

Geospatial Data Act of 2018

Overview/Current Activities



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FGDC Executive Director

National Geospatial Advisory Committee Meeting

May 8, 2019

Topics

- Overview of GDA components & related data initiatives
- Approach to implementation and current status
- Impacts on the NGAC
- Potential NGAC study topics
- Questions/discussion



Geospatial Data Act of 2018

Context—

The GDA is one of several new data initiatives aimed at:

- Promoting and improving access to data for public health, economic growth, environment and other purposes
- Promoting use of quality scientific and other data to improve policymaking
- Sparking public private partnerships, new innovative start-ups & services

Federal Data Strategy

Geospatial Data Act

Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act

- TITLE I: Federal Evidence-Building Activities
- TITLE II: Open Government Data Act
- TITLE III: Confidential Information Protection And Statistical Efficiency

Geospatial Data Act of 2018

The GDA reflects growing recognition of the essential role of geospatial data and technology and highlights the need to support their continuing development as critical infrastructure for the Nation.



The GDA formalizes Federal government structures related to geospatial data



The GDA provides policy and guidance to empower the use of geospatial data and technology

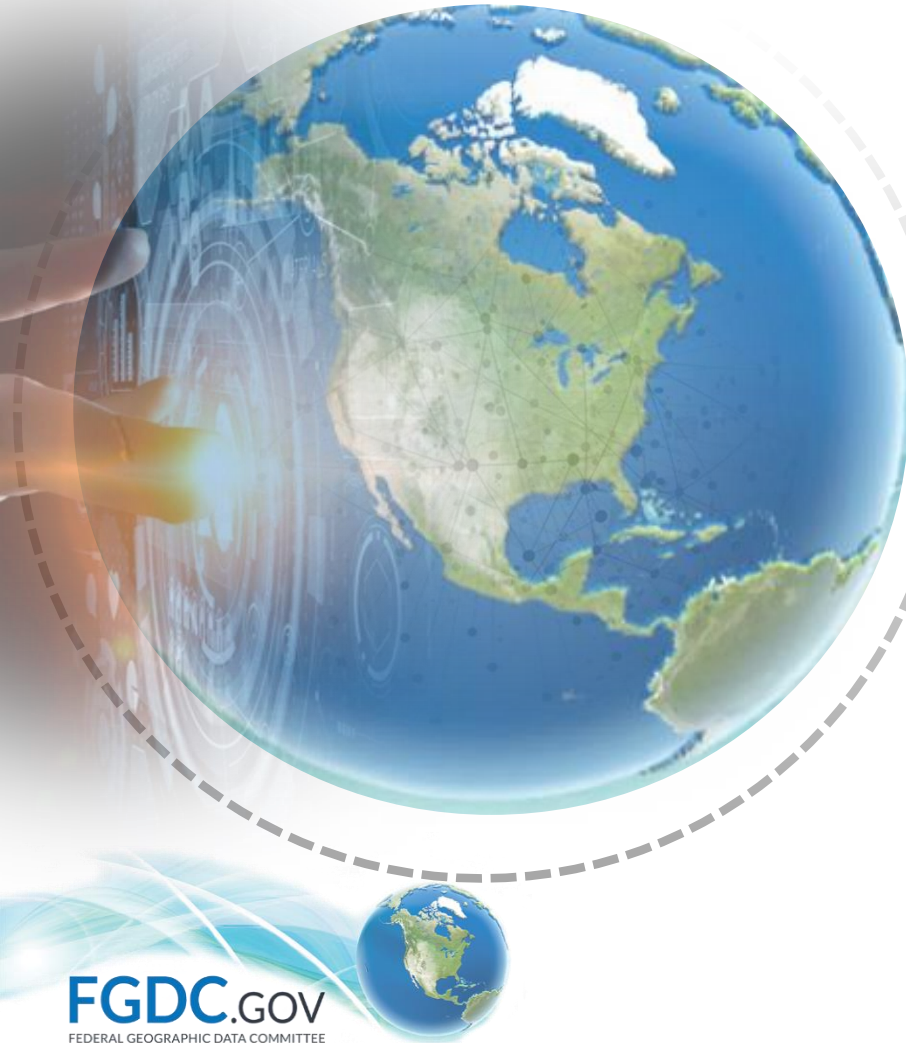


Facilitates broad cooperation between the public and private sector

Positions the U.S. to be a global leader in utilization of geospatial technology

Geospatial Data Act of 2018

Executive Summary



Codifies the role and authorities
of the FGDC

Establishes the NGAC as a
statutory advisory committee

Policy and guidance to empower
the use of geospatial data and
technology

Establishes agency
responsibilities

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Establishes stewardship of
geospatial assets

National Spatial Data
Infrastructure

Budgeting and reporting
requirements

Implementation Approach

- Coordination with FGDC Leadership/OMB
- FGDC Tiger Team/Work Groups
- GDA Workshops
- Initial assessment of GDA
- Stakeholder engagement
- High-level implementation roadmap
- Updated OMB guidance (Circular A-16)
- GDA Implementation Strategy / NSDI Strategic Plan



