Remote Sensed Imagery – Availability and Opportunities for Understanding Geodiversity

Environment,

Climate Change

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Assessment

Role of Remote Sensed Imagery

- DECCW is responsible for conserving and managing biotic, landscape and historical components of NSW's geodiversity
- The agency gathers a wide array of data to assist in this role
- Remote sensed imagery is a critical element of this data
 - Particularly for understanding and recognising the geodiversity of the state.
- I will be discussing how DECCW is managing and using imagery data

Role of Remote Sensed Imagery

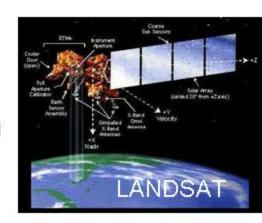
- Ongoing historic record of landscape change
 - Helps to better understand human impacts and behaviours
- Systematic and repeatable identification and analysis of landscape patterns
- Provides real-world location and context to events and features
- Readily grasped by non-technical people
 - Promotes appreciation of geological scale features of the landscapes

DECCW Imagery Genealogy

- DECCW and it's founding agencies have long applied remote sensed imagery
- Film-based aerial photography
 - From 1940s to present day
 - Manual stereoscopic interpretation
 - Large scale mapping programs
- Landsat II VII
 - Early 1980s to present day
 - Vegetation extent and ecosystem modelling
 - Land use and cover change detection



Wild RC10 Camera



DECCW Imagery Genealogy

- SPOT 4 & 5
 - Mid 1990's to present day
 - Land use and cover change detection

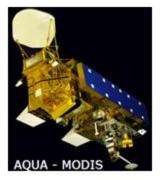


- 2002 to present day
- Land use and cover change

IKONOS

- 2001 to (rarely today)
- High-res imagery and crosscalibration with lower-res data







DECCW Imagery Genealogy

- Digital Frame Photography
 - 2003 onwards
 - Vexel, RC30, RC105 etc
 - Simple digital SLR
- Digital Aerial Sensor (Leica ADS40)
 - 2007 onwards
 - Digital stereo interpretation and on-screen mapping
 - Multispectral (Near Infra Red) ~10 cm
- LiDAR
 - 2005 onwards
 - 3 dimensional shape and surface characteristics
- Use of pattern recognition software
 - Definiens etc
 - Faster capture and matched to imagery features



Vexel UltraCamX





Leica ALS50 LiDAR

Monitoring and Assessment

- Over last 30 years, NSW government has invested in many programs of landscape based assessment
 - Land Capability
 - Land Use /Erosion
 - Soil Landscape
 - Acid Sulfate Soil Risk
 - Forest Type
 - Coastal Erosion
- Largely aerial imagery based
 - Time consuming and laborious
- Faster, cheaper methods were needed

Scale of monitoring has increased

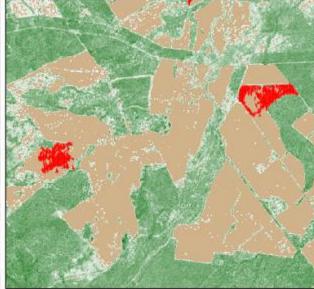
- NSW State Plan expected greater monitoring and reporting by agencies across NSW
- Typically imagery costs have prohibited large-scale regular (annual) capture of highres satellite data
 - Esp important for change detection
- Strategic hot spot targets were used at first
 - Difficult to extrapolate to full-state
- In 2007, NSW govt committed >\$20 M to native vegetation monitoring program
 - Included multiple whole state SPOT5 capture
 - 2007/08, 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11
 - With W-o-G access to imagery

Components of Native Vege Monitoring Program

- Woody change monitoring
 - Landsat-to-Landsat, moving to Spot5-to-Spot5
- Woody extent and FPC mapping
- Imagery and products provision for compliance and other DECCW programs
- Ancillary products: water masks, ground cover index etc.







