

**NOAA, National Geodetic Survey
HEIGHT MODERNIZATION COORDINATION MEETING
DRAFT NOTES**

Date: Thursday, December 8, 2011
Time: 2:00-3:30 pm East Coast time

Attendees:

Call-ins from: CA (John Canas), IL (Amy Eller), KY (Wolfgang Ziegler), NGS online (Vicki Veilleux, Stu Kuper), NC (Dave Zilkoski), MT (Dan Ignatov), SC (Dick Woods, Matt Wellslager), WA (Dave Steele), WI (Darin Henkel, Dave Moyer)

Silver Spring: NGS (Renee Shields, Dave Doyle, Michael Dennis, Juliana Blackwell; CO-OPS (Michael Michalski)

Advisors/Coordinators: Brian Ward (AR), Dave Minkle (AZ), Jim Richardson (NE), Dave Zenk (MN), Dave Rigney (MI), Monroe Rivers (KS), Scott Lokken (NC), John Ellingson (WI)

1. NGS/CO-OPS Project Activities

Geoid Slope Validation Survey in TX is complete, with the exception of some gravity data that needs to be finished. Height Mod will provide a little bit of funding to support the analysis and research that will come from the data collected. Also beginning to plan for the next similar effort in 2013. This year we will recon 2-3 locations to see where we might collect data that will expand our understanding through new challenges, e.g. the Pacific northwest or Colorado Rockies.

Several expanded leveling data adjustments are being done to contribute to GEOID12. These include a MSDOT leveling project running from Pensacola, FL to LA, leveling projects in Tennessee, and a readjustment of all the leveling collected in height mod projects across the state of Wisconsin. GPS projects supported by these leveled bench marks have already been incorporated into the NGS IDB to ensure that updated ellipsoid heights are computed from the NA2011 project, but the orthometric height adjustments for these projects will wait for GEOID12. These include MSDOT and southern Louisiana projects.

The Federal Register Notice defining the Virgin Islands vertical datum (VIVD) was published December 12.

CO-OPS is looking into establishing a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Park Service to be able to support them with water level installations in the various parks. The VDatum program is installing 9 water level stations in North Carolina, some of which are on NPS lands. The NPS contacted CO-OPS about the possibility of extending the 3 month VDatum installation to support their sea level rise work. Without an MOU in place CO-OPS we will not be able to support this. Once an MOU is in place CO-OPS will be able to work with the NPS to support their needs when a water level gauge installation for such items as Hydro survey, VDatum, Coastal, etc. coincides with a NPS requirements.

2. NGS Outreach/Education

Reminder that NGS will be holding the next geospatial summit at beginning of the Esri User Conference in July 2012 in San Diego, CA. Currently the summit is planned for the Sunday before the User Conference plenary – it will be a six hour meeting. On the Tuesday following the User Conference plenary, there will be a two hour special interest group (SIG) meeting. This summit will be a little different from federal geospatial summit in 2010; NGS is targeting the GIS community rather than other federal agencies. We are also expecting some attendees from the Survey Summit which precedes the Esri conference.

3. Updates from States – e.g. outreach, projects

IL (Amy Eller) – November 30, Illinois held interviews with 7 local firms to do 700 miles of leveling to begin in March.

SC (Dick Woods) – One height mod project was submitted to NGS last month, and they are currently doing recon for a 3-county height mod project. SC has a scanner ordered so all documents for future projects can be submitted to NGS digitally.

4. Monthly presentation

Analyzing the National Adjustment of 2011 using GIS
Michael Dennis, National Geodetic Survey

Michael provided a status report on the National Adjustment of 2011 (NA2011) Project currently underway, including preliminary NA2011 results. Michael reported on the problems NGS is working on and demonstrated how GIS technology is being used for analysis and display of these results. Michael released some files to the advisors and coordinators to review and provide input on various problem areas. Information and updates on the project continue to be available online at:

<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/web/surveys/NA2011/>

Q (Renee Shields) When will this be complete and published?

A There are a number of factors impacting the completion of this project, for the most part involving decisions to be made on how to handle problem areas. It is hoped that the project will be delayed no further than one month beyond the original target date of the end of CY11. Dan Roman is also waiting for the results to use for GEOID12, which is also dependant on getting results from the special adjustments of leveling being done in MS, LA, TN, and WI.

5. Other Business

None

Important Links:

Previous months' meeting notes and a list of future meeting presentations can be found at:
<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/heightmod/MeetingNotes.shtml>

Next meeting: Monday, January 12, 2011; 2:00-3:30 East Coast Time. Next presentation will be by Michael Dennis (NGS) on the readjustment of NAVD 88 heights for all height mod projects in Arizona to achieve consistency.

Recent Past Events

November 12, Elizabeth, NC – Height Modernization Workshop

November 14, 2011, Goldsboro, NC – Height Modernization Workshop

November 18, 2011, Providence, RI – Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors

December 2, 2011, Shelby, NC – Floodplain Mapping (Elevation Certificates)

Upcoming Events

December 5-9, 2011, San Francisco, CA – American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting

December 9, 2011, New Bern, NC – Floodplain Mapping (Elevation Certificates)

January 10, 2012 Silver Spring, MD – Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee meeting.

January 9-11, 2012 Saratoga Springs, NY - New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors (NYSAPLS)

January 12-14, 2012, Chamberlain, SD - SDSPLS Annual Convention

January 25-27, 2012, Wisconsin Dells, WI - Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors (WSLS) Annual Institute

February 16-18, 2012, Springfield, IL - Illinois Professional Land Surveyors Association Conference

February 17, 2012, Bloomington, MN - MSPS 60th Annual Meeting 2012

February 22-24, 2012, Washington, D.C. – Esri Federal GIS Conference

March 2012, Breezy Point, MN - 2012 MNDOT Surveys Technical Workshop

April 18-19, 2012, Champaign, IL - Illinois GIS Association Spring Conference

July 15-18, 2012, Indianapolis, IN - 11th International Conference on Precision Agriculture (ICPA)

July 22 & 24, San Diego, CA – 2012 Geospatial Summit

July 23-27, San Diego, CA – ESRI User Conference

October 16-17, 2012, Naperville, IL - Illinois GIS Association Fall Conference