

Sponsors and Participants

The GeoCONOPS is planned and sponsored by the DHS Geospatial Management Office within the Office of the Chief Information Officer in its role as facilitator of all interagency activities relating to domestic geospatial and remote sensing data to support the needs of the homeland security mission, including emergency management. DHS worked with numerous departments, agencies, supporting offices, and key programs to collect information on current practices and to guide the development of the GeoCONOPS. A Geospatial Interagency Oversight Team was established to help guide this effort and includes member representatives from the following organizations:

GIOT Team Members

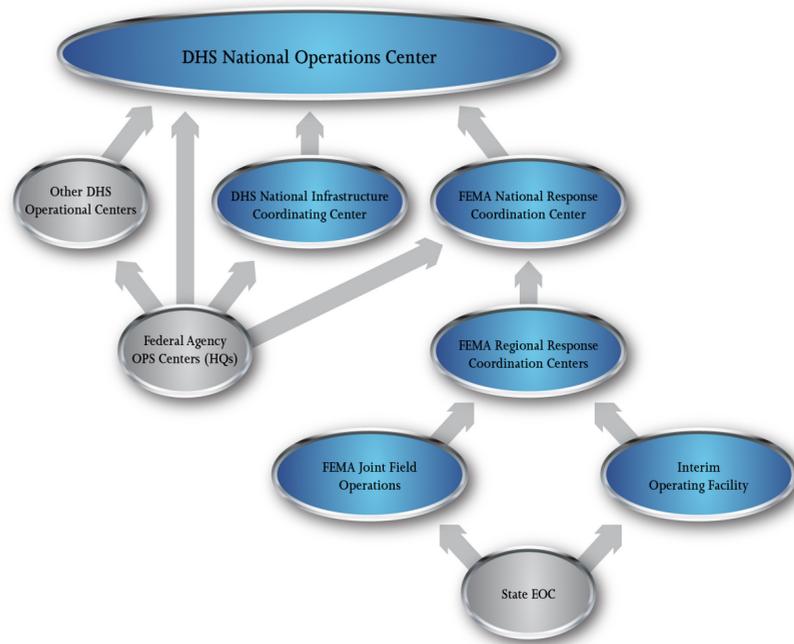
- Department of Agriculture (USDA)
 - Office of the Chief Information Officer
 - Enterprise Geospatial Management Office
- Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Coordination
 - Emergency Operation Center
- Forest Service
 - National Interagency Fire Center
- Department of Commerce (DOC)
 - National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
 - US Census Bureau
- Department of Defense (DoD)
 - Office of the Deputy Undersecretary for Defense
 - National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)
 - National Guard Bureau
 - NORTHCOM
 - US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
 - Office of the Chief Information Officer/Geospatial Management Office (GMO)
 - Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
 - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
 - Federal Insurance & Mitigation Administration (FIMA)
 - Office of Response & Recovery (ORR)
 - National Preparedness Directorate (NPD)
 - National Exercise and Simulation Center (NESC)
 - National Integration Center (NIC)
 - Mission Support Bureau (MSB)
 - Office of the Chief Information Officer (CIO)/Geospatial Solutions Branch
 - Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC)
 - Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)
 - National Protection & Programs Directorate (NPPD)
 - Federal Protective Service (FPS)
 - Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP)
 - Office of Health Affairs (OHA)
 - Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A)
 - Office of Operations Coordination & Planning (OPS)
 - Science and Technology (S&T)
 - Transportation Security Administration (TSA)
 - US Coast Guard (USCG)
 - US Secret Service (USSS)
 - Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)
 - Department of Interior (DOI)
 - US Geological Survey (USGS)
 - Department of Justice (DOJ)
 - Director of National Intelligence (DNI)
 - Department of State (DOS)
 - USAID
 - Department of Transportation (DOT)
 - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
 - Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI)
 - Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE)
 - Small Business Administration (SBA)
 - Veterans Administration (VA)
- Collaborating Partners
 - American Red Cross (ARC)
 - National Alliance for Public Safety Geospatial Information System (NAPSIS)
 - National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC)
 - Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)

