

gscnpad0.gif (17550 bytes)



## Cartographic Feature File Data Vintage

The Forest Service's Cartographic Feature Files have been collected over a period of almost 20 years. During that time, the Cartographic Feature Files (CFFs) have evolved as the standards, and as specifications have changed, quality has improved. Accordingly, CFF data has been classified by vintages, with each vintage accompanied by a brief description of its derivation and characteristics.

### Contents

-  [Vintage 1: 1978 - 1987](#)
-  [Vintage 2: 1988](#)
-  [Vintage 3: 1989](#)
-  [Vintage 4: 1990 - 1991](#)
-  [Vintage 5: 1990 - 1991](#)
-  [Vintage 6: 1992 - 1993](#)

-  [Vintage 7: 1993](#)
-  [Vintage 8: 1994](#)
-  [Vintage 9: 1995](#)
-  [Vintage 10: 1995 - 1996](#)
-  [Vintage 11: Sept. 1996 - present](#)

<b>VINTAGE 1</b>	1978-87. Earliest digital data, collected prior to official start of CFF program; mostly collected in-house without rigorous standards, for purposes of small-scale (1:126,720) mapping.
<b>multilinking</b>	none
<b>tracking</b>	smooth curves not a priority for linear features; possible extraneous points on straight line segments
<b>structure</b>	not checked for overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points, unbroken intersections, or complete polygons
<b>edit methodology</b>	on-screen only, no edit plots used
<b>edgematching</b>	landnet edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, but not to an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads, resulting in overshoots/undershoots; other features received only a cursory check

<b>VINTAGE 2</b>	1988. First CFF digitized by contractors; collected prior to official start of CFF program.
<b>multilinking</b>	coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them (except for status with landnet; sand areas with drainage; boundaries with physical features; and swamps or inundation limits with open water).
<b>tracking</b>	smooth curves not a priority for linear features; possible extraneous points on straight line segments
<b>structure</b>	not checked for overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points, or unbroken intersections, or complete polygons
<b>edit methodology</b>	on screen, and using plotted overlays, with focus on correct attributing and alignment
<b>edgematching</b>	features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, but not to an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads, resulting in overshoots/undershoots; done by contractor, but not checked

[Back to the top](#)

<b>VINTAGE 3</b>	1989. Digitized under contract; official start of CFF program.
<b>multilinking</b>	coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them; exceptions-- roads or status with landnet; sand areas with drainage; boundaries with physical features; and swamps or inundation limits with open water
<b>tracking</b>	smooth curves not a priority for linear features
<b>structure</b>	linecheck (LINCK) used to eliminate overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points and unbroken intersections; polygons not checked for completeness
<b>edit methodology</b>	on screen, and using plotted overlays, with focus on correct attributing and alignment
<b>edgematching</b>	features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, but not to an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads, resulting in overshoots/undershoots

[Back to the top](#)

<b>VINTAGE 4</b>	1990-91. Digitized under contract; data collection and editing procedures standardized.
<b>multilinking</b>	coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them, except for roads with landnet
<b>tracking</b>	smooth curves not a priority for linear features
<b>structure</b>	linecheck (LINCK) used to eliminate overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points and unbroken intersections; polygons not checked for completeness
<b>edit methodology</b>	on screen, and using plotted overlays, with focus on correct alignment and attributing
<b>edgematching</b>	features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, but not to an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads, resulting in overshoots/undershoots

<b>VINTAGE 5</b>	1990-91. Digitized under contract; data collection and editing procedures standardized.
<b>multilinking</b>	coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them, except for roads with landnet
<b>tracking</b>	smoothness of linework given greater attention
<b>structure</b>	linecheck (LINCK) used to eliminate overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points and unbroken intersections; polygons not checked for completeness
<b>edit methodology</b>	on screen, and using plotted overlays, with focus on correct alignment and attributing
<b>edgematching</b>	features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, but not to an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads, resulting in overshoots/undershoots

[Back to the top](#)

<b>VINTAGE 6</b>	1992-93. Digitized under contract; first digitizing guide in use (Dec. '92).
<b>multilinking</b>	coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them, except for roads with landnet
<b>tracking</b>	collection and editing standards improved to ensure consistently smooth linework
<b>structure</b>	linecheck (LINCK) used to eliminate overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points and unbroken intersections; polygons not checked for completeness
<b>edit methodology</b>	on screen, and using plotted overlays and automatic feature code checks, to verify proper alignment, correct attribution and proper multilinking
<b>edgematching</b>	features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, using an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads to eliminate overshoots/undershoots

