

STANDARDS FOR INDIAN TRUST LANDS BOUNDARY EVIDENCE – PART 1

So BLM collects the GCDB data on a township basis, the survey boundaries are delineated by computing the geographic positions of township section, aliquot part, government lot and special survey corners. Next official land descriptions are assigned to each land unit in the grid. Now that is a little bit misleading. Those official designations really have already been assigned.

Basically it is attaching the legal parcel name to the parcel. That has already been done on the official plat. So, the records are then reformatted so geographic information system software can be used to view the PLSS information **spatially**. It is the base layer for the GIS system and it is available to you. It is one of the things in this process that we want you to review because we want to know, has the GCDB done on in your area, on this project and how accurate are those coordinates and those coordinates give you a reliability factor, and they may say well the reliability is 200 feet, that is the best we've got. Or maybe they may say the reliability is a foot.

We've got a good survey there and we have good information about exactly where those corners are. Gather that information and report what it is.

The BLM began collection of the Geographic Coordinate information in 1989. The data collection effort continues today. GCDB data has been collected for approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the townships in the western United States and the BLM eastern states office has collected GCDB for over 300 townships east of the Mississippi River.

Now this is an important issue with tribes and tribal lands. One of the issues for managing land properly is to know where it is and to develop a good GIS system; you need a good base layer that shows where the boundaries are. The GCDB is that good base layer and you will see that there are a lot of projects out there on reservations gathering data to make this Geographic Coordinate Database better.

- BLM collects the GCDB data on a township basis. The survey boundaries are delineated by computing the geographic positions of township, section, aliquot part, government lot, and special survey corners. Next, official land descriptions are assigned to each land unit in the grid. The records are then reformatted so Geographic Information System (GIS) software can be used to view the PLSS information spatially.

- The BLM began collection of the geographic coordinate information in 1989 and the data collection effort continues today. GCDB data has been collected for approximately three quarters of the townships in the Western United States. The BLM Eastern States Office has collected GCDB for over 300 townships east of the Mississippi River.