In the photograph above a conventional pen plotter is completing a planimetric map of Northern Texas and Oklahoma at 1:2,000,000 scale. Features plotted from US GeoData tapes include streams and water bodies (blue), political boundaries (brown), roads (red), railroads (black), and Federal lands (green).

US GeoData tapes are computer tapes which contain cartographic data in digital form. The 1:2,000,000-scale data are available in two forms.

The graphic form can be used to generate computer-plotted maps. The content and scale of the maps can be varied to meet your needs.

The topologically-structured form of US GeoData is suitable for input to geographic information systems for use in spatial analysis and geographic studies.

New US GeoData tapes are now available from the U.S. Geological Survey

Both forms must be used in conjunction with appropriate software.

US GeoData tapes offer convenience, accuracy, flexibility, and cost effectiveness to many map users. Business, industry, and government users who are involved in network planning and analysis, transportation, demography, land use, or any activity where data can be related to, or plotted on a map will find US GeoData a valuable resource.

US GeoData tapes are now available for the entire United States—including Alaska and Hawaii—at the 1:2,000,000 scale.

To understand more about US GeoData, read the reverse side of this folder. For further details and ordering information, contact the USGS National Cartographic Information Center nearest you.
Combined With Other Data

US GeoData can be combined with other types of digital data. For instance, you can combine U.S. Census Bureau digital data with US GeoData to produce a map which shows population distribution over the entire country.

Although combining other data bases with US GeoData to produce composite maps will require the use of special applications software, this technique may be extremely useful and cost effective for repetitive analysis and display of information.

Select Appropriate Format

US GeoData is available in two forms.

The topologically-structured form can be used for general spatial applications and to perform calculations. It can also be used for plotting if special applications software is available.

Each tape comes with a detailed user’s guide which describes the format of the data. Specifications about block size, density, and other tape characteristics are provided on the tape label.

Select Content

When maps are plotted, you may choose to include only selected layers of information. For example, you can construct a map showing only national forest lands and railroads, or rivers and railroads, or even a simple base map containing only State boundaries.

You can combine or mix the information from the three layers in any way you wish. Each of the three layers can be purchased individually.

Select Scale and Projections

The graphic form of US GeoData uses a geographic coordinate (latitude/longitude) system. This means that with appropriate software you can plot the data at various scales and on selected projections.

You can also combine this form of US GeoData with other data that are in a geographic coordinate reference system.

How to Order

US GeoData tapes can be ordered through any NCIC office. For technical and ordering information contact the NCIC office nearest you. See reverse side of this folder for addresses.