



**Remote Sensing in a rapidly changing world
the shift from spatial to temporal**

Regional GIS Meeting

December 6, 2023

Chris Wilson - Planet Labs PBC



**North Central Texas
Council of Governments**

+ Session Overview

- Satellite imagery has emerged as the most cost effective approach for evaluating large area change
- Leveraging AI, local governments derive change signals through object or feature detection.
- Change models enhance data pipelines for many areas including:
 - ◆ Emergency management and disaster response
 - ◆ Land use
 - ◆ Permit and code enforcement
 - ◆ Property assessment
 - ◆ Right of way management
 - ◆ Vegetation and irrigation management
 - ◆ Economic development

+ What could you do with Superpowers?

- X-Ray Vision
- Time Travel
- Fly anywhere in seconds

Monitor areas of interest, discover patterns, and get timely insights

Like superheroes, you can use your superpowers to use space to help life on earth!

But the concept of superpowers can't just be amazing, it must be practical.

+ Agenda

1. Partnering/Cooperatives
2. Challenges
3. Solutions
4. Satellite Capabilities
5. Use Cases



**You can't fix
what you can't see.**





PLANET'S MISSION

To image the whole world every day,
making change **visible, accessible, and
actionable.**

+ Traditional approaches are falling short



Infrequent, unreliable data collection

Risky, manual approaches; satellite imagery could be months/years old



Limited coverage

Full coverage not always available (ie, drone or fixed wing)



Cost prohibitive

Existing solutions are outside of forest mgmt budgets

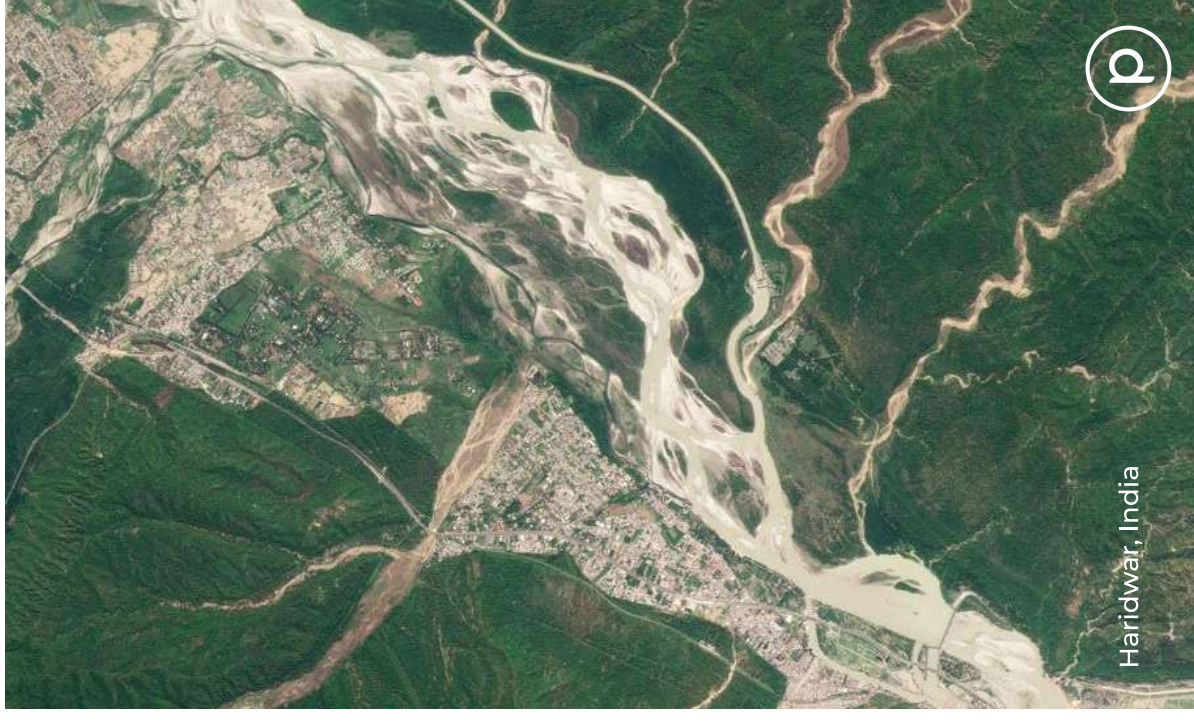


Difficult to access

Multiple parties required for processing

+ Government Challenges

- Doing more with less
- Rapid growth areas
- COVID Impact
- Risk Management
- Conservation and Sustainability Initiatives
- Transparency Demands
- Inspector Safety
- Fuel Costs
- Aerial Refresh 1-4 years





REMOTE SENSING PIPELINE

Low-Medium Resolution

Higher revisit for change detection with visual or ML monitoring

Sentinel 2
Planet Scope

Large Areas

High Resolution

Cost effective tasking for better change identification with visual or ML monitoring

SkySat

Targeted Areas

Very High Resolution

High Cost tasking for visual assessment

Aerial-Drones

Processing Delay
Leaf Off

Sub-Systems

On-Site
Inspections
Ground Sensors
Device Sensors





MAKING SENSE OF REMOTE SENSING



Coverage
(Spatial)



Revisit
(Temporal)



Signal vs noise
(Spectral)



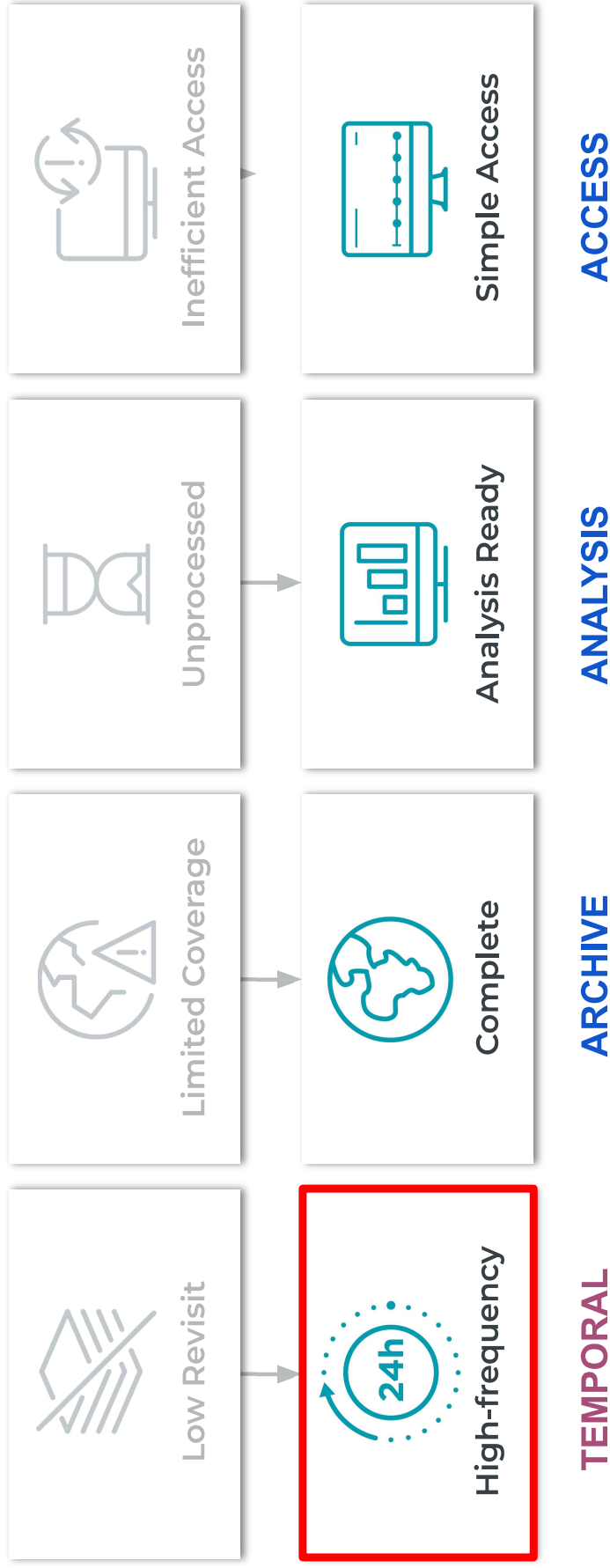
Access

Drones	Aerial	High Res Satellites SkySat	Medium Res Satellites PlanetScope	Government Satellites Sentinel 2
Inches/pxl	Inches/pxl	<1 m2/pxl	11-13 m2/pxl	100 m2/pxl
Per Mission	2x/month 3mo-7+yrs	Per Mission	Near-Daily	4-5 days 2x/month
Sensor based	Sensor based	4-band	8-band	4-band (10m) 6-band (20m) 3-band (60m)
Varies	Varies	Explorer API	Explorer API	Files API Service



SOLUTION: A New Approach emphasizing temporal

Planet provides geospatial data at the speed of change, equipping users with the data necessary for making informed, timely decisions.