Federal Operation Center Geospatial Practices

The GeoCONOPS describes the geospatial services of the six primary operation centers:

- DHS National Operations Center
- DHS National Infrastructure Coordinating Center
- FEMA National Response Coordination Center
- FEMA Regional Response Coordination Centers
- FEMA Joint Field Operations
- Interim Operating Facility

These centers are the geospatial community nexus for gathering, compiling and distributing information before, during and after a disaster. Their geospatial services and coordination methods are described in the GeoCONOPS Section Four, Disaster Operations.



Disaster Operations Reporting Structure

Best Practices

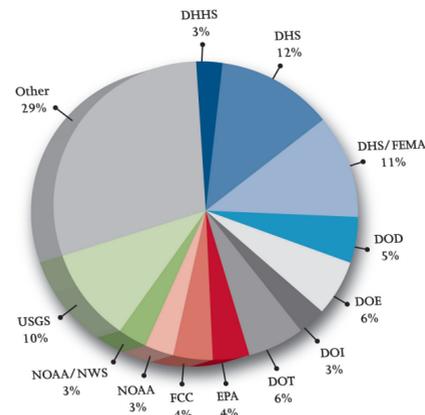
The GeoCONOPS Best Practices highlight more than a dozen mature methods and innovative practices for geospatial management processes, analyses, data products, technology, and models that are addressing key emergency response needs at the national, regional, and field levels. Examples include:

- Requests for Information
- Damage Assessment
- Advisory Base Flood Elevations
- Field Data Collection Tools
- Commodities Model

Best Practices are embedded throughout the GeoCONOPS as short summary examples of geospatial activities related to each section's explanatory content. A list of and links to the Best Practices appears in the table of contents.

Authoritative Data

Over 1,000 unique, authoritative data themes are catalogued in the GeoCONOPS. These are data themes, discovered through the development of the GeoCONOPS, that provide either rational or expert authorities on topics key in supporting emergency management missions, operational elements, and functions. The themes are characterized by agency point of contact, representation type, availability, use restrictions, emergency support function alignment, and internet accessibility. Subsets of authoritative data are incorporated throughout the GeoCONOPS, to relate known critical information to the document contents; a list of these appears in the table of contents. A complete listing of all identified authoritative data themes is contained in Appendix B, Authoritative Data Matrix.



Authoritative Data by Agency POC

Homeland Security Geospatial Concept of Operations (GeoCONOPS)

Coordinating geospatial support for the Homeland Security Mission



Geospatial capabilities are increasingly becoming a critical resources in homeland security operations. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) established the Homeland Security Geospatial Concept of Operations (GeoCONOPS) to document the use of geospatial capabilities for homeland security support, lay the groundwork for improved sharing of resources and information, and serve as a guide for agencies, organizations and people who are involved in the federal homeland security mission and want to understand geospatial's role and impact.



About GeoCONOPS

Overview

The GeoCONOPS describes geospatial resources and activities supporting Homeland Security operations and Emergency management functions. The GeoCONOPS includes:

Community Analysis and Model <i>(featured on interior)</i>	Federal Operation Centers <i>(featured on back)</i>
Current resources and capabilities such as personnel, assets and analytical models	A detailed scenario of response activities for a catastrophic natural event
Best Practices <i>(featured on back)</i>	Authoritative Data <i>(featured on back)</i>
Requirements and activities for disaster response mission areas	Requirements and activities for mitigation and preparedness areas

Currently the GeoCONOPS is published in limited hard-copy format, but the digital version is available HSIN (see "Get Connected" section below) and/or the Homeland Security GeoCONOPS website: "<https://www.geoplatform.gov/geoconops-home>".

