

## Aerial Photography

As in 2001, 2003, and 2005, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is facilitating the purchase of digital aerial photography for local governments in 2007. The GIS Coordinating Council met at the South Central Arc User Group (SCAUG) Conference on Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> and agreed to use Bohannon-Huston (BH) as the vendor for the 2007 project. They were the vendor for the 2005 project.

Cost estimates for the 2007 project have been mailed. I apologize for sending the letter to multiple personnel in your agency, especially on the city level. I didn't realize that multiple departments would budget for the 2007 aerial photography. From this day forward, I will only provide the cost estimates and other financial information about our projects to the main contact for each agency, in most cases the GIS Manager. To be on the safe side please check with your Planning Director, Public Works Director, Economic/Community Development Director, and City Manager's Office and coordinate the budgeting for the 2007 aerial photography.

There was a slight mistake on the cost estimate letter. The final price for 2007 aerial photography will be determined in October 2006, not October of 2007. For now, please secure the dollar amount provided in the cost estimate letter for your FY 2007 budgets. An online survey will be sent to the main GIS contacts in August.

Preliminary Schedule:

Year	Month	Action
2006	February	Cost estimates mailed by NCTCOG to interested agencies
2006	Late Summer	NCTCOG online survey e-mailed to interested agencies
2006	October	Final pricing and flight area determined based on survey results
2006	November	Inter-Local Agreement contracts mailed to agencies that responded to the survey with final pricing and invoice dates
2007	January - February	Flight
2007	March - May	Image processing
2007	April - August	Deliveries from BH to NCTCOG
2007	April - September	Deliveries from NCTCOG to participants

The online survey will replace the order interest form that was used in previous projects. The online survey is where you will select the resolution (six-inch or one-foot), enter the dates you want to be invoiced (two maximum), and enter your purchase order number or check number. Our goal is to fly all 16 counties. If your agency didn't receive a cost estimate letter please [contact me](#).

## GIS Classes

NCTCOG offers ESRI Certified GIS Classes to NCTCOG members and non-members. All classes are ESRI certified and are taught by an ESRI instructor at the NCTCOG offices in Arlington. In order for a class to be finalized with ESRI we need a minimum of ten students to pre-register. The maximum number of students that can pre-register for a class is 14.

Upcoming Class Schedule:

Class	Dates	Member Cost	Non-Member Cost	Remaining Seats
Data Production and Editing Techniques	4/3 - 4/5	\$1,125	\$1,350	12
QA/QC of GIS Data Using ArcGIS Desktop	4/6 - 4/7	\$750	\$900	14



If a class doesn't have ten students pre-registered by the cut-off date, the class will still be available on our website for pre-registration. Once ten students are pre-registered, we'll confirm a new class date and instructor with ESRI. We have also added a new class, Working with ArcGIS Spatial Analyst for Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT), to the 2006 GIS class schedule. It is a five-day course. We are waiting on ESRI to confirm a class date and instructor.

Below is a list of classes that haven't met the minimum of ten students, but are still open for pre-registration.

Class	Dates	Member Cost	Non-Member Cost	Remaining Seats
Introduction to ArcGIS 1	TBA	\$750	\$900	8
Introduction to ArcGIS 2	TBA	\$1,125	\$1,350	9
Working with ArcGIS Spatial Analyst for Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT)	TBA	\$1,875	\$2,250	12
Customizing ArcIMS using HTML and JavaScript	TBA	\$1,125	\$1,350	11

Please visit <http://gis.nctcog.org/classes.asp> to view the complete class schedule and sign up for a class.

## Regional GIS Meeting

Compliments of David Allen (GIS Manger) the next regional meeting will be held at the City of Euless's Council Chambers on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will begin at 9:00 am and is scheduled to end around 2:30 pm to 3:00 pm. The City of Euless is located in Northeast Tarrant County. The city offices are located on the northwest corner of Ector Dr. and Airport Freeway (State Highway One Eighty Three for the 9-1-1 Coordinators).

The NCTCOG regional meetings will now only take place twice a year, with the second meeting tentatively scheduled for mid-October. As well, the Regional GIS Meetings will be co-sponsored by SCAUG. The SCAUG Texas Representative is Justin Long, GIS Administrator for the City of Longview.

So far we only have one confirmed speaker. Both private and public sector are welcome to present at the regional GIS meetings. If you are interested in presenting, or have an item/topic you think should be discussed, please [contact me](#).



Name	Company	Topic
Erin Atkinson	Half Associates	FEMA Map Modernization

## FEMA Map Modernization

FEMA Map Modernization is in the process of converting existing paper Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the entire United States into a GIS based product known as Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs). NCTCOG has provided portions of the available 2003/2005 aerial photography and 2001 elevation data to assist in this effort.

FEMA has contracted Michael Baker, Jr, Inc (Baker) to serve as the National Service Provider (NSP) for the nationwide five-year effort. The work is subcontracted out on a county-by-county basis. In the NCTCOG region, Dallas, Parker, Rockwall, and Tarrant Counties have been subcontracted to Half Associates, while Collin and Denton Counties have been subcontracted to Comprehensive Flood Risk Resources & Response (CF3R).

Ellis, Hood, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, and Somervell Counties have been projected by FEMA as the next round of counties (based upon funding availability). Erath, Hunt, Palo Pinto, and Wise Counties are projected for the following round.

