

Homeland Foundation-Level Infrastructure Data (HIFLD) Subcommittee



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is HIFLD?

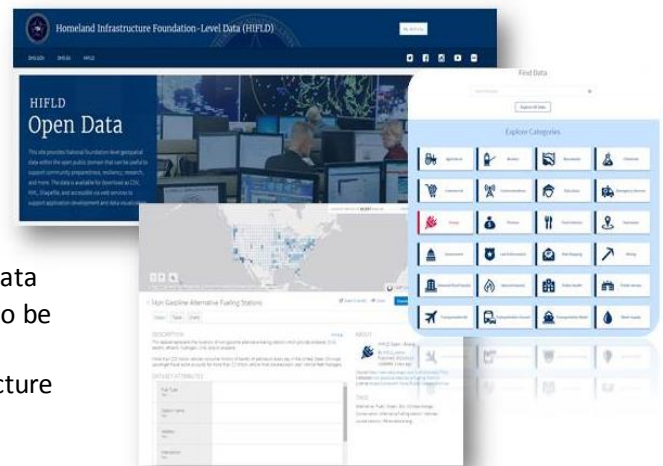
The HIFLD Subcommittee develops, promotes and executes a coordinated strategy for acquiring and generating geospatial information about critical infrastructure for Federal agencies through partnerships with State, Local, Tribal, Territorial, and private organizations.

What is HIFLD Open?

The HIFLD Open Data website contains nearly 275 publicly available data layers. The remaining FOUO and commodity HIFLD data layers will also be made available for download via secure single-sign-on through the Department of Homeland Security's Geospatial Information Infrastructure (GII).

HIFLD Open can be accessed using the following link:

<https://gii.dhs.gov/hifld/data/open>



What is HIFLD Secure?

The HIFLD Support Team is currently working to enable widespread dynamic delivery and download of HIFLD's FOUO and commodity data layers. HIFLD Secure consists of the same FOUO and restricted commodity data layers that were previously packaged within HSIP Gold and HSIP Freedom. There are nearly 300 data layers identified as HIFLD Secure. All public data layers that are available on HIFLD Open will also be accessible on HIFLD Secure. We anticipate the release HIFLD Secure by Summer 2016. Please note that HSIN credentials will be required to access this data. Please contact the HIFLD Support Team if you are in need of HSIN credentials.

Are you still going to provide DVDs?

No, DVDs of new data will be created. Users will have the opportunity to download the data and create local copies themselves. Keep in mind that once the data is downloaded, it may no longer be up to date – some HIFLD data sets are updated almost on a daily basis (e.g. FEMA's Flood Hazard Layer). However, hard copies of HSIP Gold 2015 and Navteq 2013 will remain available upon a valid request. These requests will continue to be serviced via the HIFLD Support Team.

How often will HIFLD Open and HIFLD Secure layers be updated?

The intended goal is to provide HIFLD users with rolling quarterly updates at minimum. Data sets hosted by external sites such as FEMA's Geospatial Platform or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be updated per their organization's (i.e. data owners) respective data maintenance requirements. Any new updates or changes to each data set will clearly be denoted within both the summary level metadata and completed FGDC metadata records.

How can I contribute new data to HIFLD Open or HIFLD Secure?

We ask that data owners and providers contact the HIFLD Support Team with suggested additions or updates to current data holdings. Potential candidates for HIFLD Open or Secure are gathered and assessed according to existing requirements and metadata standards per FGDC guidelines. From there, updates to existing data are applied as soon as possible. New data acquisition requests are adjudicated by the HIFLD Subcommittee, an interagency body under the Federal Geographic Data Community (FGDC), who meets on a quarterly basis.

For more information please contact HIFLD@hq.dhs.gov or visit <https://gii.dhs.gov/hifld>