Drones are amazing...



Daily drone
coverage:
200 ha



+

but, it would take 5,000 drones to see this every day



Chochope Peru - 2017



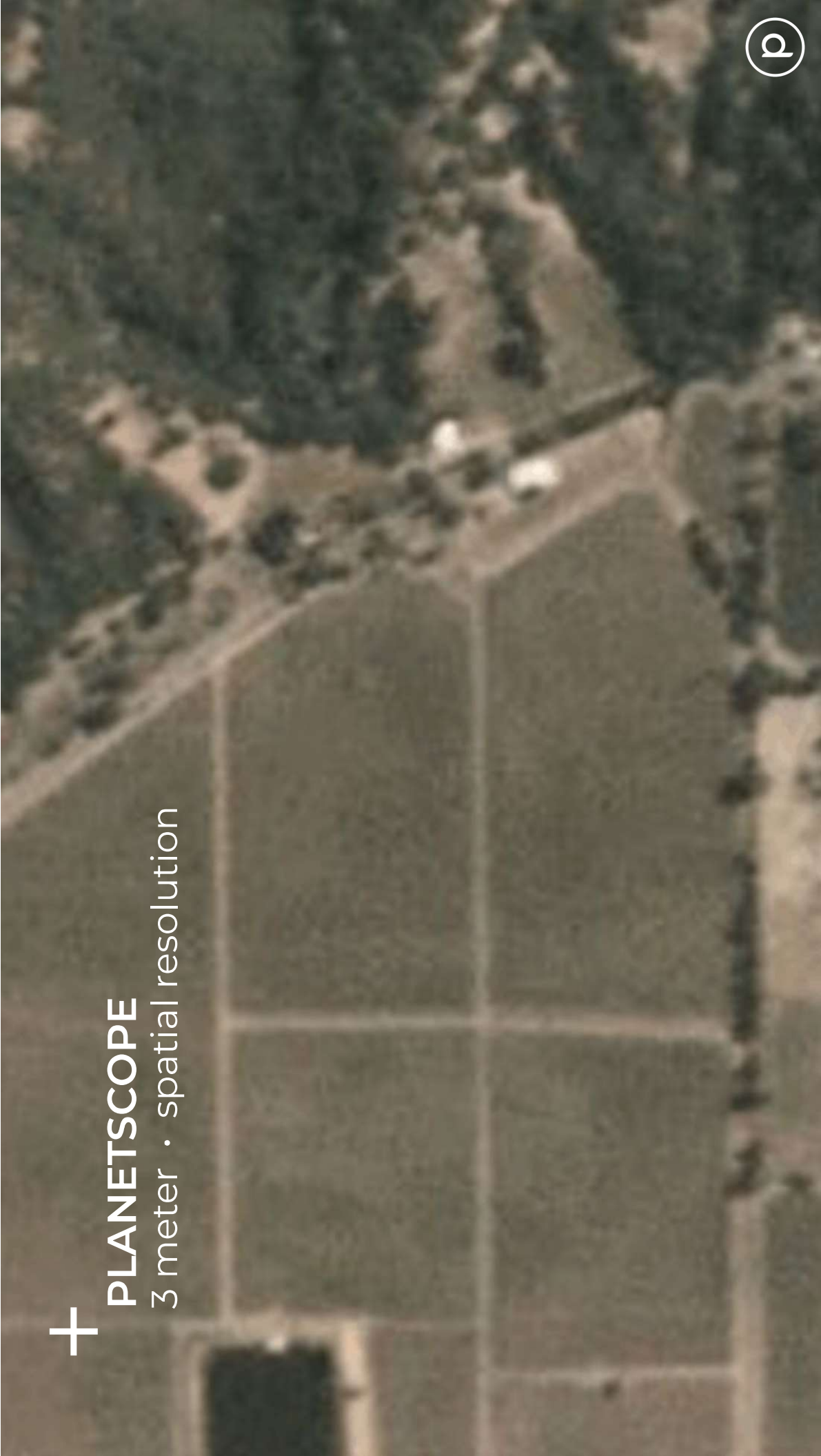
+ **LANDSAT**
30 meter · spatial resolution

