U.S. Geological Survey
3D National Topography Model (3DNTM) Data Collaboration Announcement (DCA) for 3D Elevation Program (3DEP)

3DEP-E: Estimated Timeline for 3DEP Data Validation

The following is an estimated timeline of the data validation process after data is delivered to the USGS. This document is a guideline only and actual dates may vary.

Larger projects may be broken into smaller blocks each known as a "work unit". These work units are delivered to USGS by the data provider often in staggered deliveries with one or more work units in each delivery. Some projects may be small enough to be delivered as one work unit. The USGS reviews each work unit individually.

After a work unit is delivered to the USGS it is assessed to ensure the data were delivered in the proper format. Following confirmation of proper data formatting, the validation process will begin. The initial review process can take up to ninety (90) days after the work unit is delivered to USGS. Feedback is submitted to the USGS point of contact who communicates it back to the partner and/or data provider. Data providers have sixty (60) days to provide data corrections if requested. USGS has thirty (30) days to complete the review of the corrected deliverables. If the data still require corrections after evaluation, the correction cycle may be repeated.

As soon as a work unit has been validated, the lidar point cloud (LPC) and source digital elevation model (DEM) are ready for publication on The National Map. The goal is to publish the LPC and the source DEM (sDEM) for a work unit within sixty (60) days of validation. This process of validation and publication is repeated for each work unit that comprises the entire project. While the individual work unit level data will be available on The National Map, the individual work unit will not be considered fully accepted and validated until all work units for the entire project have been validated and the final vertical accuracy has been verified. The vertical accuracy assessment may take up to ten (10) days after the final work unit publication. The USGS 1-meter DEM and seamless products will be generated and published on The National Map within sixty (60) days of the last work unit publication.

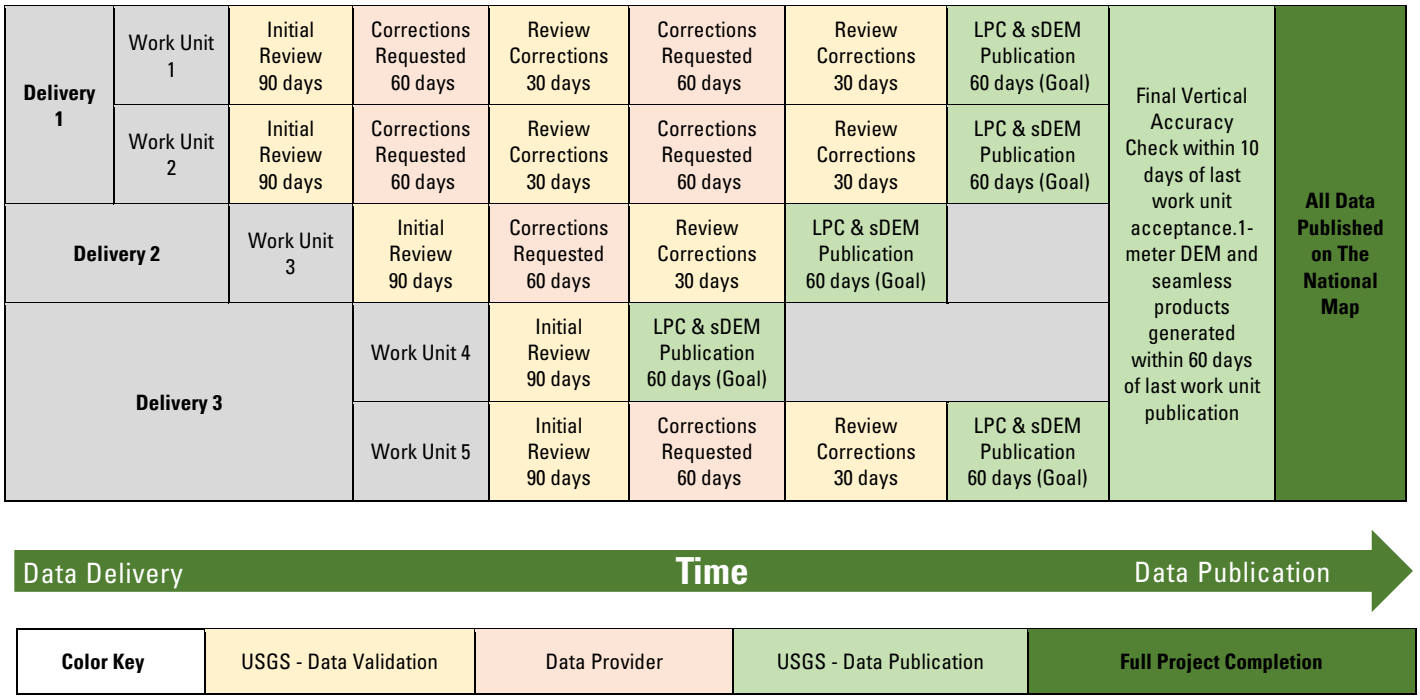

Figure 1: Estimated timeline of a project from delivery to the USGS through publication on The National Map. This example has 3 staggered deliveries broken up into 5 work units. Data may go through a series of correction cycles before validation is complete. The lidar point cloud and the source DEMs are published on The National Map as soon as the work unit is validated. The vertical accuracy check is done on the entire project after the final work unit has been validated. The 1-meter DEM and seamless products are generated after the vertical accuracy is checked. This is an example for illustration purposes only and actual time for a project to be validated and published on The National Map may vary.