



NGS: Products, Tools & Timelines for the modernized NSRS

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NSRS Modernization Manager

NOAA's National Geodetic Survey

Outline

- Products and Tools
 - NSRS Database
 - Data Delivery System
 - Modernized NCN
 - M-PAGES
 - LASER
 - IFDM2022
 - RECs and SECs on passive marks
 - GDX
 - OPUS 6
 - NADCON
 - VERTCON
 - NCAT/VDatum
 - SPCS2022

Products and Tools

NSRS Database

The single, definitive “geospatial database” for all “quality checked” data and metadata “collected by”, used by, “or submitted to NGS”

The NOAA CORS Network
(data, coordinate functions, photos, equipment lists, etc.)

The IGS CORS Network
(coordinate functions, photos, equipment lists, etc.)

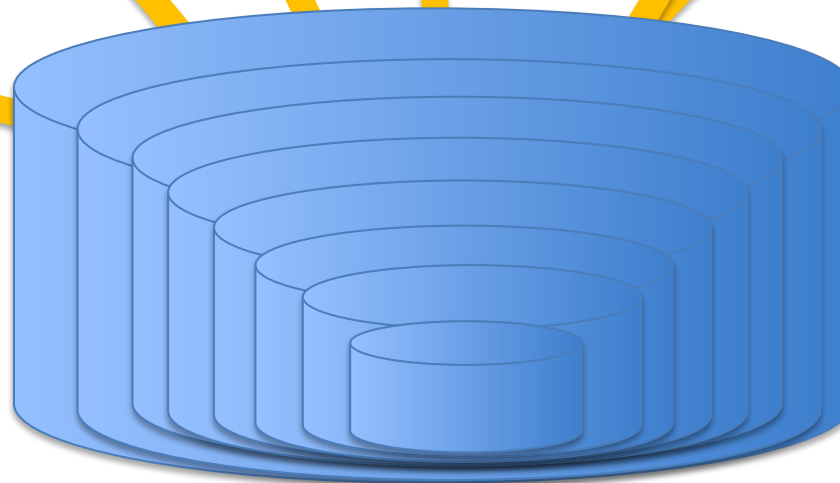
Every model ever created by NGS (geoids, transformations, deformations, orbits, etc.)

Every survey ever submitted to NGS (data, reports, photos, etc.)

Every paper ever written by NGS (scientific papers, internal reports, 200+ years of historic reports, etc.)

Every coordinate ever computed by NGS (in every frame or datum, every epoch, every type of coordinate)

**Did I miss something else?
It's going in too!**



The Data Delivery System

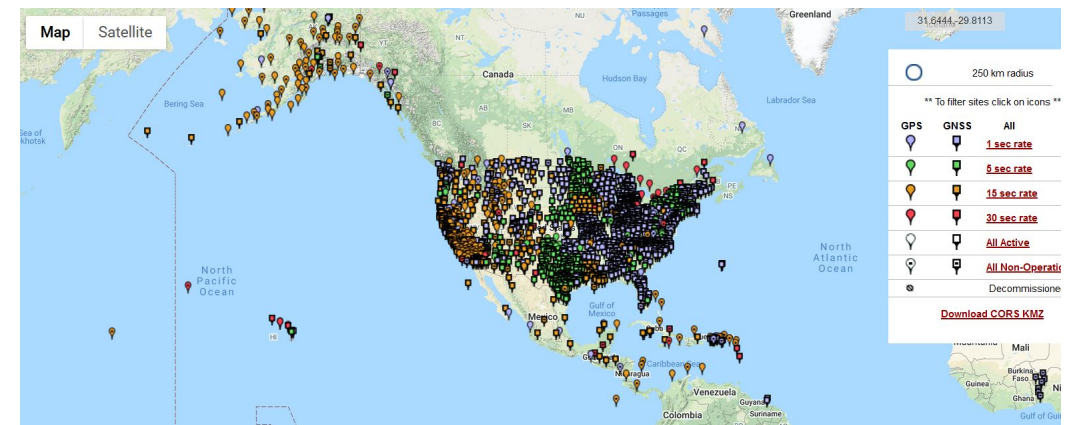
The single, definitive way for anyone to query the NSRS database and retrieve data

- Find marks near you
 - and add them to a project if you like
- Get information about a mark or station (like datasheets today, but *much* better)
- Query the NSRS Database for anything (orbits, observations, reports, etc.) but especially if it's a spatial query:
 - *Show me every mark with 'WAS' in the designation, occupied with GPS between 1995 and 2005, leveled on any date after 2000, within 50 km of a CORS and over 10 km from a state border...go!*

https://devaws.nosngs.noaa/datasheets/new_datasheet/index.html

The NOAA CORS Network (NCN)

- As of 2019, this is the official name of the network managed at NGS
 - Historically referred to as “CORS” or “the CORS”
- NGS is working hard to remove long-standing issues:
 - Customizable data availability and data quality graphs
 - Defining one physical GRP per station
 - Grading each station
 - Updated station logs



M-PAGES

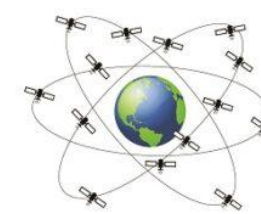
- New GNSS processor
- Replaces NGS's flagship GPS-processor "PAGES"
- Can process data from any dual frequency constellation
 - Still under development
 - Built into all NGS products in the future

