

Peer Review Plan

Date: 7/23/14

Source Center: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
Core Science Systems Mission Area
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192

Title: The 3D Elevation Program Initiative—A Call for Action.

Subject and Purpose: The 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) initiative includes a call for action to accelerate the collection of remotely sensed high-resolution data of two types: (1) high-quality light detection and ranging (lidar) data for the conterminous United States (CONUS), Hawaii, and the U.S. territories and (2) interferometric synthetic aperture radar (ifsar) data for Alaska. Lidar and ifsar data will be available for the Nation, and the National Elevation Dataset will be refreshed with new elevation data products and services. The initiative is being led by the USGS and includes many partners—Federal agencies and State, Tribal, and local governments—who will work together to build on existing programs to complete the national collection of three-dimensional elevation data in 8 years. The 3DEP initiative is based on the results of the National Enhanced Elevation Assessment (NEEA) that was funded by National Digital Elevation Program agencies and completed in 2011. The study, led by the USGS, identified more than 600 requirements for enhanced elevation data to address mission-critical information requirements of 34 Federal agencies, all 50 States, and a sample of private sector companies and Tribal and local governments. As proposed, the 3DEP effort would become operational in 2015 with the provision of products and services to partners and the public. The strategy is to pool funding from partners and from an increase in contributions from Federal agencies for a total of \$146 million annually. If fully funded, it is estimated that 3DEP could return more than \$690 million annually in new benefits directly to the private sector and indirectly to citizens through improved government program services. This report will be released as a USGS series publication.

Impact of Dissemination: This product is considered by the USGS to be a Highly Influential Scientific Assessment.

Timing of Review (Including Deferrals): April 2014 – May 2014. Deferrals are not anticipated at this time.

Manner of Review, Selection of Reviewers, and Nomination Process: Review will be by individual letters and supporting documents. USGS will select the peer reviewers pursuant to requirements in Survey Manual chapter 502.3—Fundamental Science Practices: Peer Review (<http://www.usgs.gov/usgs-manual/500/502-3.html>).

Expected Number of Reviewers: Four peer reviewers are anticipated.

Requisite Expertise: Remote Sensing and Lidar Science.

Opportunity for Public Comment: Two community of use reviews of earlier drafts resulted in more than 200 comments which have subsequently been considered within the current draft manuscript. Two of the peer reviews are planned for community of use experts in remote sensing and lidar science. No additional public reviews are planned.

Agency Contact: peer_review_agenda@usgs.gov.