At the end of the summer, Baker will receive the DFIRM conversions from the sub-consultants for four NCTCOG region counties: Colin, Dallas, Denton, and Tarrant. Rockwall and Parker County will be completed in fall 2007. Cities and counties will receive preliminary DFIRMs based on USGS quads/quarter quads for the maps within their jurisdiction. It is anticipated that the preliminary

maps will be released in October 2006. This distribution will include hardcopy paper maps and PDF files of the map panels. Within 30/45 days of transmittal, FEMA and Baker will then hold a Community Coordination and Outreach (CCO) meeting to review the maps with staff. Public notices will then be advertised in the local newspaper, announcing the beginning of a 90-day appeal period in which formal appeals and protests can be filed. After the appeal period, FEMA will make the final determinations. Once all appeals are resolved, FEMA will announce the date when the new DFIRMs will become effective for National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulatory purposes. This date is normally 6 months after the appeals have been resolved. Cities and counties then have that 6-month period to update their floodplain ordinance to recognize the new floodplain maps.

The point of contact for map distribution is the highest elected official with copies sent to the jurisdiction's Floodplain Administrator. Once the maps are finalized they will be housed at various Internet portal sites. NCTCOG is currently exploring the possibility of hosting one of these sites.

FEMA Map Modernization County Contacts:

County	Contact	Company	Phone	E-mail
Collin	Scott Stone	CF3R/CDM	214-346-2800	stonesw@cdm.com
Dallas	Jessica Baker	Halff	214-346-6200	jbaker@halff.com
Denton	Curtis Beitel	CF3R/Carter & Burgess	817-735-6158	beitelcb@c-b.com
Parker	Cindy Mosier	Halff	817-847-1422	cmosier@halff.com
Rockwall	Noelle Gaspard	Halff	214-346-6200	ngaspard@halff.com
Tarrant	Cindy Mosier	Halff	817-847-1422	cmosier@halff.com

## Planimetrics

Beginning in 2003, many local governments expressed interest in having building outlines, road edges, sidewalks, parking lots, hydrology, fences, and trees digitized and rectified to the latest aerial photography. The GIS Coordinating Council awarded a contract to Pinnacle Mapping to provide the service. To date, 25 cities and one county have participated.

Since many agencies have already budgeted for the 2007 aerial photography, interest in having updated planimetric data has been increasing. In the past, we have done this project on an individual basis; however we have decided to pursue it on a regional level, just like the aerial photography and elevation contours. We are proposing that the planimetric data contracted on a regional level be owned by NCTCOG and licensed for use to the participating agencies and that the final pricing be based on a cooperative effort.

We are in the process of creating a webpage that has an official planimetric cost estimate letter for each agency. Once the webpage is operational, NCTCOG will send an e-mail to the main GIS contact at each agency with the webpage address. For those 26 agencies that have purchased planimetrics in 2003, 2004, or 2005, your cost estimate letter will include update prices.

If you have the funding available, you can decide to pursue purchasing planimetrics immediately and use 2005 aerial photography. The cost estimate letter will have more detailed instructions on the purchasing process. Or you can secure the cost estimate in your FY 2007 budget and wait until the 2007 aerial photography is processed. Either way, NCTCOG will provide Pinnacle Mapping the aerial photography you wish to use and keep you posted on the status of the project.

The [online survey](#) that will be sent in August will also be used to see if we have enough funding to pursue planimetrics at a regional level. The online survey is where you will select the features you wish to purchase, enter the dates you want to be invoiced (two maximum), and enter your purchase order number or check number.



**Preliminary Schedule:**

Year	Month	Action
2006	March	Cost estimates e-mailed by NCTCOG to interested agencies
2006	Late Summer	NCTCOG online survey e-mailed to interested agencies
2006	October	Final pricing and project area determined based on survey results
2006	November	Inter-Local Agreement contracts mailed to agencies that responded to the survey with final pricing and invoice dates
2007	October - November	Aerial photography deliveries from NCTCOG to Pinnacle
2007	October - April 2008	Pinnacle digitizes features
2008	February - May	Deliveries from Pinnacle to NCTCOG
2008	March - June	Deliveries from NCTCOG to participants

Examples can be downloaded at <http://gis.nctcog.org/planimetrics.asp>.

## Elevation Contours

Two-foot elevation contours were last captured during the 2001 aerial photography project for the five county urban area. Keep in mind that generating elevation contours is three to four times the cost of aerial photography. The per square mile cost from the 2001 project was \$385.

We have many options we are still looking into. The first option is having the contours done using **LIDAR** technology at the same time of the 2007 aerial photography flight, just like the 2001 elevation contours. A second option would be having BH send the stereo images to a vendor and having planimetrics and contours done at the same time.

In addition, we hope to begin discussions with FEMA about funding, considering they would prefer to use two-foot elevation contours to complete the FEMA Map Modernization in areas outside the five county urban area. Whichever option we choose, the contours will have break lines. I will keep everyone informed as more information becomes available.

Just as with the aerial photography and planimetrics, a webpage will be used by each agency's main GIS contact to obtain a cost estimate and by NCTCOG to survey interest.

Examples can be downloaded at <http://gis.nctcog.org/contours.asp>.

## Contact Information

We thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you in the future. If you have any questions, or are interested in participating in any of the projects listed above, please contact...

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