

National Geodetic Survey Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS) Network Update

**CGSIC US & Local Gov Subcommittee
Regional Meeting - Seattle**

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NOAA's National Geodetic Survey
geodesy.noaa.gov

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Geodetic Survey

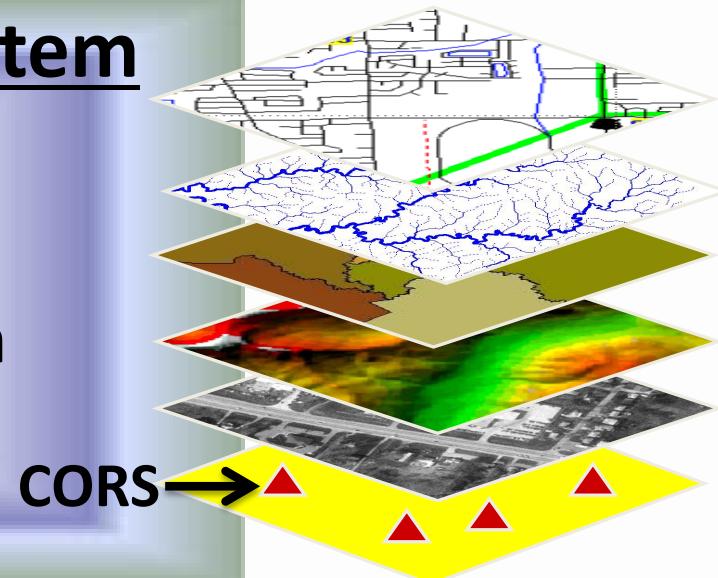
Mission: To define, maintain & provide access to the
National Spatial Reference System (NSRS)

to meet our Nation's economic, social & environmental needs

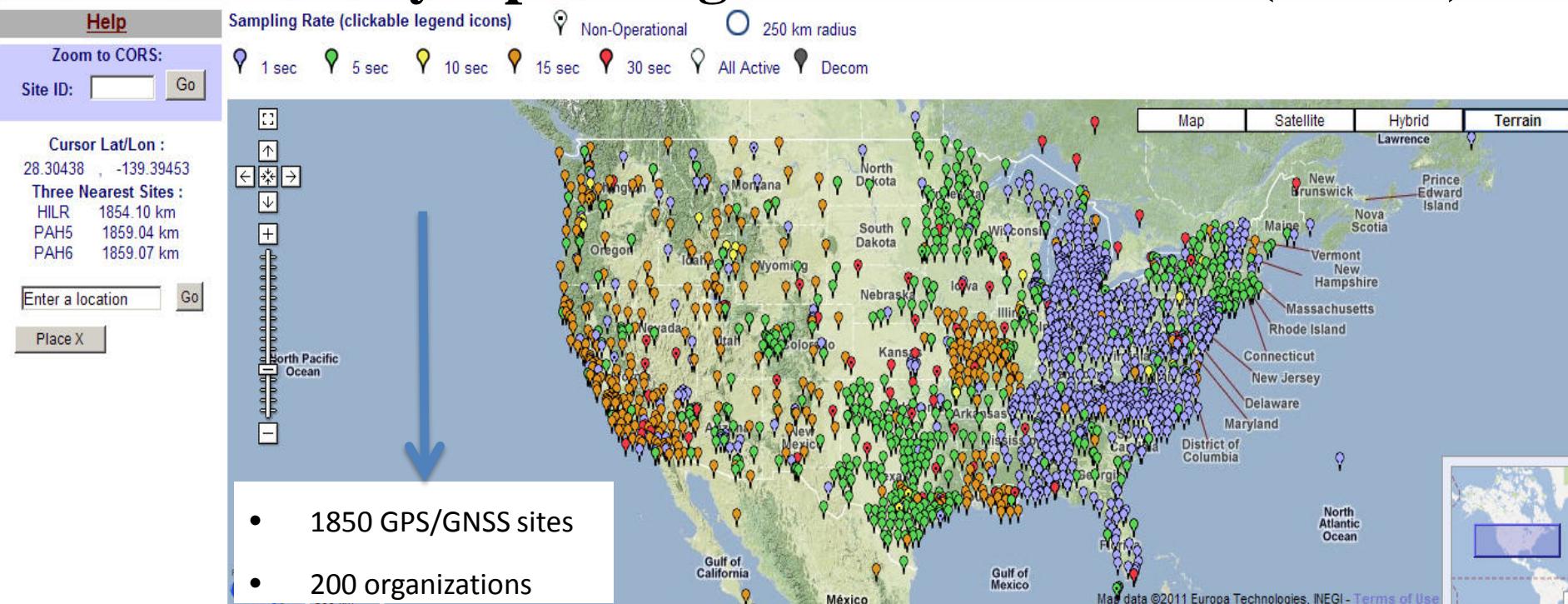
National Spatial Reference System

- Latitude
- Longitude
- Height
- Scale
- Gravity
- Orientation

& their time variations



Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS)



User Friendly CORS

Version 3.6

This utility allows you to obtain a specific block of Global Positioning System (GPS) data for a continuously operating reference station (CORS) contained in the network of GPS sites managed by the National Geodetic Survey.

The GPS data will be in "receiver independent exchange" (RINEX) format, version 2.10.

[UFCORS Page Info](#) [Trimble Products Configuration](#) [UFCORS Problem/Comment Form](#)

Starting Day: Feb 2, 2012 - 033

Start Time of the field observation: 00:00

Time Zone relative to observation location: UTC (GMT)

Number of hours of data you wish to receive: 1



CORS Discussion Bullets

- Global Reference Frame Coordinates are: IGS08 epoch 2005
- NSRS Coordinates are: NAD 83(2011,MA11,PA11) epoch 2010.00
- Change in antenna calibrations: IGS08 Absolute Ant. Calib.
- CORS positions are computed by the: Multi-Years CORS Solution
 - Published CORS positions and velocities require a min. of 130 weekly solutions (+2.5 year) of data and are computed for stacked solution.
 - Newer CORS with less than 130 weekly solutions have computed positions but modeled velocities using HTDP

Background - Relative vs. Absolute Antenna Models

Background

The IGS started to use absolute antenna phase center variation (PCV) patterns with GPS week 1400.

Coordinates of IGS reference stations are consistently based on the official IGS absolute PCVs.

As a consequence, a user should use the identical pattern for these sites as used by the IGS in order to get a consistent tie to the reference frame.

