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Description of document: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Emails to or from the US Board on Geographic Names (BGN) referencing "Gulf of America," January 20 - February 10, 2025 - Part 3 only

Requested date: 18-March-2025

Release date: 29-September-2025

Posted date: 08-December-2025

Source of document: USGS FOIA
P.O. Box 66783
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87193
[DOI Public Access Link \(PAL\)](#)
[FOIA.gov](#)

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United States Department of the Interior

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, Virginia 20192-0002

In Reply Refer To:
U.S. Geological Survey
Attention: Judy Cearley
Post Office Box 66783
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87193

September 29, 2025

Re: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Tracking #
DOI-2025-004791 – Third Interim Response

This letter is our third interim response to your FOIA request dated March 18, 2025, for the following:

Copies of correspondence to and from the Board on Geographic Names between the dates January 20, 2025 and February 10, 2025 concerning and/or containing reference to the proposed "Gulf of America". I include in this request communications to and from both interagency and Executive Office of the President as well as non-federal entities.
Date Range for Record Search: From 01/20/2025 To 02/20/2025.

On March 20, 2025, and July 15, 2025, we provided you with our first and second interim responses, consisting with a total of 248 pages of records.

In this response, we are releasing one Portable Document Format (PDF) electronic file, consisting of 361 pages of records responsive to your request. These records are being released in their entirety.

We are continuing to process the remaining records associated with your request. Due to the nature of the records, we will need to consult with the other federal agencies and Department of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor (SOL). We anticipate providing another response no later than October 31, 2025.

If you have any questions about our response to your request, please contact me by email at jcearley@usgs.gov.

Sincerely,

JUDY

CEARLEY

Digitally signed by
JUDY CEARLEY

Date: 2025.09.29
06:36:21 -07'00'

Judy Cearley

U.S. Geological Survey

Government Information Specialist

Enclosure:

Third Interim Combined Records.pdf (361 pages)

From: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] BBC News - Costs associated with name change "Gulf of America"
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 8:44:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Mike,

I don't think I have anything to contribute on this one. Maybe mention how much the 40k cut the time for new names to be reflected in topoBuilder?

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 5:52 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Cc: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] BBC News - Costs associated with name change "Gulf of America"

Shellie, Kim,

I could use your assistance in the draft below. Any edits?

The USGS served two roles in implementing the name change. First, the Geographic Names Information System - the authoritative database of geographic names for Federal use - was updated to reflect the name change. Maintenance of this database is a standard activity, and little additional cost was attributed to updating GNIS for the Gulf of American name change. Second, the USGS creates and distributes maps for use by Federal, State, and local governments as well as the public. The topoBuilder platform allows for user-requested, customized maps that leverage the most recent available data, implemented through a cloud computing architecture. TopoBuilder was capable of producing map products that showed the new name after the GNIS update. Given the wide interest in the name change, USGS planned for a short-duration upscale in cloud computing resources that would allow more rapid delivery of maps requested through the topoBuilder platform. An additional \$40,000 was allocated for this upscaling activity, though the final cost is driven by demand and will not be known until the end of the billing cycle. Given that the timing of the name change occurred on a weekend, a modest additional cost was incurred for overtime pay for staff for both updating GNIS and configuring topoBuilder.

Thanks,
m

From: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 10:28 AM
To: Peace, Elizabeth <jennifer_peace@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] BBC News - Costs associated with name change "Gulf of America"

I am just returning back into the office after being out since Friday. I will add Mike Tischler to this email as he would be more suited to provide a draft response concerning this topic.

Mike - can you please review the query below and help provide a draft response?

Thanks,

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area

U.S. Geological Survey

Office of Communications and Publishing

405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: Peace, Elizabeth <jennifer_peace@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 9:23 AM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] BBC News - Costs associated with name change "Gulf of America"

Does USGS have a recommended draft response?

J. Elizabeth Peace
Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior

From: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 10:20 AM
To: Mike Wendling <michael.wendling@bbc.co.uk>
Cc: Interior Press <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] BBC News - Costs associated with name change "Gulf of America"

Good morning, Mike,

Thank you for your email. With this correspondence I am looping in the Dept of the Interior Communications team who are handling questions on this topic.

Regards,

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area

U.S. Geological Survey

Office of Communications and Publishing

405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: Mike Wendling <michael.wendling@bbc.co.uk>
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 9:34 AM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] BBC News - Costs associated with name change "Gulf of America"

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hello Gina –

I hope this finds you well. I'm a reporter with BBC News doing some research into the Gulf of America name change. I'm wondering further to the release that was posted on 14 February,

whether there was an estimated cost with the name change? I'm wondering particularly about this portion:

The USGS has also invested additional funding to speed up topoBuilder's responsiveness in anticipation of high demand.

But more generally about whether any overall estimates have been generated by USGS.

Many thanks

Mike

Mike Wendling

National Digital Reporter

BBC News, Chicago

michael.wendling@bbc.co.uk

[@mwendling](#)

+1-773-697-1528



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From: [Wright, Shane](#)
To: [Jeremy Kirkendall](#)
Cc: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Esri Basemaps Updated - AGOL Organization Region Confirmation
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025 10:47:37 AM

Thanks Jeremy,

I have made the change on our org.

Thanks, Shane

Shane Wright | US Geological Survey | ACIO/EGIS

Salt Lake City, UT | USA

phone: 801.895.5964 | email: wright@usgs.gov

EGIS Website and information <https://internal.usgs.gov/oei/egis/>

ArcGIS Online assistance gs-agol_admin@usgs.gov

Other Geospatial issues gs_esri_info@usgs.gov

From: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 7:01 AM
To: Wright, Shane <wright@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Esri Basemaps Updated - AGOL Organization Region Confirmation

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hi Shane,

The Gulf of America and Mount McKinley are now showing up in Esri basemaps. I've confirmed this in our Esri AGOL org but it took switching basemaps to different ones and back to clear my browser's cache to show the new name. I checked the USGS AGOL org and see that your custom USGS maps are showing it, but it looks like the regular Esri basemaps are still showing the old names this morning.

Can you please check if your AGOL org's region is set to the US? This blogs describe this and other considerations around the name changes for AGOL, Enterprise, Pro, and existing maps and apps.

<https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-online/announcements/esri-vector-basemaps-for-united-states/>

Thanks,

Jeremy Kirkendall, GISP | Senior Account Manager
Esri | 167 S. Taylor Avenue | Louisville CO 80027 | USA
M 970 231 1793 | jkirkendall@esri.com | esri.com

THE SCIENCE OF WHERE®

From: [BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC](#)
To: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Anderson, Gina R](#)
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] February 2025 BGN Meeting Agenda Inquiry
Date: Monday, February 3, 2025 9:18:40 AM

Gina, not media, but FYSA, similar to the one Mike Tischler got from the Penn Libraries Mapping and GIS Club, where you allowed response with the DIO press release.

Matt

From: Kevin A Clarke <kevinclarke@utexas.edu>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 12:14 PM
To: BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC <bgnexec@usgs.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] February 2025 BGN Meeting Agenda Inquiry

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Dearr Ms. Zahniser,
I hope this email finds you well. I am reaching out to inquire whether the “Gulf of America” is on the agenda for discussion at the U.S. Board on Geographic Names’ February 2025 meeting or info on the process.
Additionally, I would appreciate any clarification on the current membership status of the BGN, including whether there have been any recent appointments or changes in accordance with the directives of the Executive Order.
If possible, I would appreciate any information you can share regarding these matters.
Thank you for your time and assistance.
-Kevin Clarke - UT polysci and Debate coach

From: [Holli Howard](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Urban-Mathieux, Brigitta](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gulf description ambiguity
Date: Sunday, February 9, 2025 1:13:27 PM

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Hi Mike and Brigitta -

We noticed that GNIS has been updated with the Gulf of America.

We are trying to get the map correct and we see there is a hanging sentence at the end of the description. Can you clarify what this is referring to and why this was added at the end? There is no subject - but asking too that it doesn't change the meaning that the change is for the entire gulf - correct?

"Spanning of 1700m of US coastline and encompassing nearly 160 million acres,"

All the best,

Holli

From: [BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Zahniser, Shellie R](#); [Anderson, Gina R](#)
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Gulf of America name change
Date: Friday, February 7, 2025 3:46:29 PM

From: Huijian Tian <huijiant@usc.edu>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2025 6:33:10 PM
To: BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC <bgnexec@usgs.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gulf of America name change

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Hi officer,

It's Tim from USC as a student. I recently learned that our president has ordered the name change of Gulf of America.

However, I have not seen the official change on your website, out of my patriotism, can you help me understand why there is a discrepancy?

I read on your website the map data will be updated bi monthly. If your team follow the schedule, which means the next update be around March. However, that will go above our president's mandate, to update the name within 30 days. Will there be an update sooner than that?

Your response is greatly appreciated.

Best,
Tim

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Friar, Linda](#); [Eustis, Christine E](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Gulf of America name changing
Date: Friday, February 7, 2025 5:32:49 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-hkrvg0ct.png](#)

Hi Linda,

Well....this is a highly abnormal situation, so it's hard to equate to normal practices.

However, one-off inquiries like this typically would get sent to the TNM help desk to respond. However, that team has been instructed not to respond to anything related to the EO/SO, and to pass any inquiries up to Kim Mantey, Me, or Gina depending on the type of inquiry.

If it were me, I would refer them to the existing press release and leave it at that. I don't know if DOI has stated publicly that an SO is coming, so I'd hesitate to state that openly.

From: Friar, Linda <lfriar@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2025 8:28 AM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Gulf of America name changing

Good Morning

I don't think we need to answer - or could send over to SIS and have them reply that we are waiting the official secretarial order that is expected shortly.

Mike - how do you normally answer an individual's inquiry like this.

Thanks

Linda

Linda Friar, AICP
Chief External Affairs
USGS, Science for a Changing World
Office of Communications and Publishing
Desk 703-648-4447 Mobile 786-385-0067
E-mail lfriar@usgs.gov

 [Book time to meet with me](#)

From: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 7:01 PM

To: Friar, Linda <lfriar@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Gulf of America name changing

I'm not sure we need to answer, but wanted to pass along.

From: Huijian Tian <huijiant@usc.edu>

Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 5:11 PM

To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gulf of America name changing

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Hi officer,

It's Tim from USC as a student. I recently learned that our president has ordered the name change of Gulf of America.

However, I have not seen the official change on your website, out of my patriotism, can you help me understand why there is a discrepancy?

Best,
Tim

From: [David Adlerstein](#)
To: [BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gulf of Mexico/Gulf of America questions
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:35:04 AM

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

I have questions on what if any actions have been taken by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, probably the Domestic Names Committee, regarding the change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of Mexico.
Is that something that the BGN has jurisdiction over? If so, what has it done, and when?
Any info you can provide me on this matter would be welcome.
Thank you,
David

--

David Adlerstein
Editor
The Apalachicola Times (Now located at 221 Avenue E)
The Port St. Joe Star

Cellular (850) 296-6952
Office phone (850) 851-0724 and press Breaking News
dadlerstein@nevespublishing.com



From: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
To: [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] NBC News national inquiry
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 6:25:46 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[Outlook-z14schn4.png](#)

No action- but wanted you to see the link on the DOI press release in case you hadn't.

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>
Pronouns: she/her
"Be kind. Be patient. Be safe"



From: Quinn, Timothy <tquinn@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:07 AM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Weyers, Holly S <hsweyers@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Barrett, Anne <abarrett@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] NBC News national inquiry

This does not look like something for me to handle. I am passing it up to you for evaluation and action if any. Thank you

From: Peace, Elizabeth <jennifer_peace@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 8:32 AM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>; Romero, Dennis (NBCUniversal) <Dennis.Romero@nbcuni.com>; Interior Press <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Quinn, Timothy <tquinn@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] NBC News national inquiry

Good morning, Dennis,

Here is a link to the press release we sent out: <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-advances-restoration-historic-names-honoring-american-greatness>

On background: The Board on Geographic Names under the Department of the Interior has purview over names for federal use. BGN names are only binding to federal departments and agencies.

Historically, the U.S. Geological Survey and the Board on Geographic Names will update the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) for federal use effective immediately, and the Department of State will update the Geographic Names Server (GNS). It is up to each federal agency and office to change their signage and websites per their own budgetary needs and website update scheduling. There is a link in the press release that gives additional background information on the name changing process.

J. Elizabeth Peace
Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior

From: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 8:31 AM
To: Romero, Dennis (NBCUniversal) <Dennis.Romero@nbcuni.com>; Interior Press <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Quinn, Timothy <tquinn@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] NBC News national inquiry

Good morning, Dennis,

Thank you for your email. With this correspondence I am looping in the Dept of the Interior Communications team who are handling questions on this topic.

Regards,

Gina Anderson
Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
Office of Communications and Publishing
405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: Romero, Dennis (NBCUniversal) <Dennis.Romero@nbcuni.com>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 5:46 PM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Cc: Quinn, Timothy <tquinn@usgs.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NBC News national inquiry



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Hi:

Google said today it will update geographic names for the Gulf of Mexico and Denali when the Geographic Names Information System does so. This was a response to questions about when renaming these places will happen under President Donald Trump's remarks stating they will be called Gulf of America and Mt. McKinley.

Has the USGS formally been ordered to rename these features and, if so, is that a process that's underway? How long would such a process take before a new name appears as official in USGS documentation?

I'm writing a story now for NBCNews.com. Any response or help would be appreciated.

Thanks,

 **NEWS** DIGITAL

Dennis Romero

Breaking News Reporter

NBC News Digital

(USA) 310-623-7097

(USA) 310-946-8741

dennis.romero@nbcuni.com

dennisjromero@gmail.com

From: [Holli Howard](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Francisco Moneo](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Data points to change
Date: Thursday, February 6, 2025 7:04:15 AM

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Hey Mike -

Checking in - We thought maybe these changes would be imminent. I'm guessing it is so busy there, but if you have time for just a quick update that would be very helpful.

On Fri, Jan 31, 2025 at 2:36 PM Holli Howard <hollihoward@google.com> wrote:

Me again - Follow up from our leadership who are asking for interpretation so we make the changes accurately. Any preamble in this to help us prepare would be fabulous.

Here is the clarifying question:

The EO references “the U.S. Continental Shelf area bounded on the northeast, north, and northwest by the States of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida and extending to the seaward boundary with Mexico and Cuba in the area formerly named as the Gulf of Mexico”. Our understanding is the seaward boundary is halfway to Mexico, as seen in this map of marine jurisdictions from NOAA, and doesn’t extend to the shores of Mexico. The question is how is USGS interpreting the EO:

- a) Gulf of America is the top half of the gulf; Gulf of Mexico is the bottom half
- b) Gulf of America is the entire gulf; there is no Gulf of Mexico
- c) Something else

On Fri, Jan 31, 2025, 8:33 AM Holli Howard <hollihoward@google.com> wrote:

Hi Mike

Quick question on this.

Can you send info or data to know the exact changes? Do you have the csv similar to the derogatory names for the actual changes.

The viewer shows points on the waters edge along Louisiana for Gulf of Mexico. If we query Gulf of Mexico and pull those - are these the same data points that will change?

I saw he was confirmed last night. So wondering if today is the day.

Thanks so much

[@Francisco Moneo](#) FYI

From: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Gulf of America
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:00:27 PM

Awesome - thanks!

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:59 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Gulf of America

No, but I asked his staff earlier about acceleration and they are going to give me a report this evening. Jack may not yet know that I've inquired about acceleration, or what his staff is capable of doing.

I told jeremy and dolores (the ones we met in your office) that Sarah is prepared to make an ask of Jack, but we wanted to determine technical feasibility first.

From: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:55 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Gulf of America

He doesn't say why it has to wait until the 20th?

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108

U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:54 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Gulf of America

fyi...

From: Jack Dangermond <JDangermond@esri.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 5:28 PM
To: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Gulf of America

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Thanks..
We are making appropriate changes to living atlas base maps.... Going live on February 20..
Jack
Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 11, 2025, at 2:00 PM, Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>
wrote:

All,
For your information.
Thanks.
Josh

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:53 PM
To: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>
Subject: Gulf of America

Josh,

Please be advised that Gulf of Mexico has been officially renamed to Gulf of America under the authority of [Executive Order 14172](#) [\[gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com\]](#) signed Jan 20, and [DOI Secretary's Order 3423 \[doi.gov\]](#) signed Feb. 7. The Geographic Names Information System [\[GNIS ID# 558730 \[gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com\]\]](#) has been updated accordingly to reflect the change. In accordance with [Public law 80-242 \[gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com\]](#), federal agencies are to rely on GNIS as the official source of names for all publications. Federal agencies may begin updating their maps, products, and services to align with this name change.

Your assistance in notifying the federal geospatial community of this change would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks,
Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Mark Cygan](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); vivien@stanfords.co.uk
Cc: [Sean Breyer](#); [Jeremy Kirkendall](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: IMIA update
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:50:21 AM

Mike,

The IMIA is a business ecosystem of some map and map data creators, but a majority are upstream geospatial companies used to create the maps and map data and downstream companies that disseminate this in many ways. Therefore, there are a minority of companies that are making and maintaining map content, including geographic names, and a majority are using it to create value added products.

You are already aware of how Esri is handling this from emails from Jeremy. A number of IMIA publishers are from outside the US and are actively reviewing this change, and do use GNIS as an authoritative source, but have not made decisions yet. Many of our IMIA members are paper map publishers, globe companies or app developers and do not need to make decisions at this time because they do not have immediate product deadlines that would require them to make decisions on the changes.

Unofficial footnote: While IMIA can not comment on the following Wired article we have referenced it - [Here's How All Online Maps Are Handling the 'Gulf of Mexico' Name Change](#)

Please let us know if we can answer any other questions.

Sincerely,
Mark

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 4:48 AM
To: Mark Cygan <mcygan@esri.com>; vivien@stanfords.co.uk
Cc: Sean Breyer <SBreyer@esri.com>; Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: IMIA update

Hi Mark,

Thank you for the response! You mention that "others are already making the changes in US products and reflecting the GNIS names". We are aware of only a few commercial companies that have already updated - are you able to point to examples of other US products that have been updated by IMIA members?

Thanks,
m

From: Mark Cygan <mcygan@esri.com>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 12:14 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; vivien@stanfords.co.uk <vivien@stanfords.co.uk>
Cc: Sean Breyer <SBreyer@esri.com>; Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: IMIA update

Dear Dr. Tischler,

The International Map Industry Association (IMIA) members are aware of the [EXECUTIVE ORDER “RESTORING NAMES THAT HONOR AMERICAN GREATNESS” dated January 20, 2025 \[whitehouse.gov\]](#). We look to the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) as an authoritative source for geographic names. By the very nature of our IMIA name our members are the “Business of Maps Worldwide” and consequently sell our products in and outside of the United States (US). Our initial feedback from members is mixed. Some are still deciding how they will implement the changes, while others are already making the changes in US products and reflecting the GNIS names. For products intended for consumers outside the US they are waiting to see what the market demand will be and how to best serve it.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any other questions.

Sincerely,

Vivien P. Godfrey, IMIA President and
Mark Cygan, IMIA Affiliates Committee Chair

From: Mark Cygan <mcygan@esri.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:40 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Sean Breyer <SBreyer@esri.com>; Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: IMIA update

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Mike,

I am happy to do this.

1. IMIA - This was in fact a topic of our recent IMIA board meeting. I will send out an email to the IMIA board and to the IMIA committees that I chair and/or sit on and ask them for an answer by COB on Thursday so you have time to compile. Please let me know if you need it sooner.

With your permission, I would like to copy Ariel Doumbouya on that rely as she is our IMIA Board Advisor on National Government. (By the way, Ariel is doing a great job at this and Bob Davis is pleased with the results back to USGS).

2. As Esri is an IMIA member you may be interested in how the Esri Living Atlas team will handle this on the ArcGIS Online Basemaps. The following is guidance I gave a customer last week after talking with Sean Breyer who leads that team (copied), but I will check with him again to see if anything has changed:
 - Denali to Mount McKinley will be active in the 20 February 2025 basemap release for all vector basemap styles. Gulf of Mexico will still be the name for all World or non US styled maps. There will be a new US Style basemap collection that will have the Gulf of America designation in the US part of the gulf but we need to have the GNIS geographic definition. **so only Denali rename will show up in all vector basemaps, the Gulf will be setup for a locale version of the vector basemap for users who have set their org as US"**
 - Gulf of X should not affect the world vector map styles, only the Denali/McKinley change will show up.
 - Esri has a vector tile style editor so anything can be overridden for personalization. Sean has shared this with people last week for the people who feel the pressure to solve things now in their own way.
<https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-living-atlas/announcements/changing-labels-in-esri-vector-basemaps/>
 - Changing Labels in Esri Vector Basemaps. Esri Vector Basemaps provide the flexibility to make custom changes to map labels on the map by quickly editing the JSON through our VTSE.

Please let me know if you need anything before Thursday evening. All the best to you and your colleagues in this transition. I hope to see and talk with you and your USGS colleagues at the FedGIS conference February 24-26.

Warm regards,

Mark

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:55 AM

To: Mark Cygan <mcygan@esri.com>

Subject: IMIA update

Hi Mark,

Hope you are doing well! I'm hoping you might be able to help me out with a question for the commercial map providers. I'm sure you are aware that President Trump, through DOI, has enacted a name change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. DOI is starting to see that label propagate through federal and commercial applications. I recognize that GNIS is required only for federal agencies, and the private sector is not required to adhere to that database...though many do for consistency. However, DOI leadership is very interested in understanding the pace and breadth of uptake by the commercial mapping community.

Would you be willing to ask about the plans/schedule of implementing the name change throughout IMIA members, or perhaps some of the larger map producers? DOI is hoping for an update by midday Friday, but I'll take whatever you're able to provide by then.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,

m

Mike Tischler, Ph.D

Director, National Geospatial Program

U.S. Geological Survey

Department of Interior

o: 703-648-4725

c: 703-344-4348

mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Carter, David P](#)
To: [Bobo, Matthew R](#); [Carlino, Jennifer A](#); [Johnson, Lisa J](#); [Lunardi, Dario](#); [Murphy, Chid J](#); [Oliver, Nikki A](#); [Schuch, Michael P](#); [Smith, Heston L](#); [Sudar, Robert J \(Federal\)](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Vogt, David E](#)
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Living atlas base maps
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 2:39:56 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-augkwhta.png](#)

ESRI is in the process of creating new basemaps to reflect name changes per the executive order.

David

From: Ben Knott <BKnott@esri.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 16:19
To: Carter, David P <david_p_carter@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Living atlas base maps

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Good afternoon, David.

The initial guidance that we received from the Living Atlas team was that U.S. Centric basemaps would be available on or around 2/20. I believe that the team is meeting this afternoon to see if that timeline can be escalated, based on customer feedback. There are ways that users can remove Gulf of Mexico with the Vector Tile Style editor: <https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-living-atlas/announcements/changing-labels-in-esri-vector-basemaps/>. This might be a temporary consideration for higher visibility maps and apps, but I'd suggest holding off until we get a better understanding of the timeline.

Acknowledging that it's already high, are you experiencing elevated urgency on this topic or just getting ahead of communications/planning, or both?

Warm regards,

Ben

Ben Knott | Team Lead, U.S. Department of the Interior
Esri | 167 S Taylor Ave | Louisville, CO 80027 | USA
O 909-369-5240 | M 303-305-8797 | bknott@esri.com | [esri.com](https://www.esri.com)



Register: <https://www.esri.com/en-us/about/events/federal-gis-conference/overview>

From: Carter, David P <david_p_carter@ios.doi.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:02 PM

To: Ben Knott <BKnott@esri.com>

Subject: Living atlas base maps

Hello Ben,

We have been asked about software base maps that show the Gulf of America. Do you know if there may be a separate base map in the future for government use around the gulf?

David

David Carter
Geospatial Information Officer
U.S. Department of the Interior
david_p_carter@ios.doi.gov

[GeoPlatform.gov](https://geoplatform.gov) | [Making Federal GeoData Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable \[geoplatform.gov\]](https://geoplatform.gov)

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [maggie](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: renaming of Gulf of America
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 9:52:39 AM

Got it - thank you so much and hope to see you soon!

From: Maggie Cawley <maggie@openstreetmap.us>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 12:51 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: renaming of Gulf of America

The "Carto" raster map style which is the default map on [osm.org](https://openstreetmap.org) doesn't render labels for seas and oceans from OSM. Discussion here: <https://github.com/gravitystorm/openstreetmap-carto/issues/2278> TL;DR is that since seas and oceans don't have verifiable borders, they're usually mapped as nodes, and if they were displayed on the map, mappers would endlessly be nudging them around to try and get the label placement to match their aesthetic preference. A lot of maps that have ocean labels at low zooms (e.g. Mapbox's and MapTiler's example map styles) actually use Natural Earth data for labels of continents and oceans at low zoom, rather than OSM data.

Maggie Cawley
Executive Director
[OpenStreetMap US](#)
[State of the Map US](#) June 19-21 2025

On Tue, Feb 11, 2025 at 11:19 AM Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov> wrote:

Hi maggie,

Thanks for the explanation - I think I followed it all

Essentially, it's up to the developer, then. They can choose the default 'name' tag, which right now is "Golfo de México", the english language name tag ("name:en Gulf of Mexico"), or if they wanted to be locally specific, the "official_name:en-US Gulf of America"

But, unless weatherunderground, or other OSM users, change the tag for local use is the US, it won't display as "Gulf of America".

That all makes sense...but why, though, is there no label at all right now for the feature

in the basemap [osm.org](https://openstreetmap.org)? I would expect that it would show the label according to the 'name' field, but I don't see anything displaying....it's just unlabeled. But, that seems to be the same for other large bodies of water, too.

Lake Superior ('water' feature type) and Lake Erie ('lake' feature type) DO show their label...but Gulf of America ('sea' feature type), Atlantic Ocean ('ocean' feature type), Pacific Ocean ('ocean' feature type), Mediterranean ('sea' feature type), etc. are all unlabeled.

Wondering if the layer visibility is feature-type based? water/lake are default turned on....but sea/ocean are not?

Thanks
m

From: Maggie Cawley <maggie@openstreetmap.us>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:59 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: renaming of Gulf of America

So... I mispoke. It's language based...
Since it's just 1 tileset, on [osm.org](https://openstreetmap.org), the map is uniform - and labels are what's in the name tag (usually the local language name). If you're using [osm.org](https://openstreetmap.org) API directly, it'll show up as whatever is in the name field. But, if you search for the Gulf of America in OSM, you'll find it under that main tag Gulf of Mexico.... So, in effect, the official_name:en-US tag will only show up in maps using OSM if a developer adds manual support to show that particular label. The tag mainly supports that search function at this point.

Vector vendors like Mapbox will set the label based on the user's language (in english it would prefer name:en to name... but only a few vendors support localized views of things like borders - and most don't use OSM for that. I checked weather underground, and it still says Gulf of Mexico - and that map is a Mapbox service. It's hard to know where vendors are pulling names and borders (we don't have that info) but here's documentation [on mapbox](#). It may look like it's all OSM data since we have to be attributed, but there's likely public domain data in those base maps as well that doesn't require attribution. It's a fun lil cocktail.

Sorry for any confusion. I'm happy to set up a call with our dev team if that would help!

Cheers,

Maggie

Maggie Cawley

Executive Director

[OpenStreetMap US](#)

[State of the Map US](#) June 19-21 2025

On Tue, Feb 11, 2025 at 10:35 AM Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov> wrote:

Thanks for the quick response, Maggie!

Yes...the last few weeks have been pretty hectic. The gulf of what is definitely funny...did someone set that up just to monitor the GNIS?

Thanks for passing along the node...I see the tag toward the bottom:

official_name:en-US Gulf of America

I'm curious, though...you said it would appear as "gulf of america" to US visitors. How do the labels get applied in the basemap? For example, in scrolling around on the [main basemap](#), no label at all appears in the Gulf. There's no label for the Atlantic or Pacific Ocean, either, though...so at least it's consistent.

Thanks!

From: Maggie Cawley <maggie@openstreetmap.us>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:25 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: renaming of Gulf of America

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Hi Mike,

Life is ok! I imagine things must be interesting that side. Hope you're doing well.

Yes, I definitely heard about that. OSM has a pretty standard approach, so it'll show up as Gulf of America to folks in the US, and Gulf of Mexico most other places... and there has been a lot of active discussion on our slack, community forum, etc. And, it caught the attention of wired magazine. <https://www.wired.com/story/trump-gulf-of-america-order-maps/>. This is kind funny too... <https://gulfofwhat.com/> - you gotta kind of love the nerdy OSM people.
<https://community.openstreetmap.org/t/gulf-of-america-gulf-of-mexico/124571/2>

So - in the map - here's the node
<https://www.openstreetmap.org/node/305639190> - endless tags makes things interesting!

Hope that helps!
Best,
Maggie

Maggie Cawley
Executive Director
[OpenStreetMap US](#)
[State of the Map US](#) June 19-21 2025

On Tue, Feb 11, 2025 at 10:12 AM Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov> wrote:
Hi Maggie,

Hope you are doing well! I'm hoping you might be able to help me out in addressing a request from DOI leadership. I'm sure you are aware that President Trump, [through DOI](#), has enacted a name change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. DOI is also seeing the new label propagate through federal and commercial mapping applications and products. I recognize that the enacted name change is required only for federal agencies, and there is no requirement that OSM implement the name change. However, DOI is very interested in understanding the pace and breadth of uptake across the board.

Do you have any information you could provide about how OSM is treating, or intends to treat, the name change?

Thank you!
Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Rahn, Nathan J \(FAA\)](#); [Murphy, Brian M \(FAA\)](#); robert.fernandez@faa.gov; amy.nelson@dot.gov
Cc: [Lamphier, Jeffrey \(FAA\)](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 7:09:05 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Thank you for the clarification, Nathan, and good luck with the updates.

Thanks,
m

From: Rahn, Nathan J (FAA) <Nathan.J.Rahn@faa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 10:06 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Murphy, Brian M (FAA) <Brian.M.Murphy@faa.gov>; robert.fernandez@faa.gov <robert.fernandez@faa.gov>; amy.nelson@dot.gov <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Cc: Lamphier, Jeffrey (FAA) <Jeffrey.Lamphier@faa.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Micheal,

Good morning. As Brian mentioned, all products with 2/20 effective dates are already out the door and/or on the street. It takes about a month to prepare our products for publication after the data cutoff, due to the timelines for final QC, printing, distribution, etc. With that in mind, the cutoff for the 2/20 products was January 17th, which proceeded the Exec. Orders.

With that being said, we are fully mobilized to update all instances of GoM and Denali to GoA and Mt. McKinley, and are on track for the 4/17 products to incorporate the name changes.

I will report to our leadership that the lack of a specific effective date on the on the Charting Notice may be causing confusion.

Thanks,

- Nate

Nathan Rahn, PMP

Manager, Charting Products Integration Team (AJV-A250)

Manager (A), Charting Systems Team (AJV-A260)

Aeronautical Information Services (AJV-A)

Federal Aviation Administration | 1305 East West Hwy | Silver Spring, MD | Room 3435

Office [\(202\) 267-5079](tel:(202)267-5079) | Cell [\(240\) 472-0834](tel:(240)472-0834) | [Visit Aeronautical Information Services Here](#)



FAA
Air Traffic Organization

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 9:49 AM
To: Murphy, Brian M (FAA) <Brian.M.Murphy@faa.gov>; Fernandez, Robert (FAA) <Robert.Fernandez@faa.gov>; Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Rahn, Nathan J (FAA) <Nathan.J.Rahn@faa.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Brian,

Does that conflict with the FAA Chart Notice that I've seen?

[AIS 25-01 CN Geographic Name Changes.pdf](#)

I took the "next production cycle" to mean 2/20...but those updates will not be seen until 4/17?

Thanks,
m

From: Murphy, Brian M (FAA) <Brian.M.Murphy@faa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 9:22 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; robert.fernandez@faa.gov <robert.fernandez@faa.gov>; amy.nelson@dot.gov <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Rahn, Nathan J (FAA) <Nathan.J.Rahn@faa.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Hi Mike and Robert,

I'll let Nate chime in too, but all of our products have already gone out the door and published for the February 20 cycle (we have to published well ahead of the cycle date for aviation stakeholder coordination). However, we are working to get this change updated on all our charts and data for the April 17 cycle date. This starts to publish for all our users in a few weeks.

I hope this helps but if you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate.

-Brian

Brian M Murphy

Manager, Aeronautical Data Team

Mission Support Services | Air Traffic Organization (ATO)

Federal Aviation Administration

Office: 202-267-4389 | **Mobile:** 470-509-9289

Email: Brian.M.Murphy@faa.gov

Web: www.faa.gov/go/ais

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 9:18 AM

To: Fernandez, Robert (FAA) <Robert.Fernandez@faa.gov>; Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Rahn, Nathan J (FAA) <Nathan.J.Rahn@faa.gov>; Murphy, Brian M (FAA) <Brian.M.Murphy@faa.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you Robert (and others)!

For reference, I was seeing the 2/20 date on this site: [VFR Raster Charts](#)

I'm not terribly familiar with your datasets, and just wanted to confirm.

thanks

m

From: Fernandez, Robert (FAA) <Robert.Fernandez@faa.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 9:15 AM

To: amy.nelson@dot.gov <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Rahn, Nathan J (FAA) <Nathan.J.Rahn@faa.gov>; Murphy, Brian M (FAA) <Brian.M.Murphy@faa.gov>

Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Hi Nate, Brian,

Can you please direct us to the right POC in AJV to confirm the name changes in charting? We have an inquiry below from Mike Tischler at USGS. I did see the memo published my AJV-A for the next publishing cycle. Just need confirmation that will be

2/20

Thanks!

Robert Fernandez, PMP
Manager, Chief Data Office -Tools & Technology
FAA Geospatial Information Officer
202-267-3589
240-381-2973 Mobile
robert.fernandez@faa.gov

From: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 2:39 PM
To: Fernandez, Robert (FAA) <Robert.Fernandez@faa.gov>
Cc: mtischler (mtischler@usgs.gov) <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Hi Robert,

Can you confirm the FAA chart update to Mike Tischler, or let him know if the update will not be made?

Thank you,
Amy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 2:36 PM
To: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

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Thanks, Amy.

I looked at the FAA charts....can you confirm the planned update will be 2/20?

thanks,
m

From: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 2:31 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Hi Mike,

Ed supplied the attached as evidence of DOT maps that reflect the name change. I will send additional evidence as I receive it.

I am signing off shortly for some annual leave and will return to the office on February 26th.

Thank you,
Amy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 11:58 AM
To: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

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I hesitate to give you specific direction to FAA...I feel it is beyond my authority. But, I do expect the name change from Denali to Mount McKinley will be implemented in GNIS shortly. I should have more info by the end of the day (hopefully).

From: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Thank you! I was just wondering if FAA is required to change Mt McKinley back to Denali. Your information tells me I should not request them to change it back.

Amy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 11:47 AM
To: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

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It's somewhat of a grey area, unfortunately.

a - the President has the authority to make a name change official, which has been done

b - federal agencies are required to follow GNIS for map products

We are in the process of implementing the EO, so the name **IS** official, but I am awaiting DOI guidance to make the change in GNIS.

After I emailed you this morning I reached out to DOI staff for an update on the instruction for Denali->McKinley. Hopefully that will be coming soon, but I don't know if it's on their radar.

Thanks,

m

From: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 11:38 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Hi, yes, I noticed that too. Would you say that we are still required to use Denali because that's still the official name?

Amy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:49 AM

To: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Department of Transportation (DOT). Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Amy,

In reading the FAA directive I pointed out earlier, I noticed that FAA is including the Denali->Mount McKinley name change. While the Executive Order directs that change, I mentioned that GNIS has not been updated to reflect that change because the SO was specific to GOA. I will let you know if/when I have further instruction...but FAA may be a little ahead since GNIS has not been changed.

thanks,
m

From: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:11 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Mike,

You mentioned that this change only applies to Federal government-produced products. My understanding is that the commercial data providers or other companies will decide whether they want to make the change. If a Federal product uses externally sourced basemaps, the basemaps may or may not have the change. Are we required to use only basemaps which show the change?

Thanks,
Amy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:07 AM
To: Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>; Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

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Hi Ed,

I don't really have any contacts at Mapbox or Tableau to check, but I can reach out to Maggie Cawley at OSM...good idea.

I've also asked Mark Cygan, with his IMIA hat, to inquire about commercial map production.

thanks,
m

From: Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:05 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; amy.nelson@dot.gov <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Thank Mike,
I'll coordinate through Amy. Have you heard about transition plans at Mapbox, OSM, or Tableau?
Thanks
Ed

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 9:24 AM
To: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

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Hi Amy,

I'd be happy to walk you through the authority/process if you're able to talk. 703-344-4348

The DOI Secretary's Order was signed late last week, and posted publicly yesterday.