4 GNSS CONSTELLATIONS



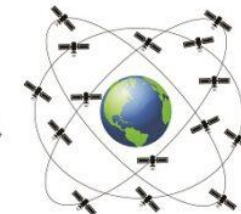
GPS

6 Orbital planes
24 Satellite + Spare
55° Inclination Angle
Altitude 20,200 km



Galileo

3 Orbital planes
27 Satellite + 3 Spares
56° Inclination Angle
Altitude 23,616 km



GLONASS

3 Orbital planes
21 Satellite + 3 Spares
64.8° Inclination Angle
Altitude 19,100 km



BeiDou

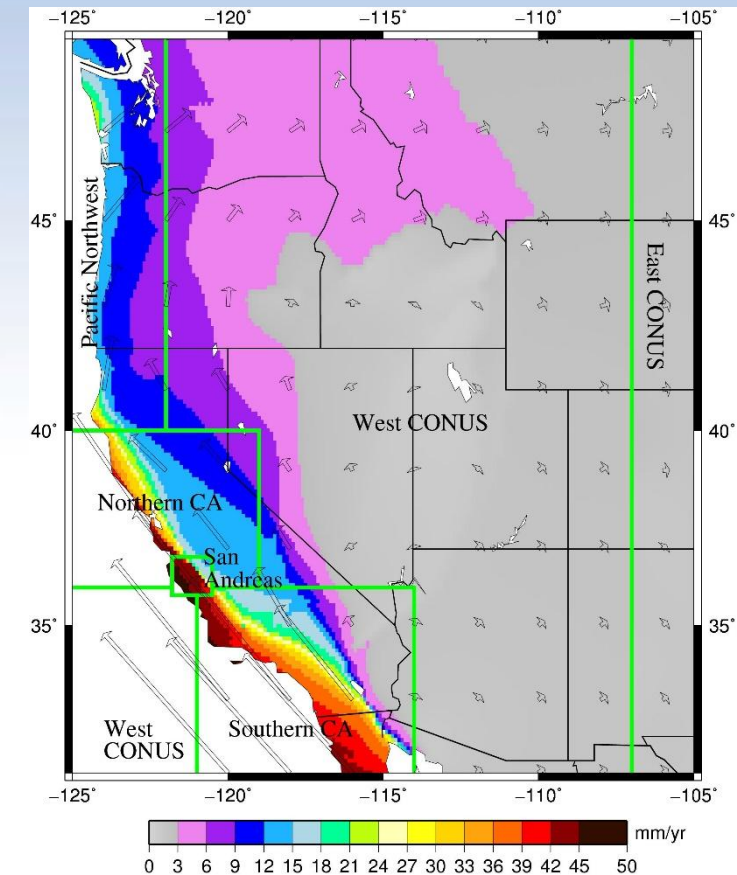
6 Orbital planes
35 Satellite + 3 GEO + 27 MEO + 3 IGSO
55° Inclination Angle
Altitude 38,300 km, 21,500 km

LASER

- Least-squares Aadjustments: Statistics, Estimates, Residuals
- Replaces NGS's multiple least-squares adjustment routines
 - ADJUST, ASTA, CALIBRATE, etc.
- Replicated the 2011 national adjustment in 2 hours on a modern laptop
- GNSS vectors, angles, distances, leveling, gravity
 - Built into the modernized OPUS
 - Used for REC and SEC adjustments

IFDM2022

- Intra-Eframe Deformation Model 2022
- Replaces HTDP's deformation model
- Models changes to geodetic coordinates over time
 - Will be equal to NADCON at REC intervals (5 or 10 years)
 - Like NADCON, should not be used to yield geodetic control, but rather map-grade, large-area changes



(Image of HTDP deformations)

A two-track approach to coordinates

Reference Epoch Coordinates

- An estimated “snapshot” of entire network
- Every 5 or 10 years
- Similar to NAD 83(2011) epoch 2010.00

Survey Epoch Coordinates

- Time-dependent!
- Reflects coordinates at time of observation
- Multiple SECs can show changes over time

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Static GNSS



RTK/RTN



Classical



Leveling



Rel. Gravity



RINEX

RINEX
RINEX
RINEX

- Upload r
- Process
- Process

- Process
- Process
- Process

- Combine
- Combine

- Adjust Relative Gravity for either gravity or vertical gradients in a Gravimetric Adjustment
- Special settings for "Calibration Base Lines"
- Choose your epoch and frame
- All coordinates returned are "OPUS Coordinates"

- Submit your data to NGS for QA/QC, database loading, and improvement of future passive mark coordinates (RECs and SECs)

However, NGS will first be transitioning OPUS-Projects 5.x to support the modernized NSRS.

Then we will get busy building OPUS 6.

OPUS 6

NADCON

*The single, definitive way to transform latitude, longitude and ellipsoid height
from one frame/realization/epoch to another*

CONUS	Alaska	Hawaii	Puerto Rico	USVI	Guam	CNMI	Am. Samoa
USSD	SP1897,SG1897, SP1952, SG1952, SL1952	OHD	PR40	PR40	GU63	GU63	AS62
NAD 27	NAD 27						
NAD 83 (1986)	NAD 83 (1986)	NAD 83 (1986)	NAD 83 (1986)	NAD 83 (1986)			
NAD 83 (HARN)	NAD 83 (1992)	NAD 83 (1993)	NAD 83 (1993)	NAD 83 (1993)	NAD 83 (1993)	NAD 83 (1993)	NAD 83 (1993)
NAD 83 (FBN)			NAD 83 (1997)	NAD 83 (1997)	NAD 83 (2002)	NAD 83 (2002)	NAD 83 (2002)
These transformations will be released as part of the entire modernized NSRS							
NAD 83 (NSRS2007)	NAD 83 (NSRS2007)	NAD 83 (NSRS2007)	NAD 83 (NSRS2007)	NAD 83 (NSRS2007)			
NAD 83 (2011) epoch 2010.00	NAD 83 (2011) epoch 2010.00	NAD 83 (PA11) epoch 2010.00	NAD 83 (2011) epoch 2010.00	NAD 83 (2011) epoch 2010.00	NAD 83 (MA11) epoch 2010.00	NAD 83 (MA11) epoch 2010.00	NAD 83 (PA11) epoch 2010.00
NATRF2022 epoch 2020.00	NATRF2022 epoch 2020.00	PATRF2022 epoch 2020.00	CATRF2022 epoch 2020.00	CATRF2022 epoch 2020.00	MATRF2022 epoch 2020.00	MATRF2022 epoch 2020.00	PATRF2022 epoch 2020.00
NATRF2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	NATRF2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	PATRF2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	CATRF2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	CATRF2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	MATRF2022 epoch 2025?	MATRF2022 epoch 2025?	PATRF2022 epoch 2025? 2030?