Relative vs. Absolute GNSS Antenna Calibration

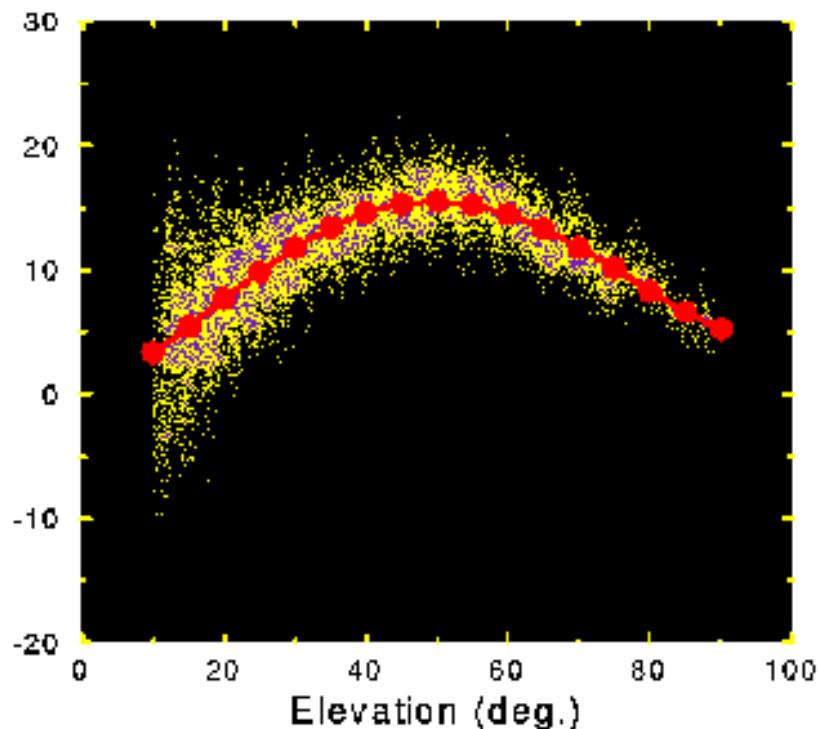
RELATIVE

Std. New

Corbin, VA



Phase Center Variation (mm)



Relative means all new antennae compared with the standard reference antenna Dorne Margolin Type, e.g. AOAD/MT. The standard being the “ZERO” fixed mean offset.

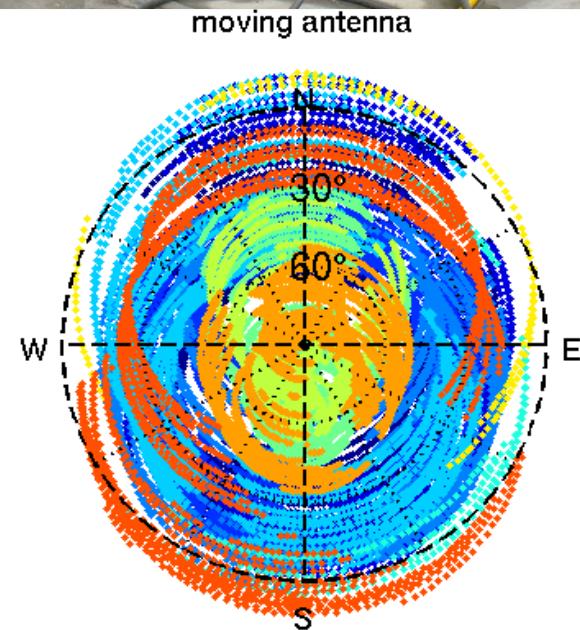
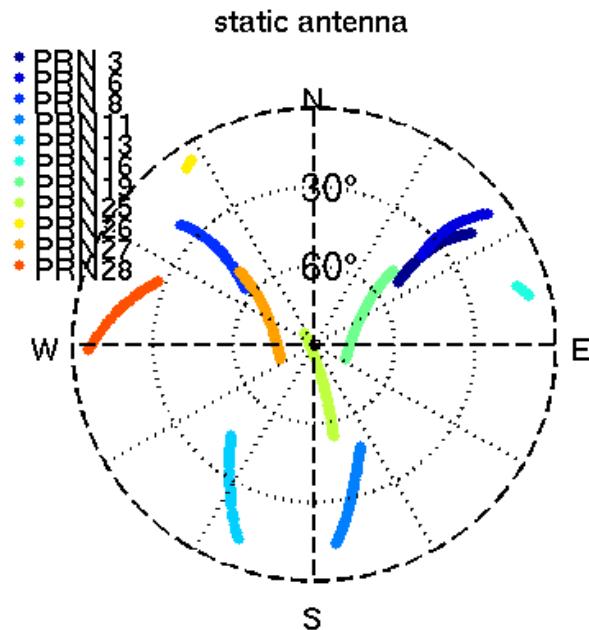
Relative vs. Absolute GNSS Antenna Calibration

ABSOLUTE

Robotic Arm

rotation introduces angle changes for time difference of single difference (TDSD) phase observables.

Speeds up the process!



Advantages of the absolute antenna calibration



- The robot carries out fast rotations on different axes
- Saves time
 - absolute 3D-offset and PCV
 - high resolution and precision (sub mm)
 - free of multipath
 - PCV from 0°-90° elevation, also azimuthal PCV
 - site and location independent

Influence of the antenna dome



Site AB24 - Alaska

The position error caused by domes is not a constant but depends on the satellite geometry observed at the specific site. (CH. Volken, F. Menge, Impact of Different GPS Antenna Calibr Models on EUREF)

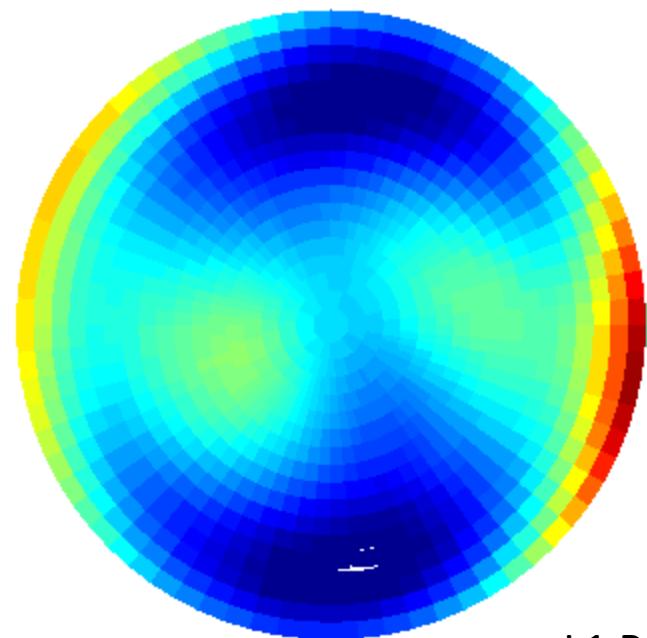
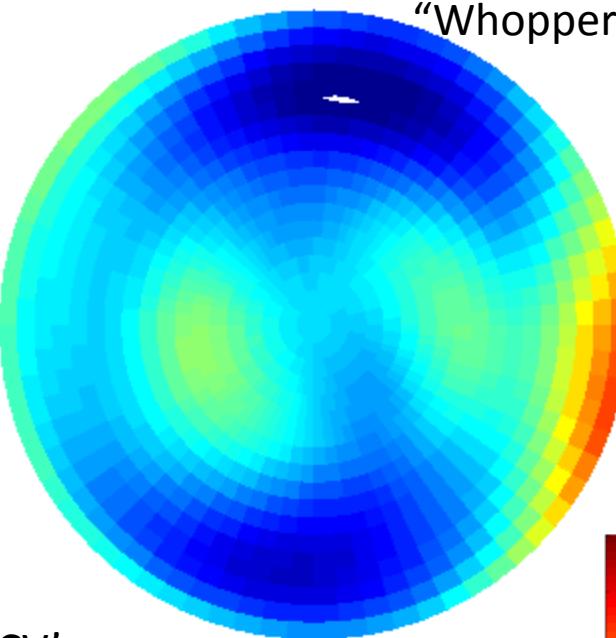
8/31/2012

1st model antenna without dome. (absolute)
2nd model with dome and compare.

