

95-10
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USGS MOU _____

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

AND

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

concerning:

**THE
PRODUCTION AND EXCHANGE
OF
CARTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**

95-10

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Appendix A

I. Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the general terms and conditions under which the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) will coordinate the production and exchange of conventional map products, digital cartographic data, remotely sensed data, related research efforts, and technology development in order to make effective use of each Bureau's products and services.

This MOU will serve to implement objectives of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A-16 (A-16), dated October 19, 1990, concerning the "Coordination of Surveying, Mapping and Related Spatial Data Activities." It facilitates the spatial data coordination process by establishing a mechanism for the BLM and the USGS to coordinate data requirements in addition to those identified and funded through the A-16 process. This MOU also supports the efforts and tasks identified in the Interagency Agreement between the USGS, the BLM, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, signed November 8, 1988.

It is the intent of this MOU to consolidate, where possible, existing BLM/USGS agreements related to map, image, and digital cartographic data. Guidelines for managing and documenting cooperative efforts between the BLM and the USGS are established by this MOU. Cartographic and digital products exchanged between the two agencies will comply with specific product standards adopted by the Interior Geographic Data Committee (IGDC), established by the Secretary of the Interior (The Secretary), on June 24, 1991. The structure and role of the IGDC is defined in Secretary's order No. 3159, dated January 7, 1993.

The objectives of Interagency Agreements (IA's) which fall under this MOU include reducing potential redundancies in data collection efforts, strengthening communication and coordination of data requirements, and sharing technical information between the BLM and the USGS.

II. Background

A. Bureau of Land Management

The BLM, a Bureau within the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages approximately 272 million acres of public lands, about one-eighth of the land area in the United States, and the mineral estate underlying an additional 300 million acres of land administered by other Government agencies or owned by private interests. Public land resources managed by the BLM include rangeland, timber, minerals, watershed, fish and wildlife habitat, wilderness areas, recreation sites, and archaeological and historical resources.

The BLM requires cartographic data that is stratified by information content, positional accuracy, and media format. The specific data requirements are driven by the resource management needs of the BLM.

B. U.S. Geological Survey

The USGS National Mapping Division (NMD) has the responsibility to provide governmental entities and the general public with current, accurate, cartographic and geographic information, and remotely sensed data for the United States and its outlying areas of jurisdiction. The USGS primary-scale, intermediate-scale, and small-scale mapping series products (digital and graphic) meet established national standards of accuracy, content, and format. The NMD makes available aerial photographs and satellite data in both graphic and digital formats and conducts research in the application of spatial data techniques to natural resource and other national issues.

The NMD is modernizing its production capabilities to address product requirements through the year 2000. To meet the increasing demand for digital cartographic data and to improve production efficiency, the NMD is in a transition from a traditional graphic mode of operation to a predominantly digital mode of operation. The National Digital Cartographic Data Base (NDCDB) will be the central data source for NMD's future mapping activities, including data revision and the generation of both graphic and digital products such as quadrangle maps, Digital Line Graphs (DLG's), and Digital Elevation Models (DEM's).

III. Scope

As a component of the BLM's principles of ecosystem management, National Mapping Program (NMP) products are used to depict (1) surface management responsibilities, (2) minerals management responsibilities, (3) recreation opportunities, and (4) the public land survey. The product series used for these purposes include:

- o Intermediate-scale maps (1:100,000),
- o State base maps (1:500,000),
- o National digital map base at 1:2,000,000 scale,
- o National base maps at 1:3,168,000 scale, and
- o National Atlas publications at 1:7,500,000 scale.

The BLM uses the NMD 7.5-minute quadrangle as its resource base. The BLM uses other products of the NMP such as photography, control, and orthophotoquads. Other map products produced by the BLM are designed to support BLM land and resource management planning/use decisions. These products are normally available to interested parties upon request.

The NMP provides a wide range of graphic and digital cartographic and geographic products and information for the United States and its outlying areas of jurisdiction. Except where required for clarification, no distinction is made in this MOU between digital and hard copy products, and services.

Under this MOU, some of the products and services that the BLM and the USGS may provide to each other include:

Products: Either the BLM or the USGS may produce specific products in support of the other's requirements. For example, the BLM may provide USGS with data that are suitable for entry into the NDCDB or of such quality that the data can be upgraded for inclusion into the NDCDB. Likewise, the USGS may provide the BLM with information and data for inclusion in the Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB).