[SO 3423 - The Gulf of America](#)

Thanks,
m

From: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 9:21 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

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Hi Mike,

Thanks for getting in touch, because I have been confused about the status of the name changes. My understanding was that the U.S. Geographic Names committee would vote to adopt the changes, then DOI would issue a directive for all agencies to make the change. I have seen no official directive from DOI. Will one be forthcoming or is my understanding incorrect?

Thank you,
Amy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 9:13 AM

To: Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>; Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>

Subject: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Department of Transportation (DOT). Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Ed, Amy,

I'm hoping you can help me connect the dots, and perhaps provide input on behalf of DOT.

I'm sure you are aware that President Trump, through DOI, has enacted a name change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. That name change was implemented Sunday through the Geographic Names Information System, and DOI is starting to see that label propagate through federal and commercial applications. However, DOI leadership is keenly interested in understanding the pace and breadth of uptake by the mapping community.

I was asked yesterday by DOI leadership to provide an assessment of which products, services, etc. throughout the federal government and private sector have been updated. I issued that data call through the Board on Geographic Names members, which includes a number of agencies. The response is pasted below for your awareness. However, we do not have a DOT member on the board from whom I could request info.

This morning I noticed the

[<http://www.gulfofamerica.com>] arrives on Google Maps | CNN Business article which linked to an [FAA directive](#) to update products, though. That's great, and definitely the type of product I'd like to include in my reporting.

DOI leadership was appreciative of the efforts of the fed government so far, but have also requested an update by Friday on additional implementation. Could you please provide me an update of maps, products, services, etc. that DOT is updating, or plans to update?

Thank you!

Mike

Commercial and government map products are being updated. DOI has two products available now that display the updated name –

- 1) [official map](#) of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System
- 2) USGS [topoBuilder](#) application - Public can create their own maps through the application. Takes 30-40m from request to email delivery. This is a good link to share with external stakeholders who need updated maps quickly.

Other departments (see Commerce/NOAA) below are updating maps ASAP and will soon be online.

Below is what I know as of 6pm ET.

Commercial sector

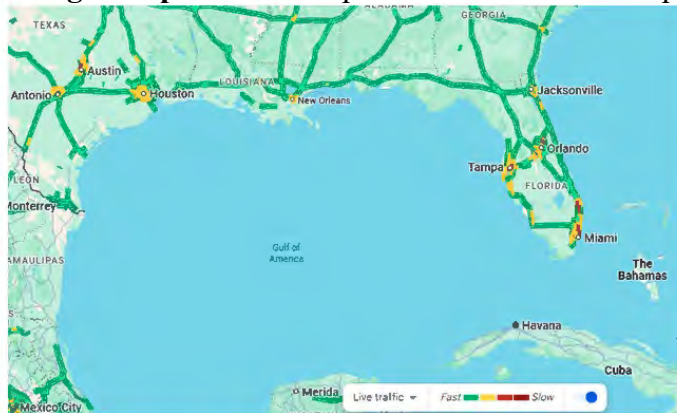
ESRI

Targeting 2/20 for the updated basemaps to be released. There will be a requirement for users with existing apps and webmaps in the Federal space to switch to a new US centric basemap that would include the new names.

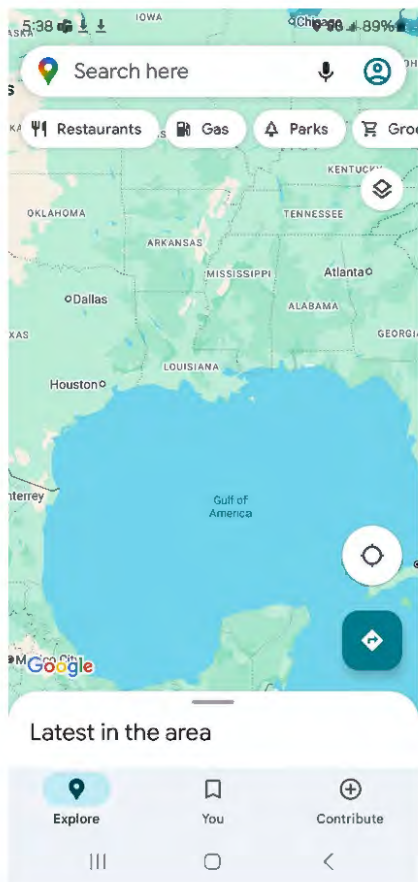
Apple

Apple Maps relies on GNIS for much of the core data in our map of the United States. I expect they will be consistent with GNIS and update maps soon.

Google Maps: has been updated. Web browser map:



Google Maps for Android app:



National Geographic: No response

US Government

DOI

USGS: Geographic Names Information System - updated

[Topobuilder](#) - application will now produce an on-demand PDF map with Gulf of America labeled.

Updated dynamic basemaps (i.e., google maps style webmap) for The National Map Viewer and multiple other applications are currently being updated, but will take time. Staged (i.e., pre-made) US Topo topographic maps will be updated following update of basemaps.

3D Hydrography Program Service will be updated

FWS: The official map of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System has been updated on the [USFWS website](#).

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02/nwrs-and-nfhs-national-map-february-10-2025_1.pdf

For all of our other public-facing map products, FWS are waiting on commercial vendors to update their basemaps.

NPS: Over the next day or two, NPS will assess their archives and provide a list of maps that will be updated over time, including, but not limited to, the park unigrid (i.e., brochure) maps for Padre Island National Seashore, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail, Gulf Islands

National Seashore, Big Cypress National Preserve, and Everglades National Park.

BSEE: will update the following:

- Pipelines Map
- Platforms Map
- Unit Polygons Map
- National Renewable Operations
- OCS Facility Infrastructure
- Decommissioning Dashboards & Webapps
- Technical Information Management System

BLM: most webmap applications rely on commercial sources (e.g., ESRI). Those webmaps will be updated when ESRI updates. No additional information received regarding specific products.

USBR: expect to have an update by the end of the day or early tomorrow.

Department of State

Bureau of Global Public Affairs are aware of the need to use names reflected in the databases maintained by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, including the Gulf of America, going forward.

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Complete.

Department of Ag/US Forest Service

Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, we have the following:

- National scale maps – 3
- Regional maps – 3
- 100K maps -- 305
- Forest maps – 21
- Regionally Produced Forest Visitor Maps – 1
- Ranger district maps -- 30

USFS also produces a large number of 1/24K FS Topo maps that will be updated

These figures include Geospatial Office maps products and those produced by the FS Southern Region. It is likely that the local forest units have maps and other publications with the name on it. Local units are being notified of the need to have their maps/products reflect the name change.

These updates should be completed no later than the end of May.

Department of Commerce

NOAA has updated the first Electronic Navigational Chart (ENC) to reflect the change to "Gulf of America" (ENC cell US1GC09M), and it will be available for download from [website](#) Tuesday morning. The name change will ultimately be applied to more than 500 Electronic Navigational Charts and approximately 260 instances in at least

two volumes of the U.S. Coast Pilot. NOAA intends to publish additional updated charts this week with approximately 15-20 charts updating weekly thereafter. It is anticipated that all updates will be completed within the next six months.

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Nelson, Amy \(OST\)](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Strocko, Ed \(OST\)](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:25:10 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Thank you for the quick response. We'll stand by if you have further clarification. We may write an IT Implementation Memo on this topic; I'll let you know if that goes forward.

Amy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:17 AM
To: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

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Hi Amy,

That is a good question. I did find ESRI's summary below quite interesting:

There will be a requirement for users with existing apps and webmaps in the Federal space to switch to a new US centric basemap that would include the new names.

While the requirement is for federal use, I have no idea how enforcement is/will be handled. For now, in lieu of other guidance, I would say that is up to individual bureaus/agencies to address.

Thanks,
m

From: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:11 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Mike,

You mentioned that this change only applies to Federal government-produced products. My understanding is that the commercial data providers or other companies will decide whether they want to make the change. If a Federal product uses externally sourced basemaps, the basemaps may or may not have the change. Are we required to use only basemaps which show the change?

Thanks,
Amy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:07 AM
To: Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>; Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

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Hi Ed,

I don't really have any contacts at Mapbox or Tableau to check, but I can reach out to Maggie Cawley at OSM...good idea.

I've also asked Mark Cygan, with his IMIA hat, to inquire about commercial map production.

thanks,

m

From: Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:05 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>;
amy.nelson@dot.gov <amy.nelson@dot.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

Thank Mike,

I'll coordinate through Amy. Have you heard about transition plans at Mapbox, OSM, or Tableau?

Thanks

Ed

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 9:24 AM
To: Nelson, Amy (OST) <amy.nelson@dot.gov>; Strocko, Ed (OST) <Ed.Strocko@dot.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT

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Hi Amy,

I'd be happy to walk you through the authority/process if you're able to talk. 703-344-4348

The DOI Secretary's Order was signed late last week, and posted publicly yesterday.

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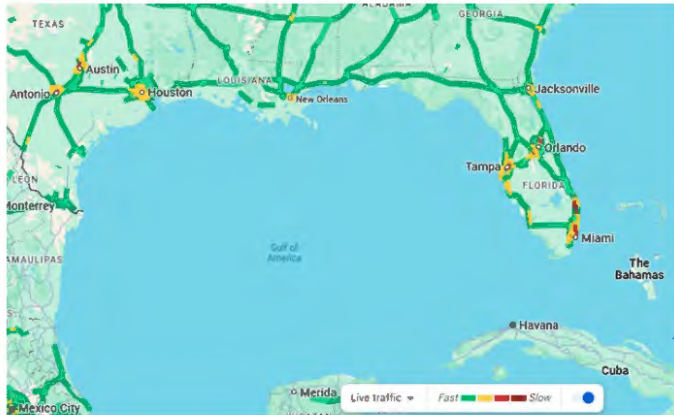
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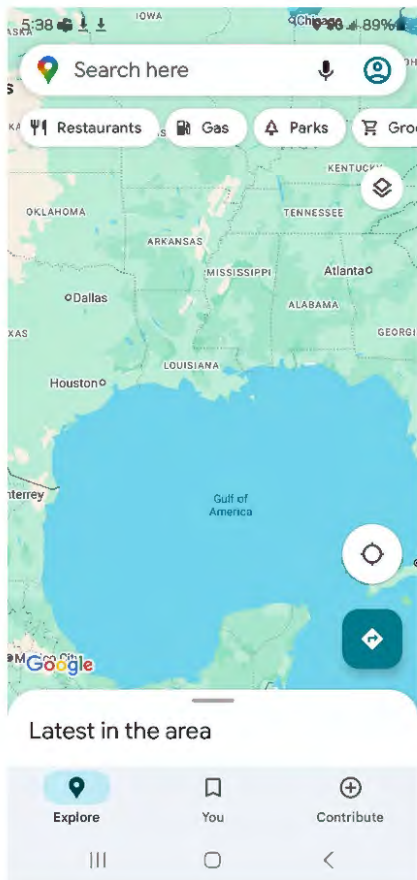
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Director, National Geospatial Program

U.S. Geological Survey

Department of Interior

o: 703-648-4725

c: 703-344-4348

mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Jeremy Kirkendall](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Dolores Buljevic](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025 1:44:26 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

You're welcome Mike,

The Geocoding Service Team has confirmed the names will be included in the next update, which should be the last week of March.

Looking forward to seeing you next week! No worries about Monday, let me know if there is anything we can do to help. We've been chatting with USGS Facilities Management staff about using ArcGIS Indoors to help with people and space management. We use it heavily in our own offices for a lot of use cases including hoteling reservations, which would help a lot where there are more staff than offices available at any Science Centers.

Jack will be visiting expo booths on Monday and I've managed to get the USGS scheduled as the first stop so everyone does not have to wait around as long this time. He should arrive around 4:30pm on Monday. Could you please share this with everyone attending so we have a good turnout for the photo?

Thanks,

Jeremy Kirkendall, GISP | Senior Account Manager
Esri | 167 S. Taylor Avenue | Louisville CO 80027 | USA
M 970 231 1793 | jkirkendall@esri.com | esri.com

THE SCIENCE OF WHERE®

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 5:32 AM
To: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Thank you, Jeremy - I will pass this along. Do you know when the geocoding service will be updated?

Hope to see you all next week! USGS's "return to office" day is Monday, and I'm expecting a fair amount of disorder as people occupy new offices. I'm not sure yet if I'll make it to the conference on Monday, but I should be there Tuesday for sure.

Thanks,
m

From: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 6:31 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Hi Mike,

To continue supporting the GNIS name changes we've created a document that will help you add GOA and any other future names to the results of your search widget in apps/maps ahead of when the Esri world geocoding service is updated.

Mt. McKinley was already in the geocoding service, but searching for GOA brings you to Cook Inlet, AK as its best guess because GOA does not currently exist in the geocoding service. The service will be updated later this year, potentially late March, but in the meantime it is possible to add a custom geocoding service to your org to achieve the result below. All that is required is an ArcGIS Enterprise to host the geocoding service, which will contain the GOA name/location and would be added as part of your default geocoding services. Below is what the search results would show after making the changes.



Between the previous guidance for the basemap editing and this document you should be able to rapidly update USGS apps going forward to include any additional name changes. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Jeremy Kirkendall, GISP | Senior Account Manager

Esri | 167 S. Taylor Avenue | Louisville CO 80027 | USA
M 970 231 1793 | jkirkendall@esri.com | esri.com

THE SCIENCE OF WHERE[®]

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 9:38 AM
To: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>; Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Thanks, Dolores - I know patti, josh, and jenn lacey just had a call too. Appreciate the support.

From: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:36 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Hi Mike,

FYSA on update of progress.

We have escalated this some more - Sean will provide another update on accelerated timeline (treating as a hot fix) to the long term solution, today.

Esri leadership is aware of this deliverable to you, Jenn, Sarah and your Secretary. We can also offer solution engineers to update anything you need until these updates are completed.

Dolores
703-298-0701

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 8:30
To: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Jeremy,

One caveat after re-reading this today. The recent Secretary's Order was specific to GOM->GOA. It did **not** provide instruction for GNIS to change Denali->McKinley. While I do expect implementation instruction from DOI to make that change, likely before 2/20, I cannot guarantee it. That may put ESRI in a situation where they are ahead of GNIS in changing the name. I will keep you informed as I'm able.

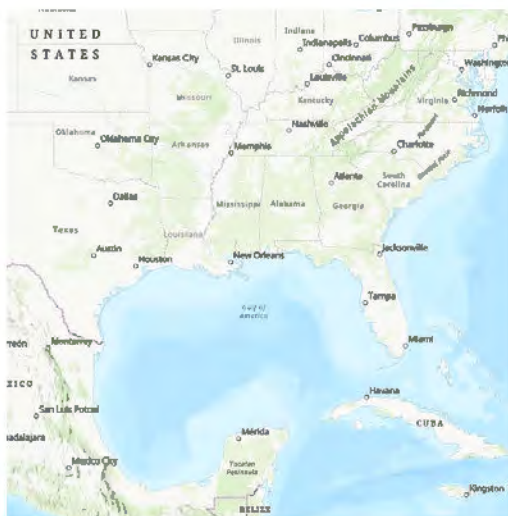
thanks,
m

From: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 7:02 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

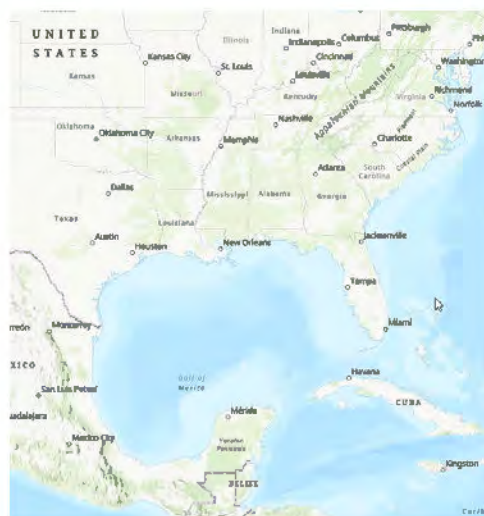
Hi Mike,

Thanks for your patience, the formal announcement is still being reviewed but here is some of the key text below. Please do not share this publicly. The names will be updated on 2/20 during the regular basemaps update as there are many different basemaps and updates that need to be pushed through at one time. We update our basemaps on a 3 week rolling basis and it is not technically feasible to implement this name change any faster due to the level of effort and QA/QC involved in each update.

Esri will release its regular update to the Esri Vector Basemaps on Feb. 20th. This update will include a refresh of all the data inside the global vector tiles. It will also specifically address the U.S. name changes to Mount McKinley and the naming for the Gulf of Mexico / Gulf of America worldwide. In this release, Esri will introduce a new collection of custom Esri Vector Basemap styles for the United States (as we have for several countries). These styles will become the default basemaps when a user is signed in to ArcGIS Online and the organization (or public account) Region setting is set to "United States." They will also be the default basemaps when a user within the United States accesses ArcGIS Online anonymously and uses the map viewer or scene viewer to access or create a map or scene. The effect for either of these scenarios is that the user's map will display the label Gulf of America. For all non-U.S. Region settings or anonymous access outside the U.S., users will see the label Gulf of Mexico. The Mount McKinley name change will be universal across all Regions. Additionally with the custom U.S. basemap styles, we will be including over a dozen U.S. State Department defined treatments for boundaries and names around the world.



Region of United States



All other Regions

These name updates **will not be addressed** in the **retired/deprecated** raster tile basemaps. These layers have been retired for three years, so we are again recommending users replace any maps using raster tile basemaps with the equivalent vector basemaps.

Over the next few days, we will provide more detailed guidance on how an organization will need to verify their Region setting and the steps users will need to do to see these changes on their existing web maps, apps, ArcGIS Pro projects. Esri also plans for regular updates for ArcGIS Enterprise, StreetMap Premium, and Data Appliance. This will help our federal agency users prepare for the update. If a user needs to make a name label update sooner, they can use the Esri Vector Tile Style Editor so anything can be overridden for personalization. Here is a blog for label overrides that users can make against any Esri Vector basemap.

<https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-living-atlas/announcements/changing-labels-in-esri-vector-basemaps/>

There are a couple of things to emphasize from the draft text:

- The vector tile style editor would allow you to change the name to GOA right now in any USGS apps if you would like to see the change happen before 2/20. Once the basemaps are updated on 2/20 you'll want to switch to the new U.S. Centric Basemaps.
- Basemaps coming from an ArcGIS Enterprise would not be included in the 2/20 release, they would be updated in a future release of ArcGIS Enterprise. If an app is using an ArcGIS Enterprise basemap you could just switch it to an AGOL version.
- Widgets like the search bar would not be updated in the 2/20 release, they would be updated by other future Product releases. I am still gathering more information on this timeline.

I would be happy to jump on a quick call tomorrow if you have any questions or want to talk through how to align things for other name changes that may occur.

Thanks,

Jeremy Kirkendall, GISP | Senior Account Manager

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Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:58 PM
To: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Hi Jeremy, Dolores,

Any update? Still shooting for 2/20 ?

thanks
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From: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:08 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Hi Mike,

We understand there are a large number of Federal apps that will need to be updated once the new basemaps are available and that this is putting you all under a lot of pressure right now. We have communicated this to the Living Atlas Team and they should have an update for us after a 4pm PT meeting today, I'll keep you posted.

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M 970 231 1793 | jkirkendall@esri.com | esri.com

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Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Dolores Buljevic](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 9:32:44 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

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We'll keep an eye on the Denali/McKinley name change and appreciate any insights you can provide.

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Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Jeremy,

One caveat after re-reading this today. The recent Secretary's Order was specific to GOM->GOA. It did **not** provide instruction for GNIS to change Denali->McKinley. While I do expect implementation instruction from DOI to make that change, likely before 2/20, I cannot guarantee it. That may put ESRI in a situation where they are ahead of GNIS in changing the name. I will keep you informed as I'm able.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 7:02 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

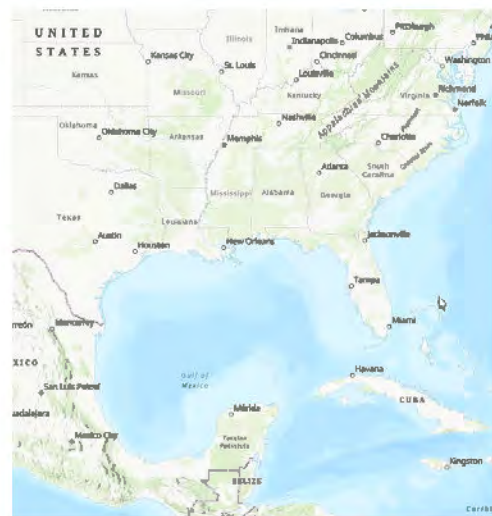
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Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 6:22:36 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

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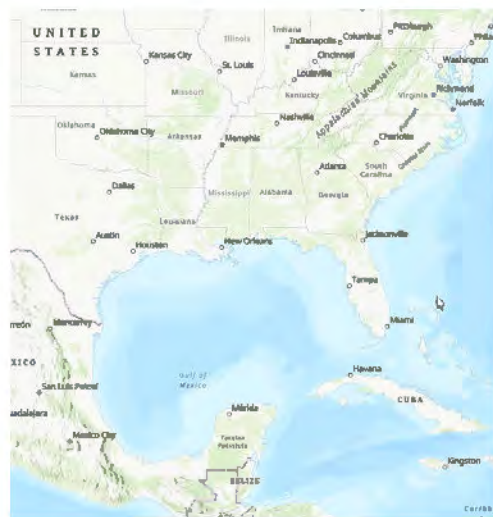
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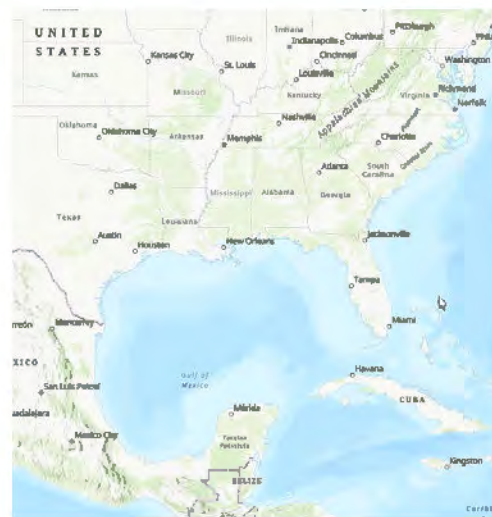
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Jeremy Kirkendall, GISP | Senior Account Manager
Esri | 167 S. Taylor Avenue | Louisville CO 80027 | USA
M 970 231 1793 | jkirkendall@esri.com | esri.com

THE SCIENCE OF WHERE

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:09 PM
To: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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Thanks,
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To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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M 970 231 1793 | jkirkendall@esri.com | [esri.com](https://www.esri.com)

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 9:45 AM
To: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

thank you, Jeremy!

From: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 11:13 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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THE SCIENCE OF WHERE®

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Sunday, February 9, 2025 3:11 PM
Subject: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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Thank you,
Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Jeremy Kirkendall](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Dolores Buljevic](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 4:31:22 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

You're welcome Mike!

Let us know if we can help provide any additional help during this process.

Thanks,

Jeremy Kirkendall, GISP | Senior Account Manager
Esri | 167 S. Taylor Avenue | Louisville CO 80027 | USA
M 970 231 1793 | jkirkendall@esri.com | esri.com

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From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 5:26 PM
To: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Hi Jeremy,

Thank you so much for the information and explanation- much appreciated!

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android \[aka.ms\]](#)

From: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 7:02:06 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Hi Mike,

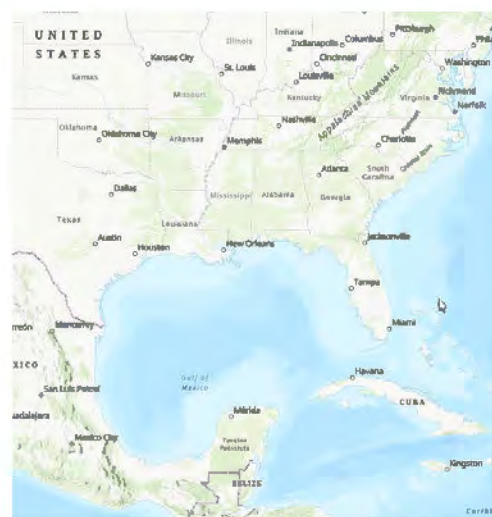
Thanks for your patience, the formal announcement is still being reviewed but here is some of

the key text below. Please do not share this publicly. The names will be updated on 2/20 during the regular basemaps update as there are many different basemaps and updates that need to be pushed through at one time. We update our basemaps on a 3 week rolling basis and it is not technically feasible to implement this name change any faster due to the level of effort and QA/QC involved in each update.

Esri will release its regular update to the Esri Vector Basemaps on Feb. 20th. This update will include a refresh of all the data inside the global vector tiles. It will also specifically address the U.S. name changes to Mount McKinley and the naming for the Gulf of Mexico / Gulf of America worldwide. In this release, Esri will introduce a new collection of custom Esri Vector Basemap styles for the United States (as we have for several countries). These styles will become the default basemaps when a user is signed in to ArcGIS Online and the organization (or public account) Region setting is set to "United States." They will also be the default basemaps when a user within the United States accesses ArcGIS Online anonymously and uses the map viewer or scene viewer to access or create a map or scene. The effect for either of these scenarios is that the user's map will display the label Gulf of America. For all non-U.S. Region settings or anonymous access outside the U.S., users will see the label Gulf of Mexico. The Mount McKinley name change will be universal across all Regions. Additionally with the custom U.S. basemap styles, we will be including over a dozen U.S. State Department defined treatments for boundaries and names around the world.



Region of United States



All other Regions

These name updates **will not be addressed** in the **retired/deprecated** raster tile basemaps. These layers have been retired for three years, so we are again recommending users replace any maps using raster tile basemaps with the equivalent vector basemaps.

Over the next few days, we will provide more detailed guidance on how an organization will need to verify their Region setting and the steps users will need to do to see these changes on their existing web maps, apps, ArcGIS Pro projects. Esri also plans for regular updates for ArcGIS Enterprise, StreetMap Premium, and Data Appliance. This will help our federal agency users prepare for the update. If a user needs to make a name label update sooner, they can use the Esri Vector Tile Style Editor so anything can be overridden for personalization. Here is a blog for label overrides that users can make against any Esri Vector basemap.

<https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-living-atlas/announcements/changing-labels-in-esri-vector-basemaps/>

There are a couple of things to emphasize from the draft text:

- The vector tile style editor would allow you to change the name to GOA right now in any

USGS apps if you would like to see the change happen before 2/20. Once the basemaps are updated on 2/20 you'll want to switch to the new U.S. Centric Basemaps.

- Basemaps coming from an ArcGIS Enterprise would not be included in the 2/20 release, they would be updated in a future release of ArcGIS Enterprise. If an app is using an ArcGIS Enterprise basemap you could just switch it to an AGOL version.
- Widgets like the search bar would not be updated in the 2/20 release, they would be updated by other future Product releases. I am still gathering more information on this timeline.

I would be happy to jump on a quick call tomorrow if you have any questions or want to talk through how to align things for other name changes that may occur.

Thanks,

Jeremy Kirkendall, GISP | Senior Account Manager
Esri | 167 S. Taylor Avenue | Louisville CO 80027 | USA
M 970 231 1793 | jkirkendall@esri.com | esri.com

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From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:58 PM
To: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Hi Jeremy, Dolores,

Any update? Still shooting for 2/20 ?

thanks

m

From: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:08 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Hi Mike,

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Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:09 PM

To: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>

Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 9:45 AM
To: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
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Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Jeremy Kirkendall](#)
Cc: [Dolores Buljevic](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:21:28 PM

Thank you so much for the consideration!

From: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:08 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
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THE SCIENCE OF WHERE®

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Thank you,

Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D

Director, National Geospatial Program

U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Jeremy Kirkendall](#)
Cc: [Dolores Buljevic](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 2:38:47 PM

Thanks for the update!

From: Jeremy Kirkendall <jkirkendall@esri.com>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 1:24 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Dolores Buljevic <DBuljevic@esri.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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Thank you,

Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D

Director, National Geospatial Program

U.S. Geological Survey

Department of Interior

o: 703-648-4725

c: 703-344-4348

mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Thomas Escobar](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:14:52 AM

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Thank you for the update.

On Sun, Feb 9, 2025 at 3:10 PM Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov> wrote:

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Thank you,
Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
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Department of Interior
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c: [703-344-4348](tel:703-344-4348)
mtischler@usgs.gov

--

Thomas Escobar | Director, Product Management | Google, Inc

From: [Dolores Buljevic](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Sunday, February 9, 2025 6:46:34 PM

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Thank you,

Dolores
703-298-0701

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Sunday, February 9, 2025 5:10:45 PM
Subject: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

Good afternoon,

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Thank you,
Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [David Fogel](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Sunday, February 9, 2025 4:48:24 PM

David,

Do you know if apple maps plans to update the feature, and if so...when that will happen?

Thanks
Mike

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: David Fogel <dfogel@apple.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 9, 2025 6:24:31 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Noted. Thanks Mike.

On Feb 9, 2025, at 2:10 PM, Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon,

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Mike

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o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Holli Howard](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Sunday, February 9, 2025 3:08:55 PM

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Thanks so much!!

In time, when you have the press release or the secretary's Order 3423 wording we will put with our notes.

Hope you win a Superbowl pool!

On Sun, Feb 9, 2025, 10:10 PM Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov> wrote:

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o: 703-648-4725
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mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Brostuen, David A](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Mantey, Kimberly S](#); [Boggs, Hannah K](#)
Cc: [Nimetz, Joshua D](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025 6:16:37 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Thanks Mike! I'll check out the link I agree this will be very helpful. I'll be crafting a message to the CSS SLT this morning relating to these issues so this is very timely!

David

--

David A. Brostuen
Director, National Geospatial Directorate
U.S. Geological Survey
dabrostuen@usgs.gov
phone: 303-548-9785
<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 5:34 AM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Cc: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries

fyi...

From: Sean Breyer <SBreyer@esri.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 12:14 AM
To: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Patty Mims <PMims@esri.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries

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--

Jennifer/Joshua,

Just a quick update. The US basemap updates went live about one hour ago. Here is the update blog on the steps to take advantage of the new US Vector Basemap Styles.

<https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-online/announcements/esri-vector-basemaps-for-united-states/>

Thanks,

Sean Breyer

Director, Living Atlas and Global Science Initiatives

Esri | 380 New York Street | Redlands, CA 92373 | USA

Phone: 909-793-2853 ext. 2869 | Cell: 847-224-9982

Sean Breyer

Director, Living Atlas and Global Science Initiatives

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Phone: 909-793-2853 ext. 2869 | **Cell:** 847-224-9982

E-mail: sbreyer@esri.com

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From: Sean Breyer

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:25:46 AM

To: jdelmonico@usgs.gov <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>; jlacey@usgs.gov <jlacey@usgs.gov>;
mtischler@usgs.gov <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Cc: Patty Mims <PMims@esri.com>

Subject: Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries

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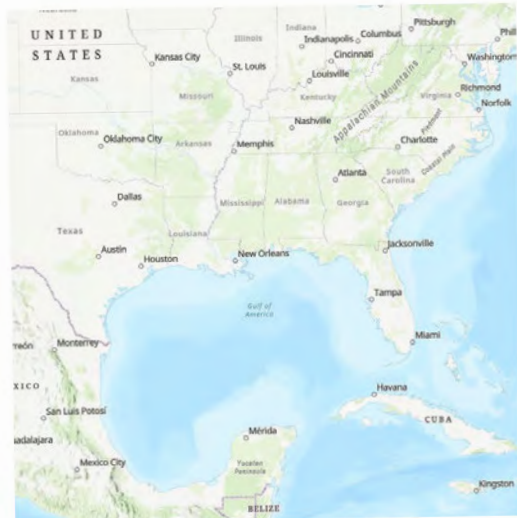
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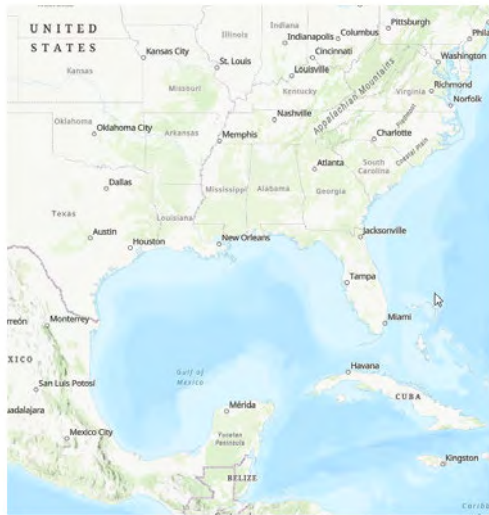
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"Esri will release its regular update to the Esri Vector Basemaps on Feb. 20th. This update will refresh all the data inside the global vector tiles. It will also specifically address the U.S. name changes to Mount McKinley and the naming for the Gulf of Mexico / Gulf of America worldwide. In this release, Esri will introduce a new collection of custom Esri Vector Basemap styles for the United States (as we have for several countries). These styles will become the default basemaps when a user is signed in to ArcGIS Online and the organization (or public account) Region setting is set to "United States." They will also be the default basemaps when a user within the United States accesses ArcGIS Online anonymously and uses the map viewer or scene viewer to access or create a map or scene. The effect for either of these scenarios is that the user's map will display the label Gulf of America. For all non-U.S. Region settings or anonymous access outside the U.S., users will see the label Gulf of Mexico. The Mount McKinley name change will be universal across all Regions. Additionally, with the custom U.S. basemap styles, we will be including over a dozen U.S. State Department defined treatments for boundaries and names around the world.





Region of United States

All other Regions

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<https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-living-atlas/announcements/changing-labels-in-esri-vector-basemaps/>

“

Sean Breyer

Director, Living Atlas and Global Science Initiatives

Esri | 380 New York Street | Redlands, CA 92373 | USA

Phone: 909-793-2853 ext. 2869| **Cell:** 847-224-9982

E-mail: sbreyer@esri.com

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From: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
To: [Sean Breyer](#); [Delmonico, Joshua J](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Patty Mims](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025 5:34:32 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Thank you Sean!

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Sean Breyer <SBreyer@esri.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 12:14 AM
To: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Patty Mims <PMims@esri.com>
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Subject: Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries

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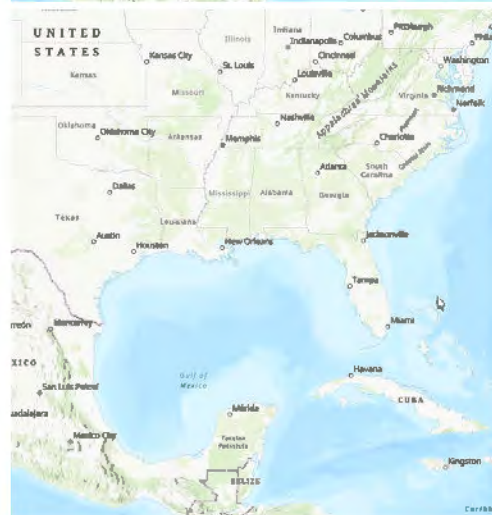
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E-mail: sbreyer@esri.com

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From: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
To: [Ryker, Sarah J](#)
Cc: [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025 5:34:07 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Sarah - FYI

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

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Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 12:14 AM
To: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Patty Mims <PMims@esri.com>
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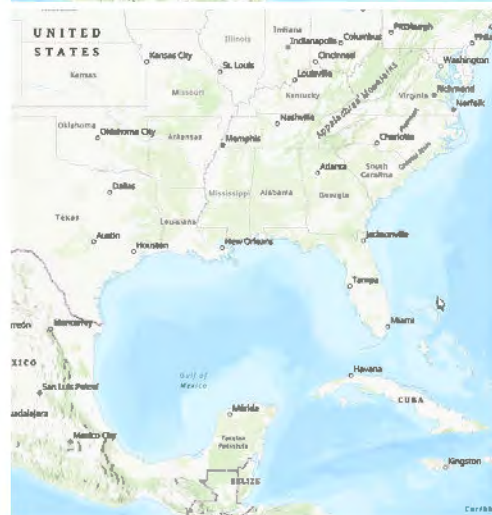
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Director, Living Atlas and Global Science Initiatives

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Phone: 909-793-2853 ext. 2869| **Cell:** 847-224-9982

E-mail: sbreyer@esri.com

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From: [BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC](#)
To: [Anderson, Gina R](#); [Amgott, Seth L](#)
Cc: [Friar, Linda](#); [Zahniser, Shellie R](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Re: Urgent Journalist Request: Conde Nast Traveler story "How Map Names Get Changed" following the Gulf of America news
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:44:59 AM

From: Katherine Gallardo <katherine@katherinegallardo.com>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 11:40 AM
To: BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC <bgnexec@usgs.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Urgent Journalist Request: Conde Nast Traveler story "How Map Names Get Changed" following the Gulf of America news

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Also, is there a place on your website where I can find the most recent geographic name changes? If not, is it possible to provide a list of places that have had name changes in the past 2 years?

