### Environmental Law Institute Workshop

## EXAMPLES OF REMOTE SENSING TECHNOLOGIES

Andrew Mindermann Geospatial Operations Manager Skytec LLC





# Skytec

### About Us

- Est. in 2015
- Based out of Chattanooga, TN
- 50+ years of GIS expertise

### Services

- Ranger Remote Monitoring
- Geospatial Consulting
- Drone Mapping & Analysis















### Key Technology Advancements

of remote sensing & remote monitoring







## Multi-Scale Sources

Get the resolution you need from the ground up.





Image courtesy https://<u>www.sensefly.com</u>

## Field Monitoring

- Ground Control Points
- Oblique Imagery/Property Photos
- IoT/Sensors
- Traditional Field Monitoring







## **UAS/Airborne**

- High density LiDAR pointcloud
- High resolution imagery
- Integrated with survey control set by Professional Land Surveyor
- Creates authoritative baseline
- Future protocol for long term monitoring programs







## **UAS LIDAR**

















### **Digital Twins for Baseline Conditions**

### **UAS/Airborne**

- 3D design grade digital models of built & natural features
- Definitive baseline for future monitoring
- Commonly used in mitigation projects (pre and post design)





## Satellite Imagery

### Frequency

• Coverage ranges from daily up to every 8-16 days

### Varying Resolution Based on Product

• 15 m resolution down to 24 cm

### Cost Savings

- Prioritization of field work
- Desktop site discovery
- Remote assessments of vegetation establishment
- Continuous monitoring of numerous sites for changes to land use or site conditions

### **Spectral Bands**

- 4 bands up to 300
- Each band corresponds to a specific range of wavelengths that convey specific information on feature of interest









## **High Frequency Acquisition**





## High Resolution Satellite Tasking

- Growing number of < 1-meter resolution tasking options on the market
- Most include multispectral with hyperspectral on the rise
- Great option for verification & high-resolution change detection





# Geo Al/Analytics

- Satellite imagery used for automating change detection
- Near Infrared band of imagery used to create indices
- Green areas represent vegetation growth
- Magenta areas represent harvesting or land disturbance
- Combination of spectral difference over time and machine learning feature extraction





## **Geo Al/Analytics**









## **Geo Al/Analytics**





•

## **Platforms & Marketplaces**



Source: Aravind, TerraWatch Space

# Challenges & Limitations



Source: "Planet Fusion Monitoring: Next generation ARD via a CubeSat enabled sensor fusion approach", Rasmus Houborg, JACIE 2022, Link toSlides

### **Cost Restrictions**

High resolution/high cadence datacan be expensive.

### SKYTEC.

### Acquiring Data

Data providers often have subscription models (often unclear). Many serve as data vendors without analysis capabilities.

### **Best Fit Option**

Rapidly growing number of sensors, bundles, offerings, & solutions. Image resolution can make or break.

### Misleading

Competitive market results in potential misleading features (ex. 3D when feature is only 2.5D)

### Traceability

Fusion data and derivative products can be very difficult to verify or trace back to the image pixel level.

Often contains high interpretation values.

No notification if images are reprocessed in image stacks.



## **The Problem**

Natural resources and built assets are impacted and impaired by increasing rate of change

While management responses are slow, reactive, and built on limited oldertechnologies



# **RANGER**

## **Our Solution**

- An earth observation platform that allows near real-time monitoring at a global scale
- For natural and built environments so clients can Monitor What Matters<sup>™</sup> to them

### Key Technology Advancements

of remote sensing & remote monitoring







( j



### ArcGIS Living Atlas of the World - Live Feeds Status

Sort By: Status / Title / 1 Hour Usage

∧ Live Stream Gauges I Stream gauge observations of stage height and discharge contributed by the GIS community.			Warning 🥕 🔊
Last Updated	Next Update Check	Usage Trend	
Mar 25, 07:30	Mar 25, 11:22	Increasing	
6 Hour Usage	1 Hour Usage	Feature Count	
10,839	20,101	34,007	
feature requests per hr	feature requests per hr		
✓ USA Short-Term Weather Warnings I <sup>2</sup>			Normal 🎤 🔊
✓ Active Hurricanes, Cyclones and Typhoons I <sup>Δ</sup>			Normal 🗷 🔊
✓ USA Weather Watches and Warnings 🖸			Normal 🗷 🔊
∼ Recent Earthquakes 🖸			Normal 🗷 🔊
V USA Current Wildfires 🖸			Normal 🖉 🔊
✓ Satellite (VIIRS) Thermal Hotspots and Fire Activity 🖸			Normal 🔎 🔊
✓ Current Weather and Wind Station Data			Normal 🗷 🔊













## **Questions?**

Andrew Mindermann

Geospatial Operations Manager

amindermann@skytecllc.com

www.SkytecLLC.com

Link: Ranger Story Map

