
Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS):

Discussion of NTIA Request for Public Comment

**NGAC Meeting
March 17-18, 2015**

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

- Presidential Memorandum “Promoting Economic Competitiveness While Safeguarding Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties in Domestic Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems” (February 15, 2015)
- NTIA directed to establish a multi-stakeholder engagement process to develop and communicate best practices for privacy, accountability and transparency issues regarding commercial and private UAS use

NTIA Request for Public Comment

- Published in Federal Register March 5, 2015
- *Privacy, Transparency, and Accountability Regarding Commercial and Private Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems*
- <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/03/05/2015-05020/privacy-transparency-and-accountability-regarding-commercial-and-private-use-of-unmanned-aircraft>
- **Comments due April 20, 2015**

NGAC Activities Related to UAS

- NGAC engaged in discussions of geospatial privacy in Geospatial Privacy subcommittee
 - Briefing to CIO Council Privacy Subcommittee Meeting on February 19, 2015
- NGAC engaged in discussions of non-traditional data acquisition in Crowd-Sourced Data subcommittee
- NGAC membership includes representatives from several entities with multiple interests in UASs

Proposal: Prepare NGAC Input to FGDC Regarding UAS

- Precedent: NGAC comment on FTC preliminary report: "Protecting Consumer Privacy in an Era of Rapid Change: A Proposed Framework for Businesses and Policymakers"
- Adopted by NGAC at December 7-8, 2010 NGAC meeting
- Comments submitted by FGDC to FTC in April 2011

NGAC Recommendation to FGDC Regarding Precise Geolocation Data

- *The NGAC recommends that the FGDC work collaboratively with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to seek clarification of language addressing geolocation in the FTC Staff Report, “Protecting Consumer Privacy in an Era of Rapid Change.” The members of the NGAC are concerned about the imprecise use of the term “precise geolocation data” in the report. The lack of definition and clarity in the language could cause significant unintended consequences to the geospatial field, resulting in impacts to consumers, government programs, and industry. The NGAC is willing to work with FGDC and FTC, as needed, to help provide the perspective of the geospatial community to this issue.*

December 2010

DRAFT Recommendation to FGDC Regarding UAS

- The NGAC recommends that the FGDC work collaboratively with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to ensure that the geospatial community is actively involved in the multi-stakeholder engagement process described in the February 2015 Presidential Memorandum “Promoting Economic Competitiveness While Safeguarding Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties in Domestic Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems.” The NGAC encourages the FGDC to work collaboratively with the NTIA to develop and communicate appropriate best practices for privacy, accountability, and transparency issues regarding commercial and private UAS use for data acquisition, while encouraging innovation and the development and deployment of appropriate technologies that benefit the nation and serve the scientific and economic missions of multiple agencies. The NGAC looks forward to providing input and suggestions to the FGDC to inform the multi-stakeholder process as it develops.

Proposed Next Steps

- NGAC consider/adopt high-level resolution on UAS (March NGAC meeting)
- FGDC Secretariat submit comments to NTIA, incorporating NGAC input, by April 20
- NGAC members/organizations encouraged to individually submit comments to NTIA