

For: State and County Offices

Geospatial Data Distribution Policy and Associated Costs

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Program



1 Overview

A Background

USDA Service Center Agencies (SCA) consisting of FSA, NRCS, and RD, have:

- joined in establishing a shared set of geospatial data
- are working to develop a common policy for data distribution that will be circulated to all State and County Offices.

Data sets include:

- Common Land Units (CLU's)
- imagery
- soils
- others.

Some data sets are produced by SCA. Others are acquired from public and private sources.

FSA has primary responsibility for CLU data and digital imagery. APFO is the official collection and distribution point for CLU data and digital imagery. APFO has been involved in the development of SCA Geospatial Data Warehouse (GDW) where the data is stored and USDA Geospatial Data Gateway (Gateway) that enables web access to the geospatial data in GDW.

APFO is currently loading imagery acquired through the Mosaicked Digital Ortho Quadrangle (MDOQ) imagery derived from the National Digital Ortho Program (NDOP), National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP), and all certified CLU's. When the development process is complete, County Offices and other public and private groups will have access to certain CLU data and digital imagery through the Gateway.

Disposal Date	Distribution
June 1, 2005	FSA Offices, State Offices relay to County Offices

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1 Overview (Continued)

B Purpose

This notice:

- provides States and County Offices with:
 - advance notice of USDA data distribution policy
 - information about availability and cost of MDOQ and NAIP imagery and county certified CLU
 - ordering information
- obsoletes Notice CP-565.

2 Advance Notice of USDA Geospatial Distribution Policy

A Proposed USDA Geospatial Distribution Policy

SCA policy on Geospatial Data Distribution will be released to coincide with completion of developmental work on GDW and Gateway. Policy will:

- be distributed to the State Food and Agriculture Council (State FAC) which is made up of the FSA SED, NRCS State Chief, and RD State Director
- inform State and County Offices that geospatial data sets produced or financed by SCA shall be made available to all entities outside of SCA through Gateway.

Gateway:

- allows GDW to easily distribute data to County Offices, other locations within the agencies, and entities outside the agencies
- is implemented jointly and shared by APFO, NRCS National Cartography and Geospatial Center (NCGC), and NRCS Information Technology Center (ITC)
- provides a process to ensure access and delivery of accurate, up-to-date, and authoritative geospatial data.

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3 Availability and Cost of Geospatial Data

A CLU and Imagery Processing

APFO is the official collection and distribution point for FSA CLU data and ortho imagery. Imagery includes:

- MDOQ imagery derived from digital ortho quarter quads (DOQQ) from NDOP
- compressed county mosaics derived from NAIP.

Notes: MDOQ is used for the initial County Office GIS image base layer.

NAIP 1-meter imagery is used for compliance and as replacement imagery for the base layer.

NAIP 2-meter imagery is used for compliance only.

County Offices have been instructed to provide copies of CLU's to APFO, via the APFO file transfer protocol (FTP) site at: <ftp://ftp.apfo.usda.gov> immediately following certification. County Offices shall also post an updated copy of CLU's to the site every 30 days thereafter. See 2-CP, Exhibit 37 for instructions on how to post CLU's to FTP. APFO will process CLU's for archival and distribution. The current distribution process for CLU's is copying requested data to CD-ROM. The data will soon be available by download through Gateway.

B Availability and Cost of Ortho-Imagery and CLU for a Producer

County Offices shall fill all requests from an individual producer for CLU covering their land (commonly referred to as a CLU clip). If the producer requests a CLU clip which covers their land as well as their ortho-imagery then County Offices shall provide the producer full county ortho-imagery at no cost to the producer. The current software does not provide the capability to clip ortho-imagery (raster data). However, in the future ArcGIS will provide users the ability to link to other software applications to clip ortho-imagery.

If producer requests full county ortho-imagery or CLU covering land on a farm in which the producer has no interest, the request is considered as a public order and producer shall be directed to contact APFO by telephone, e-mail, or mail for distribution. See subparagraph 4 A for ordering information. If entire county CLU is provided to producer, APFO shall strip all attribute information, except calculated acreage figures, from the CLU before distribution and producer will be charged \$50.00 per CD. County Offices will soon be able to direct all geospatial data orders, including CLU's, through Gateway at: <http://datagateway.nrcs.usda.gov>.

Notes: See 8-CM, paragraph 253 and Exhibit 19, for more information on request for CLU.

Metadata that accurately describes CLU's and related data for maps must be provided before being released.

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3 Availability and Cost of Geospatial Data (Continued)

C Availability and Cost of Ortho-Imagery and CLU's for the Public

APFO shall fill all public requests for ortho-imagery (NAIP or MDOQ) and CLU's.

Note: Expedite as a public request, a request made by any Federal, State, or local agency to perform official duties not related to making FSA program determinations and all other entities.

The following table lists availability and cost of ortho-imagery and CLU's for the public. CLU cost listed is based on a single county. The vast majority of compressed imagery will fit on a single CD. There are a few very large counties that will require more than one CD to cover the entire area. An additional charge will be applied for each CD requested. Multiple counties' CLU files may be placed on a single CD at no additional charge.

Follow this table when expediting a public request for ortho-imagery and CLU.

Available Imagery	Cost	Source
Compressed county mosaic of imagery (NAIP or base MDOQ)	\$50.00 per CD	APFO (only)
County Certified CLU (line work and calculated acreage only)		
Note: FSA is working with the Office of General Council to attain clarification on which CLU attributes are considered personal, and therefore private information. Until this clarification is received, APFO shall strip all attribute information except calculated acreage figures from the CLU before distribution.		
Compressed County Mosaic of Ortho-Imagery (NAIP or base MDOQ) and County Certified CLU (line work and calculated acreage only)		

Note: See 8-CM, paragraph 253 and Exhibit 19 for more information on request for CLU.

For more information on NAIP 03 and other ortho-imagery visit the APFO web site at: <http://www.apfo.usda.gov>.

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4 Ordering Information

A Ordering Information

The following table lists ordering information for APFO.

Method	Ordering Information
Telephone	Contact APFO customer service at 801-975-3503 .
E-mail	Send requests for information and availability of digital imagery to sales@apfo.usda.gov .
Internet	Find current status and ordering information of compressed county mosaics at www.apfo.usda.gov .
Mail	Send requests for information and availability to: USDA Aerial Photography Field Office Sales Section 2222 West 2300 South Salt Lake City UT 84119-2020.

5 Action

A Add Metadata to CLU

Metadata is required on any digital data product that FSA distributes. The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) compliant metadata will be available to County Offices after certified CLU files are sent to APFO at: **ftp//ftp.apfo.usda.gov**. Metadata files for certified CLU's already sent to APFO will also be posted to the same site for County Offices to download their metadata using FTP. **See 8-CM for a sample of FGDC compliant metadata for a CLU file and download instructions.**

B Additional County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- FTP a copy of the certified CLU to APFO immediately following certification
- post an updated copy of the CLU to the APFO FTP site every 30 days

Note: When CRP data file is completed, include this file with the updated CLU posting.

- fill all requests from an individual producer for ortho-imagery and CLU covering their land
- refer all public requests for ortho-imagery and CLU to APFO
- download County Office metadata using FTP.