Benefits

The GeoCONOPS is working to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of geospatial technology support for the homeland security mission and the emergency management lifecycles by:

- Raising awareness of the roles, responsibilities, capabilities and activities across mission functions, operations, event types, and agencies and departments
- Establishing authoritative data sources to streamline acquisition, eliminate dissemination and use of inaccurate data, and reduce redundancy
- Improving the sharing of authoritative data
- Enabling an interagency strategy for geospatial technology resource optimization in any incident

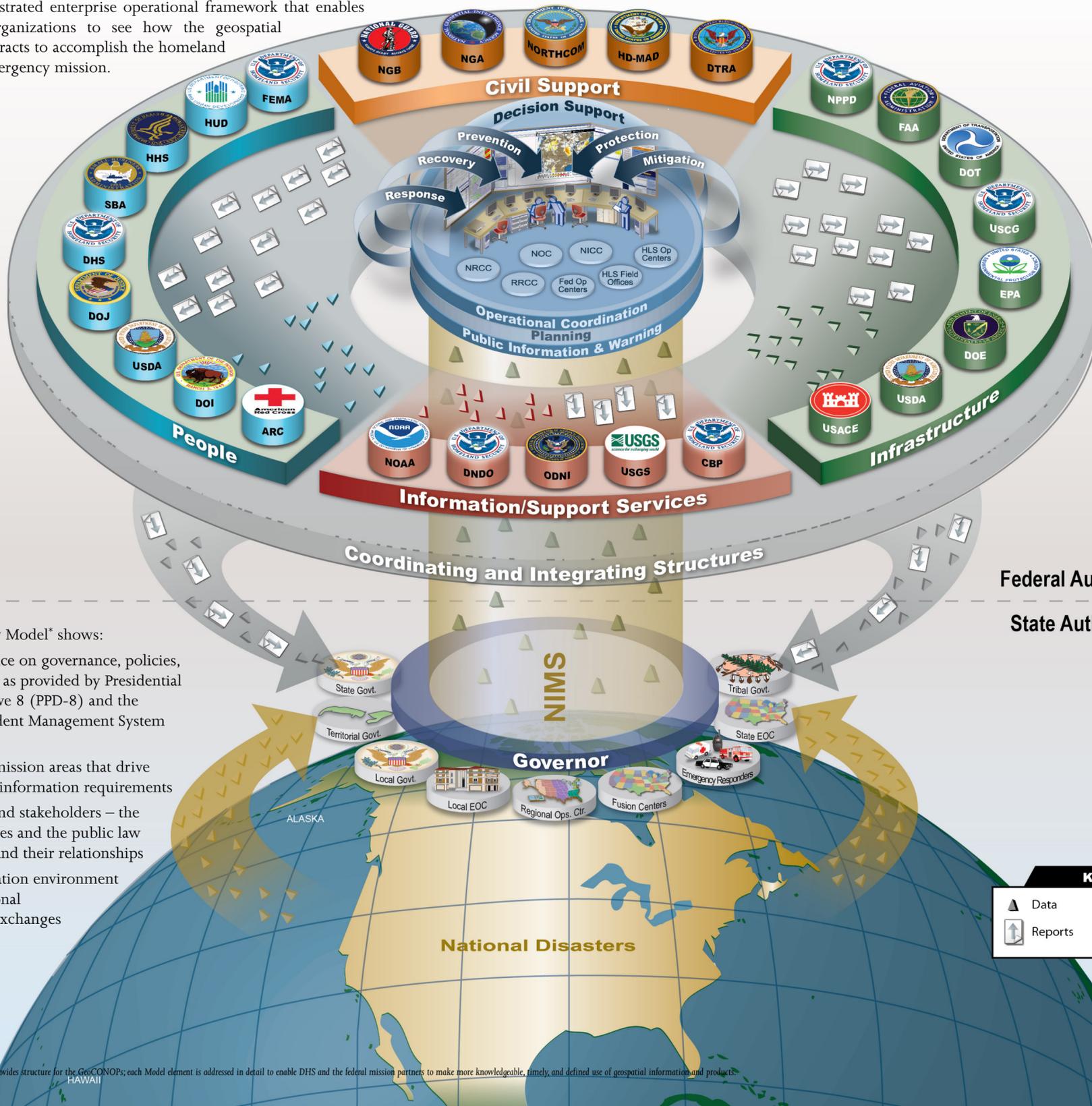
Get Connected

The GeoCONOPS is managed by the DHS Geospatial Management Office in coordination with the project's Geospatial Interagency Oversight Team. The project shares all documents, its operating calendar, and participant contact information via the Geospatial Information Community on the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) at: <https://government.hsin.gov/sites/GIS>. Contact the project team by email at GeoCONOPS@dhs.gov for any questions about the GeoCONOPS or to join the Community on HSIN.



Homeland Security Geospatial Concept of Operations (GeoCONOPS) Community Model

The GeoCONOPS uses a Community Analysis approach to characterize by whom and how geospatial capabilities are being deployed for Federal interagency homeland security operations in support of disaster and emergency response under the Stafford Act. This analysis is captured in this GeoCONOPS Community Model – an illustrated enterprise operational framework that enables participating organizations to see how the geospatial community interacts to accomplish the homeland security and emergency mission.



The Community Model* shows:

- Core guidance on governance, policies, and processes as provided by Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- High-level mission areas that drive activities and information requirements
- Key actors and stakeholders – the state authorities and the public law authorities - and their relationships
- The information environment and transactional information exchanges

*The Community Model also provides structure for the GeoCONOPS; each Model element is addressed in detail to enable DHS and the federal mission partners to make more knowledgeable, timely, and defined use of geospatial information and products.

Learn More About...

Core Capabilities

The GeoCONOPS classifies Emergency Management activities into five high-level areas - Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery – to capture the current geospatial capabilities outlined by Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8). The key geospatial requirements, expertise, operations, and products are described in Section Three - Specific Mission Areas, and are incorporated into the New Madrid Natural Disaster and the Super Bowl Man-Made Scenarios discussed in Section Five.