Starting here, **NADCON = IFDM2022** when applied at this exact interval (5 or 10 years)

VERTCON

The single, definitive way to transform orthometric height
from one frame/realization/epoch to another*

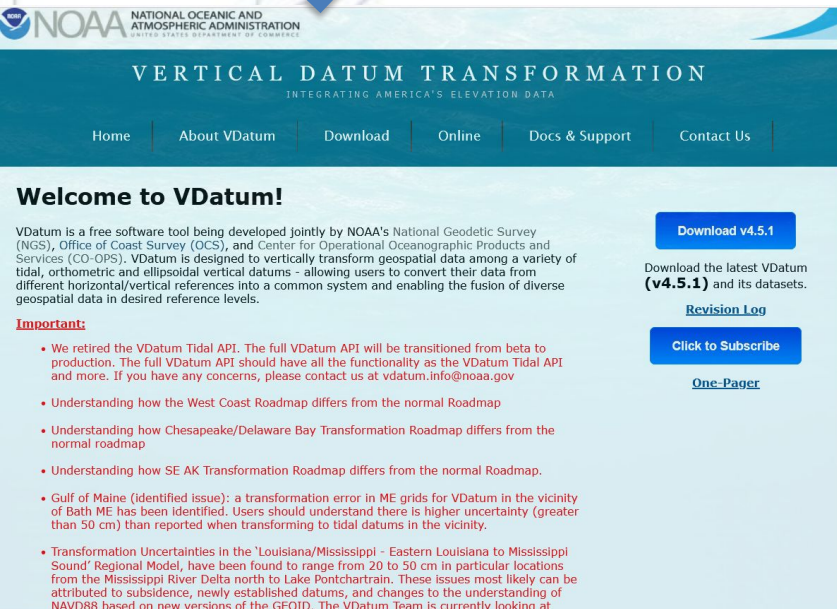
CONUS	Alaska	Hawaii	Puerto Rico	USVI	Guam	CNMI	Am. Samoa
<i>Older? (1st – 4th general adjustments??)</i>		"Local Tidal"	"Local Tidal"	"Local Tidal"	"Local Tidal"	"Local Tidal"	"Local Tidal"
NGVD 29	NGVD 29	These transformations will be released as part of the entire modernized NSRS					
NAVD 88	NAVD 88		PRVD 02	VIVD 09	GUVD 04	NMVD 03	ASVD 02
NAPGD2022 epoch 2020.00	NAPGD2022 epoch 2020.00	NAPGD2022 epoch 2020.00	NAPGD2022 epoch 2020.00	NAPGD2022 epoch 2020.00	NAPGD2022 epoch 2020.00	NAPGD2022 epoch 2020.00	NAPGD2022 epoch 2020.00
NAPGD2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	NAPGD2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	NAPGD2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	NAPGD2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	NAPGD2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	NAPGD2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	NAPGD2022 epoch 2025? 2030?	NAPGD2022 epoch 2025? 2030?

Starting here, **VERTCON = IFDM2022(h) + DGEOID2022** when applied at this exact interval (5 or 10 years)

NCAT and VDatum

The two definitive ways to access all NGS coordinate conversion and transformation tools (such as NADCON, VERTCON, SPCS, hybrid geoids)

Master versions of all definitive
code for all tools
NADCON
VERTCON
SPCS
Etc.



The screenshot shows the VDatum website homepage. At the top is the NOAA logo and the text "NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE". Below this is the title "VERTICAL DATUM TRANSFORMATION" with the subtitle "INTEGRATING AMERICA'S ELEVATION DATA". A navigation bar includes links for Home, About VDatum, Download, Online, Docs & Support, and Contact Us. A "Welcome to VDatum!" section follows, describing the tool as a free software developed jointly by NOAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS), Office of Coast Survey (OCS), and Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS). It explains that VDatum is designed to vertically transform geospatial data among various datums. A "Download v4.5.1" button is prominent, with a link to the "Revision Log" and a "Click to Subscribe" button. A "One-Pager" link is also present. An "Important:" section lists several key updates and issues, including the retirement of the VDatum Tidal API, changes to the West Coast Roadmap, and transformation errors in Maine and Louisiana. The page footer mentions the tool is currently looking at NAVD88 based on new versions of the GEOID.

VERTICAL DATUM TRANSFORMATION
INTEGRATING AMERICA'S ELEVATION DATA

Home | About VDatum | Download | Online | Docs & Support | Contact Us

Welcome to VDatum!

VDatum is a free software tool being developed jointly by NOAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS), Office of Coast Survey (OCS), and Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS). VDatum is designed to vertically transform geospatial data among a variety of tidal, orthometric and ellipsoidal vertical datums - allowing users to convert their data from different horizontal/vertical references into a common system and enabling the fusion of diverse geospatial data in desired reference levels.

Download v4.5.1

Download the latest VDatum (**v4.5.1**) and its datasets.

[Revision Log](#)

[Click to Subscribe](#)

[One-Pager](#)

Important:

- We retired the VDatum Tidal API. The full VDatum API will be transitioned from beta to production. The full VDatum API should have all the functionality as the VDatum Tidal API and more. If you have any concerns, please contact us at vdatum.info@noaa.gov
- Understanding how the West Coast Roadmap differs from the normal Roadmap
- Understanding how Chesapeake/Delaware Bay Transformation Roadmap differs from the normal roadmap
- Understanding how SE AK Transformation Roadmap differs from the normal Roadmap.
- Gulf of Maine (identified issue): a transformation error in ME grids for VDatum in the vicinity of Bath ME has been identified. Users should understand there is higher uncertainty (greater than 50 cm) than reported when transforming to tidal datums in the vicinity.
- Transformation Uncertainties in the 'Louisiana/Mississippi - Eastern Louisiana to Mississippi Sound' Regional Model, have been found to range from 20 to 50 cm in particular locations from the Mississippi River Delta north to Lake Pontchartrain. These issues most likely can be attributed to subsidence, newly established datums, and changes to the understanding of NAVD88 based on new versions of the GEOID. The VDatum Team is currently looking at



The screenshot shows the NCAT web interface. At the top is the NOAA logo and the title "NGS Coordinate Conversion and Transformation Tool (NCAT)". Below this is a navigation bar with links for NGS Home, About NGS, Data & Imagery, Tools, Surveys, Science & Education, and a search bar. The main content area has tabs for Single Point Conversion, Multipoint Conversion, Web services, Downloads, Tutorial & FAQs, and About NCAT. The "Convert/Transform from:" section has radio buttons for Horizontal, Horizontal+height, and XYZ. The "Select the type of horizontal coordinate:" section has radio buttons for Geodetic lat-long, SPC, UTM, and USNG. A map of the United States shows a location pin in Nebraska. Input fields for latitude and longitude are provided, with options to enter in decimal degrees or degrees-minutes-seconds. A "Submit" button is at the bottom. The "Converted Coordinate" section shows the output reference frame (NAD83(2011)) and the SPC zone. A "Customize Export" button is also present.

