NGDA Dataset Report

Official NGDA Title: Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS)

Metadata Record Title: National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS)

A–16 NGDA Theme: Geodetic Control

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Metadata:
- Registration Status: Complete
- Registered on: 10/30/2014
- GeoPlatform Link*: http://www.geoplatform.gov/node/243/754bdba4-3bfc-4451-93d4-cda3390594de
- Data.gov Metadata Link*: http://catalog.data.gov/harvest/object/d91a14c9-cf50-4d6f-ba24-329371e14291/html

*If the metadata has been updated and reharvested after publication of this report, the link may no longer be valid. The dataset may be searched for manually in Data.gov or GeoPlatform.gov.
NGDA Lifecycle Maturity Assessment (LMA) Report

Time Frame:
Baseline assessment responses include dataset activities from 1994-to present

LMA Submission:
Status: Complete
Date: 9/11/2015
Extension Requested: No

LMA Reviewer(s):
Supervisor: Did not review
Theme Lead: Neil.d.weston@noaa.gov
Executive Champion: Did not review
SAOGI*: Did not review
Other: Did not review

LMA Verifier:
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Attachments:
To get access to any attachments referenced in the report, email the LMA Help Desk at NGDA_LMA_help@fgdc.gov. Please use the subject "Dataset Report Attachment(s)" and indicate the associated official NGDA title.

*Senior Agency Official for Geospatial Information (SAOGI)
Lifecycle Maturity Assessment (LMA) Summary

### Overall Maturity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maturity</th>
<th>Maturity Characteristics for All Lifecycle Stages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optimized; Established Rank = 5</td>
<td>Dataset meets virtually all business needs of all users. The dataset is considered authoritative by owners and secondary users. It is curated across all stages of the approved lifecycle. Future needs are defined on a regular basis and resources for addressing both current and future business requirements are available.</td>
</tr>
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| Optimized; Established Rank = 4 | Dataset meets all the business needs of the primary owner and most of the secondary users. The dataset is curated and used as authoritative by the primary owner. Dataset is used widely by secondary users actively engaged in sustaining the dataset. Future needs are identified and steps are planned to address these. All stages are supported and reviewed on a recurring basis. The dataset is well managed in relation to the approved lifecycle. |

| Optimized; Established Rank = 3 | Dataset meets a significant number of the business needs of the primary owner and is widely used as an authoritative resource by secondary users. Benchmark activities are occurring in at least four of the approved lifecycle stages. Management practices in relation to the approved lifecycle is moderate but consistent. Dataset is integrating changing business requirements in lifecycle stages impacting overall maturity. |

| Optimized; Established Rank = 2 | Dataset meets business needs of the primary owner and has moderate use by secondary users. Benchmark activities are occurring in at least three stages. Efforts to integrate funding, include partners, and obtain data are not supported in a sustained manner. Management practices in relation to the stages of the approved lifecycle is limited. |

| Optimized; Established Rank = 1 | Dataset limited in meeting business needs of the primary owner. Benchmark activities in the approved lifecycle are just starting to consider secondary uses, partnerships are forming to support additional dataset uses. Dataset development is in a very early stage. Minimal or limited management against the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle. |

| No Activity Rank = no activity | Dataset meets project or local business needs of the primary owner, secondary or additional uses or users were not considered, not recognized as an authoritative data or is part of a similar dataset. Not managed to any of the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle. |

### General Questions: 100%

- Stage 1 - Define/Plan: 95%
- Stage 2 - Inventory/Evaluate: 100%
- Stage 3 - Obtain: 92%
- Stage 4 - Access: 100%
- Stage 5 - Maintain: 100%
- Stage 6 - Use/Evaluate 100%
- Stage 7 - Archive: 100%

### NGDA Dataset Maturity Definitions:

How To Calculate Maturity: [https://www.geoplatform.gov/sites/default/files/How_to_Calculate_Maturity.pdf](https://www.geoplatform.gov/sites/default/files/How_to_Calculate_Maturity.pdf)

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| Optimized; Established Rank = 1 | Dataset limited in meeting business needs of the primary owner. Benchmark activities in the approved lifecycle are just starting to consider secondary uses, partnerships are forming to support additional dataset uses. Dataset development is in a very early stage. Minimal or limited management against the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle. |

| No Activity Rank = no activity | Dataset meets project or local business needs of the primary owner, secondary or additional uses or users were not considered, not recognized as an authoritative data or is part of a similar dataset. Not managed to any of the benchmarks in the approved lifecycle. |
General Questions for All Stages

1) Is there a recurring process to obtain funding for all lifecycle stages of this dataset?

**Answer:** Funding support is part of agency budget on a recurring basis, funding is consistent and tied to business processes, and supports all lifecycle stages.

**Justification Comment:**
CORS has an annual budget that is provided annually in the NOAA National Geodetic Survey budget.

2) Is there a process in place to ensure that open government and transparency guidelines are followed in all lifecycle stages for this dataset?

**Answer:** Process is published as appropriate with respect to sensitivity requirements, process is transparent, published appropriately.

