

**Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee
Vertical Reference System Work Group
Meeting Notes
July 1, 2010**

Location: NOAA, Silver Spring, MD; SSMC3, 8514
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. East Coast time
Call In Number: 877-426-5014, PASSCODE: 8484480

Attendance

**NOAA/NGS Renee Shields, Dru Smith, Christine Gallagher (for Tim Smith, NPS, Denver)
NGA: Jim Frederick, Tom Creel**

1. Not many people attending. Spoke briefly about the success of the Summit, and the FGCS meeting the next day.
2. Dru talked about his focus in coming weeks being on the definition of the new vertical datum. One concern is the issue of the differences between the approach Canada is considering and the one we would like to do. Canada has different politics it is dealing with, and would like to hold the geoid at zero at Father's Point, leaving the tilt in the model. The US would like to use the 'true' geoid and remove the tilt. The plan is for the model to be 'semi-static' – fixed over a period of time, then updated, so it would be a step function over time.
3. An IAG Working Group is looking at unification of height systems around the world into the World Height System. That group agrees that the orthometric height system should be the GPS heights plus geoid model.
4. The military uses EGM08 in its receivers. The issue they wrestle with is how to standardize the format and spacing of the grid data for the model.

Next meeting: September 2 or October 7, 2010, 10-11:30 a.m. East coast time