4.3.3 The PA Map Program - Ortho and Lidar

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The PA MAP program acquires and processes statewide high-resolution ortho imagery and LIDAR elevation data. Standard products derived from the classified LIDAR data are 3.2-foot gridded Digital Elevation Models (DEMs) and 2-foot contours. LIDAR data for the western and central thirds of the Pennsylvania were acquired in 2006 and 2007, respectively. The eastern third will be acquired this Winter-Spring (2007-The bare earth data removes the effect of vegetation which masks many geomorphic features in Pennsylvania. It is of particular interest for mapping landslides and slumps, visible in the high-resolution data. When combined with ortho imagery, it is possible to map fractures, joints, and zones of weakness that could affect road construction.

The PA MAP LIDAR is a unique dataset in the Commonwealth - for the first time geologists, environmental planners and engineers can see Pennsylvania's surface at a resolution much greater than 30 meters. As such, it makes possible pre-construction analysis and visualization, reducing costs. More information on the PAMAP program, including the LIDAR elevation data is at http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/topogeo/pamap

The presentation will include examples of landslide analysis and other surface features visible using LIDAR technology.