

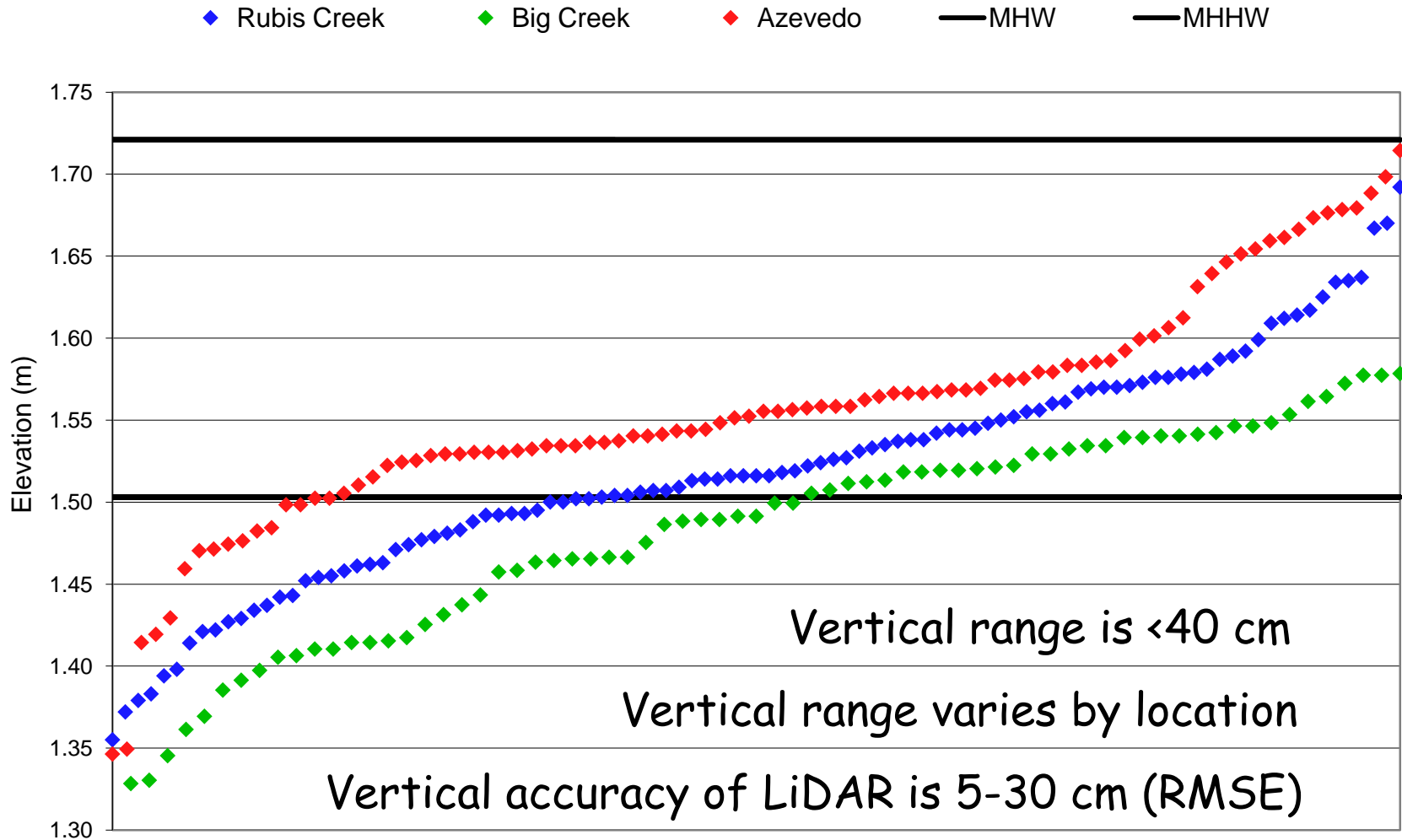
An aerial photograph of a coastal area with a river and sloughs. A semi-transparent map overlay is visible, showing a digital terrain model (DEM) in shades of green and brown, and water bodies in blue. The map overlay includes a network of blue lines representing waterways and brown/green areas representing land elevation. A black rectangular box is superimposed on the upper part of the map, containing the title and author information.

