



National Cartography
and Geospatial Center

NRCS Elevation Program

High Resolution Elevation (IFSAR and LIDAR)

Strategy

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) has national requirements for high quality elevation data and the Agency must have a national strategy to acquire, integrate, and deliver high quality digital elevation data that meets the Agency's geospatial requirements. High quality digital elevation data will support the Agency business activities by improving employee effectiveness and efficiency in providing assistance to our customers.

Current Acquisition Process

NRCS has been using the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) recommended \$500 per square mile cost using the [USGS Base LIDAR Specifications \(Version 13\)](#) at a minimum to calculate cost for LIDAR projects. Depending on Agency needs, the user may wish to increase the detail of the specification for the project. This can have an effect on the overall cost. Smaller projects usually do not get a price break. Large area of interest (AOI) projects (that exceed 1000 square miles) can sometimes get a price break.

Proposals

All NRCS elevation proposals are being put on the NDEP tracker. Bill Marken is posting projects and we need a shapefile (AOI) and project description including specifications to facilitate your request. USGS has provided a [LIDAR Project Requirements Form](#) to assist you with defining your requirements.

General Timeline

The FY2010 projects have been funded and are in the process of being flown or delivered. We are building a new FY2011 project list to be submitted by Sept. 1, 2010.

LIDAR

Light Detection and Ranging is an optical remote sensing technology that measures properties of scattered light to find range and/or other information of a distant target.

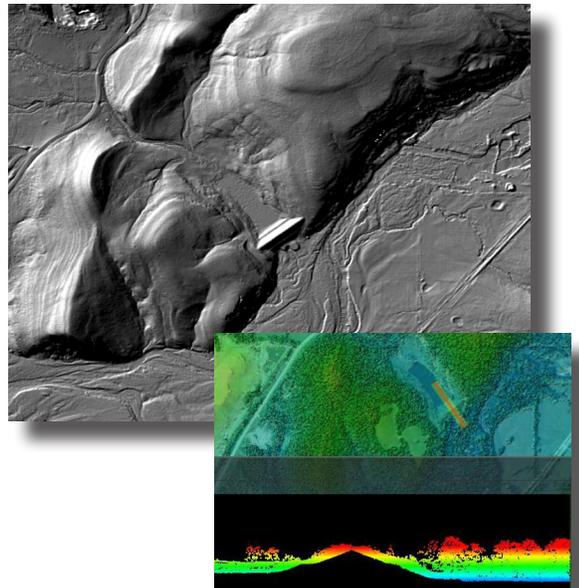
IFSAR

Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar is a radar technique used in remote sensing.

For more Information Contact

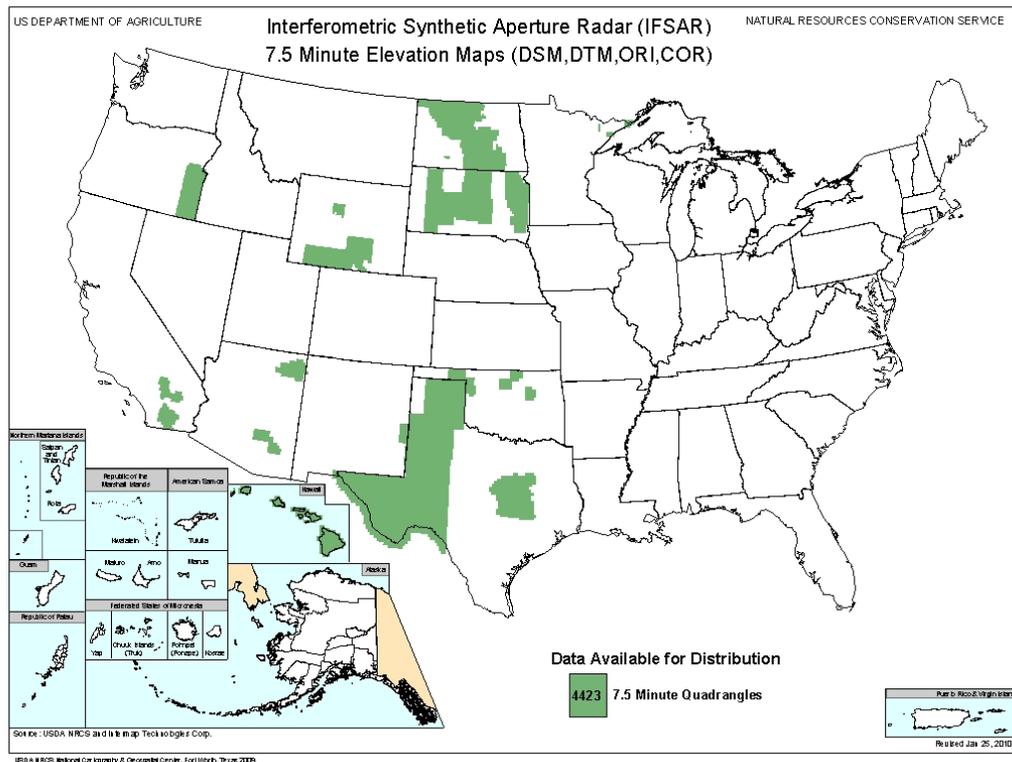
J. Steven Nechero
Technology Applications Team Leader
National Cartography and Geospatial Leader
501 West Felix Street
FWFC Building 23
Fort Worth, Texas 76115
817 509 3366 Work
817 825 2719 Cell

