

## Contacts

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*Well, the map says...*

"Today's geospatial activities—surveying, mapping, remote sensing, and geographic information systems—can be traced to the earliest days of the agency when newly designated lands were surveyed and mapped by Forest Service employees, often for the first time. Surveys established forest boundaries, the locations of privately held lands within forests, and geodetic control needed for further surveying and mapping. Mapping captured the physical and cultural landscape—such as streams, lakes, topography, roads and trails, settlements, forest cover, and soil types. These activities were vital in building the geographic information inventory needed for effective resource management."

*Summary of Forest Service Geospatial Activities (5/97)*



U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service

## Geospatial Service and Technology Center



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## The Center



The Geospatial Service and Technology Center (GSTC) is located in Salt Lake City, Utah as a detached technical center of Washington Office (WO) Engineering. GSTC is collocated with the Remote Sensing Applications Center (RSAC), also a detached Engineering technical center.

GSTC employs a uniquely skilled and equipped staff dedicated to providing a variety of geospatial services—from GIS data integration, analysis, and tools development, to web-enabled applications, data production and dissemination, cartographic publishing, and technical assistance and training.

## Mission

1. Provide technical support services to users of geospatial data and geospatial technologies.
2. Produce and disseminate geographic information products in digital and hardcopy map form.

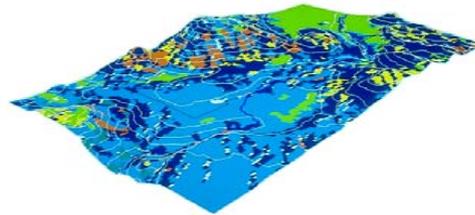
GSTC services and products reach all levels of the Forest Service—from districts and forests to WO Staffs. They directly support mission critical activities such as forest planning, watershed restoration, forest health protection, resource inventories, fire, recreation planning, boundary management, and more.

As a user, producer, and repository of geospatial information, the Center is an active partner within the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. GSTC data and map production activities are closely coordinated with the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Geological Survey, and the activities of the Federal Geographic Data Committee.

## Activities

The programs and activities of the Center are reflected in the following areas:

- **Data acquisition, preparation, and integration** – providing consistent, sound, documented geospatial data for a variety of applications



- **Data access** – providing on-line, web-enabled access to geospatial data (clearinghouse) and geospatial applications.

### Geospatial Data Clearinghouse

[Home](#) | [About the Products](#) | [Regional Views](#) | [State Views](#) | [GSTC Homepage](#) | [Help](#)



- **Technical assistance** – providing helpdesk services to users of geospatial data and technologies, and providing consultation and project support

- **Technology assessment and applications and tools development** – evaluating geospatial technologies and applications, and building and integrating tools
- **Cartographic publishing** – providing map views of geographic information; includes digitally produced maps in hardcopy and digital forms, and web-served maps



- **Training, education, and awareness** – developing, coordinating, and delivering geospatial-related training, and raising awareness of the importance and benefit of using geospatial data and technologies



- **Standards** – assisting in the development and administration of standards for geospatial data