# Elevations for Sea Level Modeling

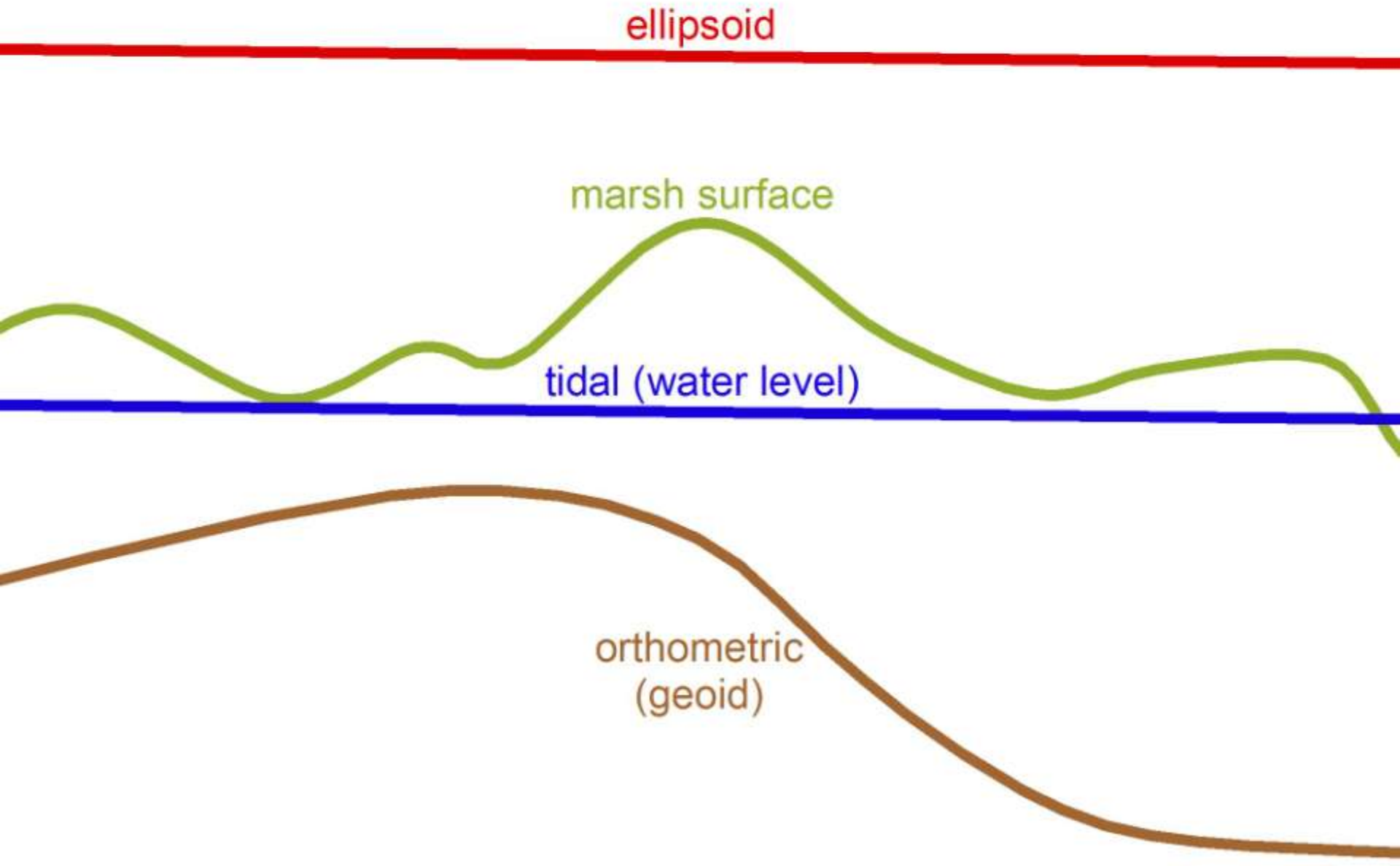
Eric Van Dyke ([vandyke@elkhornslough.org](mailto:vandyke@elkhornslough.org))

Digital terrain model ("bare earth")