Production Assistance: Either the BLM or the USGS may provide services in support of the other's requirements. For example, the BLM may provide field verification of NMP graphic products through the use of field personnel. The USGS could aid in the verification of GCDB information.

Technical Assistance: The BLM and the USGS may exchange training catalogs and provide training opportunities to interested personnel in either Bureau. For example, each may exchange technical expertise and provide consultation to the other for operational capability such as the Automated Land and Mineral Record System initial operating capability, and automated cartographic systems. The USGS may provide the BLM with access to and limited storage space in the Rocky Mountain Mapping Center's Secure Facility.

Technical Development: The USGS and the BLM may cooperate in efforts to evaluate and review data requirements, standards development, collection methodologies, and system designs/specifications. The USGS and the BLM may also cooperate in the conduct of benefit/cost and other studies.

IV. Authorities and Policies

This MOU and IA's under this MOU are entered into under the authority of section 307(b) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1737(b) and the Economy Act, 31 U.S.C. 1535. Authority for the coordination of Surveying,

Mapping and Related Spatial Data Activities is clarified in part 757, Chapters 1-3 (757 DM 1-3) and Secretarial Order No. 3159.

V. Responsibilities

The USGS and the BLM will regularly provide updates on program activities, technology application, development and related work through written correspondence, USGS/BLM coordination meetings and other mechanisms. Both the BLM and the USGS will actively seek to participate in development activities, partnerships, and exchange of technical expertise.

A. Bureau of Land Management

Requirements for standard cartographic products will be identified through the OMB Circular A-16 process. The BLM also will inventory and define its nonstandard cartographic requirements. The results of the two efforts will be collated to develop a BLM spatial needs analysis report which will be furnished to the USGS at the time of the A-16 submission.

Data collected by the BLM, or obtained by the BLM through contract, will be consistent with national data standards.

B. U.S. Geological Survey

The USGS will report regularly on the status of the BLM cartographic data requirements for products and services required on or adjacent to the BLM-administered lands, the boundaries of which are provided by the BLM. The report will be based upon the BLM requirements submitted through the A-16 process, and other submissions by the BLM for products and services. The USGS will continue to provide the appropriate indexes of cartographic products available and projects in work over BLM-administered lands to the BLM as a part of the A-16 process.

C. Coordination

The BLM and the USGS staff will meet annually, or as required to review requirements for cartographic products and services covering the BLM administered lands. Bureau staff will plan the production of conventional mapping products and digital data products based upon identified requirements and the capacity of both the BLM and the USGS. The Points of Contact identified in this MOU may establish work groups; review and approve group charters, work plans, and reports; and resolve related issues when necessary. Respective Bureau staff will:

- (1) Review requirements submitted by both Bureaus as part of the A-16 coordination process.
- (2) Review related IA's and amendments between the USGS and the BLM and develop work plans defining responsibilities for the production and exchange of specific digital cartographic and related data. This will include a review and update of the content of agreements identified in Appendix A.
- (3) Maintain coordination with the activities of the Spatial Data Management Committee functioning under the USGS-BLM-FS Interagency Agreement and the IGDC.

The Points of Contact identified in this MOU will:

- (1) Facilitate and implement tasks initiated by this MOU or subsequent IA's.
- (2) Address and resolve unique programmatic and technical issues between the BLM and the USGS.
- (3) Review and provide recommendations on all future amendments to this agreement.

VI. Implementation

The IA's will be developed to document and track projects initiated under this MOU. These IA's will be appended to this MOU when production requirements are defined and resources become available.

The IA's will include, at a minimum, the following:

- (1) Definition of financial arrangements,
- (2) Definition of cartographic product(s) or service(s) to be supplied,
- (3) Bureau responsibilities,
- (4) Production and delivery schedules,
- (5) Standards and technical specifications,
- (6) Duration of the plan/project, and
- (7) Definition of geographic area of interest.

VII. Technical Requirements

A. Applicable Standards

Specific product standards and technical specifications will be a part of each IA appended to this MOU.

Evolving technical specifications will be reviewed by the BLM and the USGS staff for possible adoption.

B. Product Evaluation Procedures

Product evaluation procedures and standards will be determined and agreed upon by the USGS and the BLM staff for specific products or services.

VIII. Financial Arrangements

The USGS and the BLM will, through direct appropriations, cost/work share, or full reimbursement, provide cartographic data, products, or services. Performance of either party under the terms of this MOU is subject to the availability of appropriated funds and personnel resources.

