

# Texas Geographic Data Collection Coordination Meeting

12/06/11

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The purpose of this meeting is to share status of current and potential geographic data collection activities in Texas among State and Federal collaborators. The call is held on the first Tuesday of each month at 2:30 p.m. (877-226-9790, access code 9101076).

**Attendees:** Felicia Retiz, Shelby Coder, Gayla Mullins, Jim Scott (TNRIS), Claire DeVaughan (USGS), Rob Aanstoos (DIR), Jennifer Huxley (FEMA), Drew Kinney (NRCS), Bryon Haney (USACE), Jeff Bracewell, (NPS), Eddie O'Connor (CAPCOG), Traci Tracey, John Dougherty (ESRI)

## USGS Topics

1. Lidar - USGS delivered the final elevation products for Calhoun, Nueces, and parts of Hidalgo, Willacy, and Cameron to TNRIS. The data points were collected at 2 points per square meter (ppsm) and include LAS files, DEMs, Intensity Images, and breaklines. A project report and metadata are also included with the data. See thumbnail of IBWC lidar project area below. Contact TNRIS for ordering information or Claire at [cdevaugh@usgs.gov](mailto:cdevaugh@usgs.gov).

The National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) collected high resolution elevation data in specific parts of Dallas and Houston and have offered to share the IMG files with TNRIS. TNRIS asked for the point cloud and the possibility of allowing public distribution of the data. If the data cannot be publicly shared, TNRIS will supply a contact name at USGS or NGA as the data are requested.

- Claire will follow up with NGA.

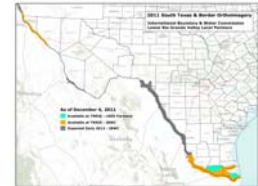
2. Partnership funding opportunities for enhancement of the National Hydrography Dataset will be available 2012. Interested parties should discuss potential proposals with Claire as soon as possible, since the proposals need to be submitted in late January. Partnership funds could be between \$15k-\$50k and will require a match. Please contact Claire at the USGS for more information - [cdevaugh@usgs.gov](mailto:cdevaugh@usgs.gov).

## State of Texas Topics

1. Orthoimagery Updates:
  - NAIP 2012 – Still no definite decision for Texas but we remain on the priority list. A meeting to determine the budget for NAIP will occur in January. Contributions from state and local partners will not be accepted due to a new financial system adopted by

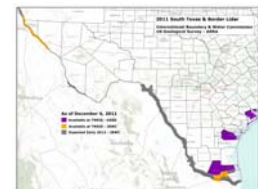
the Aerial Photography Field Office (APFO), the NAIP administrator. As a result, the state will have the option to purchase the uncompressed DOQQ imagery from APFO after they receive products but before QA/QC is complete. We will need to work together to coordinate a joint purchase of the imagery, not to exceed \$40,000. The Compressed County Mosaics may be provided at no charge to the state through the NRCS Geospatial Data Gateway. However, fee-based downloads for published data are being considered for this system.

- IBWC and LRGV – 6-inch natural color orthoimage uncompressed GeoTIFFs are available for portions of South Texas and along the Rio Grande River. Project completion and full delivery of the AOI, including compressed Sids, is expected by February 2012. Please contact TNRIS to order.

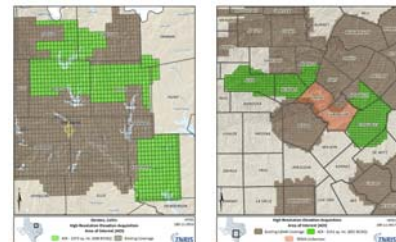


## 2. Lidar Update:

- IBWC Lidar – Lidar is now available for portions of the Lower Rio Grande Valley according to IBWC specifications. These data were acquired on the Mexican side of the border north to the edge of the USGS ARRA Lidar projects in Hidalgo and Cameron counties. Please contact TNRIS for questions on products, specifications, and availability. TNRIS continues to receive lidar from the IBWC north along the Texas/Mexico border. All areas are expected by February 2012.



- HPIDS Lidar – Products from the 2011 HPIDS lidar collection for Central and North Texas are now available at TNRIS. The areas of collection include portions of Denton, Collin, Gonzales/Caldwell, and Kaufman counties in North Texas and portions of Kendall, Kerr, Caldwell and Gonzales counties in Central Texas. For more information go to <http://www.tnr.is/LidarReleaseNews>.



- Austin, Waller, Grimes counties are expected in 4-6 weeks. *No change*
- Sabine/Shelby/Newton counties are expected in January. The pilot test area has passed inspection and processing of the AOI is now underway.
- Bell/Burnet/McLennan counties are expected in staggered deliveries from November to January. The pilot test area has passed inspection and is now in the processing phase. The first delivery area was sent to the QA/QC vendor on November 15 and the second area will go on December 15. The third will follow in January.
- FEMA Lidar – Comal, Guadalupe, Liberty, and Parker counties have been delivered to TNRIS. These counties were captured to FEMA specification but some areas were not fully processed due to funding limitations. Please contact TNRIS for ordering information.

## Other Topics

- Eddie O'Connor of the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) announced plans for a lidar collection project over the Highland Lakes region in Central Texas. The data will be used for sediment studies as well as reservoir capacity in the current drought. Funding commitments are still pending from CAPCOG and USGS. The USGS National Geospatial Program is considering commitment of funds to cover gaps between lakes. CAPCOG is joining an existing lidar collection project funded by the City of Austin (COA) and the deadline for funding commitments is drawing near as the window for leaf-off conditions draws closer. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality also has an interest in a lidar collection project and will be contacted to determine if a common AOI exists. Any interest in collaboration or expanding coverage should be directed to Eddie at [econnor@capcog.org](mailto:econnor@capcog.org)
- Jeff Bracewell of the National Park Service is interested in collecting lidar over the Big Thicket National Forest located across Polk, Hardin, and Orange counties. Collection will be coordinated with the USGS' EAARL program, which utilizes full-waveform technology to collect elevation information for project studies. Bryon Haney of USACE will check with internal divisions on interest for those collection areas and possibly Sam Rayburn reservoir. For more information, contact Jeff at [Jeff\\_Bracewell@nps.gov](mailto:Jeff_Bracewell@nps.gov).

**Next meeting date – Tuesday, January 3, 2012 @ 2:30 p.m.**