

This document is provided for reference only. The complete announcement and attachments can be found at:

http://www.fgdc.gov/grants/2006CAP/index_html

XII. 2006 NSDI CAP Category 4: Joint Canadian and U.S. Spatial Data Infrastructure Project

A. Scope

(1). General Description: Applications of digital geospatial data vary greatly, but users have a recurring need for access to themes of data. In the spirit of information exchange, a geospatial data community can work together to produce, maintain and share commonly needed data for national, regional, state, provincial/territorial and local analysis. Within the geospatial data community, multi-agency, and multi-sector partnerships are being established in local and regional areas to collaboratively leverage resources and funding, and coordinate data collection, utilization, access, and sharing. Spatial data infrastructures build on these activities by identifying basic information content, and the technical, operational, and business contexts by which a distributed, collaborative data collection and maintenance effort would operate.

Connected distributed data sets are important to the geospatial data community. The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Secretariat and GeoConnections are co-sponsoring a joint project (via a Memorandum of Understanding) for the development of regional applications that increase the access and use of distributed geospatial data content. This regional application will cover a continuous piece of geography including both Canada and the U.S., and will enhance further understanding of the complexities, challenges, and effort required in utilizing spatial data infrastructures and distributed data to address a common issue between the two countries.

This category advances the capacity of communities to create and use geospatial data. Projects funded under these categories will deal with a common priority issue that results in increased information sharing while making available new content and services. The projects will also demonstrate collaborative approaches and decision-support in solving community issues utilizing distributed data (thematic and framework) and through the use or refinement of existing FGDC, GeoConnections, and International standards. Projects will establish a collaborative process that provides different kinds of organizations and disciplines with the ability to integrate and share geospatial data.

(2). In the U.S. applications are open to Federal, state, and local governments, commercial, academic, non-profit, and Native American Tribal organizations. In Canada applications are open to Canadian organizations (private, commercial, academic and nonprofit), federal (special funding case please refer to section D

item 2) and provincial/territorial government agencies, local communities and Aboriginal (First Nations, Métis and Inuit).

(3). The FGDC will fund under category 4 cost shared project to demonstrate the ability to address sound community decision-making through the collaborative use, maintenance and sharing of geospatial data. One project will be funded under this year's CAP.

(4). Category 4 proposals must demonstrate collaboration between organizations in the U.S. and Canada.

(3). Please note that under this FY 2006 CAP, applicant organizations may submit only one proposal package. Previous Joint U.S. and Canadian Demonstration Project award recipients are not eligible.

B. References

Applicants can find information on spatial data infrastructures through the GeoConnections and FGDC web sites (<http://www.geoconnections.org/> and <http://www.fgdc.gov/>). In particular, applicants should familiarize themselves with the following reference sources:

(1). U.S. Sources:

- Federal Geographic Data Committee web site <http://www.fgdc.gov/>
- *Framework Introduction and Guide*, FGDC 1997
<http://www.fgdc.gov/framework/frameworkintroguide/>
- *Development of a National Geospatial Data Framework*, FGDC 1995
<http://www.fgdc.gov/framework/framdev.html>

(2). Canadian Sources: All the following sources of information can be found through the GeoConnections web site at <http://www.geoconnections.org> (in the opportunities section containing this announcement).

- *CGDI Target Vision and Implementation Plan; Vision: Better knowledge for better decisions*, Sep. 2005
- *CGDI Target Vision and Implementation Plan; Architecture: Architecture Description Version 2.0*, Sep. 2005
- *GeoBase* (<http://www.geobase.ca/>)
- *GeoConnections Discovery Portal* (<http://geodiscover.cgdi.ca>)
- *A Developers' Guide to the CGDI: Developing and publishing geographic information, data and associated services*, Feb. 2004
- *CGDI online training*, Aug. 2004
- *CGDI Framework Data Definition*, June 2001
- *The Atlas of Canada* (<http://atlas.gc.ca/site/index.html>)

C. Project Goal

The goal of this project is to stimulate cross-border cooperation over a geographic area through the use of connected, distributed data and services. This project will test methods for building regional spatial data infrastructure applications and increasing the sharing of distributed geospatial data, suggest topics for future research and development, and provide guidance on policies and practices for the establishment of an operational spatial data infrastructure between the U.S and Canada.

Possible projects that may benefit from cross-border regional cooperation will be within the following themes:

- Environment and Sustainable Development: Polar Regions;
- Public Safety: natural hazards forecasting/warning systems;
- Public Health: pandemic outbreaks/disease surveillance; and,
- Aboriginal and Native American peoples: land and resource management or community planning.

