



Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors

L'ARPENTEUR LOUISIANE

MAY 2022

VOL. 61 NO. 2

**NEW BOARD
PRESIDENT
2022-2023**



Jonathan Dufrene

L'ARPELLEUR LOUISIANE

MAY 2022

VOL. 61 NO. 2

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from the President..... 3
 Jonathan Dufrene

61st Annual LSPS Convention .. 4-5

Louisiana Drone Advisory Committee... 6

SLCC Update..... 7

Nicholls Geomatics Program Update 7

Legislative Update..... 8

LA Tech Update..... 9

Benefits of Joining LSPS..... 10

Membership Application 11

District Information 12

NSRS 13

Sustaining Members..... 15

Special Thanks to our Contributing Writers.

Articles submitted will be considered for publication and should be emailed to: lsps@lsps.net. Please contact the office with any questions.

The officers and board of LSPS and editors of this publication do not necessarily endorse opinions expressed by individual writers included herein.



The *L'Arpenteur Louisiane* is published quarterly as a service to the members of the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors. As stated in the LSPS Articles of Incorporation, the LSPS is "organized for the following purposes and to carry out the same:

Enhancing the status of the Land Surveying Profession by:

- 1) Maintaining high technical and cultural standards for entrance to the Society.
- 2) Cooperating with educational institutions in the maintenance of high standards of education in Land Surveying.
- 3) Requiring a high standard of ethical practice by members of the Society.
- 4) Aiding in the adoption of high standard of attainment for the granting of the legal right to practice Professional Land Surveying.
- 5) Fostering among students of Land Surveying the study of philosophy and history, tradition and achievement, duties and social functions of the Land Surveying Profession.
- 6) Encouraging the personal and professional development of young Land Surveyors.
- 7) Supporting activities looking to the increased employment of Land Surveyors and seeking new opportunities for service in Land Surveying."

LSPS ADVERTISING RATES:

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*Prices apply to camera-ready copy.
 A charge will be added for creation of an ad or art work.*



PRESIDENTIAL PRIVILEGE



Jonathan Dufrene
LSPS President

Dear LSPS members,

I would like to start with thanking all of you for your continued support of our society and for the excellent turnout at the convention in Lake Charles. Thank you to our past president, Ricky Wood, and my fellow board members for your generous service to our profession. Finally, thank you to Liz Kearney, our society's Executive Administrator, for diligently keeping all of us on track.

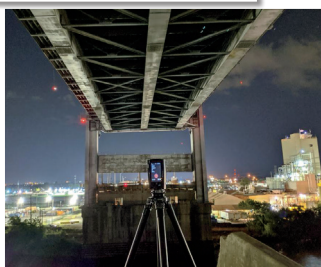
It is truly an honor to begin my service as LSPS President. My Great-Uncle Wilton Dufrene had the same privilege in 1977, as did my father, Jay Dufrene, in 1992. My dad still talks about how much he admired his time serving our society and how appreciative he is for the lasting professional relationships. It's been really great getting to create those same professional connections on the board for the last few years. Thank you for this opportunity.

Getting the job done right and establishing reputable footsteps are fundamental elements of our profession that we should all aspire to, but we need people to follow in those footsteps. Most of us are very aware that there is a shortage of skilled field technicians and a lack of qualified professionals in our industry. We are going to explore different ways of reversing this trend and aim at attracting talent. I want to focus on the support and resources that LSPS can provide to its members to assist and encourage the promotion of the Land Surveying profession. I urge all of you to seek out ways to promote the profession and become involved in the community, schools, and local organizations by volunteering your time and expertise.

Please feel free to contact me or your district chair with any ideas or suggestions as to how LSPS can help with this outreach effort. Together we will keep moving forward with precise footsteps while also making sure there is someone behind us to follow them. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Dufrene



**WE'D LOVE TO
FEATURE YOUR
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IN OUR MAGAZINE!**

**EMAIL PICTURES TO LSPS@LSPS.NET
MAYBE YOU'LL SEE YOUR PICTURES IN OUR NEXT EDITION!**



61ST ANNUAL LSPS CONVENTION

**Hosted by District 3
Convention Chairman**
Shawn MacMenamin, PLS

The 2022 annual LSPS convention was held at Golden Nugget Resort & Casino in Lake Charles, Louisiana. This year's convention was in-person as we make it into the post-COVID era. The convention was a success, and everyone had a wonderful time at Golden Nugget. The total numbers of in-person attendees were 218, which included board and committee members, 13 Guest Registrants, and 17 Spouses.

from the LAPELS board. The night concluded with an exhibitor reception.