**Justification Comment:**
CORS Webpages (geodesy.noaa.gov/CORS) provide status on all aspects:
data formats (follow international standards)
metadata records both current and historical
data sources and availability
archive of data
Alternate facilities for data access

3) Are there processes and tools in place so that staff are sufficiently knowledgeable to ensure a continuity of the dataset for all stages of the lifecycle, especially during staffing transitions?

**Answer:** Processes and tools to ensure dataset continuity are in place and implemented for all lifecycle stages.

**Justification Comment:**
Documentation for ingestion, quality control and archiving of data are in place.

**STAGE 1 - Define/Plan**

4) Are user and business requirements defined and formalized?

**Answer:** A recurring process is in place, including defining new partner and stakeholder business needs as they arise, and is fully implemented.

**Justification Comment:**
Regular meetings are held within the agency and with partners and stakeholders to evaluate current and future data needs.

5) How are partners/stakeholders involved in the requirements collection process?

**Answer:** A recurring process is in place, including defining new partner and stakeholder business needs as they arise, and is fully implemented.

**Justification Comment:**
Regular meetings are held with partners and stakeholders to evaluate current and future data needs.

6) Is there a quality assurance process for the dataset?

**Answer:** Process established, significant portions of the documentation is complete.

**Justification Comment:**
Documented process that is reviewed once a year.

7) Is there a process to evaluate the sensitivity, privacy, and confidentiality of this dataset?

**Answer:** Sensitivity, privacy, and confidentiality evaluations fully implemented, reviewed and updated on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**
Sensitivity, privacy, and confidentiality evaluations fully implemented, reviewed and updated on a recurring basis.
There are no sensitivity, privacy, or confidentiality concerns with this dataset, it is all in the public domain.

8) Are defined data standards used in collecting, processing, and/or rendering the data?
   Answer: Standards fully implemented documented and published as appropriate.
   Justification Comment:  
   Data standards for field collection, processing, and publication are documented.

STAGE 2 - Inventory/Evaluate
9) Is there a process for determining if data necessary to meet requirements already exist from other sources (either within or outside the agency) before collecting or acquiring new data?
   Answer: Process for determining appropriate data is being reused fully implemented, reviewed, and updated on a regular basis.
   Justification Comment:  
   A regular review of sites occurs to ensure no duplication occurs

STAGE 3 - Obtain
10) Is there a process for obtaining data in relation to this dataset?
    Answer: Process is fully implemented, reviewed and updated on a regular basis.
    Justification Comment:  
    A monthly, or more often, review of proposed stations is conducted.

11) Is the metadata in a FGDC endorsed geospatial metadata standard?
    Answer: Metadata is available in a format endorsed by the FGDC, it fully describes the dataset and provides all the information required to make the dataset discoverable, accessible, and usable.
    Justification Comment:  
    All metadata is available in FGDC standards and maintained for user to access at any time. It is regularly reviewed for accuracy and updated as needed.

12) How complete is the geographic coverage as defined in the requirements for the dataset?
    Part 1 Answer: Business requirement targets are being attained, cyclic updates being assessed.
    Part 2 Answer: Dataset has presently attained the greatest geographic coverage as defined by the current requirements or roughly 100%.
    Justification Comment:  
    Geographic coverage is >90% complete. Since the source of the datasets is a cooperative effort, some data does away when stations are damaged but usually new station operators are found.

STAGE 4 - Access
13) Do you have a process for providing users access to the data in an open digital machine readable format?
    Answer: User access process is fully implemented, data is available, process is reviewed and updated on a recurring basis.
    Justification Comment:  
    All data has been in the public domain since 1994. Annual review of data delivery mechanisms occurs.

STAGE 5 - Maintain
14) Is there a maintenance process for updating and storing the dataset?
    Answer: Dataset maintenance process is fully implemented and processes are reviewed and
periodically updated.

**Justification Comment:**
Files once ingested are kept, new sites are reviewed regularly. Coordinates associated with stations are reviewed and periodically updated, to ensure long-term consistency.

15) **Is there an error correction process as part of dataset maintenance?**
**Answer:** Error correction process includes user notification, process reviewed on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**
There are established procedures for checking the data as it is ingested, additional checks and corrections are made after ingestion is complete to verify completeness of holdings, accuracy of metadata and data quality.

### STAGE 6 - Use/Evaluate

16) **Is there a process to determine if the dataset meets user needs?**
**Answer:** Process is fully implemented and repeated on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**
User community can propose stations or request data in under served areas and NGS will review proposed locations. Monthly to more often meetings are held to review this information.

17) **Is there a process to provide users information on how to access and properly use the dataset?**
**Answer:** Process is fully implemented supporting access and proper use, process is reviewed on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**
Web pages/tools and commercial software exist and are integrated to take advantage of data sets. Periodic meetings/reviews are held at least once a year.

18) **Are the business processes and management practices assessed to meet changing technology?**
**Answer:** Assessment process is fully implemented for taking advantage of changing technology, process is reviewed on a recurring basis.

**Justification Comment:**
International Standards and exchange methods for GPS data sets are established by academic/government and commercial agencies. NGS participates in these meetings and informs its user community of any changes.

### STAGE 7 - Archive

19) **Is there an archiving process for the dataset?**
**Answer:** Archival and disposition processes are fully implemented.

**Justification Comment:**
A full data management plan exists for archived data sets and is reviewed annually.