Free is practical

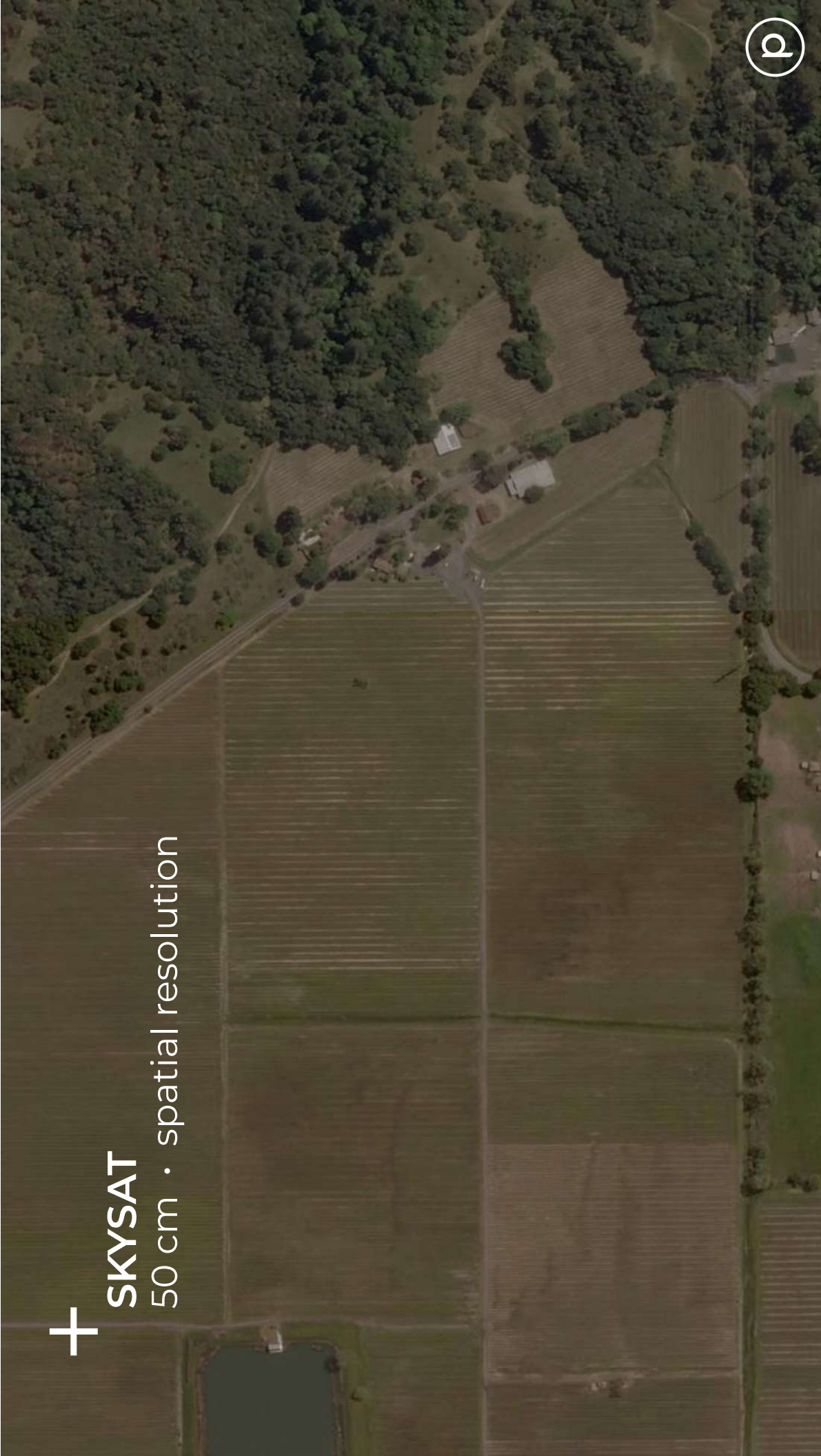


+ **SENTINEL**
10 meter · spatial resolution

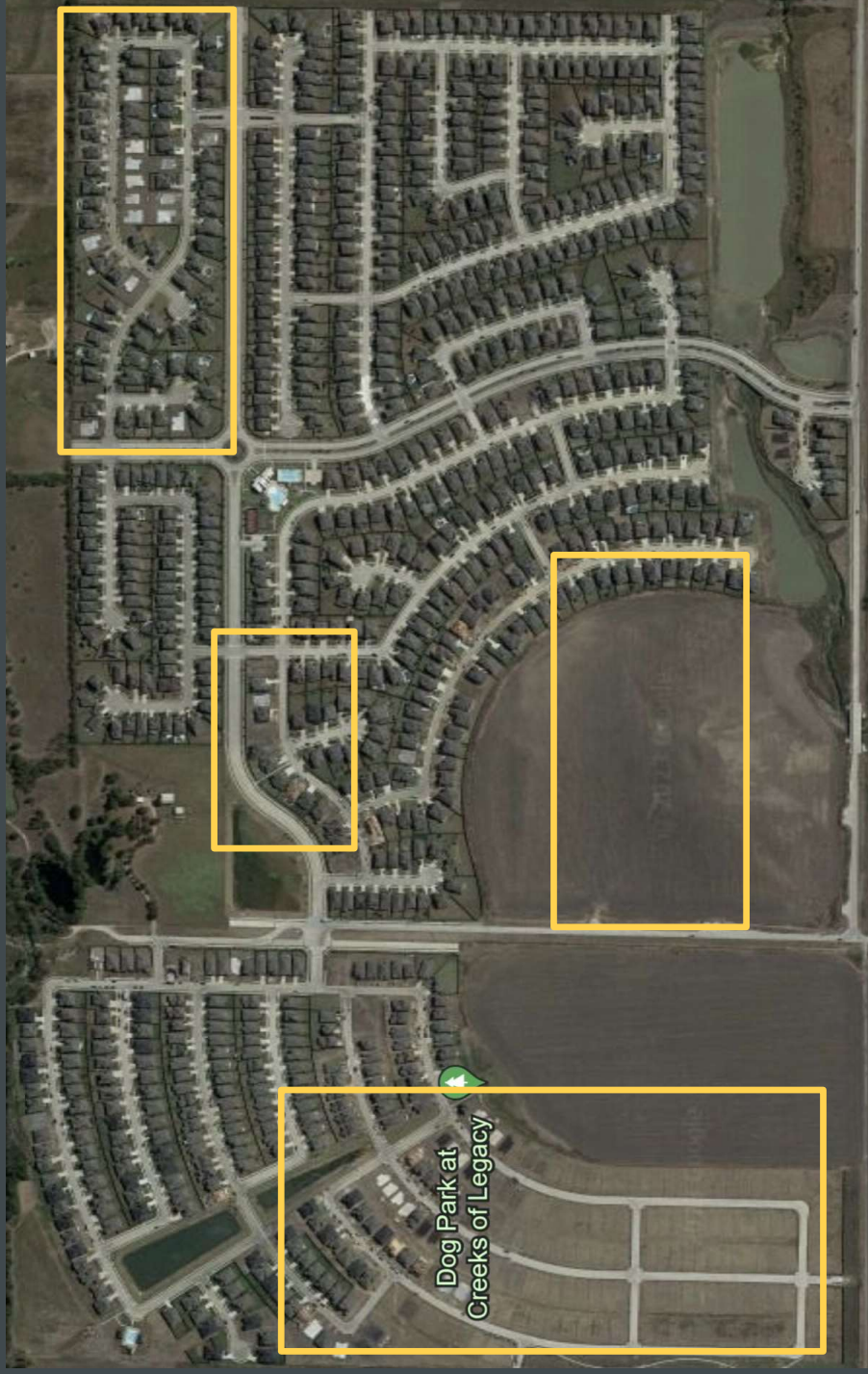
+ **PLANETSCOPE**
3 meter · spatial resolution



