

NOAA COASTAL MAPPING PROGRAM PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

PROJECT TX1503-CS-N

Port of Brownsville and Port Isabel, Texas

Introduction

NOAA Coastal Mapping Program (CMP) Project TX1503-CS-N provides highly accurate digital shoreline data for the Port of Brownsville/Port Isabel, Texas, including the Brownsville Ship Channel. 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 design of Project TX1503-CS-N was accomplished by the Requirements Branch (RB) of the Remote Sensing Division (RSD) in response to the need for timely updates to the NOAA chart suite within key U.S. ports. Project requirements were formulated as a result of analysis conducted within the Coast and Shoreline Change Analysis Program (CSCAP), in which NOAA nautical chart products are compared to contemporary high resolution digital imagery in order to ascertain the need for more current shoreline data. A Chart Evaluation File (CEF) was forwarded to the Applications Branch (AB) of RSD once the change analysis was complete. Refer to the CSCAP memorandum for Project TX1606-CS-T dated July 25, 2016 for details of the chart comparison process.

Field Operations

Field operations for Project TX1503-CS-N consisted of the collection of static and kinematic GPS data and Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU) data, and the acquisition of aerial imagery. Aerial survey operations were conducted on February 22, 2017 with the NOAA King Air aircraft (N68RF). Three flight lines of natural color (RGB) imagery were acquired using an Applanix DSS 580/560 dual camera system. Near-infrared (NIR) imagery was also acquired concurrently but was not used. Imagery was acquired at a nominal altitude of 10,500 feet, resulting in an approximate ground sample distance (GSD) of 0.33 meters for the RGB images. Although imagery was not acquired in strict coordination with local tides, the goal was to collect all imagery below Mean High Water (MHW) tide stage.

GPS Data Reduction

The GPS/IMU data were processed by RSD personnel to yield precise camera positions in order to provide a control network necessary for aerotriangulation. The base station's geodetic position was derived using the NGS Online Processing User Service (OPUS), which computed fixed baseline solutions from nearby CORS stations. The kinematic GPS data was processed using Applanix POSpac MMS 7.1 software in April 2017. For further information refer to the Airborne Positioning and Orientation Reports (APOR) on file with other project data within the RSD Electronic Data Library.

Aerotriangulation

The aerotriangulation (AT) phase of project completion was performed in January 2018. Routine softcopy AT methods were applied to establish a network of precise camera positions and other control for mapping, and to provide model parameters and orientation elements required for digital compilation. This work was accomplished by a member of the Applications Branch (AB) of RSD utilizing a Digital Photogrammetric Workstation (DPW), which is a configuration of computer hardware, modular software components, and other associated peripheral devices. The digital images were measured and adjusted as a single block using BAE Systems SOCET SET (version 5.6.0) software. Upon successful completion of this process, the triangulation software provided the standard deviations for each aerotriangulated ground point, which were used to compute a predicted horizontal circular error of 0.45 meters based on a 95% confidence level. An AT Report was written and is on file with other project data within the RSD Electronic Data Library. Positional data is referenced to the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83).

Compilation

The data compilation phase of this project was accomplished by a member of RSD in January 2018. Digital feature data was compiled using SOCET SET (version 5.6.0) software. Feature identification and attribution within the GC were based on image analysis of the digital photographs and information extracted from the appropriate NOAA nautical charts 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. Selected features were further modified with additional descriptive information to refine general classification.

Spatial data accuracies for Project TX1503-CS-N were determined according to standard Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) practices. Cartographic features were compiled to meet a horizontal accuracy of 0.9 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.

The table below provides information on the imagery used to complete this project:

Date	Time (UTC)	Roll #	Photo #s	Tide Level*
02-22-2017	15:04 – 15:10	17VC14	2709 - 2755	0.1 m
02-22-2017	15:22 – 15:29	17VC14	2756 - 2801	0.1 m
02-22-2017	15:40 – 15:45	17VC14	2802 - 2835	0.1 m

* Tide level is given in meters above MLLW and calculated using the Pydro software tool with a TCARI grid referenced to verified water level observations at the time of photography from various NOS gauges in the vicinity of the project. The elevation of the MHW tidal datum in the project varies between 0.30 and 0.43 meters above MLLW.

Quality Control / Final Review

The final review of the project was completed by a senior member of RSD in January 2018, and included analysis of AT results and assessment of the identification and attribution of digital feature data within the Geographic Cell (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 ArcGIS 10.5 software. All project data was evaluated for compliance to CMP requirements.

