

Lidar Fact Sheet: Cameron and Willacy Counties

Overview

The Cameron and Willacy Counties data set was received from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). It was reviewed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Services Center at the macro level, which involves checking for format and point characteristics for approximately 5% of the tiles. In addition, the entire data set is reviewed to establish that bare earth processing and proper classification of the points has been performed. The review does not include accuracy or data-processing (e.g. bare earth quality, flightline mismatch, feature removal) assessments.

Data Attributes

The Texas county data were delivered as bare-earth processed data sets. However, no accuracy or qualitative assessment information was provided. The data acquisition occurred in 2006; multiple returns were recorded for each laser pulse along with an intensity value for each return. The data were processed to meet Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood mapping standards (root mean square error of 18.5 centimeters in open, bare terrain). Point spacing is nominally on the order of 1.4 meters. For full metadata, follow this link: www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/tcm/ldartdat/metatemplate/tx2006_cameron_template.html

Review Results

According to the limited review, the data set on average appears to be of poor quality. This determination is based on the issues listed under the reviews below. Again, no accuracy assessment was performed.

Tile Review

The Cameron and Willacy Counties lidar data do not cover the entire area of Cameron and Willacy, since the southern portion of Cameron County is not covered. The reviewed tiles had some formatting issues; the primary issues noted in this review are as follows:

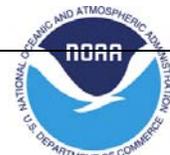
1. Lack of ground classification (#2) for much of each county (see Figure 1)
2. Only single returns available
3. Water points remain, not classified

Bare Earth Point Density Review

The general lack of bare-earth classification can be seen in Figure 1. Much of Willacy County and the central portion of Cameron County have not been classified so the bare earth covers only a portion of the area. This is an important point – if asking for bare earth points – only a portion of the area will be returned. The barrier island does have ground classifications, but no water removal.

For More Information

NOAA Coastal Services Center
Coastal Remote Sensing Program
(843) 740-1200 • www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/



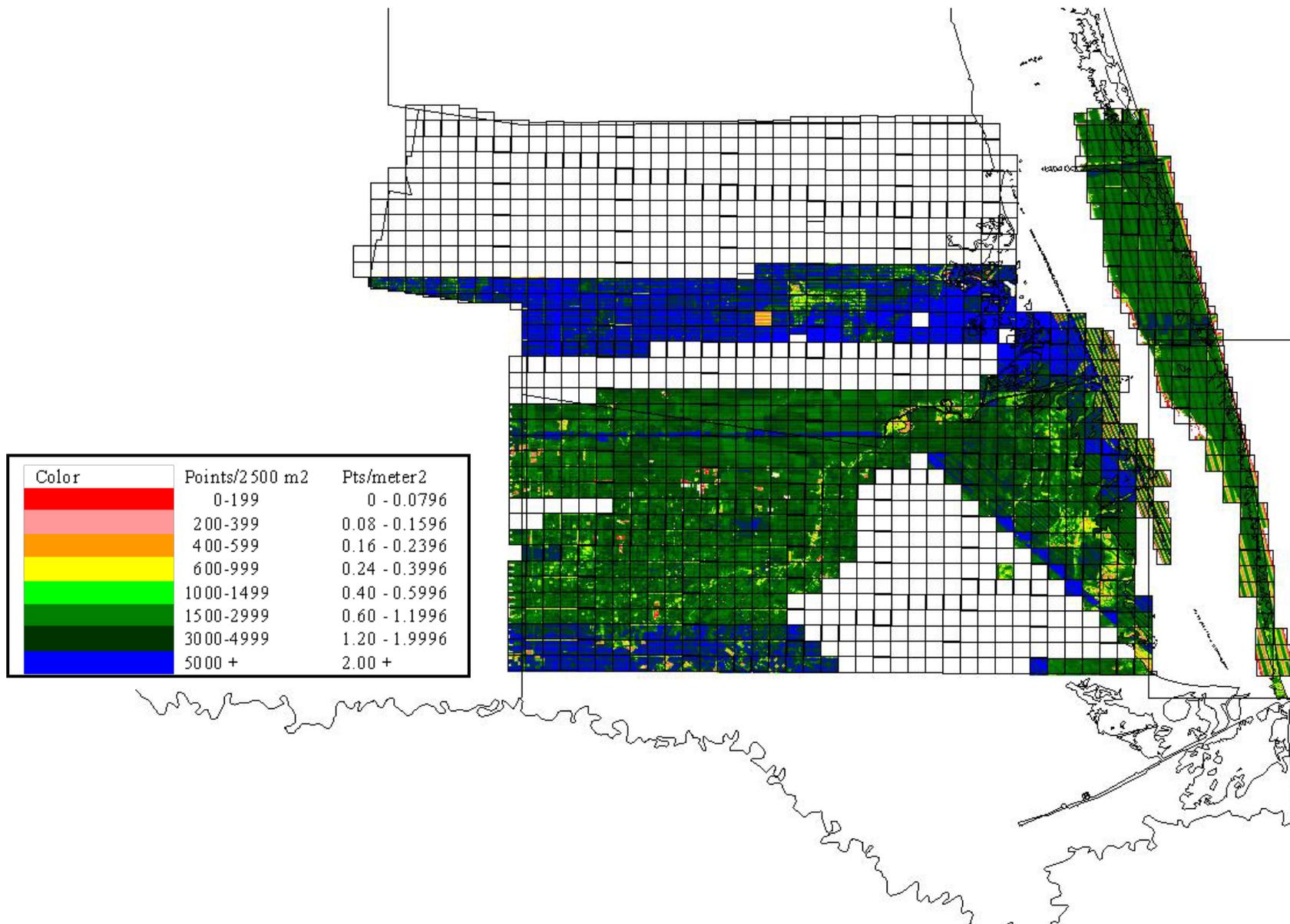


Figure 1. Bare-earth point count density (pts/2500 square meters) in Cameron and Willacy Counties. The blank areas (with tile outlines) are areas where no classification was performed.