

# National Enhanced Elevation Assessment

## – Introduction –

NOAA LiDAR Workshop  
August 18, 2011

Greg Snyder  
USGS Project Manger

# National Enhanced Elevation Assessment

## About the Project

### Sponsor:

- National Digital Elevation Program (NDEP) member agencies

### Funding Partners:

- U.S. Geological Survey (Managing Partner)
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

### In-kind Partners:

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Many Federal agencies, state agencies and other study participants

# Federal Agencies Participating Business Requirements Assessment

Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Bureau of Land Management  
Bureau of Ocean Energy and Management  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
Department of Energy  
Department of Homeland Security  
Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Department of Justice  
Department of State  
Department of Transportation  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Farm Service Agency  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Federal Communications Commissions  
Federal Emergency Management Agency

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Park Service  
National Science Foundation  
National Telecommunications & Information Admin  
Natural Resources Conservation Services  
Office of Surface Mining  
Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
U. S. Nuclear Regulation Commission  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Bureau of Census  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
U.S. Forest Service  
U.S. Geological Survey

# Enhanced Elevation Data

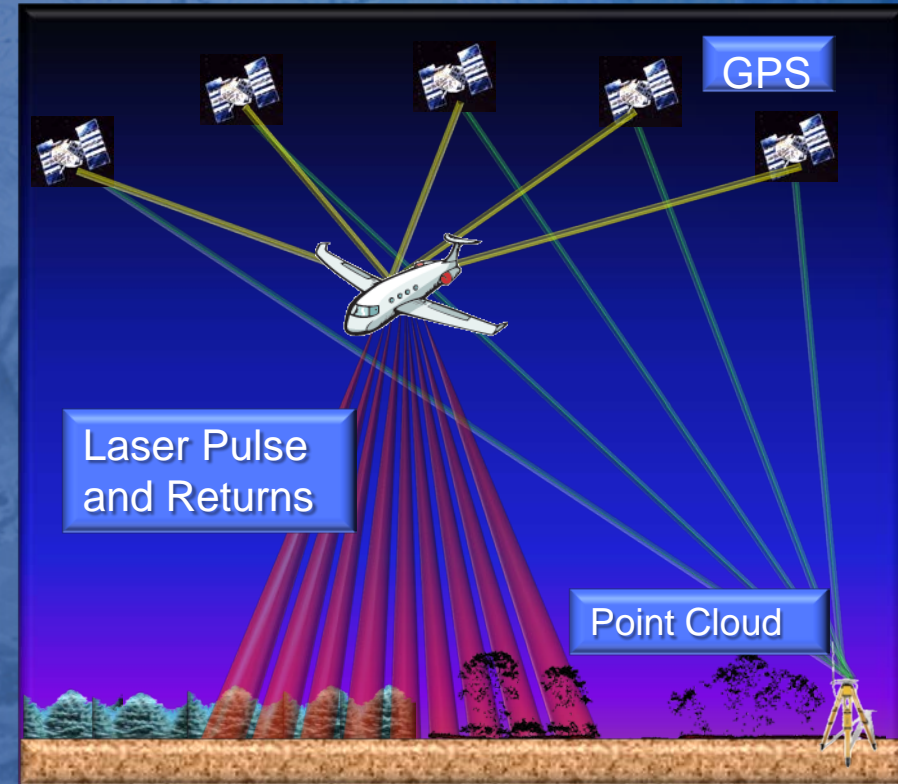
## Many Stakeholders

- Fifty States, local and Tribal governments
- Thirty plus Federal agencies
- Private sector – Forest Products, Development, Energy and others
- Regional organizations
- Professional Organizations representing many interests
  - American Geophysical Union
  - American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS)
  - AmericaView
  - Association of American Geographers (AAG)
  - Association of American State Geologists (AASG)
  - Coastal States Organization (CSO)
  - Floodplain Management Association (FMA)
  - Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (MAPPS)
  - National Association of Counties (NACo)
  - National Governors Association (NGA)
  - National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC)
  - Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM)
  - Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA)

# Technologies of Choice

## Light detection and ranging (LiDAR)

- System with a laser and detector (range), scanning mirror (laser direction), GPS (location), and IMU (orientation)
- Output 300,000+ laser pulses per second
- Record laser reflection information
- Billions of recorded points create 3-dimensional representation of bare earth, vegetation and structures at centimeter-level accuracy

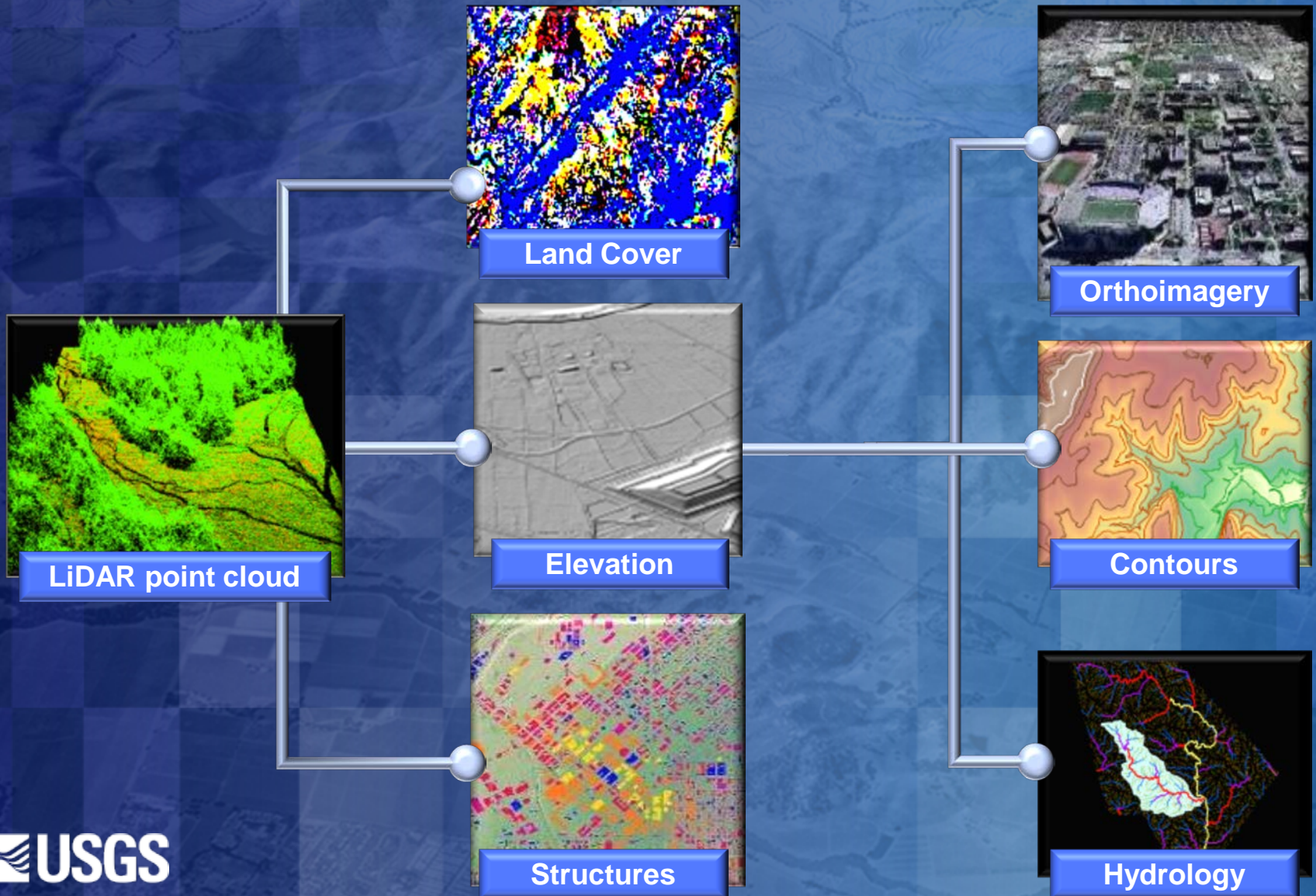


## Interferometric synthetic aperture radar (IfSAR)

- Cloud penetration
- Lower acquisition cost than LiDAR

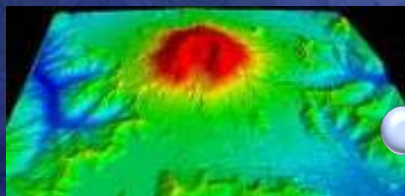
# LiDAR Point Cloud

Supports derived elevation products and geospatial data integration

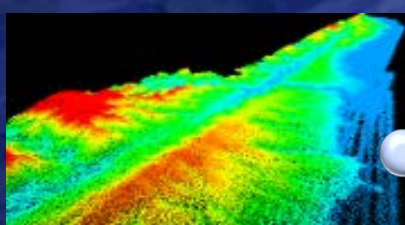


# Concept for a National Enhanced Elevation Program

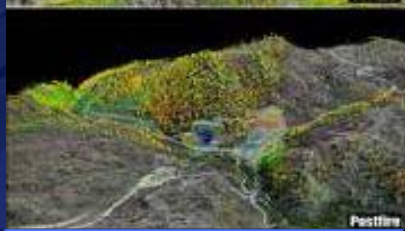
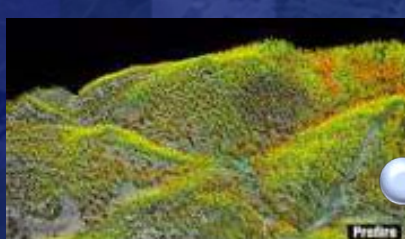
Supporting multiple operational and science needs



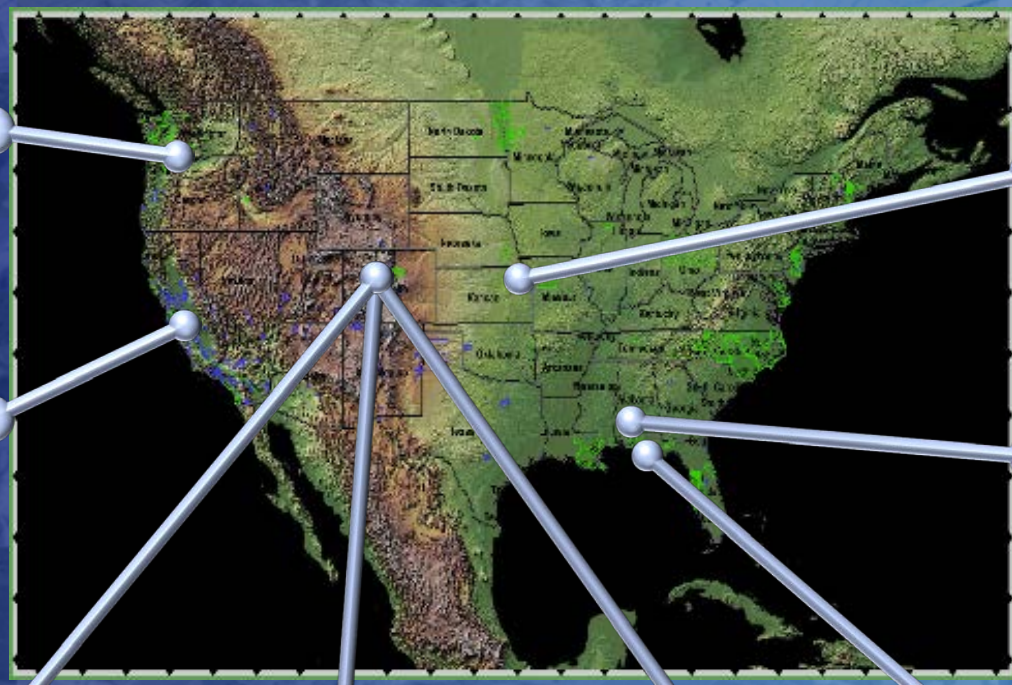
Volcano Monitoring



Earthquake Faults



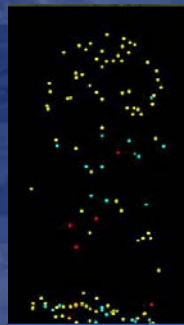
Carbon/Disturbance



Urban Response



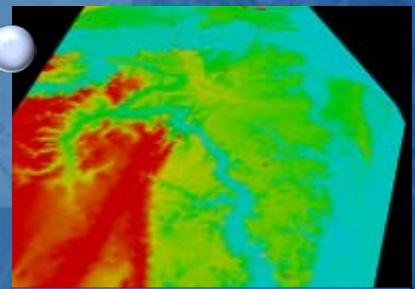
Land Cover



Biomass



Hydrologic Studies



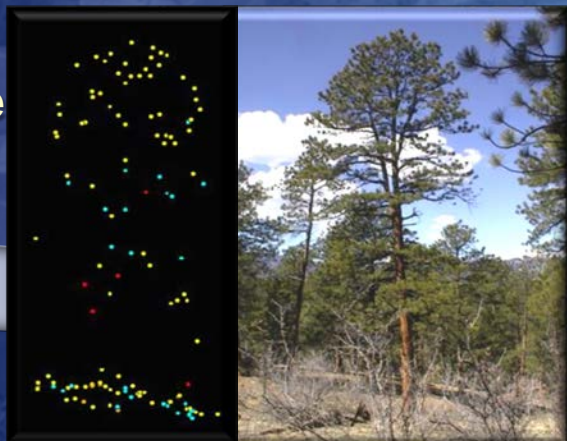
Coastal Studies



# Elevation Data Must Scale to Address Large Area Requirements

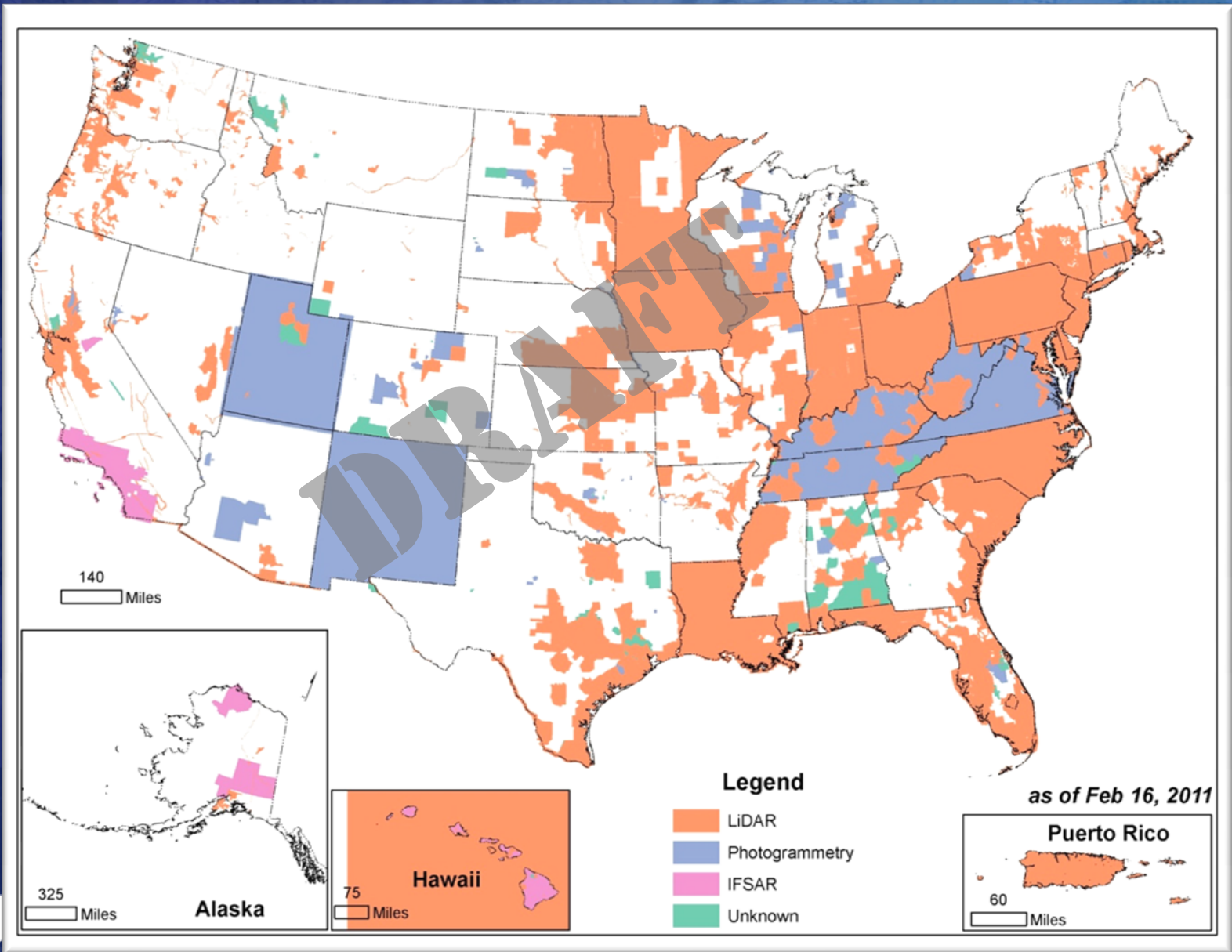


- Biomass and Carbon estimates
- Fire fuels models
- Geologic fault mapping
- Floodplain modeling
- Homeland security line of site analysis
- Hydrologic network improvements
- Landslide prone areas mapped
- Land cover assessment and mapping
- Precision agriculture
- Property valuation
- Species and habitat assessments
- Structures mapped in 3-D
- Three dimensional GIS enabled
- Urban area planning
- Wetland inventory improvements
- Wind and solar energy assessments





