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Mark DeMulder
Chief, National Geospatial Program
US Geological Survey
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Subject: New USGS GeoPDF maps for Nevada

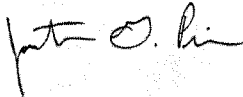
Dear Mark,

On June 23, 2010 the Nevada State Mapping Advisory Committee was given a review and shown examples of the USGS Digital Map Beta GeoPDF map series. The quality of the image base and the layering flexibility allowed by the GeoPDF file format impressed the members of the committee. However, lack of the Public Lands Survey System (i.e. township, range, and section lines) was identified as a significant shortcoming in the product.

In a public lands state, the ability to locate areas by township and range is a significant public and agency requirement for this product. Federal agencies use the Public Lands Survey System (PLSS) to describe the location of oil, gas, geothermal, and industrial mineral leases; wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, National Parks, agency management boundaries (Forest Service, BLM, DOD), property ownership, mining claim descriptions, etc. State and local agencies use PLSS to describe civil unit boundaries, land ownership descriptions, mining claim descriptions, various special management areas, and fire districts. The public uses the PLSS lines on topographic maps to locate the areas listed above.

Based on the importance of PLSS to the public and to various government agencies and the long history that the U.S. Geologic Survey and the Department of Interior have of producing high-quality topographic maps that include PLSS, the Nevada State Mapping Advisory Committee requests that the 2012 editions of US topo maps for Nevada include the Public Lands Survey System.

Sincerely,



Jonathan G. Price
Chair
Nevada State Mapping Advisory Committee



Ronald H. Hess
Executive Secretary
Nevada State Mapping Advisory Committee

cc: Michael Cooley
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