

SAVE THE DATE

*Federal Geospatial Summit on
proposed improvements to the National Spatial Reference System:
Replacing NAD 83 and NAVD 88*

Date: May 11 & 12, 2010
Location: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Center & Auditorium, Silver Spring, Maryland
Sponsor: NOAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS)

Dear Colleagues:

On **May 11th and 12th**, 2010, the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) will host a summit to share information with other federal agencies on the proposed improvements for the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), specifically the replacement of the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) and the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88), and to discuss the needs and concerns of the user community that depends on accurate and reliable geospatial information. The goals of the summit will be to:

- Disseminate the rationale leading to the decision to modernize the horizontal and vertical geodetic datums
- Exchange information on the plans and methodologies to modernize the geometric and geopotential datums of the NSRS
- Share concerns on how the replacement of these two datums will impact the user community
- Outline future tasks which must be accomplished for the successful redefinition of the horizontal and vertical datums

The target audience includes technical experts of participating agencies who rely upon accurate geospatial data. Because of the mandate for all federal civil mapping authorities to work within the NSRS, it is imperative that complete participation occur so that the impacts to the entire user community are addressed. As such, the participating agencies should include all federal civil mapping agencies, traditional users like surveyors and engineers and new users such as emergency managers, geographic information system (GIS) users and natural resource managers.

Please plan on joining NGS and the Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee (FGCS) Vertical Reference System Working Group (VRSWG) in this collaborative information exchange and planning effort. Additionally, we will begin to collect questions and/or concerns about the modernization of the NSRS to better prepare for and focus the summit, so you can expect to receive a questionnaire via email in the coming weeks. If you have any additional questions, please contact Renee Shields (Renee.Shields@noaa.gov).