# Enhanced Elevation Data Inventory



# National Enhanced Elevation Assessment

## Purpose

- **Develop and refine requirements for a national program.**
- **Identify program implementation alternatives, costs and benefits of meeting priority Federal, State and other national needs.**
- **Quantify answers to key questions:**
  - **Is it more cost effective for the Government to manage these activities within the context of a national program?**
  - **Are there additional national or agency benefits derived from such a strategy?**
  - **What does the optimized program look like?**

# National Enhanced Elevation Program

## Idealized Goals and Schedule

- **FY10**
  - Established project team and management oversight
  - Initiated National Enhanced Elevation Assessment
  - Built on ARRA success and partnerships with FEMA, NGA, states and others
- **FY11**
  - National Enhanced Elevation Assessment
  - Begin Developing Multi-year National Enhanced Elevation Plan
- **FY12**
  - Develop supporting documents – alternatives analysis, design, implementation plan, etc.
  - Develop organizational approaches
- **FY13**
  - Implementation begins

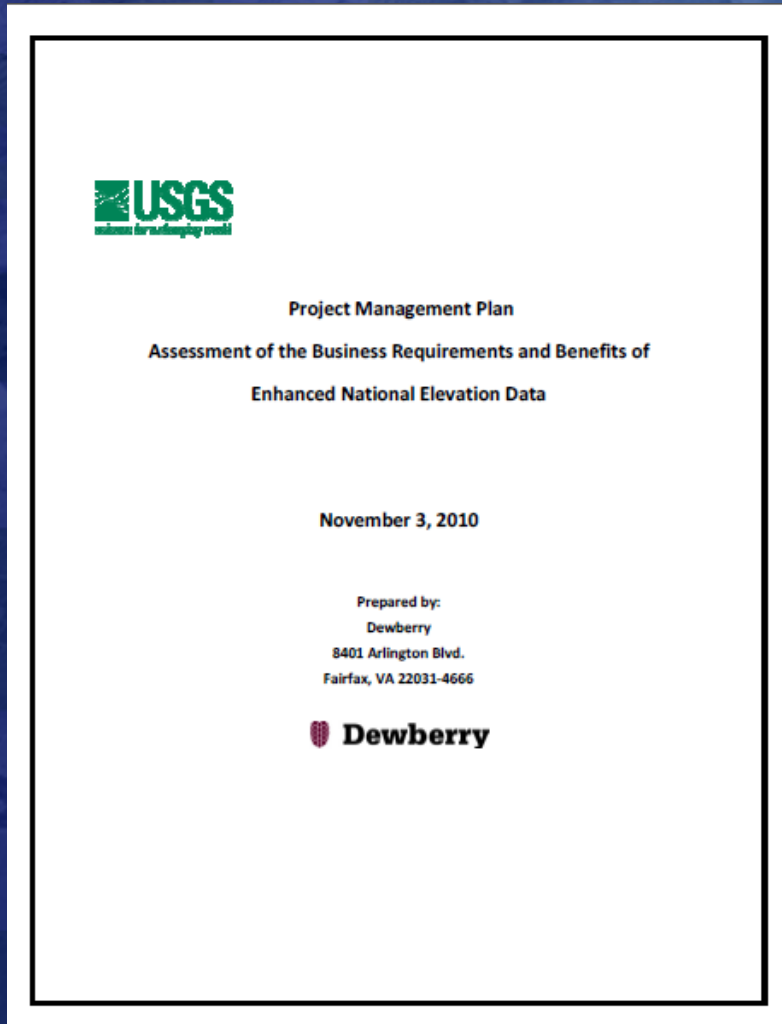
# National Enhanced Elevation Assessment – Status of Ongoing Tasks

NOAA LiDAR Workshop  
August 18, 2011

David Maune, PhD, CP, CFM  
Project Manager



# Project Management Plan



- Overview, goals & objectives
- Requirements, costs & benefits information collection methodology:
  - Questionnaire process
  - Interview/Workshop process
  - Validation process
- Data aggregation/analyses
- Technology alternatives
- IT implementation scenarios
- Cost-benefit analyses
- Conclusions

# Business Uses

1. Natural resources conservation
2. Water supply and quality
3. River & stream resource management
4. Coastal zone management
5. Forest resources management
6. Rangeland management
7. Wildlife and habitat management
8. Agriculture and precision farming
9. Geologic resource assessment and hazard mitigation
10. Resource mining
11. Renewable energy resources
12. Oil and gas resources
13. Cultural resources preservation and management
14. Flood risk management
15. Sea level rise and subsidence
16. Wildfire mgt, planning, response
17. Homeland security, law enforcement, disaster response
18. Land navigation and safety
19. Marine navigation and safety
20. Aviation navigation and safety
21. Infrastructure and construction management
22. Urban and regional planning
23. Health and human services
24. Real estate, banking, mortgage, insurance
25. Education K-12 and beyond
26. Recreation
27. Telecommunications

# Topographic Data Quality Levels

Quality Levels	Elevation Source	Horizontal Resolution Terms			Vertical Accuracy Terms	
		Point Density	Nominal Pulse Spacing	DEM Post Spacing	RMSEz in Open Terrain *	Equivalent Contour Accuracy
QL 1	LiDAR	8 pts/m <sup>2</sup>	0.35 m	1/27 arc-sec (~1 m)	9.25 cm	1-ft
QL 2	LiDAR	2 pts/m <sup>2</sup>	0.7 m	1/27 arc-sec (~1 m)	9.25 cm	1-ft
QL 3	LiDAR	1 – 0.25 pts/m <sup>2</sup>	1 – 2 m	1/9 arc-sec (~3 m)	≤18.5 cm	2-ft
QL 4	Imagery	1 – 0.04 pts/m <sup>2</sup>	1 – 5 m	1/3 arc-sec (~10 m)	46.3 cm – 139 cm	5 – 15 ft
QL 5	IFSAR	0.04 pts/m <sup>2</sup>	5 m	1/3 arc-sec (~10 m)	92.7 cm – 185 cm	10 – 20 ft

\* Vertical accuracy is reduced in vegetated land cover categories

# Bathymetric LiDAR Data Quality Levels

Three bathymetric LiDAR Quality Levels:

- Standard Quality Level (3-5 meter post spacing; RMSEz ~ 20 cm)
- Higher Quality Level (higher resolution/higher accuracy)
- Lower Quality Level (coarser resolution/lower accuracy)

Most bathymetric requirements submitted to Dewberry actually pertained to turbid waters for which bathymetric LiDAR is severely limited



# Update Frequency

- Annually
- 2-3 years
- 4-5 years
- 6-10 years
- >10 years
- Event driven; needs not met by a cyclic data acquisition program

# NGA – Homeland Security and Disaster Response

## Mission-Critical Requirements:

QL2 LiDAR of the 133 Urban Areas is required for disaster response, law enforcement, homeland security, research, and 3D modeling, simulation, and analyses.

**Update frequency:** 4-5 years

**Business Use:** Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, and Disaster Response, BU#17

**Estimated program budget:** Cannot provide

## Quantifiable Benefits of Enhanced Elevation Data:

No credible cost savings can be placed on the dollar value of infrastructure or lives protected from acts of terrorism or natural disasters.



## Data Requirements

- Quality Level
- Quality Level 1
- Quality Level 2
- Quality Level 3
- Quality Level 4
- Quality Level 5

Agency: NGA

Functional Activity: Homeland Security and Disaster Preparedness

# NOAA – Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service Static Inundation Mapping

## Mission-Critical Requirements:

NOAA requires QL3 LiDAR for FEMA's high priority areas, QL4 DEMs from imagery for FEMA's mid priority areas, and QL5 IFSAR for FEMA's low priority areas. These data are required for hydrologic modeling, flood forecasting and warning, and flood inundation mapping of riverine areas nationwide for which NOAA provides advanced hydrologic prediction services.

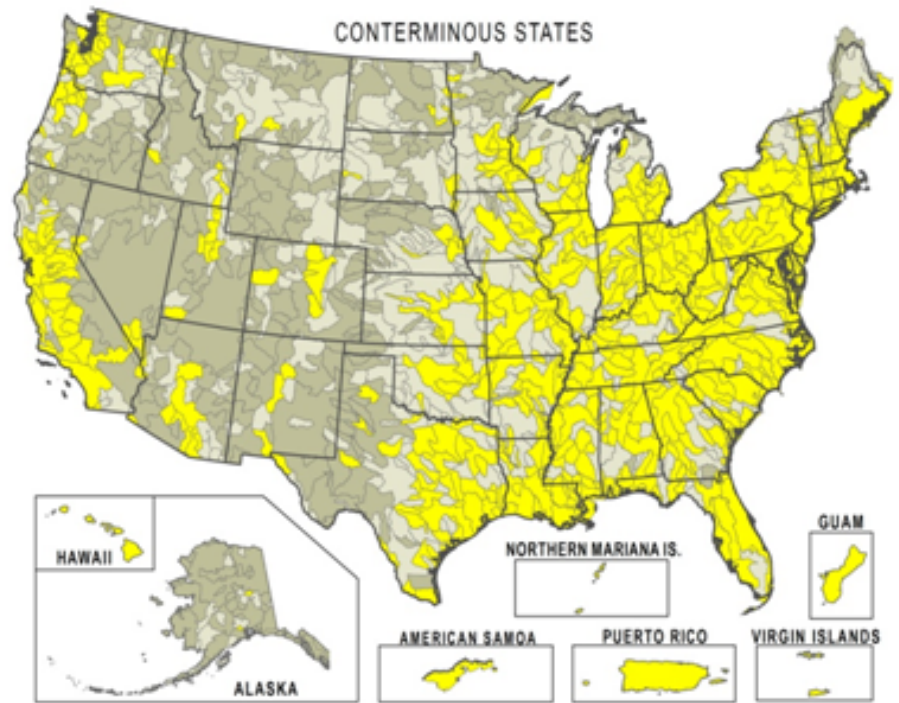
**Update frequency:** 4-5 years

**Business Use:** Flood Risk Management, BU#14

**Estimated program budget:** \$400,000/yr

**Quantifiable Benefits of Enhanced Elevation Data:**

NOAA has estimated that the flood loss reduction benefits of the AHPs program can be estimated at \$243M annually and 10% (\$24.3M/yr) can be directly attributed to LiDAR data.



## Data Requirements

- Quality Level 1
- Quality Level 2
- Quality Level 3
- Quality Level 4
- Quality Level 5

Agency: NOAA

Functional Activity: Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service Static Inundation Mapping

# NRCS – Conservation Engineering and Practices

## Mission-Critical Requirements:

Enhanced elevation data (QL2 LiDAR and QL5 IFSAR) for non-Federal lands, and a modernized IT infrastructure are mission-critical for a broad array of conservation engineering and practices for diverse Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) programs managed by NRCS.

**Update frequency:** 6-10 years

**Business Use:** Multiple, but primarily Natural Resources Conservation, BU#1

**Estimated program budgets supported by elevation data:** ~\$3B/yr

## Quantifiable Benefits of Enhanced Elevation Data:

NRCS would save a minimum of \$60M/yr from LiDAR, and possibly as much as \$150M/yr if each Federal and state program was rigorously analyzed.