Kat

--

Katherine Gallardo
katherinegallardo.com | @kat_gallardo
Cell: +1-917-605-0428

On Feb 14, 2025, at 1:16 PM, Katherine Gallardo
<katherine@katherinegallardo.com> wrote:

Hello!

My name is Katherine Gallardo, and I'm a freelance journalist for Condé Nast Traveler. I'm working on a news story about how map names get changed, pegged to the news about Google and Apple Maps officially changing the Gulf of Mexico to "Gulf of America" following Trump's executive order.

Is it possible to schedule a quick interview today to discuss the following questions? If an interview is not possible, can you please provide a comment via email by EOD? My deadline is Monday morning.

- How does the name change process work when a president doesn't pass a secretarial/executive order?
- When are map makers officially required to change a name on a map?

- How do U.S. map changes compare to global map changes?

Thank you!

Katherine

--

Katherine Gallardo

katherinegallardo.com | [@kat_gallardo](https://twitter.com/kat_gallardo)

Cell: +1-917-605-0428

From: [Nick Tew](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Shelton, Jenna L](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: USGS Introduction
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 7:46:00 AM
Attachments: [HB247-int.pdf](#)

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Hi Mike-

Sorry I'm late getting back to you. I've attached House Bill 247, which addresses this issue and was introduced on Tuesday. It's up in committee next week.

Best,

Nick

~~~~~

**Nick Tew, PhD**

**State Geologist of Alabama/Oil and Gas Supervisor**

**Geological Survey of Alabama  
State Oil and Gas Board of Alabama  
[P.O. Box 869999](#)  
[Tuscaloosa, AL 35486-6999](#)**

**Telephone: [205.247.3679](#)**

~~~~~

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 11, 2025, at 7:02 AM, Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov> wrote:

Good morning, Nick,

Thank you, Jenna, for the introduction!

I'm hoping you might be able to help me out in addressing a request from DOI leadership. I'm sure you are aware that President Trump, through DOI, has enacted a name change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. DOI is also seeing the new label propagate through federal and commercial mapping applications and products. I recognize that the enacted name change is required only for federal agencies, and that State governments are not required to adhere to that database...though many do for consistency. However, DOI is very interested in understanding the pace and breadth of uptake across the board.

Do you have any information you could provide about how your state survey, or the State in general, intends to implement the name change in State produced maps, webmaps, products, services, etc.? DOI is hoping for an update by midday Friday, but I'll take whatever you're able to provide by then.

Thank you so much!

Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:44 PM
To: ntew@gsa.state.al.us <ntew@gsa.state.al.us>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: USGS Introduction

Hi Nick!

Hope you are doing well! Things have been chaotic and fast paced here at the USGS lately; hope you all are hanging in there. Perhaps I'll see you at Liaison in two weeks?

I wanted to introduce (or re-introduce) you to Mike Tischler, who is the chair of the U.S. Board of Geographic Names here at the USGS. Mike asked me to get him in touch with the State Geologists in the Gulf Coast area so he could ask a few questions related to recent modifications to geographic place names by the new Administration. Mike will have specific questions for you — I just wanted to do the intro .

thanks so much!

Jenna Shelton

Jenna L. Shelton, PhD (she/her)

Deputy Program Coordinator & Senior Program Scientist for STATEMAP

National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program

U.S. Geological Survey

5957 Lakeside Boulevard

Indianapolis, Indiana 46278

571.512.1641

HB247 INTRODUCED



1 HB247

2 B21HQJQ-1

3 By Representatives Standridge, Carns, Gidley, Lamb, Underwood,

4 Lomax, Hammett, Kiel, Shedd, Shaver, Whorton, Wadsworth,

5 Brown, Robertson, Wood (D), Smith, Butler, Rehm, Marques,

6 Sorrells, DuBose, Colvin, Stadthagen, Yarbrough, Starnes,

7 Easterbrook, Fincher, Fidler, Holk-Jones, Givens, Wilcox,

8 Treadaway, Kirkland, Wood (R), Moore (P), Brinyark, Lipscomb,

9 Paschal, Hurst, Lovvorn, Blackshear, Clouse, Lee, Crawford,

10 Baker, Pringle, Whitt, Paramore, Reynolds, Stubbs, Bolton,

11 Mooney, Hulsey, Sells, Ingram, Rigsby, Robbins

12 RFD: Ports, Waterways & Intermodal Transit

13 First Read: 11-Feb-25



1
2
3
4 SYNOPSIS:

5 This bill would rename the Gulf of Mexico as the
6 "Gulf of America."

7 This bill would also require all state and local
8 entities and all employees of those entities to observe
9 and implement the name change where practicable.

10
11
12 A BILL
13 TO BE ENTITLED
14 AN ACT

15
16 Relating to the Gulf of Mexico; to rename the Gulf of
17 Mexico as the "Gulf of America"; and to require all state and
18 local entities and all employees of those entities to observe
19 and implement the name change, where practicable.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

21 Section 1. For all purposes within the State of
22 Alabama, the body of water that borders the coast of Alabama,
23 previously known as the Gulf of Mexico, shall be known as the
24 "Gulf of America." Any reference to the Gulf of Mexico shall
25 be deemed to be a reference to the Gulf of America.

26 Section 2. Beginning July 1, 2025, all state and local
27 entities and their employees shall be required to do all of
28 the following:



HB247 INTRODUCED

(1) Refer to the body of water that borders the coast of Alabama as the "Gulf of America."

(2) Reflect the "Gulf of America" terminology in all newly created maps, documents, educational materials, websites, official communications, and other resources.

(3)a. Make reasonable efforts to update all pre-existing resources owned by state and local entities, including, but not limited to, official state maps, documents, educational materials, websites, and communications under their jurisdiction to reflect the name change where practicable.

b. The requirements of paragraph a. shall not apply if compliance would impose an undue burden, meaning significant difficulty or expense, on the state or local entity and their employees.

Section 3. This act shall become effective on July 1, 2025.

From: [David Dockery](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Shelton, Jenna L](#); [James Starnes](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: USGS Introduction
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:53:52 AM
Attachments: [2025-02-07.pdf](#)

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Michael and Jenna,

Attached is last week's Geology Report, an unsolicited report I send weekly to our MDEQ executives about our work. On pages 1 and 2 is an item about Jennifer Runyon's retirement and a new creek name in Mississippi.

David

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:03 AM
To: Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>; David Dockery <ddockery@mdeq.ms.gov>; James Starnes <jstarnes@mdeq.ms.gov>
Subject: Re: USGS Introduction

Good morning, David and James,

Thank you, Jenna, for the introduction!

I'm hoping you might be able to help me out in addressing a request from DOI leadership. I'm sure you are aware that President Trump, through DOI, has enacted a name change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. DOI is also seeing the new label propagate through federal and commercial mapping applications and products. I recognize that the enacted name change is required only for federal agencies, and that State governments are not required to adhere to that database...though many do for consistency. However, DOI is very interested in understanding the pace and breadth of uptake across the board.

Do you have any information you could provide about how your state survey, or the State in general, intends to implement the name change in State produced maps, webmaps, products, services, etc.? DOI is hoping for an update by midday Friday, but I'll take whatever you're able to provide by then.

Thank you so much!

Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:49 PM
To: ddockery@mdeq.ms.gov <ddockery@mdeq.ms.gov>; James Starnes <jstarnes@mdeq.ms.gov>;
Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: USGS Introduction

Hi David and James,

Hope you are both are doing well. Things have been chaotic and fast paced here at the USGS lately, but Mike Marketti and I are thriving under pressure!

I wanted to introduce (or re-introduce) you to Mike Tischler, who is the chair of the U.S. Board of Geographic Names here at the USGS. Mike asked me to get him in touch with the State Geologists in the Gulf Coast area so he could ask a few questions related to recent modifications to geographic place names by the new Administration. Mike will have specific questions for you — I just wanted to do the intro .

thanks so much! (David, please say Hi to Carolyn for me!!)
Jenna Shelton

Jenna L. Shelton, PhD (she/her)
Deputy Program Coordinator & Senior Program Scientist for STATEMAP
National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program

U.S. Geological Survey

5957 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana 46278
571.512.1641

From: [Paine, Jeffrey G](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Shelton, Jenna L](#)
Cc: [Shuster, Mark](#); [Wisian, Kenneth W](#); [Kipper, Jay P](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: USGS Introduction
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 6:45:42 AM

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Hi, Mike. Good to meet you!

I was actually looking at the USGS National Map viewer yesterday, and noticed the disclaimer about the pending name change to Gulf of America. We do a lot of work around the Gulf of Mexico and use the name on all of our maps, reports, and other documents. I personally would rather keep the current name, if for no other reason than that's what we've all called it for a few centuries. It's unclear to me how binding this order is on states, but I'm sure I'll learn more in the coming weeks. I suspect we might continue using the current name for state purposes at least, unless directed otherwise by our governor and legislature, which I don't believe has happened yet. For projects with federal support, I suppose we would use the new name if required to do so.

Jeff

Jeffrey G. Paine, PhD
Sr. Research Scientist, Bureau of Economic Geology
Jackson School of Geosciences, The University of Texas at Austin
(512) 471-1260
<http://www.beg.utexas.edu/people/jeff-paine>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:03 AM
To: Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>; Paine, Jeffrey G <jeff.paine@beg.utexas.edu>
Subject: Re: USGS Introduction

Good morning, Jeff,

Thank you, Jenna, for the introduction!

I'm hoping you might be able to help me out in addressing a request from DOI

leadership. I'm sure you are aware that President Trump, through DOI, has enacted a name change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. DOI is also seeing the new label propagate through federal and commercial mapping applications and products. I recognize that the enacted name change is required only for federal agencies, and that State governments are not required to adhere to that database...though many do for consistency. However, DOI is very interested in understanding the pace and breadth of uptake across the board.

Do you have any information you could provide about how your state survey, or the State in general, intends to implement the name change in State produced maps, webmaps, products, services, etc.? DOI is hoping for an update by midday Friday, but I'll take whatever you're able to provide by then.

Thank you so much!

Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:53 PM
To: Paine, Jeffrey G <jeff.paine@beg.utexas.edu>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: USGS Introduction

Hi Jeff,

I wanted to introduce (or re-introduce) you to Mike Tischler, who is the chair of the U.S. Board of Geographic Names here at the USGS. Mike asked me to get him in touch with the State Geologists in the Gulf Coast area so he could ask a few questions related to recent modifications to geographic place names by the new Administration. Mike will have specific questions for you — I just wanted to do the intro .

As far as I know, Texas still has not named a new State Geologist? If I am behind the times, could you please loop that individual in as well? However, I do think you are more than able to handle the

questions Mike is going to throw at you!

thanks so much,
Jenna Shelton

Jenna L. Shelton, PhD (she/her)
Deputy Program Coordinator & Senior Program Scientist for STATEMAP
National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program
U.S. Geological Survey

5957 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana 46278
571.512.1641

From: [Means, Guy](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Shelton, Jenna L](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: USGS Introduction
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 6:29:47 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Michael,

I reached out to Florida's Geographic Information Officer, Kim Jackson, and this is her response:

Last week leadership asked us to identify all the layers, attribution, and metadata references to "Gulf of Mexico" in our geospatial library. The results and time estimates to make the change to "Gulf of America" were shared to our CIO for his review and reporting. We are awaiting further instruction. If you want to share the USGS contact, I'll be glad to include them on upcoming changes.

If you would like me to pass your contact information to her she can send you future updates.

Best regards,

Harley



Guy "Harley" Means, P.G.
Director and State Geologist
Florida Geological Survey
[Florida Department of Environmental Protection/FGS](#)
3000 Commonwealth Blvd, Suite 1
Tallahassee FL, 32303
Guy.Means@FloridaDEP.gov
850-617-0312

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 9:03 AM
To: Means, Guy <Guy.Means@FloridaDEP.gov>; Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: USGS Introduction

EXTERNAL MESSAGE

This email originated outside of DEP. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.

Thank you, harley! Any information would be greatly appreciated.

thanks,
m

From: Means, Guy <Guy.Means@FloridaDEP.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:29 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: USGS Introduction

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Jenna,

Thank you for the introduction and yes, I hope to see you in a few weeks during AASG's Spring Liaison. We are all trying to keep up with the chaos!

Michael,

It is nice to virtually meet you. I am aware of the name change to the Gulf of America. It happened so quickly that I doubt much has been done across state government here in Florida. I have not gotten any direction from leadership at our parent agency (Florida Department of Environmental Protection). With that said, the FGS will follow the nomenclature adopted by the US Board on Geographic Names. I will reach out to some of my colleagues across the state and see if I can provide you with any additional information about how Florida will proceed. I'll try to get back to you before this Friday. Let me know if you need anything in the interim.

Best regards,

Harley



Guy "Harley" Means, P.G.
Director and State Geologist
Florida Geological Survey
[Florida Department of Environmental Protection/FGS](#)
3000 Commonwealth Blvd, Suite 1
Tallahassee FL, 32303
Guy.Means@FloridaDEP.gov
850-617-0312

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 8:01 AM

To: Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>; Means, Guy <Guy.Means@FloridaDEP.gov>

Subject: Re: USGS Introduction

EXTERNAL MESSAGE

This email originated outside of DEP. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.

Good morning Harley,

Thank you, Jenna, for the introduction!

I'm hoping you might be able to help me out in addressing a request from DOI leadership. I'm sure you are aware that President Trump, through DOI, has enacted a name change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. DOI is also seeing the new label propagate through federal and commercial mapping applications and products. I recognize that the enacted name change is required only for federal agencies, and that State governments are not required to adhere to that database...though many do for consistency. However, DOI is very interested in understanding the pace and breadth of uptake across the board.

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Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:43 PM

To: guy.means@dep.state.fl.us <guy.means@dep.state.fl.us>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Subject: USGS Introduction

Hi Harley!

Hope you are doing well! Things have been chaotic and fast paced here at the USGS lately; hope you all are hanging in there. Perhaps I'll see you at Liaison in two weeks?

I wanted to introduce (or re-introduce) you to Mike Tischler, who is the chair of the U.S. Board of Geographic Names here at the USGS. Mike asked me to get him in touch with the State Geologists in the Gulf Coast area so he could ask a few questions related to recent modifications to geographic place names by the new Administration. Mike will have specific questions for you — I just wanted to do the intro .

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Jenna Shelton

Jenna L. Shelton, PhD (she/her)

Deputy Program Coordinator & Senior Program Scientist for STATEMAP

National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program

U.S. Geological Survey

5957 Lakeside Boulevard

Indianapolis, Indiana 46278

571.512.1641



From: [James Starnes](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Shelton, Jenna L](#); [David Dockery](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: USGS Introduction
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 6:09:58 AM

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Mike,

It is great to meet you and thank you for the introduction, Jenna. I know that things are a bit chaotic right now on your end, particularly as it relates to grants this year. I was hoping that we could have this conversation as we do have mapping due this current StateMap cycle that covers the Mississippi Gulf Coast and barrier islands. David and I have discussed this and our preliminary thoughts have been just to leave it unlabeled but we would like to know how the USGS would like us to proceed for consistency purposes with our StateMap federal partners. I would really like to meet if you are available for a phone call this week and we can discuss this further.

Sincerely,

—James

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From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:02:35 AM
To: Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>; David Dockery <ddockery@mdeq.ms.gov>; James Starnes <jstarnes@mdeq.ms.gov>
Subject: Re: USGS Introduction

Good morning, David and James,

Thank you, Jenna, for the introduction!

I'm hoping you might be able to help me out in addressing a request from DOI leadership. I'm sure you are aware that President Trump, through DOI, has enacted a name change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. DOI is also seeing the new label propagate through federal and commercial mapping applications and products. I recognize that the enacted name change is required only for federal agencies, and that State governments are not required to adhere to that database...though many do for consistency. However, DOI is very interested in understanding the pace and breadth of

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Thank you so much!

Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: Shelton, Jenna L <jlshelton@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:49 PM
To: ddockery@mdeq.ms.gov <ddockery@mdeq.ms.gov>; James Starnes <jstarnes@mdeq.ms.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: USGS Introduction

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Jenna Shelton

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National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program
U.S. Geological Survey

5957 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana 46278
571.512.1641

From: [Delmonico, Joshua J](#)
To: [Baynes, Katie \(HQ-DK000\)](#)
Cc: [Guala, Gerald F. \(HQ-DK000\)\[Federal Government Detailee\]](#); [Durachka, Christopher D. \(GSFC-4230\)](#); [Ward, Kevin A. \(GSFC-613.0\)\[SCIENCE SYSTEMS AND APPLICATIONS INC\]](#); [Thomas, Andi Brinn \(GSFC-613.0\)\[SCIENCE SYSTEMS AND APPLICATIONS INC\]](#); [Gray, Ellen T. \(HQ-DK000\)](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Worldview
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 6:00:19 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thanks Katie. I appreciate your help. Here is the link I was referencing.

[NASA | LANCE | FIRMS US/Canada](#)

NASA | LANCE | FIRMS US/Canada

Fire Information for Resource Management System US / Canada

firms.modaps.eosdis.nasa.gov

From: Baynes, Katie (HQ-DK000) <kathleen.baynes@nasa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:56 AM
To: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>
Cc: Guala, Gerald F. (HQ-DK000)[Federal Government Detailee] <gerald.f.guala@nasa.gov>; Durachka, Christopher D. (GSFC-4230) <christopher.d.durachka@nasa.gov>; Ward, Kevin A. (GSFC-613.0)[SCIENCE SYSTEMS AND APPLICATIONS INC] <kevin.a.ward@nasa.gov>; Thomas, Andi Brinn (GSFC-613.0)[SCIENCE SYSTEMS AND APPLICATIONS INC] <andi.thomas@nasa.gov>; Gray, Ellen T. (HQ-DK000) <ellen.t.gray@nasa.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Worldview

Josh,

Thanks for checking in. I have been in touch with my dev team and they are aware of the change. I am awaiting a detailed report on the FIRMS tool, Worldview and Earthdata Search that should be arriving today. I am also cc'ing some other folks on my team who can potentially give updates on other elements from a comms perspective.

I need to reach out separately about the NASA Blue Marble. Can you provide the specific link where you are seeing the outdated map? I want to make sure I target the right team?

Thanks,
Katie



Katie Baynes
Earth Data Officer
Earth Science Division
Mary W. Jackson NASA Headquarters
300 Hidden Figures Way SW, Washington D.C. 20546
Mail Stop: 3U74
240.357.6575 (work)
240.343.4922 (mobile)

From: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:40 AM
To: Baynes, Katie (HQ-DK000) <kathleen.baynes@nasa.gov>
Cc: Guala, Gerald F. (HQ-DK000)[Federal Government Detailee] <gerald.f.guala@nasa.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Worldview

Also do you have a status of when you will update the name in NASA Blue Marble?

From: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:19 AM
To: Baynes, Katie (HQ-DK000) <kathleen.baynes@nasa.gov>
Cc: Guala, Gerald F. (HQ-DK000)[Federal Government Detailee] <gerald.f.guala@nasa.gov>
Subject: Worldview

Good Morning Katie,

I wanted to check and see if you knew when NASA will reflect the change of the name of the Gulf of America in WorldView?

Thanks.

Josh

Joshua Delmonico
Executive Director
Federal Geographic Data Committee
Core Science Systems
U.S. Geological Survey
U.S. Department of the Interior
O: 703-648-5752
C: 703-268-8580

[Geoplatform.gov](https://www.geoplatform.gov)

jdelmonico@usgs.gov FGDC.GOV

T

From: [Anderson, Gina R](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Renaming "Gulf of Mexico" to "Gulf of America" – Request for Status & Timeline
Date: Friday, January 31, 2025 5:16:25 AM

Hi Mike,

Please reply back with the link to the DOI press release.

Thanks,

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
Office of Communications and Publishing
405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 2:51 PM
To: BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC <bgnexec@usgs.gov>
Cc: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Renaming "Gulf of Mexico" to "Gulf of America" – Request for Status & Timeline

Hi Gina,

Ok to reply back with a link to the DOI press release?

Thanks,
m

From: Christopher Biddle <cbid@sas.upenn.edu>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 3:49 PM
To: BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC <bgnexec@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Cruickshank, Walter <Walter.Cruickshank@boem.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Renaming "Gulf of Mexico" to "Gulf of America" – Request for Status & Timeline

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Dear Ms. Zahniser and Mr. Tischler,

I hope you are doing well. I am writing on behalf of the Penn Libraries Mapping and GIS Club regarding the renaming of the "Gulf of Mexico" to the "Gulf of America," as mandated by President Trump's January 20 Executive Order.

Under Principle III and Policy I of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) *Principles, Policies, and Procedures*, names established by Executive Order are "official by law" and thus "take precedence over BGN principles, policies, and procedures." On January 30, I contacted USGS customer service and was informed that "no workflow exists yet" for this name change and that the agency is "waiting for directions" without a timeline.

Given the 30-day window in the Executive Order, could you please clarify:

1. **Status of Formal Instruction:** Has the Acting Secretary of the Interior provided any formal directive to the BGN regarding implementation of the "Gulf of America" name?
2. **GNIS Database Timeline:** Given that GNIS downloadable files are updated bi-monthly, web services are updated quarterly, but the order trumps BGN principles, policies, and procedures, when do you anticipate finalizing this change?
3. **Reference Removal:** The Executive Order states "remove all references to the Gulf of Mexico from the GNIS, consistent with applicable law." Will the BGN also remove variant names referring to "Gulf of Mexico" in other languages or contexts?

We appreciate any information you can share on how this process will move forward under the current leadership at DOI. We look forward to referencing "Gulf of America" in our academic GIS work once it is formally adopted in GNIS.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Chris Biddle
Penn Libraries Mapping and GIS Club

B.A. in Mathematical Economics

University of Pennsylvania | College of Arts and Sciences
cbid@sas.upenn.edu | 610-505-2663

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: elizabeth.kanalley@usda.gov
Cc: [Vanderbilt, Brian - FS](#); [Spring, Daniel - FS](#); [Vreeke, Randy - FS, UT](#); [Keske, Andrew - FS, UT](#); [McClarín, Deirdre E - FS](#); [Grey, David - FS, UT](#); [Hiemstra, Christopher - FS, UT](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 3:46:23 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Betsy,

Please note that I have not received any implementation instruction for Denali->Mount McKinley. I know that will happen, but I don't know when. The SO that implemented the change to Gulf of America is now available on the DOI website.

[SO 3423 - The Gulf of America](#)

Thanks,
m

From: Kanalley, Betsy - FS, DC <Elizabeth.Kanalley@usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 6:31 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Vanderbilt, Brian - FS <brian.vanderbilt@usda.gov>; Spring, Daniel - FS <daniel.spring@usda.gov>; Vreeke, Randy - FS, UT <randy.vreeke@usda.gov>; Keske, Andrew - FS, UT <andrew.keske@usda.gov>; McClarin, Deirdre E -FS <deirdre.mcclarin@usda.gov>; Grey, David - FS, UT <david.grey@usda.gov>; Hiemstra, Christopher - FS, UT <Christopher.Hiemstra@usda.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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Hi Mike

As of today, none of our products or data have yet been updated to reflect the subject geographic name changes, that I am aware of. With the GNIS having been updated to reflect the changes, we can now move on updating data and products.

1. To our knowledge we do not have any products over the area of Mount McKinley, so nothing to report there.
2. With regards to Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, we have the following:
 - a. National scale maps -- 3
 - b. Regional maps -- 3

- c. 100K maps -- 305
 - d. Forest maps – 21
 - e. Regionally Produced Forest Visitor Maps – 1
 - f. Ranger district maps -- 30
3. We also have a large number of 1/24K FS Topo maps. I don't have that number yet, but should have it to you tomorrow.
4. These figures include Geospatial Office maps products and those produced by the FS Southern Region. It is likely that the local forest units have maps and other publications with the name on it, but I do not have any numbers. Local units are being notified of the need to have their maps/products reflect the name change.
5. These updates should be completed no later than the end of May.
- Let me know if you have questions.

Betsy



Betsy Kanalley
Assistant Director
Forest Service
Field Services & Innovation
Center
Geospatial Office

elizabeth.kanalley@usda.gov

201 14th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20250

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From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: elizabeth.kanalley@usda.gov
Cc: [Vanderbilt, Brian - FS](#); [Spring, Daniel - FS](#); [Vreeke, Randy - FS, UT](#); [Keske, Andrew - FS, UT](#); [McClarín, Deirdre E -FS](#); [Grey, David - FS, UT](#); [Hiemstra, Christopher - FS, UT](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 3:43:14 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

thank you, Betsy!

From: Kanalley, Betsy - FS, DC <Elizabeth.Kanalley@usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 6:31 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Vanderbilt, Brian - FS <brian.vanderbilt@usda.gov>; Spring, Daniel - FS <daniel.spring@usda.gov>; Vreeke, Randy - FS, UT <randy.vreeke@usda.gov>; Keske, Andrew - FS, UT <andrew.keske@usda.gov>; McClarin, Deirdre E -FS <deirdre.mcclarin@usda.gov>; Grey, David - FS, UT <david.grey@usda.gov>; Hiemstra, Christopher - FS, UT <Christopher.Hiemstra@usda.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

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Betsy



Betsy Kanalley
Assistant Director
Forest Service
Field Services & Innovation
Center
Geospatial Office

elizabeth.kanalley@usda.gov

201 14th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20250

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From: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Delmonico, Joshua J](#)
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:44:29 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Sorry should have copied you.

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 1:43:52 PM
To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries

Sarah,

This is the details from ESRI out of our phone call this morning. As you can see we are working hard to encourage them to update maps. They are also looking to be proactive on Mount McKinley.

Thanks
Jenn

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Sean Breyer <SBreyer@esri.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 1:26 PM

To: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Cc: Patty Mims <PMims@esri.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Upcoming Esri US Vector Basemap changes to support Gulf of America, Mount McKinley, and State Dept Boundaries

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Jennifer/Josh,

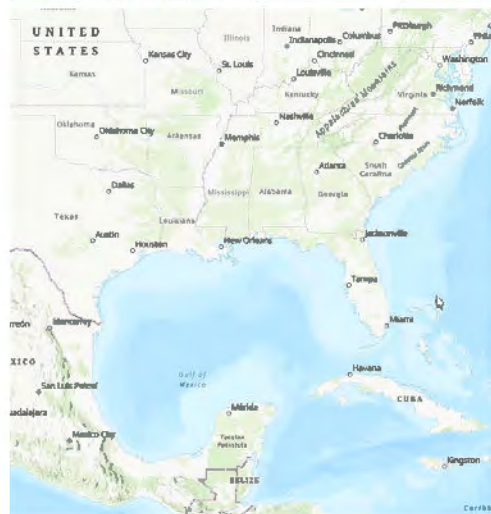
Thank you for the time this morning and I want to reassure you that we are prioritizing these name changes based on the executive order. Updating the nearly 35 basemaps and 50 cartographic layers is key to a successful release, and we must produce updates on a 3-week cycle. That next release is on time for Feb 20th, but we are looking for ways to advance it slightly. In this release specifically, we are building a new matching collection of the 35 basemaps and 50 layers that will support both US GNIS and State Department boundaries and names for about 20 countries. This required additional work during the release and QA process to ensure all new changes were verifiable and correct in all map styles. With this release, there will be additional steps to ensure agencies use new correct US map styles. This will involve the agencies after the release to refresh their maps inside their organizations, and we are providing guidance so they can smoothly implement the updates. BLM has already worked with some of our Solution Engineers to test this and quickly updated about 800 of their maps.

One outstanding item we are concerned about is that Mount McKinley has not been updated in GNIS, and without that change, we need to wait for guidance. Can we confirm that will be over the next few days?

Also, within the ArcGIS System, we have provided a name override capability for short-term name style changes. If there are any specific maps for which these changes are needed now, we have shared a how-to-guide, and we have Solution Engineers that can help an agency implement this until the 2/20 release. Below are the technical details that were shared with Michael Tischler and will be shared across all the agencies over the next few days.

"Esri will release its regular update to the Esri Vector Basemaps on Feb. 20th. This update will refresh all the data inside the global vector tiles. It will also specifically address the U.S. name changes to Mount McKinley and the naming for the Gulf of Mexico / Gulf of America worldwide. In this release, Esri will introduce a new collection of custom Esri Vector Basemap styles for the United States (as we have for several countries). These styles will become the default basemaps when a user is signed in to ArcGIS Online and the organization (or public account) Region setting is set to "United States." They will also be the default basemaps when a user within the United States accesses ArcGIS Online anonymously and uses the map viewer or scene viewer to access or create a map or scene. The effect for either of these scenarios is that the user's map will display the label Gulf of America. For all non-U.S. Region settings or anonymous access outside the U.S., users will see the label Gulf of Mexico. The Mount

McKinley name change will be universal across all Regions. Additionally, with the custom U.S. basemap styles, we will be including over a dozen U.S. State Department defined treatments for boundaries and names around the world.



Region of United States

All other Regions

These name updates **will not be addressed** in the **retired/deprecated** raster tile basemaps. These layers have been retired for three years, so we are again recommending users replace any maps using raster tile basemaps with the equivalent vector basemaps.

Over the next few days, we will provide more detailed guidance on how an organization will need to verify their Region setting and the steps users will need to do to see these changes on their existing web maps, apps, ArcGIS Pro projects. Esri also plans for regular updates for ArcGIS Enterprise, StreetMap Premium, and Data Appliance. This will help our federal agency users prepare for the update. If a user needs to make a name label update sooner, they can use the Esri Vector Tile Style Editor so anything can be overridden for personalization. Here is a blog for label overrides that users can make against any Esri Vector basemap.

<https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-living-atlas/announcements/changing-labels-in-esri-vector-basemaps/>

“

Sean Breyer

Director, Living Atlas and Global Science Initiatives

Esri | 380 New York Street | Redlands, CA 92373 | USA

Phone: 909-793-2853 ext. 2869| **Cell:** 847-224-9982

E-mail: sbreyer@esri.com

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From: [Rikki J Wortham \(CENSUS/GEO FED\)](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Deirdre Bishop \(CENSUS/GEO FED\)](#); [Vincent Osier \(CENSUS/GEO FED\)](#); [Kevin J Hawley \(CENSUS/GEO FED\)](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Update - SO 3423
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 9:16:49 AM

Census - General

Hi Mike,

Please see below for the steps the Census Bureau has taken to address the change:

Census Bureau Actions Related to the Gulf of America

- 1) The live Master Address File/Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Reference (MAF/TIGER) System has been updated with the name “Gulf of America.” All future spatial data products (e.g., shapefiles) that include hydrography will reflect the new name. Benchmarks¹ of the MAF/TIGER database that were in existence prior to Department of Interior Secretarial Order 3423 issued on February 7, 2025 were not modified.
- 2) All static maps (e.g., pdf, images, printed maps) published after February 7, 2025, that include labels for water features will use the label “Gulf of America.”
- 3) All web map applications published after February 7, 2025, that include labels for water features will use the label “Gulf of America.”
- 4) Existing web map applications that include labels for water features, and are not explicitly associated with the 2020 Census, will be updated to reflect the name “Gulf of America.”
- 5) Existing web map applications that include labels for water features, and are explicitly associated with the 2020 Census, will continue to reflect the name “Gulf of Mexico.”
- 6) The current TIGERweb map application references TIGER benchmark data from our BAS25 benchmark from November 2024. With the next release of the application from our ACS25 benchmark in September 2025, if a user decides to turn on hydrography labels, the application will reflect the name “Gulf of America” as the name has changed within the MAF/TIGER System.
- 7) For the Decennial TIGERweb and Economic Census TIGERweb map applications, if a user decides to turn on hydrography labels, the applications will continue to reflect the name “Gulf of Mexico,” as the change was not in effect in for the data

years represented in the applications.

¹ Benchmarks refer to copies of the MAF/TIGER database at a specific point in time.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thank you,

Rikki Wortham, Chief
Statistical Area Boundaries Branch (SABB), Geography Division (GEO)
U.S. Census Bureau
O: 812-218-3973 | M: 502-795-4927
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov) | [@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)

Census - General

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 12:04 PM
To: Rikki J Wortham (CENSUS/GEO FED) <Rikki.J.Wortham@census.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Update - SO 3423

Hi Rikki,

Anything additional to add?

From: Rikki J Wortham (CENSUS/GEO FED) <Rikki.J.Wortham@census.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 7:57 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Vincent Osier (CENSUS/GEO FED) <Vincent.Osier@census.gov>; Deirdre Bishop (CENSUS/GEO FED) <Deirdre.Dalpiaz.Bishop@census.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Update - SO 3423

Census - General

Good morning, Mike,

Just wanted to get back to you on this in a timely manner. We are currently performing an assessment of affected products and will get back to you shortly with an answer to your question.

Thanks so much!

Rikki Wortham, Chief

Statistical Area Boundaries Branch (SABB), Geography Division (GEO)

U.S. Census Bureau

O: 812-218-3973 | M: 502-795-4927

[census.gov](https://www.census.gov) | [@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)

Census - General

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 10:03 AM

To: Rikki J Wortham (CENSUS/GEO FED) <Rikki.J.Wortham@census.gov>

Cc: Vincent Osier (CENSUS/GEO FED) <Vincent.Osier@census.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Update - SO 3423

Thank you Rikki!

Can you provide a bit more explanation? What is the name of the database, and do you have any examples of maps, basemaps, applications, etc. that have already been updated?

Thanks,

m

From: Rikki J Wortham (CENSUS/GEO FED) <Rikki.J.Wortham@census.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 10:01 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Cc: Vincent Osier (CENSUS/GEO FED) <Vincent.Osier@census.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Update - SO 3423

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Census - General

Good morning, Mike,

Per the BGN meeting this morning, I am writing you to confirm that the US Census Bureau has updated the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America in our database. It will be reflected on future shapefiles and map products.

I did not see a message from you, and it has been brought to my attention that there may be

an issue with my email address in some of the BGN email lists. It should be rikki.j.wortham@census.gov.

Thank you,

Rikki Wortham, Chief

Statistical Area Boundaries Branch (SABB), Geography Division (GEO)

U.S. Census Bureau

O: 812-218-3973 | M: 502-795-4927

[census.gov](https://www.census.gov) | [@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)

Census - General

From: [Benoit Morenne](#)
To: [BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WSJ reporter reaching out
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 9:39:58 AM

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Hi,

I'm a reporter with The Wall Street Journal in Houston. We're writing a story about how some companies are deciding to adopt the name of "Gulf of America."

I'd like to confirm the following with you:

- Trump's executive order renaming the Gulf of Mexico applies to federal publications and communications, not internationally, and state and private entities are free to stick with the original name.

Thank you!

--

Benoît Morenne
ENERGY REPORTER

[Latest stories](#)

M: +1 281-703-3471

E: benoit.morenne@wsj.com

A: 1200 Smith Street, Suite 615, Houston, TX 77002

Twitter: [@benmorenne](#)

From: -Brostuen, David A
To: -GS-CSS SLT
Cc: -Garrity, Christopher P
Subject: Re: Addressing the February 28th deadline for changes reflecting Gulf of America and Mount McKinley
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025 10:02:51 AM
Attachments: -image.png
Importance: High

All,

We have posted the tracking spreadsheet for Gulf of America and Mount McKinley here:

 [GoA and McKinley Tracking.xlsx](#)

I have populated the spreadsheet with input provided by Chris Garrity (GEMSC). Chris was successful in updating OpenStreetMap and other content for topoView. As per Chris, **"All public facing NGMDB endpoints are (and have been) up to date since guidance was provided from management. These include basemap services from Mapbox, OSM, and ArcGIS SDK for JS."** Chris is available to provide direction for others who are using the OSM Base Map Viewer.

In several cases (including the TNM Viewer and topoBuilder), pop-up banners are being displayed that describe status of the viewers (see below). Use of these banners are appropriate to convey status in the short-term for work in progress.

