



## LiDAR Quality Assessment Report

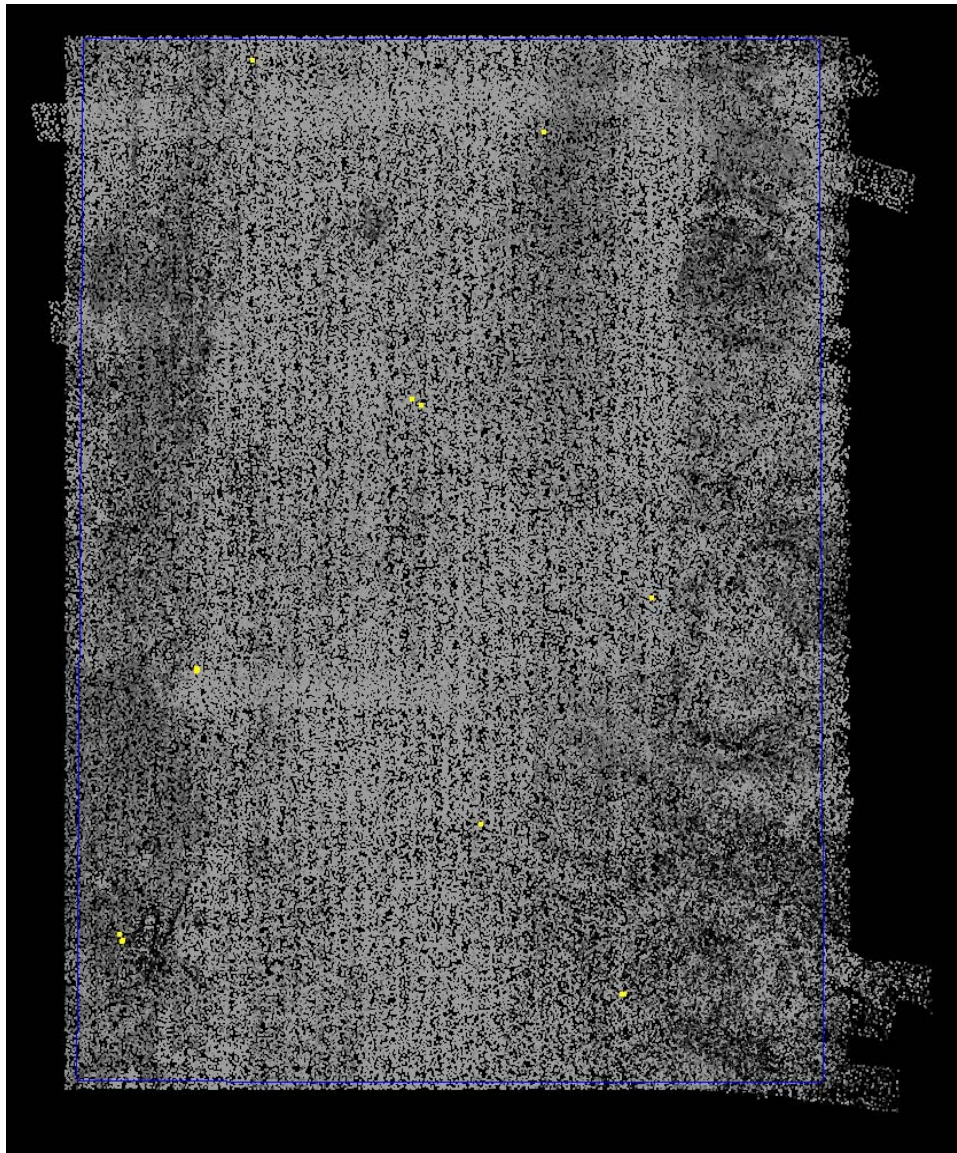
The USGS National Geospatial Technical Operations Center, Data Operations Branch is responsible for conducting reviews of all Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) point-cloud data and derived products delivered by a data supplier before it is approved for inclusion in the National Elevation Dataset. The USGS recognizes the complexity of LiDAR collection and processing performed by the data suppliers and has developed this Quality Assessment (QA) procedure to accommodate USGS collection and processing specifications with flexibility. The goal of this process is to assure LiDAR data are of sufficient quality for database population and scientific analysis. Concerns regarding the assessment of these data should be directed to the Chief, Data Operations Branch, 1400 Independence Road, Rolla, Missouri 65401.