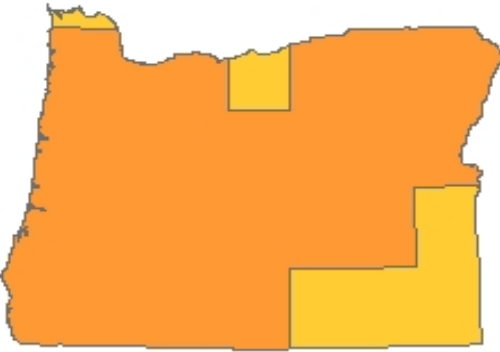
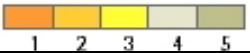
## Data Requirements

- Quality Level 1
- Quality Level 2
- Quality Level 3
- Quality Level 4
- Quality Level 5


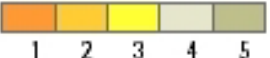
Agency: NRCS

Functional Activity: Conservation Engineering and Practices


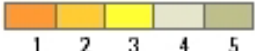
# Oregon – Forest Resources Management

Program: Forest Management	Business Use: 5. Forest Resources Management
 <p>Quality Level: </p>	<p><b>Forest Management:</b> Forest Management involves collecting and sharing information about the conditions of Oregon's forests, protecting forestlands and conserving forest resources. Intensity Image is also a required product.</p>
	<p><b>Estimated Annual Operational Benefits:</b> Major; \$6,500,000</p> <p>The single biggest impact of lidar technology on the science of forestry is that of forest inventory. Traditionally forest-wide inventories have been based upon samples taken within different vegetation strata across the landscape. Now forest managers are closer to being able to have a true inventory of the trees in any given area or ownership. Another benefit is that the design of new road layout is constrained by control points that the constructed road should avoid and areas of optimal grade and alignment. By using the bare earth hillshade it is possible to conduct preliminary engineering before making a field visit.</p>
	<p><b>Estimated Annual Customer Service Benefits:</b> Major; \$6,500,000</p> <p>The engineering uses of lidar data are impressive. In the past land managers used the best available topographic information available which was typically the 1:24,000 USGS topographic quadrangles. The contour lines on these maps were developed using photogrammetric methods, and due to the forest cover in western Oregon, the USGS was not able to certify that these maps met the national map accuracy standard of +/- 1/2 a contour interval (typically 40'). The lidar bare earth model is an accurate representation of the ground surface under the vegetation and can be used in many ways</p>
	<p><b>Estimated Strategic Benefits:</b> Major</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Landslide and unstable slope identification to avoid issues resulting from improper road location.</li> <li>2. Steep slope and operable lands identification.</li> <li>3. Determining tractor ground versus cable ground and optimal landing locations.</li> <li>4. Road design and layout including mass calculations for fills and cuts.</li> <li>5. Determine yarding profiles and blind leads for cable systems.</li> <li>6. Determination of landing placement.</li> <li>7. The canopy layer is an efficient tool to help ODF biologists quickly identify potential marbled murrelet habitat and candidate trees.</li> <li>8. The lidar derived hillshade is an extremely valuable tool for the identification of potential cultural resource areas, and specific historical activity locations.</li> </ol>
	<p><b>Update Frequency:</b> 6-10 years</p>
<p><b>Bathymetric Data:</b> No</p>	
<p><b>Tide-Coordinated:</b> No</p>	
<p><b>Data Outside State Needed:</b> No</p>	

# Michigan – Wildlife Management

Program: Wildfire vulnerability analysis		Business Use: 16. Wildfire Management, Planning, Response	
 <p>Quality Level: </p>		<p><b>Wildfire:</b> Wildfire / Wildfire vulnerability analysis / Wildfire management planning and response. It is expected that these activities would be much improved by high-quality elevation and vegetative cover data.</p>	
		<p><b>Estimated Annual Operational Benefits:</b> Moderate; Dollar Value Not Reported                  1. Not certain that appropriate quality of required elevation data was selected - need a quality that allowed vegetative cover to be identified, ideally along with tree heights, as well as the identification of built structures in the area. 2. A statewide GIS analysis of that data could then allow wildfire risk areas to be identified, and wildfire vulnerabilities to be assessed, in order to identify and prioritize wildfire mitigation projects throughout the state.</p>	
		<p><b>Estimated Annual Customer Service Benefits:</b> Moderate; Dollar Value Not Reported                  Good elevation data, including forest types and tree height information as well as the identification of structure locations, would allow a great expansion of the quality and consistency of wildfire analyses throughout the state, both in local hazard mitigation plans and the state hazard mitigation plan. This would allow the identification and prioritization of wildfire mitigation projects to take place, and to justify the benefits of these projects for FEMA funding.</p>	
		<p><b>Estimated Strategic Benefits:</b> Moderate                  Good elevation data, including forest types and tree height information as well as the identification of structure locations, would allow a great expansion of the quality and consistency of wildfire analyses throughout the state, both in local hazard mitigation plans and the state hazard mitigation plan. This would allow the identification and prioritization of wildfire mitigation projects to take place, and to justify the benefits of these projects for FEMA funding. This would be expected to include enhanced life safety, infrastructure protection, transportation/emergency access, and economic/tourism benefits.</p>	
		<p>Update Frequency: 6-10 years</p>	
<p>Bathymetric Data: Not Reported</p>			
<p>Tide-Coordinated: No</p>			
<p>Data Outside State Needed: Not Provided</p>			

# Maine – Geologic Resource Assessment and Hazard Mitigation

Program: Geologic hazard assessment	Business Use: 9. Geologic resource assessment and hazard mitigation
 <p>Quality Level: </p>	Geologic hazard mapping: Assessments of landslide hazards away from coastal areas including more accurate mapping of historic landslides in key areas.
	Estimated Annual Operational Benefits: Not Reported; \$200,000 Highly improved assessments on landslide hazards away from coastal areas. More accurate mapping of historic landslides in key areas.
	Estimated Annual Customer Service Benefits: Major; Dollar Value Not Reported Highly improved assessments on landslide hazards away from coastal areas. More accurate mapping of historic landslides in key areas.
	Estimated Strategic Benefits: Major Greater ease of identifying/mapping historic landslides - improved presentation to public.
Update Frequency: 2-3 years	
Bathymetric Data: Yes	
Tide-Coordinated: Yes	
Data Outside State Needed: Not Provided	

# BU#1 – Natural Resources Conservation

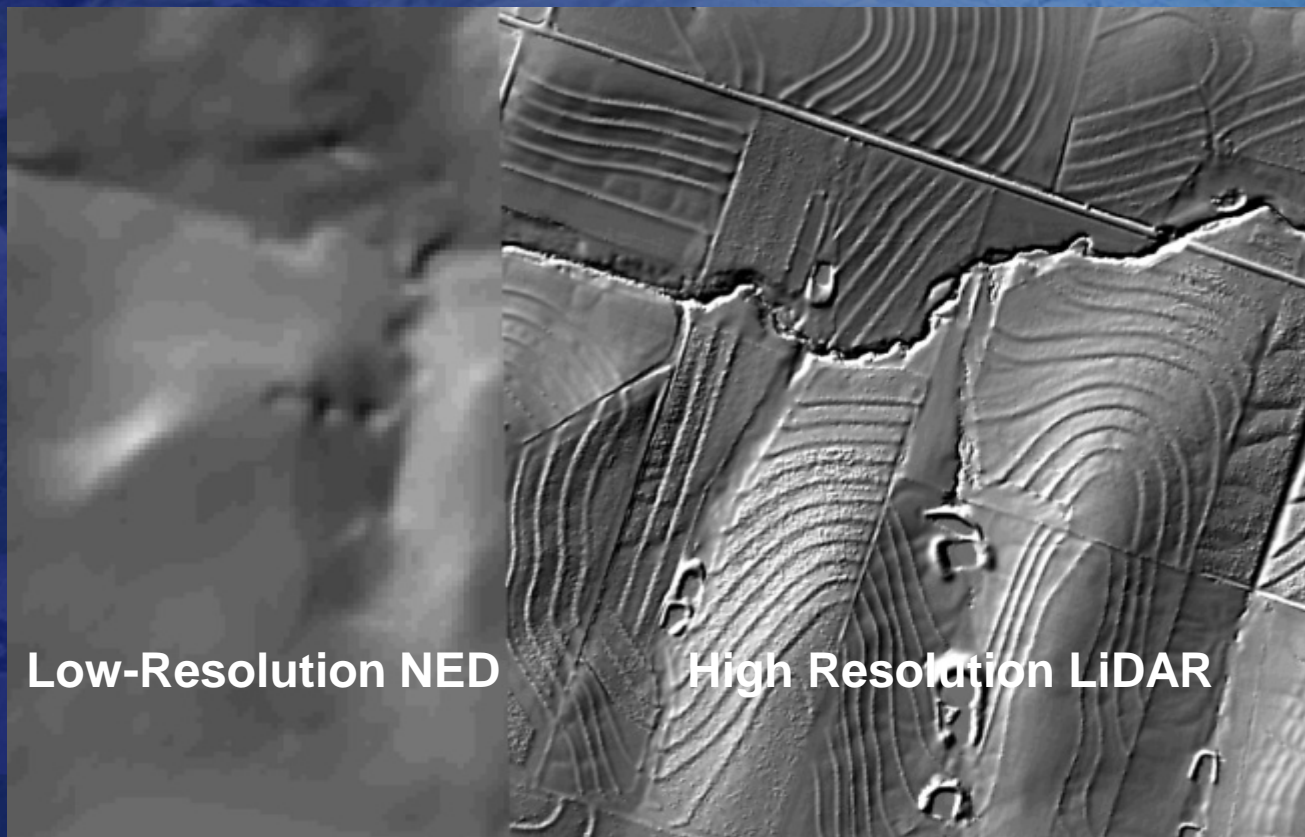
Org.	Functional Activity	Qual. Level	Update
NRCS	Conservation Engineering & Practices (on non-Federal lands)	QL2 LiDAR QL5 IFSAR	6-10 years
NRCS	Specialized Mapping Applications nationwide	QL2/3 LiDAR QL5 IFSAR	6-10 years
USFS	Soil & Geology Inventory	QL2 LiDAR QL5 IFSAR	6-10 years
USFS	Wetlands Mapping and Characterization	QL2 LiDAR QL5 IFSAR	6-10 years
USGS	Mapping, Monitoring and Assessment of Biological Carbon Stocks	QL1/2 LiDAR	6-10 years
NOAA	Coastal and Marine Resources Conservation	QL2 LiDAR	4-5 years
EPA	Environmental Protection, Land Cover Characterization and Runoff Modeling	QL2 LiDAR QL5 IFSAR	4-5 years



# BU#1 – Natural Resources Conservation

Org.	Functional Activity	Qual. Level	Update
FWS	Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs)	QL1 LiDAR	6-10 years
NPS	Preservation and Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources	QL1/3 LiDAR QL5 IFSAR	6-10 years
BIA	Protection and Enhancement of American Indian Trust (AIT) Assets	QL3 LiDAR	6-10 years
USACE	Protection and Management of the Natural Environment	QL3 LiDAR	6-10 years
TVA	Natural and Cultural Resource Management and Conservation	QL3 LiDAR	2-3 years
TNC	Healthy Watersheds	QL2 LiDAR	6-10 years
Agren	Agricultural and Environmental Services	QL2 LiDAR	6-10 years

# BU#1 – Natural Resources Conservation



Conservation Engineering Practices require high-resolution DEMs as well as DEM derivatives (slope, aspect, curvature)

Slope, aspect & curvature are the three principal parameters for LiDAR Enhanced Soil Surveys (LESS)

*Image from NRCS*

# BU#2 – Water Supply and Quality

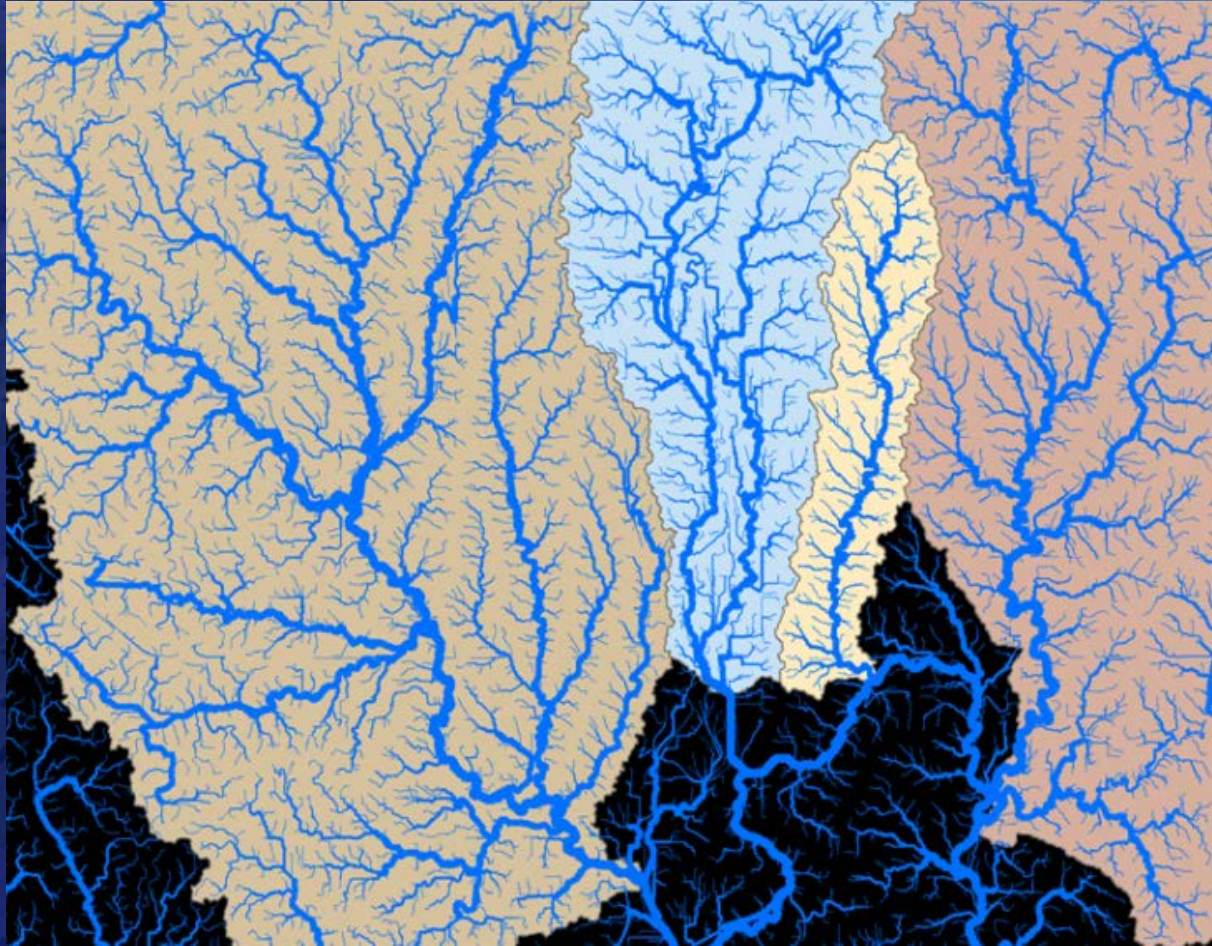


*Image from Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council*

**Withlacoochee River Wastewater Treatment Plant near Valdosta, GA, located outside the FEMA SFHA, had to be relocated after flood of 2009 at cost of \$94.5M**

**Elevations are critical for sewage treatment plants and water facilities**

# BU#3 – River & Stream Resource Mgt



*Image from USGS*

Hydrologic modeling of watersheds, and hydraulic modeling of floodplains, are rightfully called “killer apps” for LiDAR