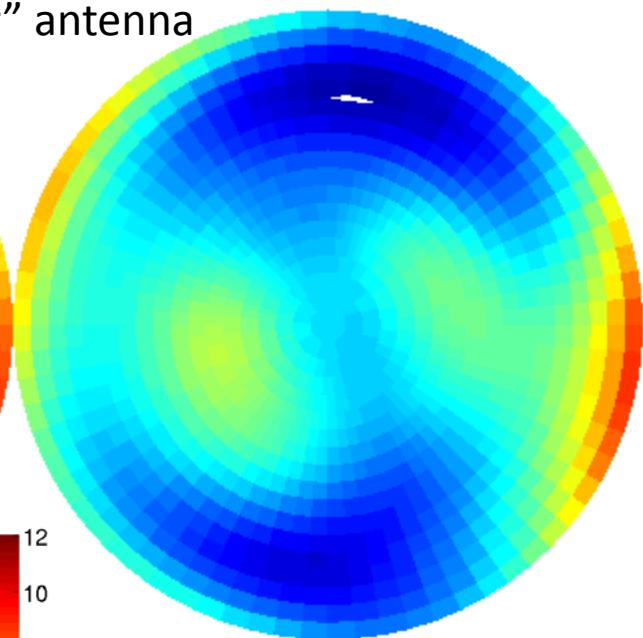
Studies have shown that domes can affect network horizontal change in position < 5 mm... and vertical network changes can be as large as < 3 cm.

NGS Calibrations compared to IGS type mean

IGS05 type mean

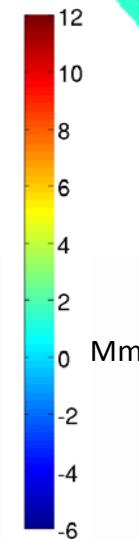
s/n 11885 Ashtech Geodetic III
“Whopper” antenna

s/n 11869



L1 PCV's

Azimuthal, as well as elevation, differences

**Get all antenna models here:**<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/ANTCAL>

So, what's different about the new CORS coordinates?

- Change to absolute antenna calibrations
 - Use absolute cal. in **your** processing: DON'T MIX!
- Better because 8 more years of data:
 - International IGS sites
 - CORS data: about 1600 total, ~1000 w/ >2.5 yrs
 - Orbit determination sophistication
 - CORS velocity data
 - Better HTDP modeling for those w/ <2.5 yrs
 - Better processing algorithms

Called **COMPUTED CORS**

Called **MODELED CORS**

CORS Reference Frame Changes Due to MYCS –

new coordinates / velocities available now

Also with OPUS

Antenna Reference Point (ARP) : RED BUTTE CORS ARP

PID = AF9633

OLD

NEW!

ITRF00 POSITION (EPOCH 1997.0)

Computed in Aug. 2007 using 1244 days of data.

X = -1797278.745 m latitude = 40 46 51.82884 N
Y = -4491525.887 m longitude = 111 48 31.53360 W
Z = 4145132.622 m ellipsoid height = 1667.743 m

> IGS08 epoch 2005.0

IGS08 = International GNSS Service 2008
(GPS-only realization of ITRF2008)

ITRF00 VELOCITY

Adapted in Aug. 2007 using 1244 days of data.

VX = -0.0133 m/yr northward = -0.0087 m/yr
VY = -0.0008 m/yr eastward = -0.0121 m/yr
VZ = -0.0066 m/yr upward = 0.0000 m/yr

NEW!

NAD_83 (CORS96) POSITION (EPOCH 2002.0)

Transformed from ITRF00 (epoch 1997.0) position in Aug. 2007.

X = -1797278.172 m latitude = 40 46 51.80741 N
Y = -4491527.168 m longitude = 111 48 31.49063 W
Z = 4145132.591 m ellipsoid height = 1668.462 m

> NAD83 (2011) epoch 2010.00

NAD83 (2011) = North American Datum 1983
(2011 Realization)

NAD_83 (CORS96) VELOCITY

Transformed from ITRF00 velocity in Aug. 2007.

VX = 0.0041 m/yr northward = 0.0020 m/yr
VY = 0.0002 m/yr eastward = 0.0037 m/yr
VZ = 0.0012 m/yr upward = -0.0005 m/yr

How do I find the coordinates?

- Individual CORS Coordinate page, as before

<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/CORS/coords.shtml>

- TWO basic divisions:
 - One with **COMPUTED** velocities, one **MODELED**
- TWO basic Ref Frames: **IGS08, NAD83**
- Two types of coordinates/vel for each of those:
 - **X,Y,Z AND lat/long/ht (N,E,U)**
- Recommend using only CORS w/ **computed** velocities when performing network adjustments.

Lists of CORS Coord. & Velocities

- LETS LOOK AT THE LISTS....
 - As of September, 3rd, 2011
 - GO TO:

