

NOAA COASTAL MAPPING PROGRAM PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

PROJECT MD0501D

Susquehanna River Mouth to Spencer Island, Maryland

Introduction

NOAA Coastal Mapping Program (CMP) Project MD0501D provides a highly accurate database of new digital shoreline data for a portion of the Susquehanna River from Spencer Island to its mouth, and parts of the Chesapeake Bay shoreline from Concord Point to Carpenter Point, MD. Project MD0501D is a subproject of a larger project, MD0501, which includes the northwestern shore of the Chesapeake Bay from Saunders Point in the south to the Susquehanna River in the north, excluding the shore of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Successful completion of the project resulted in a densification of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS), a set of controlled metric-quality aerial photographs, and digital feature data of the coastal zone which complements the Nautical Charting Program (NCP) as well as geographic information systems (GIS) for a variety of coastal zone management applications.

The project database consists of information measured and extracted from aerial photography and metadata related to photogrammetric compilation. Base mapping was conducted in a digital environment using stereo softcopy photogrammetry and associated cartographic practices.

Project Design

Tuck Mapping Solutions, Inc. (TMSI) designed the photographic missions for this project using the guidelines of the Coastal Mapping Program Specifications for Shoreline Mapping and the Project Instructions prepared by the Remote Sensing Division (RSD) of the National Geodetic Survey, NOAA, on June 1, 2005. The guidelines discussed the project's purpose, geographic area of coverage, scope and priority; photographic and ground control requirements; flight line priority, tide and sun angle coordination; Global Positioning Systems (GPS) data collection procedures and guidelines for both kinematic and static surveys; data recording and handling instructions; and contact and communication information.

The project limits were provided by NOAA on hardcopy nautical charts. These sources were used to depict the approximate locations of the shoreline to be mapped. TMSI created a Project Layout Diagram, flight maps and input files for the aircraft's flight management system.

Field Operations

TMSI acquired imagery for the MD0501 suite of subprojects on June 23, 2005; May 23, 2006, and May 24, 2007. Aerial photographic coverage of the project site consisted of natural color and black & white infrared photographs at a nominal scale of 1:30,000. A waiver to utilize a 700nm filter during the acquisition of the B&W IR photography was approved previously by

NOAA without requiring a new camera calibration report by the USGS. Tide-coordinated, black and white infrared imagery was collected at both the mean high water (MHW) and mean lower low water (MLLW) levels. Natural color imagery was acquired during a period when MHW was not being exceeded. All photography was acquired using a Leica RC30 camera (NOAA camera designation number 20) at an altitude of 15,000 feet for a nominal scale of 1:30,000; and at an altitude of 6,000 feet for a nominal scale of 1:12,000.

TMSI performed the necessary GPS surveys to locate aerial control and checkpoints. Multiple two hour sessions observed by TMSI were submitted for OPUS solutions and a mean of the values was used to determine the control and checkpoint coordinates. No ground base stations were occupied while imagery was acquired on this subproject area. For more information, please refer to the Photographic Flight Reports and Ground Control Reports.

GPS Data Reduction

Global Positioning System (GPS) data was collected and processed to provide precise positions of the camera centers for application as photogrammetric control in the aerotriangulation phase of the project. The primary station for this project was the NGS CORS station HNPT (HORN POINT, Data was downloaded from the NGS CORS web site for Horn Point Enviro CORS ARP, CORS ID HNPT (PID AI3494) for each of the flights. Also utilized were the CORS stations SOL1 (Solomon Island 1) and ANP1 (Annapolis 1). SOL1 has been decommissioned since August of 2007. After each flight mission, the project data was downloaded and processed using NovAtel's Waypoint GrafNav (version 7.80.2517) software. Forward and reverse trajectories were compared during the processing phase to ensure accuracy. Camera event file data was then applied to the final trajectory to obtain coordinates for the photo centers. A GPS Data Processing Report was written and is on file with other project data within the RSD Applications Branch (AB) Project Archive.

Aerotriangulation

Routine softcopy aerotriangulation methods were applied to extend the network of precise camera positions and other control for mapping, and to provide model parameters and orientation elements required for digital compilation. TMSI personnel initiated the softcopy aerotriangulation work in April 2008, utilizing a digital photogrammetric workstation (DPW), which is a configuration of computer processor and monitor, and BAE Systems SOCET SET ver. 5.3 software equipment and peripheral devices. The softcopy aerotriangulation work was completed in June 2008. Aerotriangulation of this project was divided into two blocks each of color photography and B&W IR photography (both the MHW and the MLLW IR). Block 1 is the larger of the two and consists of ten lines of exposures located north of Saunders Point, MD. Block 2 consists of three lines of exposures in the area containing Carpenters Point, MD.

