

**Earth Sciences Sector – United States Geological Survey Project Annex**

**Title: GEOSPATIAL INFRASTRUCTURE COLLABORATION**

**Identified Correspondents:** USGS: Doug Nebert, USGS, Reston, VA, 703-648-4151; Milo Robinson, USGS, Reston, VA, phone - 648-5162; ESS (CCRS): Terry Fisher, CCRS/GeoAccess, Ottawa, ON, 613-947-1300, Paula Rojas, GeoConnections Secretariat, Ottawa, ON, 613-947-2174.

**Responsible Senior Managers:** USGS: Richard Witmer, 703-648-5742; ESS (CCRS): Edryd Shaw, 613-947-1222

**Scope:** The United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS) have common interests in developing interoperability between the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Clearinghouse and CEONet. In addition there is a common interest to develop and prototype related technologies that are based on international standards and specifications. The work plan represents USGS activities within the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), and CCRS within the GeoConnections program.

**Work Plan:**

1. Common operational services for the U.S. NSDI and Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI) CEONet Clearinghouses.

Develop process for a common server registry to be used by CEONet and the U.S. National Spatial Data Clearinghouse.

Contacts: Brian McLeod (CCRS), Doug Nebert (USGS)

Timeline: April 2000 – June 2000

Conduct usability testing of U.S. and Canadian Clearinghouse technologies to guide new development. The focus will be on ease of use, search capabilities, results display, and other human factors in order to satisfy user community desires. As part of this activity, host and extend the CEONet interface on the FGDC web site. Compare and contrast capabilities with current and planned FGDC initiatives, and determine best practices.

Contacts: Brian McLeod (CCRS), Mark Reichardt (USGS)

Timeline: March 2000 – November 2000

2. Technology development and sponsorship

Collaborate on the value adding of data in the field using GPS, Clearinghouses, and Virtual Office software.

Contacts: Douglas O'Brien (CCRS), Mark Reichardt (USGS)

Timeline: April 2000 – December 2000

### 3. Framework Development

A joint framework demonstration project is proposed to further understand the complexities, challenges, and collaboration required to utilize framework data in addressing common issues between our countries. The general scope of the demonstration project is to support framework activities that focus on an issue of mutual concern. This collaborative project will involve a geographic area adjoining Canada and the U.S. The FGDC and GeoConnections Secretariat will make a joint announcement of a funding opportunity and solicit applicants for this funding. FGDC and GeoConnections Secretariat will foster liaison and coordination as well as provide project oversight.

Contacts: Paula Rojas (CCRS), Milo Robinson (USGS)  
Timeline: March 2000 – March 2001

**Funding:** For items #1 and #2 in the Work Plan, each party will contribute in-house expertise to these activities. For item #3 in the Work Plan, the USGS will fund US\$50,000 in fiscal year 2000 to the lead U.S. organization and the GeoConnections Secretariat will fund CAN\$50,000 in fiscal year 2000/2001 to the lead Canadian organization.

**Other Participants:** U.S. and Canadian Lead organizations will collaborate with other agencies and/or organizations in their respective countries to accomplish the objectives of item #3. Funding for item #3 will originate from USGS and ESS to the lead organizations in their respective countries and will support all activities within their respective countries to meet the stated objectives.

**Intellectual Property:** As per the "Agreement on the Allocation of Intellectual Property Rights, Interests and Royalties for Intellectual Property Created or Furnished under Certain Scientific and Technological Cooperative Research Activities" between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of February 4, 1997, the Parties to this Annex shall retain existing Intellectual property that they bring to the project.

**Duration and Termination:** This Annex will remain in effect until March 31, 2001, at which time it may be extended by mutual written agreement of the Parties, provided that the parent agreement remains in force. Changes or modifications to this Annex shall be by written document and signed by the Parties. Either Party may, by giving the other Party thirty (30) days written notice, terminate this agreement.

FOR THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

FOR THE CANADA CENTRE FOR  
REMOTE SENSING OF THE EARTH  
SCIENCES SECTOR OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL  
RESOURCES CANADA:



Richard E. Witmer  
Chief, National Mapping Division  
U.S. Geological Survey

Date:

3/27/00

Edryd Shaw  
Director General  
Canada Centre for Remote Sensing

Date:

4/10/00