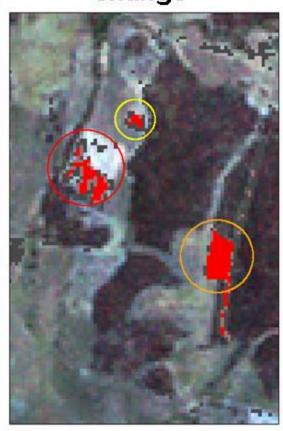
Landsat 2004

Landsat 2006

Veg. Extent+ Change

Landsat image showing 2007-08 change

SPOT 5 image 2005 SPOT 5 image 2008





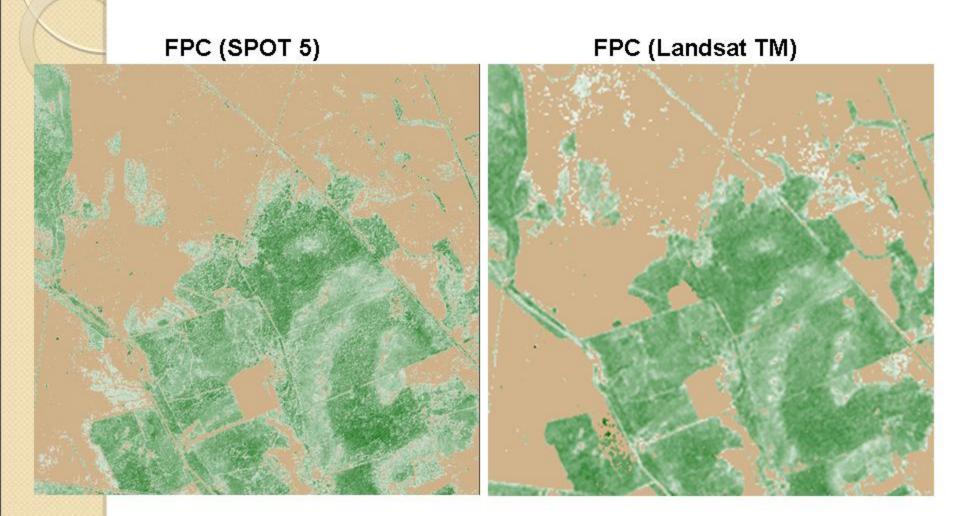


Vegetation Monitoring Research & Development

- The program has invested in new analysis and image preparation techniques
 - SPOT 5 atmospheric correction and radiometric standardisation of imagery
 - High resolution change detection methods
 - Vegetation extent validation and calibration
 - Long term time series analysis
- UQ/NRW/DECC joint research program providing significant assistance with research, development and training