The color imagery was measured and then ground control applied to produce an acceptable solution. The MHW imagery was measured, and then all tie points were passed to the MLLW. The ground control along with several photo identifiable points from the color imagery was used to produce the values for the IR imagery. Upon successful completion of the block adjustment, BAE Systems' SOCET SET Multi-Sensor Triangulation (MST) module provided the RMS of the standard deviations for all aerotriangulated ground points, which were used to compute predicted horizontal circular error of 0.8 meters for both blocks of the color photographs. Block

1 of the B&W IR photographs had a predicted horizontal circular error of 0.6 meters and Block 2 of the B&W IR photographs had a predicted horizontal circular error of 0.7 meters. An Aerotriangulation Report is on file with other project data within the RSD AB Project Archive.

The project database consists of camera calibration data, interior orientation parameters for each frame, airborne GPS antenna position and offset data, adjusted exterior orientation parameters for each frame, positional listing of all measured points, the control file and refined image coordinates as listed in the Project Database section of the Aerotriangulation Report. Positional data is based on the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83).

Compilation

The data compilation phase of the project was accomplished by TMSI in December 2008. Digital mapping was performed using Digital Photogrammetric Workstations (DPWs) in conjunction with BAE Systems' SOCET SET ver. 5.4. Feature identification and the assignment of cartographic codes were based on image analysis of natural color photography and B&W IR photography and information extracted from appropriate NOAA Nautical Charts and the US Coast Guard Light List. Cartographic feature attribution was assigned in compliance with the Coastal Cartographic Object Attribute Source Table (C-COAST) as required.

Cartographic features were compiled to meet a horizontal accuracy of 1.6 meters at the 95% confidence level. This predicted accuracy of compiled, well-defined points is derived by doubling the circular error derived from aerotriangulation statistics.

See the table below for information on all aerial photographs used for project MD0501D.

Table 1 - Compilation Sources

Date	Time (UTC)	Roll Number	Photo Numbers	Scale (nominal)	Tide Level*
06/23/2005	13:33-13:36	0520CN04	0476-0482	1:30,000	0.3
06/23/2005	13:41-13:44	0520CN04	0485-0490	1:30,000	0.3
05/23/2006	17:31-17:34	0620R04	0489-0495	1:30,000	0.0
05/23/2006	17:40-17:43	0620R04	0498-0503	1:30,000	0.0
05/24/2007	17:28-17:30	0720R01	0002-0007	1:30,000	0.5
05/24/2007	17:35-17:38	0720R01	0008-0014	1:30,000	0.5

* The reference station used to determine tidal heights within this project is Baltimore, MD (857-4680). Tide levels for color and IR are given relative to MLLW and are based on gauge verified observations then adjusted for CO-OPS Tidal Zoning. The mean tide range for this subproject area is 0.3 meters.

Quality Control / Final Review

A TMSI team completed the quality control and final review in August 2009. The Geographic Cell (GC) was evaluated for completeness and accuracy. The review process included analysis of aerotriangulation results and assessment of the identification and attribution of cartographic features within the GC according to image analysis and criteria defined in C-COAST. The quality control process concluded with an inspection of topological connectivity within the GC using GIS software. All project data was evaluated for compliance to CMP requirements.

Comparisons of the largest scale NOAA nautical charts with natural color photographs and compiled project data resulted in creation of the Chart Evaluation File (CEF). The following nautical chart was used in the comparison process:

- 12274 Head of Chesapeake Bay, 1:40,000 scale, 35th edition, December 2007

End Products and Deliverables

The following specifies the location and identification of the products generated during the completion of this project:

RSD Applications Branch Project Archive:

- Hard copy of the Airborne Positioning and Orientation Report (APOR)
- Hard copy of the Aerotriangulation Report
- Hard copy of the Project Completion Report (PCR)
- Page-size graphic plot of GC10729 file contents, attached to the PCR

RSD Electronic Data Library:

- Project Database
- GC10729 in shapefile format
- Digital copy of the PCR in Adobe PDF format
- CEF in shapefile format

