

Idaho State University, the Idaho Cadastral Reference Framework Group, the Idaho Geodetic Control Framework Group, the Montana Base Map Service Center and the Montana Geodetic Control Working Group /Montana Height Modernization Executive Committee are pleased to announce that we have been awarded a FY2011 Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) National Spatial Data Infrastructure Cooperative Agreements Program (NSDI CAP) grant at a funding level of slightly less than \$40,000.

A portion of the award will be used to adapt the present Montana Control Point Database schema and application to a multi-state control point inventory. The application will provide tools to support the discovery, use, and exchange of mapping, surveying and geodetic control information within the two states. Currently providing Montana's control point information, the Multi-State Control Point Database (MCPD) will also include and make Idaho's control points publically available. The control points in both states are contributed by Professional Land Surveyors and will include information about collection methods, accuracy, datums, etc., that will allow the end user to evaluate the usability of any particular control point to their needs.

The other portion of the grant is devoted to developing a business plan for a Regional Geodetic Reference Center for Montana and Idaho. The Geodetic Reference Center will support various positioning projects and programs such as hosting the MCPD, densifying the Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) network, and establishing a real-time network. The initial RTN will be in Eastern Idaho and Western Montana with the potential to later be expanded to a larger area/region. The plan will address governance, management, funding, technical issues, and other aspects that insure accountability, longevity and stability.

The above tasks will be completed by the first quarter of 2012.

We thank the National Geodetic Survey and the Idaho and Montana/Dakotas BLM state offices for supporting this proposal.

If you want to find out more information or participate in the discussion and development of either the Multi-State Control Point Database or the Geodetic Reference Center business plan, please visit our project website at <http://giscenter.isu.edu/research/Techpg/capGC/index.htm> . We are in the early phases of each of these tasks and your input is invaluable to ensuring the long-term success of these projects.

To see the current Control Point Database, go to:

<http://gisservice.mt.gov/MCPDviewer/>

Multistate Control Point Database (MCPD) training videos and documents are now posted on the web at: <http://mcpdtutor.info/>

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