NGS Coordinate Conversion and Transformation Tool (NCAT)
National Geodetic Survey

NGS Home | About NGS | Data & Imagery | Tools | Surveys | Science & Education | Search

Single Point Conversion | Multipoint Conversion | Web services | Downloads | Tutorial & FAQs | About NCAT

Convert/Transform from: ☒ Horizontal ☐ Horizontal+height ☐ XYZ

Select the type of horizontal coordinate: ☒ Geodetic lat-long ☐ SPC ☐ UTM ☐ USNG

Enter lat-lon in decimal degrees

Lat:
Lon:

or degrees-minutes-seconds

Lat:
Lon:

or drag map marker to a location of interest

Input reference frame (historically called "horizontal datum"): Output reference frame (historically called "horizontal datum"):

Don't see a reference frame in the list? [Click here to learn more.](#)

SPC zone:

Submit

Click blue bar(s) to expand/collapse

Converted Coordinate

Reference Frame:

☒ Lat-Lon-Height ☐ SPC ☐ UTM/USNG ☐ XYZ (m)

You may change the default UTM zone. The change is processed interactively once a lat-long is converted. DO NOT click the Submit button.

[Customize Export](#)

Website Owner: National Geodetic Survey / Last modified by ngs.noaa Nov-17-2022

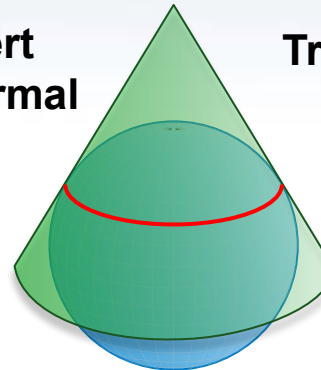
SPCS2022

State Plane Coordinate System of 2022 (SPCS2022)

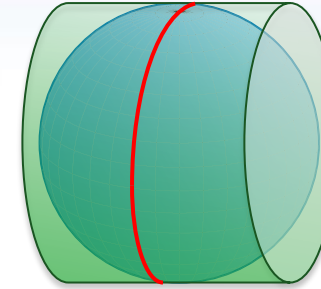
- ***Similar to existing State Plane...***

- Same 3 map projection types
- Same ellipsoid (GRS 80)

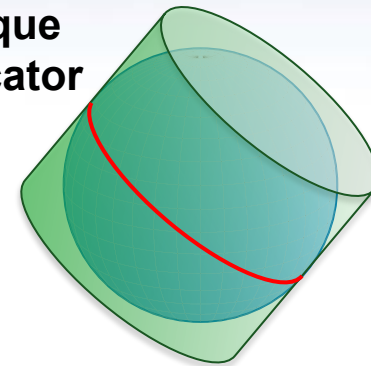
Lambert
Conformal
Conic
(LCC)



Transverse
Mercator
(TM)



Oblique
Mercator
(OM)



- ***But different...***

- Based on new terrestrial reference frames instead of NAD 83
- Designed to reduce difference between “grid” and “ground”
- Many more “zones”
- Zones “layers” will exist in most states

Status of zone layout and designs

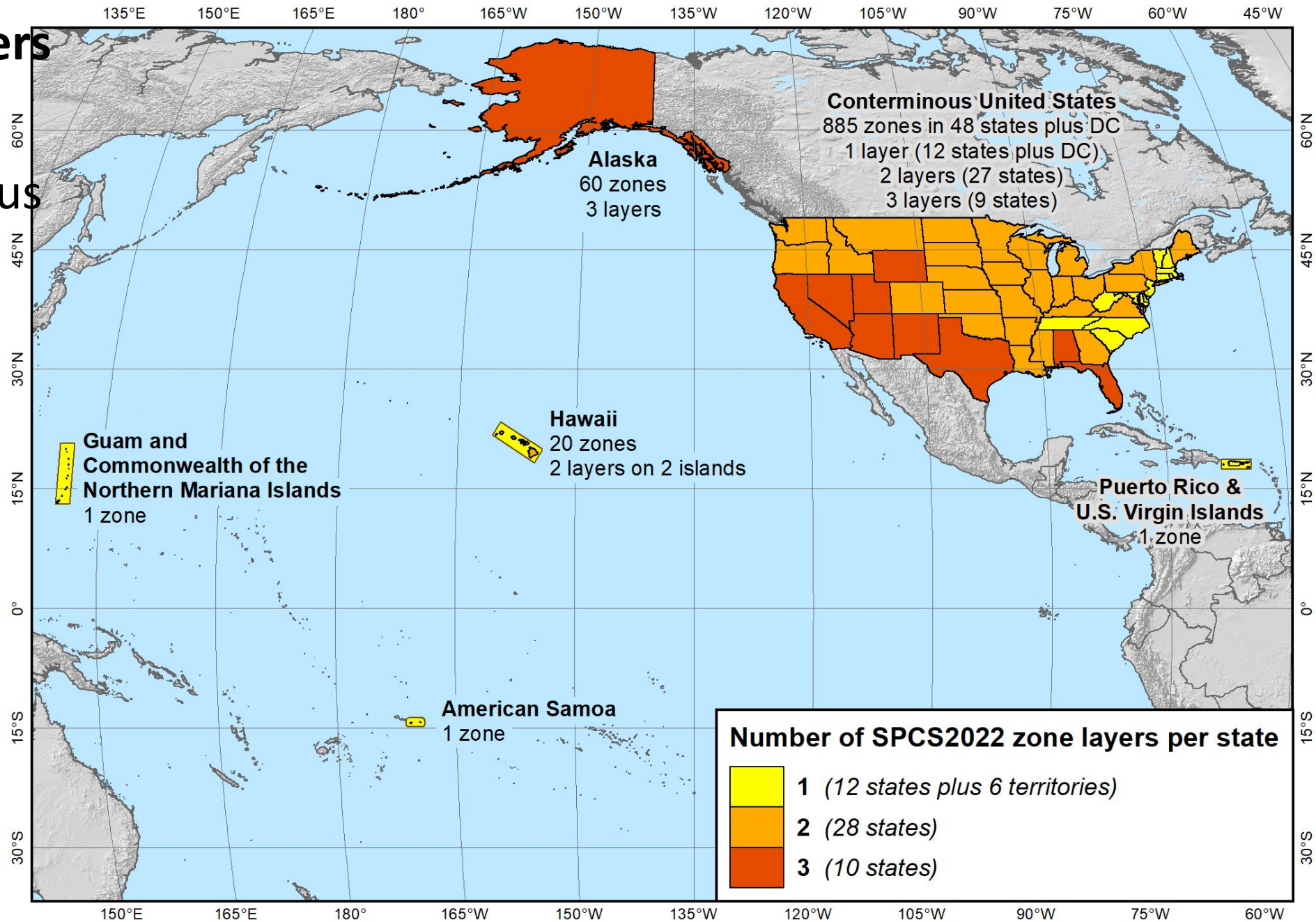
- **Zone “layers”:** Up to 3 layers per state
 - Every state will have a statewide zone layer
 - Most states will also have a complete-coverage multiple-zone layer
 - Some states will also have a partial-coverage multiple-zone layer
- **Designs by NGS**
 - 159 zones (including 54 statewide)
 - Plus 3 “special use zones” (in more than one state)
- **Designs by state stakeholders**
 - 806 zones in 28 states; most are “low-distortion projections” (LDPs)
- **Total = 968 zones** for 56 states and territories
 - Number may decrease slightly before being finalized
- ***Compare to 125 zones for existing State Plane***