<http://www.geodesy.noaa.gov/CORS/coords.shtml>

IGS08

Computed

IGS08 epoch 2005.00

x, y, z; V_x, V_y, V_z

IGS08 epoch 2005.00
lat, lon, height; V_n, V_e, V_u

Modeled

IGS08 epoch 2005.00

x, y, z; V_x, V_y, V_z

IGS08 epoch 2005.00
lat, lon, height; V_n, V_e, V_u

Note: V_u = 0 as
HTDP can only
model Horiz vel.
At this time

NAD 83

Computed

NAD 83 (2011) epoch 2010.00

x, y, z; V_x, V_y, V_z

NAD 83 (2011) epoch 2010.00

lat, lon, height; V_n, V_e, V_u

Modeled

NAD 83 (2011) epoch 2010.00

x, y, z; V_x, V_y, V_z

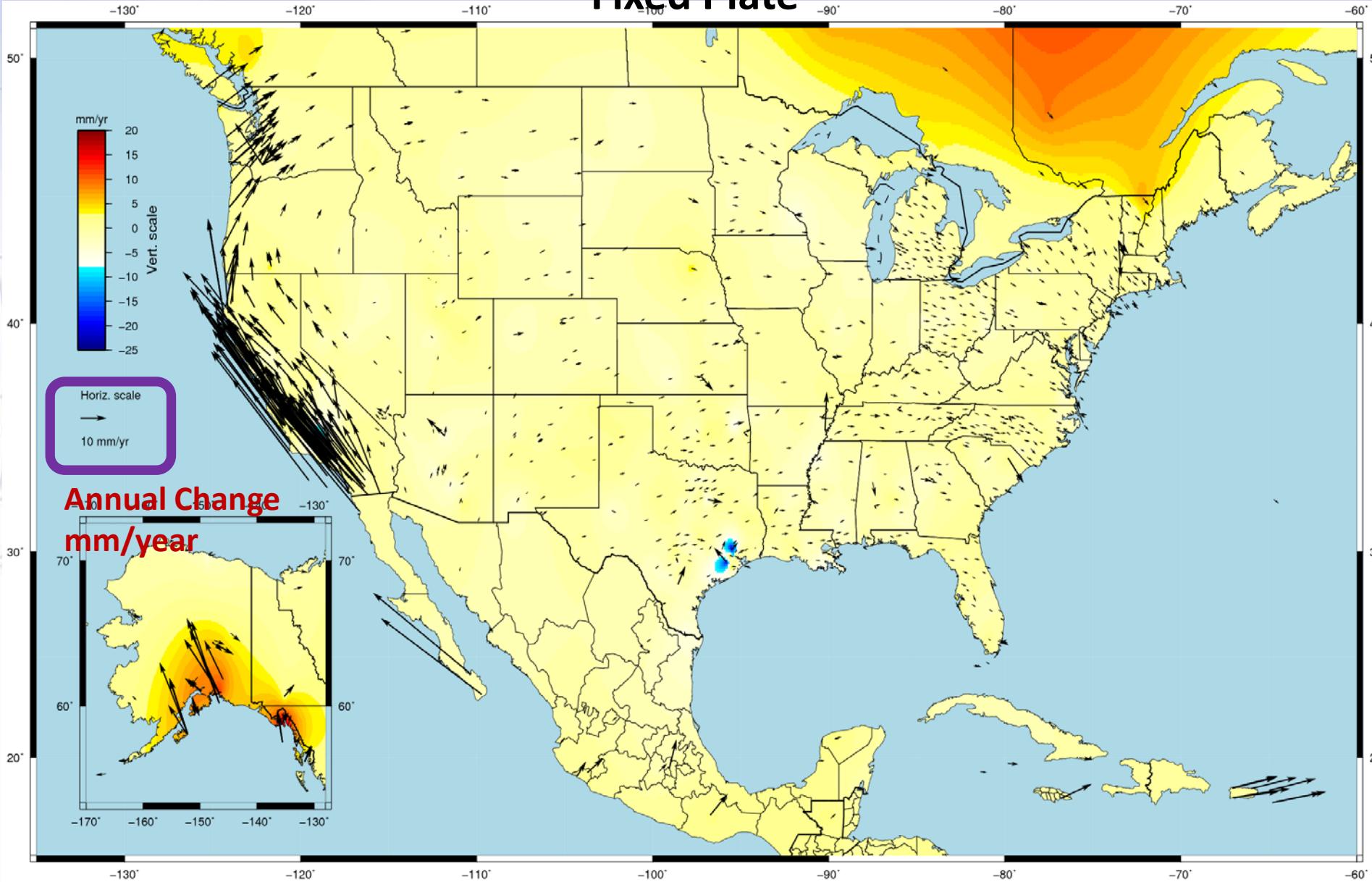
NAD 83 (2011) epoch 2010.00

lat, lon, height; V_n, V_e, V_u

Note: V_u is not 0 as transformation to NAD 83 yields a V_u value – Not Reliable

U.S. CORS Velocity Field: NAD83(2011) epoch 2010.00

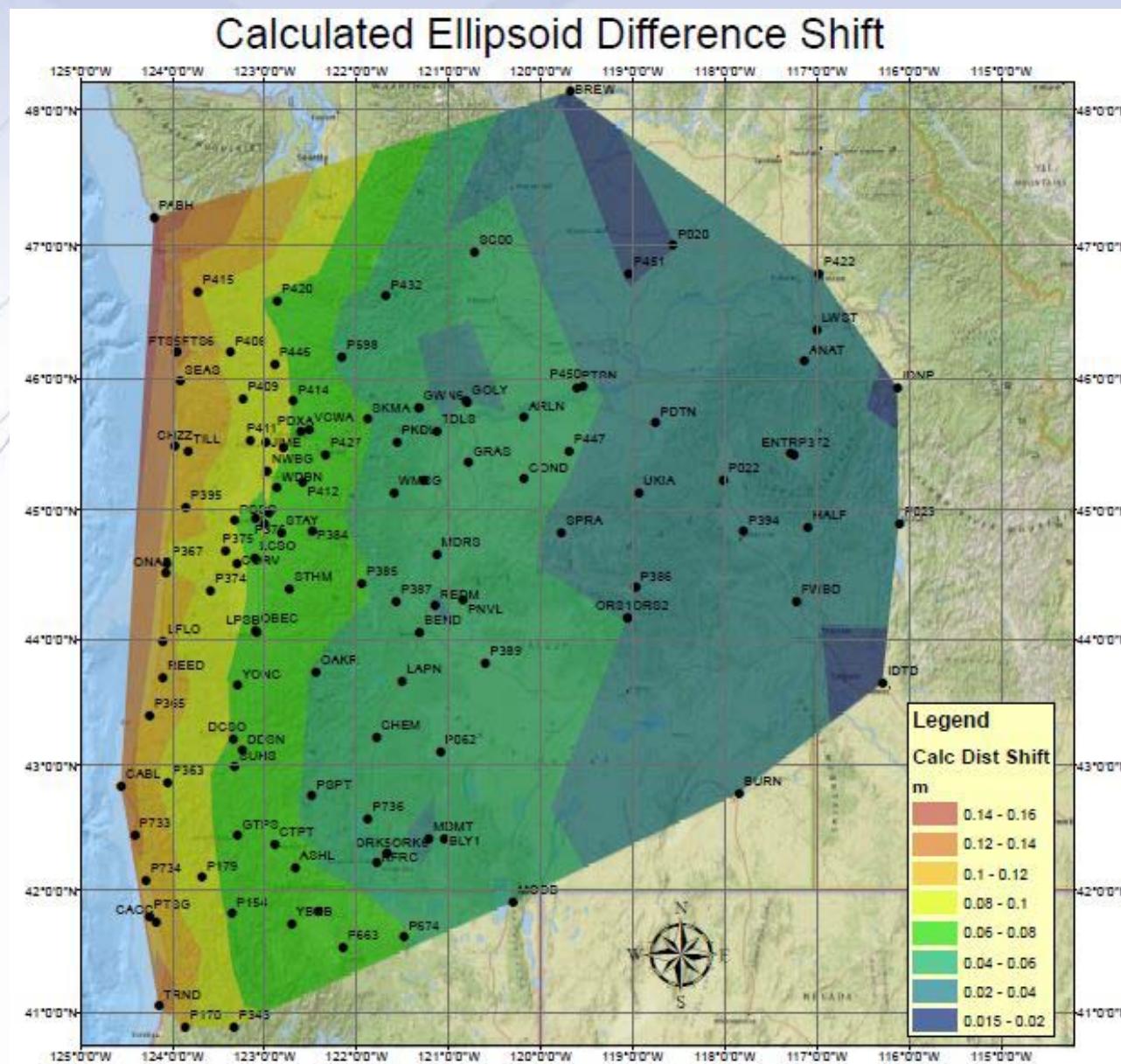
Fixed Plate



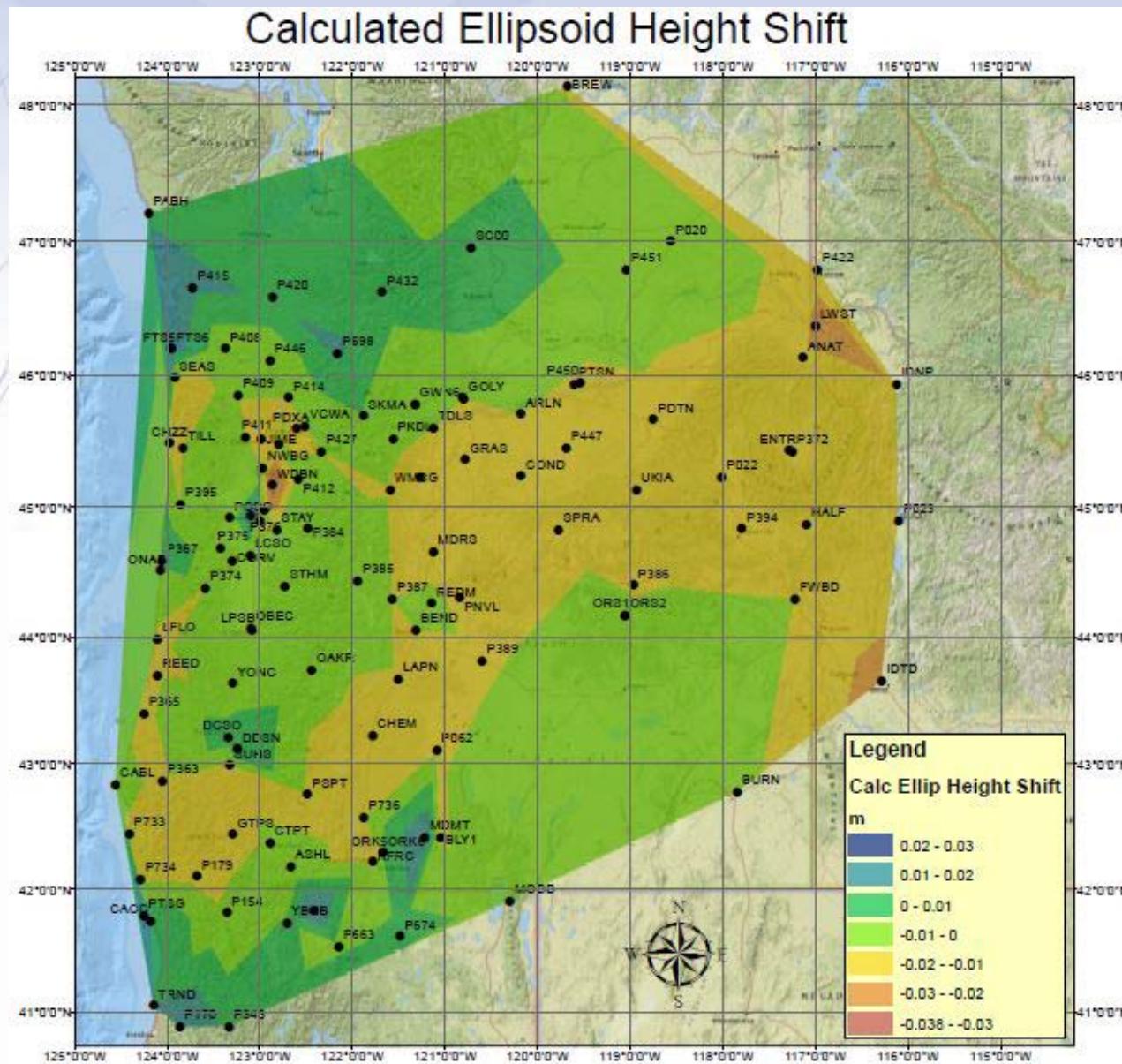
NAD 83 (CORS96)2002.00 to NAD 83(2011)20100.00

NW Active Station Horiz. Shift

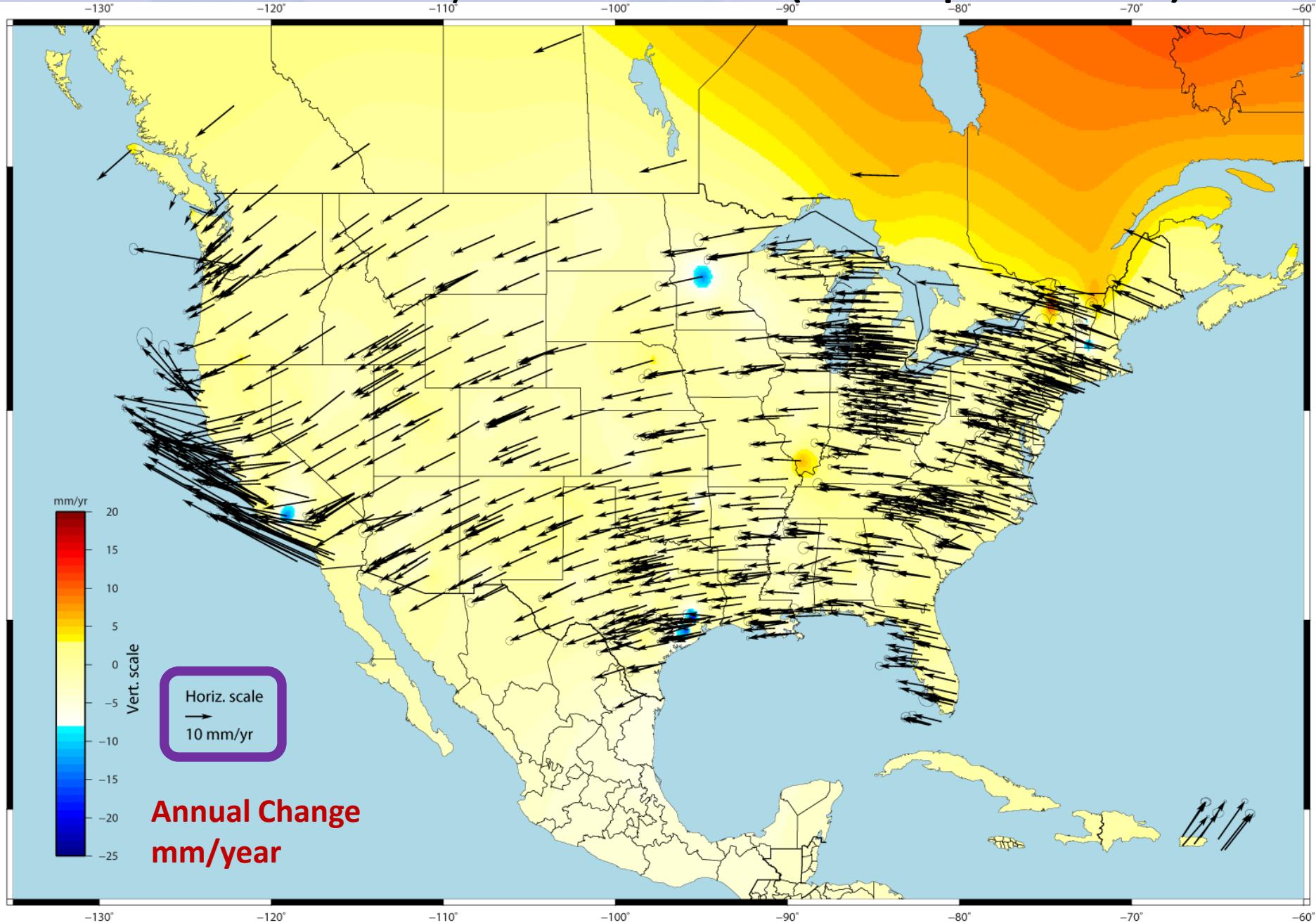
Calculated Ellipsoid Difference Shift



NAD 83 (CORS96)2002.00 to NAD 83(2011)2010.00 NW Active Station Vert. Shift



U.S. CORS Velocity Field: ITRF2008 (IGS08 epoch 2005.0)



CORS Data And Information

- Many, many CORS partners freely share their GNSS data.
- Data is available with a short latency.
- The NGS acts as a data center offering a newsletter, data, coordinates, site equipment histories, photos and time series.

The screenshot shows a web interface for managing CORS data. On the left, there is a photograph of a GNSS antenna mounted on a pole in a grassy field. Below the photo are two search fields: one for "Enter SiteID" and another for "Enter String" to find sites by name or city. A sidebar on the left lists links to "CORS Home", "Data Products", "CORS Map", "Newsletter", "General Information", and "CORS Site Guidelines". The main area features a world map titled "Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS)" with a legend at the top right for "Map", "Satellite", "Hybrid", and "Terrain". The map displays numerous colored dots representing CORS stations, with a high density in North America and Europe. Labels for continents and oceans are visible. A scale bar indicates 5000 mi. At the bottom left, it says "POWERED BY Google".