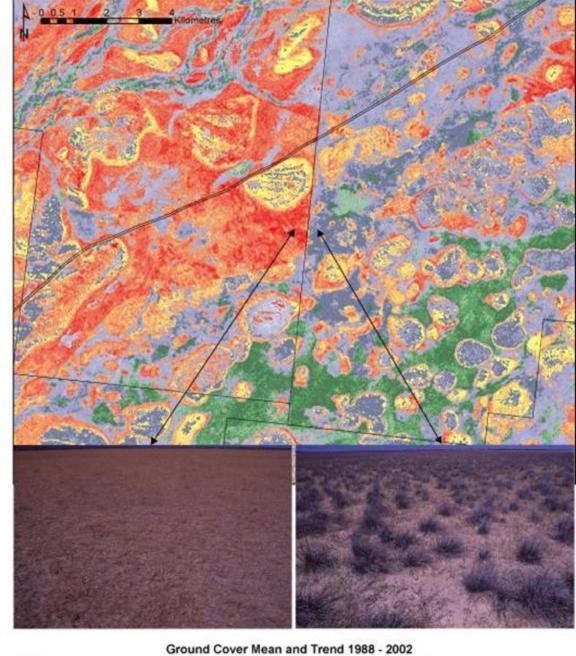
Woody vegetation extent mapping

Example Cross Calibration Approach using SPOT and Landsat

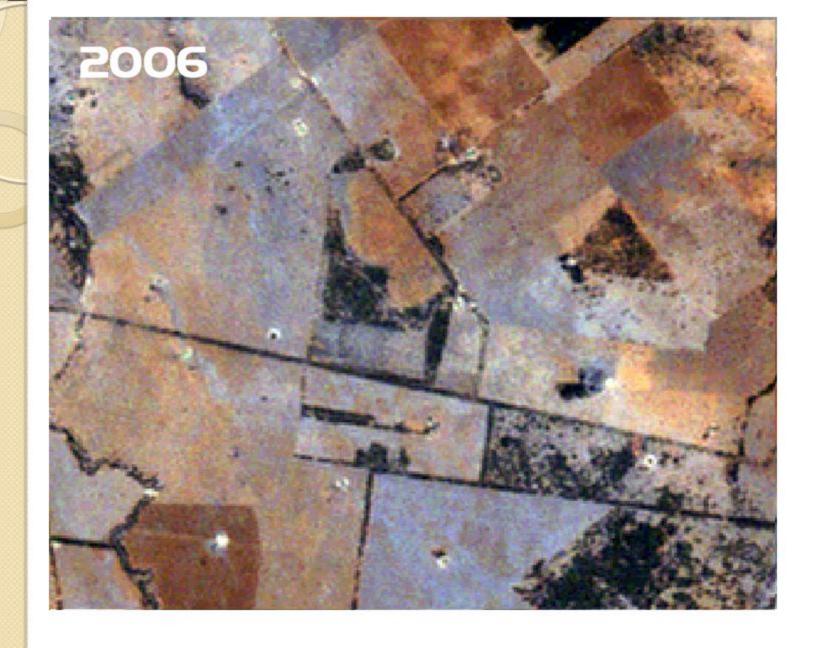


Monitoring Trend In Groundcover

- Land condition indicated by classifying annual groundcover mean and trend.
- Good condition on eastern side (perennials)
- Poor condition on western side (annuals)