<b>VINTAGE 7</b>	1993. Digitized under contract; data now more rigorously edited as part of digital hardcopy process.
<b>multilinking</b>	coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them, except for roads with landnet
<b>tracking</b>	collection/editing standards ensure consistently smooth linework
<b>structure</b>	linecheck (LINCK) used to eliminate overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points and unbroken intersections; polygons not checked for completeness
<b>edit methodology</b>	on screen, and using plotted overlays and automatic feature code checks, to verify proper alignment, correct attribution and proper multilinking; additional edits performed on those projects destined for digital hardcopy
<b>edgematching</b>	features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, using an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads to eliminate overshoots/undershoots

[Back to the top](#)

<b>VINTAGE 8</b>	1994. Digitized/revised under contract; data run through the TACS process (an in-house editing and database system); revision projects followed by the digital hardcopy process receive additional edits.
<b>multilinking</b>	coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them, except for roads with landnet; automatic valid multilink check now part of process
<b>tracking</b>	collection/editing standards ensure consistently smooth linework
<b>structure</b>	linecheck (LINCK) used to eliminate overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points and unbroken intersections; Intergraph's MGE software used to check polygon structure and completeness of multilinking
<b>edit methodology</b>	on screen, and using automatic feature code checks and two different types of plots with improved symbology, to verify proper alignment, correct attribution and proper multilinking
<b>edgematching</b>	features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, using an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads to eliminate overshoots/undershoots

<b>VINTAGE 9</b>	1995. Digitized/revised under contract; data run through the TACS process (an in-house editing and database system); revision projects followed by the digital hardcopy process receive additional edits.
<b>multilinking</b>	coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them, except for roads with landnet; automatic valid multilink check now part of process
<b>tracking</b>	collection/editing standards ensure consistently smooth linework
<b>structure</b>	linecheck (LINCK) used to eliminate overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points and unbroken intersections; Intergraph's MGE software used to check polygon structure and completeness of multilinking
<b>edit methodology</b>	on screen, and using automatic feature code checks and two different types of plots with improved symbology, to verify proper alignment, correct attribution and proper multilinking
<b>edgematching</b>	features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, as well as to any adjoining projects that have been through the TACS process and which reside in the TACS database, using an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads to eliminate overshoots/undershoots

[Back to the top](#)

<b>VINTAGE 10</b>	1995-96. Revised to Single Edition Standards; data run through the TACS process (an in-house editing and database system); revision projects followed by the digital hardcopy process receive additional edits.
<b>multilinking</b>	coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them, except for roads with landnet; automatic valid multilink check now part of process
<b>tracking</b>	collection/editing standards ensure consistently smooth linework
<b>structure</b>	Intergraph's MGE software used to eliminate overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points and unbroken intersections; and to check polygon structure and completeness of multilinking
<b>edit methodology</b>	on screen, and using automatic feature code checks and two different types of plots with improved symbology, to verify proper alignment, correct attribution and proper multilinking
<b>edgematching</b>	features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, as well as to any adjoining projects that have been through the TACS process and which reside in the TACS database, using an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads to eliminate the lack of overshoots/undershoots

<b>VINTAGE 11</b>	<b>September 1996 to present. Revised to Single Edition Standards; data run through the TACS process (an in-house editing and database system); revision projects followed by the digital hardcopy process receive additional edits; polygons requiring screened or patterned fills have centroids and a segmented neatline for the open window layer process.</b>
<b>multilinking</b>	<b>coincident lines digitized once, with multiple codes linked to them, except for roads with landnet; automatic valid multilink check now part of process</b>
<b>tracking</b>	<b>collection/editing standards ensure consistently smooth linework</b>
<b>structure</b>	<b>Intergraph's MGE software used to eliminate overshoots, undershoots, duplicate points and unbroken intersections; polygon structure and completeness of multilinking checked by MGE software and the centroid process, which uses a combination of Intergraph and ARC/INFO software</b>
<b>edit methodology</b>	<b>on screen, and using automatic feature code checks and two different types of plots with improved symbology, to verify proper alignment, correct attribution and proper multilinking</b>
<b>edgematching</b>	<b>features edgematched to adjoining quads within the project, as well as to any adjoining projects that have been through the TACS process and which reside in the TACS database, using an imaginary neatline drawn between the quads to eliminate overshoots/undershoots</b>

[Back to the top](#)



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