This project should advance the capacity of a U.S./Canadian community to produce and utilize connected, distributed, geospatial data. Furthermore, the project should demonstrate collaborative approaches in solving community issues utilizing distributed data. Participation by different kinds of organizations and disciplines is important, as is the ability to integrate and share connected distributed data among these different users.

D. Funding for Program: US/Canadian Support

(1). **U.S. funding support** for the project will be provided by the U.S. Geological Survey on behalf of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC). **A total of \$75,000.00** (US Dollars) is available. This funding will be given to the lead US organization, and the award document authorizing the funds will be separate from the Canadian agreement authorizing Canadian funds.

(2). **Canadian funding support** for the project will be provided by the Natural Resources Canada, GeoConnections. In Canada, a contribution agreement is used to financially support the cost share project. For federal departments, an interdepartmental fund transfer will be used instead of a contribution agreement. **A total of \$100,000.00** (Canadian Dollars) is available. This funding will be made to the lead Canadian organization and will be awarded by authorized representatives of Canada.

(3). Depending on the proposal merit, one joint project will be funded with each government issuing its own award document. This estimate does not bind the U.S.

or Canada to a specified number of awards or to the amount of any award unless that amount is otherwise specified by statute or regulation. Payment will be made based on project Milestones. The final payment will represent at least 10% of the FGDC or GeoConnections share.

(4.) Due to the joint bi-national scope of this project, the lead US organization will bear responsibility to meet USGS requirements and the lead Canadian organization will bear responsibility to meet GeoConnections requirements. Thus, two cost proposals are required for each Canadian/U.S. proposal, one for U.S organization and one for the Canadian organization.

E. Participants Cost-Share

(1). The **U.S. applicants** must provide 100% in-kind matching funds in U.S. dollars from funds other than those received under this project from the U.S. Geological Survey.

(2). The **Canadian applicants** must provide 100% in-kind matching funds in Canadian dollars from funds other than those received under this project from the GeoConnections Program.

(3). These funds may be in the form of cash and/or in-kind contributions (materials, services, or personnel provided to the proposed project). Existing in-place equipment (unless primarily or exclusively used for the project) is not to be considered acceptable as an in-kind contribution. No geospatial data sets, whether existing or to be acquired, are considered acceptable as an in-kind contribution. Profit must not be included in the in-kind contribution.

F. Disbursement of Funding Support

Applicants must demonstrate that both a lead U.S. organization or agency and a lead Canadian organization or agency are involved in the project. Furthermore, each country's lead organization/agency is required to collaborate with another organization or agency in its respective country. Thus each application will have a minimum of four organizations or agencies—two from Canada and two from the U.S. Funding will be provided only to the lead organization in each country. They in turn, have the responsibility of dispensing the appropriate funds to their collaborating organization(s). Canadian funds are to be spent by Canadian participants and U.S. funds are to be spent by U.S. participants.

G. Eligibility Requirements

(1). Qualified applicants from among American and Canadian organizations include Federal, State, Provincial/Territorial and local government agencies,

educational or academic institutions, private sector/commercial firms, utilities, private foundations, not-for-profit organizations, and Native American tribes or Aboriginal (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) groups in the U.S. and Canada are invited under this Program Announcement.

(2). Although proposals must demonstrate that at a minimum four (at least two Canadian and two U.S.) organizations are participating in the project, multi-sector partnerships are encouraged. As stated previously, a lead organization for the U.S. and a lead organization for Canada must be identified.

(3). The application must clearly define the tasks and responsibilities of each collaborative organization. An **Agreement of Participation** (Attachment H) is required of each organization participating. Each participating organization shall agree to contribute, in-kind or cash, to the project.

H. Unsuitable Applications

(1). Applications will not be considered for projects on topics not being sought under this Program Announcement. Though integral to many operations, data collection is not considered an appropriate activity for funding under this Program Announcement.

(2). Applications are sought from U.S. and Canadian organizations. Applications from any other countries (other foreign governments, foreign citizens, educational institutions in foreign countries or firms located in foreign countries) will not be accepted.

(3). Proposals in which there is a real or an appearance of a conflict of interest will not be accepted.

(4). Applications solely involving the direct procurement of a product or service will not be considered.

(5). Applications that do not meet the requirement for participation/collaboration of other organizations will not be considered.

I. Period of Performance

The project will begin upon completion of the award documents on or about March 2006. All activities proposed must be completed on or before the end of the Canadian Government fiscal year March 31, 2007.

