Information for Policymakers from the National Coordination Office for Space-Based Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT)

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#### August 5, 2014

#### Late-Summer Update on Air Force GPS Program Funding Levels for Fiscal Year 2015

Here is the latest state of play for next year's Air Force GPS program budget. **Authorization:** Both the House and Senate versions of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) recommend full funding for GPS. The House passed its bill; the Senate bill awaits floor action. **Appropriations:** Both the House and Senate versions include GPS funding increases above the request. The House passed its bill; the Senate bill awaits floor action. Congress has until September 30 to enact the defense appropriations bill or pass a temporary funding measure. For further details, visit our GPS funding page at www.gps.gov/policy/funding/2015.

FY 2015 Air Force Line Item	President's Request	House & Senate NDAA	Full House Appropriation	Senate Approps Cmte
Procurement: GPS IIF Satellites	\$52.090M	\$52.090M	\$50.0M	\$52.090M
Procurement: GPS III Satellites	\$292.397M	\$292.397M	\$322.397M	\$315.797M
Development: GPS III Satellites	\$212.571M	\$212.571M	\$212.571M	\$212.571M
Development: Next Generation Operational Control System (OCX)	\$299.760M	\$299.760M	\$299.760M	\$299.760M
Development: Military GPS User Equipment	\$156.59M	\$156.659M	\$156.659M	\$156.659M
TOTAL	\$1.0135B	\$1.0135B	\$1.0435B	\$1.0369B

## Third Successful GPS Satellite Launch of 2014



On August 1, the Air Force launched the seventh of twelve modernized GPS Block IIF satellites. It was the third GPS launch this year, reflecting the need to replace several aging spacecraft in the constellation. The GPS IIF series of satellites includes advanced atomic clocks and a third civilian GPS signal

for increased reliability and accuracy. Learn more about GPS modernization at www.gps.gov/systems/gps/modernization.

## Test Your GPS Knowledge

**True or False?** GPS satellites continuously track and record the movements of every GPS user.

**Answer:** False. GPS satellites are just beacons, like lighthouses, that a GPS device uses to determine its own position. GPS satellites cannot track anything on the ground. Learn more: <u>www.gps.gov/policy/privacy</u>.



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# **Sector Focus: GPS in U.S. Agriculture**



Precision agriculture using GPS and geographic information systems (GIS) has revolutionized American farming. The technology boosts crop yields by minimizing row overlap, maximizing land use, enabling 24-hour operations, and pinpointing soil/plant problems so they can be corrected. By precisely applying pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers to individual plants, farmers greatly reduce expenses and environmental impacts. GPS guidance of machinery also lowers labor costs, fuel use, and carbon emissions. To learn more, visit www.qps.qov/applications/agriculture.

For further reading, we recommend this recent article from the Magic Valley Times-News in Idaho: <u>magicvalley.com/article 0b8e39cb-36ec-556d-a2fd-d2f56320d70e.html</u>

This newsletter is produced and distributed by the National Coordination Office for Space-Based PNT, a central resource within the government for GPS Policy information. For more information, visit www.gps.gov/congress. Please contact us at chris.mindnich@gps.gov or 202-482-2004 to request email list additions, removals, or changes.