LiDAR is also seen as the solution to drainage problems nationwide

# BU#4 – Coastal Zone Management

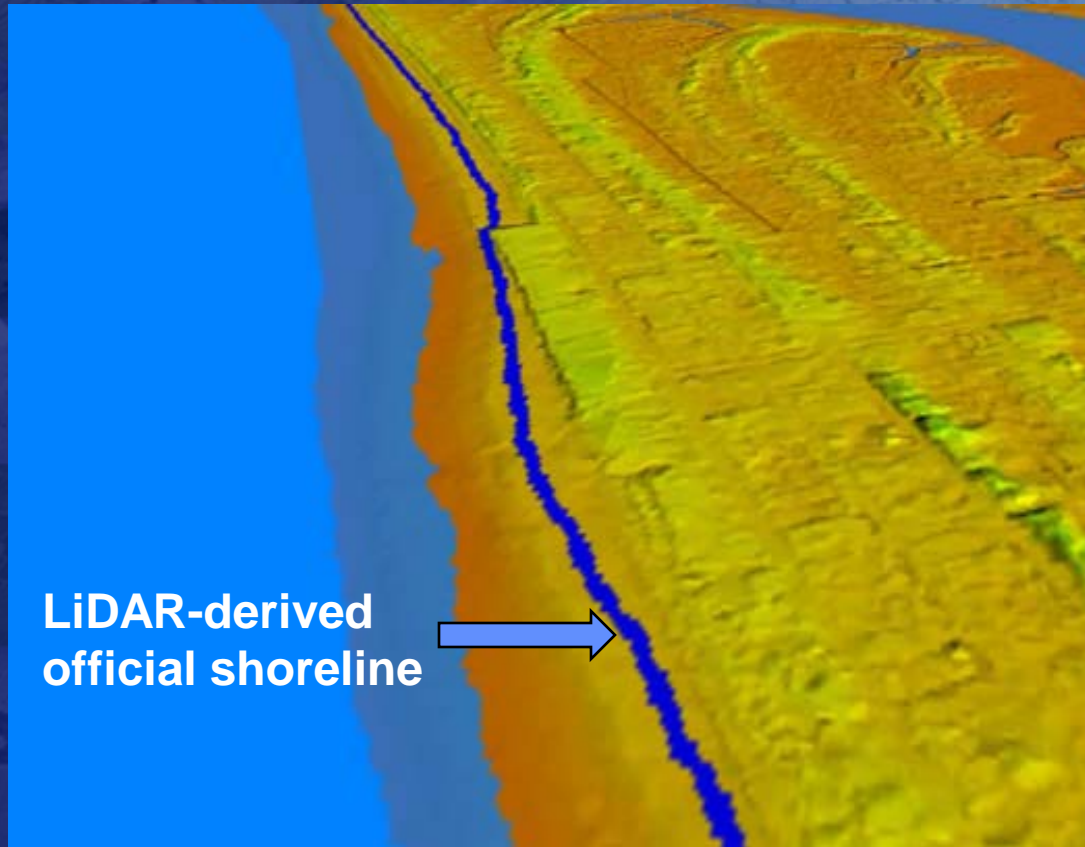
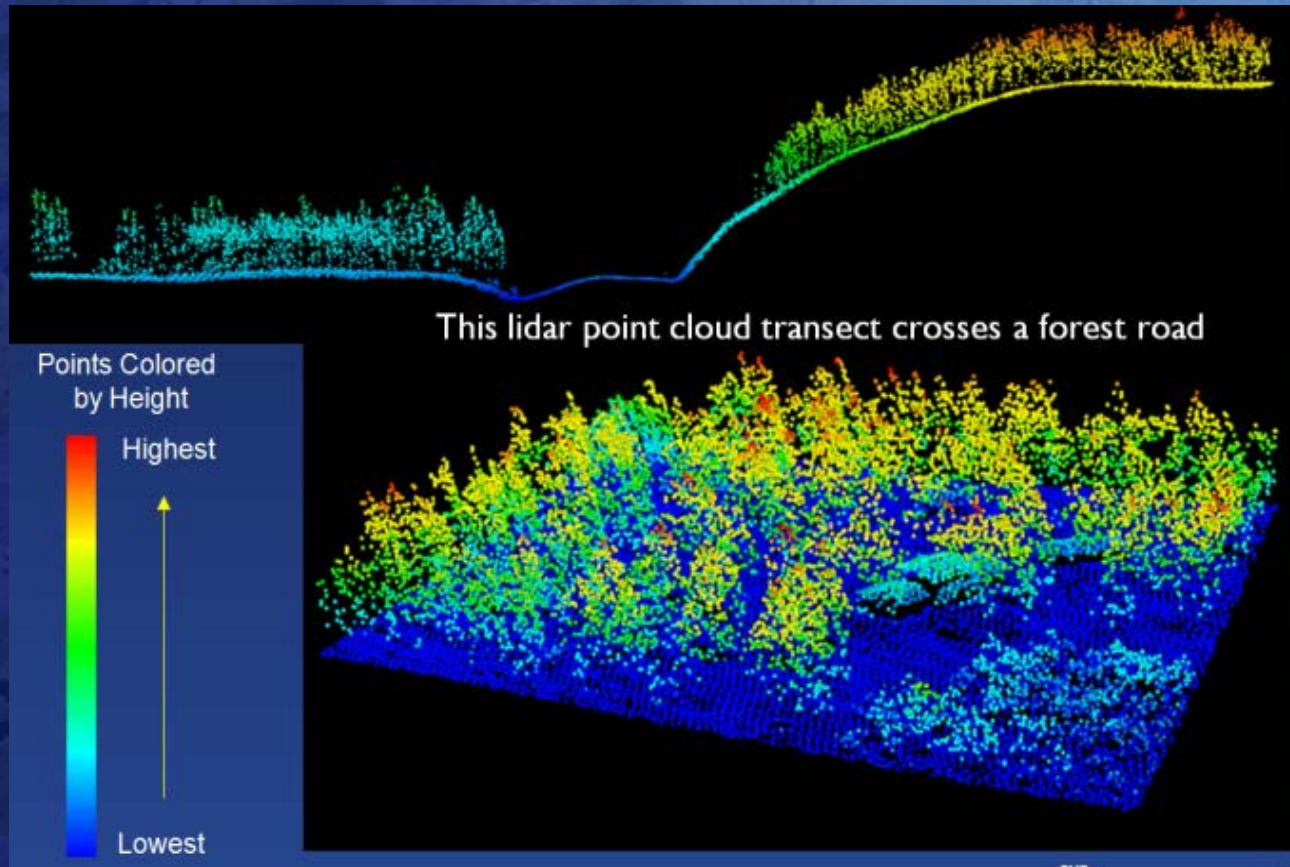


Image from NOAA

JALBTCX (NOAA, USACE, USGS, USN) has *Coastal Mapping & Charting Program* for topo/bathy LiDAR

NOAA's *Digital Coast* addresses timely coastal issues, including land use, coastal conservation, coastal hazards, marine spatial planning

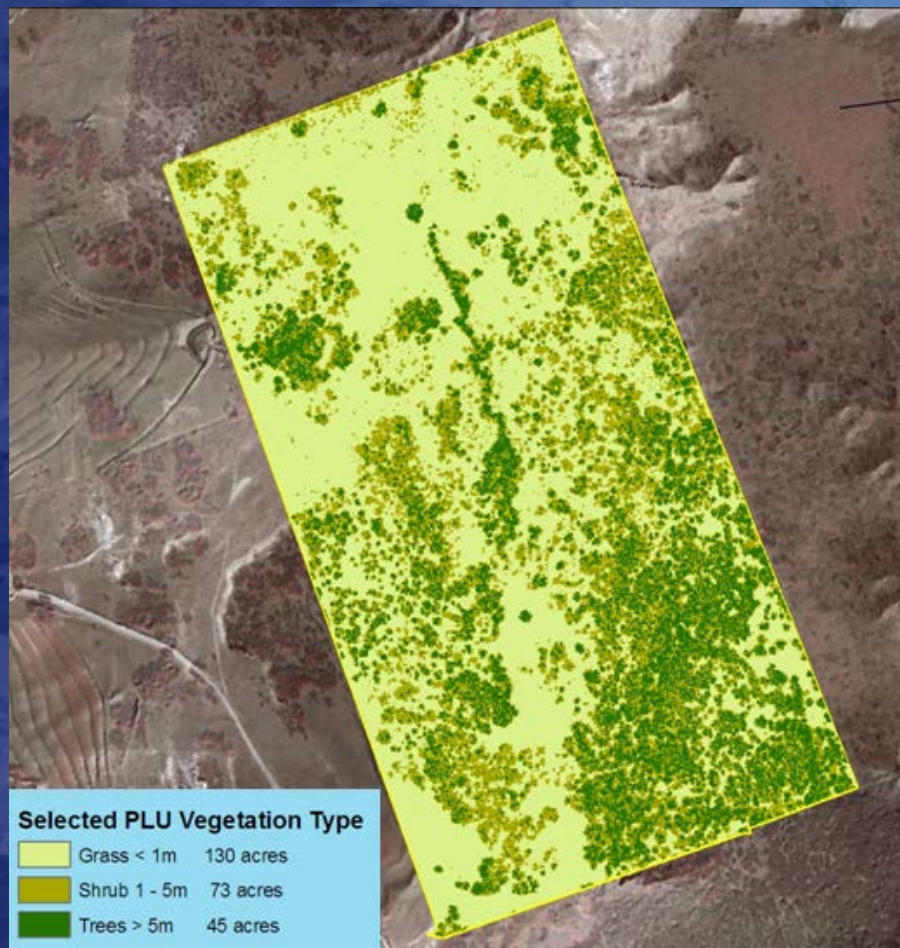
# BU#5 – Forest Resources Management



LiDAR is vital for forest inventory and assessment, computation of forest metrics

Also used for assessment of forest health

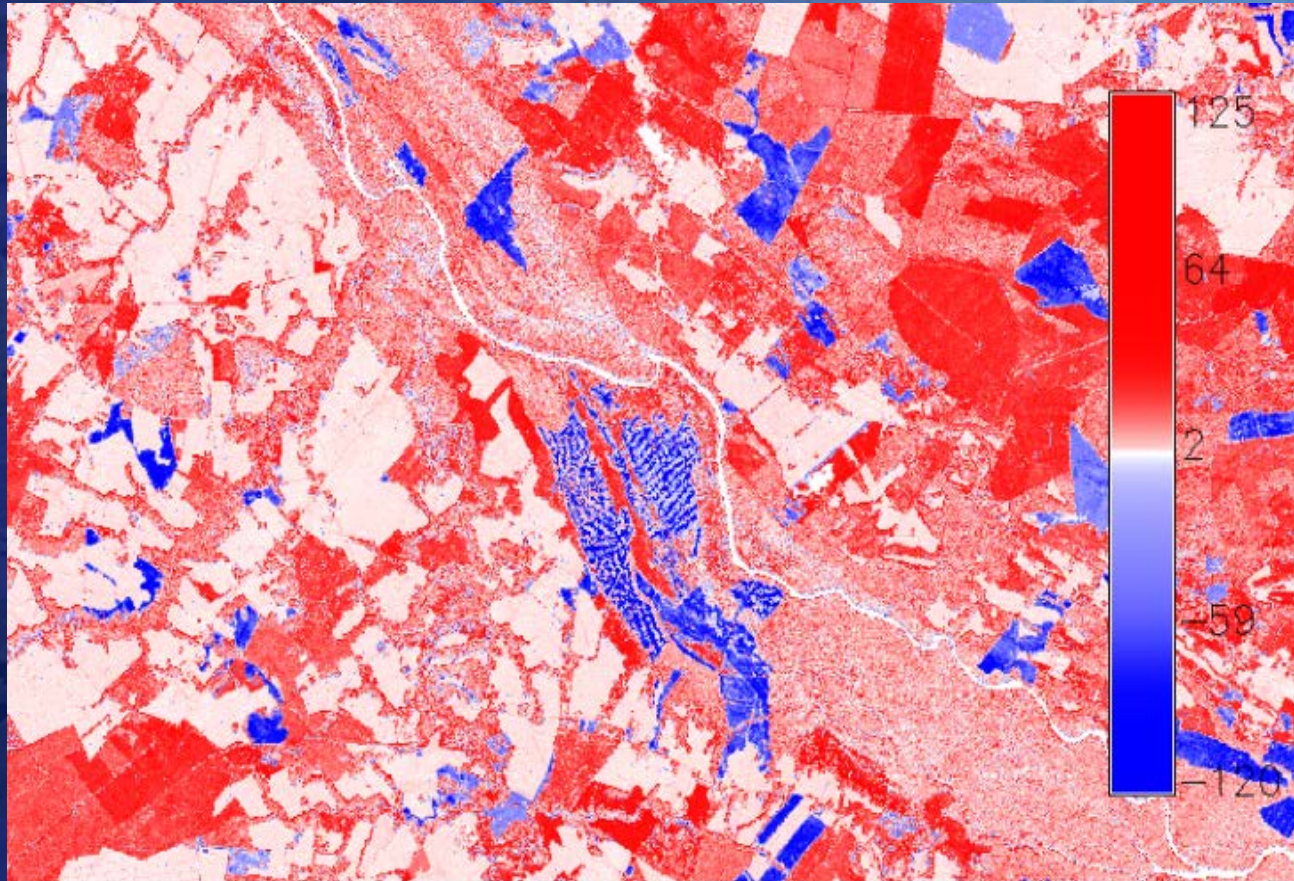
# BU#6 – Rangeland Management



LiDAR used by NRCS for assessment of rangeland vegetation type by Planning Land Unit (PLU)

*Image from NRCS*

# BU#7 – Wildlife & Habitat Management



Craven County, NC, LiDAR-derived differences in Loblolly pine canopy heights of  $\pm 120$  ft in 6-year period, with major changes to wildlife habitat

*Image from FWS*



# BU#8 – Agriculture & Precision Farming

Org.	Functional Activity	Qual. Level	Update
JR Simplot Company	Precision Agriculture	QL3 LiDAR	6-10 years
Ellingson Drainage	Agricultural Drainage Solutions	QL3 LiDAR	6-10 years
Agren	Agricultural and Environmental Services	QL2 LiDAR	6-10 years

# BU#8 – Agriculture & Precision Farming

LiDAR is required for all agricultural land areas of the U.S. for topographic analysis of slope, aspect, curvature and soil wetness (surface and subsurface), and resultant site-specific application of seed, fertilizer, lime, pesticides and water to optimize farm yields.

Also used to reduce farm and pasture runoff that pollutes streams



*Image from University of Missouri Extension*

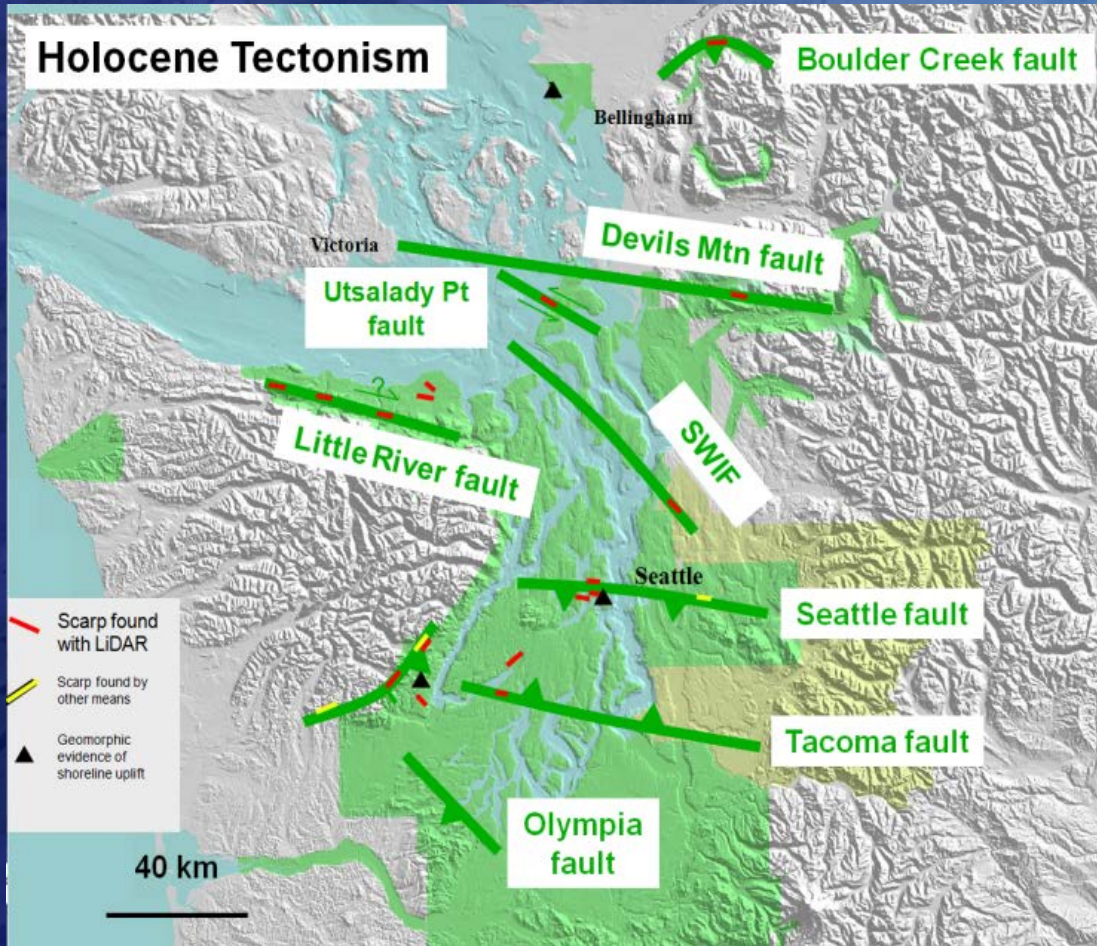
# BU#9 – Geologic Resource Assessment & Hazard Mitigation

