

3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee Charter

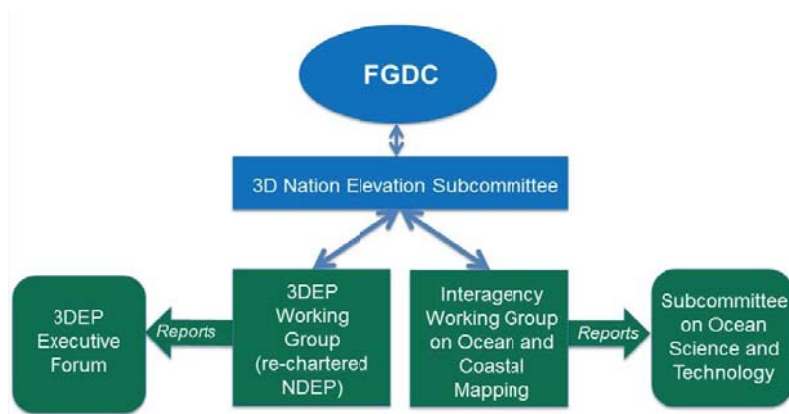
BACKGROUND

This Charter establishes the 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee as a subcommittee of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC). The FGDC is the interagency committee responsible for facilitating OMB Circular A-16 related activities and coordinating the implementation of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and the National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Themes. These themes are coordinated by theme subcommittees organized under the FGDC Coordination Group.

The Elevation Theme is defined as, “The measured vertical position of the earth surface and other landscape or bathymetric features relative to a reference datum typically related to sea level. These points normally describe bare earth positions but may also describe the top surface of buildings and other objects, vegetation structure, or submerged objects. Elevation data can be stored as a three-dimensional point cloud or as a continuous surface such as a raster, triangulated irregular network, or contours. Elevation data may also be represented in other derivative forms such as slope, aspect, ridge and drainage lines, and shaded relief.”

The Elevation Theme co-leads are the U.S. Geological Survey for terrestrial elevation and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for bathymetric elevation.

The co-leads and their partners coordinate closely on all aspects of elevation theme management through the following structure:



The **3D Elevation Group (3DEP) Working Group**, formerly known as the National Digital Elevation Programs (NDEP), is the operational coordination group for terrestrial elevation. It reports to the **3DEP Executive Forum**.

The **Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping (IWG-OCM)** is the operational coordination group for bathymetric elevation. It reports to the **Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology**.

The **3D National Elevation Subcommittee is the Elevation Theme Subcommittee** under the FGDC. It is comprised of the operational 3DEP Working Group and the IWG-OCM and is linked to the executive groups through their oversight roles to the operational groups.

PURPOSE

The goal of the 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee is to continually improve the national elevation mapping foundation by coordinating the topographic, coastal, and bathymetric mapping activities across the Federal government. The concept of 3D Nation serves as a unifying structure for all national elevation efforts, and provides a consistent set of standards and objectives for an authoritative foundation to support national needs.

The 3D Nation initiative provides a foundation for mapping our natural resources, transportation systems, businesses, public and private lands, and ecosystems in a changing world.

The 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee also reports to the 3DEP Executive Forum through the Terrestrial Elevation Theme Lead and Executive National Geospatial Data Asset Theme Champion. The Forum facilitates executive-level dialog and collaboration on strategies to implement and sustain the 3D Elevation Program (3DEP), and other elevation data sets of national significance identified by the Forum, in order to fulfill A-16 theme coordination requirements for the benefit of Federal stakeholders and the broader community.

The 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee also reports to the Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology through the Bathymetric Elevation Theme Lead and the Executive National Geospatial Data Asset Theme Champion. The Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology contributes to Federal goals for ocean science and technology, including developing coordinated interagency strategies.

AUTHORITIES

FGDC Subcommittees are chartered under the FGDC Steering Committee and coordinated by the FGDC Secretariat which are granted authority through the Office of Management & Budget (OMB) Circular A-16, Executive Order 12906 and the E-Government Act of 2002. In addition, the activities of the 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee are in accordance with OMB circulars A-16, A-119, A-130, and Homeland Security Presidential Directives (HSPD) 7 and 8.

SCOPE

The 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee scope of responsibilities includes coordination of a national elevation mapping foundation by coordinating the topographic, coastal, and bathymetric mapping activities across the Federal government.

OBJECTIVES

- Support the development of a unified National elevation foundation through the 3DEP Working Group.
- Facilitate the coordination of ocean and coastal mapping activities across the Federal sector as well as with State, industry, academic and non-governmental (NGO) mapping interests through the Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping (IWG-OCM).
- Coordinate lidar needs and planned lidar acquisitions following major disasters.

MEMBERSHIP

The 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee shall consist of the lead representatives designated by Federal agencies as representatives to the 3DEP Working Group and the IWG-OCM.

Each member agency of the 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee shall designate its representatives, alternates if desired, and changes thereto, to the 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee Chairpersons.

Organizations representing State, local, regional and tribal governments may be added with the consensus of 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee representatives. Although non-Federal participants may engage in 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee discussions and offer information and opinions, their participation is limited to a non-decision making role.

CHAIRPERSONS

The Subcommittee is chaired jointly by the NGDA Theme Leads from NOAA and USGS.

SUBGROUPS

The 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee may establish subgroups to accomplish specific tasks and responsibilities. Currently, the Subcommittee has established two subgroups: The 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) Working Group and the Interagency Working Group on Ocean and Coastal Mapping (IWG-OCM).

PROCEDURES

3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee meetings shall be held at the call of the 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee Chairs and shall be conducted at least annually. Meetings may be held virtually or in person. Agenda items will be coordinated with other subcommittee members, as well as with State and local partners.

Decisions shall be on the basis of consensus agreement among the 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee.

COORDINATION RESPONSIBILITIES

The 3DEP Working Group and the IWG-OCM are the principal mechanisms for coordination for the Subcommittee. The primary responsibility of the Subcommittee will be addressing coordination issues that substantially affect both subgroups. The 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee will employ tools best suited to meet its responsibilities, such as Subcommittee meetings, national user forums, annual research initiatives, and cooperative venues. The Subcommittee Chairs will coordinate the subcommittee activities with other Subcommittees, Work Groups, the FGDC Coordination Group and appropriate venues relevant to accomplishing key activities and effectively growing the geospatial community.

REPORTS

The 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee, working closely with the 3DEP Subgroup and IWG-OCM, shall develop an annual goals and objectives plan and provide it to the FGDC Coordination Group and FGDC Secretariat. The 3D Nation Elevation Subcommittee will also develop an annual summary of accomplishments. All progress documented as a result of Subcommittee activities shall be submitted to the FGDC Coordination Group and the FGDC Secretariat.

APPROVALS

This Charter shall remain in effect until amended or replaced or until terminated by the FGDC Steering Committee. This Charter will be posted on the FGDC website at www.fgdc.gov.

Recommended by FGDC Coordination Group Vote on: October 2, 2015

Approved by FGDC Steering Committee vote on: October 30, 2015