

# VTrans Policy, Planning & Intermodal Development Division

## Mapping Unit

### Projects and Accomplishments

#### Light Detection & Ranging (LiDAR) Technology

VTrans Mapping is utilizing LiDAR data and technology to support VTrans activities and has acquired high resolution data for 122 miles of highway corridors damaged by TS Irene and the Interstate 89, 91 and 189 corridors.

LiDAR data is high resolution terrain data that allows for increased 3D modeling and analysis. Derived products include hill shades, contours, slope & aspect data, and other visualization layers. The primary uses at VTrans are as follows:

- Project Design and Survey Support
- Road Centerline Identification and Mapping
- Environmental and Archeological Assessment
- Geomorphology and Stormwater Assessment

VTrans is working cooperatively with the Vermont Center for Geographic Information and the US Geologic Survey on the acquisition of LiDAR data throughout the State, in support of Agency activities.

#### Highway Mapping System

The VTrans Mapping Unit annually produces General Highway Maps, also known as Town Highway Maps for municipalities that have supplied changes on the Certificate of Highway Mileage. Over the course of the last year, Mapping has implemented a new system that allows for the Town Highway Maps to be produced far more rapidly than in the past. In years past, Mapping would only produce the 50 to 60 maps for towns, cities and villages that had changes supplied. In 2013, 243 maps were produced.

The goal for 2014 is to produce the full series of Town Highway Maps, which includes roughly 320 maps.

#### Route Log System

Mapping is leveraging the same principles with the production of the Route Logs, which are the straight line diagrams of the Federal Aid Highway System. A draft series of the Route Logs have been produced and made available to Agency staff and are under review. Over the course of the next year, a new set of Route Logs will be produced and posted for on-line viewing and download.

The Route Logs provide an overview of the highway network and a snapshot of the information pertaining to a specific section of road, including widths, curve & grade, projects, AADT, crashes and other geometric information.

## **Mapping Unit Contacts**

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Gary Smith (50%) and Sarah Kepchar (20%) are also part of the Mapping Unit team, providing part-time assistance and specific expertise to the mapping effort.

## **On-Line Mapping Resources**

- The Mapping Unit has made accessible a substantial amount of data in a digital format on-line. Please find links to the maps and data posted by the VTrans Mapping Unit.

Main Mapping Unit Page – <http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/maps>

Annual Mileage Summaries - <http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/maps/publications>

Town Highway Maps - [http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/maps/town\\_maps](http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/maps/town_maps)

Map Archive - <http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/maps/archive>

Field Assessment Map Series – [ftp://vtransmap.aot.state.vt.us/Maps/VTrans\\_data\\_Irene/VTrans\\_District\\_Maps/Field\\_Assessment\\_Series/](ftp://vtransmap.aot.state.vt.us/Maps/VTrans_data_Irene/VTrans_District_Maps/Field_Assessment_Series/)

Rural Functional Class Map – [http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/sites/aot\\_policy/files/documents/highwayresearch/RuralFuncIStatewide\\_2013.pdf](http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/sites/aot_policy/files/documents/highwayresearch/RuralFuncIStatewide_2013.pdf)

County-Town Map Series - <http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/maps/publications>

Bridge & Culvert Inspection Maps - [ftp://vtransmap.aot.state.vt.us/Maps/VTrans\\_data\\_Irene/Bridge\\_Inspection\\_Maps/](ftp://vtransmap.aot.state.vt.us/Maps/VTrans_data_Irene/Bridge_Inspection_Maps/)