GDA Tiger Team/Work Groups

Analysis of the GDA—identify impacts, requirements and recommendations that will result in the development of an implementation



**Governance &
Organization**



**Data, Standards, and
Delivery**



**Covered Agencies &
Reporting**



**Communications &
Outreach**

Geospatial Data Act of 2018

GDA Implementation Roadmap

KEY TASKS

- OMB Circular A-11 Language Revision
- Federal Data Strategy (FDS) Action Plan Update
- Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement
- GDA Interagency Budget Initiative
- GDA Work Groups – Critical Issues
- GDA Communication Strategy
- Development of OMB Guidance



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DRAFT GDA ROADMAP – CY 2019 SUMMARY TIMELINE

TASK	STATUS	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1. Update A-11 Language	In progress									
2. Update FDS Action Plan	In progress									
3. Stakeholder Engagement	In progress									
4. GDA Budget Initiative	In progress									
5. Resolve WG Issues	In progress									
6. GDA Comm. Strategy	In progress									
7. Inputs for OMB Guidance	Not started									
8. OMB Guidance	Not started									
9. Update GDA Roadmap	Not started									

Sec. 754. National Geospatial Advisory Committee

Section Summary

This section codifies the National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) and includes language specifying that the NGAC would be administered in DOI. Similar to its current charge, the NGAC will continue providing advice and recommendations to the chairperson of the FGDC relating to the management of federal and national geospatial programs, the development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), and other activities relating to the implementation of this subtitle. The NGAC is also required to review and comment on geospatial policy and management issues and ensure that the views of representatives of non-federal interested parties involved in national geospatial activities are conveyed to the FGDC.

Sec. 754. National Geospatial Advisory Committee

Consistent with Current Practice

- Advisory Committee sponsored & managed by DOI
- NGAC chair appointed by FGDC chair
- Membership composition, criteria, & terms of appointment
- Current ethics requirements apply to NGAC members
- Subcommittees may be established to develop draft products
- 1-4 Public Meetings per year
- Duties primarily the same (with addition of GDA implementation)
- No compensation of members, travel expenses covered
- Staff support provided by FGDC Secretariat
- FACA rules apply to NGAC, except as otherwise stated in GDA

Sec. 754. National Geospatial Advisory Committee

Key Changes

- GDA establishes NGAC as statutory advisory committee
- Standing membership from NGA specified
- Adds “licensed geospatial data acquisition professionals” to list of potential membership groups
- Specifies 1/3 of membership appointments expire each year
- NGAC Chair and DFO jointly responsible for subcommittee direction
- NGAC meetings to be called by Chair, instead of DFO
- Changes quorum from 2/3rds to majority
- Adds “advice on implementation of GDA” to list of NGAC duties
- Enables NGAC to request information directly from agencies with concurrence of FGDC Chair (and requires agencies to furnish such information). Also requires NGAC to report on non-compliance
- New language regarding termination & continuation of NGAC

Draft NGAC GDA Study Questions

1. OMB Guidance. OMB plans to issue an updated version of OMB Circular A-16 by October 2019. The FGDC requests that the NGAC provide high-level advice and recommendations on potential scope and content of this revision, including key elements that should be addressed in the revised Circular, consistent with the requirements of the GDA.

(Note – see 2016 NGAC paper, [“Comments on OMB Circular A-16”](#))

2. NGAC Roles & Responsibilities. Section 754 of the GDA establishes a the NGAC as a statutory advisory committee, and describes the NGAC’s roles and responsibilities. Some of the NGAC’s responsibilities are similar to past practices, while others are new responsibilities. The FGDC requests that the NGAC provide advice and recommendations on how the NGAC should be organized and managed in order to fulfill the requirements of the GDA.

Draft NGAC GDA Study Questions

3. Roles and Responsibilities. Section 753(c)(8) of the GDA includes the following language: *“The (FGDC) shall define roles and responsibilities and promote and guide cooperation and coordination among agencies of the Federal Government, State, tribal, and local governments, institutions of higher education, and the private sector in the collection, production, sharing, and use of geospatial information, the implementation of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure, and the identification of proven practices.”* The FGDC requests that the NGAC provide advice and recommendations on how the FGDC should address this requirement.

4. National Spatial Data Infrastructure. Section 755 of the GDA includes the following language: *“The (FGDC) shall advise Federal and non-Federal users of geospatial data on their responsibilities relating to implementation of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure.”* The FGDC requests that the NGAC provide advice and recommendations on approaches the FGDC may take to “advise Federal and non-Federal users of geospatial data on their responsibilities relating to implementation of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure.”

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Conclusion

- The GDA reflects growing recognition of the essential role of geospatial data and technology and highlights the need to support their continuing development as critical infrastructure for the Nation.
- Positions the U.S. to be a global leader in utilization of geospatial technology

Thank You

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Questions & Discussion