Bill J. Marken
Technology Applications Team, GIS/GPS Analyst
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
National Cartography and Geospatial Center
501 West Felix Street, Bldg 23
Fort Worth, Texas 76115
817 509 3524 Office
817 509 3469 Fax

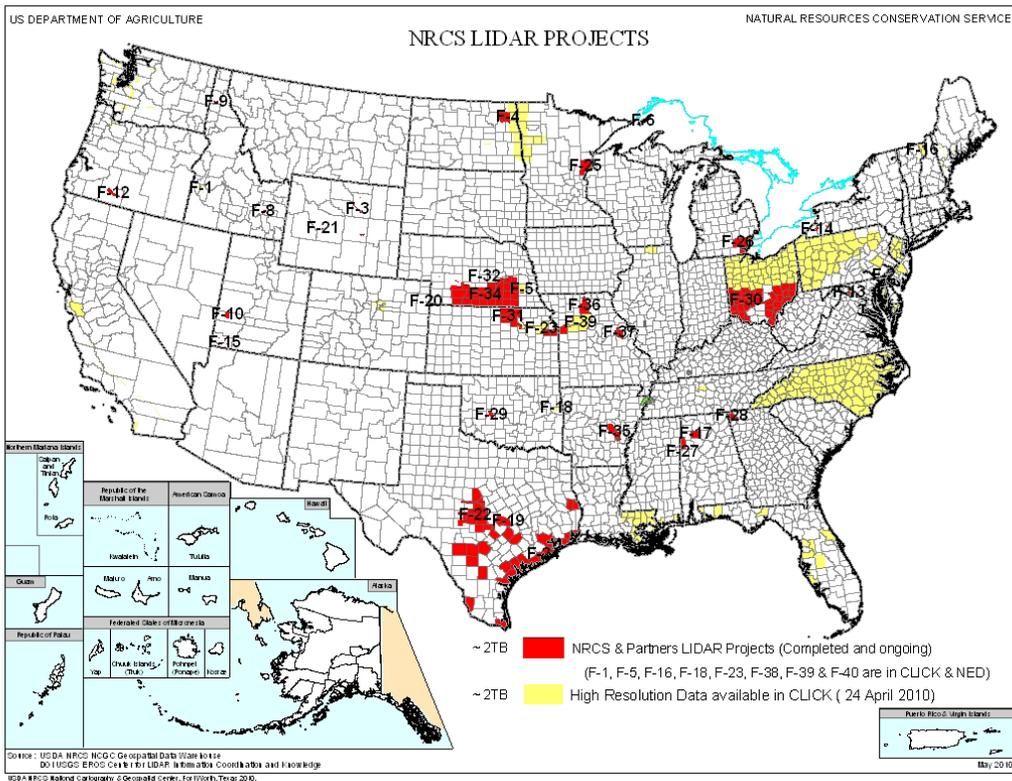


Sallisaw Creek 8

IFSAR Status Map



LIDAR Status Map



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