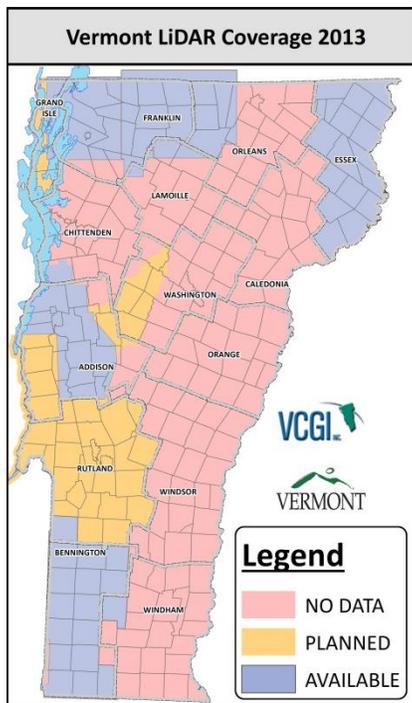
Federal Highway Map Series - <ftp://vtransmap.aot.state.vt.us/Maps/FederalHighwaySystem/>

VTrans District Map - [ftp://vtransmaps.vermont.gov/Maps/DistrictMaps/StateMap\\_Districts\\_2013.pdf](ftp://vtransmaps.vermont.gov/Maps/DistrictMaps/StateMap_Districts_2013.pdf)

# Vermont LiDAR Initiative: Critical Infrastructure

## Introduction

Highly accurate elevation data on hydrologic features, landforms, infrastructure and other features is beneficial for improving flood readiness, public safety and emergency management, water quality, conservation management and decision support. **Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR)** technology is currently the most efficient and cost effective means of acquiring this data for the state. **Current coverage is 45%** with an estimated \$1.9 million needed to complete the state.



Post TS Irene, the public safety, emergency and environmental resource communities joined a broad range of other critical state interests in identifying **statewide high resolution elevation data as a critical need**. With assistance from the state and matching funds from federal partners **this initiative can achieve full state coverage by 2015**.

## LiDAR = Critical Infrastructure

Just as roads, bridges and water supply were the physical infrastructure of the industrial age, **electronic data is the infrastructure of the digital age**.



Rt 4 between Killington & Mendon, VT. Photo: Lars Gange & Mansfield Heliflight

Few sources of geospatial data offer the richness of "LiDAR as infrastructure" to inform today's more technical society.

### Flood Risk Management

**Currently half the state is without Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs)**, and other areas need updated studies. DFIRMs help inform flood hazard areas permitting by municipalities and state agencies and also flood damage mitigation planning.

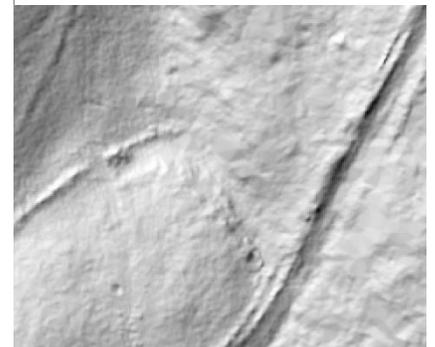
### Infrastructure Management

LiDAR is used in preliminary project and construction planning

of culverts, bridges and roads and provides more accurate storm water modeling results. It also improves road centerline data and linear referencing system accuracy and the identification of "Ancient Roads", class 4 town highways, legal trails and historic features.



Ancient Road on Aerial Imagery Only



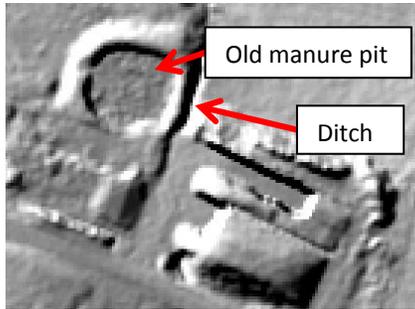
Ancient Road on "Bare Earth" DEM

### Natural Resources Conservation

LiDAR helps identify water flow paths across farmland to aid water quality protection, the restoration activities of poor cropland back into wetlands, planning riparian area practices and **reduces onsite engineering activities**.

Site specific maps afford technical staff the ability to conduct advance planning and assessment at the individual site level, thus **improving conservation planning efficiency**, identification of site

specific water quality concerns and focusing outreach.

