Digital Mobile Sketch Map: Offline Airborne Mobile Mapping Solution for Forest Health Monitoring

Kerry Halligan May 5, 2015 GIS in Action





Impact of Forest Insects

- Wood-boring insects cause the largest economic impacts by annually
 - \$1.7 billion in local government expenditures
 - \$830 million in lost residential property values
 - \$130 million in forest landowner timber loss







Aukema et al. (2011) Economic Impacts of Non-Native Forest Insects in the Continental United States. PLoS ONE 6(9): e24587. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0024587

Forest Health Protection - USDA

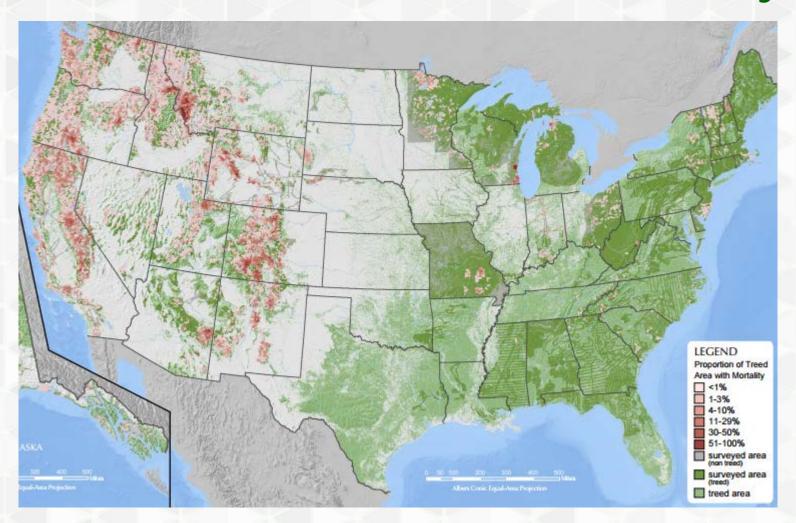
- Protect and improve the health of America's forests
- State and Private Forestry Deputy Area of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service
- Over 250 specialists in the areas of forest entomology, forest pathology, invasive plants, pesticide use, survey and monitoring, suppression and control, technology development
- Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team (FHTET)
 - Develop and deliver forest health technology services