**UT\_NorthEscalanteDesert\_2016**

NGTOC

2017-02-14

Robert Wheelwright



# Project Information

Project: UT\_NorthEscalanteDesert\_2016

Contractor: QSI

Project Type:  
Partnership

Applicable Specification:  
NGP LiDAR Base Specification V 1.2

Project Points of Contact:

Name:	Type:	Email:
Dave Vincent	NGP Liaison	dmvincent@usgs.gov

## REPORT QUALIFICATION SUMMARY:

### Task Order Overall:

*Meets Requirements*

### Metadata:

1 of 1 Reviews Accepted

0 Reviews Not Accepted

### Vertical Accuracy:

1 of 1 Reviews Accepted

0 Reviews Not Accepted

### Swath/Raw LAS:

1 of 1 Reviews Accepted

0 Reviews Not Accepted

### Tiled/Classified LAS:

1 of 1 Reviews Accepted

0 Reviews Not Accepted

### Breakline:

1 of 1 Reviews Accepted

0 Reviews Not Accepted

### DEM(s):

1 of 1 Reviews Accepted

0 Reviews Not Accepted

### NED Review:

1 of 1 DEM tile reviews recommended for NED 1/3rd

0 of 1 DEM tile reviews recommended for NED 1/9th

Final to NED mosaic(s) created

Mosaic(s) recommended for NED 1/3rd

Mosaic(s) recommended for NED 1/9th

Project Subdivision: Select...

Dates Collected Range:

Collection Start: 10/26/2016

Collection End: 11/3/2016

Project Aliases:

Licensing:

Public Domain

Project Description:

## Review Information

Reviewer: Robert Wheelwright

Date Delivered: 2/10/2017

3rd Party QA  
Performed: ☐

Date Assigned: 2/10/2017

Action To Contractor Date:	Issue Description:	Return Date:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Review Complete:

2/14/2017

Dates Project Worked:

Start: 10/26/2016

End: 2/14/2017

## Project Materials Received

All project deliverables must be supplied according to collection and processing specifications. The USGS will postpone the QA process when any of the required deliverables are missing. When deliverables are missing, the Contracting Officer Technical Representative (COTR) will be contacted by the Elevation Section supervisor and informed of the problem. Processing will resume after the COTR has coordinated the deposition of remaining deliverables.

### METADATA

Deliverables	Delivered	XML Metadata	Required	Format	Quantity	Additional Details
Collection Report:	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Select...</u>	0	Not done at this time, will be delivered on full project completion
Survey Report:	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Select...</u>	0	Not done at this time, will be delivered on full project completion
Processing Report:	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Select...</u>	0	Not done at this time, will be delivered on full project completion
QA/QC Report:	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Select...</u>	0	Not done at this time, will be delivered on full project completion
Project Level XML Metadata:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	XML	1	
Project Extent:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>.shp</u>	1	
Tile Scheme:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>.shp</u>	2	1K and 2K
Control (Calibration) Points:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>.shp</u>	1	

Check (Validation) Points:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>.shp</u>	1	
Additional Comments:						

## LIDAR DATA

Deliverables	Delivered	XML Metadata	Required	Format	Quantity	Additional Details
Swath Data:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>.las</u>	84	
Classified/ Tiled Data:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>.las</u>	567	
Additional Comments:						

## DERIVED DELIVERABLES

Deliverables	Delivered	XML Metadata	Required	Format	Quantity	Additional Details
DEM Tiles:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>IMG</u>	154	
Breaklines:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>.shp</u>	1	
Additional Comments:						

## OTHER

Additional Deliverables	Delivered	XML Metadata	Required	Format	Quantity	Additional Details
Intensity Imagery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TIF	154	
First-Return DSM Raster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IMG	154	
Additional Comments:						

## Geographic Information

Area Extent: 205 Sq. Miles

Tile Size: 2000 x 2000 Meters

DEM/DTM Grid Spacing: .5 Meters

*Coordinate Reference System:*

NAD83 (2011) UTM Zone 12N

*Projection:*

UTM

*Horizontal*NAD83*Datum:*

NAD83(2011)