Org.	Functional Activity	Qual. Level	Update
USGS	Geologic Mapping	QL1 LiDAR	>10 years
USGS	Seismic Hazards	QL1 LiDAR	6-10 years
USGS	Landslide Hazards	QL1 LiDAR	4-5 years
USGS	Volcano Hazards	QL1 LiDAR	4-5 years
USFS	Soils and Geology Inventory	QL2 LiDAR QL5 IFSAR	6-10 years
NRC	Nuclear Power Plant Site Natural Phenomena Hazard Assessment and Risk Mitigation	QL1 LiDAR	6-10 years

Also BIA, BLM, NPS, NRCS as part of other Functional Activities



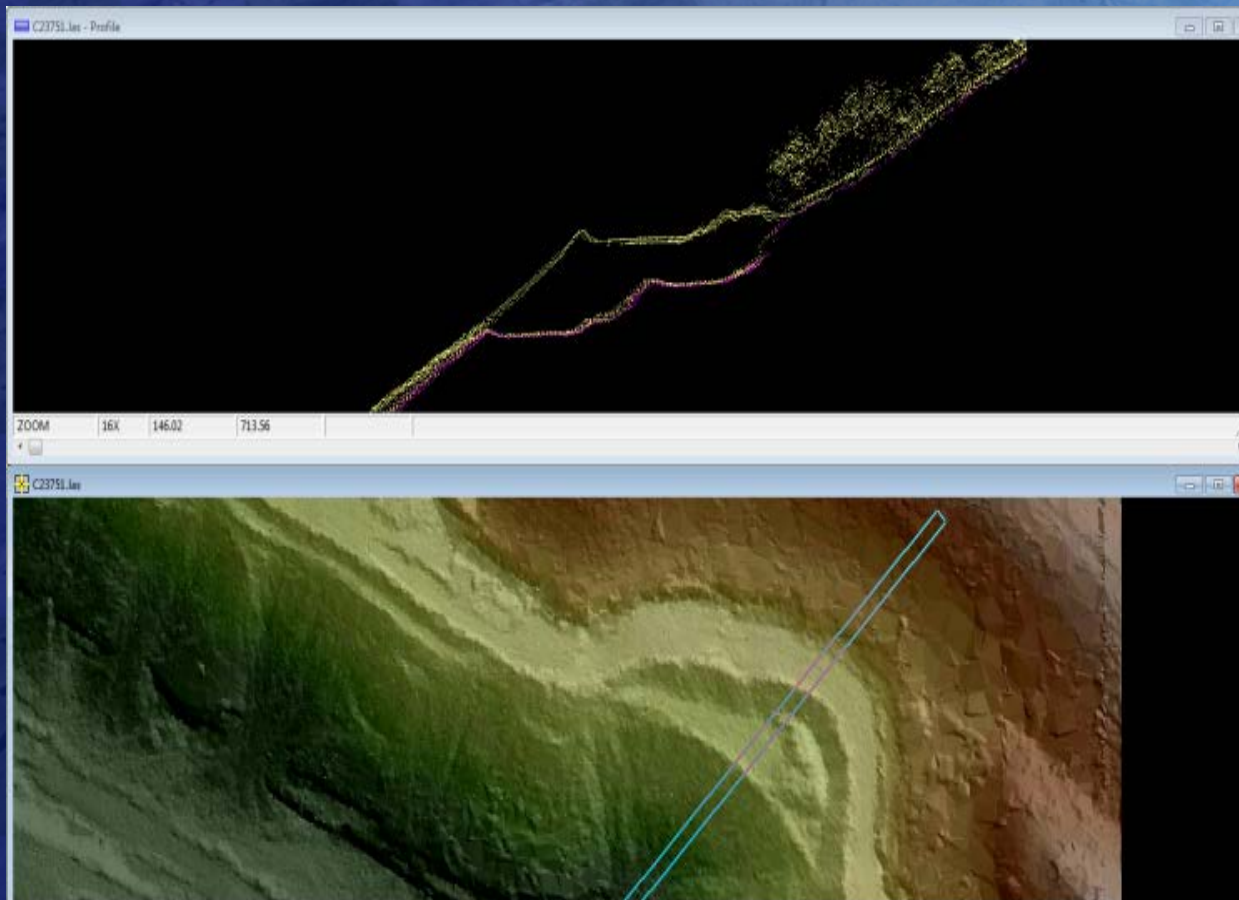
# BU#9 – Geologic Resource Assessment & Hazard Mitigation



- LiDAR detected seismic faults near:
- \$12B nuclear waste treatment plant being built in Washington State
  - \$735M suspension bridge under construction across Tacoma Narrows

Image from USGS

# BU#10 – Resource Mining



*Image from Dewberry*

LiDAR cross-section in Pennsylvania after only one month of mining.

LiDAR is ideal for evaluation of slopes for safe mining operations, environmental protection, and for comparisons between baseline surfaces (prior to mining) and final surfaces (after reclamation)

# BU#11 – Renewable Energy Resources

Org.	Functional Activity	Qual. Level	Update
TVA	Siting of Wind and Solar Generation	QL4 Imagery	2-3 years
NextEra Energy	Wind Farm Siting and Design	QL5 IFSAR	2-3 years
Wind Logics	Solar Resource and Energy Assessments	QL3 LiDAR	6-10 years

Also BIA, BLM and other government land owners if wind or solar farms are allowed on Indian or government lands

# BU#11 – Renewable Energy Resources

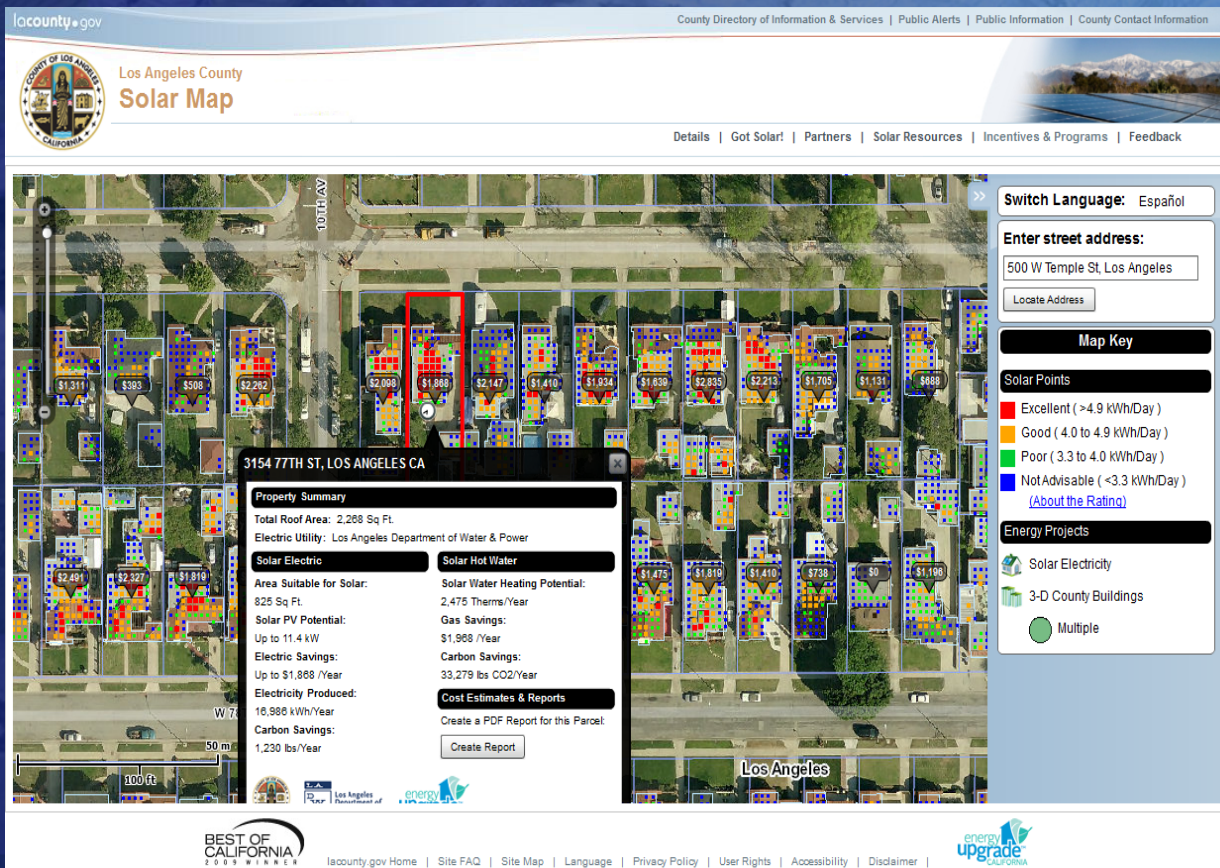
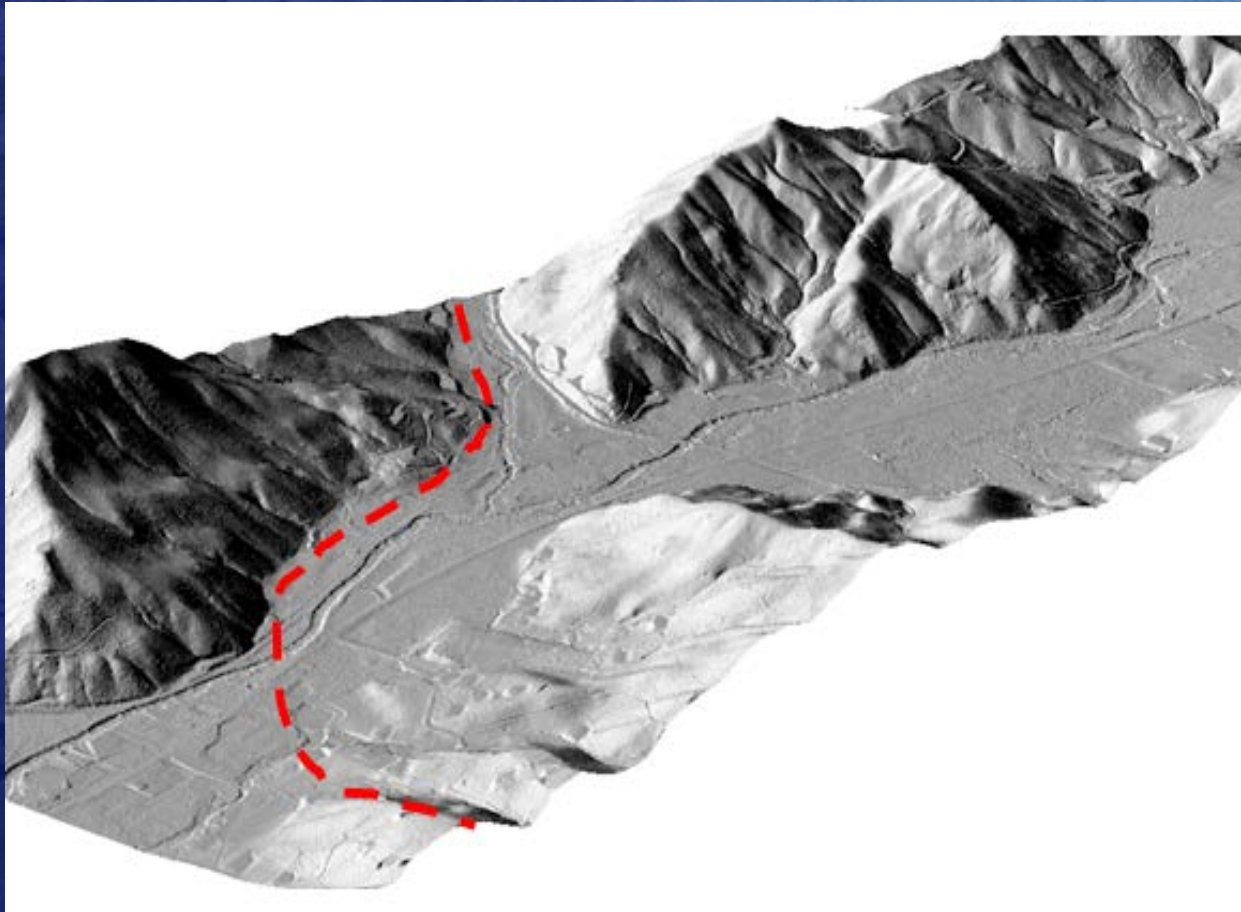


Image from Los Angeles County

Los Angeles and New York City are among major cities that use LiDAR data to enable home owners to print a report for their home/ property explaining its potential for solar energy and/or solar water heating, and potential cost savings and carbon savings

# BU#12 – Oil and Gas Resources



*Image from Dewberry*

LiDAR data is essential for pipeline routing across mountain ranges and beneath rivers, construction planning, encroachment control, estimation of timber removal, and asset inventories



# BU#13 – Cultural Resources Preservation and Management

## High Resolution LIDAR mapping of the Sny Magill Mound Group Effigy Mounds National Monument Iowa

Anne M. Wolley Vawser and Arlo McKee  
National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center and University of Kansas, Lawrence

The Sny Magill Mound Group contains over 100 conical and effigy mounds dating to the Woodland period and numerically is the largest surviving group of prehistoric mounds in the United States.

High resolution LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) mapping of the mound group in 2007 has allowed for more detailed study of mound construction and has led to the discovery of previously undetected mounds.



Previous mapping efforts from the 1980s involved interpretation rather than factual representation

This new data has allowed us to look at the layout of the entire mound group in perspectives that had not been previously possible and may provide new insights to the mound building culture of northeast Iowa.

Shallow depressions around some of the mounds (seen here in darker brown) suggest barrow areas for mound maintenance or possibly original construction.



Depressions and other anomalies observed in the LIDAR data were investigated at the site before being stabilized or documented as previously unrecorded mounds.

This previously unrecorded mound remnant is barely visible on the ground. It appears to be all that remains of a mound that has been impacted by bank erosion.



As part of the project mounds were stabilized by filling old looters pits, depressions left from rotting tree stumps, and rodent burrows. A large portion of the bank was also stabilized to halt erosion of several large mounds.