Thursday kicked off with a breakfast with the exhibitors and then a seminar on "50 Ways to Make Your Surveys Better and Life Easier", by Mr. Dick Elgin, PE, PLS. After lunch, we had Mr. Alan Johnson from FEMA give a class on "Base Level Elevations" and "FEMA Elevation Certificates", both were very interesting and provided a lot of good information. After Mr. Alan, we followed up with a LIDAR presentation by Cory MacMenamin, PLS. Next, there were three break-out sessions for people needing Standards of Practice in Mississippi and Arkansas, and "The Evolution of Early American Surveying Equipment" in the main meeting room. Thursday ended with a crawfish boil that evening; this was challenging because it was held off-site at the South Beach Volleyball in Lake Charles.



Spouses holding baby alligators at the Gator Chateau!

Friday started with breakfast, followed by Mr. Elgin's presentation on "Surveyor's Notes". After Mr. Elgin, Mr. Ryan Estess, PLS, presented a class on Louisiana Minimum Standards, which was a round of Jeopardy. Then the Annual LSPS awards were presented. Congratulations to Brad Holleman for receiving the Surveyor Excellence Award, Jean Reulet for receiving the Young Surveyor Excellence Award, and Stephen Flynn for receiving the LSPS Life Member Award.

I would like to thank all the Convention Committee Members for all the help in preparing for this event, with a very big thank you to Mrs. Liz Kearney, LSPS Executive Administrator, for all her help this year. Thank you to the Southwest Louisiana Convention & Visitors Bureau for setting up all the spouse events.

The convention got started on Wednesday with the return of the Annual LSPS Golf Tournament at The Country Club at the Golden Nugget. This course was ranked #2 in Louisiana for 2018 and did not disappoint the membership and all who played in the tournament. Later that evening, a presentation on Ethics was given by Mrs. Donna Sentell



Beautiful painting at the Bayou Rum Distillery where the spouses were led on a tour.

Finally, the convention concluded with the Business Meeting Luncheon, where Mr. Jonathan Dufrene, PLS, was elected to serve as the 2022 LSPS President. We all look forward to a great year under his leadership.



61ST ANNUAL LSPS CONVENTION

Golden Nugget Resort & Casino
Lake Charles, La.

Convention Chairman, Shawn MacMenamin, PLS



One of our interesting and educational classes presented this year at Convention!



Jonathan Dufrene presents Brad Holleman with the Surveyor Excellence Award



Shawn MacMenamin presents Stephen Flynn with the Life Member Award



Brad Holleman presents Jean Reulet with the Young Surveyor Excellence Award



Incoming President Jonathan Dufrene presents the President's Gavel to outgoing president Ricky Wood



2022-2023 Board of Directors



Nicholls Alumni (27), along with Nicholls students present at the Convention



Louisiana Drone Advisory Committee (LADAC)

Louisiana Drone Advisory Committee (LADAC) Meeting Pictures

Date: February 16, 2022

Time: 12:30pm to 2:30pm

Location: Nicholls State University, Bollinger Student Union Cotillion Ballroom



Louisiana Drone Advisory Committee (LADAC)



UAS presentation by the Nicholls State University Department of Applied Sciences Geomatics Program

**WANT TO GET INVOLVED?
YOU CAN HELP**

BY VOLUNTEERING TO WORK WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Thanks!

Legislative Committee

Education Committee

Newsletter Committee

Seminar & Technical Education Committee

Scholarship Committee

Promotion of the Profession Committee

and others.

If you would like more information, please call the LSPS office at 225/925-5800 or email lsps@lsps.net.



SOUTH LOUISIANA COMMUNITY COLLEGE UPDATE

By: Michael O’Pry

The Civil Survey and Mapping program at South Louisiana Community College is now Hybrid 99% for all lecture courses, meaning that all lecture courses can be completed online. This is a great option for potential students who currently work in the industry and are seeking the 30 credit hours of approved courses for LAPELS. It is also a great option for students that are not working in the industry to seek employment in the industry in internships and entry-level positions while earning the Associate degree.