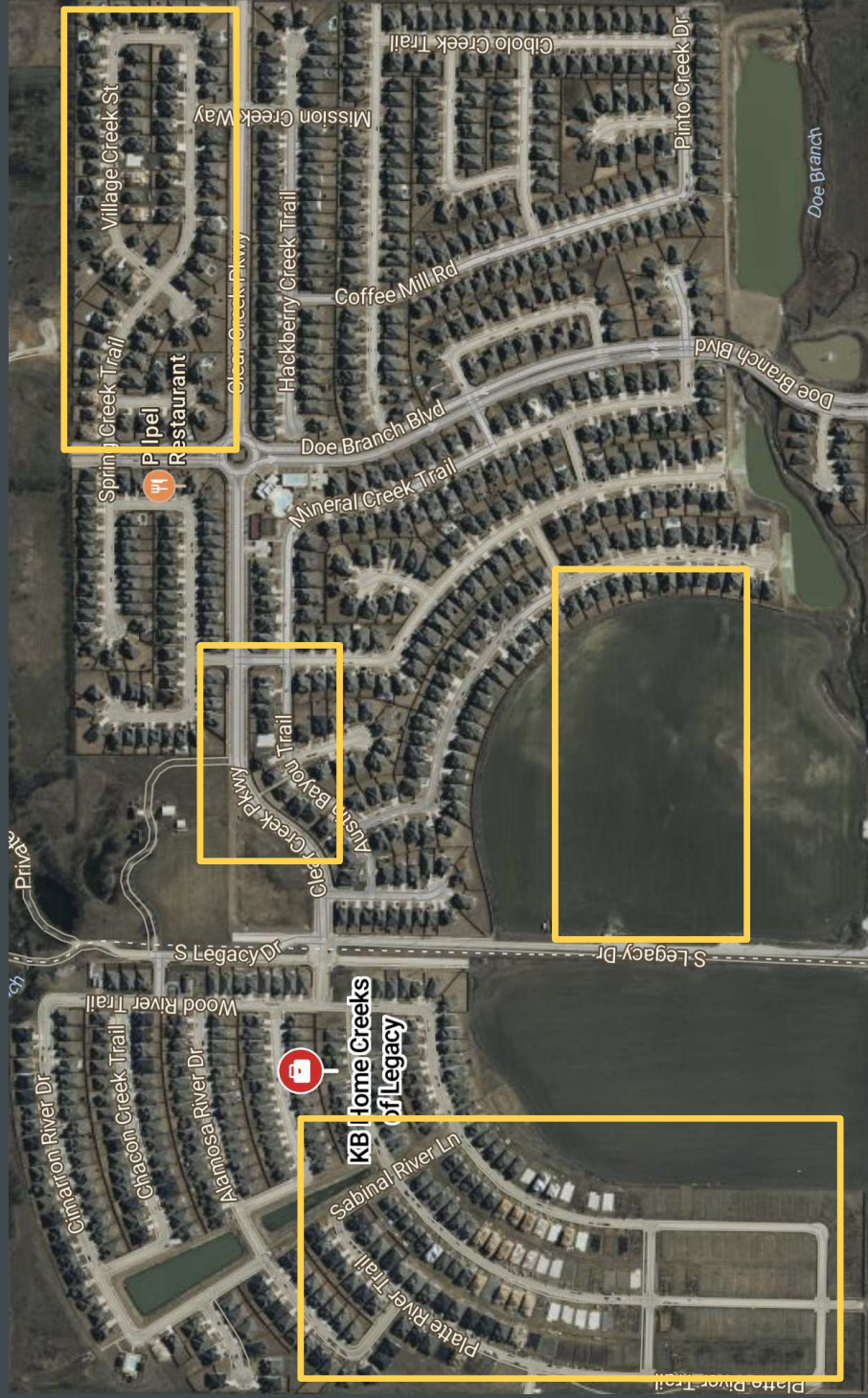
+ SKYSAT
50 cm · spatial resolution



+ Challenges with “Free Sources”
Creeks of Legacy, Celina- Google Earth



+ Challenges with “Free Sources” Creeks of Legacy, Celina- bing maps



+ PlanetScope- Ground truth
Creeks of Legacy, Celina

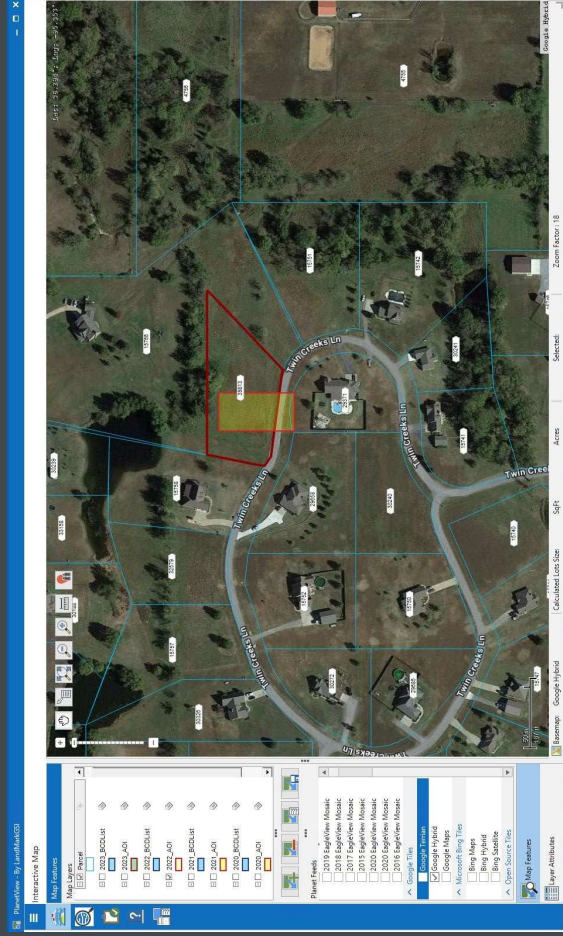
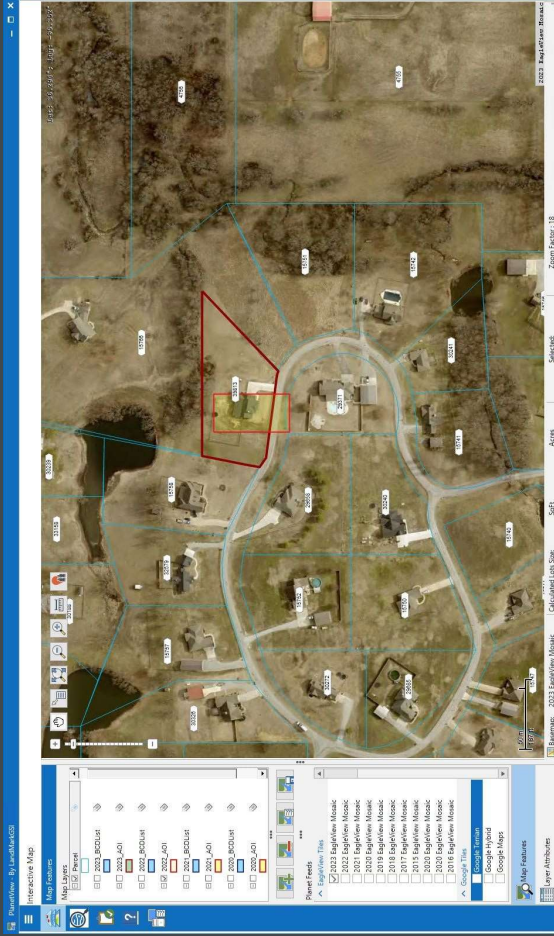
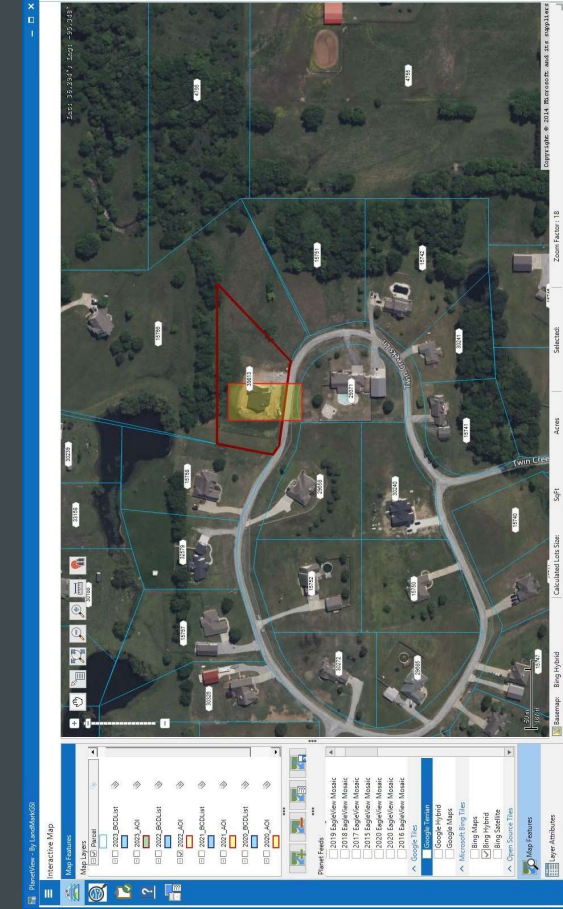
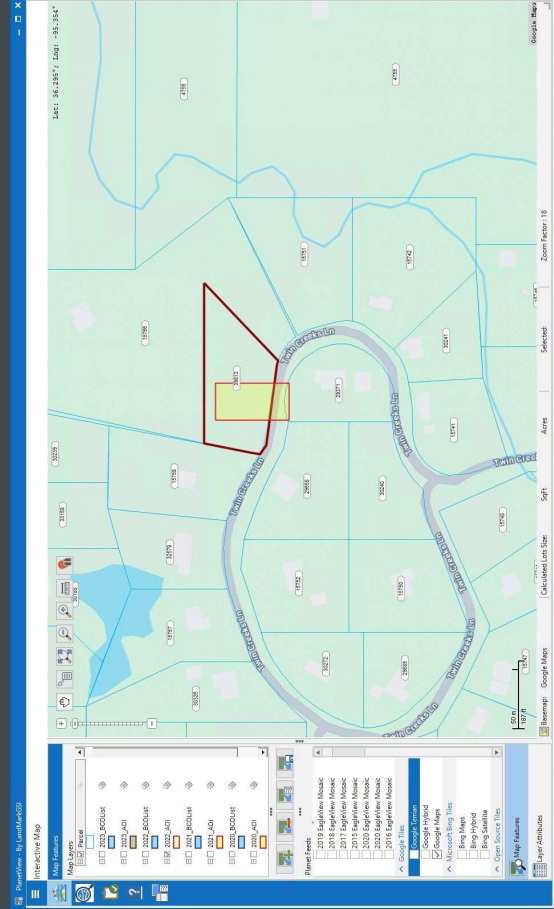




