



NSGIC

National States Geographic Information Council

Taking a Position on the Future of NAIP Imagery Program

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Framing the discussion

- **FSA is considering a licensed data model for NAIP starting in FY19**
 - Budget reductions
 - Cost-share partners funding have been significantly short over the past few years
 - Delays in releasing funding from cost-share partners forces contract awards past “peak agriculture growth” season
 - May be the only way to meet required 3 year maximum cycle
- **FSA is currently assessing all public facing applications and program requirements to ensure data rights requirements are documented**
- **To date, FSA has not identified any regulatory or statutory requirements that mandate the release of NAIP dataset to the**

Solutions

Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS)

- **Only low risk approach that meets FSA's 3-year cycle requirement**
 - Eliminates all partner induced risk
- **Market research indicates, FSA can reduce its cost by half**
 - Based on a USDA-only license
 - May reduce contract administrative cost (cost-share partners do not pay admin fees currently)

Challenges with the model...

- Licensed data cannot be shared with other departments or public
- Moving NAIP to a licensed data model will likely impact other agencies
 - Other organizations would have to fully fund their license
- Likely to have significant political “blow back”
- NAIP is an important dataset in the A-16 Imagery Theme and removing the dataset from public domain will have considerable impacts
- Goes against the principal of create it once and use it many times
- Increases the likelihood of redundancy of the data

Shaping the discussion...

- What should NSGIC do to contribute to the discussion around NAIP and potentially other federal imagery programs?
- Does advocating for NAIP still make sense, and if so is that enough? Or does NSGIC need to take a more holistic advocacy position built around requirements for the product and its allowed users and uses?
- NSGIC wants to explore and understand possible impacts that will occur by removing NAIP from the public domain.

Would there be significant impacts to your organization with a switch to Licensed Model?

- Example – NAIP serves as the most recent and ongoing method of obtaining statewide imagery in MN. For how many other states is this the case? Counties and cities have higher resolution and more frequent.
- Impacts to your states?
- Local partners?
- Private organizations?

How do you assess the value of imagery?

- High resolution
- Leaf on/off?
- Frequency?
 - Urban vs rural
- Type of access?
 - Web service?
 - API?
 - Ability to download?

What are the reasons to consider licensed imagery data?

- Accessibility to data?
- Cost?
- Frequency?
- Area of interest? I can purchase only the areas I need?

Should we as a group be advocating for a more comprehensive approach?

To partnering and purchasing?

- Master contracts multiple agencies, states, local and other public and private partners can purchase from? CIBORG?
- Cost entry points based on resolution, leaf off, frequency or currentness?

• Funding approaches?

• Other forms of imagery – Satellite, UAS?

Where does an approach like this fit?

- You have heard a couple of presentations at the conference (serverless storage, National Insurance Crime Bureau, Harris) that can change the way we look at data, large areas of coverage, and how that can be redistributed) How does that affect the approach going forward?
- Where does a licensed model like this fit with the NSDI?



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