J. Reporting Requirements

Note that travel costs for project participants to attend the three meetings identified in the reporting requirements should be included in the cost proposals. The meeting locations are proposed by the applicant.

Required reports, presentations, and other participatory involvement:

- (1). Initial Orientation meeting involving all key project participants, the GeoConnections representative and FGDC Secretariat (Travel by project participants may be required depending on meeting location as proposed by the applicant);
- (2). Milestone reports indicating project progress;
- (3). Interim progress review meeting (Travel by project participants may be required depending on meeting location as proposed by the applicant); and,
- (4). Final technical report of project activities that includes:
 - (a). Project summary;
 - (b). Project outcome;
 - (c). Recommendations for distributed thematic and framework development;
 - (d). Assessment of project success;
 - (e). Plans for follow-on activities including outreach;
 - (f). Discussion about user-demand requirements for geospatial data in a national level spatial data infrastructure; and,
 - (g). Discussion about commonalities, issues, difficulties, and challenges (both technical and policy) that were encountered.
 - (h). Any other relevant deliverables.
- (5). Formal oral presentation of the Project (Travel by project participants may be required depending on meeting location as proposed by the applicant).

K. Publicity

It's important that project results receive wide dissemination to increase the base of knowledge and experience that can be shared throughout the profession and geospatial community. Organizations receiving an award are encouraged to publish the results of any work supported under this Program Announcement, without review by the FGDC or GeoConnections. However, publications or other written products resulting from the project must acknowledge the financial assistance of the FGDC or GeoConnections.

- (1). Publication of project results is strongly encouraged;

(2). Formal oral presentation of the project (travel by project participants will be required, depending on meeting location as proposed by the applicants); and,

(3). Display the NSDI logo and GeoConnections logo on participating organizations home page and link to the Geospatial One Stop portal and GeoConnections Discovery Portal server if applicable to the project.

L. Award Terms and Conditions

(1). Awards made under this Program Announcement to the lead US organization shall be administered in accordance with **General Terms and Conditions** (Attachment B and **Special Terms and Conditions** (Attachment A).

(2). Canadian funding support for the project will be provided by the Natural Resources Canada, GeoConnections Secretariat. In Canada, the proponents will be paid by cheques to financially support the cost share project. For federal departments, an interdepartmental settlement transfer will be issued instead of cheque. A total of \$100,000.00 (Canadian Dollars) is available for the project. This funding will be made to the lead Canadian organization and will be awarded by authorized representatives of Canada.

M. Instructions for Preparing the Application

The application should be assembled in the following order listed below. (See Section VII: List of Attachments for a summary of required application documentation for U.S. and Canadian organizations.)

(1). **Standard Form SF – 424** *Application for Federal Assistance* (Applies to U.S. organizations only) The lead **US organization** should prepare this attachment and should be signed by an individual authorized to commit the applicant. See Section V. Application and Submission Information, A. Proposal Forms.

In addition, the US organization should provide a cost proposal that contains a breakdown of the total estimated project cost by individual milestones described in your Technical Proposal. This cost proposal should show in-kind and grant funds, and what each organization is contributing or spending on each milestone.

(2). **Standard Form SF – 424A** *Budget Information – Non-Construction Program* (Applies to U.S. organizations only) The **U.S. organization** should prepare this document. See Section V. Application and Submission Information, A. Proposal Forms.

(3). **Canadian Applicant Budget Information.** (Applies to Canadian organizations only) Preparation of the price proposal for **Canadian participants**

- Please include sufficient funds to cover three travel requirements: (a). attendance at an initial program orientation meeting, (b). attendance at an interim progress review meeting, and (c). a formal oral presentation of project activities at a conference agreed upon between the FGDC/GeoConnections and the award recipient. This meeting location is to be proposed by the applicant.

Allowable Expenditures

The Recipient agrees that the contribution referred to in Section D (2), Canadian Funding Support, of this announcement will be applied to the allowable expenditures incurred in the course of conducting the project activities. The allowable expenditures are:

-direct costs of carrying out the project, including: professional labor fees, project management, development of a demonstration of the ability to address sound community decision-making through the collaborative use, maintenance and sharing of distributed geospatial data; travel to conduct the project (at rates negotiated with GeoConnections), project coordination and communications.

-administration of the project, including: administrative labor; liaison with project consultants, GeoConnections, FGDC; others partners; translation; printing and binding of project reports.