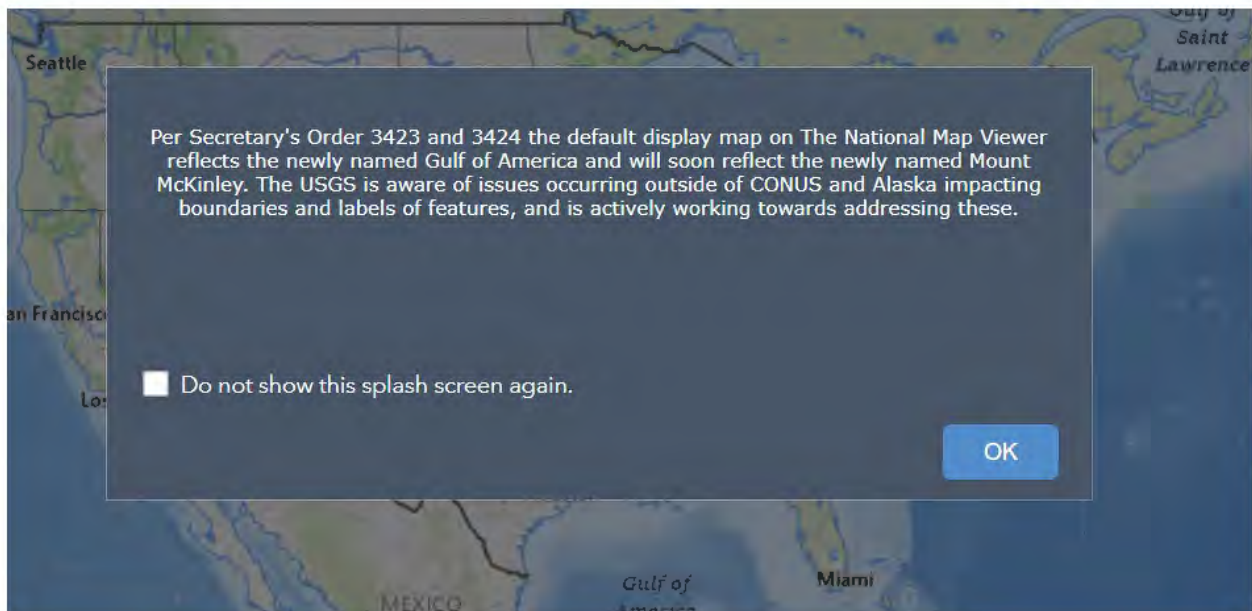
A reminder that this spreadsheet must be populated by Monday, 02/24 including justifications for any products that may not be completed by then (include targeted completion dates).

Thanks!

David

--

David A. Brostuen
Director, National Geospatial Directorate
U.S. Geological Survey
dabrostuen@usgs.gov
phone: 303-548-9785
<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>



From: Brostuen, David A
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2025 8:30 AM
To: GS-CSS SLT <gs-css_slt@usgs.gov>
Subject: Addressing the February 28th deadline for changes reflecting Gulf of America and Mt. McKinley

Hi All,

The message from Sarah Ryker yesterday described the following action based on the name changes for the Gulf of America (GoA) and Mount McKinley:

"The Department of the Interior has directed all bureaus and offices to take immediate steps to implement these name changes. Bureaus and offices must conduct a review of offices, documents, policies, internal and public-facing webpages, signage, and other materials that reference the "Gulf of Mexico" or "Denali" and efficiently change all references, as appropriate, to the "Gulf of America" or "Mount McKinley" by February 28, 2025."

This mandate will require changes to CSS MA Viewers and newly created map products. The following includes current status of underlying Base Map Viewers used by CSS Programs/Centers:

TNM Viewer: As per below, I did a quick inventory on CSS viewers that I am aware of. Some are using the TNM Viewers. While the GoA has already been updated in the TNM Viewer, work is underway by NGTOC to update Mt McKinley as well. NGTOC is also working on artifacting in the cached basemap tiles in some areas outside of the US.

Esri Basemaps: For those viewers that rely on Esri, we were just notified by Esri to the following regarding their Vector Basemaps:

"Esri will release its regular update to the Esri Vector Basemaps on Feb. 20th. This update will refresh all the data inside the global vector tiles. It will also specifically address the U.S. name changes to Mount McKinley and the naming for the Gulf of Mexico / Gulf of America worldwide."

The complete Esri announcement is located here:

<https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-online/announcements/esri-vector-basemaps-for-united-states/>

For those viewers that rely on Esri basemaps, please refer to the ArcGIS Blog for instructions and verify that they are showing the GoA and Mount McKinley.

OpenStreetMap and Other Base Maps: With respect to OSM, they have implemented the name change for GOA, but OSM is not currently showing the name changes on their basemap. As a result, it will be necessary to utilize another viewer such as TNM or the Esri Base Map viewers rather than OSM.

Below is a summary of the current CSS viewers and the underlying Base Maps being used that I identified while doing a search by Programs. Note that this may not be an all inclusive list:

- SAS/USGS Library:
 - PAD-US Viewer relies on the TNM Base Map Viewer
- NLI/Land Change Science
 - Fire Danger Forecast Viewer – Does not label Mt. McKinley for the GofA.
 - Basemap Viewer source is not listed.
 - Global Ecosystems Viewer
 - Esri Viewer with a variety of contributors
- EROS
 - EarthExplorer includes the TNM Viewer as an option. To comply the TNM Base Map Viewer should be the default basemap.
 - LandFire Viewer
 - Using OpenStreetMap which does not label GofA and still shows Denali.
 - MRLC Viewer
 - Does not appear to rely on a basemap viewer
- NCGMP
 - topoView
 - Using OpenStreetMap which does not label GofA and still shows Denali.
- NGGDPP – No apparent basemap viewers
- NGP/NGTOC
 - topoBuilder viewer and map products
 - TNM Viewers – current and advanced
 - Staged topo maps – To be addressed by NGTOC
 - Lidar Explorer – (relies on TNM Viewer)
 - 3DEP Viewer – Has banner but otherwise is not displaying the data

With the due date of 02/28, please work to ensure your viewers and related datasets conform with the DOI mandate. As requested by Sarah Ryker, if we are unable to achieve compliance by that date, we must notify Jenn Lacey of those situations so they can be communicated to the USGS Deputy Director of Operations by Monday, 02/24. **To support this, I will be developing a tracking spreadsheet today that will be made available to the CSS SLT and needs to be populated by noon ET on Monday, 02/24. The spreadsheet must identify CSS viewers/products that require compliance, targeted compliance date and identify any issues that impact our ability to comply by 02/28.**

Please let me know if you have questions.

Thank you!

David

--

David A. Brostuen
Director, National Geospatial Directorate
U.S. Geological Survey
dabrostuen@usgs.gov
phone: 303-548-9785
<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: [Decker, Lindsay K](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
Cc: [Altheide, Phyllis S](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#); [Wood, Kevin L](#); [Boggs, Hannah K](#); [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 3:40:26 PM

Record # 1414314 has been updated from Denali to Mount McKinley.
No other actions are needed at this time.

Lindsay Decker

Cartographic Products and Services Unit Supervisor
US Geological Survey
National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
PO Box 25046, DFC, Bldg. 810, MS 510
Denver, CO 80225-0046
(303) 202-4177
ldecker@usgs.gov

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 3:11 PM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Decker, Lindsay K <ldecker@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

All,

After talking with Sarah Ryker, she has let us know to stand down for the evening and not to worry about this until next week. She recognizes the difficulty of this week - especially today - at NGTOC and does not want to make the week any longer than necessary.

Thanks,
m

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 5:05 PM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Decker, Lindsay K <ldecker@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

All,

My apologies for the late edit...

After reviewing this a little more, we'd like to use the version below. We'd like to stick to the convention that 'history' should reflect an account of the name through time (BGN decisions, EO/SOs). 'Description' should focus on the location, physical feature. I've chatted w/Kim and she is ok with that.

Please note the XXXX - you'll need to fill that in with the correct SO number once we have it.

History: Named in 1896 by William A. Dickey, prospector, "after William McKinley of Ohio, who had been nominated for the Presidency and that was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness." McKinley, 1854-1901, was the 25th President of the United States. The first mention of the massif was by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called it "Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora" or "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported, "a great ice mountain to the south," but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as "Densmores Peak." The north summit was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Archdeacon Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (later park superintendent). On August 28, 2015, the name Mount McKinley was changed by Secretary's Order No. 3337 to Denali. Secretary's Order XXXX, implementing Executive Order 14172, directed the Board on Geographic Names ("BGN") to immediately rename Denali to Mount McKinley and to update the Geographic Names Information System to appropriately reflect the change.

Description: Elevation 20,310 ft.; the highest point in North America.

Thank you,
Mike

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:37 AM

To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>

Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

Thanks, Kim,

For now, let's use the NGTOC edit as it consolidates a few things. I'll double check with Shellie when she's online later.

m

From: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:33 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>

Subject: RE: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

Mike – acknowledged. There was no difference between b and c, I made a mistake . We will use those versions for banners. Josh and Phyllis I will help you get that coordinated.

Mike, per your request on text – here is Shellie’s approved GNIS history/description:

Description: Elevation 20,310 ft.; the highest point in North America

History: Renamed in accordance with process outlined in the January 20th, 2025, Executive Order, No. 14172, from President Trump.

Name changed to Implement the E. O. “Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness”.

Named in 1896 by William A. Dickey, prospector, "after William McKinley of Ohio, who had been nominated for the Presidency and that was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness." McKinley, 1854-1901, was the 25th President of the United States. The first mention of the massif was by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called it "Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora" or "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported, "a great ice mountain to the south," but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as "Densmores Peak." The north summit was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Archdeacon Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (later park superintendent). On August 28, 2015, the name Mount McKinley was changed by Secretary's Order No. 3337 to Denali, the name that had been official in the State of Alaska since 1976.

Here is NGTOC’s edits to this based on what we did for the Gulf – it is consistent with that History: Secretary's Order 3423 directs the Board on Geographic Names ("BGN") to immediately rename Denali to Mount McKinley and to update the Geographic Names Information System to appropriately reflect the change. This Order implements

President Trump's direction in Executive Order 14172, "Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness," that the name be changed.

Description: Elevation 20,310 ft.; the highest point in North America. Named in 1896 by William A. Dickey, prospector, "after William McKinley of Ohio, who had been nominated for the Presidency and that was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness." McKinley, 1854-1901, was the 25th President of the United States. The first mention of the massif was by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called it "Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora" or "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported, "a great ice mountain to the south," but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as "Densmores Peak." The north summit was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Archdeacon Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (later park superintendent). On August 28, 2015, the name Mount McKinley was changed by Secretary's Order No. 3337 to Denali.

We are happy to use whichever of these you and Shellie prefer, or an adjusted version of both. Please reply all with your selection and we will make it so.

Kim

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 5:44 AM

To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>

Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

Hi Kim/team,

Thank you for all the effort to keep us coordinated.

I concur with history and description - I understand that has been approved by Shellie already.

For the banner language options, I would prefer option B or C (I can't tell a difference, if there is one).

TNM downloader:

Per Secretary's Order 3423 the **default** display map on [application] reflects the newly named Gulf of America. **DEM and DSM data for the Jan 2025 [California wildfires](#) are now available [here](#).**

TopoBuilder:

"OnDemand products will reflect the newly renamed Gulf of America and **Mount** McKinley. [bold/italics added for emphasis...just need to make sure Mount is not abbreviated]

Thank you!

m

From: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 7:26 PM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>

Subject: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

Hi Mike,

Please see my proposed final language for the renaming of Denali to Mckinley. Feel free to make adjustments as you see fit, and reply all to this email.

GNIS:

History: Secretary's Order 3423 directs the Board on Geographic Names ("BGN") to immediately rename Denali to Mount McKinley and to update the Geographic Names Information System to appropriately reflect the change. This Order implements President Trump's direction in Executive Order 14172, "Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness," that the name be changed.

Description: Elevation 20,310 ft.; the highest point in North America. Named in 1896 by William A. Dickey, prospector, "after William McKinley of Ohio, who had been nominated for the Presidency and that was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness." McKinley, 1854-1901, was the 25th President of the United States. The first mention of the massif was by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called it "Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora" or "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported, "a great ice mountain to the south," but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina

in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as "Densmores Peak." The north summit was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Archdeacon Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (later park superintendent). On August 28, 2015, the name Mount McKinley was changed by Secretary's Order No. 3337 to Denali.

Banner Language Options:

Option A: Per Secretary's Order 3423 the display map on [application] reflects the newly named Gulf of America and Mount McKinley.

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Kim

Kim Mantey
Director, National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Email: kmantey@usgs.gov

Work Cell: (720) 201-7231

Office: (303) 202-4508

From: [Decker, Lindsay K](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
Cc: [Altheide, Phyllis S](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#); [Wood, Kevin L](#); [Boggs, Hannah K](#); [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 2:12:30 PM

Thank you Mike. We appreciate that greatly.
The description has been updated for when we are ready.

Lindsay Decker

Cartographic Products and Services Unit Supervisor
US Geological Survey
National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
PO Box 25046, DFC, Bldg. 810, MS 510
Denver, CO 80225-0046
(303) 202-4177
ldecker@usgs.gov

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 3:11 PM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Decker, Lindsay K <ldecker@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

All,

After talking with Sarah Ryker, she has let us know to stand down for the evening and not to worry about this until next week. She recognizes the difficulty of this week - especially today - at NGTOC and does not want to make the week any longer than necessary.

Thanks,
m

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 5:05 PM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Decker, Lindsay K <ldecker@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

All,

My apologies for the late edit...

After reviewing this a little more, we'd like to use the version below. We'd like to stick to the convention that 'history' should reflect an account of the name through time (BGN decisions, EO/SOs). 'Description' should focus on the location, physical feature. I've chatted w/Kim and she is ok with that.

Please note the XXXX - you'll need to fill that in with the correct SO number once we have it.

History: Named in 1896 by William A. Dickey, prospector, "after William McKinley of Ohio, who had been nominated for the Presidency and that was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness." McKinley, 1854-1901, was the 25th President of the United States. The first mention of the massif was by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called it "Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora" or "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported, "a great ice mountain to the south," but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as "Densmores Peak." The north summit was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Archdeacon Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (later park superintendent). On August 28, 2015, the name Mount McKinley was changed by Secretary's Order No. 3337 to Denali. Secretary's Order XXXX, implementing Executive Order 14172, directed the Board on Geographic Names ("BGN") to immediately rename Denali to Mount McKinley and to update the Geographic Names Information System to appropriately reflect the change.

Description: Elevation 20,310 ft.; the highest point in North America.

Thank you,
Mike

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:37 AM

To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>

Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

Thanks, Kim,

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Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:33 AM

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Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>

Subject: RE: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

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History: Renamed in accordance with process outlined in the January 20th, 2025, Executive Order, No. 14172, from President Trump.

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Here is NGTOC’s edits to this based on what we did for the Gulf – it is consistent with that History: Secretary's Order 3423 directs the Board on Geographic Names ("BGN") to immediately rename Denali to Mount McKinley and to update the Geographic Names Information System to appropriately reflect the change. This Order implements

President Trump's direction in Executive Order 14172, "Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness," that the name be changed.

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We are happy to use whichever of these you and Shellie prefer, or an adjusted version of both. Please reply all with your selection and we will make it so.

Kim

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 5:44 AM

To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>

Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

Hi Kim/team,

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I concur with history and description - I understand that has been approved by Shellie already.

For the banner language options, I would prefer option B or C (I can't tell a difference, if there is one).

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Thank you!

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Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 7:26 PM

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Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>

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Hi Mike,

Please see my proposed final language for the renaming of Denali to Mckinley. Feel free to make adjustments as you see fit, and reply all to this email.

GNIS:

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Kim

Kim Mantey
Director, National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Email: kmantey@usgs.gov

Work Cell: (720) 201-7231

Office: (303) 202-4508

From: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: RE: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 2:00:31 PM

I don't think we should make too many changes here from what is already listed in GNIS. I took some of the rewording from NGTOC and added to the end of history. Description should not be changed.

My recommendations...

History: Named in 1896 by William A. Dickey, prospector, "after William McKinley of Ohio, who had been nominated for the Presidency and that was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness." McKinley, 1854-1901, was the 25th President of the United States. The first mention of the massif was by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called it "Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora" or "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported, "a great ice mountain to the south," but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as "Densmores Peak." The north summit was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Archdeacon Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (later park superintendent). On August 28, 2015, the name Mount McKinley was changed by Secretary's Order No. 3337 to Denali. Secretary's Order 3423, implementing Executive Order 14172, directed the Board on Geographic Names ("BGN") to immediately rename Denali to Mount McKinley and to update the Geographic Names Information System to appropriately reflect the change.

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Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 11:21 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: Banner Language, GNIS History and Description, Phone Points of Contact

Shellie,

Any issue? Meant to send earlier but got sidetracked.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 8:37:44 AM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <palttheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>
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Kim

Kim Mantey

Director, National Geospatial Technical Operations Center

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Email: kmantey@usgs.gov

Work Cell: (720) 201-7231

Office: (303) 202-4508

From: [Haberstroh, Kelly N](#)
To: [Gunther, Gregory](#); [Eustis, Christine E](#); [Frame, Mike](#)
Cc: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Huggler, Matthew](#); [Magirl, Christopher S](#); [Woods, Tim](#); [Robinson, Craig R](#); [Gordon, Janice](#); [Hashem, Corey P](#); [Thieler, Rob](#); [Van Cleave, Keith J](#)
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 1:42:25 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)

Thanks, all. The banner on the Pubs Warehouse has now been updated to include the Mount McKinley change:



In accordance with [SO #3423 - The Gulf of America](#) and [SO #3424 - Mount McKinley and Landmarks Honoring the Alaskan People](#), all USGS publications moving forward will utilize the new name Gulf of America and reinstated name Mount McKinley. Per USGS practice, historical publications will retain the name of the geographic feature as it was called at that time.

USGS Publications Warehouse

The Pubs Warehouse provides access to over 180,000 publications written by USGS scientists over the century-plus history of the bureau.

Kelly Haberstroh
U.S. Geological Survey
Science Analytics & Synthesis (SAS)
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192

From: Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 4:00 PM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Frame, Mike <mike_frame@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khaberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>; Gordon, Janice <janicegordon@usgs.gov>; Hashem, Corey P <chashem@usgs.gov>; Thieler, Rob <rthieler@usgs.gov>; Van Cleave, Keith J <kvancleave@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

For sure!

Gregory L. Gunther
Science Data Management Branch Chief

Science Analytics and Synthesis
Core Science Systems, U.S. Geological Survey
PO Box 25046, MS 302,
Denver, CO, 80225

[Profile](#) | [ORCID](#) | [Website](#)

Mobile: 303.818.6043
ggunther@usgs.gov

From: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 1:26 PM
To: Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Frame, Mike <mike_frame@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khaberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>; Gordon, Janice <janicegordon@usgs.gov>; Hashem, Corey P <chashem@usgs.gov>; Thieler, Rob <rthieler@usgs.gov>; Van Cleave, Keith J <kvancleave@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Yes please! Thank you for getting ahead of that directive - something is coming out to all employees asking for us to update both!

From: Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 3:25 PM

To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Frame, Mike <mike_frame@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khberstroh@usgs.gov>

Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>; Gordon, Janice <janicegordon@usgs.gov>; Hashem, Corey P <chashem@usgs.gov>; Thieler, Rob <rthieler@usgs.gov>; Van Cleave, Keith J <kvancleave@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Hi Christine/all,

As you are aware, we have updated the banner on Publications Warehouse and Science Data Catalog to reflect the name change related to "Gulf of America."



USGS Publications Warehouse

The Pubs Warehouse provides access to over 180,000 publications written by USGS scientists over the century-plus history of the bureau.

Search for Publications

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Should we be include Mount McKinley as well? Here is proposed language:

"In accordance with [SO #3423 - The Gulf of America](#) and [SO #3424 - Mount McKinley and Landmarks Honoring the Alaskan People](#), all USGS publications moving forward will utilize the new name Gulf of America and reinstated name Mount McKinley. Per USGS practice, historical publications will retain the name of the geographic feature as it was called at that time."

Thanks for your guidance on this.

Gregory L. Gunther
Science Data Management Branch Chief

Science Analytics and Synthesis
Core Science Systems, U.S. Geological Survey
PO Box 25046, MS 302,
Denver, CO, 80225

[Profile](#) | [ORCID](#) | [Website](#)

Mobile: 303.818.6043
ggunther@usgs.gov

From: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 7:43 AM

To: Frame, Mike <mike_frame@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khberstroh@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>

Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>; Gordon, Janice <janicegordon@usgs.gov>; Hashem, Corey P <chashem@usgs.gov>; Thieler, Rob <rthieler@usgs.gov>; Van Cleave, Keith J <kvancleave@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

yes, thank you everyone! Really appreciate the collaboration and quick turnaround.

From: Frame, Mike <mike_frame@usgs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 4:03 PM

To: Haberstroh, Kelly N <kh Haberstroh@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>

Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>; Gordon, Janice <janicegordon@usgs.gov>; Hashem, Corey P <chashem@usgs.gov>; Thieler, Rob <rthieler@usgs.gov>; Van Cleave, Keith J <kvanccleave@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Thanks Kelly and everyone – nice work.

Mike Frame

U.S Geological Survey

Core Science Systems

Science Analytics & Synthesis (SAS)

mike_frame@usgs.gov

<http://orcid.org/0000-0001-9995-2172>

From: Haberstroh, Kelly N <kh Haberstroh@usgs.gov>

Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 2:42 PM

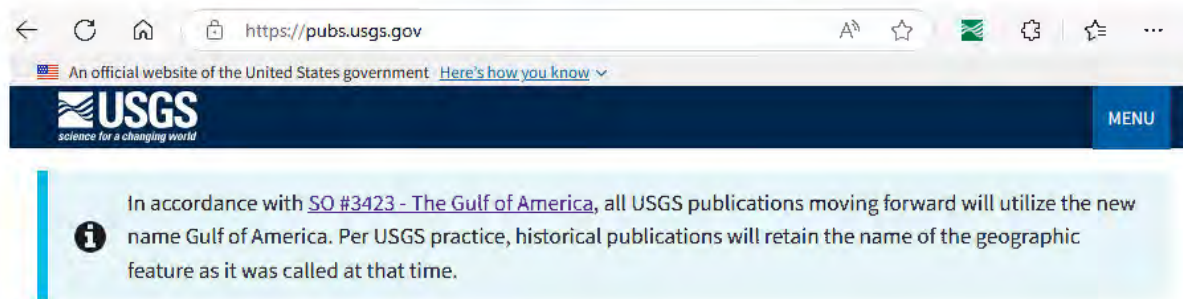
To: Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>

Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>; Frame, Mike <mike_frame@usgs.gov>; Gordon, Janice <janicegordon@usgs.gov>; Hashem, Corey P <chashem@usgs.gov>; Thieler, Rob <rthieler@usgs.gov>; Van Cleave, Keith J <kvanccleave@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Hi all,

The requested banner is now live on the Pubs Warehouse homepage: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/>



USGS Publications Warehouse

The Pubs Warehouse provides access to over 180,000 publications written by USGS scientists over the century-plus history of the bureau.

Search for Publications

Search [Show Advanced Search](#)

Thanks!

Kelly

Kelly Haberstroh
U.S. Geological Survey
Science Analytics & Synthesis (SAS)
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192

From: Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 1:34 PM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>; Frame, Mike <mike_frame@usgs.gov>; Gordon, Janice <janicegordon@usgs.gov>; Hashem, Corey P <chashem@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Hi Team,
I just wanted to give you all a quick update on the banner update for Pubs Warehouse. We had a small snag in the deployment of this update, but it appears that that issue has been identified, and a solution is in the works. I'll update you all when this new update is live.

Gregory L. Gunther
Science Data Management Branch Chief

Science Analytics and Synthesis
Core Science Systems, U.S. Geological Survey
PO Box 25046, MS 302,
Denver, CO, 80225

[Profile](#) | [ORCID](#) | [Website](#)

Mobile: 303.818.6043
ggunther@usgs.gov

From: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 2:32 PM
To: Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

How about this final text:

"In accordance with [SO #3423 - The Gulf of America](#), all USGS publications moving forward will utilize the new name Gulf of America. Per USGS practice, historical publications will retain the name of the geographic feature as it was called at that time."

Thank you

From: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 11:44 AM
To: Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Thanks Greg and Kelly -
I don't know about data, I think Mike may be better able to answer that question.

For text, how about:

In accordance with [SO #3423 - The Gulf of America](#) all USGS publications moving forward will utilize the new name Gulf of America on all USGS publications. Per USGS policy, historic publications will retain the name of the geographic feature as it was called at that time.

Welcome input on this draft text before you post it.

Thank you
Christine

From: Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 11:27 AM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <kh Haberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Hi Christine,
Thanks for the heads up on this and for reaching out. Kelly and I chatted about this and the Pubs Warehouse can certainly support this. Could we ask for your help in drafting the actual language you would like to see posted? I'm also wondering about your thoughts on whether it would be worth doing something similar for data (ScienceBase, Science Data Catalog)?

Gregory L. Gunther
Science Data Management Branch Chief

Science Analytics and Synthesis
Core Science Systems, U.S. Geological Survey
PO Box 25046, MS 302,
Denver, CO, 80225

[Profile](#) | [ORCID](#) | [Website](#)

Mobile: 303.818.6043
ggunther@usgs.gov

From: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:41 PM
To: Haberstroh, Kelly N <kh Haberstroh@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>
Subject: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Hi Kelly and Greg:

As you are likely aware, we have executed [SO #3423 - The Gulf of America](#) and implemented the name change to the Gulf of America in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS).

We are discussing ways to ensure that our public facing websites show the updated name and provide information to the public about how USGS is implementing the SO.

To that end, we wondered if the Publications Warehouse landing page might be able to have some kind of banner or disclaimer at the top explaining that USGS recognizes the new Gulf of America name and will start using it in all upcoming publications as of February 7, 2025 (the date the SO was signed) and explain that although we will not be changing publications prior to that date, we recognize the new name? Something like that.

Thoughts? Suggestions?
Thanks for your consideration,
Christine

Christine Eustis, Associate Director
Office of Communications and Publishing
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA
mobile: 571) 539-7546
ceustis@usgs.gov

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Huggler, Matthew](#)
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 1:12:38 PM

DOI OCO - elizabeth peace

From: Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 3:55 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

PS – Who in DOI approved the response?

Matthew Huggler
Deputy Associate Director
Office of Communications and Publishing
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA
mobile: 202-460-8402
mhuggler@usgs.gov

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 3:40 PM
To: Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <kh Haberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Hi Matt,

The response we have been approved by DOI to provide is:

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names appreciates the public's input throughout the name review process. In accordance with the presidential executive order, the name change is now final, and we remain committed to carrying out our responsibilities.

We have other language that we have placed on our application websites

Per Secretary's Order 3423 the display map on [application] reflects the newly named Gulf of America

Does that help?

Thanks,
m

From: Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 3:33 PM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khaberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Happy to help.

Mike – Also happy to take a look at whatever you come up with.

Matt

Matthew Huggler
Deputy Associate Director
Office of Communications and Publishing
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA
mobile: 202-460-8402
mhuggler@usgs.gov

From: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 5:15 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khaberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

We're also getting a lot of calls in our SIS team 1800 number. It will be good if we all use a standard response.

Matt and Mike can work together on that!

From: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 5:12 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khaberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Christine,

Also BGN has been getting an extremely high volume of emails with suggestions on the name change. I just talked to Mike, and he will come up with a standard response, pointing to the EO and SO, and stating that we don't take input when there are orders. He will run that by you for permission.

Thanks!

Jenn

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 5:00 PM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khaberstroh@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

The statement looks fine with me, for what it's worth.

Regarding data, NGP has determined our own internal practice which mirrors the statement below. Legacy data (i.e., NHD) or services that are not maintained will not be updated to reflect the new name. For a broader USGS policy, I would encourage you to consult with the A/CDO - Mike Frame.

Thanks,

m

From: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 4:32 PM
To: Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khaberstroh@usgs.gov>

Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

How about this final text:

"In accordance with [SO #3423 - The Gulf of America](#), all USGS publications moving forward will utilize the new name Gulf of America. Per USGS practice, historical publications will retain the name of the geographic feature as it was called at that time."

Thank you

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Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Thanks Greg and Kelly -

I don't know about data, I think Mike may be better able to answer that question.

For text, how about:

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Welcome input on this draft text before you post it.

Thank you

Christine

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Gregory L. Gunther

Science Data Management Branch Chief

Science Analytics and Synthesis

Core Science Systems, U.S. Geological Survey

PO Box 25046, MS 302,

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Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl,

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Thoughts? Suggestions?
Thanks for your consideration,
Christine

Christine Eustis, Associate Director
Office of Communications and Publishing
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA
mobile: 571) 539-7546
ceustis@usgs.gov

From: [Huggler, Matthew](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Eustis, Christine E](#); [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Gunther, Gregory](#); [Haberstroh, Kelly N](#)
Cc: [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Woods, Tim](#); [Robinson, Craig R](#)
Subject: RE: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 12:55:09 PM

Yes, thanks. Appreciate it.

Matthew Huggler
Deputy Associate Director
Office of Communications and Publishing
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA
mobile: 202-460-8402
mhuggler@usgs.gov

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 3:40 PM
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Thanks!

Jenn

Jennifer Lacey

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Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Magirl, Christopher S <magirl@usgs.gov>;
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Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

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Welcome input on this draft text before you post it.

Thank you

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Gregory L. Gunther

Science Data Management Branch Chief

Science Analytics and Synthesis

Core Science Systems, U.S. Geological Survey

PO Box 25046, MS 302,

Denver, CO, 80225

[Profile](#) | [ORCID](#) | [Website](#)

Mobile: 303.818.6043

ggunther@usgs.gov

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Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:41 PM

To: Haberstroh, Kelly N <khaberstroh@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>;
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To that end, we wondered if the Publications Warehouse landing page might be able to have some kind of banner or disclaimer at the top explaining that USGS recognizes the new Gulf of America name and will start using it in all upcoming publications as of February 7, 2025 (the date the SO was signed) and explain that although we will not be changing publications prior to that date, we recognize the new name? Something like that.

Thoughts? Suggestions?

Thanks for your consideration,

Christine

Christine Eustis, Associate Director

Office of Communications and Publishing

U.S. Geological Survey

Reston, VA

mobile: 571) 539-7546

ceustis@usgs.gov

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America
Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:19:51 PM

I also wanted to make sure OCAP understood the DOI advice...they counseled against a webpage banner declaring that we are not processing proposals for the future, believing that would exacerbate the issue.

I don't think their application will enter into that territory...but wanted to make sure.

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 6:18 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

No - this was just within the last 10m and I wasn't sure who all the people were on the larger email. I'm instructing the BGN staff to use that in responses to people who have submitted proposals, though.

I also need to talk to christine to see if we stop the flow of opinions being sent to the BGN. If there is another inbox we can send to, that would be preferred.

m

From: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 6:16 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Great Mike. Let's go with it! I assume OCAP has it too?

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 5:13:24 PM

To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Jenn,

I spoke with DOI who has cleared a statement for us to use:

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names appreciates the public's input throughout the name review process. In accordance with the presidential executive order, the name change is now final, and we remain committed to carrying out our responsibilities.

DOI counseled against a webpage banner declaring that we are not processing proposals for the feature, believing that would exacerbate the issue.

Thanks,

m

From: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 5:12 PM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Gunther, Gregory <ggunther@usgs.gov>; Haberstroh, Kelly N <khberstroh@usgs.gov>

Cc: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Woods, Tim <twoods@usgs.gov>; Robinson, Craig R <crrobinson@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America

Christine,

Also BGN has been getting an extremely high volume of emails with suggestions on the name change. I just talked to Mike, and he will come up with a standard response, pointing to the EO and SO, and stating that we don't take input when there are orders. He will run that by you for permission.

Thanks!

Jenn

Jennifer Lacey

Associate Director, Core Science Systems

12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108

U.S. Geological Survey

Reston, VA 20192

Mobile: 605-305-0140

<http://www.usgs.gov/>

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From: [Gunther, Gregory](#)
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Cc: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Huggler, Matthew](#); [Magirl, Christopher S](#); [Woods, Tim](#); [Robinson, Craig R](#)
Subject: Re: Banner on Publications Warehouse regarding Gulf of America
Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 2:56:50 PM

This looks great and we will move forward with getting this deployed.

#####

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ceustis@usgs.gov

From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Banner Text for TNM Viewer and Gaz Viewer
Date: Sunday, February 9, 2025 12:38:28 PM

Hi Mike,

Please see my suggested language for TNM Viewer and Gaz Viewer regarding basemap labels. Please reply with your edits or approval, and these will be distributed to the team.

Per Secretarial Order 3423, the Gulf of Mexico has been renamed to the Gulf of America. The display map for the Gazetteer application is in the process of being updated to reflect this name change.

Per Secretarial Order 3423, the Gulf of Mexico has been renamed to the Gulf of America. The display map for The National Map Viewer is in the process of being updated to reflect this name change.

Kim

Kim Mantey
Director, National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
United States Geological Survey (USGS)
Email: kmantey@usgs.gov
Work Cell: (720) 201-7231
Office: (303) 202-4508

From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Banner Texts for Viewers - starting with TopoBuilder
Date: Saturday, February 8, 2025 7:42:56 AM

Hi Mike,

I hope you are having a good morning!

Please review the following banner text samples and let us know which you would like us to use for topoBuilder. If you would prefer a third option just write it up and we'll use that. Phyllis has provided me with our test plan for the topoBuilder update, the test will take several hours after the GNIS update so depending on when you give us the go ahead the maps will be available as early as tomorrow or as late as Monday night.

I'll keep you in the loop.

Sample A:

In accordance with SO XXXX <ink to SO>, OnDemand Topo maps are now available reflecting domestic name changes outlined in Press Release Title <link to press release>. OnDemand Topo maps are only available within the bounds a State or Territory of the United States where National Map Data exists. To learn more about OnDemand Topo map types and extents, visit topoBuilder | U.S. Geological Survey. Note: Reference map updates are in progress and may not yet reflect all domestic name changes, however any maps you order will include current names.

Sample B:

Any maps ordered that are along the gulf will have the new approved name Gulf of America. The display map is in the process of being updated.

Regarding links in these banners, we recommend leaving those out till they are more stable, we can add in at any time. We also recommend keeping this short and simple – here's our talking point on this for Geoweek:

- OnDemand products through the topoBuilder application are available effective <insert date here>. These OnDemand products do show the Gulf of America. All viewers (eg. topoBuilder, National Map Viewer) are being updated to reflect the change and will show the updates at a later time.
 - Staged products such as the US Topo 7.5 min quads will be updated to reflect the change to the Gulf of America at a later date. Please use topoBuilder to get the updated maps until further notice.

Happy to hop on a call or do this over email today.

Kim

Kim Mantey
Director, National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
United States Geological Survey (USGS)
Email: kmantey@usgs.gov
Work Cell: (720) 201-7231
Office: (303) 202-4508

From: [Davis, Larry R](#)
To: [Wood, Kevin L](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Mantey, Kimberly S](#); [Doubouya, Ariel T](#)
Cc: [Altheide, Phyllis S](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#); [Brown, Stephanie L](#); [Dollison, Robert M](#); [Rodriguez, Sergio](#)
Subject: RE: Earthquakes switching to use our basemap services
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 7:52:44 AM

Thanks Kevin.

Adding Rob and Sergio for awareness.

Bob

Bob Davis

Chief, Cartographic Data Services
[National Geospatial Program](#)
[United States Geological Survey](#)
573-308-3554 – office
573-465-0284 - cell
lrdavis@usgs.gov
1400 Independence Road
Rolla, Missouri 65401

[The National Map](#) - Your Source For Topographic Information



From: Wood, Kevin L <wood@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 9:41 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>; Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Doubouya, Ariel T <atdoubouya@usgs.gov>
Cc: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Brown, Stephanie L <slbrown@usgs.gov>
Subject: Earthquakes switching to use our basemap services

Mike, Bob, and Kim,

Robert Djasaj gave me a heads up that he was contacted by Eric Martinez from the Hazards group yesterday afternoon to inform us they've been instructed by "the top" to start using our basemap services for their <https://earthquake.usgs.gov> application while ESRI updates Gulf of America basemap (expected by 2/20).



Liz and Robert have already spoke about this in greater detail and have taken the precautionary steps to slightly increase our cloud resources for the incoming traffic. The Delivery team will have probably expanded autoscaling capabilities for the basemap services backend to 4-8 min/max number of instances. We have already enabled CloudFront caching mechanism to be prepared to take the brunt of the incoming traffic from Earthquakes app (<https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/map/>).

As you can see, the Earthquake app is already in the top two of our all-traffic list for the past 24 hours, even though it has been around for less than five hours. The Delivery team will closely monitor the situation in

Sumologic as well.

Top referrers

ED543ULQ2920 [Browse](#)

[Download CSV](#)

Referrers

Date range
Last 24 hours

Referrer	Request count	Request percentage
Not specified	21,264,682	37.93%
earthquake.usgs.gov	5,890,734	12.29%
msc.fema.gov	3,995,161	10.69%
www.esri.com	5,257,787	9.38%
apps.nationalmap.gov	4,996,026	8.91%
waterdata.usgs.gov	1,622,894	2.90%
hazards-fema.maps.arcgis.com	1,458,715	2.60%
viewer.nationalmap.gov	1,252,332	2.20%
dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov	1,048,714	1.87%
topobuilder.nationalmap.gov	792,706	1.41%
blm-egis.maps.arcgis.com	706,969	1.26%
localhost	630,980	1.13%

Kevin Wood
Shared Services Manager
National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
US Geological Survey
wood@usgs.gov

(573) 308-3584 (office)
(573) 465-0253 (cell)
(573) 308-3652 (fax)

From: [Eustis, Christine E](#)
To: [Applegate, David](#); [Barrett, Anne](#); [Curtis, Stacy](#); [Huggler, Matthew](#); [Jones, Leslie W](#); [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: Eustis, Christine E shared "Name Change to the Gulf of America All Employee Email" with you
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 10:09:03 AM
Attachments: [AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)

Thanks everyone. I took all comments, finalized and shared with Sarah for her review since she wants to get this out today.