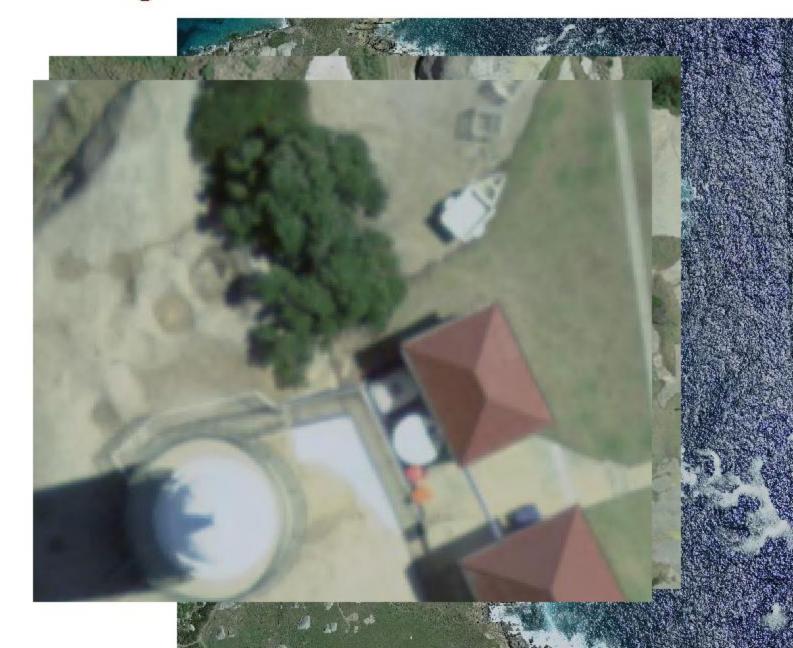




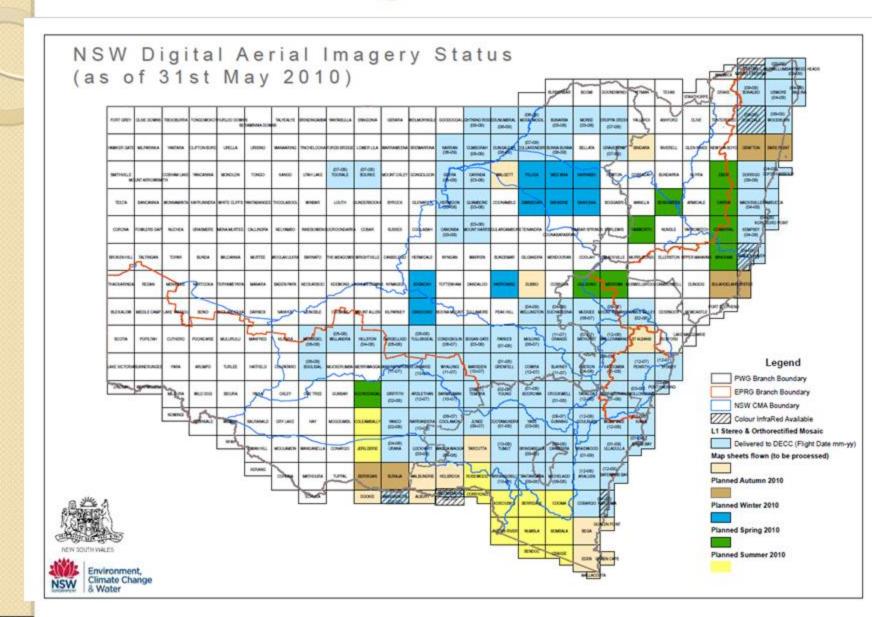
Aerial-based Imagery Expanding

- NSW LPMA ADS40 and LiDAR Programs
- ADS40 replaced the analogue film based technologies in 2007
 - Film was too expensive and materials becoming scarce
- DECCW close partnership with LPMA
 - Compliments satellite programs
 - Investment in companion technology
 - Software and hardware
- LiDAR increasingly more relevant
 - lower costs of LPMA capture
 - Large investment in classification still required

Montague Island – ADS40

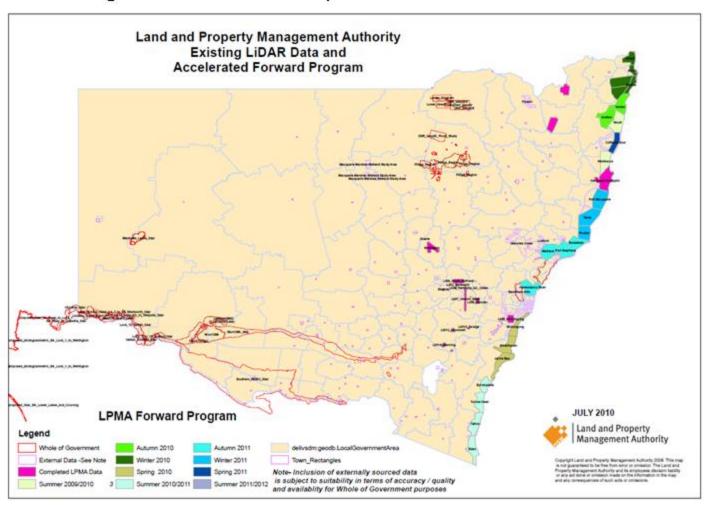


DECCW is largest user of ADS40

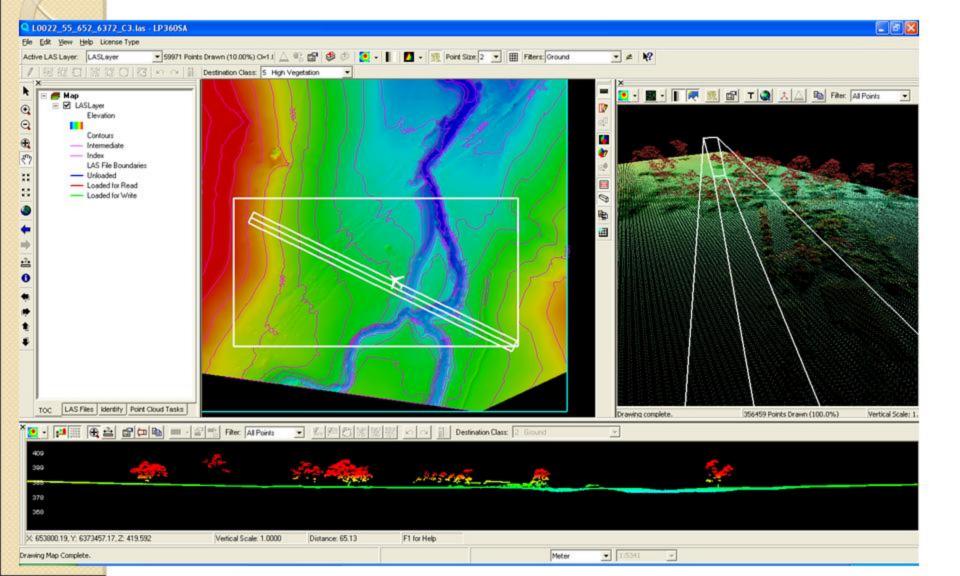


LPMA Expands Activity in LiDAR

- Expanding access to LiDAR for all levels of government
- Main target is coastal floodplains and inland wetlands



LIDAR



Access to Historic Imagery

- LPMA have embarked on high-resolution scanning of entire film archive
 - Film is deteriorating
 - High quality image for perpetuity
- Last standard film runs already complete
- Back-capture starting with strategic areas
 - DECCW updating photo-centres geodatabase
- Mainly used to confirm native vegetation status and record land use history