(a). **Method of Payment:** The pricing basis for the resultant contribution may be negotiated between GeoConnections and the selected Applicant. Negotiation of the pricing basis may be required normally in accordance with the requirements stated in the RFP.

(b). **Price Proposal:** The price proposal should contain a detailed breakdown of the total estimated project cost by individual milestones in a firm price bid and described in the Technical Proposal application. Please note that the project team cannot submit a price proposal based on average rates. Each project team member's workload has to be priced separately using appropriate costing procedures. The total of all project team member prices will be included in the proposed total estimated project cost.

(c). **Project Cost Breakdown:** This detailed total estimated project cost breakdown should address, as applicable, but not be limited to, each of the following:

(i.) **Labor:** For the purposes of this announcement, labour costs represent the actual salaries paid to personnel. For in-kind

contributions, labour also includes employee benefits up to a maximum of 20%. Each participating organization is required to explain how it calculates per diem rates. A typical way to calculate labour is to use the labour-rate formula: reasonable annual salary, plus reasonable overhead and benefits, divided by a reasonable number of billable days in a year. Labour rates must be exclusive of profit. In the case of government personnel, official labour rates approved by the government organization should be used.

(ii.) **Other Direct Charges:**

- **Equipment/Software Rental.** Rental costs will be considered, if included in your price proposal. Purchase costs for equipment are not acceptable and will not be considered. Costs for software essential to the project will be considered. The original purchase price of the equipment or software as well as the number of years of useful life of the equipment or software should be provided with the price proposal. Equipment and software used in the day-to-day business of the organization are covered in the overhead in the labour rates and cannot therefore be considered as in-kind contributions. The costs for equipment/software should not exceed 25% of the total estimated project cost.

- **Training:** Training, as part of technology transfer activities, may form part of the total estimated project cost. It should not, however, exceed 15% of the total project cost. Training costs should be fully explained and justified in the project proposal.

- **Materials, Supplies, Components:** Indicate general categories and the pricing basis, inclusive of customs duty and taxes, but exclusive of GST/HST. Indicate whether the items are likely to be used or consumed during the course of the project work.

- **Travel and living expenses:** Limited travel and living expenses will be considered case-by-case depending on the travel's purpose. Proposals should detail the basis and cost of all required travel. The basis of travel costs should be in accordance with the current Treasury Board Travel Directive, or, if applicable, in accordance with the project proponent's own travel guidelines (but not exceeding the Treasury Board Directive). The Treasury Board Travel Directive is available at http://publiservice.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pubs_pol/hrpubs/TBM_113/td-dv_e.asp.

- **Subcontracts:** Identify potential subcontractors and provide for each the same cost breakdown information detailed herein.

- Other Charges: Identify any other direct charges, inclusive of customs duty and taxes, but exclusive of GST/HST, such as long distance communication and rental costs. Please provide the estimated cost of each one, and the relevance to the proposed work.

Profit: Not applicable since proposals are required to be submitted on a cost sharing basis. Foregoing of profit is not allowable as a contribution.

Advance payments: Based on Treasury Board Policy on Transfer of Payments (2-12).

Contributions are normally paid on the basis of achievement of performance objectives or as reimbursement of expenditures incurred. Where advance payments are necessary, they should be limited to the immediate cash requirements of the recipient and not exceed the following payment frequency:

Total Value of annual amount	Duration of Agreement		
	<i>Less than 4 months</i>	4 months or longer	
		Initial Advance	Subsequent Advances
Up to \$24,999	90%	90%	N/A
\$25,000 - \$100,000	90%	Up to 75%	Quarterly

For agreements of less than 4 months, the schedule represents the maximum percentage that may be paid out initially, with the balance payable monthly or at the end of the agreement. The amount of each advance payment would correspond to its frequency, e.g. a quarterly advance would be for the approximate amount of expenditures expected to be incurred by the recipient in the following three months.

N. Proposal Application Narrative

The narrative is the most important part of your application. (To be prepared jointly by collaborating **U.S. and Canadian applicants**). Applicants shall submit an unbound, signed original and 10 rubber banded or binder-clipped copies of the application. The Application Narrative shall not exceed 12 single-spaced pages (including figures and tables), and the type size shall not be smaller than 12-pitch/10 point type. References, appendices, curriculum vitae, letters of support/endorsement, and related documentation are not included within the 12-page limit.

