

Layer Name: USGS 7.5' Quadrangles – Old Hawaiian Datum (also see the USGS 7.5' Quads – NAD83)

File Name: usgs\_quads\_ohd

Layer Type: Polygon

Status: Complete

Geog. Extent: Main Hawaiian Islands

Projection: Universal Trans Mercator, Zone 4 (Meters)

Datum: NAD 83 HARN

Description: USGS 7.5' Quad boundaries for the main Hawaiian Islands.

Source: USGS 7.5' Topo Maps.

History: Created by the Office of Planning in the **Old Hawaiian Datum** using the lat/long coordinates of the quad boundaries, and the ARC GENERATE command.

Note: In the late 1990's, the USGS recast the topo maps from the Old Hawaiian Datum to the NAD83 Datum. This results in a shift in position between the old quad boundaries and the new quad boundaries, *regardless of the Datum that they may be displayed in*. The reason that there is a difference between the new quads and the old ones even if they are displayed in the same datum is that the corners of the quads are actually different points on the surface of the earth. In other words, a point in Lat/Long in Old Hawaiian is different from that same coordinate in NAD83.

The difference in co-ordinates between datums is commonly referred to as *datum shift*. The datum shift between two particular datums can vary from one place to another within one country or region, and can be anything from zero to hundreds of meters (or several kilometers for some remote islands). The [North Pole](#), [South Pole](#) and [Equator](#) will be in different positions on different datums, so [True North](#) will be slightly different. Different datums use different interpolations for the precise shape and size of the Earth ([reference ellipsoids](#)).

See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geodetic\\_datum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geodetic_datum) for more information.

This layer represents the quadrangle boundaries from the **old**, OHD quadrangle maps.

Note: Feb 2024 – Hawaii Statewide GIS Program staff removed extraneous fields that had been added as part of the 2016 GIS database conversion and were no longer needed.

Attributes: AREA Area of polygon (sq. meters)  
PERIMETER Perimeter of polygon (meters)  
QNAME Quad Name  
QNUM Quad Number

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