**National Hydrography Dataset (NHD)**

**Stewards Interview Invitation**

[First Name]:

The USGS-National Geospatial Program (NGP) is soliciting feedback from NHD Stewardship Program Coordinators as part of our effort to assess the overall effectiveness of the current stewardship model and to identify areas needing improvement. As part of that effort, I would like to schedule a time to talk with you about the NHD Stewardship Program.

The NHD Stewardship Program began in 2006 and today includes almost 60 stewards and substewards from Federal, State, and local agencies, and academic institutions. The NGP has promoted the stewardship process via training, workshops, biannual NHD meetings, start-up grants, the stewardship website (*http://usgs-mrs.cr.usgs.gov/stewweb/),* improved stewardship tools and documentation, and ongoing support from the NHD POCs and the Geospatial Liaison network. Through discussions with our current partners, such as you, we hope to develop a deeper and more complete understanding of how we can better support your stewardship efforts.

Our interview will cover what is and is not working well in the NHD Stewardship Program as well as how the NHD is being used by your organization [*or* organization name] and others in your State [area]. Your participation will be invaluable to our understanding of the needs of NHD stewards and NHD users.

Would you be available to meet at your office or by phone on either [date 1] or [date 2]? The discussion will take about an hour, and I am flexible about the time. If another date would be better, please let me know and I’ll do my best to accommodate your schedule. If you have any questions, please email me back or call me at (xxx) xxx-xxxx.

Thank you,

[Name]

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:The information collected will be used by the USGS to improve the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) Stewards Program and the NHD itself. Your response to this request is completely voluntary.

Burden Estimate Statement: Public burden for this initial invitation form is estimated to average 3 minutes per response. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. This information collection is approved under OMB Control Number 1090-0011, with an expiration date of June 30, 2015. Comments concerning clarity, utility of information or burden reduction may be sent to the USGS Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 807, Reston, VA 20192.