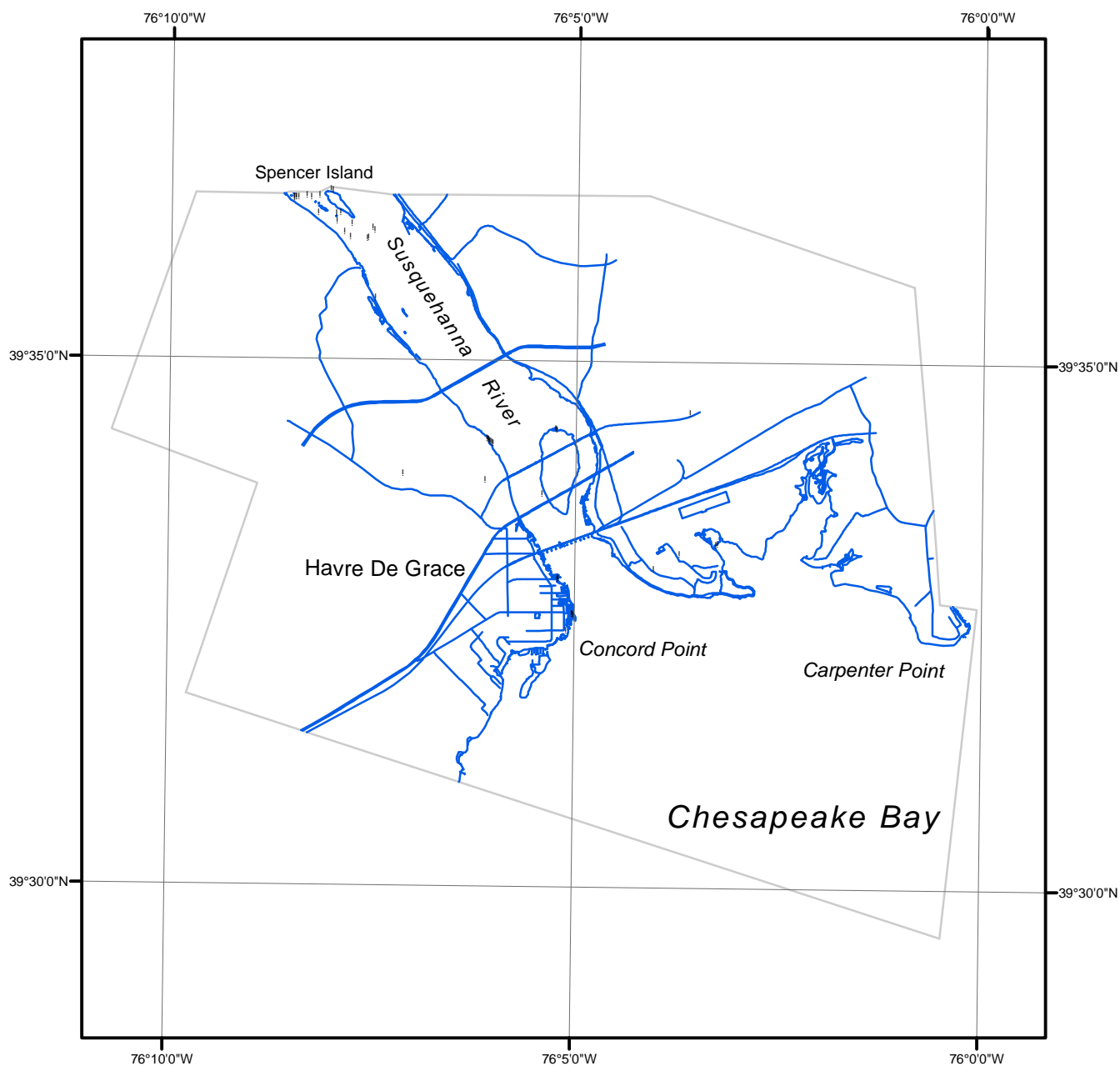
NOAA Shoreline Data Explorer:

- GC10729 in shapefile format
- Metadata file for GC10729
- Digital Copy of the PCR in Adobe PDF format

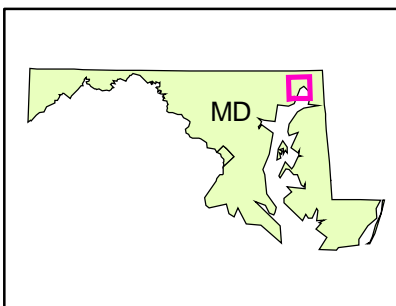
End of Report

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER MOUTH TO SPENCER ISLAND

MARYLAND



Overview



MD0501D

GC10729