SPCS2022 zone layers

1 layer: 12 states plus
6 territories

2 layers: 28 states

3 layers: 10 states

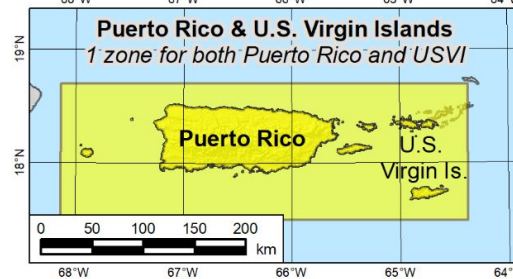
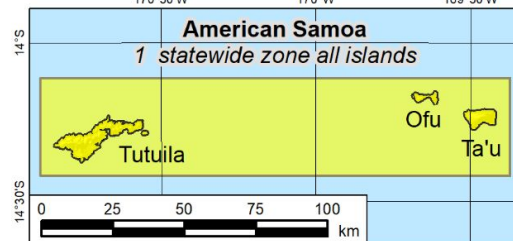
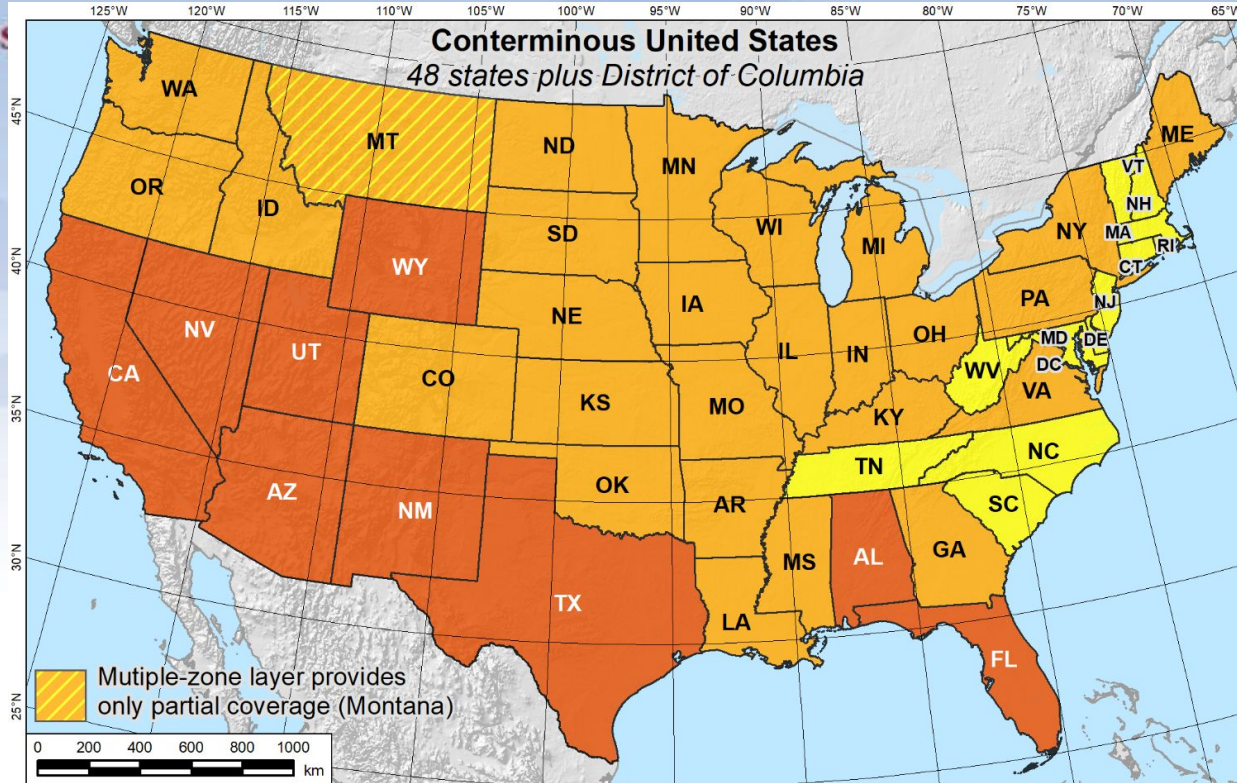