☒ Meters☐ U.S. Feet☐ Int'l Feet*Vertical*NAVD88*Datum:*

Geoid 2012B

☒ Meters☐ U.S. Feet☐ Int'l Feet**THIS PROJECTION COORDINATE REFERENCE SYSTEM IS CONSISTENT ACROSS THE FOLLOWING DELIVERABLES**

- |                                                                      |                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Extent                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tiled/Classified XML Metadata |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Extent XML Metadata      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tiled/Classified LiDAR        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Tile Scheme              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Swath/Raw LiDAR XML Metadata  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Tile Scheme XML Metadata | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Swath/Raw LiDAR               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Control Points                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEM(s)                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Control Points XML Metadata      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEM XML Metadata              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Checkpoints                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Breakline(s)                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Checkpoint XML Metadata          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Breakline XML Metadata        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Level XML Metadata       |                                                                   |

*Additional  
Comments:***Collection Information****Quality Level: 1****Configured Nominal Pulse Spacing:**

.35

Meters**Additional Comments:****Metadata Review Accepted**

Vendor provided metadata files have been parsed using 'mp' metadata parser. Any errors generated by the parser are documented below for reference and/or corrective action.

Parser can be found @ <http://geo-nsdi.er.usgs.gov/validation/>

**The Project Level XML Metadata parsed without errors.**Check if 'Best Use' metadata for NED: ☒**The Project Extent XML Metadata parsed without errors.**Check if 'Best Use' metadata for NED: ☐**The Project Tile Scheme XML Metadata parsed without errors.**Check if 'Best Use' metadata for NED: ☐

***The Control Point XML Metadata parsed without errors.***Check if 'Best Use' metadata for NED: ☐***The Check Point XML Metadata parsed without errors.***Check if 'Best Use' metadata for NED: ☐***The Swath XML Metadata parsed without errors.***Check if 'Best Use' metadata for NED: ☐***The Classified XML Metadata parsed without errors.***Check if 'Best Use' metadata for NED: ☐***The DEM XML Metadata parsed without errors.***Check if 'Best Use' metadata for NED: ☐***The Breakline XML Metadata parsed without errors.***Check if 'Best Use' metadata for NED: ☐Additional  
Comments:**Based on this review, the USGS accepts the xml metadata provided.**

End of Metadata Review

## Vertical Accuracy Review **Accepted**

ASPRS recommends that checkpoint surveys be used to verify the vertical accuracy of LiDAR data sets. Checkpoints are to be collected by an independent survey firm licensed in the particular state(s) where the project is located. While subjective, checkpoints should be well distributed throughout the dataset. National Standards for Spatial Data Accuracy (NSSDA) guidance states that checkpoints may be distributed more densely in the vicinity of important features and more sparsely in areas that are of little or no interest. Checkpoints should be distributed so that points are spaced at intervals of at least ten percent of the diagonal distance across the dataset and at least twenty percent of the points are located in each quadrant of the dataset.

NSSDA and ASPRS require that a minimum of twenty checkpoints (thirty is preferred) are collected for each major land cover category represented in the LiDAR data. Checkpoints should be selected on flat terrain, or on uniformly sloping terrain in all directions from each checkpoint. They should not be selected near severe breaks in slope, such as bridge abutments, edges of roads, or near river bluffs. Checkpoints are an important component of the USGS QA process. There is the presumption that the checkpoint surveys are error free and the discrepancies are attributable to the LiDAR dataset supplied.

For this dataset, USGS checked the spatial distribution of checkpoints with an emphasis on the bare-earth (open terrain) points; the number of points per class; the methodology used to collect these points; and the relationship between the data supplier and checkpoint collector. When independent control data are available, USGS has incorporated this into the analysis.