In addition, the program has partnered with Idaho State University’s Surveying program to offer students the ability to transfer directly into ISU’s program to complete their bachelor’s degree in surveying. This is also completely online. This option gives students

the ability to complete two years with South Louisiana Community College and two years with Idaho State University, a true 2+2.

Lastly, the Civil Survey and Mapping program at South Louisiana Community College is proud to announce that former students Nathan Reaux and Rachel Waldrop are now licensed Professional Land Surveyors. These two former students were excellent academically, just awesome people, and will do many great things for this industry. Congratulations to both!

If you are (or know someone) thinking about a career as a survey technician, or wish to further your career, please keep us in mind. I would love the opportunity to help you attain that.



NICHOLLS GEOMATICS PROGRAM UPDATE

Dr. Esra Tekdal-Yilmaz

Greetings from the geomatics program at Nicholls State University. I would like to share some good news.

As we are winding down the Spring 2022 semester, I am excited to share a few updates regarding Nicholls Geomatics Program. At the end of Spring semester, the Geomatics program will be completing 19 years. This academic year we will be graduating six students bringing our total program graduates to 95 to date. Nicholls hosted the Louisiana Drone Advisory Committee (LADAC) meeting on February 16, 2022. The LADAC was well attended, and Dr. Ramachandran presented the various Drone projects undertaken by him since 2006 (see attached pictures from the event). Dr. John Dennis helped host a recruiting event Future Farmers of America (FFA) Environmental & Natural Resources State Competition in collaboration with the Department of Biological Sciences. This event was held for the first time in Louisiana on our beautiful 240-acre Nicholls Farm. Dr. Dennis also presented a paper titled “Louisiana and the perpetuation of its property lines” on March 30th at the URISA conference in New Orleans, LA. Dr. Ramachandran mentored several undergraduate students in various research projects this past academic year. The students presented at

Nicholls Scholars Expeaux and University of Louisiana System (ULS) Academic summit and won a couple of awards. They are as follows: Geomatics Juniors Brandon Silva, Luke Guidry, Marcus Matherne, and James Reeves presented their service learning project named “Mapping Oak Trees on Nicholls Campus Using Global Navigation Satellite System and Geographic Information Systems.” Geomatics Sophomore James Jones presented his research work titled “Geocoding Utility Meter Locations for Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government.” Mason Dupre, a recent Geomatics graduate presented his findings from the NASA EPSCoR project titled “Using Hyperspectral Imaging to Better Define Wetland Plant species in the Mississippi Delta.” Brandon Silva and Mason Dupre’s presentation at the Scholars Expeaux 2022 was awarded Outstanding Service Learning Project and Outstanding Undergraduate Research in the College of Sciences and Technology respectively. The presentation and posters of our students (#15 Mason, #22 James and #35 Silva) can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.nicholls.edu/orsp/scholars-expeaux-2022/undergraduate-student-poster-session/>

Have a great summer.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By: Harper Duncan & Associates, LLC

The Louisiana Legislative Session has reached the halfway point. This year we are still seeing a large number of bills addressing COVID related issues. Pandemic related bills cover a wide range of issues including vaccine requirements, emergency order procedures and healthcare access. Another hot topic this year stems from Hurricane Ida with bills addressing utilities and emergency preparedness. We are continuing to monitor all bills that could relate to land surveyors and LAPELS. The deadline

to file new legislation has passed so now we are monitoring amendments as they are added.

The majority of legislation pertaining to LSPS this year deals with licensure requirements. There is a current movement within the state legislature and nationwide to reduce the number of occupational licenses and to create reciprocity across state lines. After working with other associations that had similar concerns about these bills, LAPELS was removed from the legislation.

ENHANCE YOUR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

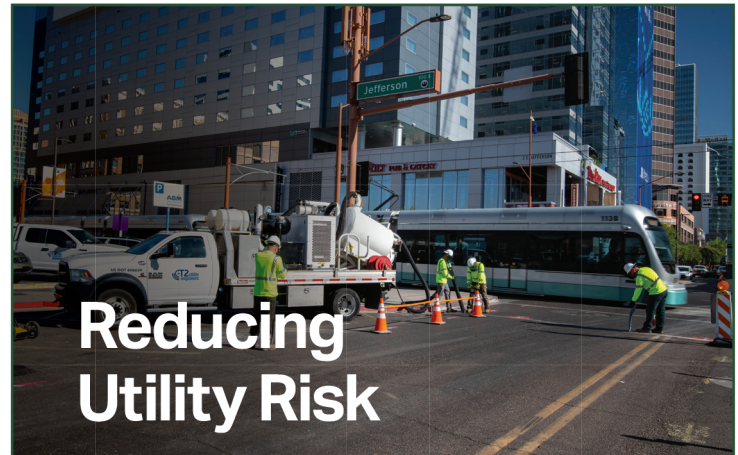
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LA TECH UPDATE