Appreciate the quick turnaround.

From: Applegate, David <applegate@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 10:44 AM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Barrett, Anne <abarrett@usgs.gov>; Curtis, Stacy <scurtis@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Jones, Leslie W <ljones@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Eustis, Christine E shared "Name Change to the Gulf of America All Employee Email" with you

Thanks for the opportunity to take a look. I went in and made a few suggestions and Track Changes edits to consider.

Thanks, Dave

David Applegate, Ph.D.
Chief Scientist
U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS 101, Reston VA 20192
703 395 5790 cell; applegate@usgs.gov

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Subject: Eustis, Christine E shared "Name Change to the Gulf of America All Employee Email" with you



Eustis, Christine E invited you to edit a file

Sorry for the quick turnaround - but Sarah has asked us to develop an All Employee email that can go out today asking USGS employees to help us affect the name change to Gulf of America. I took the LBP, condensed it and added a stronger call to action. Can folks review by 1pm ET today so we can share with Sarah and get out to employees this afternoon? Thank you



Name Change to the Gulf of America All Employee Email



This invite will only work for you and people with existing access.

Open

Share



United States
Department of the Interior

This email is generated through DOI's use of Microsoft 365 and may contain content that is controlled by DOI.

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#); [O'Donnell, Matthew J](#)
Subject: Re: FAQs
Date: Thursday, February 6, 2025 8:40:14 AM

Apologies - I probably got sidetracked.

I still don't have any information about when the SO will get signed, but I'd like to get the FAQs added quickly if possible. I know many people are going to have questions.

m

From: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 11:37 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; O'Donnell, Matthew J <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: FAQs

Mike,

Matt had reached out to you asking if there was a timeline for this but we didn't receive a response. I don't think we had made much progress on the FAQs. I will make that a priority today.

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 5:51 AM
To: O'Donnell, Matthew J <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FAQs

Hi Folks,

I know Matt is on leave today, but wondering if we have an update of the FAQs? I have a meeting with Gina later today...is there anything we can put in front of her?

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 10:15 AM
To: O'Donnell, Matthew J <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FAQs

Thanks, Matt!

I think State is happy to help in addressing some other questions like "Do other countries

recognize the name Gulf of America?".

thanks,
m

From: O'Donnell, Matthew J <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 10:13 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FAQs

Got it. I'll start compiling the questions we have received from media/public so far. That will give us something to work on and get guidance from USGS/DOI about the answers we can't give ourselves.

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 10:10 AM
To: O'Donnell, Matthew J <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FAQs

we would be writing both the Qs and the As, based on the types of questions we think media/public would be asking.

From: O'Donnell, Matthew J <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 10:08 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FAQs

Hi Mike,

More information out there is always a good thing.

What are the questions to answer?

What are the answers given that we are still waiting for DOI and USGS guidance on the response to the EO?

Matt

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 9:57 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>; O'Donnell, Matthew J <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>

Subject: FAQs

Hi Shellie, Matt,

I've been on a few calls with the State dept., and they are trying to be proactive about putting out information regarding the name changes. I think it might be a good idea to start drafting FAQs that we can add to our webpage specific to the two changes through EO. State seemed to like that idea too, and could help in drafting the ones that are out of our area of expertise.

We would have to run the language through USGS and DOI communications offices before publishing. But, that should hopefully give media a source for information rather than emailing BGN members or staff.

Thoughts?

Thanks,
m

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Friar, Linda](#)
To: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#); [BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC](#)
Cc: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Anderson, Gina R](#)
Subject: following up on name change proposal from John Clark Ashton Cornelius Farmer
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2025 12:54:08 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-p5cwm0sq.png](#)

Good Afternoon

Gina and I discussed a proposal for a new name for the Gulf of America from John Farmer (cc'd below)

Though this gentleman was identified media in the past his proposal to change a name of a geographic feature is not a media question. Feel free to respond as you would to any other member of the public proposing a change to this feature. In addition, I don't believe this gentleman is a legitimate member of the media.

Our current guidance on media queries is to not respond, track and hold. So that would be my approach on this particular type of query.

February 20, 2025

Good Morning BGN,
I submitted a proposal on February 12, 2025 to rename feature ID 558730. I have not received any acknowledgement of your receipt of the proposal. Could you please update me on the status of the application.

Thank You,
Most sincerely,
John Clark Ashton Cornelius Farmer

Linda Friar, AICP
Chief External Affairs
U.S. Geological Survey - Science for a Changing World

Office of Communications and Publishing
12201 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston, Virginia
Phone 703-648-4447 Cell 786-385-0067
E-mail lfriar@usgs.gov

 [Book time to meet with me](#)

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Curtis, Stacy](#); [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Jones, Leslie W](#)
Subject: Re: for review - Leaders Blog Post: Name Change for the Gulf of America and How You Can Help
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 6:32:24 AM

Hi Stacy,

From the BGN's perspective, the staff played a very minimal role (updating GNIS), and in their humility would prefer to be out of the spotlight

thanks,
m

From: Curtis, Stacy <scurtis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 9:27 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Jones, Leslie W <ljones@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: for review - Leaders Blog Post: Name Change for the Gulf of America and How You Can Help

Good morning,
Thanks for your review of the draft Leaders Blog post. At this point, it has been replaced with an all-employee email from Sarah with a more specific call to action.

Please let me know if you have other preferences to still do a Leaders Blog post on the BGN.

thanks,
Stacy

From: Curtis, Stacy <scurtis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 4:56 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Jones, Leslie W <ljones@usgs.gov>
Subject: for review - Leaders Blog Post: Name Change for the Gulf of America and How You Can Help

Hi, All,
At the link below, please find a draft Leaders Blog post for authorship by Sarah and Jen for next week's NTK. I would like to get this draft to Sarah and Jenn on Friday morning due to the holiday on Monday.

Please use track changes for your edits so we can all see the suggestions. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks for your help on this post!

[LB- Gulf of America - Name Change.docx](#)

Stacy

Stacy Curtis

U.S. Geological Survey

Internal Communications Officer | Office of Communications and Publishing (OCAP)

Cell: 703.863.0125

ICF Associate Certified Coach (ACC). Ask me about coaching!

From: [Curtis, Stacy](#)
To: [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Jones, Leslie W](#)
Subject: Re: for review - Leaders Blog Post: Name Change for the Gulf of America and How You Can Help
Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 2:04:07 PM

Thanks, Darcee. Such a quick review!

Hope you are well.
Stacy

From: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 5:02 PM
To: Curtis, Stacy <scurtis@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Jones, Leslie W <ljoness@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: for review - Leaders Blog Post: Name Change for the Gulf of America and How You Can Help

Thanks Stacy. I don't have any comments but will defer to Mike if he or his staff have any edits.

Darcee

--

Darcee Killpack
Deputy Associate Director for Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
One Denver Federal Center, MS510
Denver, CO
Cell: 303-907-0969
Office: 303-202-4115
Email: dkillpack@usgs.gov

From: Curtis, Stacy <scurtis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 2:57 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Jones, Leslie W <ljoness@usgs.gov>
Subject: for review - Leaders Blog Post: Name Change for the Gulf of America and How You Can Help

Hi, All,

At the link below, please find a draft Leaders Blog post for authorship by Sarah and Jen for next week's NTK. I would like to get this draft to Sarah and Jenn on Friday morning due to the holiday on Monday.

Please use track changes for your edits so we can all see the suggestions. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks for your help on this post!

 [LB- Gulf of America - Name Change.docx](#)

Stacy

Stacy Curtis

U.S. Geological Survey

Internal Communications Officer | Office of Communications and Publishing (OCAP)

Cell: 703.863.0125

ICF Associate Certified Coach (ACC). Ask me about coaching!

From: [Curtis, Stacy](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)
Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 3:37:35 PM

I totally understand — sorry for the confusion. I tried to incorporate your updates from the Feature Story in the Leaders Blog post. If you have a couple of minutes to double check that I captured your edits correctly, that would be terrific.

 [LB- Gulf of America - Name Change.docx](#)

thanks much!

Stacy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 6:21 PM
To: Curtis, Stacy <scurtis@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Oh! I don't think I appreciated there were two different things...I thought they were the same.

Sorry...been a long two weeks (as for everyone). Yes, please work in the edits as appropriate to both.

From: Curtis, Stacy <scurtis@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 6:19 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Thanks for sharing, Mike. I did not see your edits to the Feature Story. Do you want me to work in all of the same additions you made from the Feature Story to the Leaders Blog post?

thanks,
Stacy

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 6:14 PM
To: Curtis, Stacy <scurtis@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Hi Stacy,

I'm not sure if these edits made it back up to you...

thanks
m

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 2:29 PM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Hi Gina,

I added a bit more about the TNM basemap and applications. I'm having a bit of an issue getting lidar explorer to load, but hopefully that's transient.

m

From: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 2:14 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Sounds good.

Thanks,

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
Office of Communications and Publishing
405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:13 PM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Gina,

I'd also like to add that the TNM viewer has been updated - I'll send you a sentence or two in a minute

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:54 PM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Gina - my edits in track changes

From: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:38 PM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Thanks for resending, Shellie. I have it now.

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
Office of Communications and Publishing
405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:35 PM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:33 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Shellie,

I am not sure why, but I am not seeing your edits.

--

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
Office of Communications and Publishing
405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:29 PM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Gina,
I put my edits into the document.

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:22 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)
Importance: High

Hi Mike and Shellie,

I am sending Gulf of America feature story draft as requested by the Director's office for your review.

I am mostly looking to make sure that I have the facts of the story correct and that I have represented things accurately in a plain language for the public to read and understand.

I am targeting today to publish to the website, but it will depend on how quickly I can get clearance. So, if you can please review and provide any edits ASAP today that would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
Office of Communications and Publishing
405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)
Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:41:00 AM

All good. I think together we got it all.

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:39 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Hi SHellie - are any of my edits inconsistent with yours?

From: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:35 PM
To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:33 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Shellie,

I am not sure why, but I am not seeing your edits.

--

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area

U.S. Geological Survey

Office of Communications and Publishing

405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 12:29 PM

To: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Gina,

I put my edits into the document.

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.

BGN Executive Secretary

Domestic Names Committee

Honolulu, HI

From: Anderson, Gina R <granderson@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:22 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>

Subject: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)

Importance: High

Hi Mike and Shellie,

I am sending Gulf of America feature story draft as requested by the Director's office for your review.

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I am targeting today to publish to the website, but it will depend on how quickly I can get clearance. So, if you can please review and provide any edits ASAP today that would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area

U.S. Geological Survey

Office of Communications and Publishing

405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

From: [Anderson, Gina R](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
Subject: FOR REVIEW: Gulf of America feature story draft (time sensitive)
Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 10:22:40 AM
Attachments: [DRAFT Gulf of America feature.docx](#)
Importance: High

Hi Mike and Shellie,

I am sending Gulf of America feature story draft as requested by the Director's office for your review.

I am mostly looking to make sure that I have the facts of the story correct and that I have represented things accurately in a plain language for the public to read and understand.

I am targeting today to publish to the website, but it will depend on how quickly I can get clearance. So, if you can please review and provide any edits ASAP today that would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Gina Anderson

Public Affairs Specialist | Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
Office of Communications and Publishing
405-509-3524 | granderson@usgs.gov

As directed by the President, the Gulf of Mexico will now officially be known as the Gulf of America

USGS's Board of Geographic Names supports name change with the implementation of Executive and Secretarial Orders.

Last week, the USGS's [Board of Geographic Names \(BGN\)](#) played an essential role in helping to enact Secretarial Order 3423 to rename the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America.

Following President Trump's [Executive Order 14172](#), "Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness," on February 7, Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum signed [Secretary's Order \(SO\) 3423 - The Gulf of America](#). The order states, "The area formerly known as the Gulf of Mexico has long been an indelible part of America and an asset to our Nation. The Gulf has played a pivotal role in shaping America's history and promises to play a vital role in our future, serving as a flourishing natural resource of critical importance to our Nation's economy and people."

The SO directed the BGN to immediately rename the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America.

The BGN is a federal body created in 1890 and established in its present form by public law in 1947 to maintain uniform geographic name usage throughout the federal government. The BGN is comprised of representatives of multiple federal agencies concerned with geographic information, population, ecology, and management of public lands.

The BGN oversees and maintains two authoritative databases to standardize geographic names across the federal government. Domestic names are in the [Geographic Names Information System \(GNIS\)](#). Foreign geographic names are available by navigating to the [Geographic Names Server](#) webpage.

Geographic names and their applications specifically established by an act of Congress or Executive order are legally official, and therefore, are not bound by BGN principles, policies, and procedures.

Once an Executive Order is signed, the name is official. The role of the BGN is to inform the geographic names database managers to implement the change in accordance with guidance provided by the Secretary of Interior. Federal agencies are in the process of updating their maps products, and services to align with this name change, and there will not be an effort to update prior products to conform to the Orders. The BGN will not accept proposals intending to change names designated by the President, Congress, Proclamation, or Treaty.

Thanks to the hard work of the USGS employees at the National Geospatial Technical Operations Center, the name was changed in the GNIS in time for the President's Proclamation to recognize February 9, 2025, as the first ever Gulf of America Day. As such, the [USGS](#)

[topoBuilder application](#) was updated in time to include the capability to generate new maps with the updated name.

A name change of this magnitude has multiple facets and requires the efforts of many. The USGS's Science Publishing Network follows the GNIS in affecting name changes and from this point forward will utilize the Gulf of America on current and future publications. In addition, the Core Science Systems Mission Area has reached out to third party mapping companies who will be changing the name within their own systems.

All other web applications and physical signs will take some time to update. It is up to each federal agency and office to change their signage and websites per their own budgetary needs and website update scheduling.

###

From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Davis, Larry R](#); [Doubouya, Ariel T](#); [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
Cc: [Boggs, Hannah K](#); [Altheide, Phyllis S](#); [Altheide, Phyllis S](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#)
Subject: GNIS Staged Products Updated and Staged on S3
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 10:15:10 AM

Good morning everyone,

I put a wide net on the "to" line to make sure I don't miss anyone!

Staged Products that were updated yesterday (2/10) with the renaming of the gulf to Gulf of America are now ready for download on S3. These can be accessed by our Federal partners at this point. NGTOC only updated staged products that were impacted by this name change.

<https://www.usgs.gov/us-board-on-geographic-names/download-gnis-data>.

Please let us know if you have other questions.

Kim

Kim Mantey
Director, National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
United States Geological Survey (USGS)
Email: kmantey@usgs.gov
Work Cell: (720) 201-7231
Office: (303) 202-4508

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
Subject: Fw: Gulf of America
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:33:40 PM

Shellie,

You can use the first paragraph in the below for an official statement....or adapt as necessary.

From: Tischler, Michael A
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:53 PM
To: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>
Subject: Gulf of America

Josh,

Please be advised that Gulf of Mexico has been officially renamed to Gulf of America under the authority of [Executive Order 14172](#) signed Jan 20, and [DOI Secretary's Order 3423](#) signed Feb. 7. The Geographic Names Information System [[GNIS ID# 558730](#)] has been updated accordingly to reflect the change. In accordance with [Public law 80-242](#), federal agencies are to rely on GNIS as the official source of names for all publications. Federal agencies may begin updating their maps, products, and services to align with this name change.

Your assistance in notifying the federal geospatial community of this change would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks,
Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Delmonico, Joshua J](#)
Subject: Re: Gulf of America
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 1:54:09 PM

that's fine

From: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:53 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America

Do you mind if I forward your email as is below with your info on it?

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:53 PM
To: Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>
Subject: Gulf of America

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Thanks,
Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725

c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Shelton, Michael](#)
To: [Eynard, James D](#); [Milbrath, Joseph T](#); [Fries, Alexander C](#)
Subject: Gulf of America Name Change
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 6:48:21 AM

Good morning, Gentleman!

Hope this finds you all well.

As per the email from Mike Tischler — DOI's member on the BGN — below, could you let me know (A) any maps you've already updated to reflect the change in name to Gulf of America, and/or (B) provide me with a list of products you will update over time.

Many thanks!

/s/ Mike

Michael M. Shelton
Senior Program Analyst
Office of Policy
National Park Service
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on
Geographic Names
1849 C Street NW / Mailstop 2659
Washington, DC 20240-0001
(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)
(202) 371-5189 (Fax)

Teleworking Monday and Tuesday / In the Office Wednesday through Friday

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 9:41 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>; Brown, Wendi-Starr <Wendi-Starr.Brown@bia.gov>; Campbell, Jessica L <jessica_campbell@fws.gov>; Hammond, Chris W <chammond@usgs.gov>; Black, Marielle L <mblack@usbr.gov>; Konzek, Daniel S <daniel_konzek@fws.gov>; Wagner, Frank J <frank_wagner@fws.gov>; Shelton, Michael <Michael_Shelton@nps.gov>; Mahoney, Patrick M <pmmahone@blm.gov>; Smith, Jeremy C <Jeremy.Smith@boem.gov>
Subject: Re: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley

DOI BGN members,

I've received a request from the DOI PMB office this morning to identify - by COB today - any maps that have been updated to reflect the newly changed name of Gulf of America.

Could you please let me know if you have any products responsive to this request, or if you have a list of products you intend to update in time?

Thanks,
m

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Ryker, Sarah J](#); [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Roberts, Sally J](#)
Cc: [Jones, Leslie W](#); [Barrett, Anne](#); [Eustis, Christine E](#)
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 9:25:42 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[GOA implementation feb14.docx](#)

Sarah,

Please see the attached document which includes a list of known implementations, along with an executive summary for your review and edit. This is not a comprehensive list, but only those of which we've been made aware through our outreach or discovered.

Thanks,
m

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 8:56 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Roberts, Sally J <sroberts@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Jones, Leslie W <ljones@usgs.gov>; Barrett, Anne <abarrett@usgs.gov>; Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Farmer, Isis U <isis_farmer@ios.doi.gov>; Lukas, William A <wlukas@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: Gulf of America SO

CSS, OCAP,

Mike did a terrific job today of rounding up the federal family and taking stock of the private sector mappers. This ongoing interest indicates that the topic could use some creative thinking and discussion with partners on identifying noteworthy map updates, and highlighting them appropriately.

Would you please work toward a plan to meet DOI's needs - they were exceptionally collegial about it, but the way these changes rolled slowly across the mapping sector clearly caused them headaches today.

Sarah J Ryker, PhD
Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey
sryker@usgs.gov

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 8:49:13 PM
To: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>; Cameron, Scott J <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>; Farmer, Isis U <isis_farmer@ios.doi.gov>; Jones, Leslie W

<ljones@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Charlie, thanks for the note. We'll do that.

Sarah J Ryker, PhD

Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey

sryker@usgs.gov

From: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 8:44:25 PM

To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>; Cameron, Scott J <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>; Farmer, Isis U <isis_farmer@ios.doi.gov>; Jones, Leslie W <ljones@usgs.gov>

Subject: RE: Gulf of America SO

Thank you very much for this update, Sarah. Please continue to prioritize communications with federal and private sector partners about implementing this name change and provide another update at the end of the week of noteworthy changes to maps that have been implemented.

Charlie Dankert

Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB

202.568.4745

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 6:16 PM

To: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>; Cameron, Scott J <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>; Farmer, Isis U <isis_farmer@ios.doi.gov>; Jones, Leslie W <ljones@usgs.gov>

Subject: FW: Gulf of America SO

Charlie,

Below is a snapshot of where we're seeing the Gulf of America name taking hold visibly in public-facing maps, and our sister agencies' anticipated rate of updates over the next few days. The pace of the change rolling through everyone's systems has definitely picked up late in the day.

Please let us know if you could use anything else immediately –

Sarah J Ryker, PhD
Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey
sryker@usgs.gov

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 5:59 PM
To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Roberts, Sally J <sroberts@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Sarah,

Commercial and government map products are being updated. DOI has two products available now that display the updated name –

- 1) [official map](#) of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System
- 2) USGS [topoBuilder](#) application - Public can create their own maps through the application ([example attached](#)). Takes 30-40m from request to email delivery. This is a good link to share with external stakeholders who need updated maps quickly.

Other departments (see Commerce/NOAA) below are updating maps ASAP and will soon be online.

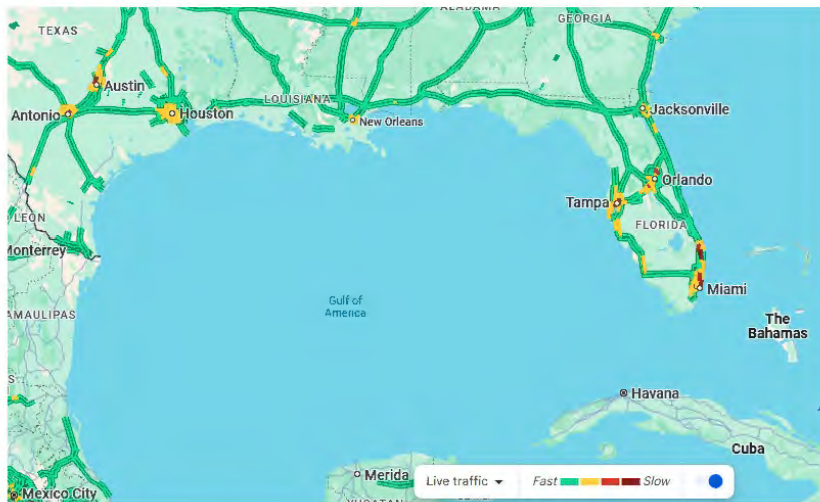
Below is what I know as of 6pm ET.

Commercial sector

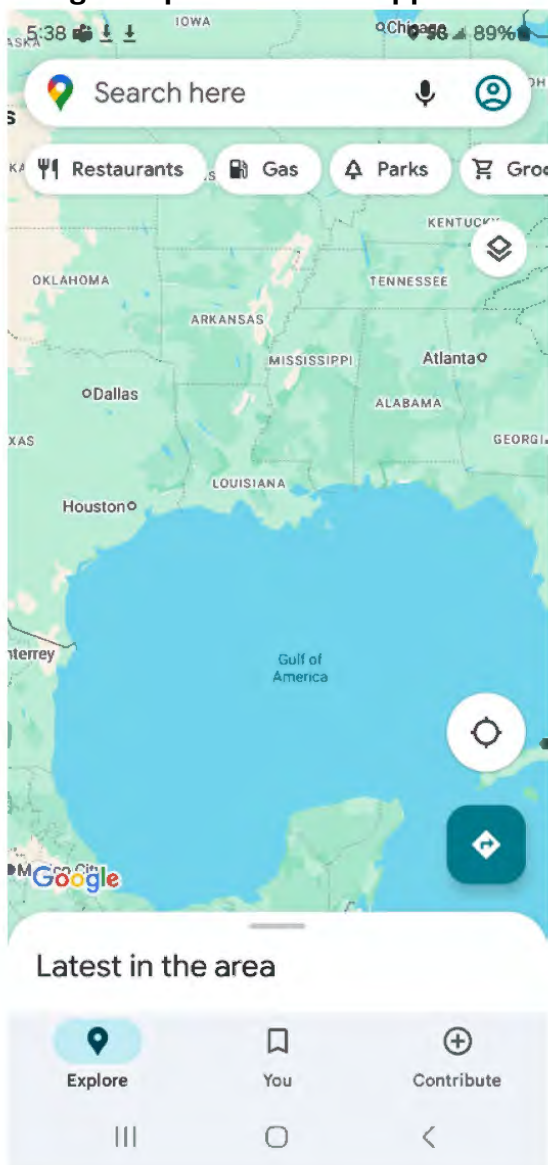
ESRI: Targeting 2/20 for the updated basemaps to be released. There will be a requirement for users with existing apps and webmaps in the Federal space to switch to a new US centric basemap that would include the new names.

Apple: Apple Maps relies on GNIS for much of the core data in our map of the United States. I expect they will be consistent with GNIS and update maps soon.

Google Maps: has been updated. Web browser map:



Google Maps for Android app:



National Geographic: No response

US Government

DOI

USGS: Geographic Names Information System - updated

[Topobuilder](#) - application will now produce an on-demand PDF map with Gulf of America labeled.

Updated dynamic basemaps (i.e., google maps style webmap) for The National Map Viewer and multiple other applications are currently being updated, but will take time.

Staged (i.e., pre-made) US Topo topographic maps will be updated following update of basemaps.

3D Hydrography Program Service will be updated

FWS: The official map of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System has been updated on the [USFWS website](#).

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02/nwrs-and-nfhs-national-map-february-10-2025_1.pdf

For all of our other public-facing map products, FWS are waiting on commercial vendors to update their basemaps.

NPS: Over the next day or two, NPS will assess their archives and provide a list of maps that will be updated over time, including, but not limited to, the park unigrid (i.e., brochure) maps for Padre Island National Seashore, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Big Cypress National Preserve, and Everglades National Park.

BSEE: will update the following:

- Pipelines Map

- Platforms Map

- Unit Polygons Map

- National Renewable Operations

- OCS Facility Infrastructure

- Decommissioning Dashboards & Webapps

- Technical Information Management System

BLM: most webmap applications rely on commercial sources (e.g., ESRI). Those webmaps will be updated when ESRI updates. No additional information received regarding specific products.

USBR: expect to have an update by the end of the day or early tomorrow.

Department of State

Bureau of Global Public Affairs are aware of the need to use names reflected in the databases maintained by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, including the Gulf of America, going forward.

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Complete.

Department of Ag/US Forest Service

Expect an update by COB or early tomorrow.

Department of Commerce

NOAA has updated the first Electronic Navigational Chart (ENC) to reflect the change to "Gulf of America" (ENC cell US1GC09M), and it will be available for download from [website](#) Tuesday morning. The name change will ultimately be applied to more than 500 Electronic Navigational Charts and approximately 260 instances in at least two volumes of the U.S. Coast Pilot. NOAA intends to publish additional updated charts this week with approximately 15-20 charts updating weekly thereafter. It is anticipated that all updates will be completed within the next six months.

From: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:15 AM
To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Good morning Sarah,

Thank you for working this weekend to implement this name change in GNIS.

Please provide an update by COB with a list of Federal and private sector maps that have been changed to the Gulf of America.

Charlie Dankert
Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB
[202.568.4745](tel:202.568.4745)

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From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 7:33:55 PM
To: Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>; Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Absolutely. Thanks to Rob and all of you for working through the approach with us. We'll be watching for the call to proceed tomorrow.

Sarah J Ryker, PhD
Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey
sryker@usgs.gov

From: Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 7:02:12 PM
To: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>; Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Thank you all for your absolute confidence in executing this matter tomorrow.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 5:27 PM
To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Gulf of America SO

Hi Sarah,

Please see attached for the signed Gulf of America SO. This has not been posted publicly. Please work with Rob Lockwood (cc'd) on the appropriate time to share this tomorrow in coordination with the implementation of the name change in GNIS.

Thank you,
Charlie Dankert
Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB
202.568.4745

EXSUM

Significant progress has been made this week in implementing the "Gulf of America" name change across federal, commercial, and open-source maps. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has been actively collaborating with partners across all sectors to update map products, achieving widespread labeling of the Gulf of America. Federal agencies are actively updating their maps, products, and services to comply with the executive order. The USGS has successfully leveraged established partnerships with commercial geospatial companies, ensuring that basemaps used across the geospatial community reflect the updated Gulf of America name. Major commercial geospatial companies, including Apple, Google, and Microsoft, have already updated their basemaps, with ESRI targeting February 20th for release. The USGS has also updated numerous internal map products and applications, including the Geographic Names Information System, Protected Area Database, and The National Map, ensuring that federal mapping resources reflect the name change.

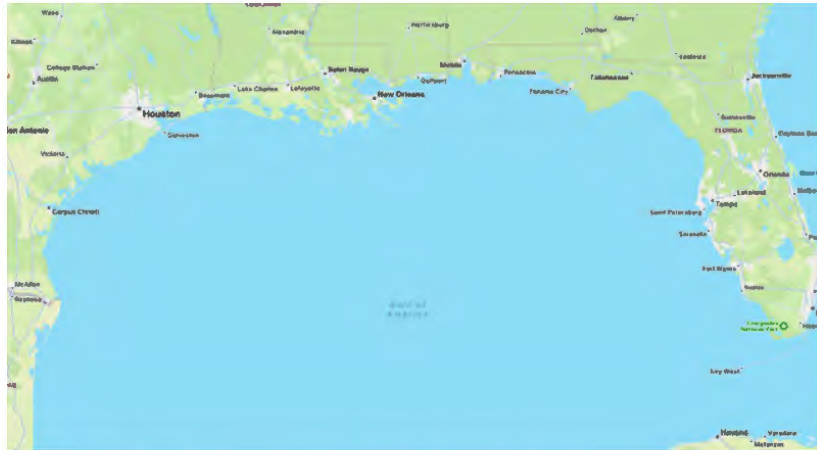
Numerous federal departments and agencies are in the process of updating their maps and related products. The Department of Interior, through its various bureaus, is updating maps related to national parks, wildlife refuges, and other public lands. Notable examples include the National Park System maps, NPS App, and National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System map. The Department of Commerce (NOAA and Census), Department of Transportation (FAA), and Department of Agriculture (US Forest Service) are also implementing updates across their respective map products and services. While some agencies depend on commercial basemap products and are awaiting updates, others have directly updated their internal systems and applications. OpenStreetMap has also implemented the official US name tag, ensuring consistency across open-source mapping platforms. Prominent banners announcing the renaming have been placed on a number of websites hosting web mapping applications and other geospatial products and services.

Commercial sector

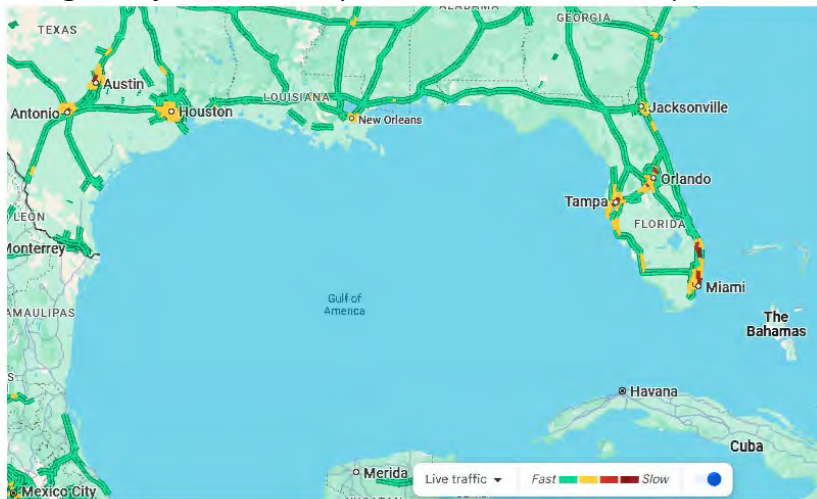
ESRI

Targeting 2/20 for the updated basemaps to be released.

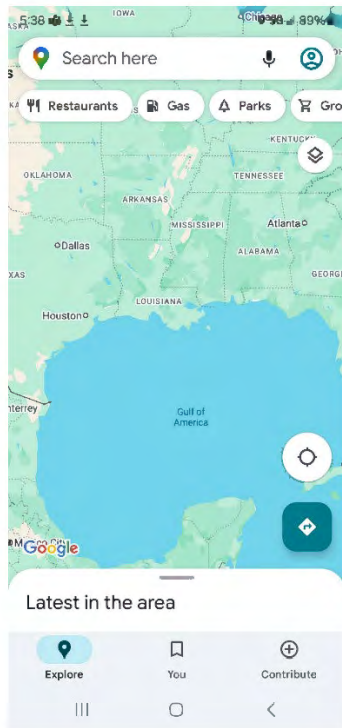
Apple: updated



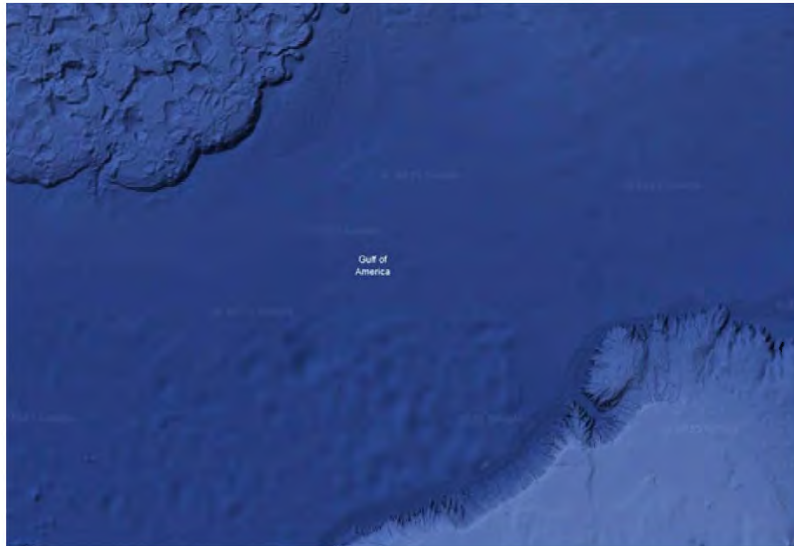
Google Maps: has been updated. Web browser map:



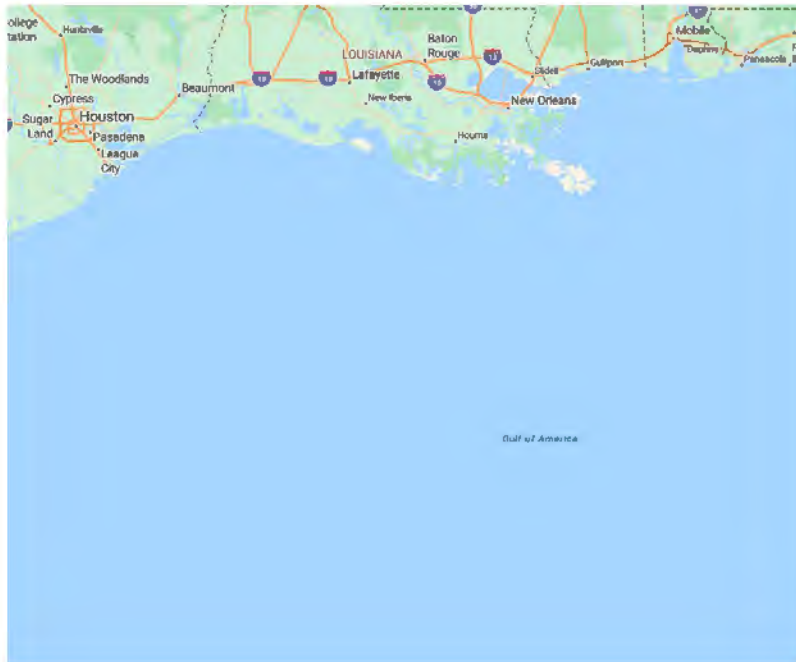
Google Maps for Android app:



Google Earth: updated



Microsoft Bing maps: Updated



National Geographic: No response

International Map Industry Association:

Physical map producers (paper maps, globes, etc.) rely on GNIS as the authoritative name source for the US and assessing the update as appropriate for future products.

US Government

DOI

[Geoplatform Globe](#): updated as of Feb. 13

USGS:

Geographic Names Information System - updated

[Topobuilder](#) - application will generate an on-demand PDF map with Gulf of America labeled. As of Feb. 10, public can create their own maps through the application. Takes 30-40m from request to email delivery. This is a good link to share with external stakeholders who need updated maps quickly.

[The National Map Topo Base map](#) - Updated dynamic topo basemap (i.e., google maps style webmap) for The National Map Viewer and multiple other applications is updated as of Feb. 11. This basemap can serve as the foundation for web mapping applications across the Federal government.

[GNIS Search Tool](#) – default basemap updated as of Feb. 11

[Lidar Explorer](#) – default basemap updated as of Feb. 11

[TNM Viewer](#) – topo basemap updated as of Feb. 11

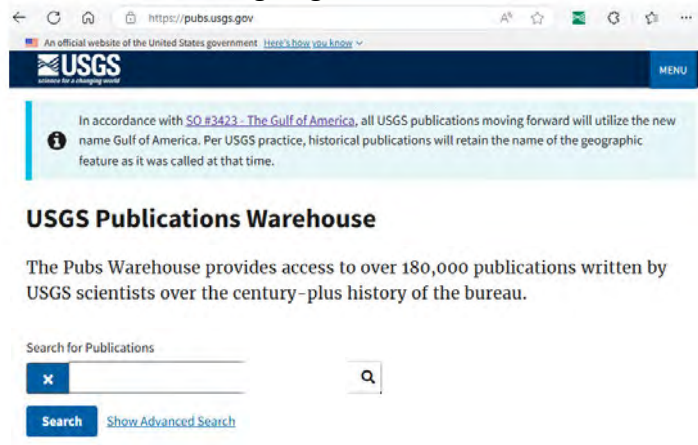
[3D Elevation Program elevation service](#) – default basemap updated as of Feb. 11
[The National Map webmap in ArcGIS Online](#) – topo basemap updated as of Feb. 11
[Protected Area Database US explorer](#) – default basemap updated as of Feb. 13
[USGS Geochron Database Explorer](#) – default basemap updated as of Feb. 14
[USGS National Water Dashboard](#) – default updated as of Feb. 11

USGS Earthquakes

Staged (i.e., pre-made) US Topo topographic maps will be updated following update of basemaps.