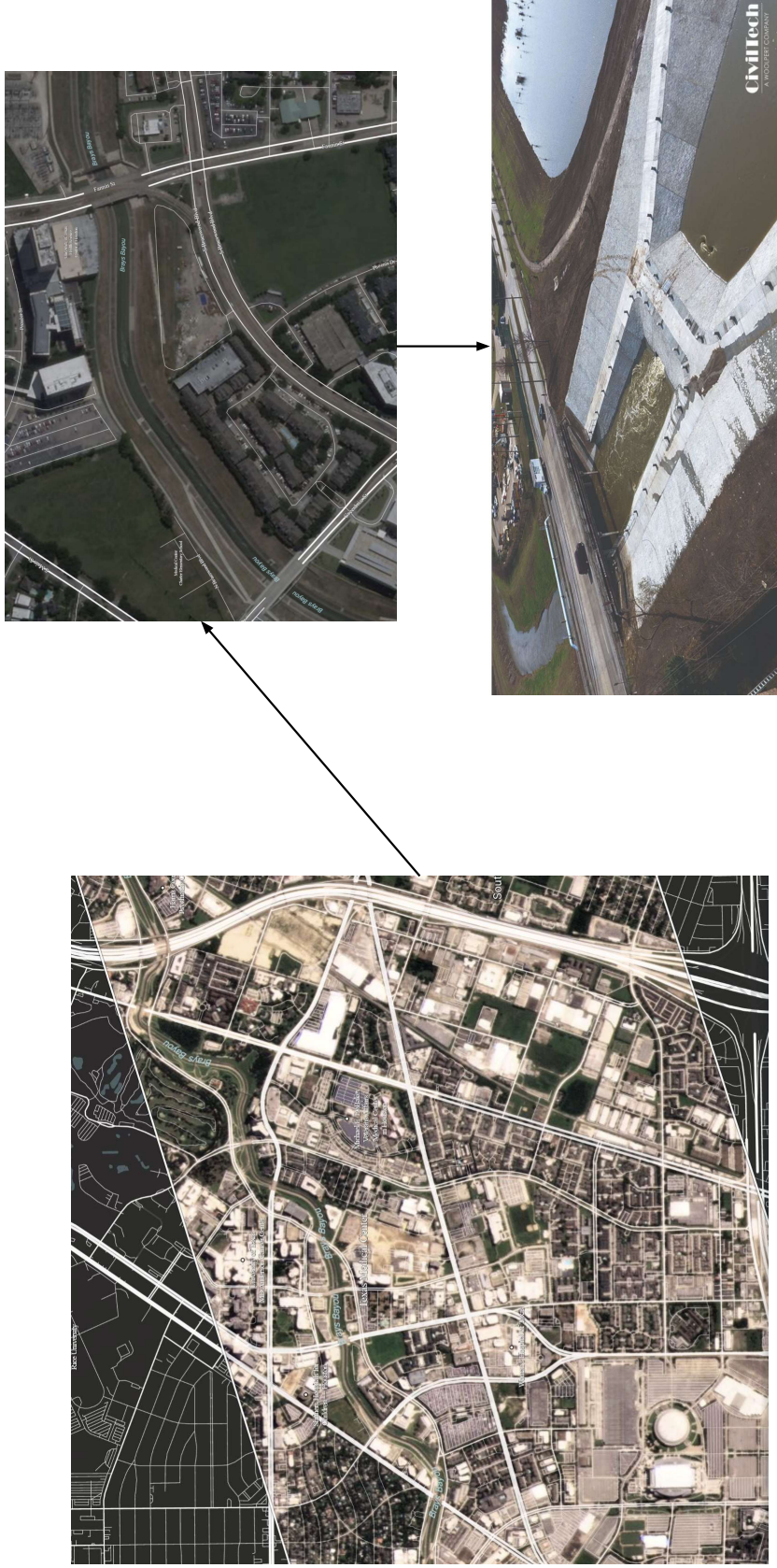
Planet SkySat- October 20, 2023

Creeks of Legacy, Celina





+ Best Practice: Make best use of high value assets (including human resources) by leveraging temporal resolution



+ This Best Practice enables timely decision-making while reducing costs

Track changes on the Earth **at scale** for:

Insights



- Provide visibility into rural/remote areas
- Respond to emergency situations
- Understand impact of historical events

Transparency




- Measure and report on policy impact
- Increase transparency in managing sustainable transformation policies

Productivity



- Increase tax revenue
- Prosecute wrongful activity
- Allocate resources where they are needed most

Innovation



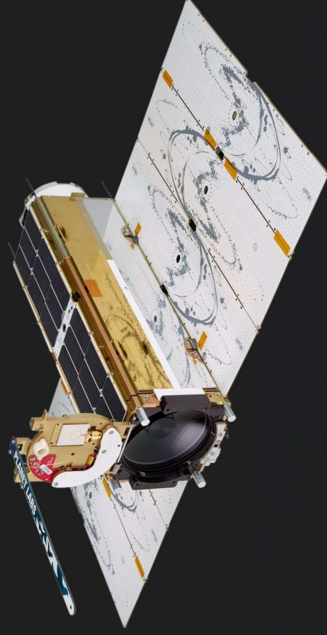
- Enable a GIS community that fosters innovation and generates regional economic activity

You can't fix what you can't see.

And... AI is changing what we can see
while satellites are changing the scope
on how much and how fast we can see



CAPABILITY: MEDIUM RESOLUTION MONITORING



SuperDoves

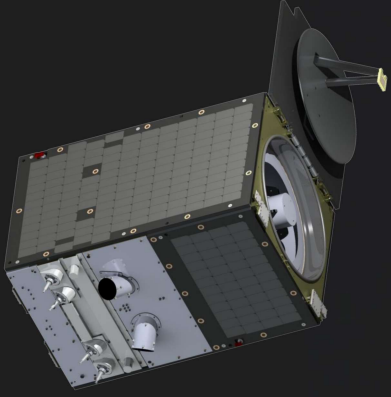


SATELLITES	GSD	CAPACITY
140+	3.7 m	346 million km²/day
ORBIT ALTITUDE	PIXEL RESAMPLE	SPECTRAL BANDS
475 km	3.125 m	RGB and NIR

Get more detail in Planet's [Imagery Product Specification](#)



CAPABILITY: HIGH RESOLUTION MONITORING



SkySat



SATELLITES	GSD	CAPACITY	SPECTRAL BANDS
13	0.72 m	500 K km ² /day	RGB, PAN and NIR
ORBIT ALTITUDE	PIXEL RESAMPLE		
500 km	1 m		

Get more product detail in Planet's [Imagery Product Specification](#)





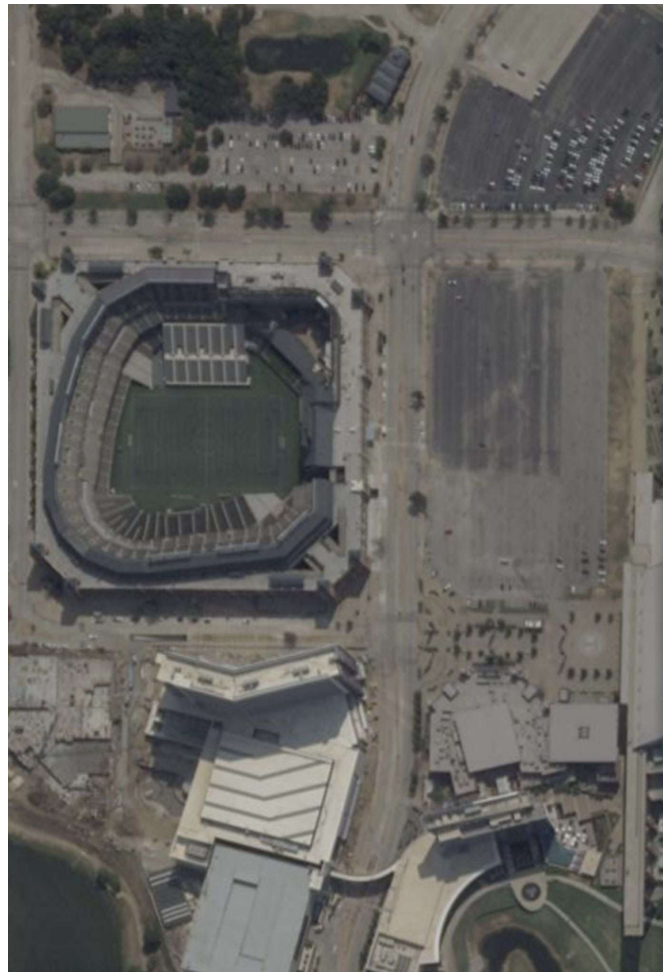
COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE

Pairing both PlanetScope and SkySat= Cost effective monitoring



3m PlanetScope

18 August 2023

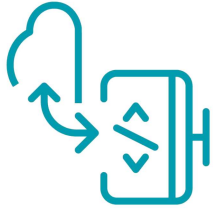


0.5m SkySat

18 August 2023



+ DELIVERY OPTIONS



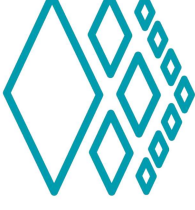
PLANET API

REST API access
to Planet imagery



PLANET EXPLORER

Web-based user interface
for browsing &
downloading Planet
imagery



WMTS

Integrate with WMTS
compliant application,
e.g. ArcGIS, GEE, QGIS,
InterGraph, and more.



From space systems to modern APIs & everything in-between

DELIVERY



Web Applications



APIs



Streaming &
Cloud Storage



Subscriptions



Integrations

INSIGHTS



Raster
Operations



Object
Detection



Land Cover
Classification



Change
Detection



Summary
Statistics

IMAGERY



Visual



Analysis-
Ready



Basemaps



Stereo



Video



Fusion
Monitoring

SPACE SYSTEMS



Design



Manufacturing



Missions



Groundstations



Dove



SkySat





EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT USE CASES

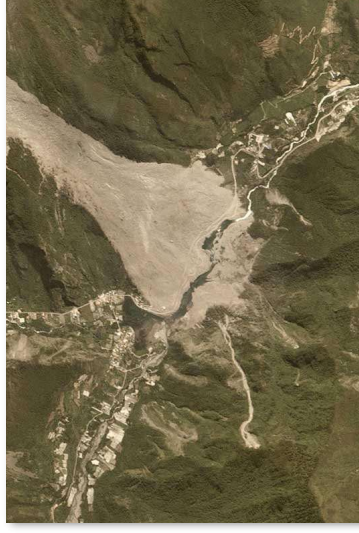
Daily monitoring and our archive ensure that customers always have ongoing coverage and the most recent pre-event disaster imagery available, enabling informed action across the disaster risk-response-recovery-resilience continuum.