Whereas these Native American artifacts in Iowa are obvious, other artifacts of ancient villages or trails are detectable by LiDAR, though not obvious when walking on the ground

# BU#14 – Flood Risk Management

Org.	Functional Activity	Qual. Level	Update
FEMA	Flood Risk Analysis	QL3 LiDAR QL4 Imagery QL5 IFSAR	6-10 years
USACE	Flood Risk & Emergency Management	QL3 LiDAR	6-10 years
NOAA	Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service Static Inundation Mapping	QL3 LiDAR	4-5 years
USGS	Flood Risk Management	QL3 LiDAR	4-5 years
IBWC	Flood Risk Management	QL2 LiDAR	4-5 years
USFS	Watershed Analyses	QL3 LiDAR	6-10 years
TVA	Navigation & Flood Risk Mitigation	QL1 LiDAR + bathy data	4-5 years

Also BIA, BLM, FERC, NPS, NRCS, USBR as part of other Functional Activities



# BU#14 – Flood Risk Management

Before FIRM Revision



After FIRM Revision



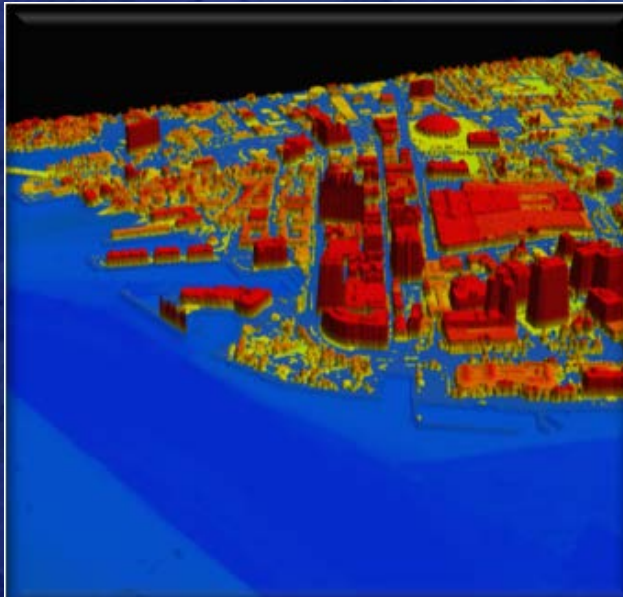
*Images from Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council*

Whether structures are added to or removed from the Special Flood Hazard Area, it's critical that FIRMs accurately represent true flood risk, and LiDAR makes this possible.

# BU#15 – Sea Level Rise & Subsidence

Org.	Functional Activity	Qual. Level	Update
NOAA	Coastal Mapping and Modeling	Topo/bathy LiDAR	4-5 years
USGS	Coastal Zone Management, Sea Level Rise and Subsidence	Topo/bathy LiDAR	4-5 years
USACE NOAA	Coastal Mapping and Charting (JALBTCX)	Topo/bathy LiDAR	4-5 years
EPA	Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessments	QL2 LiDAR	6-10 years
The Nature Conservancy	Coastal Stewardship & Resiliency	QL2 LiDAR	4-5 years

# BU#15 – Sea Level Rise (SLR) and Subsidence



**LiDAR for multiple SLR scenarios**



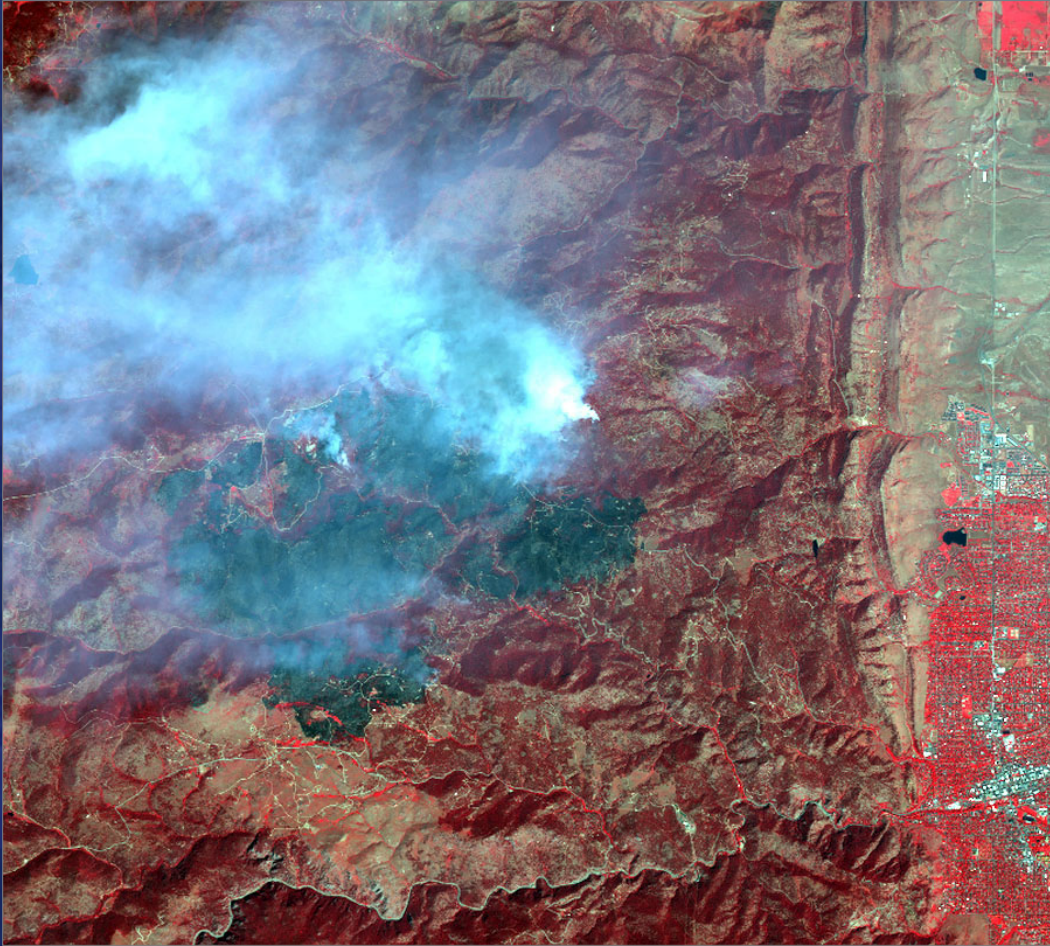
**1m SLR & subsidence predictions for Southern Louisiana**



**50 years of subsidence in California**

*Images from USGS and NOAA*

# BU#16 – Wildfire Management, Planning & Response



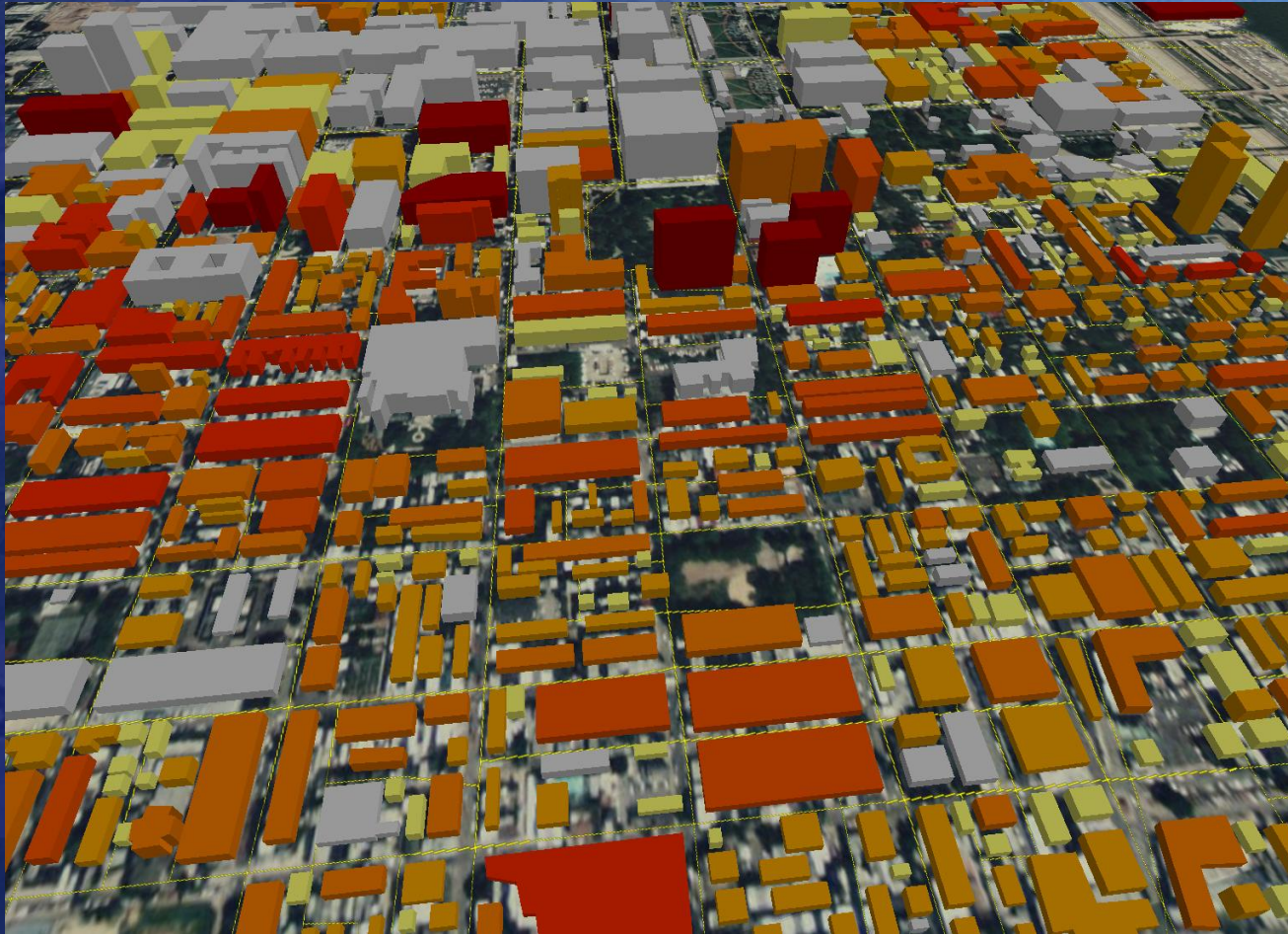
Imagery can track the progress of wildfires

...but elevation data, including slope and biomass (fuel), wind and weather models predict when & where the fire will spread

...vital for planning fire-fighting strategies

*WV2 image from Digital Globe*

# BU#17 – Homeland Security, Law Enforcement & Disaster Response



*Image from DOE*

LiDAR is used to determine number of floors and square footage of buildings

Census & other data are used to determine average building occupancy for different building types

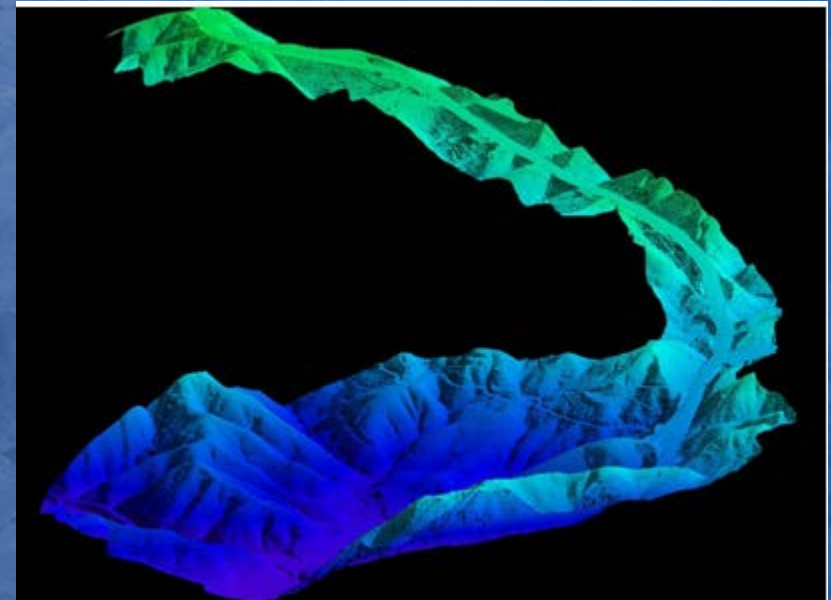
Evacuation planning

# BU#18 – Land Navigation and Safety

Org.	Functional Activity	Qual. Level	Update
TomTom	Location and Navigation Services	QL2 LiDAR QL5 IFSAR	4-5 years
FRA	Safety for Railroad Grade	QL3 LiDAR	2-3 years



# BU#18 – Land Navigation and Safety



Combined use of LiDAR and imagery for road surveys saves costs and minimizes surveyor hazards from passing cars

New cars & trucks will use LiDAR for transmission control; reduce fuel & emissions and provide driver fatigue warnings

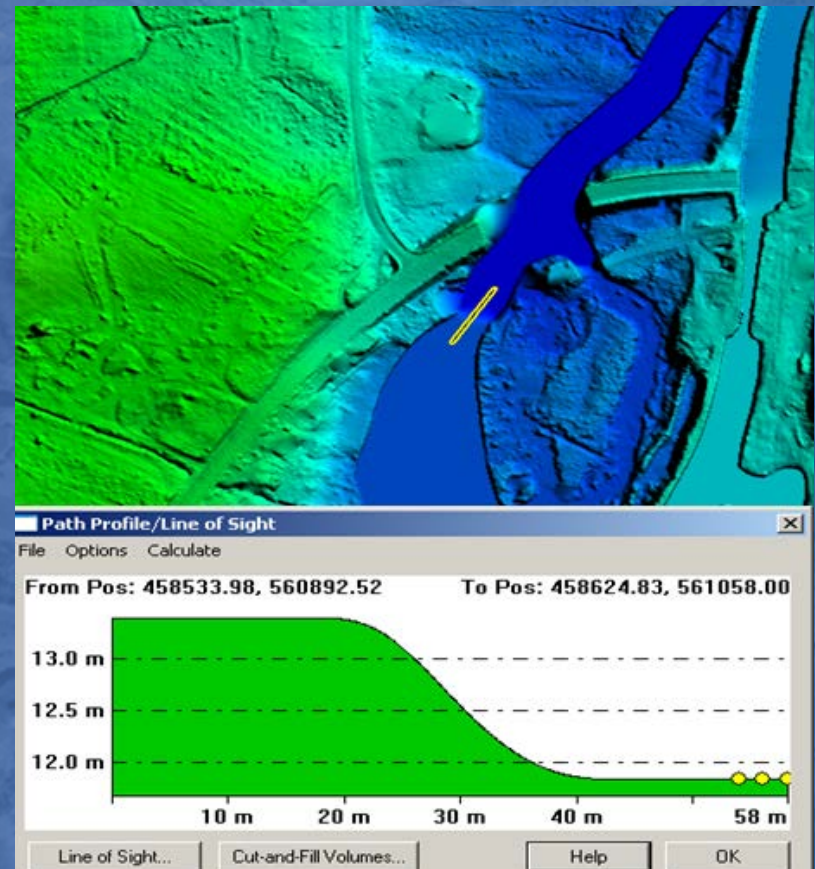
*Images from Tuck Mapping Solutions*

# BU#19 – Marine Navigation and Safety

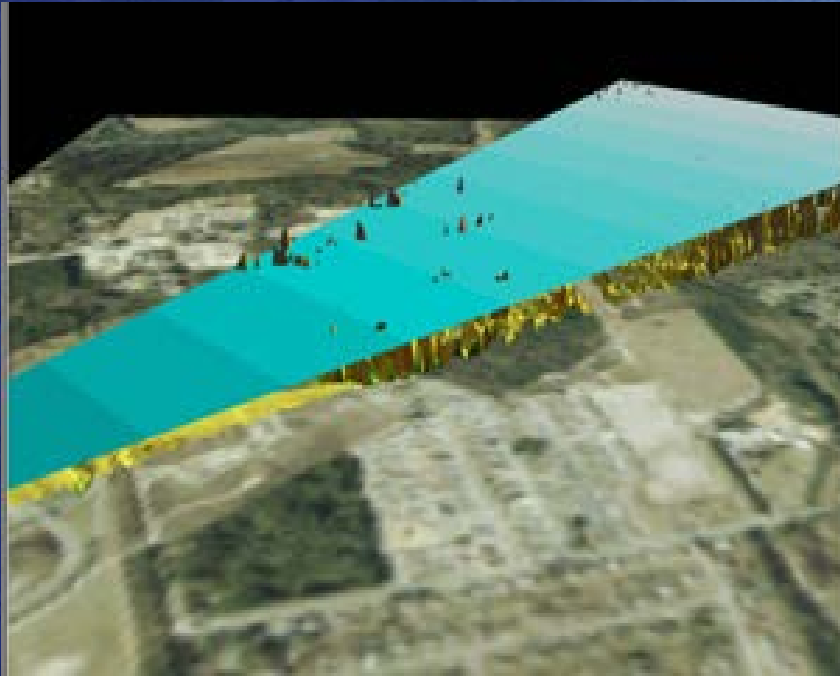
Org.	Functional Activity	Qual. Level	Update
USACE	Development and Management of the Nation's Water Resources	QL2 LiDAR	6-10 years
TVA	Navigation & Flood Risk Mitigation	QL1 LiDAR + bathy data	4-5 years
NOAA	Coastal Mapping and Modeling	Topo/Bathy LiDAR	4-5 years
DHS (USCG)	Coastal Search and Rescue	QL3 LiDAR	>10 years

