

Advanced National Seismic System

Data and Products Policy

This document establishes the policy of the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Earthquake Hazards Program (EHP) governing data collected and products developed by participants in the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS). It is intended to guide all aspects of ANSS operations, including real-time data monitoring, structural monitoring, and special studies including temporary deployments targeting earthquake sequences.

The Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act (P.L. 95-124 as amended) gives the USGS the Federal responsibility for providing notifications of earthquakes and its reauthorization in 2000 established the ANSS to modernize and expand the Nation's seismic monitoring infrastructure to provide accurate and timely data and information products for seismic events, including their effects on buildings and structures, employing modern monitoring methods and technologies.

1. All data collected and data products generated by ANSS participants shall be made readily available to the user community for earthquake monitoring and notification, emergency response, scientific research, volcano monitoring and notification, general education, and all other appropriate purposes.
2. All data collected by ANSS participants shall have sufficient metadata giving the location, instrumentation type and response, and other information on the conditions of data recording needed for the application of the data. These metadata shall be associated with the recorded (or raw) data in a manner that will ensure that the recorded data and metadata can be easily matched.
3. Recorded data and associated metadata shall be deposited at, and distributed through, existing data management centers and facilities. Data so deposited and distributed must be clearly attributed to the ANSS or to appropriate participating partners.
4. All ANSS source parameter data, associated impact products and other scientific and summary information will reside in the ANSS Comprehensive Catalog (ComCat) using approved standards and protocols.
5. All engineering-specific products generated by the National Strong-Motion Program (NSMP) and its partners will be made available using NSMP/ANSS supported access portals.
6. The ANSS Integrated Product Team or otherwise appointed body shall develop specifications for ANSS data, metadata, and data products, for approval by the ANSS National Implementation Committee.
7. All ANSS participants are required to follow this and other ANSS policies and the derivative standards, procedures, and specifications as they pertain to each participant's scope of operations and authority.