CORS Map Tools



CORS

NGS Home | About NGS | Data & Imagery | Tools | Surveys | Science & Education

Help

Zoom to CORS:
Site ID: Go

Cursor Lat/Lon :
46.98025 , -123.39844

Three Nearest Sites :
TWHL 36.32 km
P415 44.05 km
P420 59.55 km

redm Go

Place X Clear X

X Lat/Lon :
44.87144 , -122.08008

Sites within 250 km :

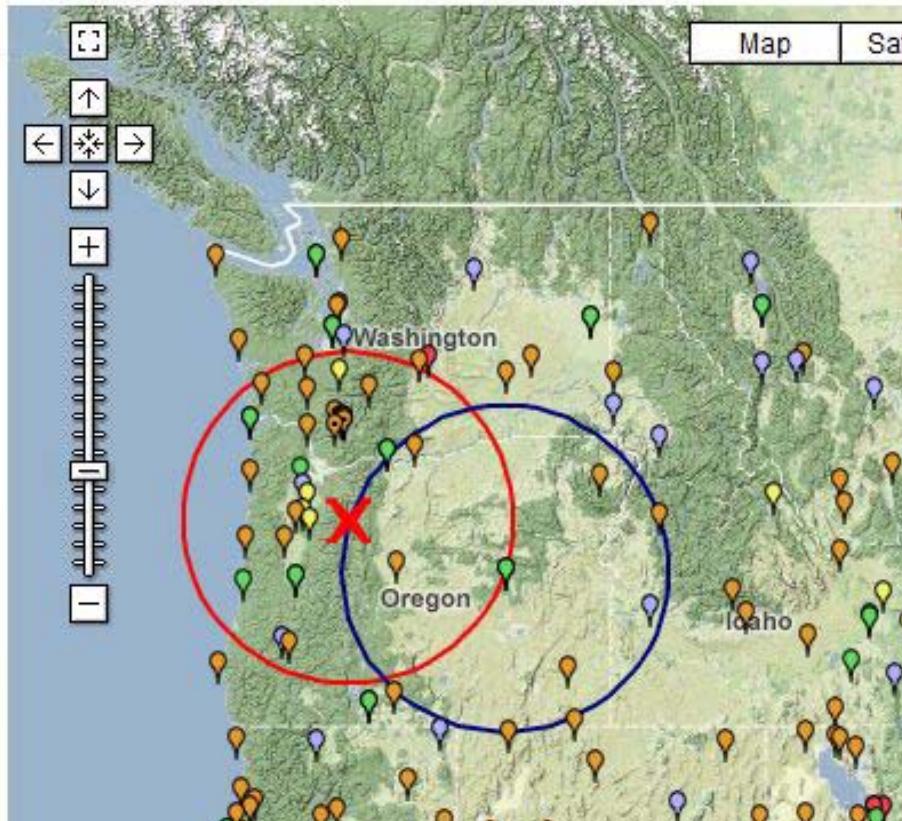
1	STAY	58.64 km
2	MCSO	69.96 km
3	WDBN	70.53 km
4	P376	80.97 km

Sampling Rate (clickable legend icons)