# BU#19 – Marine Navigation & Safety

I need a better picture to demonstrate elevation data used for Marine Navigation and Safety

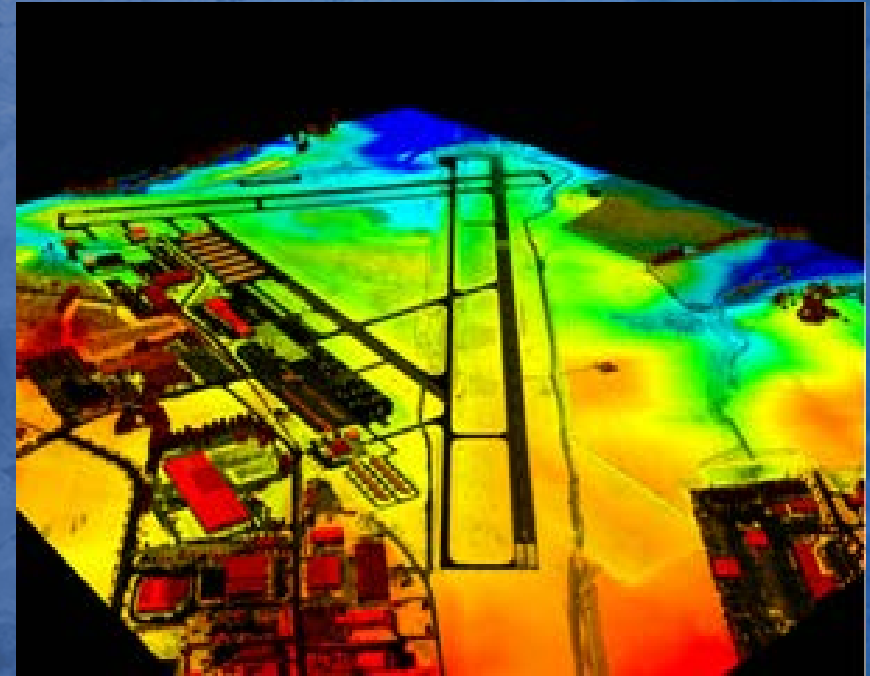


# BU#20 – Aviation Navigation & Safety



**LiDAR identifies obstacles that penetrate Obstruction Identification Surfaces (OIS)**

*Image from Fugro EarthData*



**LiDAR used for development of aviation instrument approach & departure procedures**

*Image from NOAA*

# BU#20 – Aviation Navigation and Safety

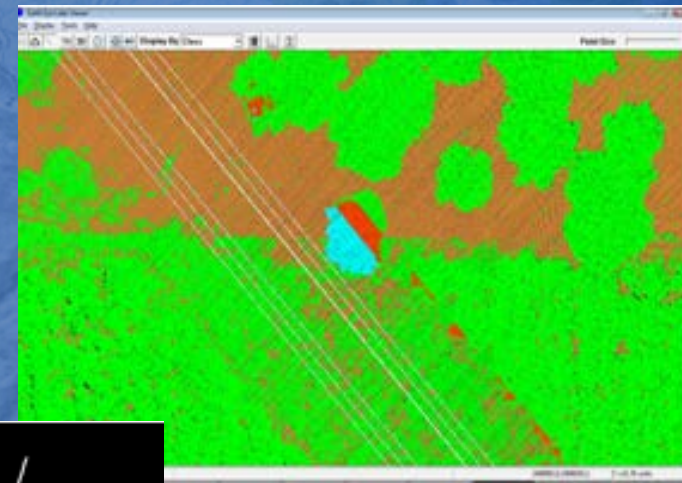
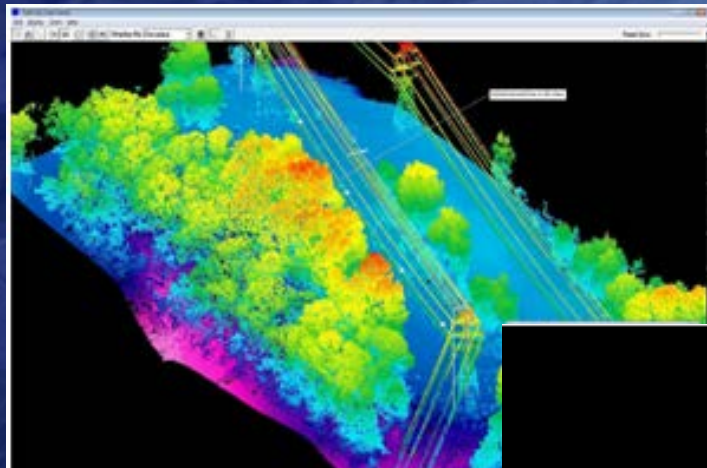


Pilots are trained on flight simulators using elevation data and imagery.

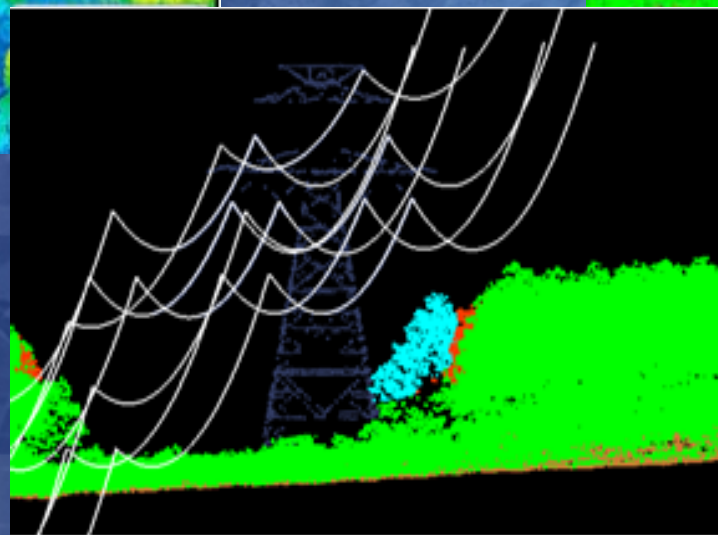
This is especially critical in Alaska where there is an urgent need to reduce Controlled Flight Into Terrain (CFIT) accidents.

*Image from E-Terra LLC*

# BU#21 – Infrastructure & Construction Management



LiDAR vital for compliance with North American Electric Reliability Corp (NERC) regulations