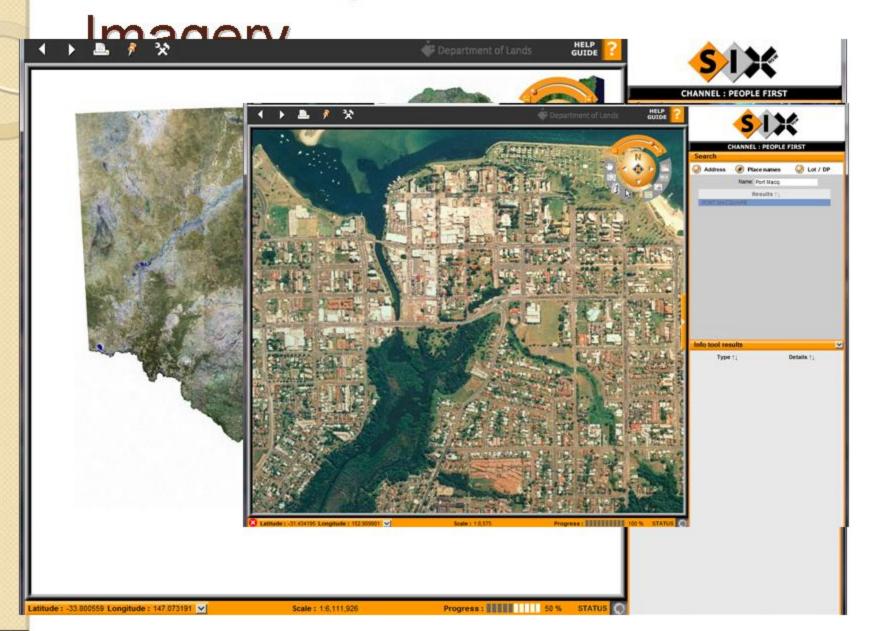
Improved Image Data Delivery

- Imagery storage requirements are huge
 - Need to provide alternatives
 - DECCW has built a multi-petabyte storage system at AC3 Technology Park
- Greater use of streamed imagery
 - Erdas Apollo Image Web Server &
 - ArcGIS Image Server
 - Potentially including image classification web services to run on-demand by users
- Faster delivery and analysis is paramount

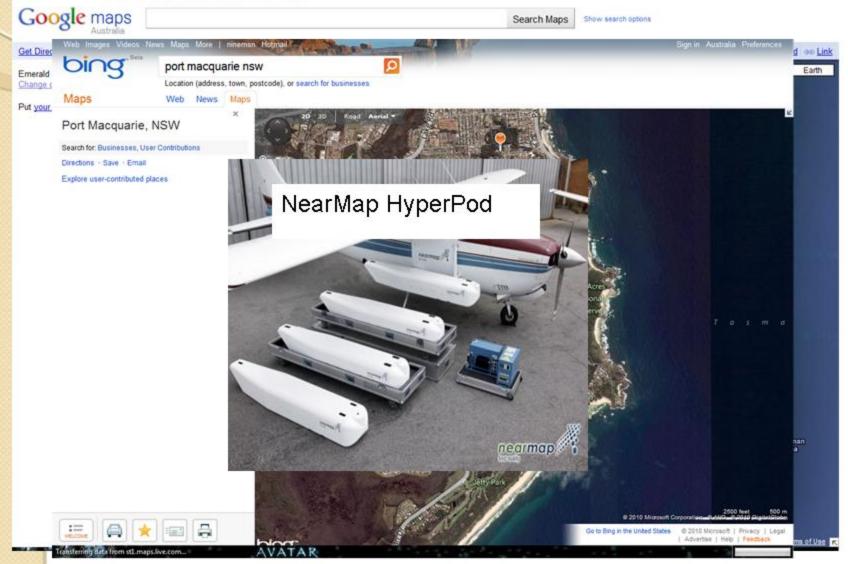
Improved Product Delivery

- Following the Google Maps revolution, the community expects to have much greater access to imagery
- NSW Spatial Information Exchange (SIX) is one of govt initiatives to provide access to govt information including imagery
 - New opportunity for geotourism
- Our community can also play a part in landscape monitoring
 - new spatial web tools and
 - access to more up-to-date imagery

Community Access to



Community Access to



Community Access to Imagery



Thank you for your time

Any Questions?

