Montana Geospatial Information Act Grant Program Priorities
State Fiscal Year 2025

The Montana State Library (MSL) administrates an annual grant program to assist state agencies, local governments, or Indian tribal governments with administering the purpose of the Montana Geospatial Information Act (MGIA) and implementing the priorities of Montana Geospatial Information Plan. The Montana Geospatial Information Act's (MGIA) purpose "is to develop a standardized, sustainable method to collect, maintain, and disseminate information in digital formats about the natural and artificial land characteristics of Montana." (Section 90-1-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA))

This document establishes the MGIA Grant Program priorities for state fiscal year 2025: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025. The successful development and maintenance of geospatial information, referenced in these priorities, relies on the availability of appropriate funding and resources, and on collaboration and partnership across all levels of government. The estimated budget for the FY2025 MGIA Grant Program is $250,000. The Grant Application period will be opened from, no later than, January 15, 2024, through February 29, 2024: msl.mt.gov/MGIAgrants.

The grant priorities have been broken into two priority tiers. Tier 1 Priorities align with the development, maintenance, and standardization of a select group of Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure Framework data layers. Tier 2 Priorities are to assist local, tribal, and state governments with implementing geospatial programs and GIS data collection efforts, apart from the information prioritized in Tier 1, in their government planning, business practices, and asset management.

Tier 1 Priorities
Create or update geospatial datasets and develop workflows for the purpose of continued participation in the Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure or other statewide data collection initiatives listed below:

A. ***Develop GIS Information to Support Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) – Development of GIS data that are National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Standard Compliant***
   1. Boundaries – Development of the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) boundaries, service boundaries (law, fire, emergency medical services), and/or provisioning boundaries.
   2. Addresses – Development of address data that are NENA standard compliant that can be integrated into the MSDI Structures and Addresses theme.
   3. Road Centerlines – Development of road centerline data that are NENA standard compliant and meet requirements for integration into the MSDI Transportation theme.

B. ***Montana Spatial Data Infrastructure Improvement to Cadastral and Administrative Boundaries Themes***
   1. Cadastral: Improvements to digital representation of Public Land Survey System (PLSS) for the purpose of improving accuracy of the MSDI Cadastral and Administrative Boundaries themes:
      a. Collecting new survey control data.
      b. Digitization and dissemination of documents related to PLSS corners.
   2. Administrative Boundaries: Development and enhancement of data layers recognized by the MSDI Administrative Boundaries theme.

C. ***Integrating GIS into the Planning and Preparation for Geo-Enabled Elections***
   1. Collaboration across local government to implement a single address point dataset that is NENA NG9-1-1 standard compliant and meets the needs of elections processes.
   2. Collaboration across local government to create and maintain essential election boundary datasets that meet MSDI Administrative Boundaries standards.

D. ***Pilot Project to develop geospatial information to support the next generation of the National Hydrography Dataset***
   "The USGS and partners are designing the 3D Hydrography Program (3DHP) as the next generation of surface water mapping for the Nation." This data will create a new, more spatially accurate, standardized dataset for Montana's Spatial Data Infrastructure Hydrography theme. *See USGS 3DHP*.
   1. Partner with the MSL and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to develop elevation-derived hydrography (EDH) from 3DEP (lidar) products for inclusion in the 3D Hydrography Program (3DHP).
   2. EDH data development for a 10-digit HUC to potentially be enlarged to several 10-digit HUCs or larger by applying for funding through the USGS 3DHP Program.

   <u>Pilot Project</u>: *MSL will award one grantee funding to complete the identified grant program priority. The funding for the identified pilot project will be capped appropriately to the project.*

Tier 2 Priorities
Development of geographic information systems that support on-going government workflows and build GIS capacity:

a. ***GIS Planning***
   Create a plan to assist potential MSDI partners for MGIA Grants to clearly identify their current GIS needs and to help them develop a realistic scope of work, budget, and schedule to achieve a project. The Montana State Library will make up to 4% of funds available for GIS Planning Project grants. These projects will help MSL partner with local governments to prepare grant partners.

b. ***Development of base geographic data layers***
   Development of base geographic data layers that are standardized, regularly maintained, and made publicly available to support information needs and support activities including, but not limited to, land use planning, infrastructure, water resources, and asset management.

c. ***Support Geographic Information Systems for Public Safety, Emergency Management, Disaster & Emergency Services Operations, & Community Resilience[*] Planning***
   Support the creation, maintenance, and standardization of local, tribal, and state geographic information systems or geographic information to be used for planning, mitigation, and recovery in the event of man-made, natural, and/or economic hazards or challenges.

d. ***RTN Network Buildout***
   Support the buildout of the MTSRN Realtime Network.

Questions about the MGIA Grant Program – MGIAgrants@mt.gov
Learn More - https://msl.mt.gov/MLIAGrants

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[*] The Montana Department of Commerce's Montana Ready Communities Initiative (MRCI) defines resilience as, "the ability of individuals, communities and systems to adapt and thrive in the face of adverse events and challenges."