Public Law Authorities

Numerous Federal departments and agencies and the American Red Cross provide disaster and emergency response assistance to the state authorities based on the NRF. For the Community Model these have been organized into five functional groups: Operations / Coordination, Information Support Service, Infrastructure, People, and Civil Support. The actors, their services, and their information responsibilities are described throughout the GeoCONOPS.

Operations/Coordination

Serves as the central access point for the request for resources and assistance as well as information and reports provided to other geospatial community segments and state and local entities described in Chapter Four, Disaster Operations.

Civil Support

Provides support in response to homeland security related disaster incidents. The key participants are the National Guard Bureau (NGB), National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), and US Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) Mission Assurance Division (MAD). Data products identified in Appendix B, Authoritative Data Matrix.

Infrastructure

Provides assessment information regarding buildings, schools, dams, levies, and other man-made structures; as well as the impact to the local community and environment. Described in Section Three, Specific Mission Areas; data products identified in Appendix B, Authoritative Data Matrix.

Information Support Services

Provides modeling, weather, border, and geological-related information in response to a disaster incident. Described in Section Three, Specific Mission Areas; data products identified in Appendix B, Authoritative Data Matrix.

People

Provides information regarding services to victims of disaster incidents including lifesaving, employment, shelters, legal, and health-related information. Described in Section Three, Specific Mission Areas; data products identified in Appendix B, Authoritative Data Matrix.

State Authorities

As disasters occur, non-Federal government organizations - state, local, territorial, and tribal governments – are responsible for providing immediate response and support regarding the disaster incident based on governing state authorities. A state Governor, working with the state Emergency Operations Centers (EOC), can interact directly with Federal Operations/Coordination actors based on PPD-8 doctrine and the NIMS guidelines for requesting assistance, providing information, and facilitating effective coordination.