Applications for funding will be considered in accordance with the following factors set forth below. Proposals should address each of the following factors in the exact headings and sequence as they are listed. Please provide sufficient definition or description of methodology within the context of the project, to permit understanding. Please be very explicit. We encourage applicants to use examples to demonstrate their understanding. The maximum possible score for all selection factors together is 100 points. The application narrative should not exceed 12 pages.

(0). Project Summary— please list as appropriate:

- (a) Canadian and U.S. Lead organizations
- (b) Lead Canadian and U.S. project contacts (name, telephone, email)
- (c) Collaborating organizations (include Agreement of Participation, Attachment J, as attachments)
- (d) Collaborating organizations key contacts (name, telephone, email)
- (e) Relevant Internet addresses
- (f) Geographic scope of project
- (g) Concise description of the project (limit to 200 words).

(1). Project Description (20 points)– Merit to the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI) and National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI)

Proposals will be evaluated on the quality and relevance of the project to spatial data infrastructures (NSDI, CGDI).

- (a). The proposal should include a concise description of the project; a clear statement of project objectives; an explanation of how, and to what degree, the proposed effort contributes to the development of a joint U.S./Canadian regional information sharing initiative and identify an issue in need of improved cross-border cooperation. The project must address a practical problem as described under Scope (section A) and Project Goal (section C) of this announcement.
- (b). The proposal should include citations of related and ongoing projects and describe their connection to such ongoing projects.

(c). The proposal should include specific well-defined project outcomes that will result from this project. Describe how such outcomes will increase the use of connected distributed data sets and services as well as foster the increased use of a common geospatial framework for Canada and the United States.

(2). Project Approach (20 points)

Applications should outline the steps that will be taken to implement the project. The applicant should describe feasibility and levels of risk associated with this project. Provide a detailed project plan to accomplish the stated objective.

(a). Proposals will be evaluated on the degree to which they reflect an understanding and detail of the tasks and procedures necessary to accomplish the stated objective. The proposal will be evaluated to determine whether the resources identified by the applicant to accomplish the tasks are reasonable relative to the anticipated results, and whether they accurately reflect the level of effort described in the proposal, including the necessary facilities, equipment, and supplies.

(b). Proposals will be evaluated on the adequacy of the methodology to carry out the effort; steps taken to implement the project, evidence of adequate planning; effectiveness of the plan of management to assure proper and efficient administration of the project; and quality of the applicant's plans to use its resources and personnel to achieve the project objective.

(c). To show clearly the tasks and responsibilities of the project, the proposal should include two tables. The first table emphasizes participating organizations and shows their roles and contributions (as shown below). The second table emphasizes contributions by project milestone (also shown below).

Table 1

Organization	Human Resources	Role	Contribution
Company A	Joe Smith Sam Johns	Scientist Analyst	- data analysis - labour
Agency X	Paula Data	Data processing	- travel - material - labour

Table 2

Phase	Tasks	Team members	# Days	Deliverables	Due date
1	Research	Tom Jones	10	Milestone report	December 1 st
		Julie B.	5	Prototype	February, 4 th
2	Analysis	Afonso M.	3	Milestone report	March 31 st

(d). The proposal should include a work plan that indicates clearly identified outcomes as a means of assessing progress. In outlining project tasks, please include a Work Plan Milestone Chart (such as Gantt) illustrating major activities and their completion dates as an attachment to the Application Narrative (the milestone chart does not count against the 12 page narrative limit). The Initial Orientation Meeting, Interim Progress Review Meeting, and Final Technical Report shall be in your milestones.

(e). Proposals will be evaluated on their ability to register and catalogue metadata to a clearinghouse for searching, ability to connect distributed data sets to the Internet, and their ability to implement web services at the end of the project.

(3). Technical/Operational Context (30 points)

Proposals should demonstrate technical and operational goals. The technical approach will be evaluated on its ability to address:

(a). The goals of:

- (1). Data integration (horizontal and vertical alignment, scale, conflation, generalization, semantics, format conversion, and assessment of data quality);
- (2). Maintenance of data including updates and revisions;
- (3). Convergence of framework concepts and methodologies between U.S. and Canada including: Utilization of the U.S. NSDI framework data themes: geodetic control, cadastral data, hydrography, elevation, government units, transportation, and orthoimagery; and Canadian CGDI framework and GeoBase themes: geodetic reference system, roads, hypsography (DEM), hydrographic layers, Canadian Data Alignment Layer (CDAL), geographical names, orthoimagery, and administrative boundaries;
- (4). Implementation and use of standards (i.e. FGDC Metadata standard or ISO metadata standard);

(b). The operational capability to use web map and web feature client and server software for linking and viewing distributed thematic geospatial and framework data

between U.S. and Canadian organizations. This capability should use Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) specifications.

