

# NGDA Dataset Report

**Official NGDA Title:** Digital Elevation Models from NOAA/NGDC

**Metadata Record Title:** Digital Elevation Models from NOAA/NGDC

**A-16 NGDA Theme:** Elevation

## Executive NGDA Theme Champion(s):

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## Metadata:

**Registration Status:** Complete

**Registered on** 4/22/2015

**GeoPlatform Link\*:** <https://www.geoplatform.gov/node/243/f5eb18ea-4755-49a9-99cb-2c40a4282257>

**Data.gov Metadata Link\*:** <http://catalog.data.gov/harvest/object/e1237159-e3b9-4e92-bf05-27b164a4cf7e/html>

\*If the metadata has been updated and reharvested after publication of this report, the link may no longer be valid. The dataset may be searched for manually in Data.gov or GeoPlatform.gov.

# NGDA Lifecycle Maturity Assessment (LMA) Report

## Time Frame:

Timeframe is from 2006 (when consistent funding began) to Sept 2015.

## LMA Submission:

**Status:** Complete

**Date:** 10/19/2015

**Extension Requested:** No

## LMA Reviewer(s):

**Supervisor:** Susan McLean

**Theme Lead:** Did not review

**Executive Champion:** Did not review

**SAOGI\*:** Did not review

**Other:** Did not review

## LMA Verifier:

**Name:** Susan McLean

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## Attachments:

To get access to any attachments referenced in the report, email the LMA Help Desk at [NGDA\\_LMA\\_help@fgdc.gov](mailto:NGDA_LMA_help@fgdc.gov). Please use the subject "Dataset Report Attachment(s)" and indicate the associated official NGDA title.

\*Senior Agency Official for Geospatial Information (SAOGI)

## Lifecycle Maturity Assessment (LMA) Summary

### Overall Maturity:

**Mature; Consistent**

General Questions: 75%

**Mature; Consistent**

Stage 4 - Access: 100%

**Optimized; Established**

Stage 1 - Define/Plan: 80%

**Mature; Consistent**

Stage 5 - Maintain: 57%

**Managed; Predictable**

Stage 2 - Inventory/Evaluate: 100%

**Optimized; Established**

Stage 6 - Use/Evaluate: 100%

**Optimized; Established**

Stage 3 - Obtain: 100%

**Optimized; Established**

Stage 7 - Archive: 100%

**Optimized; Established**

### NGDA Dataset Maturity Definitions:

How To Calculate Maturity: [https://www.geoplatform.gov/sites/default/files/How\\_to\\_Calculate\\_Maturity.pdf](https://www.geoplatform.gov/sites/default/files/How_to_Calculate_Maturity.pdf)

Maturity	Maturity Characteristics for All Lifecycle Stages
Optimized; Established Rank = 5	Dataset meets virtually all business needs of all users. The dataset is considered authoritative by owners and secondary users. It is curated across all stages of the approved lifecycle. Future needs are defined on a regular basis and resources for addressing both current and future business requirements are available.
Mature; Consistent Rank = 4	Dataset meets all the business needs of the primary owner and most of the secondary users. The dataset is curated and used as authoritative by the primary owner. Dataset is used widely by secondary users actively engaged in sustaining the dataset. Future needs are identified and steps are planned to address these. All stages are supported and reviewed on a recurring basis. The dataset is well managed in relation to the approved lifecycle.
Managed; Predictable Rank = 3	Dataset meets a significant number of the business needs of the primary owner and is widely used as an authoritative resource by secondary users. Benchmark activities are occurring in at least four of the approved lifecycle stages. Management practices in relation to the approved lifecycle is moderate but consistent. Dataset is integrating changing business requirements in lifecycle stages impacting overall maturity.
Transition; Transformation Rank = 2	Dataset meets business needs of the primary owner and has moderate use by secondary users. Benchmark activities are occurring in at least three stages. Efforts to integrate funding, include partners, and obtain data are not supported in a sustained manner. Management practices in relation to the stages of the approved lifecycle is limited.
Planned; Initial Development Rank = 1	Dataset limited in meeting business needs of the primary owner. Benchmark activities in the approved lifecycle are just starting to consider secondary uses, partnerships are forming to support additional dataset uses. Dataset development is in a very early stage. Minimal or limited management against the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle.
No Activity Rank = no activity	Dataset meets project or local business needs of the primary owner, secondary or additional uses or users were not considered, not recognized as an authoritative data or is part of a similar dataset. Not managed to any of the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle.

## General Questions for All Stages

1) Is there a recurring process to obtain funding for all lifecycle stages of this dataset?

**Answer:** Funding is from local offices, budgeting effort minimal, staffing minimal.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Funding allocated yearly from NOAA Tsunami Program and the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program to meet their DEM needs. Occasional other funding sources (Sandy Supplemental, ARRA). Five staff fully or partially supported.

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2) Is there a process in place to ensure that open government and transparency guidelines are followed in all lifecycle stages for this dataset?

**Answer:** Process is published as appropriate with respect to sensitivity requirements, process is transparent, published appropriately.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Management of this dataset follows all scientific data management per the NOAA Administrative Order "NAO 202-735D: Scientific Integrity." NAO 202-735D outlines how NOAA complies with Open Government and Transparency requirements for all scientific data -- [http://www.corporateservices.noaa.gov/ames/administrative\\_orders/chapter\\_202/202-735-D.html](http://www.corporateservices.noaa.gov/ames/administrative_orders/chapter_202/202-735-D.html)

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3) Are there processes and tools in place so that staff are sufficiently knowledgeable to ensure a continuity of the dataset for all stages of the lifecycle, especially during staffing transitions?

