

NOAA COASTAL MAPPING PROGRAM PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

PROJECT MP1907B-TB-C

Farallon de Medinilla, Northern Mariana Islands

Introduction

NOAA Coastal Mapping Program (CMP) Project MP1907B-TB-C provides a highly accurate database of new digital shoreline data for Farallon de Medinilla, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Project MP1907B-TB-C is a subproject of a larger project, MP1907-TB-C, which includes other areas affected by Typhoon Yutu within the Northern Marianas. The Geographic Cell (GC) may be used in support of the NOAA Nautical Charting Program (NCP) as well as geographic information systems (GIS) for a variety of coastal zone management applications.

Project Design

The NOAA National Geodetic Survey (NGS) formulated the Project Instructions for this project following the guidelines of the “Scope of Work, Shoreline Mapping for the Coastal Mapping Program” (SOW), Version 14A, dated October 24, 2012. The project instructions discuss the project’s purpose, geographic area of coverage, scope and priority; data acquisition, processing, accuracy, and compilation requirements; product delivery and reporting instructions; and contact and communication information.

Quantum Spatial (QSI or Quantum) was provided satellite imagery and lidar data to support photogrammetric processing and feature compilation. Maxar/DigitalGlobe Worldview satellite imagery was provided by NOAA NGS for aerotriangulation (AT) and feature compilation by Quantum. NOAA NGS supplied the lidar derived MHW and MLLW shapefiles to be segmented, edited, and attributed by Quantum. NOAA NGS also provided shapefiles depicting the shoreline to be mapped and the boundaries of the main project area.

Field Operations

Woolpert was contracted to perform field operations in support of the contract with the NOAA Office of Coastal Management (OCM). These field operations consisted of the surveying of ground control and check points (GCPs), precise point positioning (PPP), and the acquisition and processing of topographic-bathymetric (topobathy) lidar data. See the Topographic and Bathymetric Lidar Survey Report (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) on file in the RSD Electronic Data Library for full details on lidar planning, acquisition and processing for MP1907-TB-C.

Ground surveys were conducted in February and March of 2020. Due to the distance and remoteness of Rota, Aguijan, Farallon de Medinilla, and Pagan from the single base station on Saipan (SPN1), a precise point positioning (PPP) solution was used for them on ITRF2014. To establish a reliable coordinate for SPN1, data were uploaded to the NGS Online Positioning User Service (OPUS). For SPN2 and SPN3 Trimble CenterPoint RTX Post-Processing service was

used. To account for any potential trajectory shifts between each survey day for flights processed with PPP trajectories over Farallon de Medinilla, quality control (QC) data were acquired over single base survey data on Saipan Island across the acquisition period.

The lidar acquisition phase of the project was conducted by Woolpert with flights starting July 4, 2019 through July 14, 2020. A total of 61 missions were completed between two projects, MP1907-TB-C and GU1903-TB-C. Lidar data was acquired with a target pulse density ≥ 8 pulses/m² (topographic) and ≥ 2 pulses/m² (bathymetric) using a Leica Hawkeye 4X sensor.

The satellite imagery used by Quantum was supplied by NOAA. The multispectral satellite imagery was captured by DigitalGlobe Inc. The imagery was acquired at a nominal ground sample distance of 0.66 meters from WorldView Satellites. The imagery was captured August 19, 2019.

GPS Data Processing

Position and orientation data were acquired for MP1907-TB-C using a PPP based on a single base station on Saipan. Data were uploaded to the NGS OPUS to establish a reliable coordinate for SPN1. All processing was done using Leica LSS, Microstation/Terrascan, and proprietary Woolpert software.

Lidar Data Processing

The lidar processing phase of the project was performed by Woolpert. All processing was done using Leica LSS, Microstation/Terrascan, and proprietary Woolpert Software. Non-vegetated (NVA) and vegetated (VVA) points were collected by NOAA. NVA and VVA points were only collected on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. Pagan, Aguijan, and Farallon de Medinilla were all controlled using PPP tied to the base station in Saipan.

