

**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

**NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CHARTER**

1. **Committee's Official Designation:** National Geospatial Advisory Committee (Committee).
2. **Authority:** The National Geospatial Advisory Committee is established under section 754 of the Geospatial Data Act of 2018 (Act), Public Law 115-254, and regulated by Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2. A subcommittee is established under section 5 of the National Landslide Preparedness Act, Public Law 116-323.
3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities:** The Committee will provide advice and recommendations to the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), which is the lead entity in the executive branch for the development, implementation, and review of policies, practices, and standards relating to geospatial data.
4. **Description of Duties:** The Committee shall:
 1. Provide advice and recommendations relating to:
 - (a) the management of Federal and national geospatial programs;
 - (b) the development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI); and
 - (c) implementation of the Act;
 2. Review and comment on geospatial policy and management issues; and
 3. Ensure the views of representatives of non-Federal interested parties involved in national geospatial activities are conveyed to the FGDC.

At the conclusion of each meeting or shortly thereafter, provide a detailed recommendation report, including meeting minutes, to the Designated Federal Officer (DFO).
5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports:** The Committee provides counsel and advice to the Chairperson of the FGDC through the DFO. The Secretary of the Interior is the Chairperson of the FGDC under the Act.

6. **Support:** Administrative support and funding for activities of the Committee will be provided by the U.S. Geological Survey.
7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years:** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Committee's activities are estimated to be \$400,000, including all direct and indirect expenses and 1.5 Federal staff years support.
8. **Designated Federal Officer:** The DFO is the Executive Director, FGDC, who is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The Committee Chair and the DFO will approve or call all Committee and subcommittee meetings and prepare and approve all meeting agendas. The DFO will attend all Committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Secretary.
9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:** The Committee will meet approximately one to four times annually, and at such other times as designated by the DFO and/or Secretary.
10. **Duration:** Continuing.
11. **Termination:** The Committee will terminate 10 years after the date of the enactment of the Act, which will occur on October 18, 2028. The Committee may be continued for successive 10-year periods by action taken by the Secretary of the Interior to renew the Committee before the date on which the Committee would otherwise terminate. The Committee will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.
12. **Membership and Designation:** The Committee shall be composed of not more than 30 members, at least one of which will be from the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, who will be selected to generally achieve a balanced representation of the viewpoints of various interested parties involved in national geospatial activities and the development of the NSDI.

Selection of Committee members will include consideration of geographic balance. The Committee membership will be selected from among groups involved in the geospatial community, including:

- States;
- Local governments;
- Regional governments;
- Tribal governments;
- Private sector entities;
- Geospatial information user industries;
- Professional associations;
- Scholarly associations;
- Non-profit organizations;
- Academia;

- Licensed geospatial data acquisition professionals; and
- Federal Government.

The Secretary will appoint members to the Committee. Appointments will be for terms of 3 years, with the terms of one-third of the members expiring each year. Committee members, with the exception of the member from the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, may not serve more than two consecutive terms. However, after a 2 year break in service, that member will again be eligible for appointment. Members serve at the discretion of the Secretary.

Any vacancies will be filled in the same manner in which initial appointments were made.

Non-Federal members of the Committee will serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, non-Federal Committee and subcommittee members engaged in Committee, or subcommittee business, approved by the DFO, may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service under 5 U.S.C. § 5703.

The Secretary appoints the Chair and Vice-Chair.

13. Ethics Responsibilities of Members:

- a. Federal Employees.** Members who are appointed to the Committee in their official capacity as Federal employees are subject to applicable Federal ethics statutes and regulations, to include applicable exceptions and exemptions.
- b. Special Government Employee Members.** Members of the Committee appointed as special Government employees (SGEs) are subject to applicable Federal ethics statutes and regulations, to include applicable exceptions and exemptions. Additionally, SGE members are required, prior to appointment and annually thereafter, to file a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report. SGE members are also required to receive initial ethics training prior to performing any Committee duties and to receive annual ethics training thereafter. The Department of the Interior will provide materials to those members serving as special Government employees, explaining their ethical obligations.
- c. Non-Federal Members Who Are Not Special Government Employees.** Such non-Federal members of the Committee are not subject to Federal ethics statutes and regulations. However, these non-Federal members may not participate in any Committee or subcommittee deliberations or votes relating to a specific party matter before the Department or its bureaus and offices including a lease, license, permit, contract, grant, claim, agreement, or litigation in which the member or the entity the member represents has a direct financial interest.

14. **Subcommittees:** Subcommittees may be formed for the purposes of compiling information or conducting research. Subcommittee members will be appointed by the Committee Chair, and subcommittees must act only under the direction of the Committee Chair and DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Committee for consideration. Subcommittees, except as described below, must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the Committee Chair and DFO, and the availability of resources.

The National Landslide Preparedness Act, Public Law 116-323, directs the Secretary to establish a subcommittee within the National Geospatial Advisory Committee to consist of not fewer than 11 members, of whom none may be a Federal officer or employee and will include representative of (i) research and academic institutions; (ii) industry standards development organizations; (iii) units of State and local government; and (iv) the private sector.

The subcommittee shall conduct an assessment of (i) trends and developments in (I) the collection, dissemination, and use of 3D elevation data; and (II) science and technology relating to 3D elevation data; (ii) the effectiveness of the 3D Elevation Program in carrying out the activities described in subsection (a)(1); (iii) the need to revise or reorganize the 3D Elevation Program; and (iv) the management, coordination, implementation, and activities of the 3D Elevation Program.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the National Landslide Preparedness Act, and every 2 years thereafter, the subcommittee shall submit to the Secretary and the 3D Elevation Federal Interagency Coordinating Committee a report that includes (i) the findings of the assessment; and (ii) recommendations of the subcommittee based on those findings, if any.

15. **Recordkeeping:** The records of the Committee, and formally and informally established subcommittees of the Committee, shall be handled in accordance with General Record Schedule 6.2, and other approved Agency records disposition schedules. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.



Secretary of the Interior

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Date Signed

November 8, 2021

Date Filed