

Description

The Denver Regional Council of Governments facilitated a lidar project in 2020-2021 on behalf of local governments and regional partners. The primary goal was to collect regional data in areas that had become outdated or where no data existed. The project was made possible by contributions from 32 project partners, as well as a Broad Agency Announcement Award from the U.S. Geological Survey.

In addition to funding 40% of the \$1.4 million project, the Geological Survey also performed quality control on the lidar data deliverables using its [Lidar Base Specification](#) and managed the vendor responsible for acquisition and processing.

The data was collected between May 26, 2020, and Sept. 7, 2020. Processing and quality control followed collection and lasted until December 2021. Packaging and delivery occurred in the first and second quarter of 2022.

Challenges

The Regional Lidar Project was delayed due to an infrastructure failure at Sanborn, in which data had to be recovered. Also, the Geological Survey received three times more data to review than normal during the project period. These two issues set the project back by almost six months. However, data was still made available to the public according to the original timeline.

By the numbers

Value of data	\$1,437,000
Total number of project partners	33
Quality Level 1 lidar acquired	294 square miles
Quality Level 2 lidar acquired	4,596 square miles
1-foot and 2-foot contours generated	3,890 square miles

Deliverables

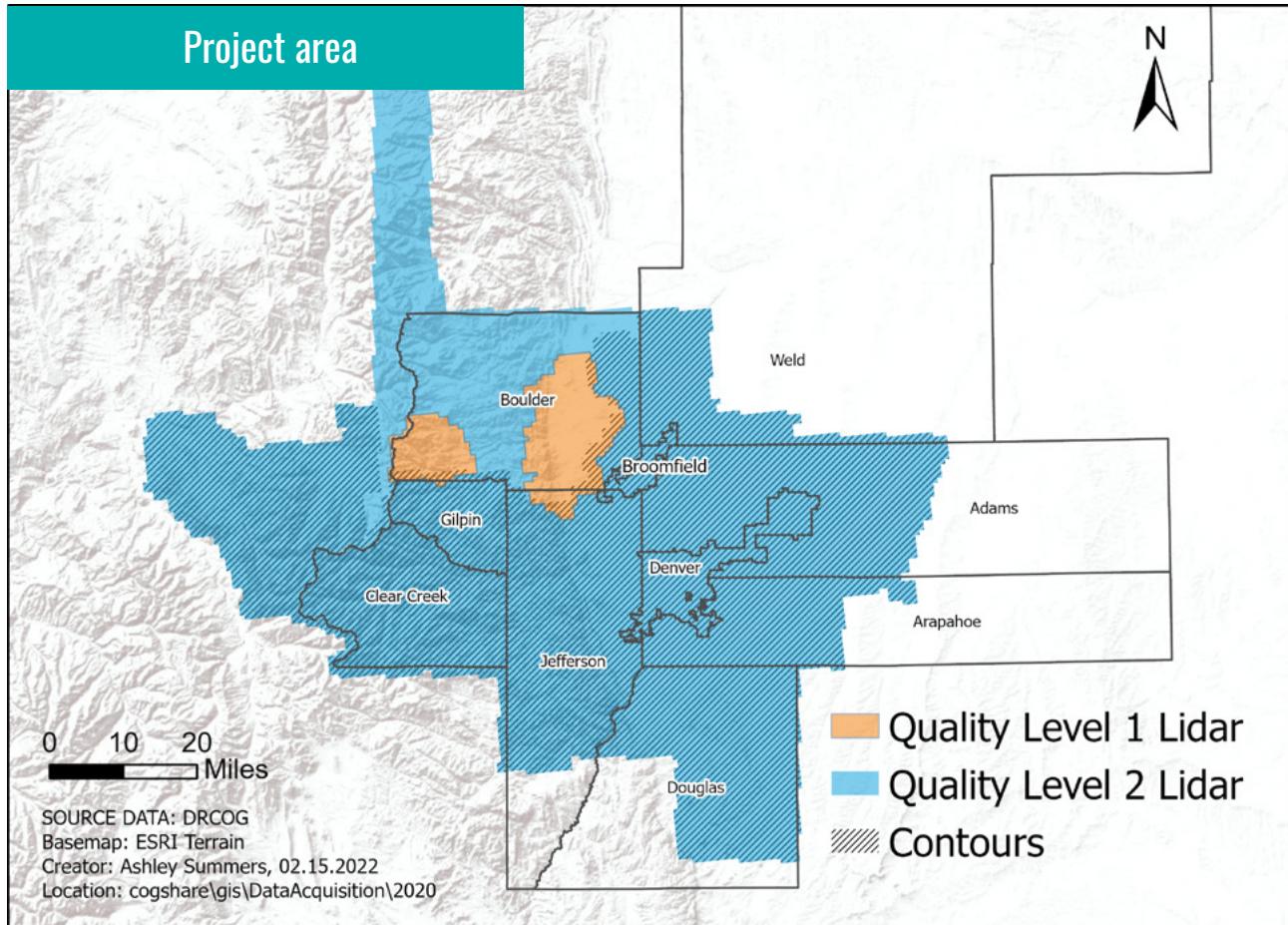
- Classified lidar point cloud: quality level 2 and quality level 1.
- Bare-earth digital elevation model.
- First return intensity raster.
- Breaklines.
- Federal Geographic Data Committee metadata.
- 1-foot and 2-foot machine-generated contours.*

*Contour generation was beyond the scope of the Geological Survey quality control effort and was delivered subsequent to the lidar product.

Accessing data

The data developed as part of the project is in the public domain and can be accessed through the following methods:

1. DRCOG Regional Data Catalog
 - a. Download point clouds, dems and contours in Colorado State Plane projections.
2. Colorado Governor's Office of Information Technology
 - a. Send a hard drive to be filled with large areas or the entire project area. Contact oit_gis@state.co.us first.
 - b. Products include point clouds, dems, dsms, breaklines and intensity rasters in Colorado State Plane projections.
3. Geological Survey: The National Map
 - a. Download data according to your custom area of interest in a UTM projection.
4. Colorado Water Conservation Board Lidar Portal
 - a. coloradowhazardmapping.com/lidarDownload



Funding partners

- U.S. Geological Survey
- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Denver Water
- Mile High Flood District
- Adams County
- Clear Creek County
- City and County of Denver
- Douglas County
- Gilpin County
- Jefferson County
- City of Arvada
- City of Aurora
- Town of Bennett
- City of Boulder
- City of Brighton
- Town of Castle Pines
- Town of Castle Rock
- City of Centennial
- City of Commerce City
- City of Englewood
- Town of Frederick
- City of Golden
- City of Greenwood Village
- City of Lafayette
- City of Lone Tree
- City of Longmont
- City of Louisville
- Town of Morrison
- Town of Parker
- Town of Superior
- City of Thornton
- City of Westminster
- City of Wheat Ridge

Questions?

Contact Ashley Summers, DRCOG information systems manager, at 303-480-6746 or asummers@drcog.org.
Visit DRCOG's [website](#).

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