3D Hydrography Program Service will be updated

USGS Publications going forward will use Gulf of America



As of February 10, banners have also been placed on several websites hosting web mapping applications that announce the renaming.

FWS:

The official map of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System has been updated on the [USFWS website](https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02/nwrs-and-nfhs-national-map-february-10-2025_1.pdf).
https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02/nwrs-and-nfhs-national-map-february-10-2025_1.pdf

For all other public-facing map products, FWS are waiting on commercial vendors to update their basemaps.

NPS:

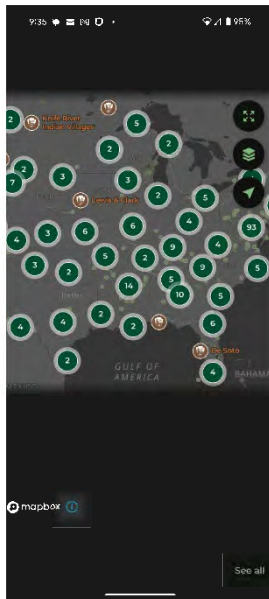
As of February 11, 2025, the Comptroller, Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Director, issued a memorandum instructing cartographers at Harpers Ferry Center to assess their inventory and updating maps — for example, the National Park System Wall Map — to reflect the name change. All maps at www.nps.gov/carto should be fully compliant by the end of the day, or early next week at the latest. NPS have updated park maps for Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, Natchez Trace National Scenic Trail, Palo Alto Battlefield National

Historical Park, San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, Padre Island National Seashore, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Big Cypress National Preserve, and Everglades National Park. The NPS mobile app basemap has additionally been updated.

National Park Service system map: updated



NPS App: updated



BSEE:

The following public facing maps have been updated:

Platforms

Pipelines

Unit Polygons

District Boundaries
BSEE National Renewable Operations Map

BLM:

BLM are preparing to update the approximately 800 public facing web apps and maps that are currently leveraging Esri basemaps and will do so as soon as updated basemaps are available

USBR:

Tessel (internal USBR app) will be updated upon ESRI basemap completion.

Department of State

Bureau of Global Public Affairs are aware of the need to use names reflected in the databases maintained by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, including the Gulf of America, going forward.

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Complete.

Department of Ag/US Forest Service

Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, we have the following:

National scale maps – 3

Regional maps – 3

100K maps -- 305

Forest maps – 21

Regionally Produced Forest Visitor Maps – 1

Ranger district maps -- 30

USFS also produces a large number of 1/24K FS Topo maps. I don't have that number yet, but should have it to you tomorrow.

These figures include Geospatial Office maps products and those produced by the FS Southern Region. It is likely that the local forest units have maps and other publications with the name on it, but I do not have any numbers. Local units are being notified of the need to have their maps/products reflect the name change.

These updates should be completed no later than the end of May.

Department of Commerce

Census Bureau:

1) The live Master Address File/Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Reference (MAF/TIGER) System has been updated with the name "Gulf of America." All future spatial data products (e.g., shapefiles) that include hydrography will reflect the new name. Benchmarks¹ of the MAF/TIGER

database that were in existence prior to Department of Interior Secretarial Order 3423 issued on February 7, 2025 were not modified.

2) All static maps (e.g., pdf, images, printed maps) published after February 7, 2025, that include labels for water features will use the label "Gulf of America."

3) All web map applications published after February 7, 2025, that include labels for water features will use the label "Gulf of America."

4) Existing web map applications that include labels for water features, and are not explicitly associated with the 2020 Census, will be updated to reflect the name "Gulf of America."

5) Existing web map applications that include labels for water features, and are explicitly associated with the 2020 Census, will continue to reflect the name "Gulf of Mexico."

6) The current TIGERweb map application references TIGER benchmark data from our BAS25 benchmark from November 2024. With the next release of the application from our ACS25 benchmark in September 2025, if a user decides to turn on hydrography labels, the application will reflect the name "Gulf of America" as the name has changed within the MAF/TIGER System.

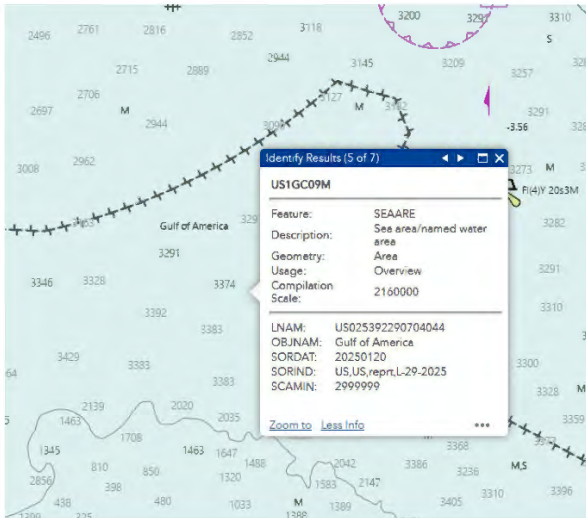
7) For the Decennial TIGERweb and Economic Census TIGERweb map applications, if a user decides to turn on hydrography labels, the applications will continue to reflect the name "Gulf of Mexico," as the change was not in effect in for the data years represented in the applications.

¹ Benchmarks refer to copies of the MAF/TIGER database at a specific point in time.

NOAA:

NOAA Coast Survey updates and releases Electronic Navigational Charts on daily basis. By COB Friday, February 14, 2025, we expect to have released 14 charts updated with the name "Gulf of America" this week, for a total of 14 since this update process started. NOAA has updated the first Electronic Navigational Chart (ENC) to reflect the change to "Gulf of America" (ENC cell US1GC09M), and was available for download Feb. 12. The name change will ultimately be applied to more than 500 Electronic Navigational Charts and approximately 260 instances in at least two volumes of the U.S. Coast Pilot. NOAA intends to publish additional updated charts this week with approximately 15-20 charts updating weekly thereafter. It is anticipated that all updates will be completed within the next six months.

Example Electronic Navigation Chart



Department of Transportation

DOT Geospatial Information Officer has alerted all bureaus of the name change and requested updates of map products. Examples of products already updated are:

National Network for conventional combination trucks

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Freight-Transportation-System-Extent-Use/r3vy-npqd>

Permitted longer combination vehicles on the National Highway System

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Freight-Transportation-System-Extent-Use/r3vy-npqd>

Average daily long-haul truck traffic on the National Highway System

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Freight-Transportation-System-Extent-Use/r3vy-npqd>

Major truck routes on the National Highway System

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Freight-Transportation-System-Extent-Use/r3vy-npqd>

Average truck speeds on select Interstate Highways

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Freight-Transportation-System-Condition-Performanc/vvk5-xjpp>

Peak-period congestion on the National Highway System

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Freight-Transportation-System-Condition-Performanc/vvk5-xjpp>

Peak-period congestion on high-volume truck portions of the National Highway System

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Freight-Transportation-System-Condition-Performanc/vvk5-xjpp>

Interactive Bikeshare and e-Scooter Map

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/fwcs-jprj>

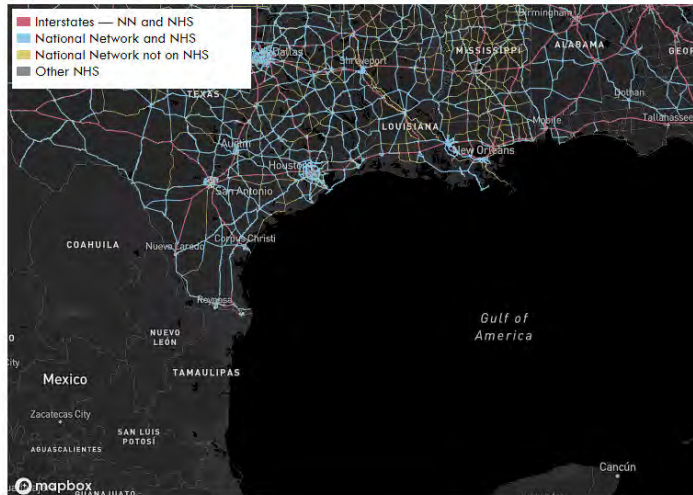
Areas Accessible by Docked Bikeshare

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Areas-Accessible-by-Docked-Bikeshare/8s3h-vvui/>

Effects of COVID-19 on Bikeshare (Docked and Dockless)
and E-scooter Operations
Transportation Geography of the United States 2025

<https://data.bts.gov/stories/s/Effects-of-COVID-19-on-Bikeshare-Docked-and-Dockless/kar5-6dpn/>
<https://www.bts.gov/geography/geospatial-2/transportation-geography-united-states-2025>

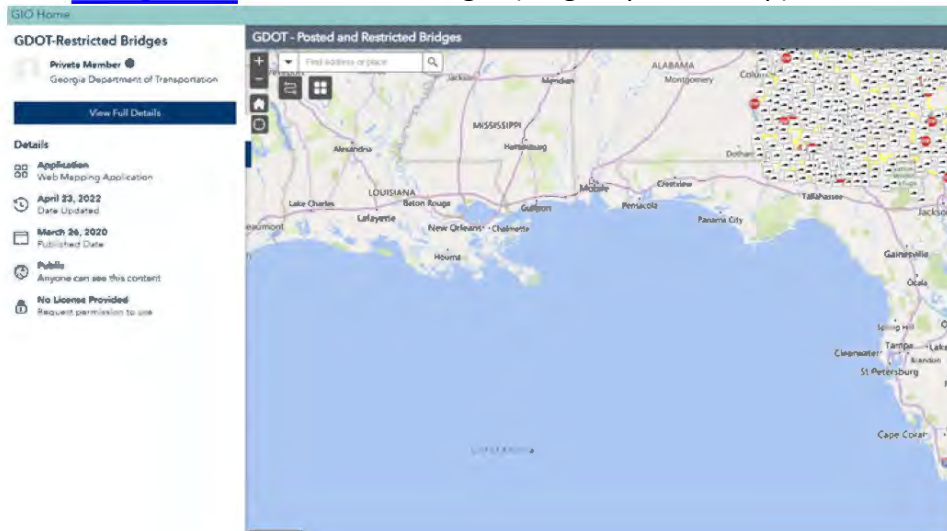
Example: National Network for conventional combination trucks



Federal Aviation Administration has issued a public notice that data and charts are in the process of updating name changes and planned to be published by April 17.

States:

GA: [Georgia DOT](#) – Restricted bridges (bing maps basemap)



Open Source:

Open Street Map basemap has implemented official US Name tag

	Mexico is correct.
official_name:en-US	Gulf of America
official_name:en	Zatoka Meksykańska

From: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
To: [Ryker, Sarah J](#); [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Roberts, Sally J](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Jones, Leslie W](#); [Barrett, Anne](#); [Eustis, Christine E](#); [Farmer, Isis U](#); [Lukas, William A](#)
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:12:03 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Sarah,

I understand the priority to have this implemented quickly, however, we are not a regulatory agency, so we cannot obviously enforce anyone to adapt this change on a timeline. I am a little unclear of the next steps. Christine, do you have a communication approach? We've really done what we can do on the technical side.

Thanks
Jenn

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:56:33 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Roberts, Sally J <sroberts@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Jones, Leslie W <ljones@usgs.gov>; Barrett, Anne <abarrett@usgs.gov>; Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Farmer, Isis U <isis_farmer@ios.doi.gov>; Lukas, William A <wlukas@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: Gulf of America SO

CSS, OCAP,

Mike did a terrific job today of rounding up the federal family and taking stock of the private sector mappers. This ongoing interest indicates that the topic could use some creative thinking and discussion with partners on identifying noteworthy map updates, and highlighting them appropriately.

Would you please work toward a plan to meet DOI's needs - they were exceptionally collegial about it, but the way these changes rolled slowly across the mapping sector clearly caused them headaches today.

Sarah J Ryker, PhD

Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey

sryker@usgs.gov

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 8:49:13 PM

To: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>; Radford, Wynn L

<wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A
<kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>; Cameron, Scott J
<scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>; Farmer, Isis U <isis_farmer@ios.doi.gov>; Jones, Leslie W
<ljones@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Charlie, thanks for the note. We'll do that.

Sarah J Ryker, PhD

Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey

sryker@usgs.gov

From: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 8:44:25 PM

To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>

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<ljones@usgs.gov>

Subject: RE: Gulf of America SO

Thank you very much for this update, Sarah. Please continue to prioritize communications with federal and private sector partners about implementing this name change and provide another update at the end of the week of noteworthy changes to maps that have been implemented.

Charlie Dankert

Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB

202.568.4745

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 6:16 PM

To: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>; Radford, Wynn L

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Subject: FW: Gulf of America SO

Charlie,

Below is a snapshot of where we're seeing the Gulf of America name taking hold visibly in public-facing maps, and our sister agencies' anticipated rate of updates over the next few days. The pace of the change rolling through everyone's systems has definitely picked up late in the day.

Please let us know if you could use anything else immediately –

Sarah J Ryker, PhD
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- 1) [official map](#) of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System
- 2) USGS [topoBuilder](#) application - Public can create their own maps through the application (**example attached**). Takes 30-40m from request to email delivery. This is a good link to share with external stakeholders who need updated maps quickly.

Other departments (see Commerce/NOAA) below are updating maps ASAP and will soon be online.

Below is what I know as of 6pm ET.

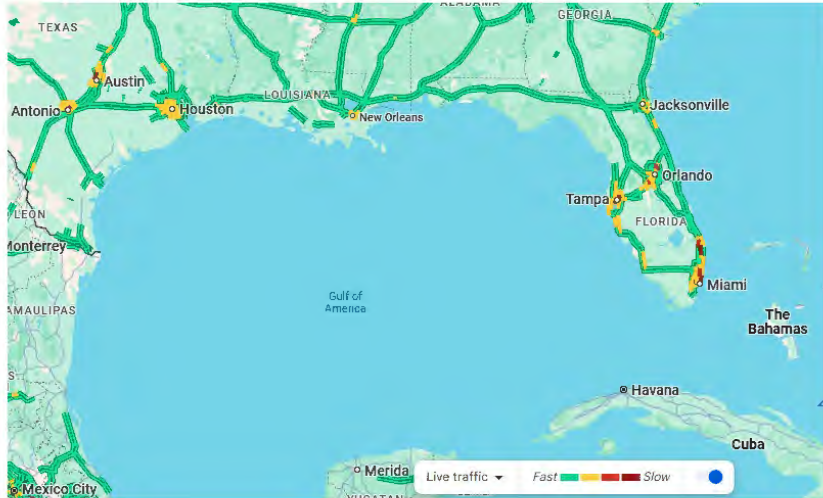
Commercial sector

ESRI: Targeting 2/20 for the updated basemaps to be released. There will be a

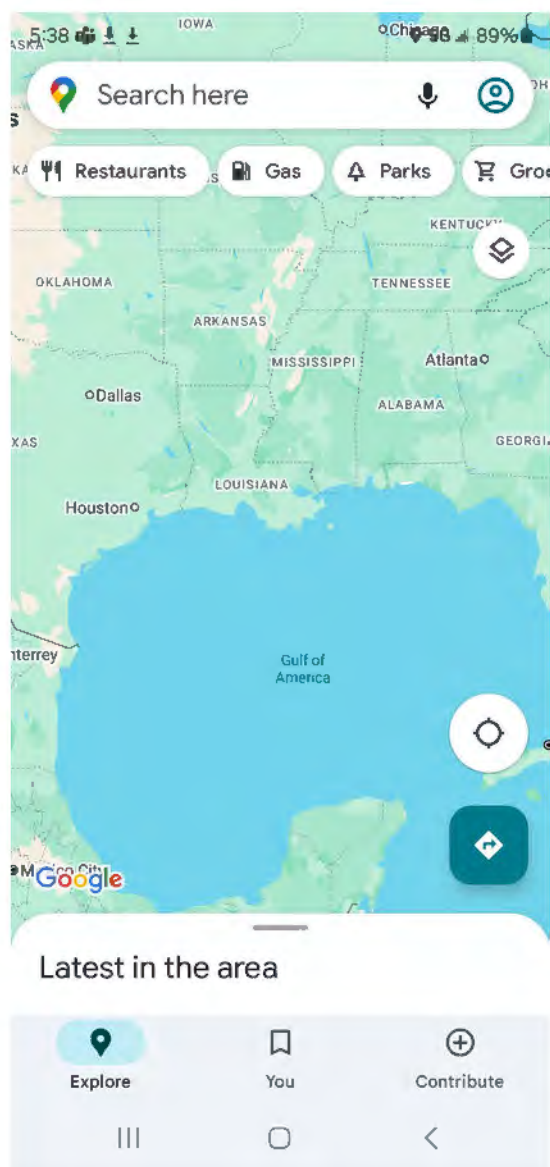
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Google Maps: has been updated. Web browser map:



Google Maps for Android app:



National Geographic: No response

US Government

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[Topobuilder](#) - application will now produce an on-demand PDF map with Gulf of America labeled.

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- Platforms Map

- Unit Polygons Map

- National Renewable Operations

- OCS Facility Infrastructure

- Decommissioning Dashboards & Webapps

- Technical Information Management System

BLM: most webmap applications rely on commercial sources (e.g., ESRI). Those webmaps will be updated when ESRI updates. No additional information received regarding specific products.

USBR: expect to have an update by the end of the day or early tomorrow.

Department of State

Bureau of Global Public Affairs are aware of the need to use names reflected in the databases maintained by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, including the Gulf of America, going forward.

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Complete.

Department of Ag/US Forest Service

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202.568.4745

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To: [Ryker, Sarah J](#)
Cc: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Roberts, Sally J](#)
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 3:45:02 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

From USDA/USFS:

As of today, none of our products or data have yet been updated to reflect the subject geographic name changes, that I am aware of. With the GNIS having been updated to reflect the changes, we can now move on updating data and products.

1. Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, we have the following:
 1. National scale maps -- 3
 2. Regional maps -- 3
 3. 100K maps -- 305
 4. Forest maps -- 21
 5. Regionally Produced Forest Visitor Maps -- 1
 6. Ranger district maps -- 30
2. We also have a large number of 1/24K FS Topo maps. I don't have that number yet, but should have it to you tomorrow.
3. These figures include Geospatial Office maps products and those produced by the FS Southern Region. It is likely that the local forest units have maps and other publications with the name on it, but I do not have any numbers. Local units are being notified of the need to have their maps/products reflect the name change.
4. These updates should be completed no later than the end of May.

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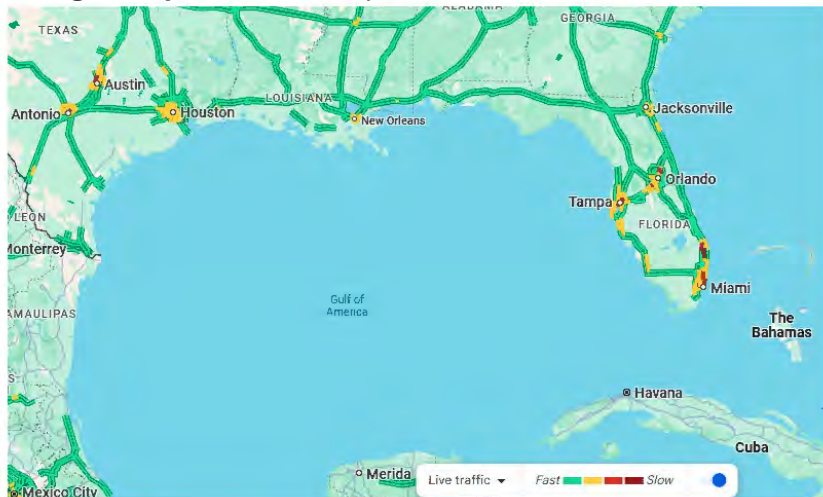
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Thank you and let me know if you need anything else,

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Charlie Dankert
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[202.568.4745](tel:202.568.4745)

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Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 3:02:34 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Thanks Mike for all your hard work on this!

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
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To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
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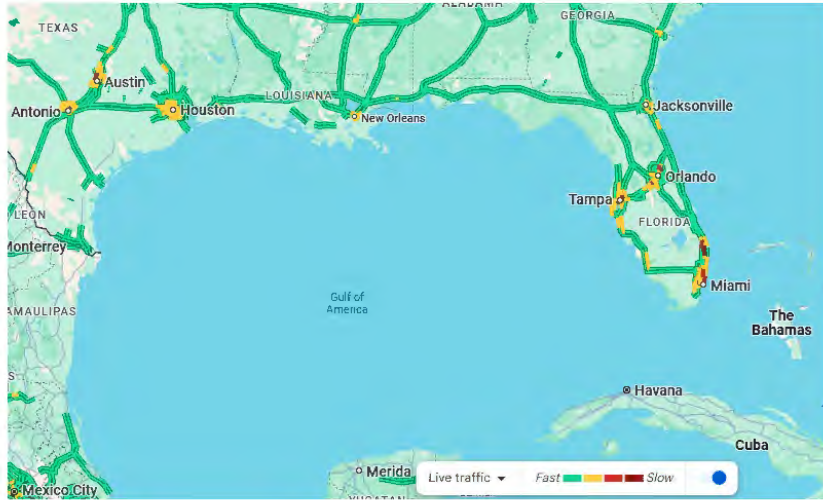
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From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Ryker, Sarah J](#)
Cc: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Roberts, Sally J](#)
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 2:58:32 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[LA_BigConstanceLake_20250210_041123674000_TM_geo.pdf](#)

Sarah,

Commercial and government map products are being updated. DOI has two products available now that display the updated name - 1) [official map](#) of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System 2) Public can create their own maps through the USGS [topoBuilder](#) application (example attached). Takes 30-40m from request to email delivery.

Other departments (see Commerce/NOAA) below are updating maps ASAP and will soon be online.

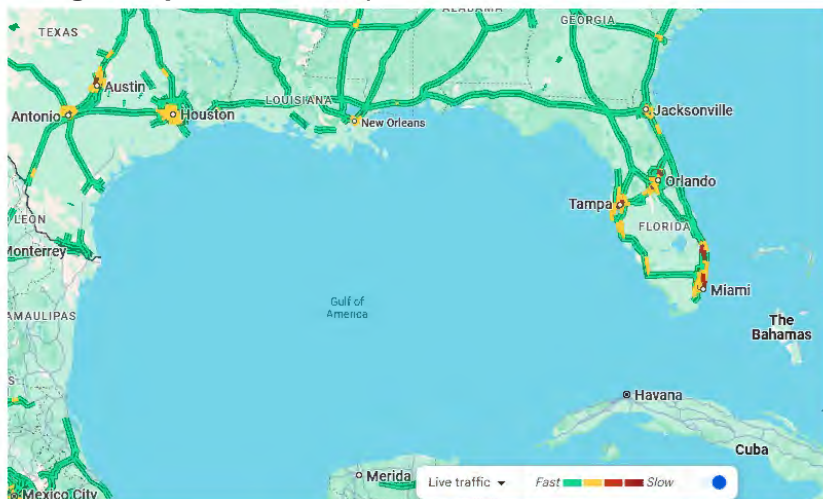
Below is what I know as of 6pm ET.

Commercial

ESRI: Targeting 2/20 for the updated basemaps to be released. There will be a requirement for users with existing apps and webmaps in the Federal space to switch to a new US centric basemap that would include the new names.

Apple: Apple Maps relies on GNIS for much of the core data in our map of the United States. I expect they will be consistent with GNIS and update maps soon

Google Maps: has been updated



National Geographic: No response

US Government:

DOI

USGS: Geographic Names Information System - updated

[Topobuilder](#) - application will now produce an on-demand PDF map with Gulf of America labeled.

Updated dynamic basemaps (i.e., google maps style webmap) for The National Map Viewer and multiple other applications are currently being updated, but will take time.

Staged (i.e., pre-made) US Topo topographic maps will be updated following update of basemaps.

3D Hydrography Program Service will be updated

FWS: The official map of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System has been updated on the [USFWS website](#).

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02/nwrs-and-nfhs-national-map-february-10-2025_1.pdf

For all of our other public-facing map products, FWS are waiting on commercial vendors to update their basemaps.

NPS: No changes have been made as of yet. Over the next day or two, NPS will assess their archives and provide a list of maps that will be updated over time, including, but not limited to, the park unigrid (i.e., brochure) maps for Padre Island National Seashore, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Big Cypress National Preserve, and Everglades National Park.

BSEE: will update the following:

- Pipelines Map

- Platforms Map

- Unit Polygons Map

- National Renewable Operations

- OCS Facility Infrastructure

- Decommissioning Dashboards & Webapps

- Technical Information Management System

BLM: most webmap applications rely on commercial sources (e.g., ESRI). Those webmaps will be updated when ESRI updates. No additional information received regarding specific products.

USBR: expect to have an update by the end of the day or early tomorrow

Department of State

Bureau of Global Public Affairs are aware of the need to use names reflected in the databases maintained by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, including the Gulf of America, going forward.

Thank you and let me know if you need anything else,

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Feature for the Gulf of America has been successfully committed into the Geographic Names System, the authoritative federal database for foreign names.

Department of Ag/US Forest Service

Expect an update by COB or early tomorrow

Department of Commerce

NOAA's has updated the first Electronic Navigational Chart (ENC) to reflect the change to "Gulf of America" (ENC cell US1GC09M), and it will be available for download from [our website](#) Tuesday morning. The name change will ultimately be applied to more than 500 Electronic Navigational Charts and approximately 260 instances in at least two volumes of the U.S. Coast Pilot. We intend to publish additional updated charts this week with approximately 15-20 charts updating weekly thereafter. It is anticipated that all updates will be completed within the next six months.

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:34 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Cc: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Roberts, Sally J <sroberts@usgs.gov>

Subject: FW: Gulf of America SO

Mike, can your folks come up with a useful response?

Sarah J Ryker, PhD

Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey

sryker@usgs.gov

From: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>

Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:15 AM

To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

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Please provide an update by COB with a list of Federal and private sector maps that have been changed to the Gulf of America.

Charlie Dankert

Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB

[202.568.4745](tel:202.568.4745)

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From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>

Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 7:33:55 PM

To: Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>; Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Absolutely. Thanks to Rob and all of you for working through the approach with us. We'll be watching for the call to proceed tomorrow.

Sarah J Ryker, PhD

Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey

sryker@usgs.gov

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Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

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Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: Gulf of America SO

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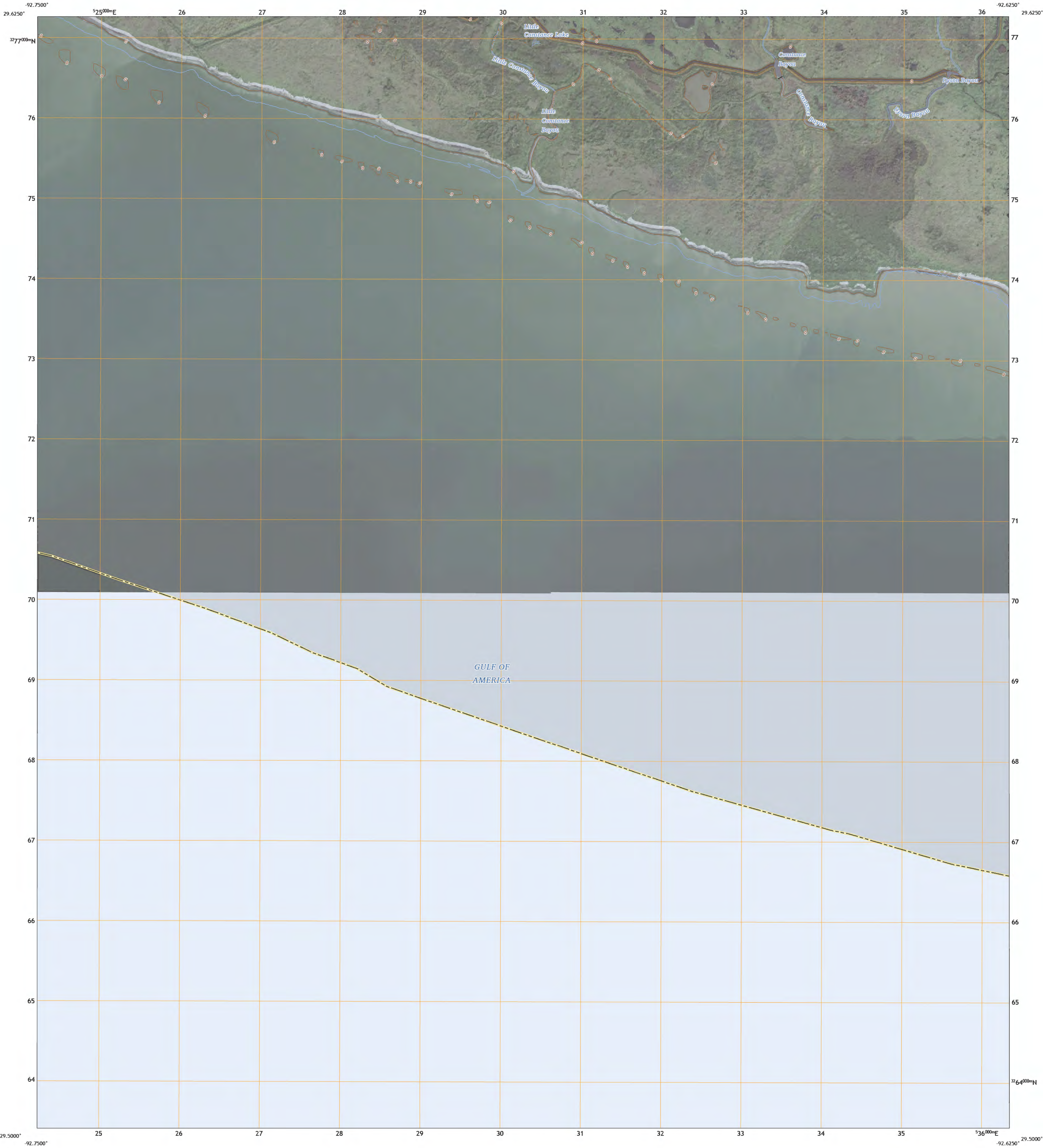
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Charlie Dankert

Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB

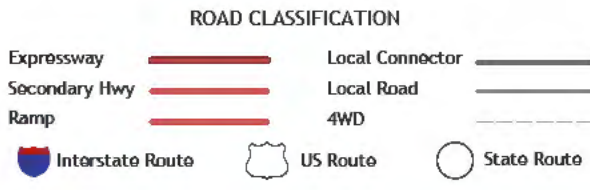
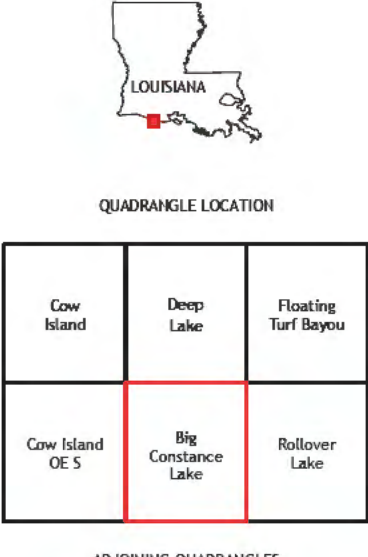
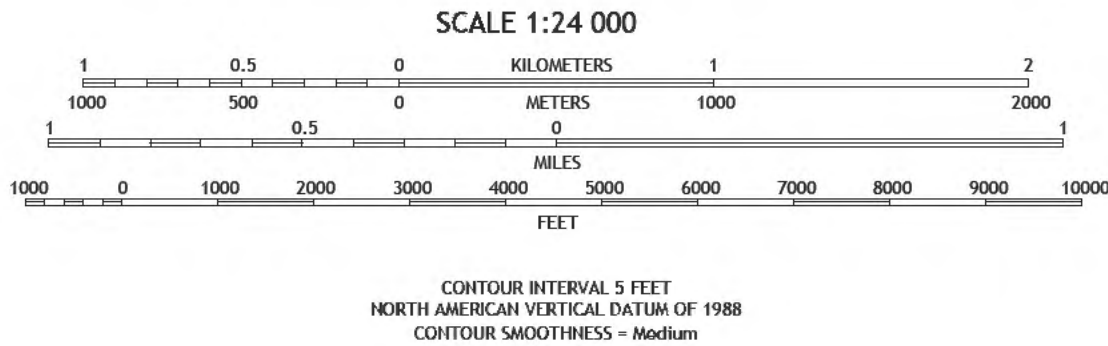
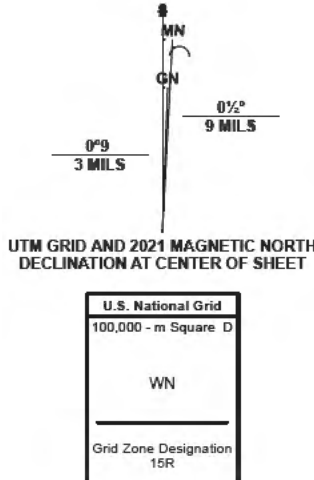
202.568.4745



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84). Projection and
1 000-meter grid/Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 18R.
Data is provided by The National Map (TNM), is the best available at the time of map
generation, and includes data content from supporting themes of Elevation,
Hydrography, Geographic Names, Boundaries, Transportation, Structures, Land Cover,
and Orthoregistry. Refer to associated Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC)
Metadata for additional source data information.

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before entering private lands. Temporal changes may have occurred since these data
were collected and some data may no longer represent actual surface conditions.

Learn About The National Map: <https://nationalmap.gov>



BIG CONSTANCE LAKE, LA
2025

From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Altheide, Phyllis S](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#)
Cc: [Boggs, Hannah K](#); [Davis, Larry R](#)
Subject: RE: Gulf of America SO
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 10:05:56 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Mike,

Let's start with this. Phyllis is working on numbers but hopefully this at least gets you something:

The map view that is displayed via the web is created from a base map cache. A base map cache consists of map tile chips that have been "pre-rendered" which allow for the user to experience instant draw time when looking at an image on the screen, including if the user decides to pan around the map display via the web viewer.

The base map caches in the viewers managed by NGTOC contain hundreds of map tile chips. The viewers are designed to allow for on-the-fly rendering by pulling in the relevant chips, with each chip having multiple pyramids to allow for seamless zooming in and out. These chips work together as a set, they must be updated all together or the relationships governing the cartographic content (what is seen first, where features that intersect take priority on the map) will be broken. To put it simply at that point the map won't "look right" to the public, and there will probably be issues with zooming in and out.

NGTOC will work to update the chips for these basemaps (this involves multiple teams) to include new rendering, pyramid building, and indexing to replace the outdated chips, and test the entire map to ensure cartographic relationships are preserved and panning and zooming appears seamless and instantaneous for the user. Our standard operating procedure for this about four weeks from start to finish given the complexity of our data and the amount of map tile chips. We can look at ways to expediate this process however.

Kim

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 9:01 AM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>
Cc: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

I would hope to pass it along as part of the response today, but understand if that's not possible.

From: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 10:59 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>
Cc: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Gulf of America SO

Mike, any chance we can get this to you later this week? We'd like to make sure we get the OnDemand products out first then we can work on this. We can let you know if this ask is easy, medium, or hard and then go from there?

Kim

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 8:59 AM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>
Cc: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrddavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

wonderful - thanks, Kim and team!

Another request that might help in explaining the difficulty in updating basemaps...

would it be possible to get an estimate of the number of tiles that have to be recompiled/rendered/delivered in order to update the basemap for a feature as large as GOA?

Communicating that it is not just 1 map, but 350,000 small maps (or whatever the number), that have to be updated might help us. If this is not a simple request...don't worry about it. It's already a very busy day.

thanks,
m

From: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 10:54 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>
Cc: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrddavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Gulf of America SO

Also – after the NGTOC gets the work completed and tested for OnDemand products (we are hoping to have these available as late as close of business today) we will approach the basemap updates.

As Phyllis stated it can take some time to update the basemap cache. Phyllis and I talked yesterday and we will work with the teams involved to discuss ways we could potentially expediate this and

provide the options to NGP for decision.

Lindsay Decker is working the GNIS staged products this morning and will also send an update when these are complete.

Kim

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:49 AM
To: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrDavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

thank you, Phyllis! appreciate the clarification.

From: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 9:47 AM
To: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrDavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Mike,

The spreadsheet is a bit confusing as it does not break down each row in sufficient detail. The topoBuilder application has three parts - the ability to create OnDemand topos, the banner to explain the basemap, and the basemap update.