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

- CSCAP evaluation memorandum
- Airborne Positioning and Orientation Report (APOR)
- Project database
- Aerotriangulation Report
- Project Completion Report (PCR)
- GC11377 in shapefile format
- Chart Evaluation File (CEF) in shapefile format

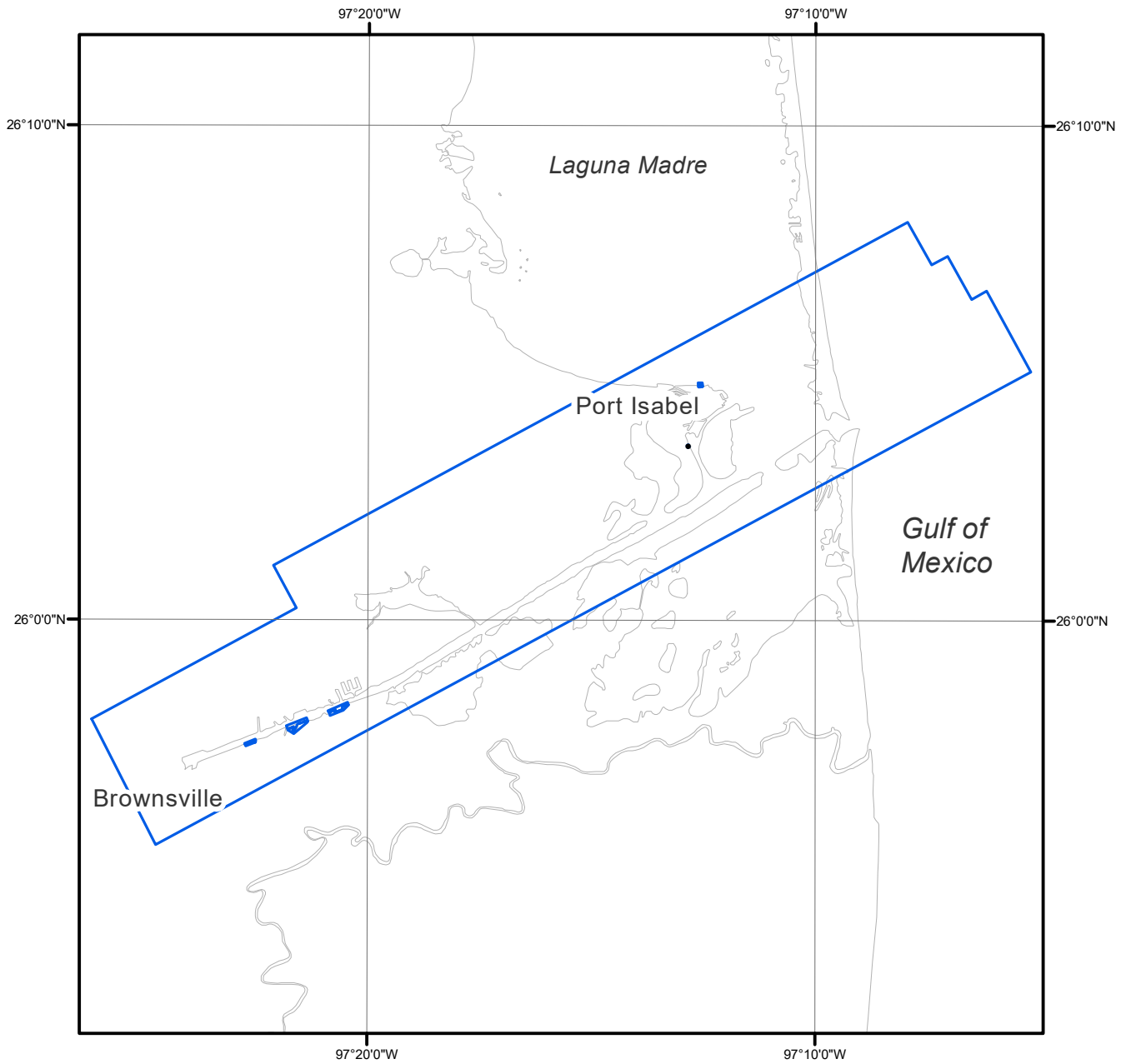
NOAA Shoreline Data Explorer

- GC11377 in shapefile format
- Metadata file for GC11377
- Copy of the PCR

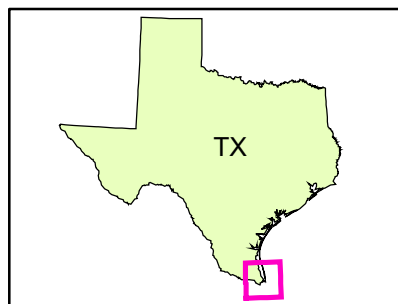
End of Report

PORT OF BROWNSVILLE/PORT ISABEL

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Overview



TX1503-CS-N

GC11377