Aerotriangulation

The AT phase of the project was performed by Quantum using digital AT methods to establish the network of photogrammetric control required for the compilation phase. The images were bridged in a bundle adjustment that included both multispectral satellite images. Measurements were made utilizing a digital photogrammetric workstation running the Windows 10 operating system. Socet GXP AT software was used to perform automatic point measurements and interactive point measurements of tie points. The final adjustment of the block was accomplished by using a rigorous simultaneous least squares bundle adjustment. Analysis tools within Socet GXP were used to refine the AT solution and to evaluate the accuracy of the adjustment.

The Root Mean Square (RMS) of the standard deviations in both X and Y directions were calculated and used to determine a predicted horizontal circular error at the 95% confidence level of 2.09 meters. As a final check the stereo model was examined in Socet Set to ensure the horizontal and vertical integrity of the Socet GXP solution, and to verify the suitability of the database for use in compilation. The model was checked for proper parallax, and ground control tolerance.

The project database consists of project parameters and options, interior orientation parameters, ground control parameters, adjusted exterior orientation parameters, and positional listing of all measured points. Positional data is referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83)

and is referenced to the Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone 55 coordinate system. An AT Report is on file with other project data within the RSD Electronic Data Library.

Compilation

The data compilation phase of the project was initiated by Quantum personnel in February 2021. This work was accomplished using a Digital Photogrammetric Workstation (DPW), which consists of a stereo-enabled PC-based graphics workstation running the Windows 2010 operating system and DAT/EM Summit Evolution (ver 7.6) digital photogrammetric software. NOAA supplied the lidar-derived MHW and MLLW shapefiles to be segmented, edited, and attributed by Quantum Spatial. The MHW lidar-derived shoreline vectors meet a horizontal accuracy of 0.8 meters at the 95% confidence level, and the MLLW lidar-derived shoreline vectors meet a horizontal accuracy of 1.4 meters at the 95% confidence level. Feature identification, segmentation, and attribution were based on imagery analysis of the processed digital images and information extracted from the appropriate NOAA Nautical Charts, U.S. Coast Guard Light List and other ancillary sources. Feature attribution was assigned in compliance with the Coastal Cartographic Object Attribute Source Table (C-COAST), which provides the definition and attribution scheme for the full range of cartographic features pertinent to the CMP.

Spatial data accuracies for project MP1907B-TB-C were determined according to standard Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) practices. Cartographic features from the satellite imagery were compiled to meet a horizontal accuracy of 4.2 meters, at the 95% confidence level. This predicted accuracy of compiled, well defined points is derived by doubling the circular error calculated from the AT statistics. Lidar derived feature accuracies are indicated above. The following table provides information on the imagery used to complete this project:

Exposure Date	Exposure Time (UTC)	Source File Name	Tide Level*
08/19/2019	01:17:15	19AUG19011715-M1BS-010813152010 01 P001	0.7 m
08/19/2019	01:18:14	19AUG19011814-M1BS-010813152010 01 P001	0.7 m

* Tide levels given in meters above MLLW and are based on verified observations recorded by the NOS tide gauge at Apra Harbor, Guam. The elevation of the MHW tidal datum at Apra Harbor is 0.678 meters above MLLW.

Quality Control / Final Review

Quality control tasks were conducted during all phases of project completion by a Quantum senior mapping professional. The final QC review was completed in March 2021. The review process included analysis of AT results and assessment of the identification and attribution of digital feature data within the subproject according to image analysis and criteria defined in C-COAST. The quality control process concluded with an inspection of topological connectivity within the project using ArcGIS (ver. 10.8.1) software. All project data was evaluated for compliance to CMP requirements.

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

- 81086, Plans in the Mariana Islands, 8th Ed., May 2014

End Products and Deliverables

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

Remote Sensing Division Electronic Data Library

- Project database
- Ground Survey Report
- Aerotriangulation Report
- Topographic and Bathymetric Lidar Survey Report
- GC11633 in shapefile format
- Project Completion Report (PCR)
- CEF in shapefile format

