Updates on the USGS NGP Lidar Base Specification
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The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Geospatial Program (NGP) Lidar Base Specification (LBS) Version 1.0 was published in early 2012, and revised as Version 1.2 in 2014. The current version defines the requirements for the 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) and aligns with the new American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) Positional Accuracy Standard for Digital Geospatial Data. As the industry and technology continue to rapidly advance and mature, the LBS must also be updated to reflect these changes. Version 2.0 (publication pending), introduces a GIS Data Dictionary for the collection of breaklines used for hydro-flattening and, when required, hydro-enforcement and other surface treatments. While 3DEP requirements for breaklines remain quite modest, cooperators may request more extensive breakline collection for their individual projects. The use of this Data Dictionary will help ensure that breakline data received and distributed by the USGS is consistently useable without the need for editing topology and attribution on each project. Of particular value is the ability of the NHD to ingest these breaklines directly into their highest-resolution databases. This presentation will review what will be new in Version 2.0 of the USGS-NGP Lidar Base Specification, and discuss planned future updates - most notably the inclusion of details for Geiger and Single-Photon lidar technologies.