

## LOCAL NEWS

### Interior develops new generation of topo maps

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- “US Topo” is the next generation of topographic maps from the U.S. Geological Survey in the Department of the Interior.

Digital [US Topo](#) maps are designed to look, feel, and perform like the traditional paper topographic maps for which the [USGS](#) is so well known. However, in contrast to paper-based maps, US Topo maps provide technical advantages that support faster, wider public distribution and enable basic, on-screen geographic analysis for all users.

“The public’s high regard for USGS topographic maps stretches over a century,” said Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar. “Because Survey maps consistently describe our nation’s entire landscape, they are the standard mapping reference for scientists, land managers, property owners, and every variety of outdoor enthusiast.”

Salazar added that the new type of USGS topographic map "not only preserves the best qualities of older topographic maps but now, in a popular digital format, can better serve both specialized users and the general public.”

Arranged in the familiar 7.5-minute quadrangle format, US Topo maps are available free on the Web. Each map quadrangle is constructed in GeoPDF® format from key layers of geographic data — orthoimagery, roads, geographic names, topographic contours, and hydrographic features — found in [The National Map](#), a nationwide collection of integrated data from local, state, federal, and other sources.

The new maps are available at <http://nationalmap.usgs.gov/ustopo>.