## Required Vertical Accuracy

☒ Yes ☐ No

### REQUIRED NON-VEGETATED VERTICAL ACCURACY FOR SWATH AND DEM FILES

Required Unit:



Required # of checkpoints:	20
Required RMSEz:	.10
Required Vertical Accuracy (RMSEz * 95th CI)	0.196

**REQUIRED VEGETATED VERTICAL ACCURACY FOR DEM FILES**

Required Unit:	Meters
Required # of checkpoints:	5
Required Vertical Accuracy (@ 95th percentile)	0.294

Additional Required  
Vertical Accuracy  
Information:

## Reported Vertical Accuracy

☒ Yes ☐ No

**REPORTED NON-VEGETATED VERTICAL ACCURACY FOR SWATH LIDAR FILES**

Reported Unit:	Meters
Reported # of checkpoints:	10
Reported RMSEz:	0.028
Reported Vertical Accuracy (RMSEz * 95th CI)	0.054

**REPORTED NON-VEGETATED VERTICAL ACCURACY FOR DEM FILES**

Reported Unit:	Meters
Reported # of checkpoints:	10
Reported RMSEz:	0.027
Reported Vertical Accuracy (RMSEz * 95th CI)	0.053

**REPORTED VEGETATED VERTICAL ACCURACY FOR DEM FILES**

Reported Unit:	Meters
Reported # of checkpoints:	5
Reported Vertical Accuracy (95th percentile)	0.069

Additional Reported  
Vertical Accuracy  
Information:

## Reviewed Vertical Accuracy

☒ Yes ☐ No

### CHECKPOINT REVIEW

Checkpoints are well distributed? ☒

Enough checkpoints for task order? ☒

Checkpoints meet USGS LiDAR base-spec in quantity and quality? ☒

### REVIEWED NON-VEGETATED VERTICAL ACCURACY FOR SWATH LIDAR FILES

Reviewed Unit:

Reviewed # of checkpoints:

Reviewed RMSEz:

Reviewed Vertical Accuracy (RMSEz \* 95th CI)

### REVIEWED NON-VEGETATED VERTICAL ACCURACY FOR DEM FILES

Reviewed Unit:

Reviewed # of checkpoints:

Reviewed RMSEz:

Reviewed Vertical Accuracy (RMSEz \* 95th CI)

### REVIEWED VEGETATED VERTICAL ACCURACY

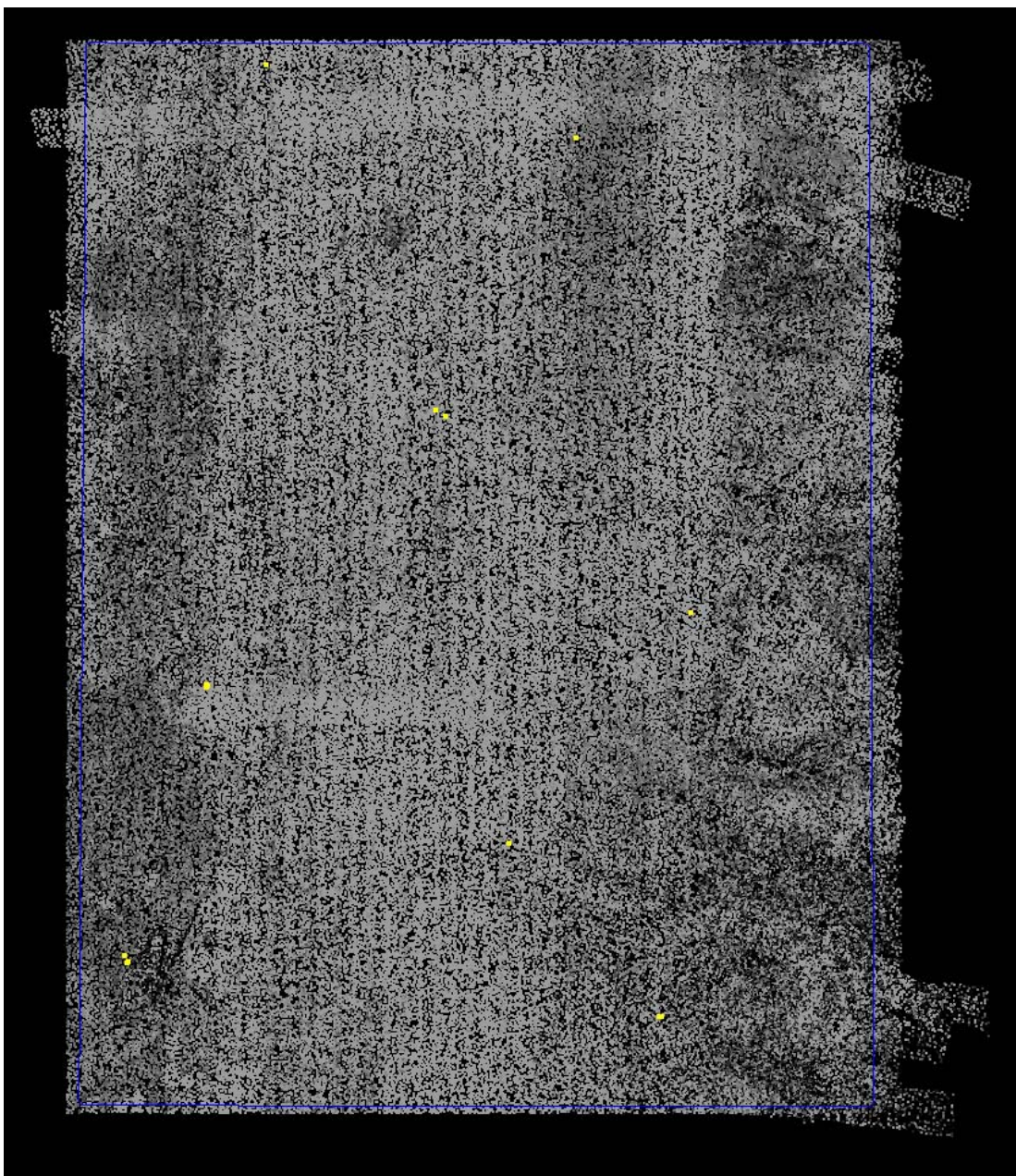
Required Unit:

Required # of checkpoints:

Reviewed Vertical Accuracy (95th percentile)

Checkpoint Distribution Image





*Vertical Accuracy Results:*

*Additional Reviewed  
Vertical Accuracy  
Information:*

This is a 200 sq mile sub-area, as part of a larger 7,000 sq mile project. The number of QC checkpoints for this area is appropriate, taking this into account.

**Based on this review, the USGS accepts the vertical accuracy.**

End of Vertical Accuracy Review

## **Raw-Swath LiDAR Review Accepted**

LAS swath files or raw unclassified LiDAR data are reviewed to assess the quality control used by the data supplier during collection. Furthermore, LAS swath data are checked for positional accuracy. The data supplier should have calculated the Non-Vegetated Vertical Accuracy using ground control checkpoints measured in clear open terrain (see *Vertical Accuracy Review Section*).

Review Required: ☒ Yes ☐ No

### RAW-SWATH LIDAR FILE CHARACTERISTICS

☒ Separate folder for swath/raw LiDAR files

LAS Version: 1.4

Point Record Format: 6

If specified, \*.wpd files for full waveform data have been provided: Not Required

☒ Correct and properly formatted georeference information is included in all LAS file headers, including the use of OGC 2001 Well Known Text (WKT).

☐ Adjusted GPS time used with the global encoder id set to 1

Global Encoding field is set to 17, indicating adjusted GPS time and WKT SRS. This is correct per spec.

Additional comments:

Based on this review, the USGS accepts the swath/raw LiDAR data.

End of Swath/Raw LiDAR Review

### Tiled/Classified LiDAR Review Accepted

Classified LAS tile files are used to build digital terrain models using the points classified as ground. Therefore, it is important that the classified LAS are of sufficient quality to ensure that the derivative product accurately represents the landscape that was measured. Classified LAS Tiles are comprised as follows, "all project swaths, returns, and collected points, fully calibrated, adjusted to ground, and classified and cut, by tiles, excluding calibration swaths, cross-ties, and other swaths not used, or intended to be used, in product generation".

Review Required: ☒ Yes ☐ No

### CLASSIFIED LIDAR TILE CHARACTERISTICS

☒ Separate folder for classified/tiled LiDAR files

LAS Version: 1.4

Point Record Format: 6

If specified, \*.wpd files for full waveform data have been provided: Not Required

☒ Classified LAS tile files conform to project tiling scheme

☒ Quantity of classified LAS tile files conforms to project tiling scheme

☒ Classified LAS tile files do not overlap

☒ Classified LAS tile files are uniform in size

☒ Correct and properly formatted georeference information is included in all LAS file headers, including the use of OGC 2001 Well Known Text (WKT).