SPCS2022 zone layers

1 layer: 12 states plus 6 territories

2 layers: 28 states

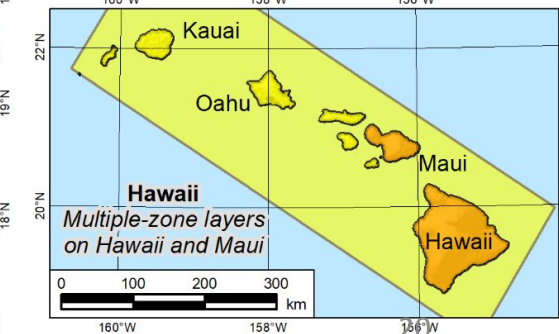
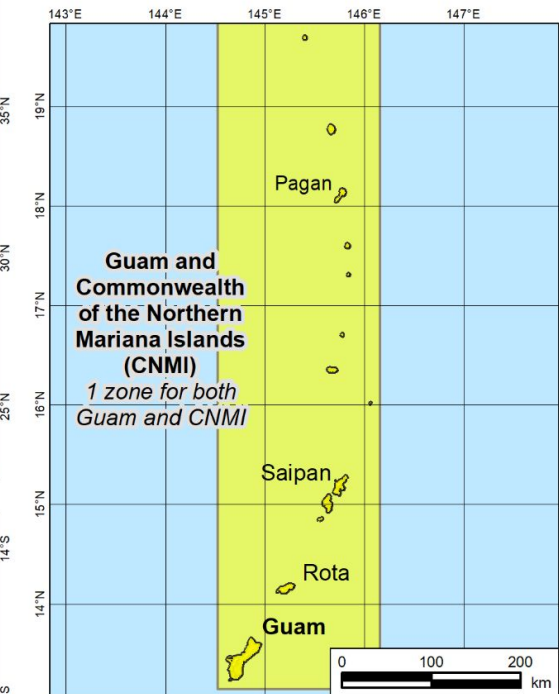
3 layers: 10 states



State Plane Coordinate System of 2022

Number zone layers

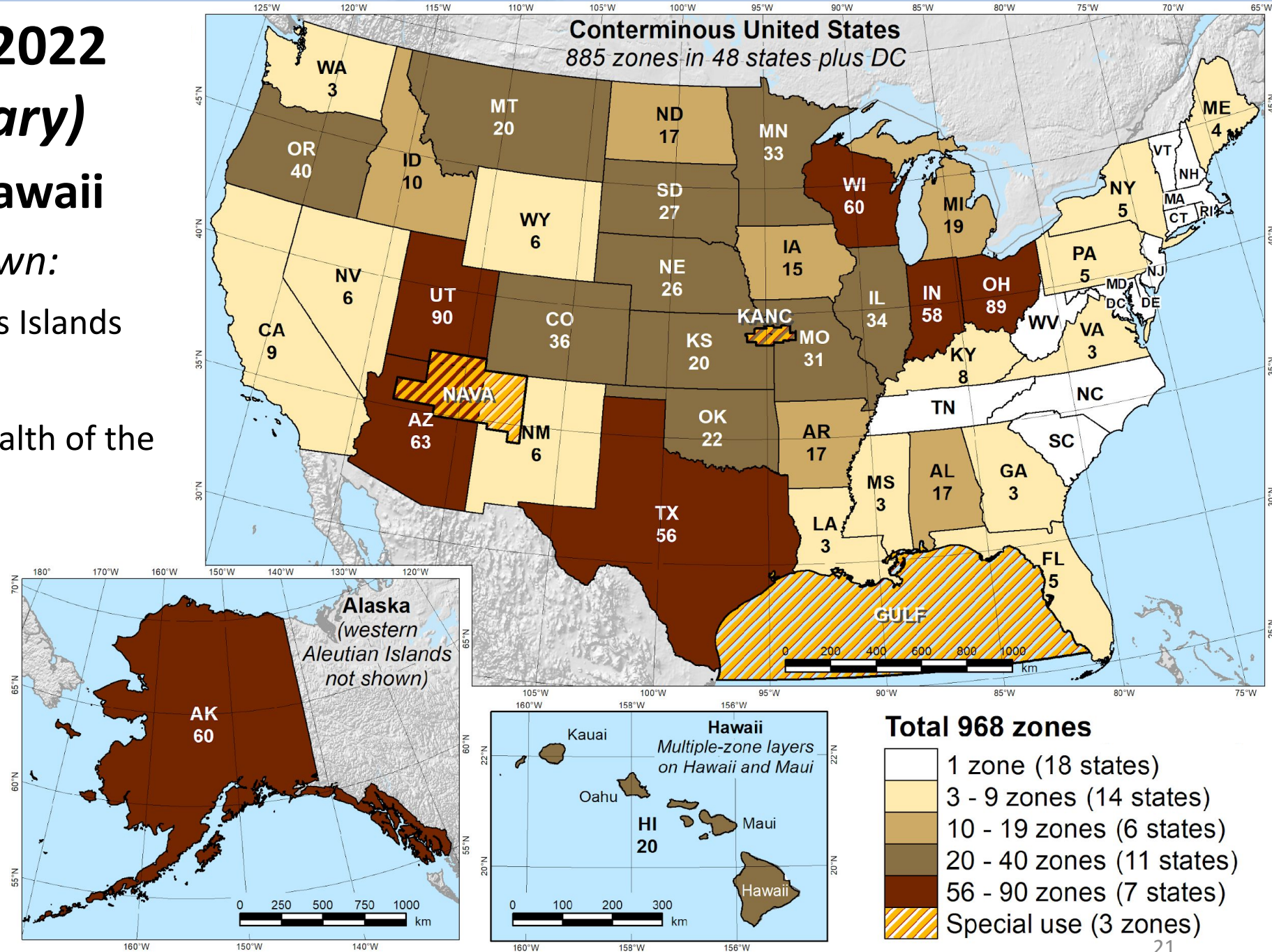
- 1 (12 states plus 6 territories)
- 2 (28 states)
- 3 (10 states)



Number of SPCS2022 zones (preliminary) CONUS, Alaska, and Hawaii

Three island zones not shown:

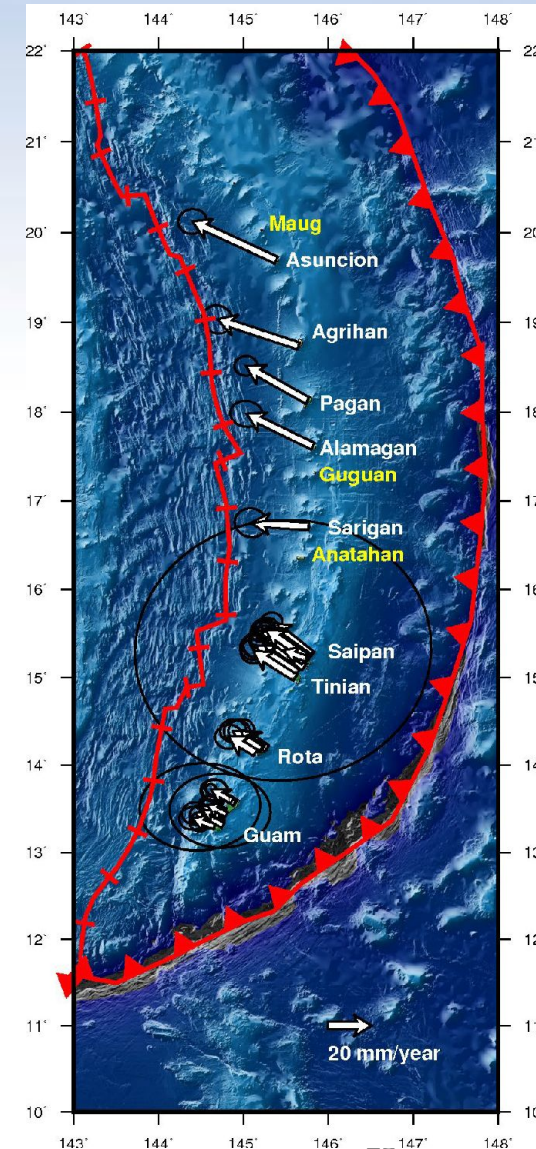
1. Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgins Islands
2. American Samoa
3. Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



Products and Tools

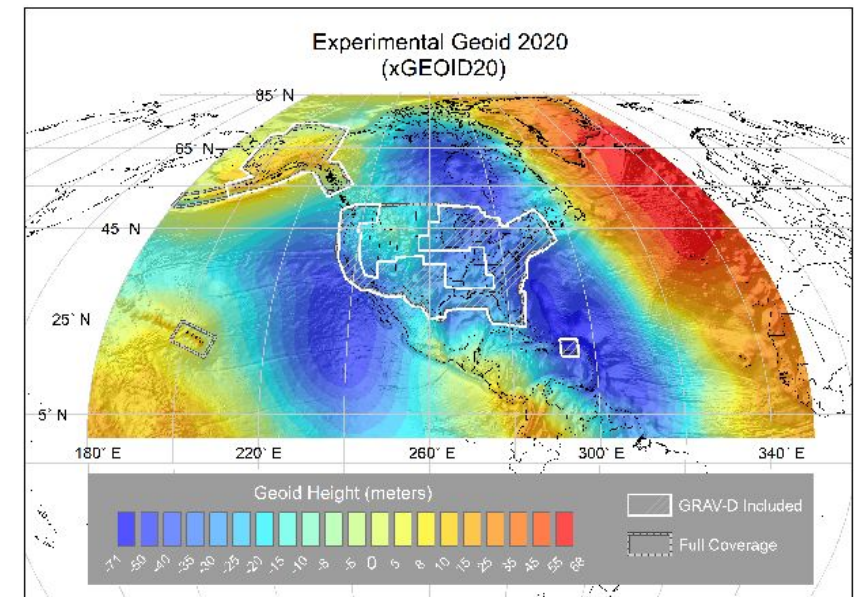
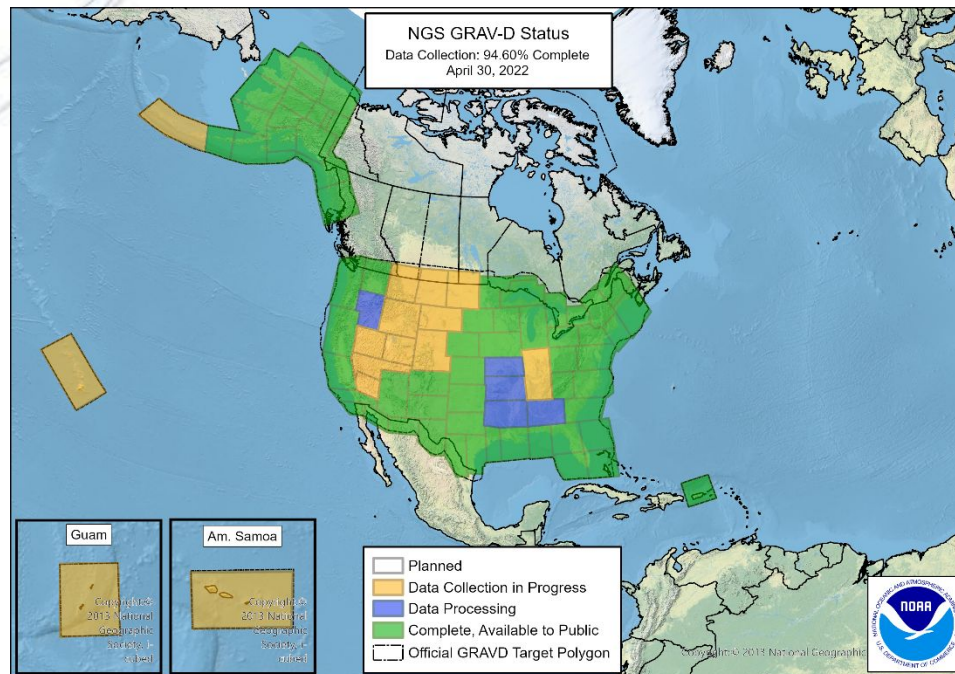
Progress in the last year

- A rotation model for the Mariana plate released
 - Uses all available active & passive control data
 - Relative to ITRF2014
 - Will need to be updated to ITRF2020 to define MATRF2022
- An initial version of M-PAGES is in active testing within NGS



Progress in the last year: Geopotential

- GRAV-D flying is 96.4% done (Oct 1, 2022)
- NGS and Canada released the first ever joint geoid model
 - The final GEOID2022 model will also be a joint model