A. Direct Appropriations

The BLM and the USGS will support the other's requirements for standard products to the extent possible, as determined by priorities established through the OMB Circular A-16 process or additional program requirements.

B. Cost/Work Share

Cost/work share arrangements may be used by both Bureaus to expedite their data requirements. Cartographic data/products may be produced in-house or under contract and must meet approved specifications. Work share projects initiated under this MOU will be planned so that costs will be shared equally, when possible.

C. Full Reimbursement

The BLM and the USGS will exchange, through existing financial transfer methods, copies of existing cartographic products at prevailing prices. They also may provide full reimbursement for services or products rendered.

IX. Period of Agreement

A. Effective Period

This agreement is effective on the date of the last signature.

B. Review Cycle

A formal review of this MOU will be conducted by the USGS and the BLM every 5 years. Attached IA's and addenda for cartographic products and services will be reviewed on a yearly basis, or sooner if required in a specific addendum.

C. Modifying or Terminating

The MOU may be modified at any time upon joint approval; but the MOU may be terminated only after appended IA's are formally terminated by either Bureau upon 90 days written notice. Liability for all work in process when termination is requested will be the shared responsibility of both the BLM and the USGS.

X. Security

A. Data Security

Activities will be in accordance with the Computer Security Act of 1987. Each Bureau agrees to incorporate pertinent security requirements as appropriate.

B. Access to Secured Areas

Access to secure facilities will be in accordance with recognized security procedures. Each Bureau is responsible for maintaining the clearances for individuals.

XI. Confidentiality Statement

The data provided pursuant to this agreement may contain non public BLM information (i.e., data not readily available for public release, but may be available through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request). The BLM and the USGS may agree to maintain the confidentiality of information received from other parties to the extent permitted by the FOIA.

APPENDIX A

I. INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS/MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING THAT WILL BECOME ADDENDA TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BLM AND THE USGS FOR THE PRODUCTION AND EXCHANGE OF CARTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

BLM/USGS	01-19-83	For the exchange of cartographic and cadastral information
BLM/USGS	01-19-83	For the production, storage, and distribution of products of the National Mapping Program
BLM/USGS	01-19-83	National High Altitude Photography (NHAP) Program
BLM/USGS	12-07-87	For storage, reproduction, and distribution of aerial photography
BLM/USGS	11-18-83	For the production, storage, and distribution of National Mapping Program products (100K surface mgmt., 100K mineral mgmt., and thematic data)
BLM/USGS	03-06-84	For remote sensing data acquisition, application, analysis and training
BLM/RMMC	01-09-87	Cooperative production of orthophotoquads
BLM/RMMC	01-09-87	Production and exchange of Digital Elevation Models
BLM/USGS	02-23-90	PLSS/GCDB/DLG Exchange Agreement
BLM/ORSO/WMC	03-11-87	To facilitate managing the O&C lands and natural resources in western Oregon
BLM/ORSO/WMC	06-10-87	Storage, reproduction and distribution of remotely sensed data. To facilitate cooperation for a continuing application of mapping and GIS activities and registration of satellite data

BLM/USGS 09-06-89 Production, storage, and distribution of
National Mapping Program products

**II. INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS/MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING
WHICH HAVE EXPIRED OR ARE NO LONGER VALID**

BLM/USGS 01-19-83 For the establishment of horizontal
control stations in the State of Alaska

BLM/USGS 08-12-83 For the collection and exchange of
Public Land Survey System (PLSS)
digital data

BLM/WMC 08-13-84 Review and publish map products
generated by the contract through the
Idaho Bureau of Mines and Geology

BLM/USGS 05-20-88 Registration of satellite data

BLM/USGS 12-14-84 For the production, storage, and
distribution of National Mapping Program
products

BLM/USGS 04-01-85 For printing National Wilderness
Preservation System Atlas maps

BLM/USGS 02-24-86 Production, storage, and distribution of
National Mapping Program products

BLM/USGS 05-14-87 Production, storage, and distribution of
National Mapping Program products

KEY:

BLM Bureau of Land Management
ORSO Oregon State Office, Bureau of Land Management
USGS U.S. Geological Survey
WMC Western Mapping Center, U.S. Geological Survey

DLG Digital Line Graph
GCDB Geographic Coordinate Data Base
GIS Geographic Information System
O&C Oregon and California
PLSS Public Land Survey System