RISK REDUCTION



RESPONSE



RECOVERY
AND RESILIENCE



RESIDENTIAL FLOODING

Red areas are flooded neighborhoods

River

ADDICKS RESERVOIR

Flooding

BARKER RESERVOIR

Reservoir and river data from OpenStreetMap

COMPUTER VISION W/SPECTRAL

Geo-referenced polygons are created by tracing the flooded residential areas.



August 31, 2017 • PlanetScope

+ FEMA FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

Flooding surpassed high risk zones

COMPUTER VISION
W/SPECTRAL

Flooding from hurricane
Harvey far exceeded FEMA's
Special Flood Hazard Area

FEMA hazard area

Flooding



FEMA Flood Hazard Areas
Flooded area

Flood Hazard Areas from FEMA, reservoir data from OpenStreetMap

August 31, 2017 • PlanetScope



FLOODED PARCELS

August 31, 2017 • PlanetScope • Fort Bend County, reservoir data
(OpenStreetMap)

BARKER
RESERVOIR

Parcel data is intersected with the flooded regions, resulting in a layer of flooded parcels

Each parcel contains an attribute with a full residency address and owner name

■ Flooded area





CROWDAI ROAD ANALYSIS

Identification of flooded streets in Houston

COMPUTER VISION
W/SPECTRAL

Roads are identified before and during Hurricane Harvey using an Crowd AI algorithm

Red roads are flooded (detectable before flooding, undetectable during flooding)

Yellow roads are not flooded (detectable during flooding)

Flooded roads

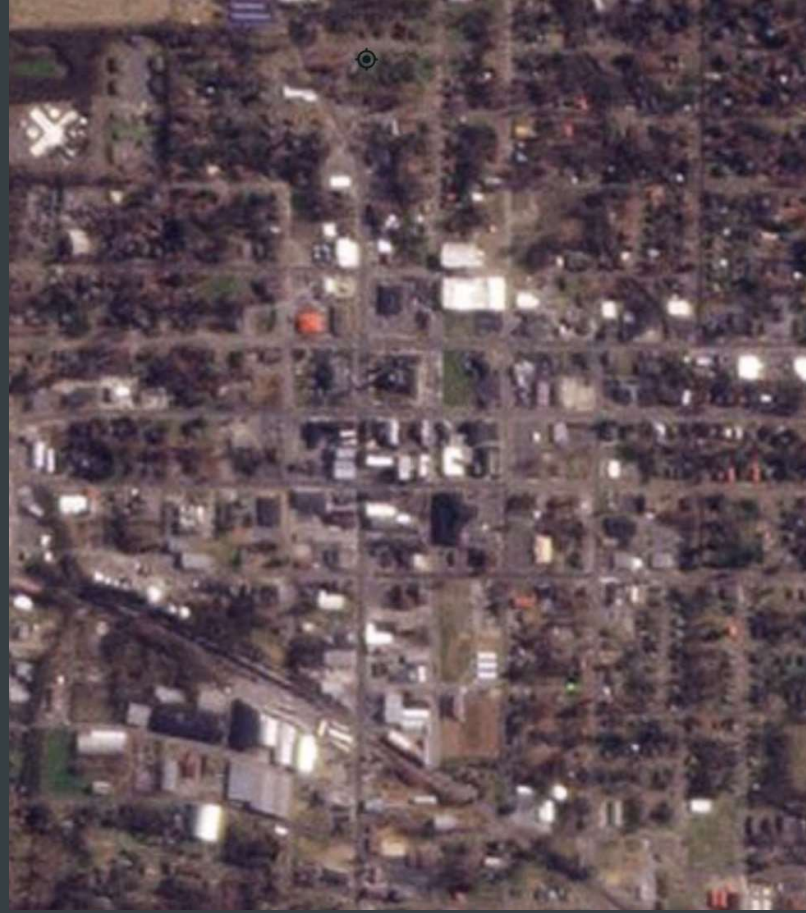
Object identification algorithm from Crowd AI

August 31, 2017 • PlanetScope



VISUAL

Mayfield KY - 12/8/21 to 12/12/21 - Tornado hit evening of 12/10/21



Mayfield KY- 12/12/21- SkySat 50cm Resolution



+ LAND USE

COMBINATION

- Monitor changes in roads, buildings, and impervious surfaces as populations grow and adapt for a more sustainable and climate-resilient future.
- Understand changes and threats to rivers, lakes, and watersheds that supply populations, agriculture, and industry.
- Track usage and threats to valuable natural resources like forests and coastal wetlands that support sustainable livelihoods.



(Left) PlanetScope Monthly Basemap, June 2020, Coolidge, AZ.

(Right) IO Monitor 3m Land Cover Map over Coolidge, AZ. Outlined areas are ground preparations for new housing developments recognized as the "Other Built" class.



(Left) PlanetScope Monthly Basemap, June 2023, Coolidge, AZ.

(Right) IO Monitor 3m Land Cover Map over Coolidge, AZ. Outlined areas have undergone construction and are now "Building." This increase in Building area between the two time periods is also reflected in the monitoring analytics data, which, when monitored regularly, can prompt the need for a visual inspection of the area.



