



Civil GPS Service Interface Committee

USCG Navigation Center
7323 Telegraph Road
Alexandria, VA 22315-3998
(703) 313-5930 FAX: (703) 313-5805
www.navcen.uscg.gov/cgsic



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Announcement of Regional GPS Meeting

The Global Positioning System (GPS) is a worldwide satellite-based positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT) system that currently enjoys broad government and commercial support and unparalleled cooperation between the military and civilian communities. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has long recognized the potential of satellite navigation and augmentation systems to improve the safety and efficiency of transportation operations across the nation. Many Federal, state and local agencies are using GPS-based services in areas such as surveying, construction, asset management, fleet monitoring and snowplow guidance. Other agencies are using GPS and GPS augmentations to aid law enforcement, homeland security, and resource management. GPS is used effectively in response to natural or man-made disasters, i.e. the interagency coordinated recovery efforts after Hurricane Katrina highlighted the importance of GPS and civil augmentation systems as particularly valuable enabling technologies.

Today, GPS is rapidly becoming the accepted global standard for critical public-sector infrastructure and operations management in transportation, telecommunications, homeland security, recreation, agriculture, and general commerce. GPS availability has greatly benefited both the public and private sectors of our economy, with civilian users comprising more than 90% of the total GPS user community.

To facilitate the exchange of information across the civil community regarding applications of this and related key technologies in the 21st century, the U.S. DOT sponsors an annual meeting called the Civil GPS Service Interface Committee (CGSIC), in conjunction with the Institute of Navigation's annual Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) conference in September.

The CGSIC includes the U.S. States and Local Government Subcommittee (USSLS), which focuses on State and local government applications of GPS and GPS augmentations. Because State and local governments experience travel and fiscal restraints, we have established regional meetings to improve our understanding of GPS activities with State and local governments as well as to provide information on the issues associated with GPS and its augmentations.

The next USSLS regional meeting is scheduled for **April 21, 2010 at the GranTree Hotel and Convention Center, 1325 N 7th Avenue, Bozeman, Montana. With the Montana/Idaho Intermountain GIS Conference.** I invite you to designate a representative to participate in this meeting and to learn about the broad array of GPS-based applications that are available to your State and local agency partners.

Participation in this meeting will be mutually beneficial for your organization and for the Federal government. I have enclosed the agenda; please RSVP by April 9th 2010, by contacting Robin Trenbeath at (406) 444-2440 or e-mail RTrenbeath@mt.gov. If I can be of assistance, please contact me at (202) 493-3391 or e-mail rudy.persaud@dot.gov.

/s/ Rudy Persaud
Chair, U.S. States and Local Government Subcommittee
Civil GPS Service Interface Committee

Enclosure: Agenda: CGSIC/USSLS Regional Meeting; Bozeman, Montana