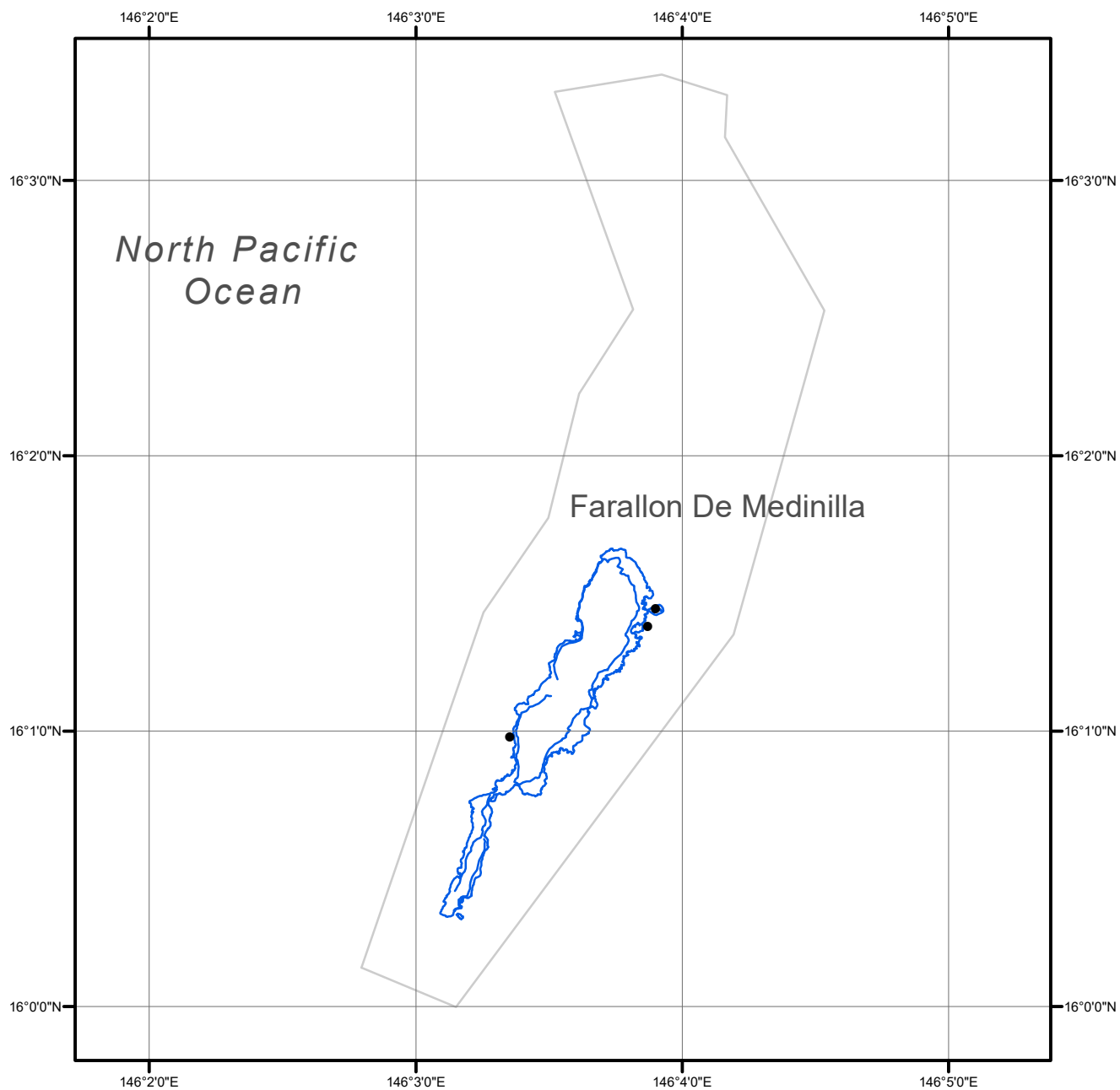
NOAA Shoreline Data Explorer

- GC11633 in shapefile format
- Metadata file for GC11633
- PCR in Adobe PDF format

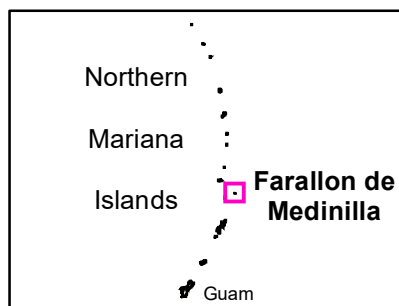
End of Report

FARALLON DE MEDINILLA

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS



Overview



MP1907B-TB-C

GC11633