

[Docket No. 930850-3150]

Affirmation of Vertical Datum for Surveying and Mapping Activities

SUBAGENCY: National Ocean Service, Coast & Geodetic Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, DOC.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces a decision by the Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee (FGCS) to affirm the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88) as the official civilian vertical datum for surveying and mapping activities in the United States performed or financed by the Federal Government, and to the extent practicable, legally allowable, and feasible, require that all Federal agencies using or producing vertical height information undertake an orderly transition to NAVD 88.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James & Stem, N/CG1x4, SSMC3, Station 9357, National Geodetic Survey, NOAA, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910; telephone: 301-713-3230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION The Coast and Geodetic Survey (C&GS), National Geodetic Survey (NGS), has completed the general adjustment portion of the NAVD 88 project, which includes approximately 80 percent of the previously published bench marks in the NGS data base. The remaining "posted" bench marks which comprise approximately 20 percent of the total will be published by October 1993. Regions of significant crustal motion will be analyzed and published as resources allow.

NAVD 88 supersedes the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD 29) which was the former official height reference (vertical datum) for the United States. NAVD 88 provides a modern, improved vertical datum for the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The NAVD 88 heights are the result of a mathematical least squares general adjustment of the vertical control portion of the National Geodetic Reference System and include 80,000 km of new U.S. Leveling observations undertaken specifically for this project.

NAVD 88 height information in paper or digital form is available from the National Geodetic Information Branch, N/CG174, SSMC3, Station 9202, National Geodetic Survey, NOAA, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910; telephone: 301-713-3242.

Dated: June 21, 1993.

W. Stanley Wilson,

Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, NOAA.

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