The basemap update will impact three viewers (topoBuilder, GNIS Serach, and TNMViewer) that we host, and many external applications that use the web service. We have made adding banners to the other viewers a high priority, and we are also expediting the basemap update, but I do not have a schedule yet. Normally it takes about 4 weeks to update the basemap cache due to the sheer volume of data processing and verification that needs to occur.

The other important thing to update are the GNIS staged products, as these are what most federal agencies use to create their products. They download a GNIS staged product, load it into their systems, and that drives their production and update. Once we have the GNIS staged products updated, you (or maybe Gita or Bob?) can notify the other federal agencies that this is ready.

Thanks,
Phyllis

=====

Phyllis Altheide palthaide@usgs.gov

Associate of the Innovation Office at

National Geospatial Technical Operations Center (NGTOC).

USGS Science for a Changing World

From: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:45 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrddavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Gulf of America SO

Mike, here you go.

 2025 01 Restoring Names.xlsx

Josh

Joshua D. Nimetz
U.S. Geological Survey
720-576-1838 mobile

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 6:45 AM
To: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Can you also share with me, if you have it, the prioritized list of data/products/services that Ariel put together? I thought Ariel shared it with me, but I can't seem to find it right this second.

From: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 8:42 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Gulf of America SO

Good morning Mike,

Adding Phyllis, who has directed staff to add banners to TNM viewer and Gazetteer apps ASAP, hopefully by COB today. Phyllis has also directed staff to expedite updating basemap cache to reflect Gulf of America in these applications, as well as other public-facing map apps. We will need to follow up with an updated schedule for these.

Thanks,
Josh

Joshua D. Nimetz
U.S. Geological Survey
720-576-1838 mobile

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 6:30 AM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Cc: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: Gulf of America SO

Hi folks,

What will we have by COB...GNIS and topobuilder? Anything else?

Thanks,
m

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:34 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Roberts, Sally J <sroberts@usgs.gov>
Subject: FW: Gulf of America SO

Mike, can your folks come up with a useful response?

Sarah J Ryker, PhD
Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey
sryker@usgs.gov

From: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:15 AM
To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
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Good morning Sarah,

Thank you for working this weekend to implement this name change in GNIS.

Please provide an update by COB with a list of Federal and private sector maps that have been changed to the Gulf of America.

Charlie Dankert

Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB
[202.568.4745](tel:202.568.4745)

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From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 7:33:55 PM
To: Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>; Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Absolutely. Thanks to Rob and all of you for working through the approach with us. We'll be watching for the call to proceed tomorrow.

Sarah J Ryker, PhD

Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey

sryker@usgs.gov

From: Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 7:02:12 PM
To: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>; Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A

<kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

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Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB

202.568.4745

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 5:36:53 AM

I've been chatting with her.

From: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 8:32 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

I know - I saw that too. Would you like me to respond to Sarah?

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 8:31 AM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: Gulf of America SO

Hi Jenn,

We have made it very clear from the start that data, maps, products, and services will take time to update. I was not aware of any expectation for map products to be made updated today.

Thanks,
m

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:34 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Roberts, Sally J <sroberts@usgs.gov>

Subject: FW: Gulf of America SO

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sryker@usgs.gov

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To: Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>; Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

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Sarah J Ryker, PhD
Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey
sryker@usgs.gov

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Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 7:02:12 PM
To: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>; Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

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To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Gulf of America SO

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Thank you,

Charlie Dankert

Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB

202.568.4745

From: [Ryker, Sarah J](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: FW: Gulf of America SO
Date: Saturday, February 8, 2025 4:40:37 PM
Attachments: [SO 3423 - Gulf of America.pdf](#)

Mike,

Attached is the (obviously close-hold) signed but not published S.O. I'm glad the Secretary's office was comfortable sending it to us.

Sarah J Ryker, PhD
Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey
sryker@usgs.gov

From: Radford, Wynn L wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 7:02 PM
To: Dankert, Charles M charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov; Ryker, Sarah J sryker@usgs.gov
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov; Martin, Kathryn A kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov; Patnaik, Bivan R bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Re: Gulf of America SO

Thank you all for your absolute confidence in executing this matter tomorrow.

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From: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 6:28 PM
To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lockwood, Robert E <robert_lockwood@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Radford, Wynn L <wynn_radford@ios.doi.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Gulf of America SO

Hi Sarah,

Please see attached for the signed Gulf of America SO. This has not been posted publicly.

Please work with Rob Lockwood (cc'd) on the appropriate time to share this tomorrow in coordination with the implementation of the name change in GNIS.

Thank you,

Charlie Dankert

Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB
202.568.4745

1965-1966

1965-1966

1965-1966

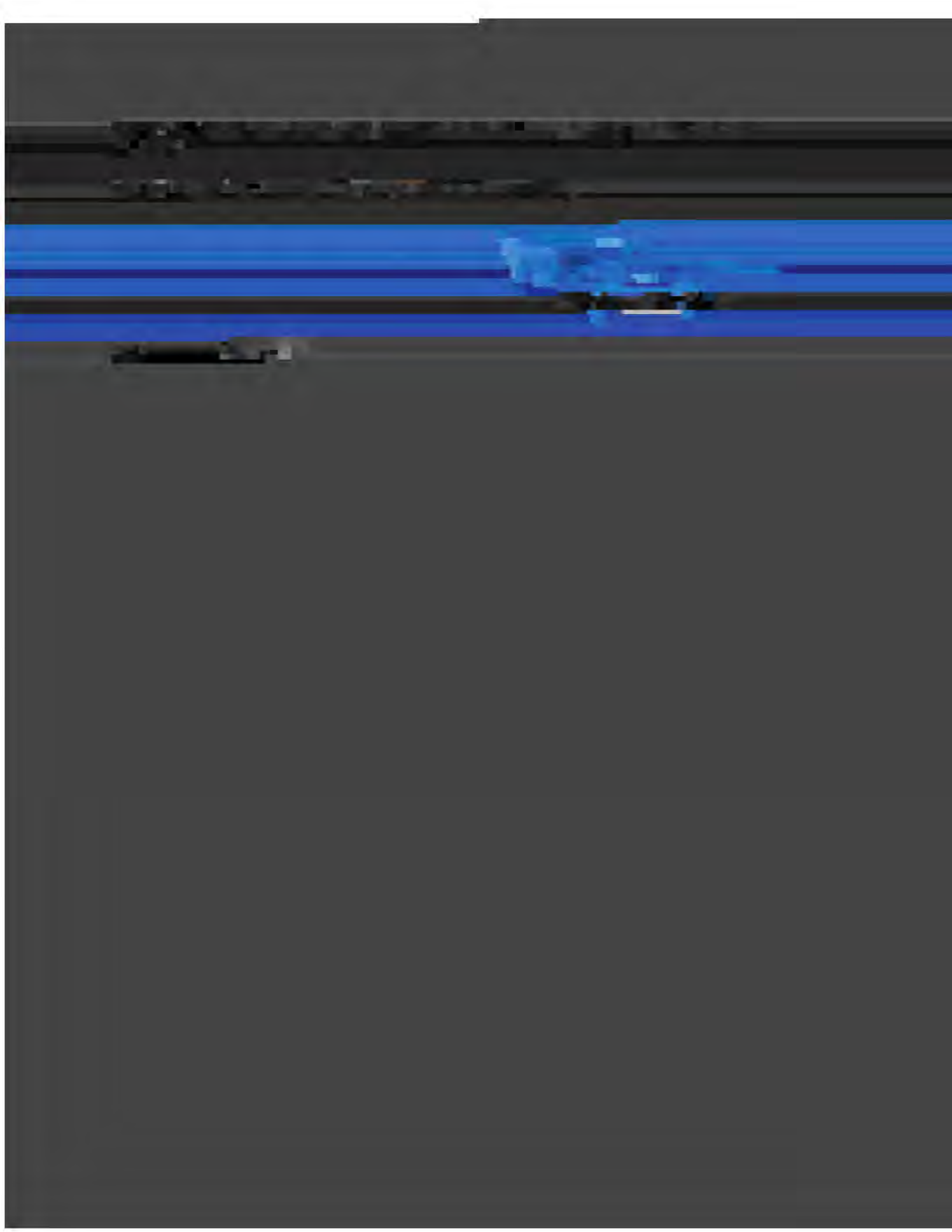
1965-1966

1965-1966

1965-1966

1965-1966

1965-1966



From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Davis, Larry R](#); [Lukas, Vicki](#); [Anderson, Rebecca \(Becci\)](#); [Saghy, David L](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Arundel, Samantha I](#)
Subject: Fw: Interactions at GeoWeek 2025
Date: Saturday, February 8, 2025 9:05:04 AM
Attachments: [GeoWeek 2025 - Communication and Talking Points.pdf](#)

Hey folks,

Please pass this on to anyone we may have missed.

Special thanks to Cindy for her help on the 3DEP messaging and to Chris for helping us include points we hadn't even thought of!

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From: Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 8, 2025 9:34:07 AM
To: Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>; Caturia, Marcelle L <mcaturia@usgs.gov>; Cretini, Christopher <cretinic@usgs.gov>; Cunningham, Marilyn L <mlcunningham@usgs.gov>; Danielson, Jeffrey J <daniels@usgs.gov>; Fredericks, Xan M <afredericks@usgs.gov>; Fuller, Tracy <tfuller@usgs.gov>; Guidero, Elaine M <eguidero@usgs.gov>; Hadley, Brian C <bhadley@usgs.gov>; Huselid, Elizabeth C <ehuselid@usgs.gov>; Irwin, Jeffrey R <jirwin@usgs.gov>; James, Melissa L <mjames@usgs.gov>; Kaufman, Alexander J <akaufman@usgs.gov>; Kloth, Walter F <wkloth@usgs.gov>; Lowe, Amanda J <alowe@usgs.gov>; Lumsden, Brandon S <blumsden@usgs.gov>; Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Maxwell, James P <jpmaxwel@usgs.gov>; Miller-Corbett, Cynthia <cmcorbet@usgs.gov>; Nail, David S <dnail@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Shavers, Ethan J <eshavers@usgs.gov>; Stauffer, Andy J <astauffer@usgs.gov>; Stoker, Jason <jstoker@usgs.gov>; Thatcher, Cindy <thatcher@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>
Subject: Interactions at GeoWeek 2025

To all attending GeoWeek 2025,

As we work together to navigate the transition with the incoming Presidential Administration, we need to ensure all USGS attendees provide consistent messaging when approached with questions from the public, contractors, and others.

Please review the following information regarding communications. I have attached a copy to this email for your reference and will also ensure some hard copies are available for staff to reference at the USGS booth in the exhibit hall.

- For the GPSC and financial assistance contracts (partnerships), if you are approached by a federal employee, contractor or other with questions

regarding invoicing or payments on active contracts under BIL or IRA funding, please immediately refer them to the Contracting Officer or Grant Specialist as listed below. There are no details that we can provide at this time. If you are unsure about a project or task order, or are not comfortable answering this question you can refer them to Hannah Boggs, Josh Nimetz, Walter Kloth, or Kim Mantey.

- Contracting Officer for GPSC is Trisha Beals.
- Grant Specialist for partnerships is Tania Cerda.

- OnDemand products through the topoBuilder application are available effective 2/10/2025. These OnDemand products do show the Gulf of America. All viewers (eg. topoBuilder, National Map Viewer) are being updated with the change and will reflect the updates at a later date.
 - Staged products such as the US Topo 7.5 min quads will be updated to reflect the change to the Gulf of America at a later date. Please use topoBuilder to get the updated maps until further notice.

- How to get involved in acquisition? Refer them to the GPSC website, Contracting Officer Representative Walter Kloth, and/or Contracting Officer Trisha Beals.

- For the hiring freeze, confirm we are currently under a hiring freeze but we can still discuss opportunities for students.

Other Talking Points:

What % of the nation is covered with 3DEP data?

- The 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) has progressed significantly, with 98.3% of the Nation covered by elevation data that meet 3DEP specifications for high accuracy and resolution. The program is on track to complete the national baseline of consistent, high-resolution 3D elevation data by Fiscal Year 2026 depending on budget and partnerships. We are already in transition to the next generation of 3DEP and collecting higher quality data on a faster refresh rate to meet growing demands that were documented in the 3D Nation Elevation Requirements and Benefits Study. The new goal is to refresh CONUS in 5 years and AK, HI and territories in 8 years at QL2 or higher.

What is next after 3DEP completes national coverage?

- While the initial 3DEP coverage provides an essential baseline reference,

the addition of multiple repeat topographic lidar coverage which began in the last few years significantly expands analysis capabilities and supports applications necessary for a more resilient economy, such as flood risk management, infrastructure construction and management, energy development, critical minerals exploration and more.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Hannah Boggs

Deputy Director

National Geospatial Technical Operations Center

U.S. Geological Survey

Denver Federal Center

BLDG 810, MS 510, Room 3001B

Lakewood, CO 80225-0046

303-202-4482

From: [Curtis, Stacy](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Leaders Blog post -- BGN
Date: Thursday, January 30, 2025 9:01:38 AM

Hi, Mike,

I wanted to reach out about a potential Leaders Blog post on the role and recent work on name changes implemented by the Board on Geographic Names (Gulf of America and Mount McKinley).

What are your thoughts on this topic for a Leaders Blog post?

thanks,
Stacy

Stacy Curtis (she/her)

U.S. Geological Survey
Internal Communications Officer | Office of Communications and Publishing (OCAP)
Cell: 703.863.0125
ICF Associate Certified Coach (ACC). Ask me about coaching!

From: [Curtis, Stacy](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Fw: Memo: Implementation of Secretary's Orders 3423 and 3424
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 10:45:25 AM
Attachments: [PMB Mt McKinley GoA Implementation Guidance Signed 02142025.pdf](#)

From: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 5:17 PM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>; Huggler, Matthew <mhuggler@usgs.gov>; Curtis, Stacy <scurtis@usgs.gov>
Cc: Jones, Leslie W <ljones@usgs.gov>; Lukas, William A <wlukas@usgs.gov>; Farmer, Isis U <isis_farmer@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: FW: Memo: Implementation of Secretary's Orders 3423 and 3424

Christine & co.,

We've been holding our draft all-employee email on changing the rest of the Gulf webpages, project names, etc – we were awaiting the implementation deadline. Attached, the Department has now sent out their guidance, and it includes McKinley.

Would internal comms start updating the draft AEE for transmittal?

Thanks –

Sarah J Ryker, PhD
Acting Director, U.S. Geological Survey
sryker@usgs.gov

From: Dankert, Charles M <charles_dankert@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 4:20 PM
To: Cameron, Scott J <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>; Foster, Maureen D <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>; Mercier, Bryan K <Bryan.Mercier@bia.gov>; Macdonald, Cara Lee <cara_macdonald@ios.doi.gov>; Zerzan, Gregory P <gregory_zerzan@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>; Palumbo, David M <DPalumbo@usbr.gov>; Dearman, Tony L <Tony.Dearman@bie.edu>; Gidner, Jerold L <jerold_gidner@btfa.gov>; Cruickshank, Walter <Walter.Cruickshank@boem.gov>; Owens, Glenda H <gowens@osmre.gov>; Raby, Jon K <jraby@blm.gov>; Huang, Paul P <Paul.Huang@bsee.gov>; Souza, Paul <paul_souza@fws.gov>; Bowron, Jessica <Jessica_Bowron@nps.gov>; Patnaik, Bivan R <bivan_patnaik@ios.doi.gov>; Brewer, John D <john_brewer@ios.doi.gov>; Duchesne, Tammy A <tammy_duchesne@ios.doi.gov>; Fink, Wendy R <Wendy_R_Fink@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Farmer, Isis U <isis_farmer@ios.doi.gov>; Romano, Caroline G <caroline_romano@ios.doi.gov>; Van Dusen, Janine B <janine.vandusen@bia.gov>; Abimbola, Oluwarotimi M <oluwarotimi_abimbola@ios.doi.gov>; Smith, Thomas D <thomas_smith@ios.doi.gov>; Irish, Tony C <Tony.Irish@sol.doi.gov>

Subject: Memo: Implementation of Secretary's Orders 3423 and 3424

Importance: High

Assistant Secretaries and Heads of Bureaus and Offices -

The attached memorandum provides guidance on the Department's implementation of Executive Order No. 14172 "Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness" and Secretary's Order 3423, "The Gulf of America" and Order 3424, "Mount McKinley and Landmarks Honoring the Alaskan People" .

Please conduct your reviews of offices, documents, policies, internal and public-facing webpages, signage, and other materials that reference the "Gulf of Mexico" or "Denali" and efficiently change all references, as appropriate, to the "Gulf of America" or "Mount McKinley" **by February 28, 2025**. Requests to delay implementation should be sent to the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget **no later than February 28, 2025**.

Thank you,

Charlie Dankert

Senior Advisor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of AS-PMB



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

February 14, 2025

Memorandum

To: Assistant Secretaries
Heads of Bureaus and Offices

From: Charles (Charlie) Dankert
Senior Advisor to the Secretary
Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management, and Budget

Subject: Implementation of Secretary's Order 3423 and 3424

**CHARLES
DANKERT**

Digitally signed by
CHARLES DANKERT
Date: 2025.02.14
19:28:24 -05'00'

Pursuant to President Trump's Executive Order No. 14172, "Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness," and Secretary Burgum's Order 3423, "The Gulf of America" and Order 3424, "Mount McKinley and Landmarks Honoring the Alaskan People", the Board of Geographic Names renamed the "Gulf of Mexico" to the "Gulf of America", on February 9, 2025 and reinstated the name "Mount McKinley" to the summit named "Denali", on February 14, 2025.

In accordance with the Secretary's Orders, all Bureaus and Offices must immediately take steps to implement the name changes. Bureaus and Offices must conduct a review of offices, documents, policies, internal and public-facing webpages, signage, and other materials that reference the "Gulf of Mexico" or "Denali" and efficiently change all references, as appropriate, to the "Gulf of America" or "Mount McKinley" by February 28, 2025.

Bureaus or Offices may request a delay of implementation to the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget due to estimated costs, applicable laws, or other reasons no later than February 28, 2025.

From: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: Name change maps and TopoBuilder
Date: Thursday, January 30, 2025 3:46:45 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-gk3heivh.png](#)

Thanks, Mike! I let Sarah know. I will help you out if I can.

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>
Pronouns: she/her
"Be kind. Be patient. Be safe"

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 5:46:16 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Name change maps and TopoBuilder

Thanks for trying- I can cover for one month, and we will go from there.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 6:43:21 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Name change maps and TopoBuilder

Hi Jenn,

Given the short timeframe, i've given my team the green-light to proceed with a scale-up. If we are unsuccessful with DOI or USGS funding, and your AD flex is spoken for, I can cover from my own flex funds.

Even if we don't get the pulse of activity I'm expecting, this will be a good test to scale up the resources.

Thanks
M

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

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From: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 5:35:34 PM

To: Ryker, Sarah J <sryker@usgs.gov>

Cc: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Jones, Leslie W <ljones@usgs.gov>

Subject: Name change maps and TopoBuilder

Sarah,

I wanted to draw to your attention an idea that might have interest in ASWS. The two name changes (Mount McKinley, Gulf of America) are both of national significance, and we expect an increased demand for USGS/NGP map products that show the newly labeled features.

While the initial change in the authoritative name database (GNIS) will be nearly immediate, most map products will take some time - days to months - to update. This includes the basemaps on all NGP applications, web services, and USTopo maps.

The exception to this is the dynamic mapping application is TopoBuilder. TopoBuilder was designed to read real-time from data services that are kept up to date and create a map on-the-fly. As soon as GNIS is updated with the new names, TopoBuilder will be able to produce maps with the new names.

TopoBuilder is a cloud-native application that relies on numerous machines in the cloud to compile a map request and deliver the map by email. Each machine in the cloud has a cost, and we have constrained the number of possible machines to maximize value for our budget. As a result, it takes an average of 2hrs to deliver a map upon request. We expect increased requests from the public, and if the Department will want to promote/encourage DOI maps to show the renamed features it may be beneficial to scale-up the number of cloud machines to accommodate the expected increase, and shorten the delivery time to ~30 minutes. While the overall cost is somewhat demand based, we do not expect the increased cost to exceed \$40k/month, which we currently don't have funds to cover. However, if you think it would be of interest to ASWS and they have access to funding, it might be something to propose.

Please let me know if you would like to discuss further,

Jenn

Jennifer Lacey

Associate Director, Core Science Systems

U.S. Geological Survey

Reston, VA

Mobile: 605-305-0140

<http://www.usgs.gov/>

Pronouns: she/her

"Be kind. Be patient. Be safe"



From: [Peace, Elizabeth](#)
To: [Martin, Kathryn A](#); [Mahoney, Kailyn M](#); [Friar, Daniel P](#); [Rybacki, Megan A](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: RE: Name Changes
Date: Friday, January 31, 2025 5:32:57 AM

Mike, can you give permissions to the folder to the staff on this thread?

We appreciate the efforts that went into this!

J. Elizabeth Peace
Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior

From: Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 8:31 AM
To: Peace, Elizabeth <jennifer_peace@ios.doi.gov>; Mahoney, Kailyn M <kailyn_mahoney@ios.doi.gov>; Friar, Daniel P <daniel_friar@ios.doi.gov>; Rybacki, Megan A <megan_rybacki@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: Name Changes

TY! Maps are showing up for me but it could be user error.

From: Peace, Elizabeth <jennifer_peace@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2025 8:24 AM
To: Mahoney, Kailyn M <kailyn_mahoney@ios.doi.gov>; Martin, Kathryn A <kathryn_martin@ios.doi.gov>; Friar, Daniel P <daniel_friar@ios.doi.gov>; Rybacki, Megan A <megan_rybacki@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Name Changes

Morning. USGS has prepared maps of the soon-to-be-renamed locations if we need those for web or socials or RTQs:

[OneDrive](#)

J. Elizabeth Peace
Senior Public Affairs Specialist
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Lukas, Vicki](#); [Zahniser, Shellie R](#); [Davis, Larry R](#)
Cc: [Aichele, Stephen S](#)
Subject: Re: NWI to follow USGS lead on renaming Gulf of America
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:21:46 AM

for the question about how to "ensure consistency in cartography between NWI and USGS [3DHP]" - that might be something for Steve or Sylvia to handle...

thanks,
m

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:14 AM
To: Lukas, Vicki <vlukas@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>
Cc: Aichele, Stephen S <saichele@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: NWI to follow USGS lead on renaming Gulf of America

Yes, the Secretary's Order is available here

[SO 3423 - The Gulf of America](#)

I would encourage him to reach out to Hallison Putnam or Frank Wagner at FWS for bureau instruction.

Thanks,
m

From: Lukas, Vicki <vlukas@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 10:11 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>
Cc: Aichele, Stephen S <saichele@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: NWI to follow USGS lead on renaming Gulf of America

Hi All,

See below. Do you have anything we can pass on to Jonathan, or would you like to follow up with him?

Thanks very much,
Vicki

Vicki Lukas

Chief, Topographic Data Services
USGS National Geospatial Program
vlukas@usgs.gov | 703.268.3770
usgs.gov/3DEP usgs.gov/3DHP

From: Phinney, Jonathan T <jonathan_phinney@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 9:49 AM
To: Lukas, Vicki <vlukas@usgs.gov>; Aichele, Stephen S <saichele@usgs.gov>
Subject: NWI to follow USGS lead on renaming Gulf of America

Hi Vicki and Steve,

Trust you both are well.

I heard today about the EO on renaming Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America and that USGS is implementing the role.

I want to ensure consistency in cartography between NWI and USGS.

I would appreciate receiving any USGS guidance on implementing the EO.

Thanks for the assistance and happy to discuss.

JPh

Jonathan T. Phinney PhD
Chief, Branch of Geospatial Mapping and Technical Services (NWI)
5275 Leesburg Pike Suite 2 C007
Baileys Crossroads
Virginia 22041

703/593-0970 (mobile)
jonathan_phinney@fws.gov
[National Wetlands Inventory | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](https://www.fws.gov/nwi/)

From: [Brostuen, David A](#)
To: [Matthews, Greg D](#)
Cc: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 6:05:10 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Thanks Greg! Given the challenges you and Mike mentioned, it doesn't sound like modifying OSM to include the changes is a reasonable approach, especially given the tight timelines (by 02/28 as per Sarah R.). Please let Mike and I know if you have any other thoughts relating to these matters.

David

--

David A. Brostuen
Director, National Geospatial Directorate
U.S. Geological Survey
dabrostuen@usgs.gov
phone: 303-548-9785
<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: Matthews, Greg D <gdmatthews@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 1:53 PM
To: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Thanks, David. I just wanted to reinforce what Mike mentioned, and I've included screen capture references for clarity. The Denali label only appears when significantly zoomed in, as shown below. Additionally, the Gulf of America/Gulf of Mexico labels do not appear at all in their online map, and there is inconsistency in the tags used for these features.

These are community-created maps, and the process often involves volunteer special topic groups to ensure some control and consistency, though I'm unsure if that applies here. Typically, the Executive Director, Maggie Cawley, informs those who ask that anyone can propose updates by signing up, but there is no dedicated staff for making modifications. If it would help, I can reach out to gain a clearer understanding of their final update process.

Regarding Option 2, there could be complications due to their ODbL license. Making modifications and addressing copyright issues would make changing their maps outside of their systems complicated.


Greg

official_name:en-US	Gulf of America
nat_name	Mount McKinley
nat_name:en	Mount McKinley

← ↻ 📄 <https://www.openstreetmap.org/node/2748929230#map=14/63.06859/-150.99910>

OpenStreetMap Edit ▼ [History](#) [Export](#) [GPS Traces](#) [User Diaries](#) [Communities](#) [Copyright](#) [Help](#) [About](#)

name:ing	Uengaan:Uengani
name:ja	デナリ
name:koy	Deenaalee
name:kuu	Denaze
name:kw	Denali
name:ru	Денали
name:taa	Deenadheet:Deenadheet:Deenadheet:Deenadheet:Deenadheet
name:tfn	Dghelay Ka'a:Dghili Ka'a
name:zh-Hans	德纳里山
nat_name	Mount McKinley
nat_name:en	Mount McKinley
nat_name:etymology	William McKinley
nat_name:etymology:wikidata	Q35041
natural	peak
old_name:1839-1844	Тенада
old_name:1844-1867	Большая Гора
old_name:1896-2015	Mount McKinley
old_name:en:1896-2015	Mount McKinley
old_name:es:2015	Monte McKinley
old_name:fr:2015	Mont McKinley
old_name:ja:2015	マッキンリー山
old_name:ru:2015	Мак-Кинли
old_name:ru:1839-1844	Тенада
old_name:ru:1844-1867	Большая Гора
old_name:zh-Hans:2015	麦金利山
prominence	6134
reg_name	Denali
reg_name:en	Denali
	Public Act 353 (1917):Alaska Senate



From: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 12:12 PM

To: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Hi Darcee. I don't know how difficult it will be at this point to do #1 and it may depend on the viewer. I could include that in the guidelines when requesting input from the Programs. Will wait for the guidance from Sarah as per Mike's response.

Thanks,

David

--

David A. Brostuen
Director, National Geospatial Directorate
U.S. Geological Survey
dabrostuen@usgs.gov
phone: 303-548-9785
<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 11:57 AM

To: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>

Subject: RE: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

David,

How hard is #1? Can this be a temporary change till other organizations have a chance to update their maps?

Darcee

--

Darcee Killpack
Deputy Associate Director for Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
One Denver Federal Center, MS510
Denver, CO
Cell: 303-907-0969
Office: 303-202-4115

Email: dkillpack@usgs.gov

From: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 11:50 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Thank you, Mike! Very helpful! So do we need to decide whether we:

1. Utilize a different map viewer (such as TNM) rather than OSM (or other viewers that do not show the revised names)? or
2. Have a USGS developer modify a version of OSM to include the names, it that's feasible? or
3. Leave those viewers that utilize OSM currently (topoView, Landfire, etc.) alone pending further direction from DOI/USGS?

Given the tight time frame, my recommendation is #3.

Jenn/Darcey, please advise if we should seek clarification through Sarah R. as it relates to the 02/28 deadline.

Thanks,

David

--

David A. Brostuen

Director, National Geospatial Directorate

U.S. Geological Survey

dabrostuen@usgs.gov

phone: 303-548-9785

<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 11:34 AM

To: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Hi David,

The short answer is no, USGS/DOI have not provided any direction/mandate to other agencies. We have notified other departments that have BGN members of the change, and also through the FGDC community. But, we really have no enforcement mechanism.

With respect to OSM, they have implemented the name change for GOA, but it is at the discretion of the developer. A tag has been added that recognizes the official US name:

	Mecsico is correct.
official_name:en-US	Gulf of America
official_name:en	Zatoka Meksykańska

But, the developer creating the webmap has to choose to have the label assigned to that particular tag. In addition, the default styling of the OSM basemap leaves large bodies of water unlabeled. So, the visibility of those labels would have to be forcibly turned on.

With McKinley, OSM has similarly created an additional tag in the entry for the feature

nat_name	Mount McKinley
nat_name:en	Mount McKinley

But, again, the developer would have to adjust the feature label to display this tag, rather than the default.

Hope that helps.

Thanks,
m

From: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 1:25 PM

To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Subject: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Hi All,

With regards to the Gulf of America and Mt. McKinley E.O.'s, the Executive Order states:

"The Board shall provide guidance to ensure all federal references to the Gulf of America, including on agency maps, contracts, and other documents and communications shall reflect its renaming."

While several CSS viewers use the TNM Viewer, some USGS (including CSS) map viewers rely on OpenStreetMap, which does not include any annotation of "Gulf of America" and is still calling the mountain "Denali".

Do we know if DOI or USGS have provided any direction/mandates to federal government sites using map viewers such as OSM as base map viewers when they haven't adopted the new names? Are we obligated to use a viewer that shows the revisions?

Thanks,

David

--

David A. Brostuen
Director, National Geospatial Directorate
U.S. Geological Survey
dabrostuen@usgs.gov
phone: 303-548-9785
<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: [Brostuen, David A](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 5:57:36 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[Outlook-ctbebqkb.png](#)
[Outlook-o3hfhmpj.png](#)
[Outlook-teludrh4.png](#)

Thanks Mike. I was aware of status on GOA in the Viewers and have been coordinating with NGTOC on McKinley. Hoping changing the default viewer on EE isn't a big deal. I'll have EROS look into that.

I have a lot of concerns regarding the number of USGS portals/viewers that are out there that rely on 3rd party basemap viewers. If they would want to change to the TNM Viewer, we will need to understand what level of support may be required by NGP/NGTOC to enable it especially given the caching issues we'll need to deal with.

I saw Sarah's message on the 2/28 deadline and will refer to that when sending a message to the CSS SLT.

Thanks for all your efforts on these issues, Mike!

David

--

David A. Brostuen
Director, National Geospatial Directorate
U.S. Geological Survey
dabrostuen@usgs.gov
phone: 303-548-9785
<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

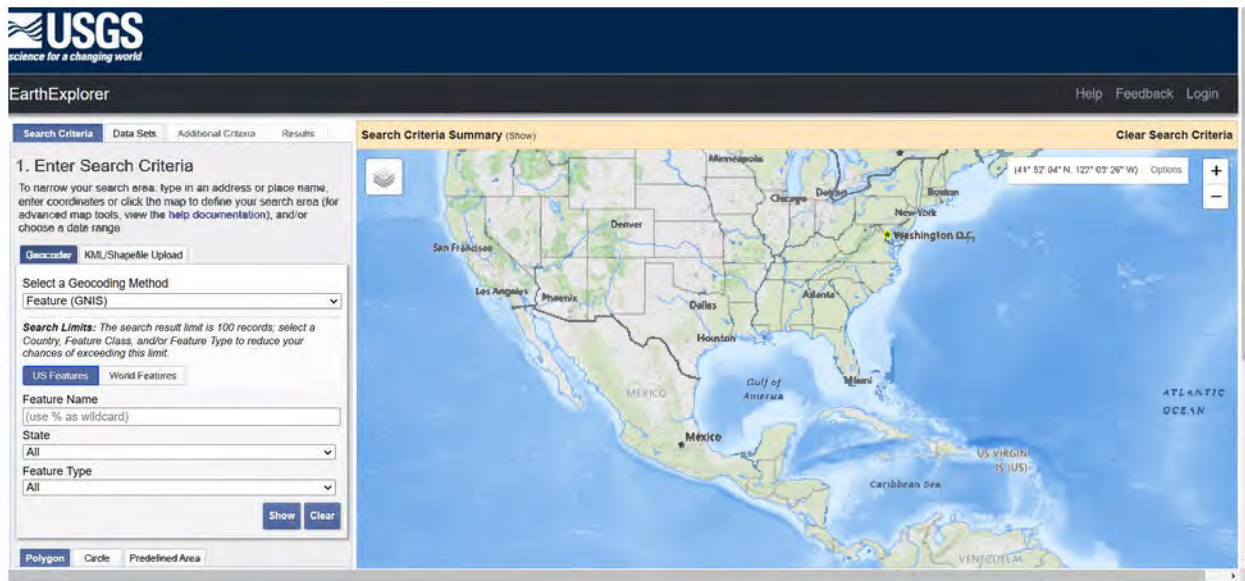
From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 12:35 PM
To: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

TNM viewer is already updated for GOA, and NGTOC's working on it for McKinley...hannah's going to get me an update today. Not sure what it would take for EE to use that as the default basemap, though.

From: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 2:32 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Hi Mike. EE also has the option to use the TNM Viewer as well so EROS should be ok once the TNM Viewer is updated.

David

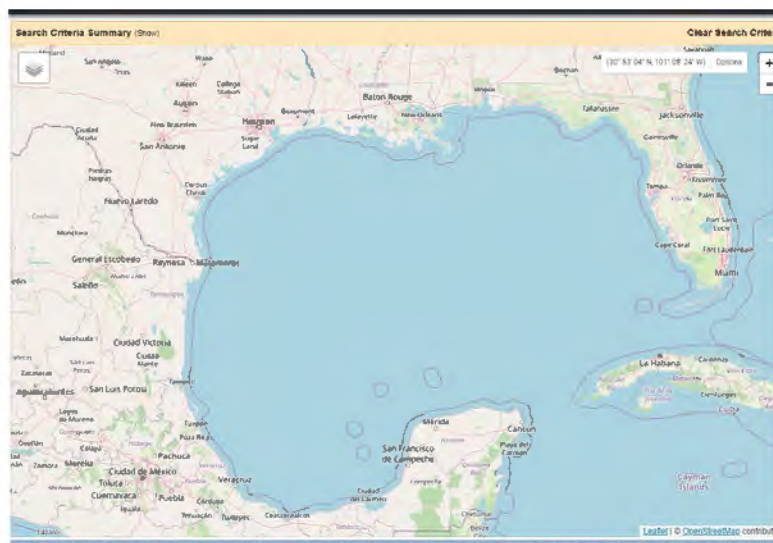


David A. Brostuen
 Director, National Geospatial Directorate
 U.S. Geological Survey
 dabrostuen@usgs.gov
 phone: 303-548-9785
<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 12:22 PM
To: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Hi David,

I also asked Pete to update earth explorer, and he told me it was done. However, it looks like they are using OSM which leaves the feature unlabeled by default.



While that's preferable to showing Gulf of Mexico, I'm sure Sarah would appreciate full compliance. But, like I said, I have a hard time being the 'map police', since I really don't have authority over other people's maps.

Thanks,
m

From: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 2:16 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Very good and timely, thanks Mike. I agree those options are preferable, providing they can be accomplished in time. Will get feedback from Programs/Centers on LOE later today once we have the memo from Sarah.

Thanks,

David

--

David A. Brostuen
Director, National Geospatial Directorate
U.S. Geological Survey
dabrostuen@usgs.gov
phone: 303-548-9785
<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 12:03 PM
To: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Hi David,

Sarah will be issuing guidance today (I'm editing her all employee email as we speak) that directs changes by feb. 28. I think Sarah would much rather we be proactive (#1 or #2) rather than #3.

ESRI's basemap is supposed to be updated tomorrow, so that is another basemap source beyond TNM topobasemap.

From: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 1:49 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Thank you, Mike! Very helpful! So do we need to decide whether we:

1. Utilize a different map viewer (such as TNM) rather than OSM (or other viewers that do not show the revised names)? or
2. Have a USGS developer modify a version of OSM to include the names, it that's feasible? or
3. Leave those viewers that utilize OSM currently (topoView, Landfire, etc.) alone pending further direction from DOI/USGS?

Given the tight time frame, my recommendation is #3.

Jenn/Darcee, please advise if we should seek clarification through Sarah R. as it relates to the 02/28 deadline.