## Sorted marsh elevations (surveyed)



## Vertical datums: orthometric, tidal, ellipsoid



Station: 9413651  
Name: Kirby Park, Elkhorn Slough, CA  
Status: Accepted (Mar 25 2009)

tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov

Epoch: 1983-2001

Datum: STND

Datum	Value	Description
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MHHW	4.252	Mean Higher-High Water
MHW	4.034	Mean High Water
MSL	3.473	Mean Sea Level
MTL	3.468	Mean Tide Level
DTL	3.412	Mean Diurnal Tide Level
MLW	2.902	Mean Low Water
MLLW	2.572	Mean Lower-Low Water
NAVD88	2.531	North American Vertical Datum of 1988
STND	0.000	Station Datum
GT	1.680	Great Diurnal Range
MN	1.131	Mean Range of Tide
DHQ	0.219	Mean Diurnal High Water Inequality
DLQ	0.330	Mean Diurnal Low Water Inequality
HWI	6.86	Greenwich High Water Interval (in Hours)
LWI	12.35	Greenwich Low Water Interval (in Hours)
HAT	4.781	Highest Astronomical Tide
HAT Date	19861231	Highest Astronomical Tide Date
HAT Time	10:00	Highest Astronomical Tide Time
LAT	2.027	Lowest Astronomical Tide
LAT Date	19861231	Lowest Astronomical Tide Date
LAT Time	17:24	Lowest Astronomical Tide Time





# Vertical Datum Transformation

[vdatum.noaa.gov](http://vdatum.noaa.gov)

Integrating America's Elevation Data

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## Welcome to VDatum!

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- ▶ [VDatum Features](#)
- ▶ [Est. of Vertical Uncertainties](#)
- ▶ [Download VDatum now](#)
- ▶ [Online User Guide](#)
- ▶ [Troubleshooting / FAQs](#)

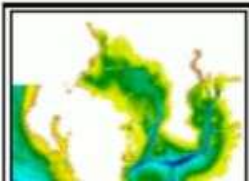
**Update of the Gulf of Mexico coast from St. Joseph Bay, FL to Mobile Bay, AL and the eastern half of Louisiana/Mississippi coasts (08/10/2011)! [NEW!](#)**

VDatum is a free software tool being developed jointly by NOAA's [National Geodetic Survey \(NGS\)](#), [Office of Coast Survey \(OCS\)](#), and [Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services \(CO-OPS\)](#). VDatum is designed to vertically transform geospatial data among a variety of tidal, orthometric and ellipsoidal vertical datums - allowing users to convert their data from different horizontal/vertical references into a common system and enabling the fusion of diverse geospatial data in desired reference levels.

### The VDatum Demonstration Project in Tampa Bay, Florida

NOAA  
Bathymetry

USGS  
Topography



### Where available and uncertainties are established, VDatum converts the following:

- **Horizontal datums:** from NAD 27 or NAD 83(1986) to NAD 83(HARN) and other ellipsoidal datums such as WGS 84 and ITRF
- **Vertical datums:** among three vertical groups: tidal datums, orthometric datums and ellipsoidal datums (i.e. three-dimension or 3-D datums), in which:
  - Tidal datums are available along the coastlines from Rhode Islands to Texas and from Washington to California. ([Why doesn't VDatum provide tidal conversions inland?](#))
  - Transforms among ellipsoidal and orthometric datums are available throughout the United States;
  - Conversions between the NAD 83 ellipsoidal datum and the NAVD 88 orthometric datum are calculated base on the current GEOID model of 2009. Previous NGS's GEOID models are also supported, including GEOID 99.

## Convert LiDAR DTM to connected water surface

**NOAA CO-OPS website** (tidal datums and benchmarks)

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov>

**NOAA Digital Coast website** (coastal inundation modeling)

<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast>

**Coastal Inundation Mapping Guidebook (2009)**

[http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/inundation/\\_pdf/guidebook.pdf](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/inundation/_pdf/guidebook.pdf)

**Detailed inundation methods document (for ArcGIS + Spatial Analyst)**

[http://www.csc.noaa.gov/slr/viewer/assets/pdfs/Inundation\\_Methods.pdf](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/slr/viewer/assets/pdfs/Inundation_Methods.pdf)

**NOAA VDatum website** (vertical datum transformations)

<http://vdatum.noaa.gov>

GU3199 \*\*\*\*\*

GU3199 TIDAL BM - This is a Tidal Bench Mark.

