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Presentation Title: THE USGS APPROACH TOWARD ARCHIVING AND DISTRIBUTING SHUTTLE RADAR TOPOGRAPHY MISSION (SRTM) DATA

Abstract: The Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) successfully collected Interferometric C-band Synthetic Aperture Radar data over 80 percent of the landmass of the Earth between 60°N. and 56°S. latitude in February 2000. NASA and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) sponsored the mission, while the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Center for Earth Resources Observation & Science (EROS) agreed to be the long-term archive for these data. All the data delivered to USGS EROS conforms to the NGA SRTM and the NGA Digital Terrain Elevation Data® (DTED®) product specifications.

USGS EROS currently offers numerous formats and resolutions of SRTM elevation data for public distribution. For 3-arc second (90-meter) global coverage, data is available via a 13-grid Web ordering interface. For 1-arc second (30-meter) coverage of the United States and its territories, data is available through a 7-grid Web ordering interface. The grid areas within each of these interfaces represent all the 1° x 1° cells that are contained on one piece of media (DVD). Users can get either NGA DTED® format or the reformatted SRTM version of the data, which is a simple binary raster format derived from the original DTED® version. More information can be found at <http://eros.usgs.gov/products/elevation/srtmdted.html> for DTED® formatted data and <http://eros.usgs.gov/products/elevation/srtmbil.html> for SRTM formatted data.

SRTM data are also available through the USGS EROS Seamless Data Distribution System (SDDS). The SDDS distributes U.S. 1-arc second and global 3-arc second SRTM data. SDDS allows users to generate instantaneous downloads for areas up to 30 square degrees latitude/longitude in 100-megabyte files at no cost. For selected areas greater than 30 square degrees, the data area available on media at standard USGS pricing. The formats available include ArcGrid, bil, Gridfloat, and TIFF (32-bit floating point). SRTM data can be searched and ordered from the SDDS at <http://seamless.usgs.gov/>.