Members of the LA Tech Survey Advisory Committee meet with the LA Tech Introduction to Surveying and Introduction to Construction classes in April to explain the benefits of the CET Survey Option program. Students pursuing this path complete all required classes for a bachelor's degree in Construction Engineering Technology, but also obtain thirty hours

LA Tech will host the American Society of Civil Engineers UEIS Surveying Competition on June 3-5 in Ruston.

The ASCE UESI Surveying Competition's educational and professional goals include a recognition of the importance of basic surveying principles to all civil



Jason Tuggle addressing CVEN 254-Introduction to Surveying April 19, 2022

of LAPELS approved surveying, mapping, and real property courses, thereby meeting the educational requirements for land surveying licensure in Louisiana. Thirty-six students expressed an interest in the Survey Option. Upon graduation, students have the choice to pursue a career in construction management, land surveying, or both.

engineering projects. Students will be required to use standard field and office equipment and procedures to solve common problems encountered in industry. A clear understanding of and ability to apply basic surveying principles will assist the graduate civil engineer in communicating and working with the surveying professionals on the job site and during the design process.

**THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS DONATING TO THE
2021-2022 "EVERY MEMBER CAMPAIGN"!**

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JOSEPH C PICCIOLA II**



BENEFITS OF JOINING LSPS

The Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors is organized to enhance the Surveying Profession. Our goal is to carry out our mission by maintaining high technical and cultural standards in our field, working with educational institutions for the maintenance of high standards of education in Land Surveying, requiring a high standard of ethical practice by our members, and encouraging the personal and professional development of young Land Surveyors.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP IN OUR SOCIETY INCLUDE:

- **NETWORKING** – Who knows more about opportunities within a field than those actually involved in it? No one. The roster of our society is a gold mine to get your network rolling.
- **EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS** – Want to stay on top of your profession, learn new techniques and strategies? There are endless opportunities for upgrading your experience through seminars, listening to top speakers in your field, workshops, and just plain old-fashioned sharing of information among your peers.
- **LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** – It isn't enough to just join a District of the society. Take advantage of the many opportunities to get involved in committee work, serve some time as an officer, or help coordinate events. The more active you are, the more visible you become to the other members. This can only be a plus in your career future.
- **RESUME UPGRADING** – As our profession becomes more complex and difficult to master, the need for continued certification becomes more prevalent.
- **SOCIAL BENEFITS** – Don't overlook the fun factor. Groups of people with common interests are always sources of new friends. You speak the same language, laugh at the same jokes and dream similar dreams. Becoming active opens up many possibilities!

The new age of advanced technology has created the need for land surveyors to guard their profession. Our society works with the Louisiana Professional Engineering & Land Surveying Board (LAPELS) in the process of establishing the current continuing professional development requirements.

We have been involved with many surveying issues...

- ◆ our society began in 1961 and currently has over **525 members**
- ◆ we are approved by the LAPELS Board as a **seminar sponsor**
- ◆ LSPS is an affiliate of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, and the **National Society of Professional Surveyors**
- ◆ we have a standing Legislative Committee to **review legislation** that may affect the surveying profession
- ◆ the LSPS Liaison Committee communicates with the **LAPELS Board** on issues that affect land surveyors
- ◆ we host an Annual Convention - with exhibitors displaying the latest in surveying equipment, and LSPS offering Personal Development Hours to meet licensing requirements
- ◆ the LSPS Executive Board continually working to upgrade member benefits.



Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors

Affiliate of the National Society of Professional Surveyors
9643 Brookline Avenue, Suite 108, Baton Rouge, LA 70809 • Phone (225)925-5800 • Fax (225)925-5802
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PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SPACES:

Registration Number: _____

Name: _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

P.L.S. P.E. Other _____

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Position or Title: _____

Business Address: _____
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E-MAIL: _____ UPON MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTANCE, NAME, EMAIL, WORK AND/OR HOME PHONE NUMBER CAN BE ADDED TO THE WEBSITE DISTRICT CONTACT PAGE. YES(CIRCLE CHOICE) _____ NO

Education: _____
SCHOOL DATE GRADUATED DEGREE

Surveying Experience _____
YEARS

LSPS Member SPONSOR:

Name: _____ Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Signature _____

I hereby apply for admission into the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors as a _____ Member, and agree to comply with the Charter, By-Laws and the Code of Ethics of the Association. Please assign me to the following district:

- District 1 – New Orleans
- District 4 – Shreveport
- District 7 – Lake Charles

- District 2 – Houma
- District 5 – Monroe
- District 8 – Alexandria

- District 3 – Lafayette
- District 6 – Baton Rouge
- District 9 – Covington
- Out of State

Date: _____

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

RESIDENT REGISTERED MEMBER

Any person whose legal residence is the State of Louisiana and holding a license from the State of Louisiana authorizing such person to engage in the practice of Land Surveying. Resident Registered Members shall be entitled to vote on all matters and hold any Office in the Corporation.

INITIATION FEE \$10.00 ANNUAL DUES \$180.00
INCLUDES NSPS MEMBERSHIP

NON-RESIDENT REGISTERED MEMBER

Surveyors registered in the State of Louisiana but not a resident of Louisiana. Non-Resident Members shall be entitled to vote but shall not be eligible to hold any Office in the Corporation.

INITIATION FEE \$10.00 ANNUAL DUES \$140.00

STUDENT MEMBER

Any full-time undergraduate student of a college or vocational school recognized by the Board. Student Members shall not be eligible to vote or hold any Office in the Corporation.

ANNUAL DUES \$20.00

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Any person working toward licensure, land survey intern, or surveyor not registered in Louisiana, recognized and so admitted by the Board of Directors. Associate members shall not be eligible to vote or hold any Office in the Corporation.

INITIATION FEE \$10.00 ANNUAL DUES \$55.00

AFFILIATE MEMBER

Any person not included within the definitions above provided in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 interested in advancing the cause and aims of the Corporation. Affiliate Members shall not be eligible to vote or hold any Office in the Corporation.

INITIATION FEE \$10.00 ANNUAL DUES \$35.00

SUSTAINING MEMBER

Any firm or individual desiring to support the aims and objectives of the Association, who may or may not be entitled to one of the foregoing classes of Membership, may become a Sustaining Member upon application and approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Sustaining Members shall not be eligible to vote or hold any Office in the Corporation, however, if a Sustaining Member also holds another class or other classes of membership that Sustaining Member class shall not infringe upon such rights and privileges.

ANNUAL DUES \$300.00

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Please return completed form with Initiation Fee and Annual Dues to LSPS at the address above.

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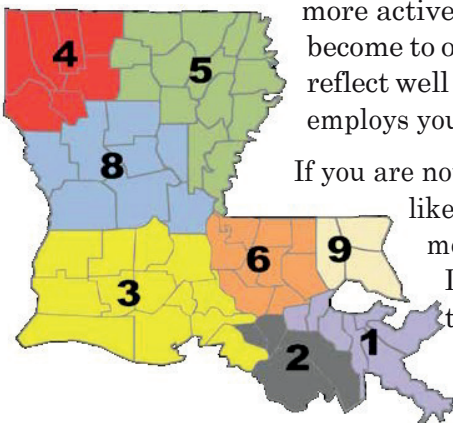
LSPS DISTRICT INFORMATION

WHY ATTEND A DISTRICT MEETING?

Networking - Who knows more about opportunities in surveying, than those active in it?

Educational Benefits - Want to stay on top of our profession? Most meetings offer opportunity for upgrading your experience through top speakers in our field.

Leadership Opportunities - It is not enough to just join a district. Take advantage of opportunities to get involved in committee work, serve some time as an officer, and help coordinate events. The



more active you are, the more visible you become to other members. Leadership roles reflect well on you, and on the company that employs you. It proves they hired a winner!

