

Instructions for Digitizing and Transmitting Easement Boundaries

Instructions. A zipped file geodatabase check-out, with applied domains, from the national geodatabase easements layer maintained using ArcSDE (Spatial Database Engine) technology is available for States at the ftp location: [\\txfortworts720\cdsteam\outgoing\Easements2010](ftp://txfortworts720\cdsteam\outgoing\Easements2010). The geodatabase files for States contain all easement polygons, as well as a topology and errors layer to identify overlap areas to be corrected. The topology layer also enforces the spatial rule, “must not overlap,” to keep the regions properly edge-matched. Please complete all data attributes for each easement.

Spatial Data Corrections. Unless overlaps are legitimate (for example, conflicting legal surveys are still unresolved), correct identified overlaps in the topology error file. Unless gaps are legitimate (such as a small road or levee separating easements), correct gaps where possible. Be careful not to collapse legitimate gaps. Please adjust the boundaries to better fit the high-resolution imagery on older digitized polygons that are not from legal surveys. Please confirm the acreage (actual surveyed acres identified on the survey with the deed) for individual polygons.

Attribute Data Corrections and New Fields. A few new fields have been added to the dataset. In addition, the definition of some fields has been clarified:

Admin_Area - For most States, this represents the two (2) character postal code.

New_Agree_Num- The new agreement number pre-populated, when available, from the July 2009 export of the corporate database. Please check the number, correct it if necessary, or enter it if missing. The new easement agreement number is essential, as the process will transition away from using the legacy number. If the legacy number is still valid, enter it in the New_Agree_Num field without any dashes. All letters in agreement numbers must be in UPPERCASE.

Closing_Date – The first year that the easement becomes eligible for monitoring. This field is very important for tracking observations. Please populate the Closing Date field for all easements.

Status – Only closed easements should be included in this database. All closed easements are active. However, a status field has been added to track the activity and quality of the spatial boundaries of easements within the national database. This is not an indicator of the status of the easement itself; it is an indicator of the status of the spatial boundary within the national database. Please do not remove boundaries from States’ check-out. **All closed easements must be marked with an A (for Active status) so they are included in flight planning. If a previously submitted boundary is no longer needed, or was submitted in error, please mark as DNF (for Do Not Fly) so it is NOT included in flight planning.**

Please note the new database schema and domains as shown below. All new easement attributes should fit within the applied domains. If States do not find an appropriate match, please notify the National Cartography and Geospatial Center (NCGC). Do not change the projection or schema of the data, or staff will not be able to check States' data back into the national file.

Field Name	Type	Length	Input	Description	Domains
OBJECTID	System		NONE	internal ESRI identifier	
GlobalID	System		NONE	ESRI replication identifier	
EaseObjID	Long Int	10	NONE	unique database identifier	
Admin_Area	Text	2	YES	2 character state postal code; example: AR,AK, etc.	Domain
Program_Name	Text	10	YES	select from domain	EWRP; WRP; EWPP-FPE; FRPP, HFRP; GRP [sequence should be the same in both documents]
Program_Code	Long Int		YES	select from domain	65; 66; 75; 73; 82; 83
Legacy_Agree_Num	Text	15	YES	legacy agreement number: example: 75-23-345-456	
New_Agree_Num	Text	30	YES	new agreement number. example: 752334545678	
Ease_Length	Text	15	YES	term length; select from domain	30 Year; 99 Year; Permanent
Closing_Date	Date		YES	The date the easement is ready for monitoring.	
Ease_Acres	Double		YES	Actual acres from the legal boundary survey with the deed, in 1/10 increments; example: 60.4	
Status	Text	20	YES	The status of the easement spatial data; select from domain. Active = all stewardship lands that have closed and have NRCS listed on deed; Expired = expired easements and should not be included in flight planning; DNF = Do Not Fly— and applies to all other easements.	A=Active; E=Expired DNF= Do Not Fly
Comment	Text	255	YES	comment field	
Method	Text	20	YES	The method used to generate the easement's spatial boundary reference. For all new WRP easements, the source should be a legal survey or precision GPS. For other programs, select the method of data capture from the domain drop down list when adding easements boundary to the national database.	Legal survey includes coordinate geometry (COGO); for precision GPS, digitize from Digital Orthophotography Quarter Quads (DOQQ) (1:12,000) or National

					Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) imagery (1:24,000); digitize from other high resolution imagery
Scale	Text	30	YES	Scale at which the boundary was digitized (pick closest scale)	1:2,400; 1:4,800; 1:7,920; 1:12,000

After completing the spatial and attribute updates and corrections, re-run the topology to ensure that the data are clean. Check that all the new attribute fields have been populated. Zip the .gdb and re-post it here: <\\txfortworts720\cdsteam\incoming\Easements2010>. After posting States' data, please notify Ken Becker or Elaine Ortiz at the email addresses listed below.

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