

Coalition of Geospatial Organizations

September 4, 2013

The Honorable Jim Moran, Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
2252 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the USGS 3DEP Program

Dear Representative Moran:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) to commend the House Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee for supporting full funding at the level recommended by the President for the USGS 3-Dimensional Elevation Program (3DEP) <http://nationalmap.gov/3DEP/>. Enhanced elevation data for the Nation will stimulate economic growth, while improving health and security. Federal leadership will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the activity as a whole.

In 2012, a study funded by the USGS and its partners identified that important benefits from enhanced elevation data totaling up to an estimated \$13 billion annually would accrue to 602 mission-critical activities of 34 Federal agencies; the 50 States; and selected local and tribal government, private, and other organizations.

3DEP will satisfy the extensive demand for consistent, high-quality topographic data and other three-dimensional representations of the Nation's natural and constructed features. COGO is confident that appropriate and desirable federal leadership through the 3DEP will result in significantly improved protection and management of water resources; better identification, delineation, risk characterization, mitigation and post-event recovery of natural hazard areas; improved management and discovery of energy and mineral resources; more efficient efforts in agriculture, landscape restoration, transportation, and construction; as well as improving insights into our natural heritage.

COGO is a coalition of 13 national professional societies, trade associations, and membership organizations in the geospatial field, representing more than 175,000 individual producers and users of geospatial data and technology. The stakeholder groups that make up COGO speak with one voice whenever possible on geospatial data and policy issues. COGO only takes public policy positions with a unanimous vote of its member organizations. In this regard, COGO respectfully urges the Interior Subcommittee to fully fund the USGS share of the 3DEP program at the President's FY14 budget request level of \$23.7 million, which includes \$11 million in increased funding.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey S. Lovin, CP, PS
Chair, Coalition of Geospatial Organizations

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American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS)
Association of American Geographers (AAG)
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Geographic Information Systems Certification Institute (GISCI)
International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO)
Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS)
National Society for Professional Surveyors (NSPS)
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United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF)
University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS)
Urban Regional Information Systems Association (URISA)

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September 4, 2013

The Honorable Jack Reed, Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
728 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for the USGS 3DEP Program

Dear Chairman Reed:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) in strong support of full funding at the level recommended by the President for the USGS 3-Dimensional Elevation Program (3DEP) <http://nationalmap.gov/3DEP/>. Enhanced elevation data for the Nation will stimulate economic growth, while improving health and security. Federal leadership will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the activity as a whole.

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Coalition of Geospatial Organizations

September 4, 2013

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for the USGS 3DEP Program

Dear Senator Murkowski:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) in strong support of full funding at the level recommended by the President for the USGS 3-Dimensional Elevation Program (3DEP) <http://nationalmap.gov/3DEP/>. Enhanced elevation data for the Nation will stimulate economic growth, while improving health and security. Federal leadership will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the activity as a whole.

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September 4, 2013

The Honorable Michael K. Simpson, Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the USGS 3DEP Program

Dear Chairman Simpson:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) to commend the House Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee for supporting full funding at the level recommended by the President for the USGS 3-Dimensional Elevation Program (3DEP) <http://nationalmap.gov/3DEP/>. Enhanced elevation data for the Nation will stimulate economic growth, while improving health and security. Federal leadership will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the activity as a whole.

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