AI BASED

PERMIT AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

GROWING OIL DEVELOPMENT [BEFORE] · Permian Basin, New Mexico · April 14, 2019



ALBASED

PERMIT AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

GROWING OIL DEVELOPMENT [AFTER] · Permian Basin, New Mexico · April 23, 2020

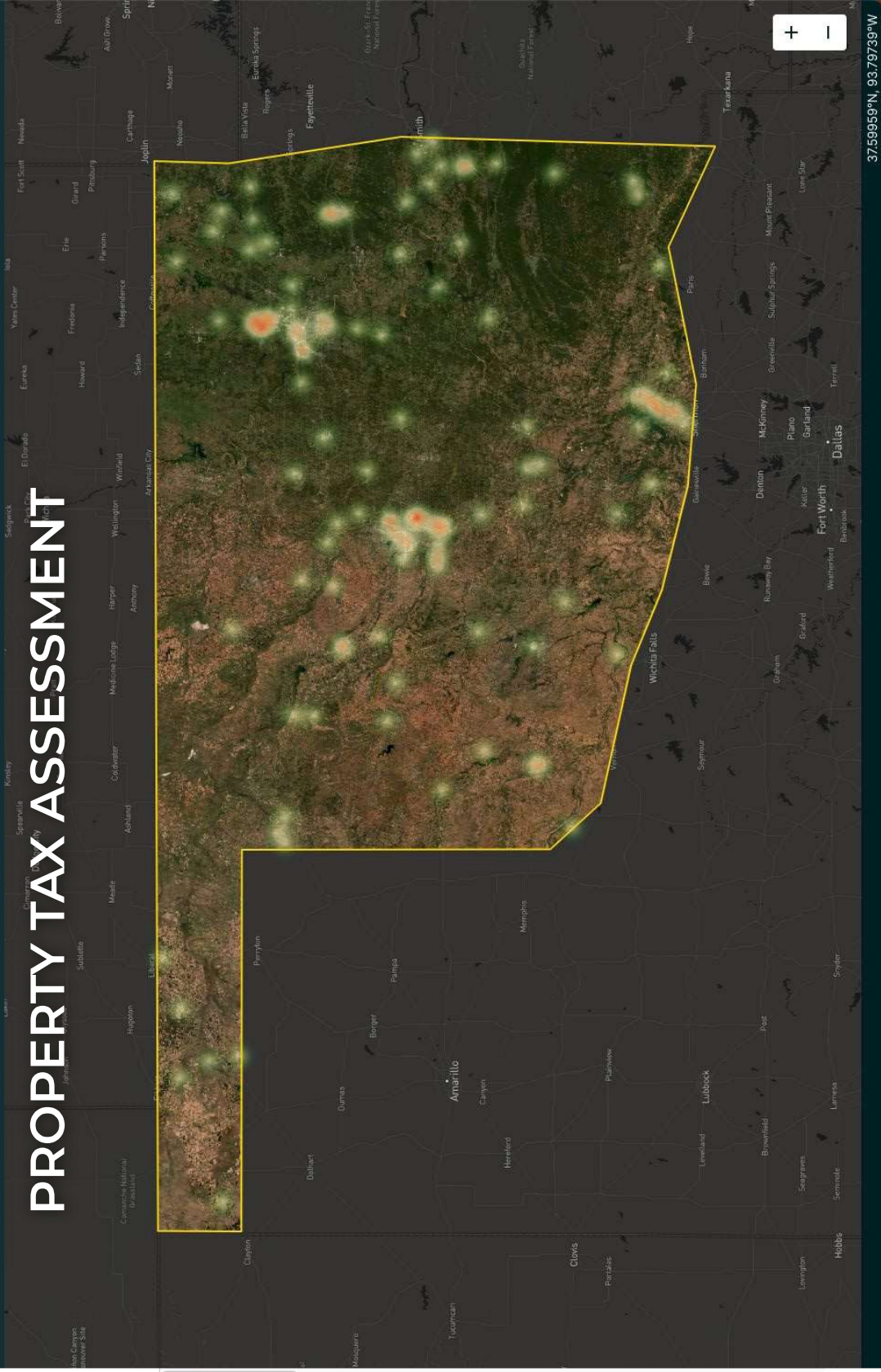




Show all time Confidence

Visualization

PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT



← Back to subscriptions

Oklahoma

Monthly Building Change Detection

📅 2020/01/01 - 2023/09/22

Show zero detects

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	August 2023 UTC	Global Monthly	🗒️	813
<input type="checkbox"/>	July 2023 UTC	Global Monthly	🗒️	1019
<input type="checkbox"/>	June 2023 UTC	Global Monthly	🗒️	669
<input type="checkbox"/>	May 2023 UTC	Global Monthly	🗒️	577
<input type="checkbox"/>	April 2023 UTC	Global Monthly	🗒️	790
<input type="checkbox"/>	March 2023 UTC	Global Monthly	🗒️	767
<input type="checkbox"/>	February 2023 UTC	Global Monthly	🗒️	649
<input type="checkbox"/>	January 2023 UTC	Global Monthly	🗒️	834
<input type="checkbox"/>	December 2022 UTC	Global Monthly	🗒️	1359

[Review & export detects](#)

+ AI BASED PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT- Pheasant Run- Enid OK



Planet Explorer

Review detections for download

Select the detection to the right where the change occurred.

(1)	(2)	(3)
(4)	(5)	(6)
(0 of 6)		

Detection details
Confidence: 57.4%
Location: 36.298, -95.950

Task high-res image

1 of 1

DETECTS REVIEWED
Want to skip this step?
Export all or Export reviewed detections

Previous detect

Exit

No change

global_monthly_2022_05_mosaic
global_monthly_2022_05_mosaic
global_monthly_2022_06_mosaic
global_monthly_2022_06_mosaic
global_monthly_2022_07_mosaic
global_monthly_2022_07_mosaic





RIGHT OF WAY MANAGEMENT

AI BASED

High Resolution Skysat imagery shows oil pipeline right of way in Northern Egypt



■ Building within 40m

■ Building within 100m

■ Pipeline





VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Right of Way (ROW) Monitoring (North Charleston, SC)

SPECTRAL ANALYSIS

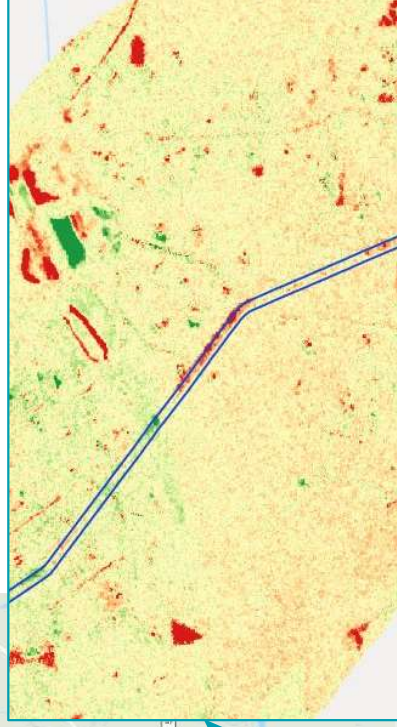
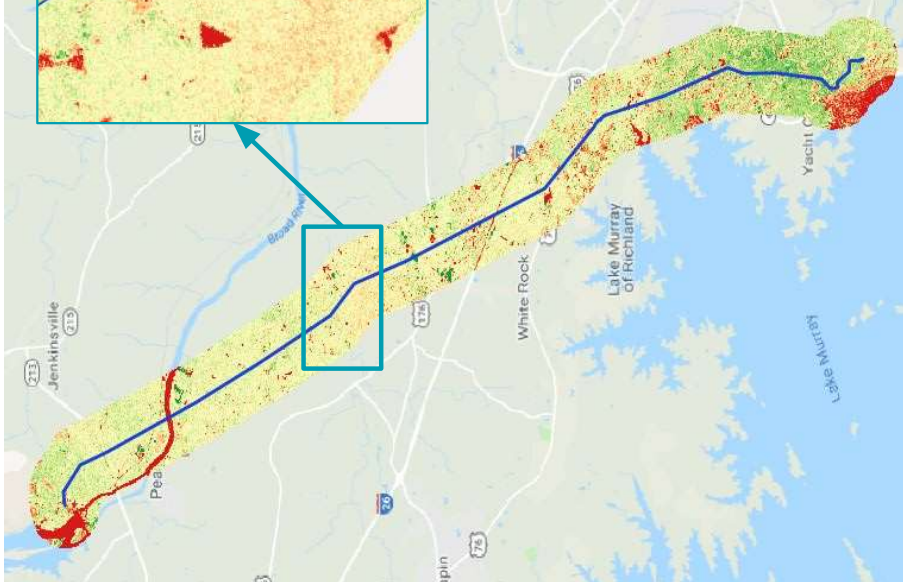




VEGETATION ENCROACHMENT- AT SCALE

SPECTRAL ANALYSIS

Right of Way (ROW) Monitoring (South Carolina)



[Download NDVI Diff Map \(TIFF\)](#)

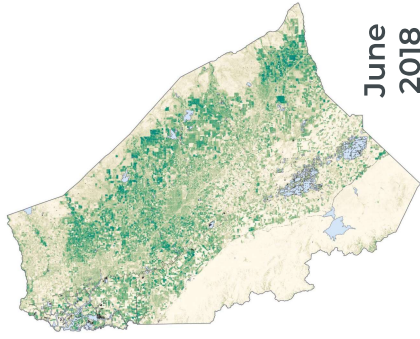
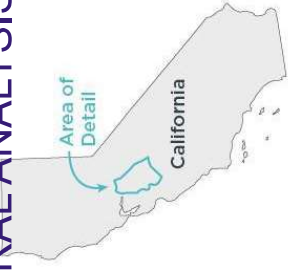
- NDVI difference between July 1, 2019 and July 29, 2019 PlanetScope 4-band Surface Reflectance images
- Added a 2 km buffer
- NDVI difference map shows regions that have seen an increase or decrease in vegetation for the month of July 2019
- There's currently no high resolution SkySat images for this particular AOI



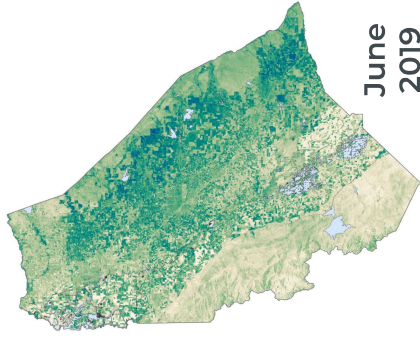
DROUGHT MONITORING AND IRRIGATION

Soil Water Content in San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced Counties, California

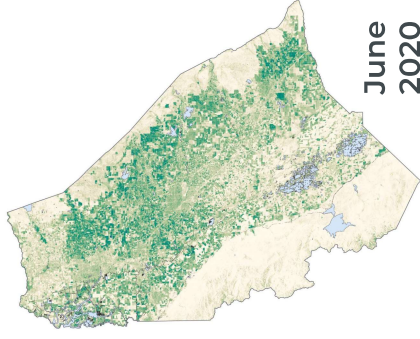
SPECTRAL ANALYSIS



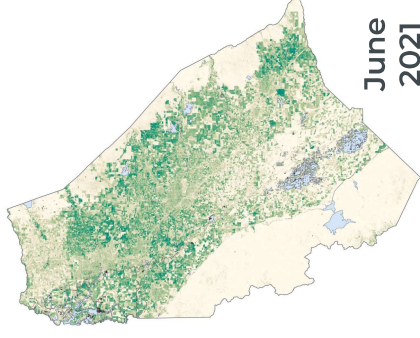
June 2018



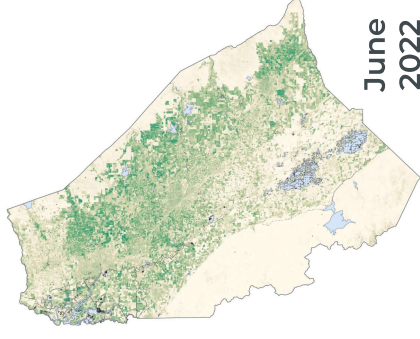
June 2019



June 2020



June 2021



June 2022



Measuring Soil Water Content provides a consistent data feed to track dry conditions against historical norms.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

