

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

**THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

AND

**THE STATE IDAHO
Idaho Department of Water Resources**

FOR

THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHY DATASET

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this agreement is to identify the activities that the State of Idaho, Department of Water Resources (IDWR) and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey (USGS), referred to as partners, will undertake to maintain, update, and improve the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) in a program of data stewardship. The partners to this agreement represent Federal and State governments with an interest in providing current, accurate, and consistent surface-water geospatial data. This agreement applies to high-resolution NHD data only.

II. BACKGROUND

The success of the NHD will depend on the partnerships established with a wide variety of organizations that work with geospatial hydrography data. It is recognized that the most current, highest resolution, and continuously maintained geospatial information resides with state and local governments, private entities, educational institutions, resource oversight organizations, tribes, and other Federal agencies. These organizations will work cooperatively to implement a program to exchange updates and improvements to the NHD. The NHD is a comprehensive set of digital spatial data that contain information about surface water features such as lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, springs and wells. The NHD interconnects and uniquely identifies the stream segments or reaches that make up the Nation's surface water drainage system. The NHD is a national framework for the spatial position of surface water features, their attribution, their connectivity in a flow network, and an addressing system of linking additional related data

known as events. Each reach in this framework is referenced by a permanent feature identifier known as a reach code. Each linear reach is also segmented into linear addresses measures along the reach. The USGS is the authority for reach codes and measures. Because the NHD provides a nationally consistent framework for addressing and analysis, water-related information linked to reach addresses by one organization (national, state, local) can be shared with other organizations and easily integrated into many different types of applications to the benefit of all.

III. AUTHORITIES

Under provisions of Idaho Code § 39-120, the Department of Water Resources is responsible for collecting baseline data for the state's water resources.

IV. SCOPE

Both parties of this Memorandum of Understanding recognize that maintaining hydrography consistency, currency, and accuracy will benefit both agencies and all users of the data. The most direct benefit of shared maintenance is the ability to be informed about changes on the landscape and to receive spatial data that faithfully represent those changes. The best sources for information about changes are those closest to the change, such as state, tribal and local governments and organizations.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

The State of Idaho Department of Water Resources agrees to:

1. Act as the single entity the USGS will interface with on stewardship issues within the State of Idaho.
2. Represent the interests of the Idaho user community concerned with hydrography in the State by providing the USGS with the most widely accepted representation of the surface water in the NHD.
3. Accept input from other agencies and organizations, consider any change submitted, and decide authoritatively if the change will be accepted or not, and report the decision publicly.
4. Be responsive to the input received by responding to proposed updates within 30 working days

5. Through the Idaho Hydrography Technical Working Group, accept input from other agencies and organizations involved in stewardship in order to include all applicable input for a given area.
6. Provide publicly available information on status of data stewardship activities.
7. Provide updates in the agreed upon format (Appendix A).
8. Provide metadata that clearly describes the sources used in the update and the process used to make the changes.
9. Provide the USGS with updates that meet agreed upon quality standards.
 - a. Perform a quality assurance check on the data before they are delivered to USGS.
 - b. Ensure that the core content (features, attributes and relationships identified in the NHD standards) is included
10. Use nationally consistent reach codes.
11. Rework updates returned for correction and resubmit to the USGS within 30 working days
12. Provide resources as available to support this Memorandum of Understanding.

The U. S. Geological Survey Agrees to:

1. Accept into the NHD edits only from IDWR in order to prevent duplication of effort and the introduction of unnecessary errors into NHD. National updates such as GNIS will be accepted within the extent of Idaho.
2. Be responsive to the IDWR by processing transactions to the point of distribution in a maximum of 30 days.
3. Provide the IDWR with the necessary information and assistance to allow the IDWR to successfully support a stewardship program.
4. Provide tools, documentation, training, and technical support to edit and update the NHD.
5. Work with the IDWR to develop solutions to incorporate data needed by Idaho users of the NHD, but not normally included in the NHD framework.

6. Provide notification, documentation, and assistance in response to submitted updates that do not meet the requirements established and agreed upon by the partners. Return updates that need to be reworked to meet requirements and the technical assistance to make those changes.
7. Provide an Internet accessible reach code allocator and validate reach codes in update submissions.
8. Notify the IDWR of any changes to the NHD structure, format, or content that may affect users of the NHD in the State of Idaho.
9. Provide clear guidance on expectations for acceptable updates.
10. Provide documentation on validation criteria applied to updates.
11. Provide documentation on formats for update transactions.
12. Provide contact information for management and technical issues.
13. Provide resources as available to support this Memorandum of Understanding.
14. Provide IDWR with quality-assurance procedures to be applied by IDWR.

VI. DATA OWNERSHIP AND RIGHTS

All data produced, updated, and maintained in the NHD is public domain and thus is available to any interested party.

VII. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

This MOU does not constitute a financial commitment on the part of either IDWR or the USGS. The MOU is designed to serve as a mechanism under which IDWR and USGS will work cooperatively to exchange updates and continually make improvements to the NHD.

VIII. PERIOD OF AGREEMENT

This agreement becomes effective on the date of signature by both partners and continues until modified by mutual consent or unless terminated with 60 days written notice by either partner. The agreement will be reviewed periodically and amended or revised when required.

IX. POINTS OF CONTACT

The USGS and the IDWR designate the following persons as contacts for the resolution of technical and production-related questions:

USGS

Name: Paul Kimsey
Title:
Organization: USGS, NHD stewardship Program, NGTOC
Address: Box 25046 Denver Federal Center
Mail Stop 510 Denver CO 80225-0046
Telephone: (303)202-4560
Fax: (303)202-4504

IDWR

Name: Linda L. Davis
Title: Senior GIS Analyst
Organization: Idaho Department of Water Resources
Address: 322 East Front St.
Boise, ID 83720
Telephone: 208 287-4877
Linda.davis@idwr.idaho.gov

X. APPROVALS



Hal N. Anderson
Administrator
Planning and Technical Services Division,
Idaho Department of Water Resources

7/18/07

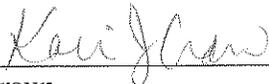
Date



Dru Burks
Regional GIO Information Officer
United States Geologic Survey Geographic
information Office

8/20/07

Date



Kari Craun
Acting Director, NGTOC
United States Geologic Survey Geographic
Information Office

8-11-07

Date

Appendix A

DATA DELIVERY FORMAT

Personal Geodatabase or,

All data transactions shall be in Extensible Language (XML) format, as defined in ISO Standard 15022. For more information on this standard, go to:
<http://www.iso15022.org/ISO15022XML/defaultXML.htm>