

National Hydrography Dataset (NHD)

- NHD is the **surface water** component of *The National Map* that contains features such as lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, canals, dams and stream gages
- Contains a **flow network** that allows for tracing water downstream or upstream
- Uses an addressing system based on **reach codes** and **linear referencing** to link specific information about the water such as water discharge rates, water quality, and fish population
- Includes the **Watershed Boundaries Dataset**

Applications

Application	Example	Example Agencies
Hydrology	Streamstats	USGS, SD DOT, East Dakota Water Development District
Environmental Protection	EPA WATERS	EPA, CA Dept. of Water Resources
Resource Management	eWRIMS (Electronic Water Rights Information Management System)	CA Water Resources Control Board, USFS
Fisheries Management	Fish Passage Decision Support System	FWS, VA Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries
Emergency Response	Incident Command Information Tool for Protecting Drinking Water	USFS, EPA, CAL FIRE
Mapping/ Cartography	US Topo	USGS, LA DOT

NHD is Built on Collaboration

- Initially developed in partnership with EPA
- Maintained by a broad network of state, local, regional and federal stewards
- Serves as a foundation for applications such as NHD Plus and Streamstats
- Interagency management team gathers and prioritizes development needs

Seeking Feedback

- **Pilot Stewardship Assessment** – A sample of stewards was interviewed about their successes, challenges and needs; report in draft
- **National Stewardship Assessment** – Use pilot findings to shape a survey of all stewards nationally to determine best practices and success factors
- **NEEA-like Assessment** – Considering options for a study of NHD uses and benefits
- **NGAC Feedback** – Seeking advice and recommendations on stewardship and funding models

Questions for NGAC

- **How can the stewardship and/or funding models be enhanced to accelerate development and stewardship to better enable current and emerging uses?**
- **What is needed to improve standardization on a single NHD database?**
- **How do we widen our (close-knit, successfully collaborating) circle to increase participation, support, and use?**