. NOAA is now hosting most of our LAS data, which can be accessed for FREE through its Data Access Viewer.

## 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 on accessing the Discovery Data Repository are given 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).

# State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

Table 1. Discovery Data Resources

Data	Data Source	Location
Watershed boundaries	National	Discovery Data Repository
Jurisdictional boundaries	National	Discovery Data Repository
	State	MassGIS Community Boundaries from Survey Points: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/townsurvey.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/townsurvey.html</a>
Tribal land boundaries	National	Discovery Data Repository
State lands	State	MassGIS - Protected and Recreational Open Space (contains federal, state, county, municipal, and non-profit areas): <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/osp.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/osp.html</a>
Federal lands	National	Discovery Data Repository
Major roads	State	MassDOT Roads- <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/eotroads.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/eotroads.html</a>
	National	Discovery Data Repository
Streams	State	MassDEP Hydrography data: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/hd.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/hd.html</a>
	National	Discovery Data Repository
Coastal Barrier Resource Areas	National	Discovery Data Repository



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Data	Data Source	Location
Coordinated Needs Management Strategy	National	See National Operating Procedure
Topographic/ bathymetric data	National	See National Operating Procedure
AAL data from HAZUS	National	Please contact the RSC if you have problems retrieving the data.
Coverage areas for known community and Tribal risk assessment data	Regional	Risk class deciles by Census Block Group Discovery Data Repository
Status of Hazard Mitigation Plans	Regional	AMPS - Region 1 Mitigation Plan Tracking Contact Region 1 or the CERC Mitigation Champion, Toni Pignatelli ( <a href="mailto:Toni.Pignatelli@mbakerintl.com">Toni.Pignatelli@mbakerintl.com</a> )
	National	Discovery Data Repository
Flood control structure data	National	See National Operating Procedure
Locations of stream gages	National	Discovery Data Repository
Locations of past flood claims and repetitive loss properties	CIS Report	Contact the geospatial data coordination lead at your RSC referenced earlier in this document.
Locations of clusters of Letters of Map Change	National	See National Operating Procedure
Known flooding issues not represented on effective FIRMs or listed in Coordinated Needs Management Strategy database	Local Only	
Areas of planned development	Local Only	
Areas of land use change datasets	National	See National Operating Procedure
	State	MassGIS Land use (1951-1999). Change is not explicitly included, but can be derived between many of the included years: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/lus.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/lus.html</a>

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Data	Data Source	Location
Locations of ongoing projects or updated stream studies (e.g. highway improvements)	Regional	USACE, New England District maintains a list of ongoing and recent projects: <a href="http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/ProjectsTopics.aspx">http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/ProjectsTopics.aspx</a> <a href="http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Media/StateUpdateReports.aspx">http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Media/StateUpdateReports.aspx</a>
	State	Mass DOT project statuses (non-geospatial, but includes bridge and highway improvements) <a href="http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/ProjectInfo.aspx">http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/ProjectInfo.aspx</a>
Locations of wave and tide gauges	National	See National Operating Procedure
Locations of wind gauges	National	See National Operating Procedure
Proposed inland limit of the Primary Frontal Dune, if present		See Effective or Preliminary DFIRM data. PFD Delineations generally are created during the DFIRM process. MassCZM also performs PFD work: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/">http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/</a>
Locations of any beach nourishment or dune restoration projects	SLOSH Zones	See National Operating Procedure
Comparison of preliminary stillwater elevations with effective stillwater elevations	Local Only	
Available effective study data	National	See National Operating Procedure
Orthophotography	National	See National Operating Procedure
	State	MassGIS Color Orthos (2013/2014): <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/colororthos2013.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/colororthos2013.html</a>
Proposed discussion areas, problem areas, areas of proposed mitigation projects	Local Only	
Land use and soil information	Land Use	MassGIS 2005 Land use: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/lus2005.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/lus2005.html</a>
	Soils	See National Operating Procedure
Reference points to locate areas with flooding issues	Local Only	