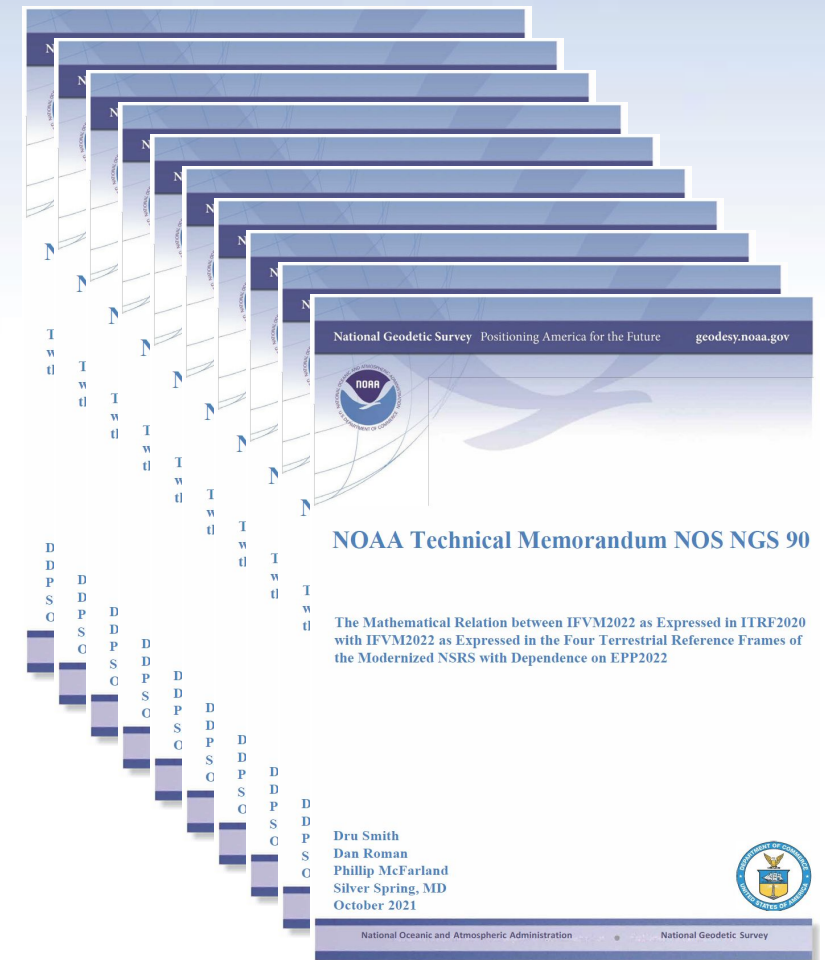
Progress in the last year: OPUS

- GVX (GNSS Vector Exchange) 1.0 format released
 - Being adopted by industry
 - Scheduled replacement by GDX in late 2022
- OPUS-Projects 5.0 released
 - Works with the current NSRS
 - Supports upload of GNSS vectors in GVX format



Progress in the last year: Science

- Nine science papers in the last 2 years
 - More coming this year
 - <https://geodesy.noaa.gov/library/>



Progress in the last year

- LASER:
 - GNSS, leveling
 - Classical almost complete
 - Preparing to test a national leveling adjustment
 - Preparing to perform the first IDB + OPUS-Share combined GNSS national adjustment

Progress in the last year: Data Delivery System

- Data Delivery System:
 - Replacement for current datasheets has been prototyped
 - A new CORS “datasheet” is nearly complete

What to look for by the end of 2022

- OPUS-S to be updated to M-PAGES
- Science papers focusing on least squares adjustments
- An “alpha” set of 2020.00 geometric RECs

SPCS2022 timeline

- **Timeline**

- Review of stakeholder submittals (DONE)
- Late 2022-Early 2023: Preliminary designs for stakeholder review
- Mid-2023: Finalize all zone designs

- **Other things in 2023**

- Provide machine-readable definitions (e.g., Well-Known Text)
- Provide zone extent envelopes and polygons
- Modify NGS algorithms (e.g., 1-parallel Lambert, centered Oblique Mercator)
- Document new projection algorithms

- **Release with rollout of modernized NSRS**

- Final definitions available by late 2023
- Release with new “datums” in 2025

Re-prioritization: a “data first” approach

Re-prioritization

- There are 33 active projects within NGS explicitly dedicated to NSRS modernization
 - In an agency of ~200 people....resources are spread *thin*
- Meanwhile the current NSRS slowly deteriorates
 - Marks subside without checking
 - CORSs drift away from their published coordinate functions
 - The passive control network deviates from active control

Re-prioritization

- NGS has recently decided to release all of the modernized NSRS ***data*** before we have fully completed all support ***tools***
- ***If we do not take this approach, we are not likely to see the modernized NSRS defined and released until 2030***

Data

- Upon release, the modernized NSRS will consist of this *data*:
 - The NOAA CORS Network (NCN) operating on **ITRF2020**
 - **NATRF2022, PATRF2022, MATRF2022, CATRF2022** defined relative to ITRF2020
 - **NAPGD2022**, including:
 - GM2022, GEOID2022, DEFLEC2022, GRAV2022
 - Geometric (XYZ / $\phi\lambda h$) and orthometric (H) **reference epoch coordinates** (RECs) at 2020.00 at those passive control with the observations to support such coordinates
 - Geometric (XYZ / $\phi\lambda h$) and orthometric (H) **survey epoch coordinates** (SECs) at survey epochs between about 1994 and 2020 at those passive control with the observations to support such coordinates
 - **State Plane Coordinates** of 2022 (SPCS2022), plus UTM and USNG
 - **NADCON**
 - Connecting NAD 83(2011/MA11/PA11) epoch 2010.00 to N/P/M/CATRF2022 epoch 2020.00
 - **VERTCON**
 - Connecting NAVD 88, PRVD02, ASVD02, NMVD03, GUV04 and VIVD09 to NAPGD2022 epoch 2020.00

Tools

- At a minimum, NGS is targeting these tools upon release:
 - A **DDS** capable of yielding:
 - RECs on some kind of datasheet
 - Information on CORs
 - A downloadable version of **LASER**
 - A **browser-based online multi-GNSS service**:
 - Like OPUS-S
 - Like OPUS-Projects 5.x
 - **NCAT** and **Vdatum** capable of invoking **NADCON**, **VERTCON** and **SPCS2022**

What will have to wait...

- Promises we intend to keep, but not until after the initial release of the modernized NSRS include:
 - Integrating leveling, classical data and gravity into OPUS
 - Full integration of all old tools into NCAT and Vdatum
 - SECs for pre-1994 (AKA “pre-NCN”) years, plus SECs for post-2020

Timeline

Timeline

- Resources are being diverted from tool building to the assurance of quality **data** first and foremost
- As such, based on this new approach, NGS anticipates the release of all data, and limited tools, by the **middle of 2025**.
 - Some of this requires the “stars to align”, such as NGS receiving congressionally-approved IIJA money to accelerate GRAV-D
- Work on additional tools will continue in the out-years

A stylized graphic of a globe's grid lines, showing latitude and longitude, in a light blue color, positioned on the left side of the slide.

Thank you!

Questions?