GU3199 DESIGNATION - 941 3651 B TIDAL

GU3199 PID - GU3199

GU3199 STATE/COUNTY- CA/MONTEREY

GU3199 USGS QUAD - PRUNEDALE (1993)

GU3199

GU3199 \*CURRENT SURVEY CONTROL

GU3199

GU3199*	NAD 83(1986)-	36 50 32.	(N)	121 44 48.	(W)	SCALED
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GU3199*	NAVD 88	-	2.121	(meters)	6.96	(feet)	READJUSTED
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GU3199

GU3199	GEOID HEIGHT-	-33.59	(meters)	GEOID09
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GU3199	DYNAMIC HT	-	2.120	(meters)	6.96	(feet)	COMP
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GU3199	MODELED GRAV-	979,874.7	(mgal)	NAVD 88
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GU3199

GU3199 VERT ORDER - ?

GU3199

GU3199.The horizontal coordinates were scaled from a topographic map and have  
GU3199.an estimated accuracy of +/- 6 seconds.

GU3199

GU3199.The orthometric height was determined by differential leveling  
GU3199.and adjusted in March 1993.

GU3199.The height was derived from older observations constrained to new  
GU3199.heights in a crustal motion area. The height is approximate in  
GU3199.relation to other heights in its vicinity.

GU3199

GU3199.This Tidal Bench Mark is designated as VM 11895

GU3199.by the CENTER FOR OPERATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

GU3199

GU3199.The geoid height was determined by GEOID09.





# The NGS Geoid Page

National Geodetic Survey

[NGS Home](#) [About NGS](#) [Data & Imagery](#) [Tools](#) [Surveys](#) [Science & Education](#)  [Search](#)



The National Geodetic Survey has released updated models for transforming heights between ellipsoidal coordinates and physical height systems that relate to water flow. These models cover regions including the conterminous United States (CONUS), Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. Models for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are being held back pending release of final control data for the USVI but will likely be released later this Fall. GEOID09 transforms to NAVD 88 in CONUS and Alaska and to the respective datums for all the other regions (each having its own datum point). Models for the Deflection of the Vertical have also been released for these same regions mainly for aid in navigation systems.

## Latest models

### Hybrid Geoids

Converts heights from NAD 83 to regional Vertical datums (e.g., NAVD 88)

- **GEOID09**
- **GEOID03** UPDATED - model g200307.bin (southern Louisiana)
- **GEOID06**
- **GEOID99**
- **GEOID96**

### Gravimetric Geoids

Converts heights from ITRFxx to the NGS geoid surface (not NAVD 88 or other Vertical datums)

## Geoid Quick Links

[NGS Geoid Home Page](#)

[NGS Geoid models](#)

[Publications](#)

[NGS Geoid Research Page](#)

[Geophysics of the Geoid](#)

[Geoid Slope Validation Survey of 2011](#)

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## Update LiDAR DTM geoid model

**NOAA NGS website** (benchmark datasheets)

<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov>

**NOAA NGS geoid website** (geoid models)

<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/GEOID>

## Sea level rise and geospatial data

**Technical Considerations for Use of Geospatial Data in Sea Level Change Mapping and Assessment (2010)**

[http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/publications/tech\\_rpt\\_57.pdf](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/publications/tech_rpt_57.pdf)

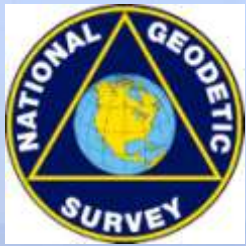
**Lidar Data Collected in Marshes: Its Error and Application for Sea Level Rise Modeling (2010)**

[http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/coastallidar/\\_pdf/  
Lidar\\_marshes\\_slamm\\_CSC.pdf](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/coastallidar/_pdf/Lidar_marshes_slamm_CSC.pdf)

## Summary

- Use LiDAR elevations  
Vertical accuracy of IfSAR and most NED is >1m (RMSE)
- Update to GEOID09 (if necessary)
- Convert DSM to DTM (challenging in marsh!)  
Compensate for uplift/subsidence?  
Compensate for marsh vegetation bias?
- Enforce tidal connectivity (bridges, culverts)
- Convert DTM to water surface (VDatum)









WITNESS POST  
PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB

**SURVEY**



FOR INFO  
WRITE TO:  
THE DIRECTOR  
NATIONAL GEODETIC  
SURVEY  
DEPT. OF  
COMMERCE  
WASH., D.C.  
20540