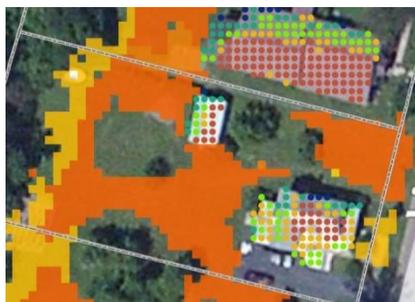


### Water Supply and Quality

Enhanced elevation data also supports fluvial geomorphic assessments, river corridor delineation and informs critical analyses *identifying non-point phosphorus inputs to Lake Champlain and other basins.*

### Renewable Energy

LiDAR derived 3-D Digital Surface Model (DSM) accounts for tree canopy, shading, building shape, rooftops and other infrastructure affording the ability *to model solar potential* for both roof and ground mount solar photovoltaic (PV) and thermal arrays.



Solar Potential Mapping

Other renewables such as wind, biomass, hydro and their support infrastructure also benefit from the use of highly accurate Digital Elevation Models (DEM's) and "derivatives" such as slope, aspect and contour data.

### Goals and Benefits

Completed in 2011, the National Enhanced Elevation Assessment (NEEA) sponsored by the National

Digital Elevation Program's (NDEP) 12 Federal member Agency documents the need and value of high quality topographic information, acquired via terrestrial or airborne LiDAR. Subsequently, NDEP created the "3D Elevation Program" initiative adopting the *top ten "enhanced elevation data support critical applications"* identified in the NEEA that apply to Vermont:

**Table 1.** Top NEEA business uses

#	Business use
1	Flood risk management
2	Infrastructure/constr. mngmnt
3	Natural resources conservation
4	Agriculture and precision farming
5	Water supply and quality
6	Wildfire manage/plan/response
7	Geologic resources and hazard
8	Forest resources management
9	River/stream resource mngmnt
10	Aviation navigation and safety

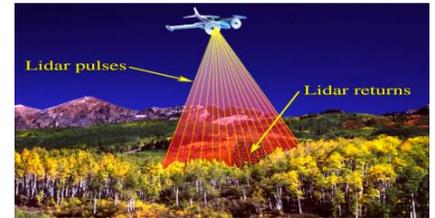
This initiative was also endorsed by the National States Geographic Information Council and the National Geospatial Advisory Committee. The confluence of support for data acquisition is reflected in the 3DEP primary goal to *"systematically collect enhanced elevation data ... over the conterminous United States...on an 8-year schedule."*

### LiDAR at a Glance

LiDAR is a remote sensing method using light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges (variable distances) to the Earth yielding precise elevation data. When combined with other data it generates *precise, 3D information about the shape of the Earth, i.e., "Bare Earth" DEMs, DSMs and their "derivatives"*.

The combined utility of LiDAR elevation products supports such a wide array of applications that it can truly be considered a form of

critical digital infrastructure. For more technical details see the *"More Info"* section below.



Graphic courtesy of USGS

### Coordination/Implementation

In 2012 the Vermont Center for Geographic Information (VCGI) *formed the "LiDAR Workgroup"* as a strategic response to Hurricane Irene with the goals of supporting the coordination, acquisition and dissemination of statewide LiDAR. The group is currently comprised of federal, state and local partners: U.S. Geological Survey, National Resource Conservation Service, UVM Spatial Analysis Lab, VT Assoc. of Planning & Dev. Agencies, VCGI, VT Agency of Natural Resources, Lake Champlain Basin Program, U.S. Forest Service, VT Electric Coop, VT Sustainable Jobs Fund and the VT Geological Survey.

### Summary

As the state GIS coordinating organization, VCGI is committed to the success and long-term support of this effort. Existing and future data from this program will be shared with appropriate federal data portals to provide the public with multiple data access points.

### For More Information

What is LiDAR?