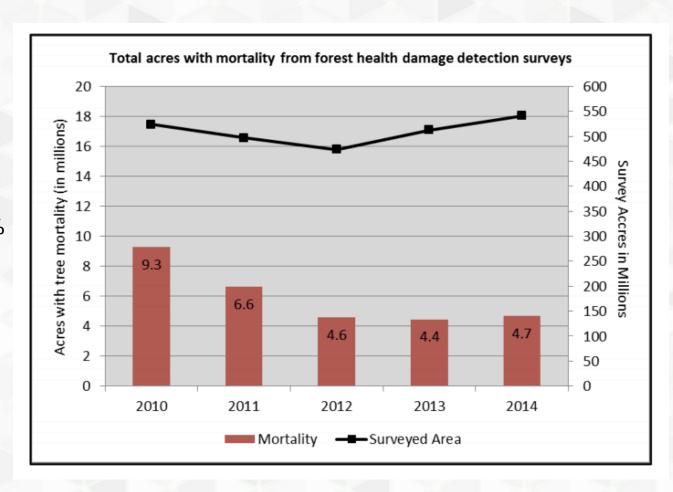


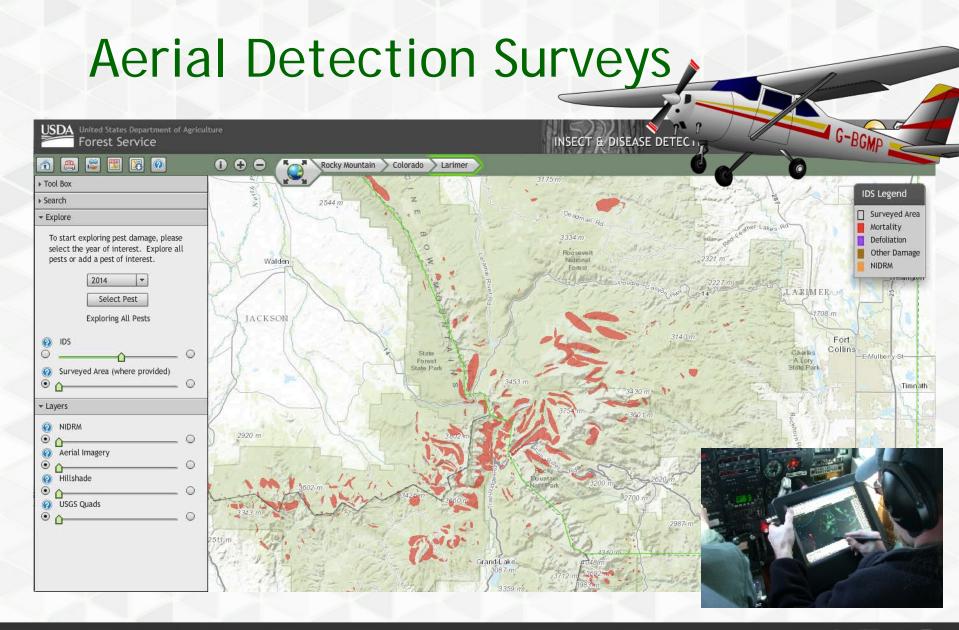
Insect and Disease Detection Surveys

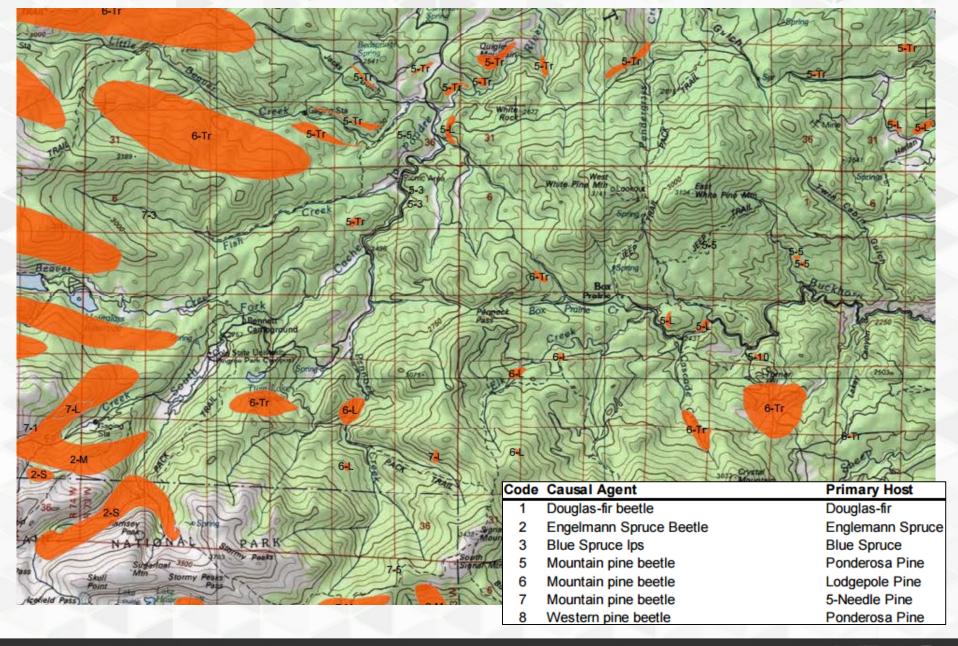


2014 Detection Surveys Results

Top pests by acreage: Mountain pine beetle 38% Spruce beetle 16% Fir engraver 15% Western pine beetle 7%

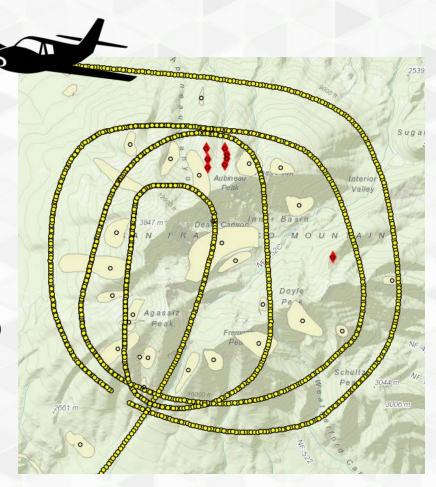






Data Collection Challenges

- 100-120 MPH
- 1,500 ft. AGL
- Irregular flight lines
- Disorienting
- Long days
- Bright sunlight
- Need good base map data
- Offline, but need to share data



Current Tool: DASM

- Rugged Windows tablets
 - Expensive
 - Hard to maintain
- Insufficient Base Data
 - Often using topo maps
- Poor data workflow
 - Inefficient data preparation process
 - Long lag time between collection and analysis
 - Data quality issues





Next Generation of DASM

- 2013
 - MB&G received contract from FHTET to build Digital Mobile Sketch Map (DMSM)
 - Requirement gathering and technology assessment
- 2014
 - Prototype development and testing
- 2015
 - Beta development (initial version delivered)
 - Continued development and testing
 - Rolling out to ~100 aerial surveyors this summer