- 1 sec
- 5 sec
- 10 sec
- 15 sec
- 30 sec

Non-Operational

Map | Satellite



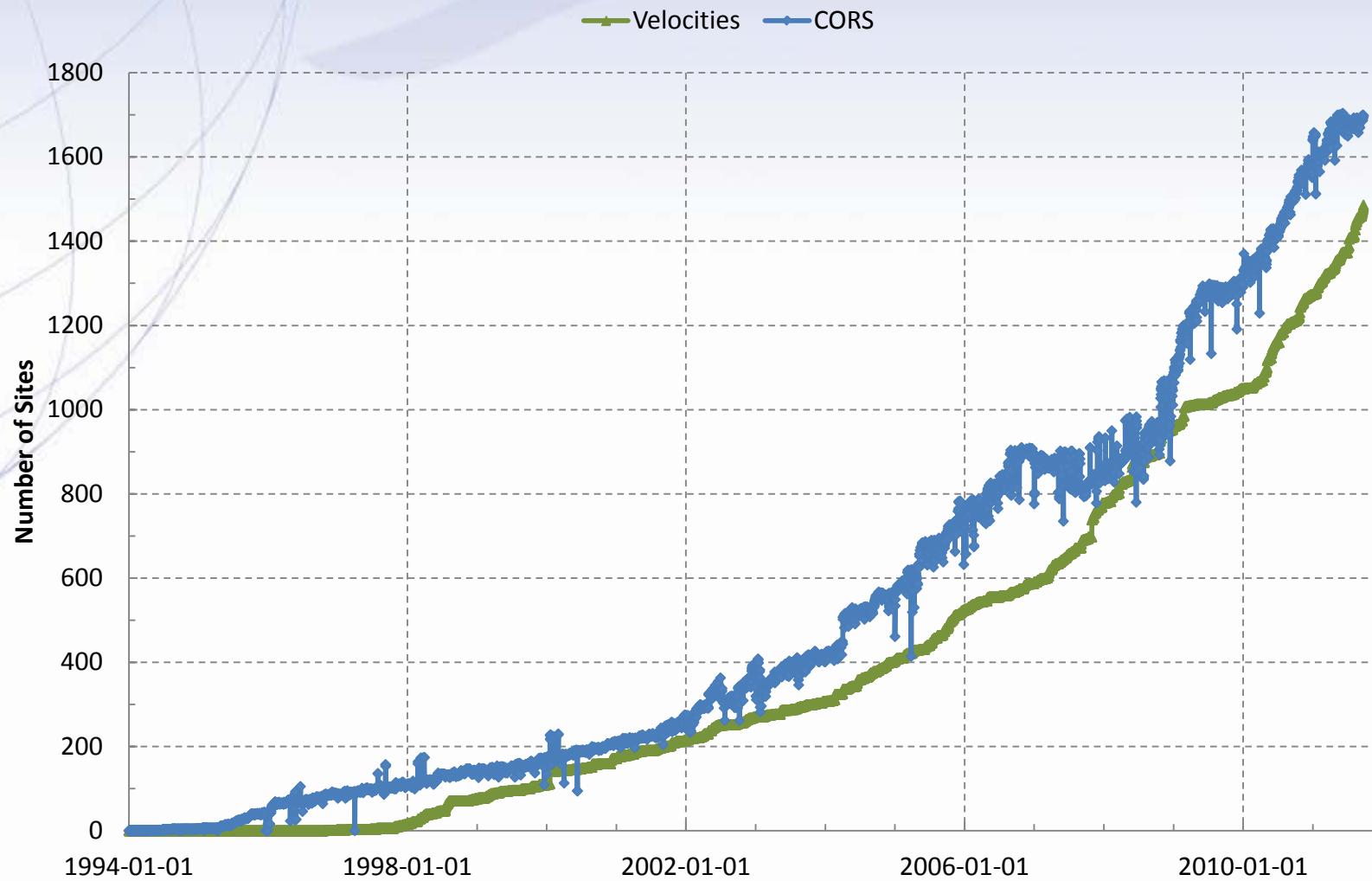
POWERED BY Google

200 mi

22

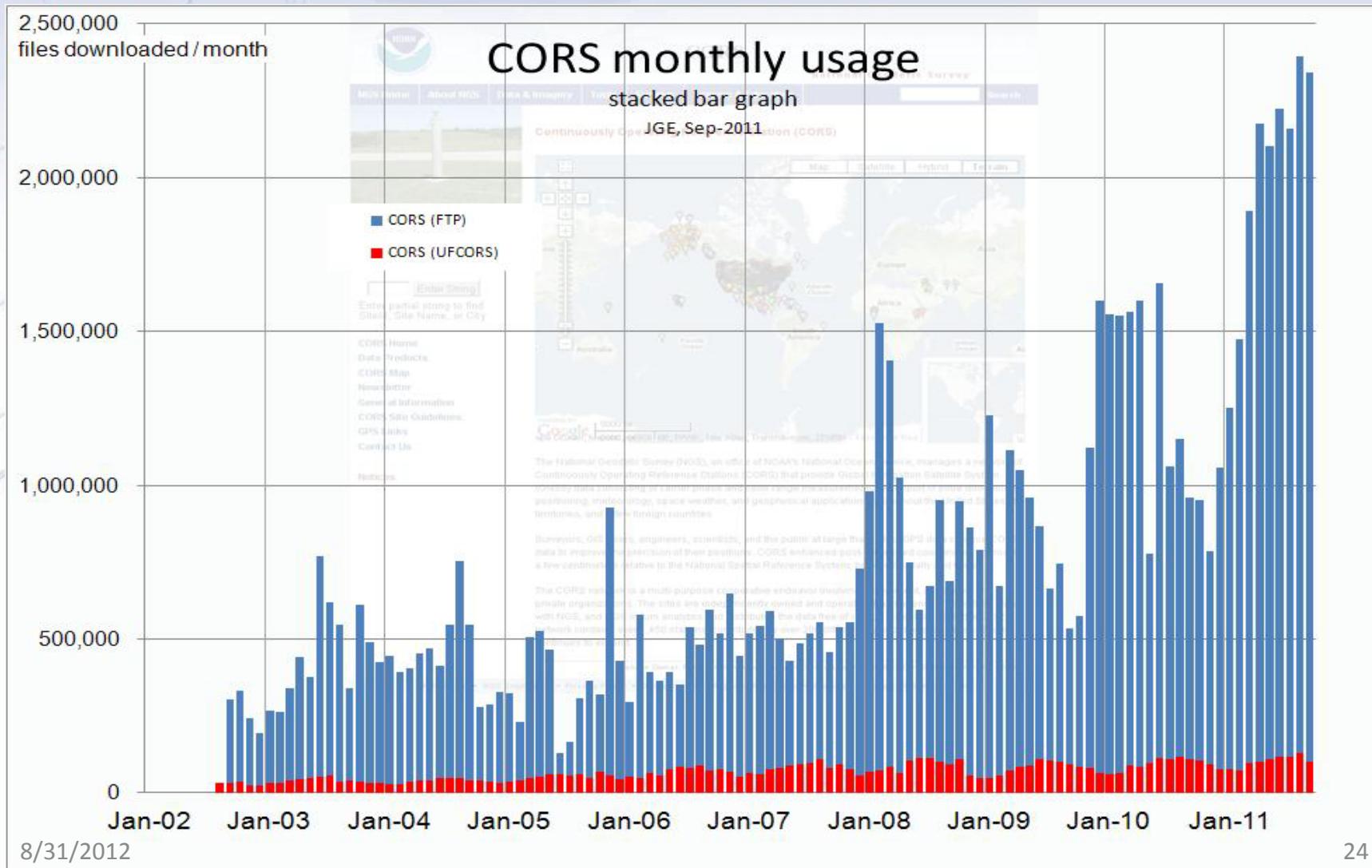
CORS Network

- Increasing with no end in sight.



CORS Use

- Increasing with no end in sight.



CORS Data Availability

AB25
TATALINA__AK2008
McGrath, AK
USA

Site operated by:
[UNAVPB](#)

[Coordinates](#)

[SiteLog](#)

[Photographs](#)

[Data Availability](#)

[Standard Files](#)

[Custom Files \(UFCORS\)](#)

[Time Series \(60-day\)](#)

[Time Series \(longterm\)](#)

[Google Map ab25 only](#)

[Google Map all CORS](#)

Enter SiteID

[CORS Home](#)

8/31/2012

National Geodetic Survey - CORS



SiteID: ab25 GPS Date: Tue, Dec 27 2011 – 2011361 Zone: UTC (GMT) Days: 7

Submit

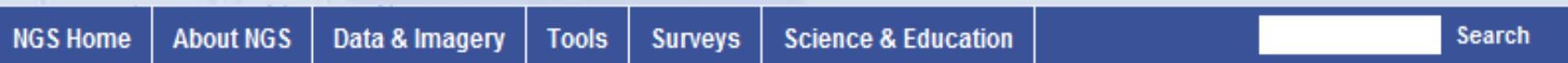
NOTE: Reset options and click "Submit" to view data availability for another time period.

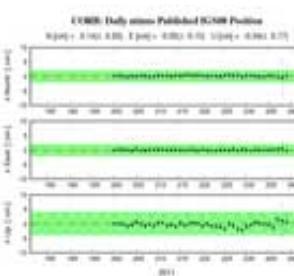
Data Availability Profile for: AB25

■ Data Available ■ Data Unavailable

Time UTC	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Time UTC	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
GPS Date	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2011361	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011360	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011359	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011358	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011357	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011356	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011355	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011354	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011353	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011352	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011351	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2011350	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Look at CORS Repeatability Plots





CORS Repeatability Plots

60-day plots show the repeatability of a site for the last 60-days with respect to the published IGS08 position corrected for the effect of the published velocity. These plots are updated daily. For a detailed explanation of these plots go [here](#).

Long-term plots show the weekly residual positions with respect to the published IGS08 coordinates from our stacked solution. Newer sites may not have a long-term plot if they were added after 16 April 2011. For a detailed explanation of these plots go [here](#).

1lsu 60-day long-term	1nsu 60-day long-term	1ulm 60-day long-term	ab07 60-day long-term
ab11 60-day long-term	ab12 60-day long-term		
ab14 60-day long-term	ab15 60-day long-term	ab17 60-day long-term	ab18 60-day long-term
ab22 60-day long-term	ab27 60-day long-term	ab33 60-day long-term	
ab37 60-day long-term	ab39 60-day long-term	ab41 60-day long-term	ab45 60-day long-term
ab48 60-day long-term	abq5 60-day long-term	abq6 60-day long-term	
abvi 60-day long-term	ac07 60-day long-term	ac09 60-day long-term	

CORS

Enter 4-char SiteId

Enter partial string to find SiteId, Site Name, or City

[CORS Home](#)

[Data Products](#)

[CORS Map](#)