☐ Adjusted GPS time used with the global encoder id set to 1

Global Encoding field is set to 17, indicating adjusted GPS time and WKT SRS. This is correct per spec.

☒ Classified LAS tile files have no points classified as '12' (Overlap) and correctly use overlap bit.

☐ Point classifications are limited to the standard values listed below:

Code	Description	Used
1	Processed, but unclassified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Bare-earth/Ground	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Noise (low, manually identified, if needed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	Model key points	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Water	<input type="checkbox"/>

		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	Ignored ground (breakline proximity)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Withheld (if the "Withheld Bit" is not implemented in the processing software)	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Bridges	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Noise (high, manually identified, if needed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Additional comments:

**Based on this review, the USGS accepts classified/tiled LiDAR data.**

*End of Tiled/Classified LiDAR Review*

## Breakline Review Accepted

Breaklines are vector feature classes that are used to hydro-flatten the bare earth Digital Elevation Models.

Review Required: ☒ Yes ☐ No

### BREAKLINE FILE CHARACTERISTICS:

☒ Separate folder for breakline files.

☒ Breaklines contain elevation values.

Elevation values stored in Geometry (ZEnabled)

Units: Meters

☒ Waterbody Breaklines.

Polyline ☐ Polygon ☒

☒ Single elevation value per waterbody feature.

☒ Required.

Waterbody Elevations were created via Proprietary waterbody level techniques.

☐ Double Line Stream Breaklines (Streams Approximately > 100 ft).

☐ Single Line Breaklines.

☒ No missing or misplaced breaklines.

**Based on this review, the USGS accepts the breakline files.**

End of Breakline Review

## DEM Review Accepted

The derived bare-earth file(s) receive a review of the vertical accuracies provided by the data supplier, vertical accuracies calculated by the USGS using supplied and independent checkpoints (*see the prior Vertical Accuracy Review Section*), and a thorough visual review for any anomalies or inconsistencies in assessing the quality of the DEM(s).

### BARE-EARTH DEM TILE CHARACTERISTICS:

☒ Separate folder for bare-earth DEM files

Raster File Type: IMG

Raster Cell Size: 0.5 Meters

Tile bit depth/pixel Type: 32\_BIT\_FLOAT

Interpolation or Resampling Technique: Triangulated Irregular Network (TIN)

- ☒ DEM tiles do not overlap
- ☒ DEM tiles conform to Project Tiling Scheme
- ☒ Quantity of DEM files conforms to Project Tiling Scheme
- ☒ DEM tiles are uniform in size
  
- ☒ DEM tiles properly edge match and free of edge artifacts
- ☒ Tiles are free from Spikes and Pits
- ☒ Tiles are free from Data Holidays (*voids due to processing or collection errors*)
- ☒ Tiles do not exhibit systematic sensor error or corrowwing

**Hydro Treatment:** hydro-flattenedDEM tiles are properly Hydro Flattened ☒ Yes ☐ No

- ☒ Waterbodies  or greater are flattened
- ☒ Streams  or greater are flattened in a downstream manner
- ☐ Tidal Boundaries/Shorelines are flattened

None in project area

- ☐ No missing islands  or larger

None in project area

- ☒ Bridges/Overpasses are properly removed
- ☒ Culverts are maintained (Not Hydro Enforced)
- ☒ Depressions, Sinks, are not filled in (Not Hydro Conditioned)
- ☒ Vegetation properly removed
- ☒ Manmade structures properly removed

Tiles recommended for NED 1/3rd: ☒ Yes. ☐ No.Tiles recommended for NED 1/9th: ☐ Yes. ☒ No.Tiles recommended for NED 1 Meter: ☒ Yes. ☐ No.LAS dataset recommended for distribution: tile classified**Based on this review, the USGS accepts the DEM tiles.**

End of DEM Review

**Based on this review, the provided delivery Meets the Contract and/or Task Order requirements.***Additional Comments:***INTERNAL COMMENTS**

END OF REPORT (v2.4.0)