



United States Department of the Interior

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Earth Resources Observation and Science Center
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57198

In Reply Refer To:
DO 3-2

March 15, 2016

All Aerial Mapping Services Providers

Subject: Final scheduling for camera calibration at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
Optical Science Laboratory (OSL) in Reston, Virginia

To Whom It May Concern:

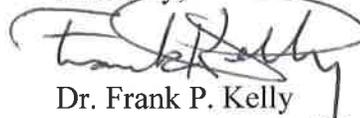
The USGS has, for several decades, provided calibration services for analog aerial mapping cameras through its OSL in Reston, Virginia. The OSL conducts stringent calibration procedures on these cameras, and provides the results in a Camera Calibration Report. The Report has become the de facto requirement of many U.S. Federal agencies, as well as State and local governments for mapping projects that required adherence to performance and accuracy standards throughout photogrammetric production procedures. The report is valid for three years from the date of issue.

Maintaining this service has become a challenge for the USGS due to several factors, including operational cost and the decline of calibration requests, which have resulted from the drastic changes in technology shifting to digital aerial cameras. After careful and diligent evaluation of all of these and other factors, the USGS has decided it is time to close OSL, but open a window for a final calibration before the closing date. The OSL will accept camera calibration requests through 3:00 p.m., December 30, 2016. Any request after that date shall not be considered. All calibration work will be completed and a report delivered by March 31, 2017. The USGS makes no contractual commitment to deliver by that date, as many factors may affect the OSL operation during that period.

If you have any questions or require further information, contact Ryan Longhenry, by phone at 605-594-6179, or email rlonghenry@usgs.gov, or Greg Stensaas at 605-594-2569, email stensaas@usgs.gov.

For calibration requests, please visit the OSL site at: http://calval.cr.usgs.gov/calval_osl/.

Sincerely,



Dr. Frank P. Kelly
Director, USGS EROS