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Data	Data Source	Location
Hydraulic structures	<p>Culverts Levees, Dams, Bridges</p> <p>State</p>	<p>Local Only See National Operating Procedure</p> <p>Massachusetts dams data layers contains points derived and maintained by Massachusetts Office of Dam Safety: February 2012 <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/dams.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/dams.html</a></p>
Coastal structures, including flood protection structures, shoreline structures, manmade embankments, surge conveyance pathways, and shoreline change data	<p>State</p> <p>Regional</p>	<p>MassCZM Historic Shoreline Change: <a href="http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/czm/moris/metadata/moris_shorelines_arc.htm">http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/czm/moris/metadata/moris_shorelines_arc.htm</a></p> <p>MassCZM Shoreline classification: <a href="http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/czm/moris/metadata/moris_esi_shoreclass_arc.htm">http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/czm/moris/metadata/moris_esi_shoreclass_arc.htm</a></p> <p>The MLI database (See levees and National Operating Procedure, above) also may contain coastal levees or structures. FAST Tracker on FEMA SharePoint, please contact RSC1 for further information.</p>
Local structure and topographic data from the existing hazard mitigation plans	Regional	AMPS - Region 1 Mitigation Plan Tracking Contact Region 1 or the CERC Mitigation Champion, Toni Pignatelli ( <a href="mailto:Toni.Pignatelli@mbakerintl.com">Toni.Pignatelli@mbakerintl.com</a> )
Historic inundation areas and high water marks	<p>Historic Riverine Inundation Areas</p> <p>Storm Surge Inundation Areas</p> <p>High Water Marks</p>	<p>See National Operating Procedure</p> <p>See National Operating Procedure</p> <p>USGS and MADCR HWM as of May 2011- Discovery Data Repository</p>
Clusters or locations of Individual Assistance/Public Assistance grants and locations of grant projects completed, planned, or underway	National	See National Operating Procedure

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Data	Data Source	Location
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 Operating Procedure
Other information on FEMA grants, as described in G&S Appendix I	Local only	
Any data deficiencies identified in hazard mitigation plans	Regional	AMPS - Region 1 Mitigation Plan Tracking Contact Region 1 or the CERC Mitigation Champion, Toni Pignatelli ( <a href="mailto:Toni.Pignatelli@mbakerintl.com">Toni.Pignatelli@mbakerintl.com</a> )
Information from FloodSmart on market penetration	FEMA	<a href="http://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/">http://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/</a>
Community Assistance Visits / Community Assistance Contacts	National	Discovery Data Repository
Community Rating System class information	National	See National Operating Procedure
Information from other Federal agencies	National Only	See National Operating Procedure
Information from State agencies, non-profit organizations, universities, etc.	Regional	
Current community plans, ordinances, or programs to alleviate flooding or manage stormwater	Local only	
Other known hazards with geographical boundaries (e.g. earthquake faults)	Tsunami Landslide Volcanic Eruptions Wildfire	Discovery Data Repository Discovery Data Repository Discovery Data Repository Discovery Data Repository
Information on active disasters	Regional	USGS Hurricane Irene information: <a href="http://coastal.er.usgs.gov/hurricanes/irene/">http://coastal.er.usgs.gov/hurricanes/irene/</a>
	State	Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/">http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/</a>

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Data	Data Source	Location
Campgrounds, recreational areas, emergency access routes, etc.	National	Discovery Data Repository
	State	MassGIS Protected and Recreational Open Space (contains federal, state, county, municipal, and non-profit areas): <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/osp.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/osp.html</a> MassGIS Trails: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/trails.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/trails.html</a>
Wetland locations	State	Massachusetts DEP Wetlands (1:12,000) <a href="http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/depwetlands112000.html">http://www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/it-serv-and-support/application-serv/office-of-geographic-information-massgis/datalayers/depwetlands112000.html</a>

## Data Distribution Process for State Data

MassGIS is the Commonwealth’s Office of Geographic and Environmental Information within the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA). Through MassGIS, the Commonwealth has created a comprehensive, statewide database of spatial information for environmental planning and management. The state legislature has established MassGIS as the office state agency assigned to the collection, storage and dissemination of geographic data. In addition, the legislative mandate includes coordinating GIS activity within the Commonwealth and setting standards for geographic data to ensure universal compatibility.

MassGIS acts as the centralized distribution for GIS data. Data is available for download or ordering at the [MassGIS Website](#).