Grow-in vegetation growing into lines

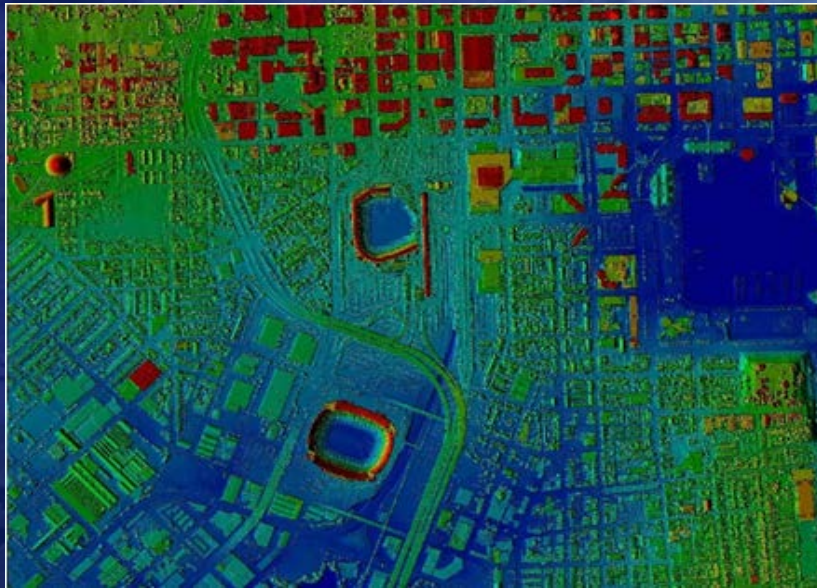
Fall-in vegetation falling into lines

Inside & outside of Right of Way

*Images from EarthEye*

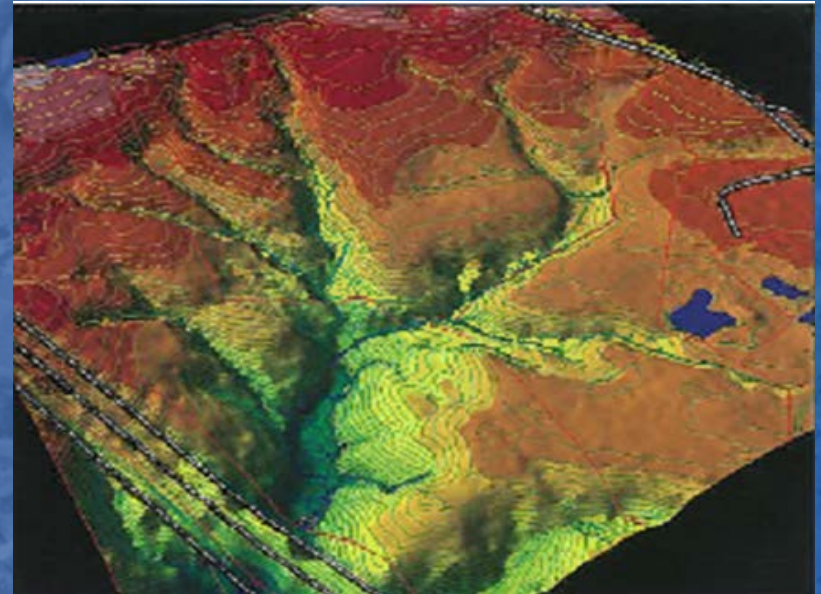
# BU#22 – Urban and Regional Planning

LiDAR model of Baltimore, MD used for multiple applications, including viewsheds



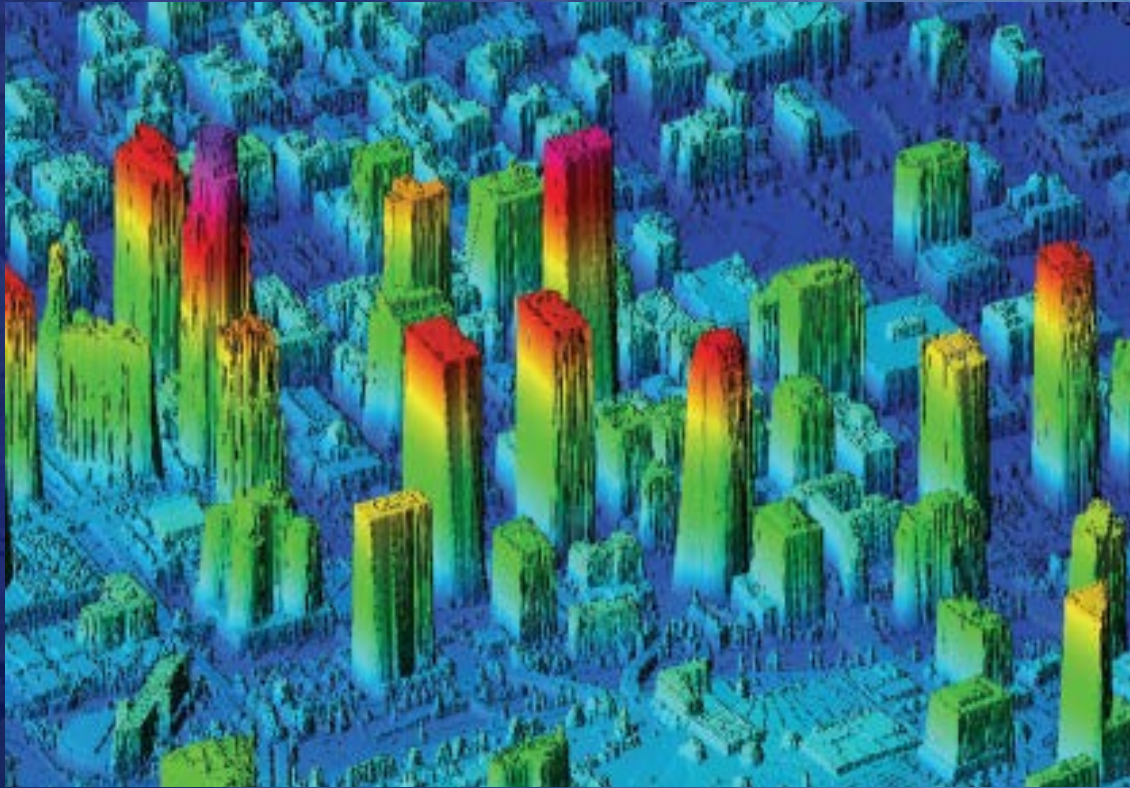
*Image from ASPRS DEM Users Manual*

LiDAR of Richland County, SC site saved \$140K for development site planning



*Image from ESRI's Measuring-Up : The Business Case for GIS*

# BU#23 – Health and Human Services



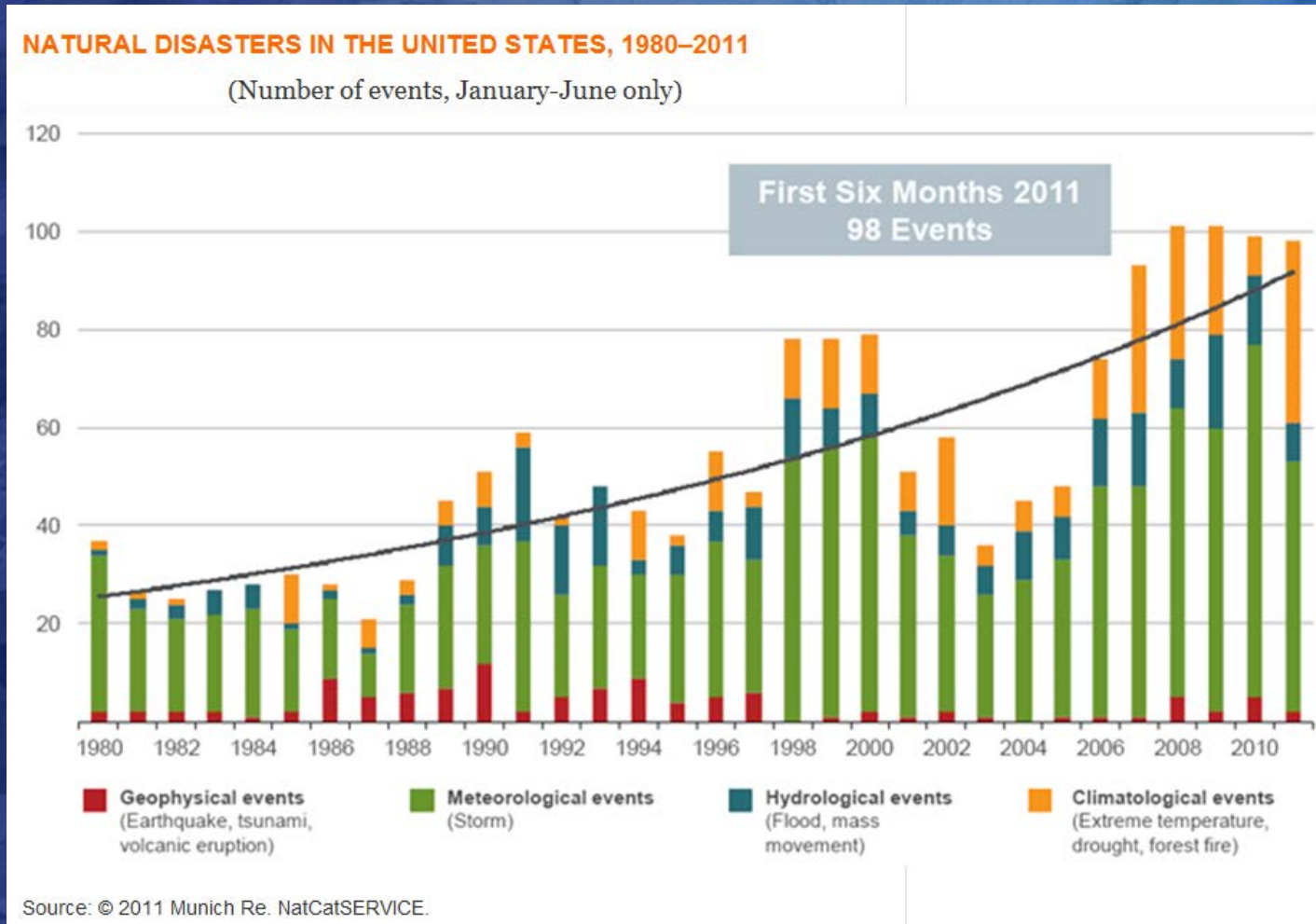
LiDAR 3D model of  
Los Angeles

Can model cities for  
smog as well as  
populations at risk  
from chemical,  
biological or  
radiological  
hazards, aerosols,  
or air-borne  
diseases

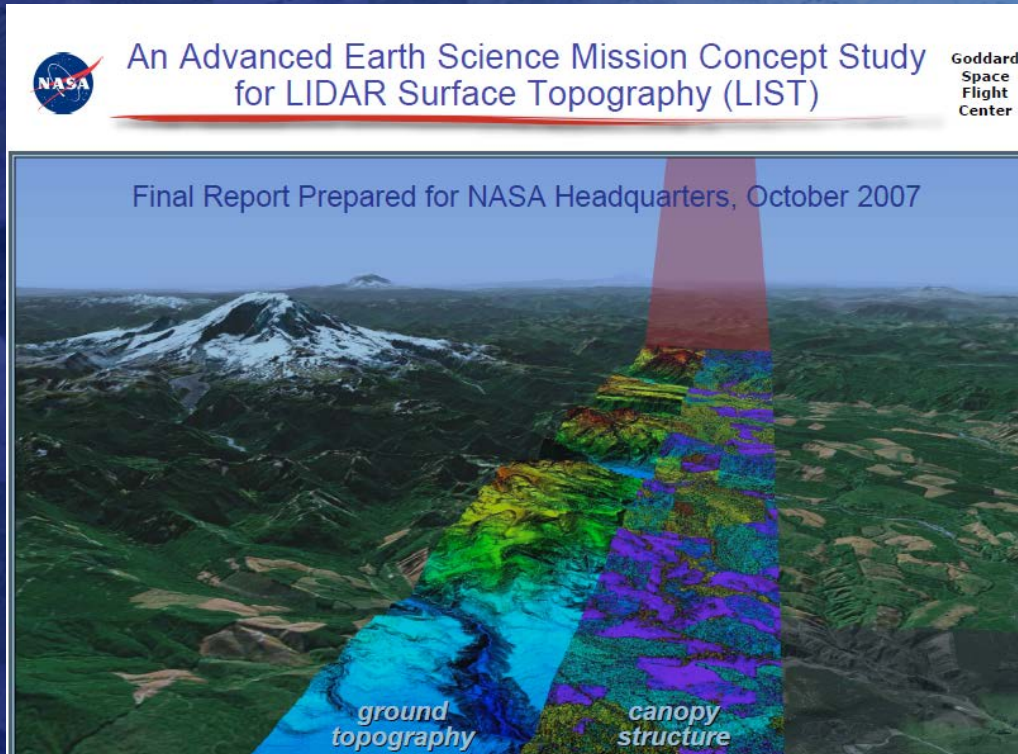
*Image from ASPRS DEM Users Manual*



# BU#24 – Real Estate, Banking, Mortgage, Insurance



# BU#25 – Education K-12 and Beyond



We have much yet to learn about the Earth on which we live for which ground topography and canopy structure are important components.

The science objective of NASA's LIST is to develop a scientific understanding of Earth's system and its response to natural and human induced changes."

The LIST will pioneer new global environmental observations to improve the operational services they provide to the nation. These services include weather forecasting, climate prediction, natural hazard assessment, prediction, and response, and environmental management."

*Image from NASA*

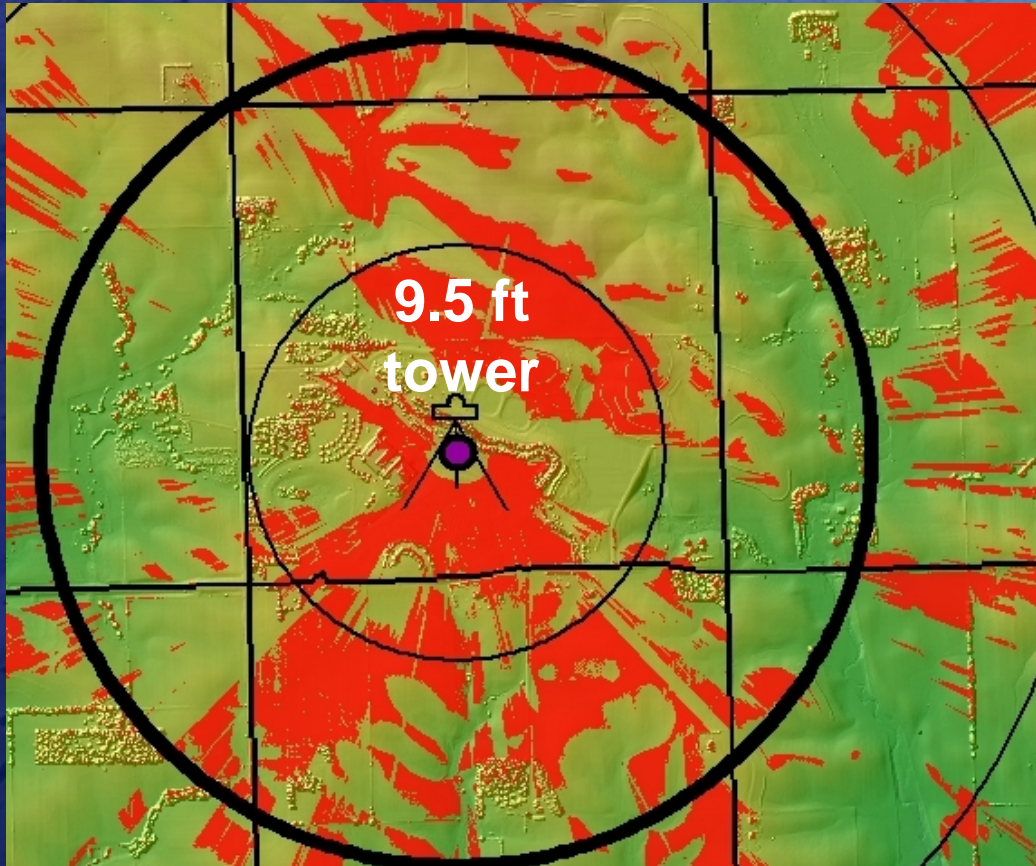
# BU#26 – Recreation



*Images from 3D Golf Course web site*

**LiDAR is used for design of professional golf courses and for simulators of those golf courses**

# BU#27 – Telecommunications



*Image from USGS*

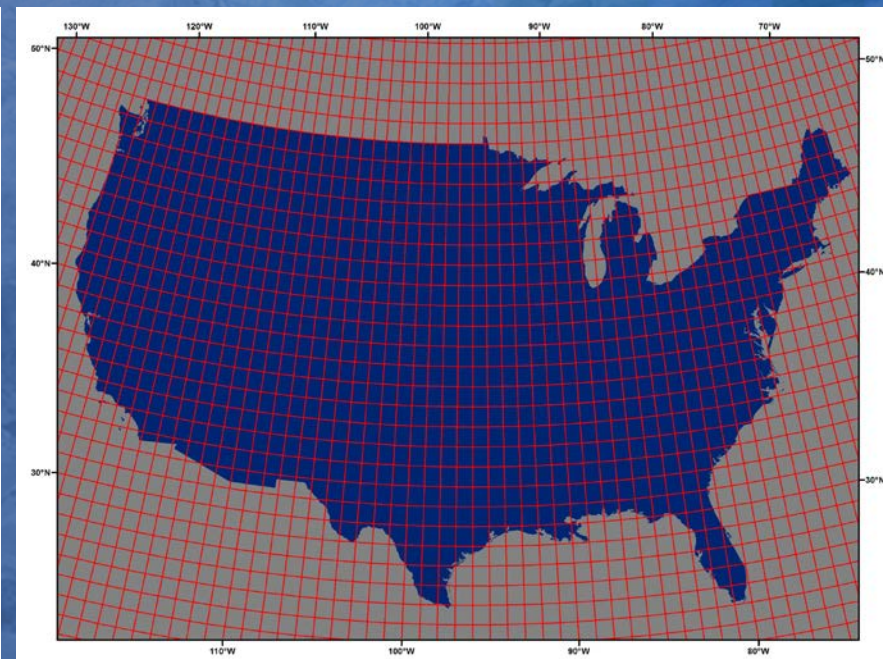
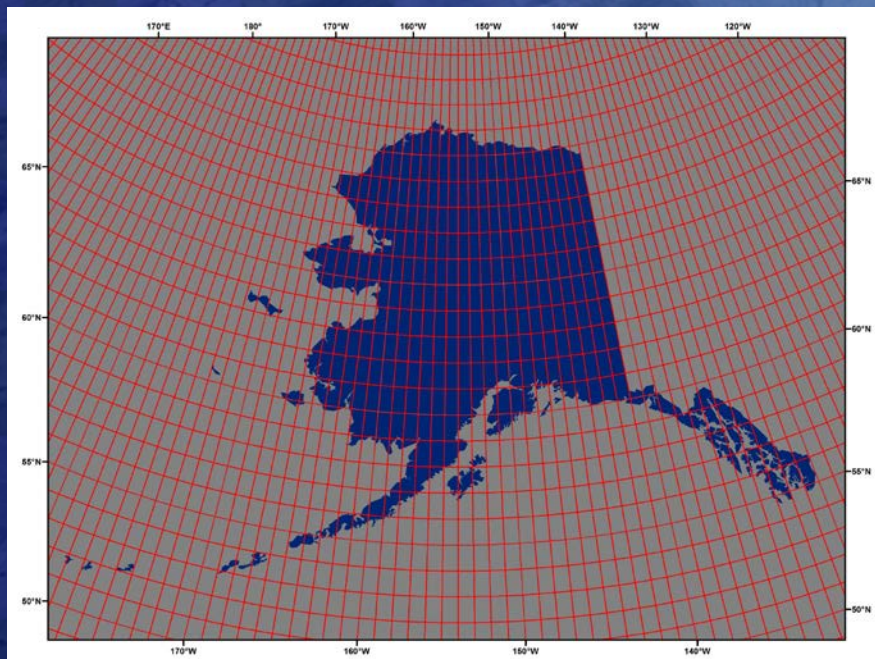
Viewshed analyses for towers simulated at various heights to achieve desired coverage. Also vital for Homeland Security, e.g.:

- Infrastructure Protection
- Border Protection
- Special Security Events
- Search & Rescue

# Analysis - Part B of Study

- For Federal, state and non-governmental users, aggregate, analyze, and validate geographic area requirements & benefits by Quality Level
- Estimate costs for candidate national datasets
- Evaluate technology trends, IFSAR, topo/bathy LiDAR
- Identify risks that could hamper consistent national implementation
- Develop/analyze enterprise IT infrastructure alternatives and program implementation scenarios
- Final report by December 15, 2011

# Analyze requirements, benefits and costs by 1-degree cells; vary QL and update/freq



\* Except for Hawaii & US Territories

QL1 LiDAR requirements are not satisfied by QL2 or QL3 LiDAR

QL2 LiDAR requirements are not satisfied by QL3 LiDAR

QL3 LiDAR requirements are satisfied by QL1, QL2 or QL3 LiDAR

# Geodatabase-based Cost-Benefit Analysis

## Reduced Value Multipliers

	QL1	QL2	QL3	QL4	QL5
Annual					
2-3 years					
4-5 years					
6-10 years					
>10 years					

The biggest remaining issue is how to estimate dollar benefits when agencies say “Major Time/Cost Savings” but are unable to provide any values. Otherwise, their requirements and benefits won’t count in analyses.

# Elevation Products Used

- Digital Terrain Model (DTM) – 208
- Contours – 193
- Slope Data (Derived) – 153
- Hillshades (Derived) – 147
- LiDAR Full Point Cloud – 146
- Gridded DEM (Hydro-Enforced) –133
- Gridded DEM (No Hydro Processing) – 131
- Aspect Data (Derived) – 120
- Cross Sections –117
- Gridded DEM (Hydro Flattened) – 110
- Triangulated Irregular Network (TIN) – 109
- Breaklines – 108
- Digital Surface Model (DSM) – 106
- Curvature Data (Derived) – 68
- LiDAR Full Waveform – 45



Cr. Cr.

