

August 22, 2025

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
522 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment
and Related Agencies
531 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Murkowski and Ranking Member Merkley,

On behalf of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC), thank you for your leadership and ongoing support of the geospatial programs housed within the U.S. Department of the Interior. Your commitment to ensuring these programs receive appropriate funding as evident in the draft budget is vital to the resilience of our communities, the strength of our economy, and the overall prosperity of the American people.

The [National Geospatial Program](#) including the [National Map](#) is vital to our nation's success in countless ways. Attached is a brief document detailing the 3D National Topography Model.

As you know, geospatial data and mapping capabilities are essential to decision-making across sectors—, from natural resource management to emergency management and infrastructure planning to environmental protection and economic development. The continued support of these programs by the Subcommittee plays a pivotal role in ensuring that federal, state, tribal, local governments, and private industries have the tools they need to respond effectively to today's challenges and plan for tomorrow's opportunities.

Thank you again for your attention to these critical programs and for your continued support of geospatial initiatives that serve the nation's interests. We look forward to seeing the funding as drafted in the final 2026 budget.

Sincerely,



Kenneth A. Nelson,
Kansas State Geospatial Information Officer
President, National States Geographic Information Council



John S. Jordan, Executive Director
National States Geographic Information
Council