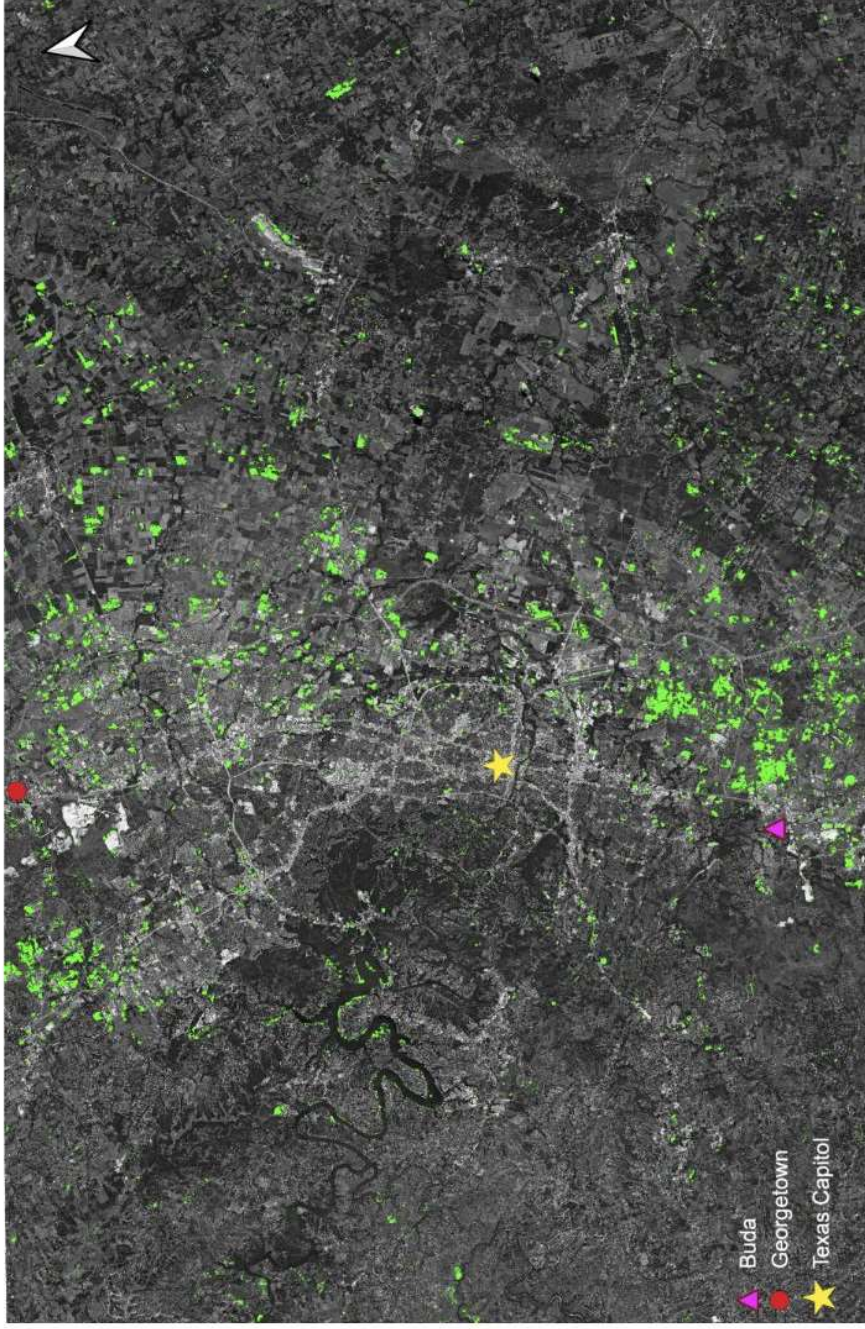
Automated Change Detection to focus analyst attention

Leveraging computer vision and machine learning, we can point user attention to the places that need it most.
Fusing these detections with existing records / focused areas can surface insightful answers.



+ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT- AT SCALE

Makepath- Austin TX



We visualized the growth of Austin, Texas from 2017 to 2022.

Note how growth is concentrated along the north-south I-35 corridor as opposed to the east-west vector that follows the Colorado River.

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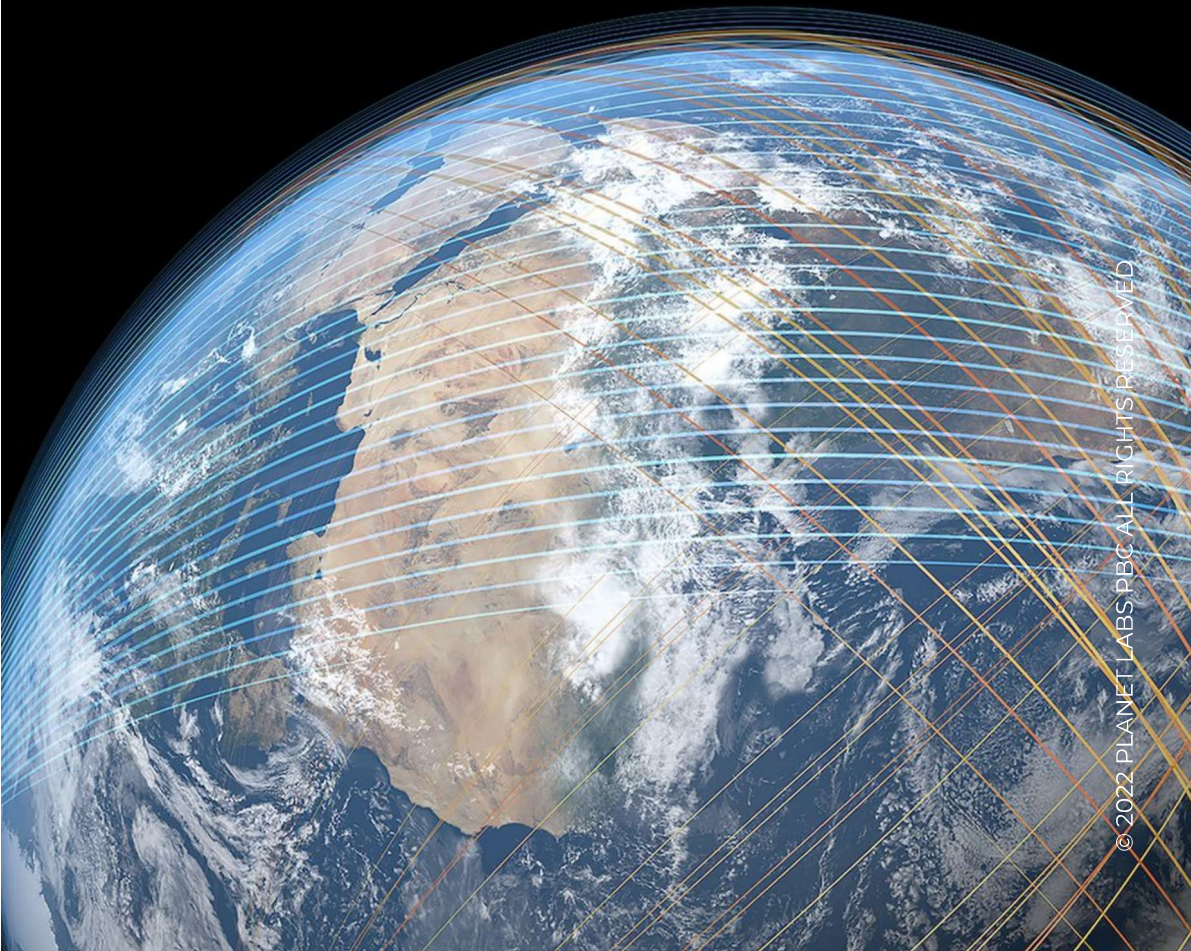
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Thank You.



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