If you are not an LSPS member, we would like to invite you to attend a District meeting in your area. Contact the LSPS office at lsp@lsp.net, or the chairman in your area for details about upcoming meetings

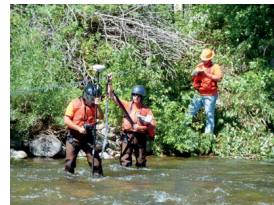
DISTRICT	CONTACT INFO
District 1	John Teegarden jteegarden@ascellc.com
District 2	Andrew Szush andrew.szush@tbsmith.com
District 3	Shawn MacMenamin smacmenamin22@gmail.com
District 4	Jason Westerman redchuteland@gmail.com
District 5	Jon Braswell jbraswell@sehuey.com
District 6	Jean Reulet jean.reulet@tbsmith.com
District 8	W. Aaron Wood aaron.wood@woodsurveying.com
District 9	Dennis Gowin dgowin@ddgpc.com

LSPS Districts

We would like to invite you to attend a District meeting in your area. Contact the LSPS office at lsp@lsp.net or the chairman in your area for details about upcoming meetings.



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Issue 28 April 2022

NSRS Modernization News

For all issues of **NSRS Modernization News**, visit:
geodesy.noaa.gov/datums/newdatums/TrackOurProgress.shtml

Re-prioritization Underway

Frequent readers of this newsletter may have noticed that there are many projects associated with the NSRS Modernization. This spreads resources quite thin, causing some delays. To avoid further delays, and even reverse them somewhat, NGS is currently re-prioritizing projects, specifically those which are building support tools as promised in Blueprint Part 3. While NGS is not pulling back from any promises, it does mean that a number of fully formed and tested tools may not be available on the day when the modernized NSRS is released. This de-prioritization of *tool* building, has the positive effect of ensuring that a complete and high-quality set of *data* is released as part of the modernized NSRS. No decisions have been made yet, but watch this space for upcoming announcements.

Progress in Ongoing Projects

There are currently **33 ongoing projects** related to NSRS modernization around NGS. Here are some highlights:

M-PAGES (Project Manager: Dr. Andria Bilich)

NGS has been developing M-PAGES, our new multiple-constellation Global Navigation Satellite System (Multi-GNSS) software for position solutions. OPUS with M-PAGES will be ready for beta testing before the end of the calendar year. The new OPUS engine will allow users to process data from all GNSS systems in operation today that have two or more frequencies.

EPP2022 (Project Manager: Dr. Daniel Roman)

In August 2021, NGS contracted with the University of Nevada–Reno for scientific support and software development to produce a preliminary rotation model of the North American tectonic plate, in support of NATRF2022. Results will be delivered later this fiscal year.

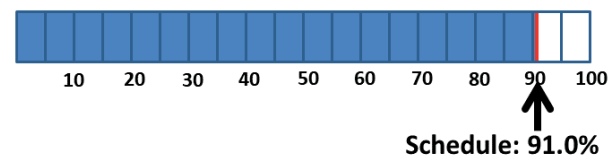
GRAV-D (Project Manager: Jeffery Johnson)

During March 2022, the NGS GRAV-D team in conjunction with the NOAA Aircraft Operations Center conducted an airborne gravity survey in Guam with the NOAA WP-3D Orion aircraft (affectionately nicknamed Miss Piggy). Part of the NOAA Hurricane Hunter operations, the aircraft is also effective at collecting airborne gravity data. The team completed 82% of the airborne gravity data lines covering the islands of Guam and the highly populated parts of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands chain. Since data was collected over and near all of the populated islands, NGS will soon decide whether we have enough data to call the Guam block complete. While on Guam, the GRAV-D team also collected ground based gravity and GPS measurements.

GRAV-D progress last quarter: **up 1.8% to 92.7%**

AHEAD OF (new) Schedule!









Recently: Idaho, Guam, CNMI



DONATE

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Your generous contribution is needed to support the following funds:

-   The **Education Foundation**, granting of scholarships while providing guidance by assisting worthy students to obtain instruction and training in land surveying and higher education.
-   The **Every Member Campaign (EMC)**, which began in 2006, and was created solely for the purpose of supporting the Geomatics Program at Nicholls State University.
-   The **Disaster Fund**, which stands ready to give relief when disaster hits our area.
-   The **Legislative Fund** allowing us to be ready to address legislation affecting our Surveying Profession.

Find the link for **DONATION OPPORTUNITIES** at the top of our home page at www.lsps.net

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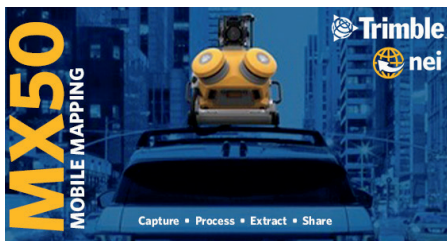


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