The contact for ordering data is:

Paul Nutting  
 (617) 619-5611  
[paul.nutting@state.ma.us](mailto:paul.nutting@state.ma.us)

# State Geospatial Data Coordination Procedure

## Federal Nationwide Geospatial Data Holdings

Information about nationwide holdings and programs of Federal agencies is available from the Data.gov geospatial catalog at

[https://catalog.data.gov/dataset?metadata\\_type=geospatial](https://catalog.data.gov/dataset?metadata_type=geospatial).

Elevation, orthophoto, boundary, and transportation data can also be found through the USGS' National Map service: <https://viewer.nationalmap.gov/basic/>.

## Finding and Accessing Other Existing Geospatial Data

Find below 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.

### Clearinghouses and Inventories for the State

Data is available for download or ordering at the [MassGIS website](#).

### 3D Elevation Program

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Geospatial Program is developing the [3D Elevation Program \(3DEP\)](#) to respond to growing needs for high-quality topographic data and for a wide range of other three-dimensional (3D) representations of the Nation's natural and constructed features. The primary goal of 3DEP is to systematically collect 3D elevation data in the form of light detection and ranging (lidar) data over the conterminous United States, Hawaii, and the U.S. territories, with data acquired over an 8-year period. Interferometric synthetic aperture radar (IfSAR) data will be acquired for Alaska, where cloud cover and remote locations preclude the use of lidar in much of the State. The 3DEP initiative is based on the results of the National Enhanced Elevation Assessment that documented more than 600 business uses across 34 Federal agencies, all 50 States, selected local government and Tribal offices, and private and nonprofit organizations.

## Working with People

### Useful State and Federal Contacts

The main contacts for the State's geospatial activities and Federal agencies' representatives in State are available on the Mapping Information Platform web site at

<https://hazards.fema.gov/contacts/statecontacts/contacts.asp?page=MA>

USGS National Map Liaisons (<https://liaisons.usgs.gov/geospatial/>)— The National Map partnership network cultivates and maintains long-term relationships with partners and develops agreements for The National Map and other initiatives that support USGS science. Dan Walters is the Liaison for Massachusetts (danwalters@usgs.gov).

### State Coordination Process for Building Geospatial Partnerships

The Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS) is the state's "one stop shop" for maps and geospatial information (<https://www.mass.gov/learn-about-massgis>). MassGIS is the Commonwealth's Bureau of Geographic Information, within the Digital Services Group of the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS, formerly MassIT). Through MassGIS, the Commonwealth has created a comprehensive, statewide database of geospatial information. The state legislature has established

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MassGIS as the official state agency assigned to the collection, storage and dissemination of geographic data. In addition, the legislative mandate includes coordinating GIS activity within the Commonwealth and setting standards for geographic data.

## 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>.

All of the regional planning commissions (RPC) in Massachusetts provide GIS services to their member communities. The RPCs in Massachusetts and their websites are listed below.

- Berkshire Regional Planning Commission: <http://www.berkshireplanning.org/> 413-442-1521
- Cape Cod Commission: <http://www.capecodcommission.org/>, 508-362-3828
- Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission: <http://www.cmrpc.org/> 508-756-7717
- Franklin Regional Council of Governments: <http://www.frcog.org/> , 413-774-3167
- Martha's Vineyard Commission: <http://www.mvcommission.org/>, 508-693-3453
- Merrimack Valley Planning Commission: <http://www.mvpc.org/> 978-374-0519
- Metropolitan Area Planning Council: <http://www.mapc.org/> 617-933-0700
- Montachusett Regional Planning Commission: <http://www.mrpc.org/> 978-345-7376
- Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission: <http://www.nantucket-ma.gov/306/Planning-Economic-Development-Commission> 508-325-7587
- Northern Middlesex Council of Governments: <http://www.nmcog.org/> 978-454-8021
- Old Colony Planning Council: <http://www.ocpcrpa.org/> 508-583-1833
- Pioneer Valley Planning Commission: <http://www.pvpc.org/>, 413-781-6045
- Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District: <http://www.srpedd.org/> 508-824-1367

## Provide Feedback on This Procedure

**When you find information in this Procedure or in other FEMA or outdated, please tell the geospatial data coordination lead in the wrong and the correct information (if you know it). Use the in the section**

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Purpose of the Procedure.

The lead will use your feedback to update this Procedure.