- (1). Describe how clearinghouses will be used in the project. Include current functionality of the clearinghouse and its service of compliant metadata. Describe efforts to extend the clearinghouse to include such OGC compliant services as web mapping services (WMS), web feature services (WFS), web coverage services (WCS), geographic markup language (GML), styled layer descriptors (SLD).
- (2). Describe the extent that OGC compliant web mapping services are part of this project.
- (3). Describe the extent that OGC compliant web feature services are part of this project.

(4). Business Context (10 points)

The application should describe the approach proposed to ensure that the project will result in distributed data that are widely used and useful—increased distributed data accessibility. Innovative approaches are encouraged. These include:

- (a). avoidance of restrictive practices that would inhibit the use of the distributed data;
- (b). provide information about copyright and intellectual property issues, data limitations, including suggested optimal uses of data, disclaimers and liability;
- (c). be available in public and non-proprietary format(s);
- (d). use business practices that increase distributed data activities.

(5). Project Participants/Experience/Outreach (20 points)

- (a). Participation: Each project must involve four or more organizations. Proposals will be evaluated based on the level and diversity of participation. Applications should clearly define the tasks and responsibilities of each collaborative organization (Complete the **Agreement of Participation** Attachment H). Any additional evidence of the activity being endorsed and supported (formal Memoranda of Understanding and/or letters of commitment from participating organizations) should be provided as attachments.
- (b). Experience: Proposals will be evaluated to assess the applicant's experience and competence to perform the proposed effort successfully,

including the following: the significant qualifications of key personnel to be used in the project; the time that each person named will commit to the project; and whether the staffing is adequate to complete the effort in the designated time frame. Describe experience, qualifications, and skills held by the staff for performance of the project. (Resumes of key personnel may be provided as attachments).

(c). Outreach: The application should describe the means of providing for communication and outreach to stakeholders, such as, web pages, workshops, and informational meetings. Also, the proposal should describe ways to improve project visibility. The application should describe the degree that the project accommodates the participation of new or other organizations having similar data interests over the project area;

O. Delivery of Application

(1) In preparation for using only the www.grants.gov website for future electronic submission of all proposals, the USGS will follow a two-pronged approach for submission of proposals for the FY2006 funding cycle.

All applicants are required to submit 10 hardcopy proposals. In addition, the proposals must also be submitted using the Federal Government's www.grants.gov website for electronic submission of the same material.

The traditional hard copy method of submission will take precedence over the electronic submission, therefore, all proposals must be received in hard copy form by the due date of February 1, 2006.

(2) By mail:

Applicants are required to submit 10 hard copies of the proposal to:

U.S. Geological Survey
Office of Acquisition and Grants
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mail Stop 205
Reston, VA 20192
Attn: Desiree Santa, Grant Specialist

(3) In person: An application that is hand delivered shall be taken to the USGS, Office of Acquisition and Grants – Room 6A333, 12202 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20192. The Office of Acquisition and Grants will accept hand delivered applications between 8:00am and 4:00pm daily, from December 1, 2005, to the closing time of 2:00p.m. EDT, on February 1, 2006, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays. An application

that is hand delivered will not be accepted by the Office of Acquisition and Grants after 2:00p.m. EDT on the closing date.

P. Contact Information

For questions concerning the preparation of the application please contact:

(1). U.S. applicants:

A. Grants.gov

Technical questions concerning the application process at Grants.gov:

Grants.gov Help Desk at:
Phone: 1-800-518-GRANTS
Email: support@grants.gov

B. Program Announcement

Applicants are strongly urged to submit questions via email to:

Ms. Desiree Santa, Grant Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
Grants Branch
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 205
Reston, VA 20192
Phone: (703) 648-7382
Email: dsanta@usgs.gov

C. CAP Program

For technical questions concerning the content, goals, and objectives of the CAP program categories, please contact:

David Painter, CAP Coordinator
Federal Geographic Data Committee Secretariat
MS 590 USGS National Center
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
Phone (703) 648-5513
Email: dpainter@fgdc.gov

(2). Canadian organization applicants:

Julie Béland
Project Coordination Officer

Program Management Office
GeoConnections Secretariat
Natural Resources Canada
Government of Canada
Room 626, 615 Booth Street
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0E9
Canada

Telephone: (613) 947-5009
Facsimile: (613) 947-2410
Email: jbeland@nrcan.gc.ca

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