BACKGROUND

Corral Bluffs is located at the eastern edge of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Its scenic 400 ft. high bluffs contain rich archaeological and paleontological resources, and provides an important wildlife habitat. The area also preserves numerous paleontological fossils and marks the Cretaceous–Paleogene (K/Pg) boundary, a geologically significant mass extinction event that marks a decline of biodiversity.

In September 2018 the U.S. Geological Survey and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science set out to collect UAS imagery to build a photogrammetric model of the Corral Bluffs study area. The model was used to extract high resolution elevation data of paleontological fossil locations. Accurate elevation data is important component to back dating fossils based on known stratigraphy. The site is a significant source of data to help understand the planets rebound from a mass extinction event.

UAS DATASET

Textured 3D Surface Model with Surveyed Fossil Locations (Below)

- 3294 Camera Stations, Flying Altitude 189 m
- Ground Resolution: 2.41 cm
- Total area: 4 km²

UAS PROJECT INFORMATION

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