**Answer:** Processes and tools to ensure dataset continuity are in place and implemented for all lifecycle stages.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Dataset continuity assured through staff training and internal documentation.

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## STAGE 1 - Define/Plan

4) Are user and business requirements defined and formalized?

**Answer:** A recurring process is in place, including defining new partner and stakeholder business needs as they arise, and is fully implemented.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Twice-yearly meetings with stakeholders to ensure their DEM needs are being met.

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5) How are partners/stakeholders involved in the requirements collection process?

**Answer:** A recurring process is in place, including defining new partner and stakeholder business needs as they arise, and is fully implemented.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Yearly meetings with stakeholders to identify requirements, with a follow-on meeting to assess and adjust requirements and priorities. Follow-through after DEM delivery to ensure partner DEM needs are being met.

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6) Is there a quality assurance process for the dataset?

**Answer:** Process established, significant portions of the documentation is complete.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Quality assurance process established and implemented.

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7) Is there a process to evaluate the sensitivity, privacy, and confidentiality of this dataset?

**Answer:** Sensitivity, privacy, and confidentiality evaluations fully implemented, reviewed and updated on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Process for stewarding proprietary, non-public data and derived (non-public) DEMs established and implemented.

8) Are defined data standards used in collecting, processing, and/or rendering the data?

**Answer:** Standards being researched and/or under development.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Some standards developed and partially implemented. Other standards under development.

## STAGE 2 - Inventory/Evaluate

9) Is there a process for determining if data necessary to meet requirements already exist from other sources (either within or outside the agency) before collecting or acquiring new data?

**Answer:** Process for determining appropriate data is being reused fully implemented, reviewed, and updated on a regular basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Process in place to determine whether existing, publicly available DEMs meet stakeholder requirements. DEM requirements include geographic coverage, bare earth, and specific horizontal and vertical datums. No suitable existing DEMs have yet been identified or purchased. Similar process established as regards the underlying bathymetric, topographic data essential for DEM development through interagency Ocean and Coastal Mapping program.

## STAGE 3 - Obtain

10) Is there a process for obtaining data in relation to this dataset?

**Answer:** Process is fully implemented, reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Process established and implemented for identifying and obtaining access to data acquired by other sources. NCEI does not fund data acquisition directly.

11) Is the metadata in a FGDC endorsed geospatial metadata standard?

**Answer:** Metadata is available in a format endorsed by the FGDC, it fully describes the dataset and provides all the information required to make the dataset discoverable, accessible, and usable.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

DEM metadata conforms to the ISO-19115 metadata standard. DEM metadata records available at -- <http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/metadata/published/NOAA/NESDIS/NGDC/MGG/DEM/iso/>

12) How complete is the geographic coverage as defined in the requirements for the dataset?

**Part 1 Answer:** Business requirements for cyclic updates identified and a process is in place.

**Part 2 Answer:** Dataset has presently attained the greatest geographic coverage as defined by the current requirements or roughly 100%.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Geographic coverage requirements of DEMs updated annually by funding sources. In a given year, DEMs are developed to meet 100% of the geographic coverage requirements for that year. Complete geographic coverage of the U.S. coastline has been proposed, but is not currently a requirement for this project due to lack of resources to implement.

## STAGE 4 - Access

13) Do you have a process for providing users access to the data in an open digital machine readable format?

**Answer:** User access process is fully implemented, data is available, process is reviewed and

updated on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Public DEMs fully discoverable and accessible on the Internet in digital form via multiple frameworks. See -- <http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/coastal/coastal.html>

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## STAGE 5 - Maintain

**14)** Is there a maintenance process for updating and storing the dataset?

**Answer:** Dataset maintenance process is identified and documented.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Process for updating DEMs has been developed but not yet implemented. Final DEMs are stored and managed in accordance with Open Archival Information Standards.

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**15)** Is there an error correction process as part of dataset maintenance?

**Answer:** Error correction process established.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

DEM errors will be corrected using the DEM update process.

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## STAGE 6 - Use/Evaluate

**16)** Is there a process to determine if the dataset meets user needs?

**Answer:** Process is fully implemented and repeated on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Process in place and implemented as needed for stakeholders, though not for the public at large.

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**17)** Is there a process to provide users information on how to access and properly use the dataset?

**Answer:** Process is fully implemented supporting access and proper use, process is reviewed on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Access and use information provided on the NCEI web site (<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/coastal/coastal.html>), in DEM metadata records (<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/metadata/published/NOAA/NESDIS/NGDC/MGG/DEM/iso/>), and in online FAQs ([http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/global/dem\\_faq.html](http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/global/dem_faq.html)).

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**18)** Are the business processes and management practices assessed to meet changing technology?

**Answer:** Assessment process is fully implemented for taking advantage of changing technology, process is reviewed on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Processes being assessed in light of changing technologies.

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## STAGE 7 - Archive

**19)** Is there an archiving process for the dataset?

**Answer:** Archival and disposition processes are fully implemented.

**Justification Comment:**

**Attachment(s):** 0

Archive submission agreement with NCEI established and reviewed annually.