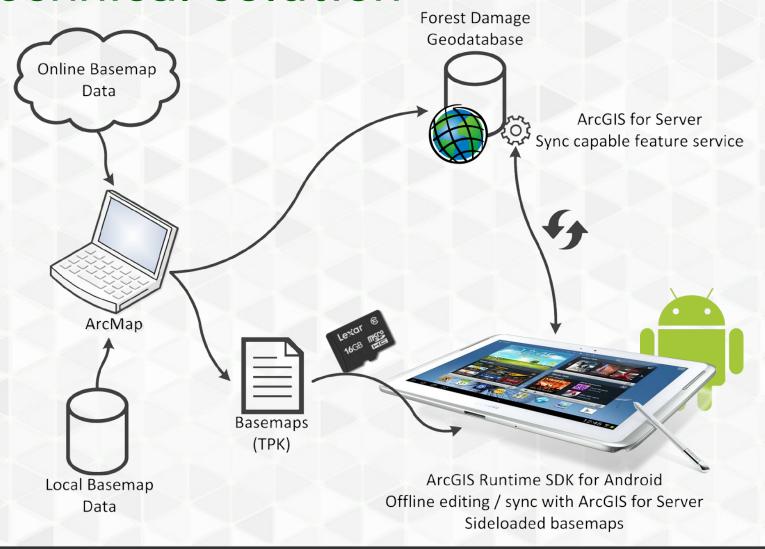


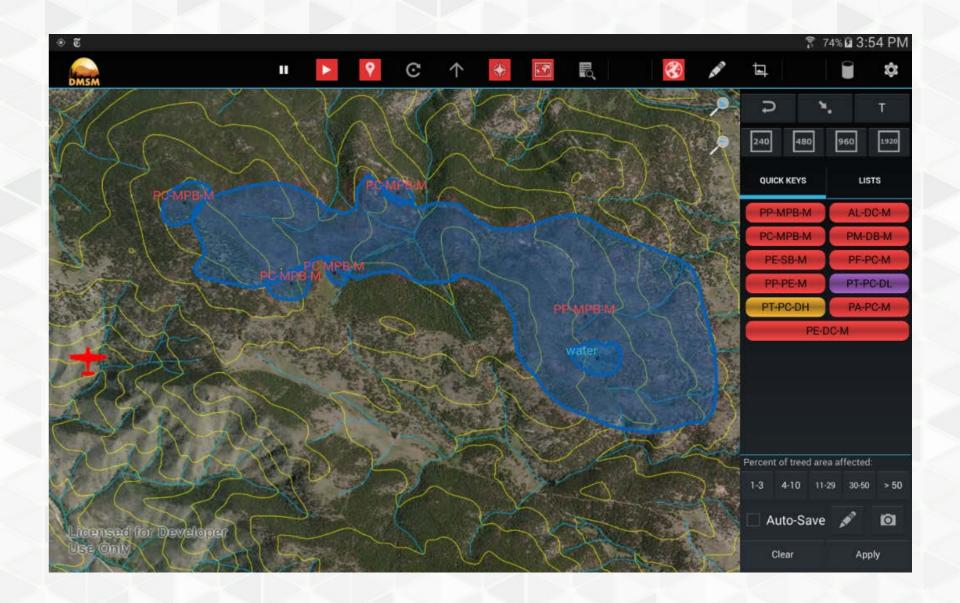
DMSM Requirements

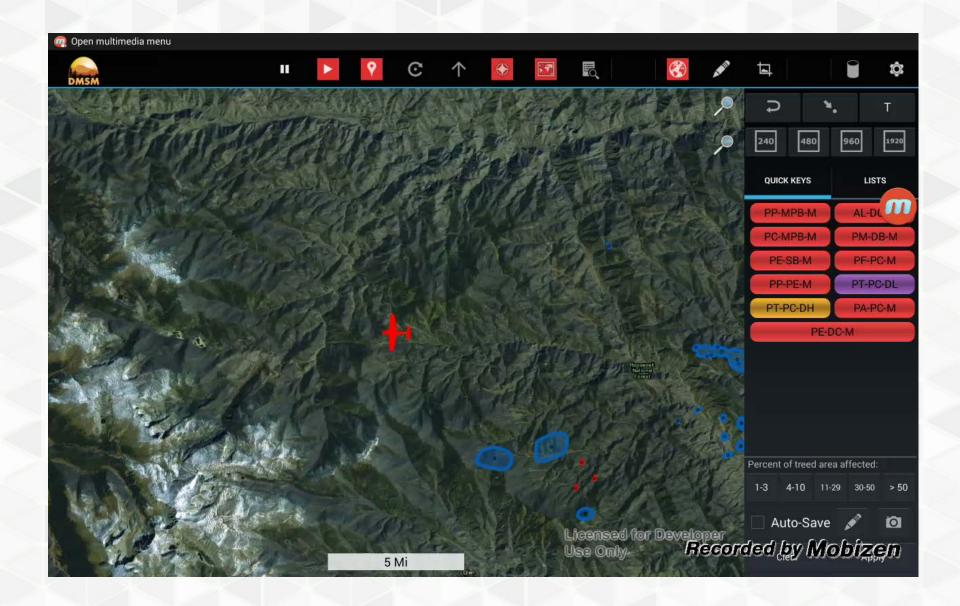
- Modern hardware
 - Low cost
 - Consumer grade
- Integrate with Enterprise GIS
 - Reduce lag time between collection & analysis
 - Minimize conversion steps and manual processes
 - More and better base map data
- Improve data quality and efficiency
 - Consistent data model, allowed values (codes)
 - Pre-defined attributes combinations
 - User configurable map and UI



Technical Solution







Questions?

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