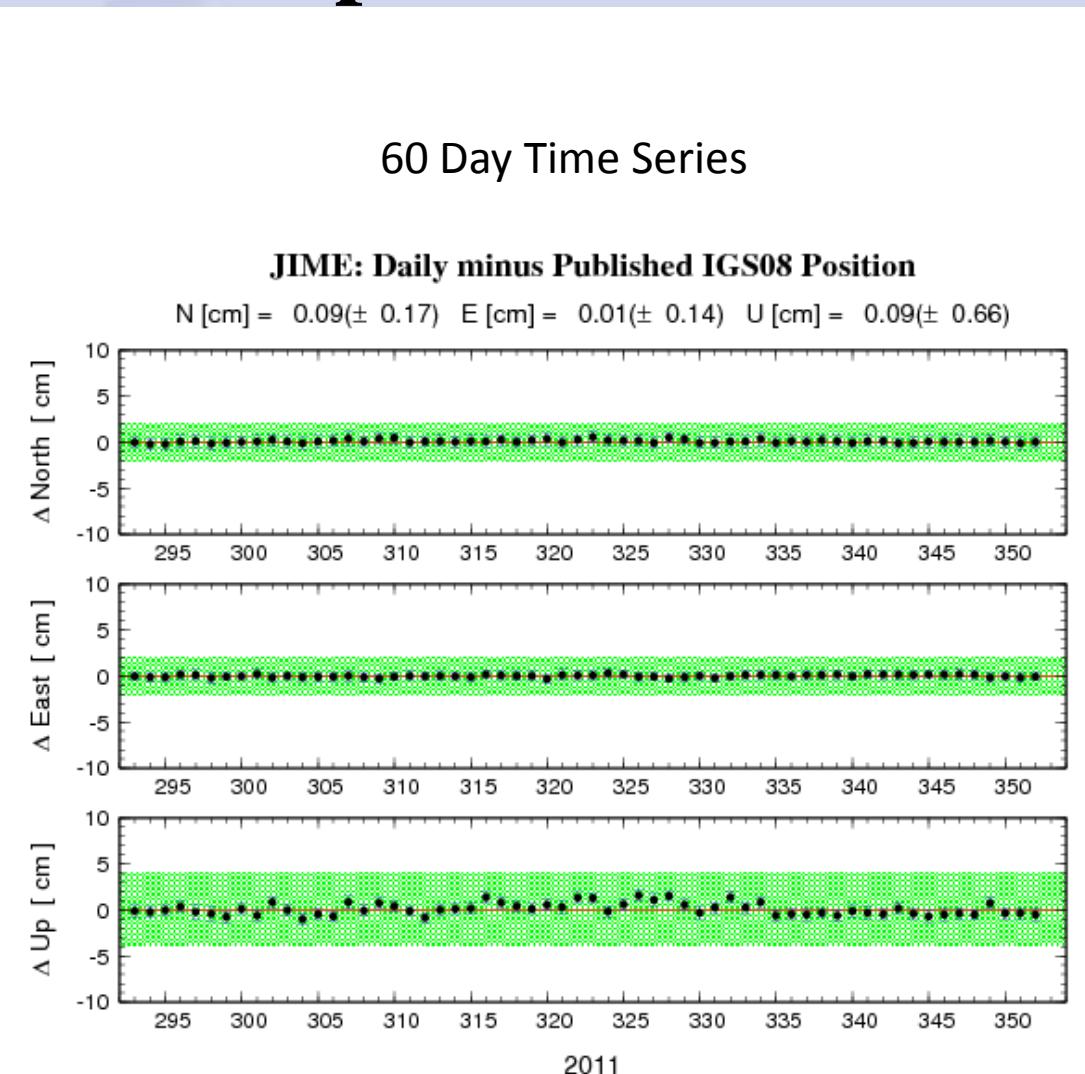
[Newsletter](#)

[General Information](#)

8/31/2012

27

Review the plots!



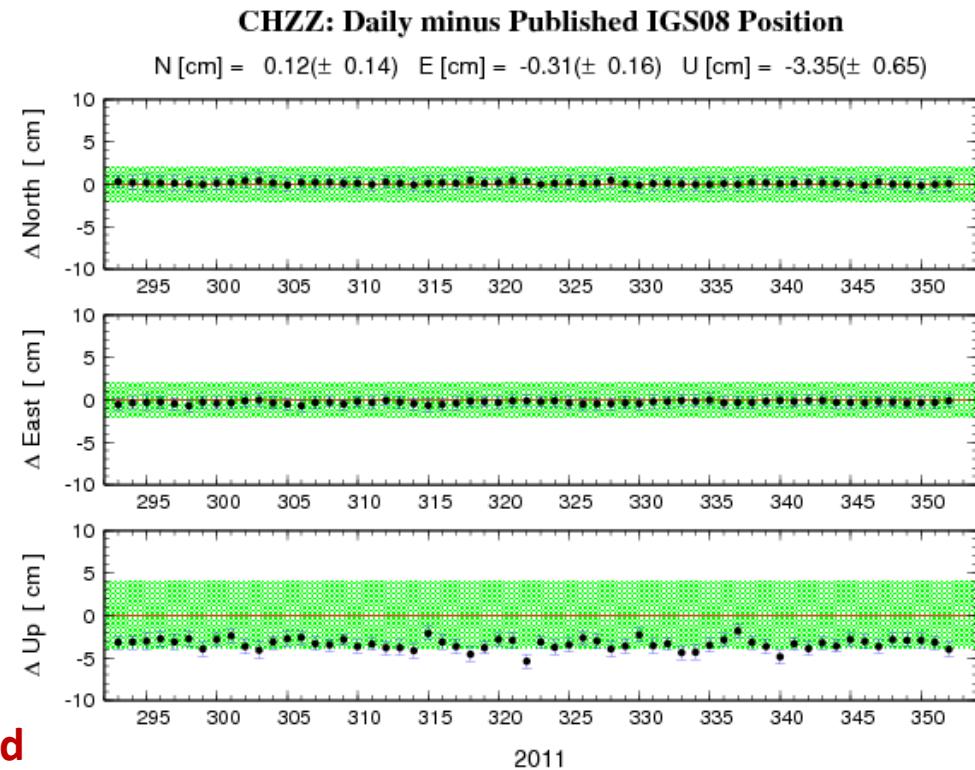
Review the plots!



Is there an issue here?...

Does the Published IGS08 Position need updating?? What caused this? Equipment Change?

8/31/2012



CORS 'CHZZ'



Equipment change, but owners log file not updated for ~2 years.
New SCIGN mount, antenna, and dome.



Check the Log File for Accuracy!

- Antenna Type : **TRM59800.80 NONE (?????????)**
- Serial Number : 0220373000
- Antenna Reference Point : BPA
- Marker->ARP Up Ecc. (m) : 0.0440
- Marker->ARP North Ecc(m) :
- Marker->ARP East Ecc(m) :
- Alignment from True N : deg
- Antenna Radome Type : NONE
- Radome Serial Number : N/A
- Antenna Cable Type : (vendor & type number) Antenna
Cable Length : (m)
- Date Installed : 2010-02-04T12:30Z

Review the CORS Newsletter

- Provides updates about new CORS
- Changes to CORS Products and Services
- News that impacts the CORS program
- Publications relating to the CORS program
- Statistics and usage maps
- Partners list

To SUBSCRIBE to the newsletter , send an empty email message to:

requests@willamette.nos.noaa.gov

- with subject "Subscribe NGS_CORS_news".

Your name will be added to the list and you will receive all posts

National Geodetic Survey *Ten-Year Plan*

- Approved January, 2008
- Refines mission, vision, & strategy for the future of NGS actions
- Emphasis on outside capacity
 - **Modernize the Geometric (“Horizontal”) Datum**
 - **Modernize the Geopotential (“Vertical”) Datum**
 - Migrate the Coastal Mapping Program >>> Integrated Ocean & Coastal Mapping
 - Evolve Core Capabilities
 - Increase Agency Visibility



Available at: geodesy.noaa.gov