

GEOSPATIAL MATURITY ASSESSMENT 2021

Alaska Report Card

Overall Grade: B-

| COORDINATION | GRADE: C |
|-----------------------|----------|
| | |
| STATE-LED THEMES | GRADE |
| Address | F |
| Cadastre | C- |
| Elevation | B+ |
| Orthoimagery Leaf-Off | N/A |
| Transportation | B |
| FEDERAL-LED THEMES | GRADE |
| Geodetic Control | B |
| Government Units | A |
| Hydrography | A |
| Orthoimagery Leaf-On | C |

METRICS:

A - Superior

B - Above average

C - Average

D - Below average

F - Failure

N/A - Not Applicable

The National States Geographic Information Council Geospatial Maturity Assessment provides NSGIC members and other partners with a summary of geospatial initiatives, capabilities, and issues within and across state governments. The NSGIC GMA now produce report cards for each state on central data themes and coordination topics. The assessment is performed every two years.



ALASKA GMA RESPONSE

We appreciate the opportunity to participate in the Geospatial Maturity Assessment. The assessment is of great value in that it gives an overview of the extensive geospatial efforts taking place across the nation. As always, Alaska is unique and the NSGIC GMA grades necessitate some explanation of key differences between state-led and federal-led themes as compared to other states in the nation.

Statewide Imagery, Elevation, and Hydrography are supported by U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) through the Alaska Mapping Initiative and Alaska Mapping Executive Committee (AMEC) coordination. AMEC coordinates with federal agencies and the State of Alaska in support of modernizing critical map layers.

Alaska's first statewide elevation product, airborne IfSAR (Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar), began in 2012 and was completed in 2020. The \$68M project was successfully completed through coordination between DOI agencies and the State of Alaska (AMEC).

Through the Alaska Mapping Initiative and AMEC coordination, USGS is supporting the update of terrestrial hydrography data (surface water, such as lakes and rivers). Over the next 9 years, hydrographic features and watershed boundaries will be derived from the Alaska IfSAR elevation data using Elevation-derived Hydrography (EDH) methodology.

Statewide imagery is supported through AMEC coordination with the Civil Applications Committee and is an orthomosaic of satellite based optical imagery. We strive for summer snow-free scenes, so the leaf-on and leaf-off imagery surveyed in the GMA is not applicable to Alaska. Furthermore, Alaska does not have a National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP).

Other themes are accurately represented and show the challenges Alaska has ahead due to its sheer size and enormous efforts required to mature these themes.

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