Thanks,

David

--

David A. Brostuen
Director, National Geospatial Directorate
U.S. Geological Survey
dabrostuen@usgs.gov
phone: 303-548-9785

<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 11:34 AM

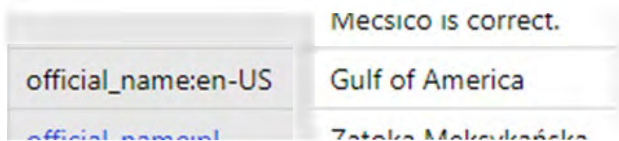
To: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Hi David,

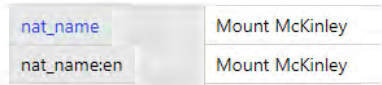
The short answer is no, USGS/DOI have not provided any direction/mandate to other agencies. We have notified other departments that have BGN members of the change, and also through the FGDC community. But, we really have no enforcement mechanism.

With respect to OSM, they have implemented the name change for GOA, but it is at the discretion of the developer. A tag has been added that recognizes the official US name:



But, the developer creating the webmap has to choose to have the label assigned to that particular tag. In addition, the default styling of the OSM basemap leaves large bodies of water unlabeled. So, the visibility of those labels would have to be forcibly turned on.

With McKinley, OSM has similarly created an additional tag in the entry for the feature



But, again, the developer would have to adjust the feature label to display this tag, rather than the default.

Hope that helps.

Thanks,
m

From: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 1:25 PM

To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>

Subject: OpenStreetMaps - Use as a base map viewer for Federal map viewers

Hi All,

With regards to the Gulf of America and Mt. McKinley E.O.'s, the Executive Order states:

"The Board shall provide guidance to ensure all federal references to the Gulf of America, including on agency maps, contracts, and other documents and communications shall reflect its renaming."

While several CSS viewers use the TNM Viewer, some USGS (including CSS) map viewers rely on OpenStreetMap, which does not include any annotation of "Gulf of America" and is still calling the mountain "Denali".

Do we know if DOI or USGS have provided any direction/mandates to federal government sites using map viewers such as OSM as base map viewers when they haven't adopted the new names? Are we obligated to use a viewer that shows the revisions?

Thanks,

David

--

David A. Brostuen

Director, National Geospatial Directorate

U.S. Geological Survey

dabrostuen@usgs.gov

phone: 303-548-9785

<https://www.usgs.gov/NGD>

From: [Katikaneni, Uday](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Daigle, Michele M](#); [Abbott, Jarvis](#); [Mcbride, Joshua A](#); [Lanoux, Ann](#); [Cloutet, Gregory GCC](#); [Vaddavalli, Satyaveni](#)
Subject: PMB Audit (Gulf of America name change)
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 1:05:16 PM
Attachments: [GOA To Be Updated.xlsx](#)

Hi Michael,

Please find the attached spreadsheet with some of our content/systems that need to be updated to reflect Gulf of America.

We have not yet modified any, but the attached list contains items that we will modify over time.

Please let me know if there is any additional information that you need.

Note: Considering the very limited time given, my thanks to all our folks here who helped get the information to the best extent possible.

Regards,
Uday

Name	Description/Link
Pipelines Map	Data Center - Pipelines
Platforms Map	Data Center - Platforms
Unit Polygons Map	Data Center - Unit Polygons
National Renewable Operations	BSEE National Renewable Energy Operations Map (Final).pdf
OCS Facility Infrastructure	OCS Facility Infrastructure
Decommissioning Dashboards & Webapps	Decommissioning Dashboards and Web Applications
Technical Information Management System	Multiple OCS Oil & Gas and Renewable Data, Apps & Functions

From: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
To: [Sprague, Lori A](#)
Subject: RE: Question about name change in GNIS
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:42:00 AM

Aloha Lori,
Thanks for reaching out.
We are waiting for further guidance, but implementation will be fast.

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Sprague, Lori A <lsprague@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 7:21 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Question about name change in GNIS

hi Shellie,
I was given your name as the lead for GNIS — please let me know if someone else might be more appropriate for this question.

I am the DOI representative on the [Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force](#). As you likely already know, DOI has changed the name of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America: [Interior Department Advances Restoration of Historic Names Honoring American Greatness | U.S. Department of the Interior](#).

Do you have any information about the expected timing of this name change in GNIS? I know this is a really recent development, so no worries if you are waiting on step-down guidance and don't know much more at this point. Any information would be helpful.

Thanks
Lori

Lori Sprague

Program Manager, Integrated Water Availability Assessments

U.S. Geological Survey, Water Mission Area

303-236-6921 (office) | 720-693-2908 (mobile) | lsprague@usgs.gov

<https://www.usgs.gov/staff-profiles/lori-sprague>

From: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: FW: Question about name change in GNIS
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:37:00 AM

Not sure how this should be handled. Can I tell her that we are waiting for further guidance, but implementation will be fast?

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Sprague, Lori A <lsprague@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 7:21 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: Question about name change in GNIS

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Do you have any information about the expected timing of this name change in GNIS? I know this is a really recent development, so no worries if you are waiting on step-down guidance and don't know much more at this point. Any information would be helpful.

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Lori Sprague

Program Manager, Integrated Water Availability Assessments

U.S. Geological Survey, Water Mission Area

303-236-6921 (office) | 720-693-2908 (mobile) | lsprague@usgs.gov

<https://www.usgs.gov/staff-profiles/lori-sprague>

From: [Aichele, Stephen S](#)
To: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
Cc: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Question from WMA (and EPA) on renaming Gulf of Mexico
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:17:50 AM

(From a chat with Lori Sprague in WMA – I directed her to Shellie, but for your awareness Mike as it's interdisciplinary)

I am the DOI rep on the Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force. DOI has changed the name of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America: [Interior Department Advances Restoration of Historic Names Honoring American Greatness | U.S. Department of the Interior](#). Evidently EPA (who co-chairs the Hypoxia Task Force) has been told to hold on taking action related to this until the change is implemented in GNIS. So I'm wondering at this point if we have any information on our end about timing and next steps.

[Interior Department Advances Restoration of Historic Names Honoring American Greatness | U.S. Department of the Interior](#)

Stephen S. Aichele, PhD
Geographer, USGS National Geospatial Program
saichele@usgs.gov
w.717-730-6949 c.717-778-7128
usgs.gov/3DHP

From: [BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC](#)
To: [Anderson, Gina R](#)
Cc: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
Subject: recent article quoting former BGN member on BGN process related to the EO
Date: Monday, January 27, 2025 9:49:39 AM

Gina, FYSA. Former BGN member has commented on BGN process related to the EO.

<https://www.wusf.org/politics-issues/2025-01-22/along-gulf-coast-trump-plan-gulf-of-america-touches-residents-pride>

There are major roadblocks to renaming the Gulf of Mexico, according to Leo Dillon, the former chair of the Foreign Names Committee. He said that the committee's procedures allow only one name for high seas, and it usually reflects the most commonly used name.

"Anything other than 'Gulf of Mexico' has not been in regular use, so it would likely be rejected," he said. "I think anyone trying to change that would know it."

Matt

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Strocko, Ed \(OST\)](#); amy.nelson@dot.gov
Subject: renaming of Gulf of America at DOT
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 6:12:55 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)

Good morning Ed, Amy,

I'm hoping you can help me connect the dots, and perhaps provide input on behalf of DOT.

I'm sure you are aware that President Trump, through DOI, has enacted a name change of the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. That name change was implemented Sunday through the Geographic Names Information System, and DOI is starting to see that label propagate through federal and commercial applications. However, DOI leadership is keenly interested in understanding the pace and breadth of uptake by the mapping community.

I was asked yesterday by DOI leadership to provide an assessment of which products, services, etc. throughout the federal government and private sector have been updated. I issued that data call through the Board on Geographic Names members, which includes a number of agencies. The response is pasted below for your awareness. However, we do not have a DOT member on the board from whom I could request info.

This morning I noticed the [CNN article](#) which linked to an [FAA directive](#) to update products, though. That's great, and definitely the type of product I'd like to include in my reporting.

DOI leadership was appreciative of the efforts of the fed government so far, but have also requested an update by Friday on additional implementation. Could you please provide me an update of maps, products, services, etc. that DOT is updating, or plans to update?

Thank you!
Mike

Commercial and government map products are being updated. DOI has two products available now that display the updated name –

1) [official map](#) of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System

2) USGS [topoBuilder](#) application - Public can create their own maps through the application. Takes 30-40m from request to email delivery. This is a good link to share with external stakeholders who need updated maps quickly.

Other departments (see Commerce/NOAA) below are updating maps ASAP and will soon be online.

Below is what I know as of 6pm ET.

Commercial sector

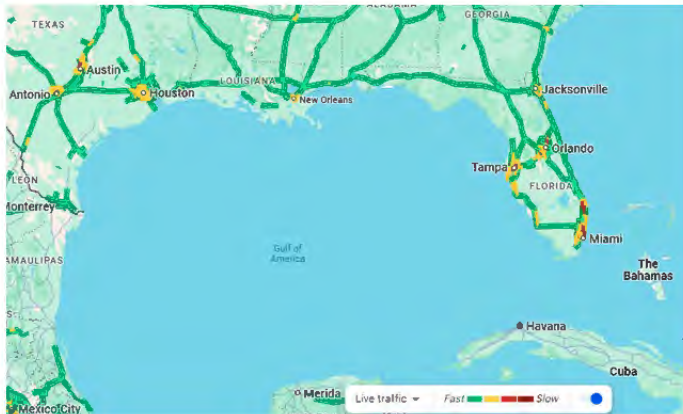
ESRI

Targeting 2/20 for the updated basemaps to be released. There will be a requirement for users with existing apps and webmaps in the Federal space to switch to a new US centric basemap that would include the new names.

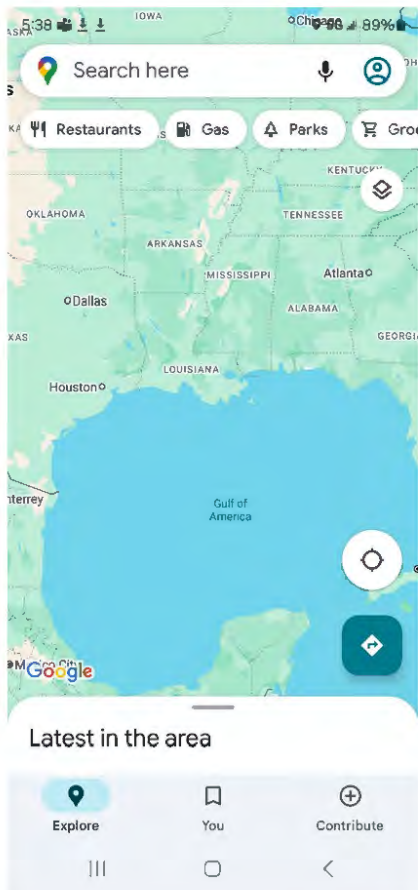
Apple

Apple Maps relies on GNIS for much of the core data in our map of the United States. I expect they will be consistent with GNIS and update maps soon.

Google Maps: has been updated. Web browser map:



Google Maps for Android app:



National Geographic: No response

US Government

DOI

USGS: Geographic Names Information System - updated

[Topobuilder](#) - application will now produce an on-demand PDF map with Gulf of America labeled.

Updated dynamic basemaps (i.e., google maps style webmap) for The National Map Viewer and multiple other applications are currently being updated, but will take time.

Staged (i.e., pre-made) US Topo topographic maps will be updated following update of basemaps.

3D Hydrography Program Service will be updated

FWS: The official map of FWS National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System has been updated on the [USFWS website](#).

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025-02/nwrs-and-nfhs-national-map-february-10-2025_1.pdf

For all of our other public-facing map products, FWS are waiting on commercial

vendors to update their basemaps.

NPS: Over the next day or two, NPS will assess their archives and provide a list of maps that will be updated over time, including, but not limited to, the park unigrid (i.e., brochure) maps for Padre Island National Seashore, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Big Cypress National Preserve, and Everglades National Park.

BSEE: will update the following:

Pipelines Map

Platforms Map

Unit Polygons Map

National Renewable Operations

OCS Facility Infrastructure

Decommissioning Dashboards & Webapps

Technical Information Management System

BLM: most webmap applications rely on commercial sources (e.g., ESRI). Those webmaps will be updated when ESRI updates. No additional information received regarding specific products.

USBR: expect to have an update by the end of the day or early tomorrow.

Department of State

Bureau of Global Public Affairs are aware of the need to use names reflected in the databases maintained by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, including the Gulf of America, going forward.

National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Complete.

Department of Ag/US Forest Service

Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, we have the following:

National scale maps – 3

Regional maps – 3

100K maps -- 305

Forest maps – 21

Regionally Produced Forest Visitor Maps – 1

Ranger district maps -- 30

USFS also produces a large number of 1/24K FS Topo maps that will be updated

These figures include Geospatial Office maps products and those produced by the FS Southern Region. It is likely that the local forest units have maps and other publications with the name on it. Local units are being notified of the need to have their maps/products reflect the name change.

These updates should be completed no later than the end of May.

Department of Commerce

NOAA has updated the first Electronic Navigational Chart (ENC) to reflect the change to "Gulf of America" (ENC cell US1GC09M), and it will be available for download from [website](#) Tuesday morning. The name change will ultimately be applied to more than 500 Electronic Navigational Charts and approximately 260 instances in at least two volumes of the U.S. Coast Pilot. NOAA intends to publish additional updated charts this week with approximately 15-20 charts updating weekly thereafter. It is anticipated that all updates will be completed within the next six months.

Mike Tischler, Ph.D

Director, National Geospatial Program

U.S. Geological Survey

Department of Interior

o: 703-648-4725

c: 703-344-4348

mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Romero, Kevin W](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Decker, Lindsay K](#)
Cc: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#); [Zahniser, Shellie R](#); [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Postolovski, Ray](#); [Boggs, Hannah K](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#); [Altheide, Phyllis S](#)
Subject: Re: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America
Date: Sunday, February 9, 2025 11:34:34 AM

Good afternoon Mike,

The Gulf of America has been approved and the change has been committed to the Gazetteer.
The Gaz ID# is 558730.

Kevin W. Romero | Geographer

Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)
United States Geological Survey | National Geospatial Technical Operations
P.O. Box 25046 MS 510 | Bldg. 810, Denver Federal Center
Denver, Colorado 80225
(303) 202-4480 | kwromero@usgs.gov

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Sunday, February 9, 2025 12:25 PM
To: Decker, Lindsay K <ldecker@usgs.gov>
Cc: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Postolovski, Ray <rpostolovski@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>; Romero, Kevin W <kwromero@usgs.gov>
Subject: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America

Good afternoon, Lindsay,

Based on the authority and direction of the recently signed Secretary's Order, please proceed with the necessary changes in GNIS immediately to update the name of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. Please do not distribute the attached signed Secretary's Order until it has been posted to the DOI website.

Could you please respond back to this email and confirm that GNIS has been updated?

Thanks,

Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey

Department of Interior

o: 703-648-4725

c: 703-344-4348

mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Bcc: [Dolores Buljevic](#); [Jeremy Kirkendall](#); [Holli Howard](#); [Thomas Escobar](#); Chris.Knoll@natgeo.com; scott.zillmer@natgeo.com; dfogel@apple.com
Subject: Renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America, Denali to Mount McKinley
Date: Sunday, February 9, 2025 2:10:46 PM

Good afternoon,

Please be advised that the Geographic Names Information System has been updated to reflect the renaming of Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. Please note the social media post from DOI below:

[Secretary Doug Burgum on X: "It's official! Congratulations @POTUS on the Gulf of America! @Interior has implemented your instruction from the Executive Order on Restoring Names That Honor American Greatness. Another big win for President Trump's agenda to Make America Great Again. — <https://t.co/nZtkDOTFO3>" / X](#)

Thank you,
Mike

Mike Tischler, Ph.D
Director, National Geospatial Program
U.S. Geological Survey
Department of Interior
o: 703-648-4725
c: 703-344-4348
mtischler@usgs.gov

From: [Booth, Nathaniel L](#)
To: [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Joseph, Joshua A](#)
Cc: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Werkheiser, William H](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
Subject: Re: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 5:13:05 PM

Thank you, Darcee -- I'll pass this along to the team. Appreciate all the help with this.

Nate

Nate Booth
Senior Advisor
Office of the Chief Operating Officer
USGS Water Resources
608-239-1108
water.usgs.gov

From: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 4:31 PM
To: Joseph, Joshua A <jajoseph@usgs.gov>, Booth, Nathaniel L <nlbooth@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>, Werkheiser, William H <whwerkhe@usgs.gov>, Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>, Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

Joshua and Nate,

Here is the response from NGTOC. If you have any other questions, please feel free to reach out to Mike Tischler directly.

We did learn Esri will be updating their base maps and expect the update to be public by 2/20. We are hoping it will be earlier but that is their regular refresh cycle for their maps.

Response:

US Topo Basemap: In an effort to rapidly implement the Secretary's Order 3423 a different process (takes far less time) was used to update the basemap cache for USGS viewers. The issues that the users are seeing are a result of this different process. We are actively investigating these and working on a fix as quickly as possible.

USGS Hydrography Layer: We are currently using the “faster” process to update the Hydrography layer, and anticipate seeing results soon. However, we also expect the same issues to manifest in that basemap cache.

The options for CSS are for us to continue to prioritize rapid updates that will likely not show appropriately at each level. This was chosen versus the standardized process which takes longer but should catch similar issues as a part of the standard process. There are 16 “zoom” levels so standard process does take more time.

Thank you,

Darcee

--

Darcee Killpack

Deputy Associate Director for Core Science Systems Mission Area

U.S. Geological Survey

One Denver Federal Center, MS510

Denver, CO

Cell: 303-907-0969

Office: 303-202-4115

Email: dkillpack@usgs.gov

From: Joseph, Joshua A <jajoseph@usgs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 9:42 AM

To: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Booth, Nathaniel L <niboosth@usgs.gov>

Cc: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Werkheiser, William H <whwerkhe@usgs.gov>

Subject: FW: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

Darcee,

WMA have two (2) items related to the EO on geographic names that need CSS visibility/input.

1. The USGS Topo Basemap has been updated and is being used. Zoom levels 11, 12, and 13 are missing, however, which impacts the usability.
2. The USGS Hydrography layer
(<https://basemap.nationalmap.gov/arcgis/rest/services/USGSHydroCached/MapServer>) is important for our applications and “Gulf of America” is not yet reflected.

Do you have any guidance/feedback that we could apply for our web mapping applications given these conditions?

Kindly,

-Joshua-

From: Booth, Nathaniel L <nlbooth@usgs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:29 AM

To: Joseph, Joshua A <jjoseph@usgs.gov>

Cc: Rowe, Gary L <glrowe@usgs.gov>; Blanks, William (Boyce) <boyceb@usgs.gov>; Crilley, Dianna M <dcrilley@usgs.gov>

Subject: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

Hello Joshua,

We are working to address the EO related to geographic names in WMA web mapping applications. Please elevate these two issues to CSS that are critical for us to comply:

1. The USGS Topo Basemap has been updated and is being used. Zoom levels 11, 12, and 13 are missing, however, which impacts the usability.
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Please let us know if CSS has alternative guidance.

Thanks, Nate

Nate Booth

Senior Advisor

Office of the Chief Operating Officer

USGS Water Resources

608-239-1108

water.usgs.gov

From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Killpack, Darcee](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Boggs, Hannah K](#); [Saghy, David L](#)
Cc: [Brostuen, David A](#); [Delmonico, Joshua J](#); [Lacey, Jennifer A](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#)
Subject: Re: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 10:48:40 AM

Mike would be best! He can help filter these to me.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:46:19 AM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Saghy, David L <dsaghy@usgs.gov>
Cc: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>; Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

I am happy to respond back to Water. If they have further questions, who can I point them to you?

Thanks!

Darcee

--

Darcee Killpack
Deputy Associate Director for Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
One Denver Federal Center, MS510
Denver, CO
Cell: 303-907-0969
Office: 303-202-4115
Email: dkillpack@usgs.gov

From: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:39 AM
To: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Saghy, David L <dsaghy@usgs.gov>
Cc: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>; Delmonico, Joshua J <jdelmonico@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

CSS –

Mike and I have discussed, I hope this response supports WMA. It may be appropriate to have someone at a different level respond with these answers to WMA however, I'm happy to discuss.

US Topo Basemap: In an effort to rapidly implement the Secretary's Order 3423 a different process (takes far less time) was used to update the basemap cache for USGS viewers. The issues that the users are seeing are a result of this different process. We are actively investigating these and working on a fix as quickly as possible.

USGS Hydrography Layer: We are currently using the "faster" process to update the Hydrography layer, and anticipate seeing results soon. However, we also expect the same issues to manifest in that basemap cache.

The options for CSS are for us to continue to prioritize rapid updates that will likely not show appropriately at each level, or we can go back to our standardized process which will take longer but should catch similar issues as a part of the standard process. There are 16 "zoom" levels so standard process does take more time.

We can also turn off basemap caching which would eliminate the presence of the "Gulf of Mexico" name, but the end-users will deal with at least five minute refresh times due to the scale of the maps.

Kim

From: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 9:57 AM

To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Saghy, David L <dsaghy@usgs.gov>

Cc: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>; Delmonico, Joshua J <idelmonico@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>

Subject: FW: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

Importance: High

All,

See Water MAs comments about some issues with our datasets and web maps.

Can you develop a response and send to those cc'd on this email and Joshua's original email?

Thanks,

Darcee

--

Darcee Killpack

Deputy Associate Director for Core Science Systems Mission Area

U.S. Geological Survey

One Denver Federal Center, MS510

Denver, CO

Cell: 303-907-0969
Office: 303-202-4115
Email: dkillpack@usgs.gov

From: Joseph, Joshua A <jjoseph@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:42 AM
To: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Booth, Nathaniel L <nlbooth@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Werkheiser, William H <whwerkhe@usgs.gov>
Subject: FW: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

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Please let us know if CSS has alternative guidance.

Thanks, Nate

Nate Booth
Senior Advisor
Office of the Chief Operating Officer
USGS Water Resources
608-239-1108
water.usgs.gov

From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Boggs, Hannah K](#)
Cc: [Nimetz, Joshua D](#)
Subject: RE: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 9:13:33 AM

Acknowledging receipt.

Let me take a look.

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 9:58 AM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>
Cc: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

I'll let you all respond for #1. I think #2 is farther down the priority list, right?

From: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:56 AM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Boggs, Hannah K <hboggs@usgs.gov>; Saghy, David L <dsaghy@usgs.gov>
Cc: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>; Delmonico, Joshua J <idelmonico@usgs.gov>; Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: FW: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

All,

See Water MAs comments about some issues with our datasets and web maps.

Can you develop a response and send to those cc'd on this email and Joshua's original email?

Thanks,

Darcee

--

Darcee Killpack
Deputy Associate Director for Core Science Systems Mission Area
U.S. Geological Survey
One Denver Federal Center, MS510
Denver, CO
Cell: 303-907-0969
Office: 303-202-4115

Email: dkillpack@usgs.gov

From: Joseph, Joshua A <jajoseph@usgs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:42 AM

To: Killpack, Darcee <dkillpack@usgs.gov>; Booth, Nathaniel L <nlbooth@usgs.gov>

Cc: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>; Werkheiser, William H <whwerkhe@usgs.gov>

Subject: FW: Request of CSS for WMA web mapping applications

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Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 11:29 AM

To: Joseph, Joshua A <jajoseph@usgs.gov>

Cc: Rowe, Gary L <glrowe@usgs.gov>; Blanks, William (Boyce) <boyceb@usgs.gov>; Crilley, Dianna M <dcrilley@usgs.gov>

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Please let us know if CSS has alternative guidance.

Thanks, Nate

Nate Booth
Senior Advisor
Office of the Chief Operating Officer
USGS Water Resources
608-239-1108
water.usgs.gov

From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Fw: Sample OnDemand Topos - Gulf of America
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 3:04:22 PM

Hi Mike-

Please see the attached samples and let us know your thoughts.

Looks like the labels are showing up properly on the one I previewed from my phone.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Kaufman, Alexander J <akaufman@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 3:56:10 PM
To: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>
Subject: Sample OnDemand Topos - Gulf of America

Hello,

These are the initial samples we have from topoBuilder that reflect the Secretarial Order for the name change to Gulf of America. Included are 7.5-Minute Topos and 100K Topos, both custom and On-Grid selections and a representation from multiple states.

 [Samples.zip](#)

Best,
Alex

Alexander Kaufman
Cartographer
Dynamic Mapping Specialist
Cartographic Applied Research Section (CARS)
303-202-4519

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Kaufman, Alexander J](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#)
Cc: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#); [Altheide, Phyllis S](#)
Subject: Re: Sample OnDemand Topos - Gulf of America
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 3:02:29 PM

excellent! you win the prize for the first map!

From: Kaufman, Alexander J <akaufman@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 5:56 PM
To: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>
Subject: Sample OnDemand Topos - Gulf of America

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 [Samples.zip](#)

Best,
Alex

Alexander Kaufman
Cartographer
Dynamic Mapping Specialist
Cartographic Applied Research Section (CARS)
303-202-4549

From: [Nimetz, Joshua D](#)
To: [Kaufman, Alexander J](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#); [Altheide, Phyllis S](#)
Subject: Re: Sample OnDemand Topos - Gulf of America
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 3:02:14 PM

Thank you Alex!

Josh Nimetz
USGS
720-576-1838 (work mobile)

From: Kaufman, Alexander J <akaufman@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 3:56:10 PM
To: Nimetz, Joshua D <jnimetz@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Altheide, Phyllis S <paltheide@usgs.gov>
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Alexander Kaufman
Cartographer
Dynamic Mapping Specialist
Cartographic Applied Research Section (CARS)
303-202-4519

From: [Aichele, Stephen S](#)
To: [Doumbouya, Ariel T](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Lukas, Vicki](#); [Davis, Larry R](#)
Subject: RE: Static Hydro/Gulf Updates?
Date: Monday, February 3, 2025 1:10:14 PM

That makes sense to me. In regard to a couple other update requests, we have been considering the NHD and WBD legacy/historical and not changing the data. Treating the services as historical/legacy fits with our messaging for the last couple years.

I mentioned we might have the ability to update the services, but it would be preferable to leave those in a state that matches the staged products.

We should be able to easily make the changes to 3DHP services, and have the new name reflected in the 2025 staged product (to be generated in the fall).

Steve

Stephen S. Aichele, PhD
Geographer, USGS National Geospatial Program
saichele@usgs.gov
w.717-730-6949 c.717-778-7128
usgs.gov/3DHP

From: Doumbouya, Ariel T <atdoumbouya@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 4:06 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Aichele, Stephen S <saichele@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lukas, Vicki <vlukas@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrDavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Static Hydro/Gulf Updates?

I fully support and expect an update to the 3DHP services. I do not recommend we update legacy/historical products or services.

We will be updating our internal copies of NHD, as we continue to use a copy of NHD for cartographic product labels. This is carto data only and does not conform to the TNM distribution models.

Happy to talk through this as well if TDS has a different stance.

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 1:50 PM
To: Aichele, Stephen S <saichele@usgs.gov>; Doumbouya, Ariel T <atdoumbouya@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lukas, Vicki <vlukas@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrDavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Static Hydro/Gulf Updates?

Hi Ariel, Steve,

I would agree that US Topo maps produced before the name change will NOT be changed, and only future products will carry the updated names.

I would plan to update the 3DHP service, as that is a current data product, and will leave it your teams to prioritize the work appropriately. I would take a recommendation, though, to consider whether or not the NHD and WBD services are 'legacy/historical'. If that's the case, we would choose NOT to update to Gulf of America. Or, do we want to continue to update NHD/WBD with this name change, and presumably others name changes.

Happy to talk this through in a meeting if necessary.

Thanks,
m

From: Aichele, Stephen S <saichele@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 3:36 PM
To: Doumbouya, Ariel T <atdoumbouya@usgs.gov>; Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lukas, Vicki <vlukas@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>
Subject: RE: Static Hydro/Gulf Updates?

To clarify (maybe), at this point -

1. The staged products for NHD, NHDPlus, are done and we don't have the ability to change them (these are analogous to the older USTopos);
2. We might be able to change the NHD service;
3. WBD is done, and we don't intend to make any changes to the staged product;
4. We might be able to change the WBD service;
5. We can definitely make changes to the 3DHP service.

Stephen S. Aichele, PhD
Geographer, USGS National Geospatial Program
saichele@usgs.gov
w.717-730-6949 c.717-778-7128
usgs.gov/3DHP

From: Doumbouya, Ariel T <atdoumbouya@usgs.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 3:18 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Lukas, Vicki <vlukas@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>; Aichele, Stephen S

[<saichele@usgs.gov>](mailto:saichele@usgs.gov)

Subject: Static Hydro/Gulf Updates?

Mike,

Can I get clarification on the static NHD and WBD data, for both staged products & services, and whether these should be updated to reflect the Gulf of America?

We are operating under the assumption that US Topo maps produced before the EO/SO will remain as-is, future products will reflect the name changes. I want to be sure we are clear on whether this guidance extends to NHD and WBD as well.

Thank you,

Ariel Doumbouya

Cartographic Products Lead

[National Geospatial Program](#)

[United States Geological Survey](#)

Box 25046, MS 510

Denver, CO 80225-0046

Cell: 720-545-5951

atdoubouya@usgs.gov

[The National Map](#) - Your Source For Topographic Information



From: [Eustis, Christine E](#)
To: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
Cc: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: Tischler, Michael A shared "datalist" with you
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 4:02:42 PM
Attachments: [AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)

Let me see if someone has the time - yes - can you grant me access?

From: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 4:19 PM
To: Eustis, Christine E <ceustis@usgs.gov>
Cc: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: Tischler, Michael A shared "datalist" with you

Christine,

Can you possibly have OCAP do an exec summary of this list for Sarah to promote the changes that have happened? It won't be finalized until tomorrow.

Thanks,
Jenn

—
Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 2:48 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: Tischler, Michael A shared "datalist" with you



Tischler, Michael A invited you to edit a file

Jenn - this is a running list of map updates as I become aware. This is essentially the update I will provide Sarah tomorrow.



datalist



This invite will only work for you and people with existing access.

Open

Share



United States
Department of the Interior

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From: [Lacey, Jennifer A](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Subject: Re: Tischler, Michael A shared "datalist" with you
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025 12:37:13 PM
Attachments: [AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)

Yes please.

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 3:28 PM
To: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Tischler, Michael A shared "datalist" with you

Jenn,

The more I think on it, the more I like your solution of enlisting OCAP to write the ex sum. It looks like the McKinley SO is going to pop tomorrow, and that may take up my day...I'd hate to be forced to write this in 2m at the end of the day. If you agree, can you help raise this to OCAP and see if they can help write the intro?

Thanks,
m

From: Lacey, Jennifer A <jlacey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2025 2:57 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Tischler, Michael A shared "datalist" with you

I like that we have it listed out, but I could see where Sarah may want an executive summary to share with the impact of the change. Maybe work to say with OCAP a paragraph on things that were immediately update, certain types of maps on the 11th, responses from private

industry show that... Something along those lines to kick off the document?

Jennifer Lacey
Associate Director, Core Science Systems
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 108
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 20192
Mobile: 605-305-0140
<http://www.usgs.gov/>

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Tischler, Michael A invited you to edit a
file

Jenn - this is a running list of map updates as I become aware. This is essentially the update I will provide Sarah tomorrow.



datalist



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Share



United States
Department of the Interior

This email is generated through DOI's use of Microsoft 365 and may contain content that is controlled by DOI.

From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Davis, Larry R](#); [Tischler, Michael A](#)
Cc: [Altheide, Phyllis S](#); [Boggs, Hannah K](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#); [Nimetz, Joshua D](#)
Subject: Update on OnDemand Topo Testing
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 10:27:10 AM

All –

We are still testing the topobuilder capability. We have run into an issue with Adobe which is impacting our ability to view the tested map products containing the Gulf of America.

We've brought more folks in to support, I hope to have another update this afternoon.

Kim

Kim Mantey
Director, National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
United States Geological Survey (USGS)
Email: kmantey@usgs.gov
Work Cell: (720) 201-7231
Office: (303) 202-4508

From: [Tischler, Michael A](#)
To: [Doucette, Peter J](#)
Cc: [Hahn, John M](#); [Sohre, Tom](#); [Brostuen, David A](#)
Subject: Re: update to EE basemap with "Gulf of America"
Date: Friday, February 14, 2025 12:55:23 PM

Thanks, Pete!

From: Doucette, Peter J <pdoucette@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 3:54 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Cc: Hahn, John M <jhahn@usgs.gov>; Sohre, Tom <tsohre@usgs.gov>; Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Subject: update to EE basemap with 'Gulf of America'

Mike, looks like we're complete with change over (below). Thanks.
-p

From: Sohre, Tom <tsohre@usgs.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 2:26 PM
To: Doucette, Peter J <pdoucette@usgs.gov>
Cc: Hahn, John M <jhahn@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: update to EE basemap with 'Gulf of America'

Updates to EE/Glovis appear to be complete. National Map overlay shows Gulf of America.
World Boundaries layer removed.

I also decided to shut down Landsatlook (which was planned for retirement anyway) due to it being overly complicated to update the layers at this time.
Technical staff can review over the next week if it is feasible to update but Michelle is aware and the messaging (if anyone did ask ... which I doubt) is that it is "temporarily down for maintenance" (all true).

From: [Mantey, Kimberly S](#)
To: [Tischler, Michael A](#); [Davis, Larry R](#)
Cc: [Brostuen, David A](#)
Subject: RE: Updated Banner Language - Requested from CSS
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 2:58:20 PM

Yes. I'll send now.

From: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 3:58 PM
To: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>
Cc: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updated Banner Language - Requested from CSS

Hi Kim,

Are you able to change to "the default display map..." for the downloader and topobuilder? You have that for the viewers, but not the other two.

From: Mantey, Kimberly S <kmantey@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 5:29 PM
To: Tischler, Michael A <mtischler@usgs.gov>; Davis, Larry R <lrdavis@usgs.gov>
Cc: Brostuen, David A <dabrostuen@usgs.gov>
Subject: Updated Banner Language - Requested from CSS

Mike and Bob,

I've been asked to update our viewers ASAP with the following language. This will cover the name changes and odd behaviors we are seeing in our basemaps.

Viewers:

Per Secretary's Order 3423 and 3424 the default display map on [application] reflects the newly named Gulf of America and will soon reflect the newly named Mount McKinley. The USGS is aware of issues occurring outside of CONUS and Alaska impacting boundaries and labels of features, and is actively working towards addressing these.

TNM Downloader

Per Secretary's Order 3423 and 3424 the display map on [application] reflects the newly named Gulf of America and will soon reflect the newly named Mount McKinley. **DEM and DSM data for the Jan 2025 California wildfires are now available [here](#).** The USGS is aware of issues occurring outside of CONUS and Alaska impacting boundaries and labels of features, and is actively working towards addressing these.

topoBuilder

Per Secretary's Order 3423 and 3424 the display map on [application] reflects the newly named Gulf of America and will soon reflect the newly named Mount McKinley. OnDemand products will reflect the newly renamed Gulf of America and will soon reflect the newly named Mount McKinley. The USGS is aware of issues occurring outside of CONUS and Alaska impacting boundaries and labels of features, and is actively working towards addressing these.

We will update the banner language again when OnDemand topos are available for Mount McKinley and again when the issues are resolved for the anomalies outside of CONUS.

Kim

Kim Mantey
Director, National Geospatial Technical Operations Center
United States Geological Survey (USGS)
Email: kmantey@usgs.gov
Work Cell: (720) 201-7231
Office: (303) 202-4508

From: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
To: [Aichele, Stephen S](#)
Subject: RE: You've probably already seen this
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 9:02:00 AM

Thanks Stephen.

Google and private mapping companies are not obliged to follow Federal procedures.

Shellie Zahniser, Ph.D.
BGN Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
Honolulu, HI

From: Aichele, Stephen S <saichele@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 6:32 AM
To: Zahniser, Shellie R <srzahniser@usgs.gov>
Subject: You've probably already seen this

Not waiting for procedural niceties

[Google Maps will change the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America | CNN Business](#)

Stephen S. Aichele, PhD
Geographer, USGS National Geospatial Program
saichele@usgs.gov
w.717-730-6949 c.717-778-7128
usgs.gov/3DHP

From: [Zahniser, Shellie R](#)
To: [Anderson, Gina R](#)
Subject: Zahniser, Shellie R shared "OCAP Paper on Gulf of America Name Change 11 Feb 2025" with you
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 4:05:00 PM
Attachments: [AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)

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Zahniser, Shellie R invited you to edit a
file

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I started pulling information from various items to provide facts for the paper. I took some artistic liberty in writing a short intro and summed up at the end where we currently are. Please feel free to revise as needed. When I log on in the morning, I'm happy to work through it with you. Do we have any specific guidance on what approach we should take with it?



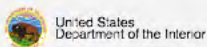
OCAP Paper on Gulf of America Name Change 11 Feb 2025



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