<http://tinyurl.com/o7q97fw>

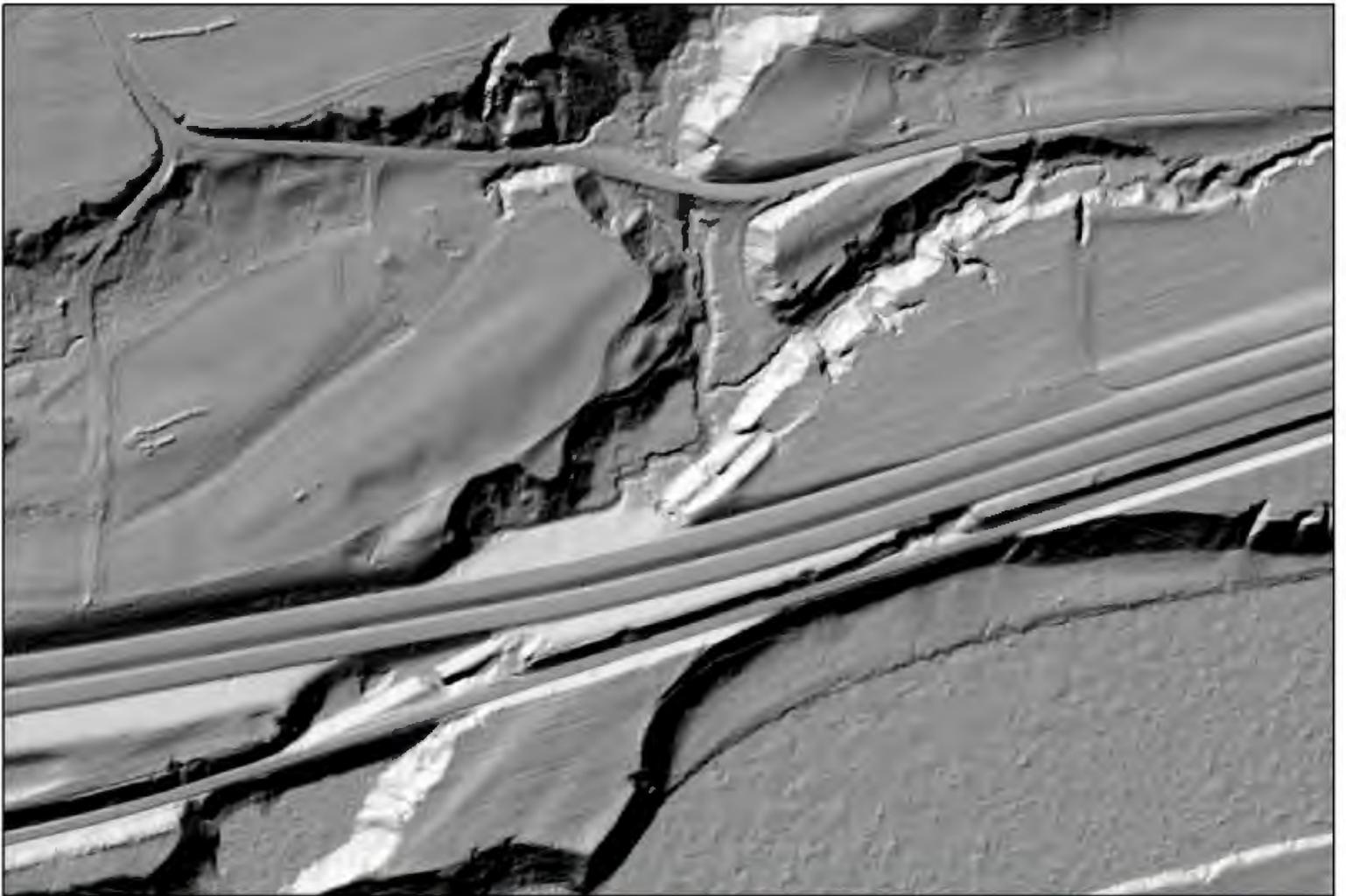
"What is LiDAR data?" -

<http://tinyurl.com/nmxfaqo>

Mike Brouillette (VCGI LiDAR Coord.);  
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LiDAR Web page -

[vcgi.vermont.gov/lidar](http://vcgi.vermont.gov/lidar)



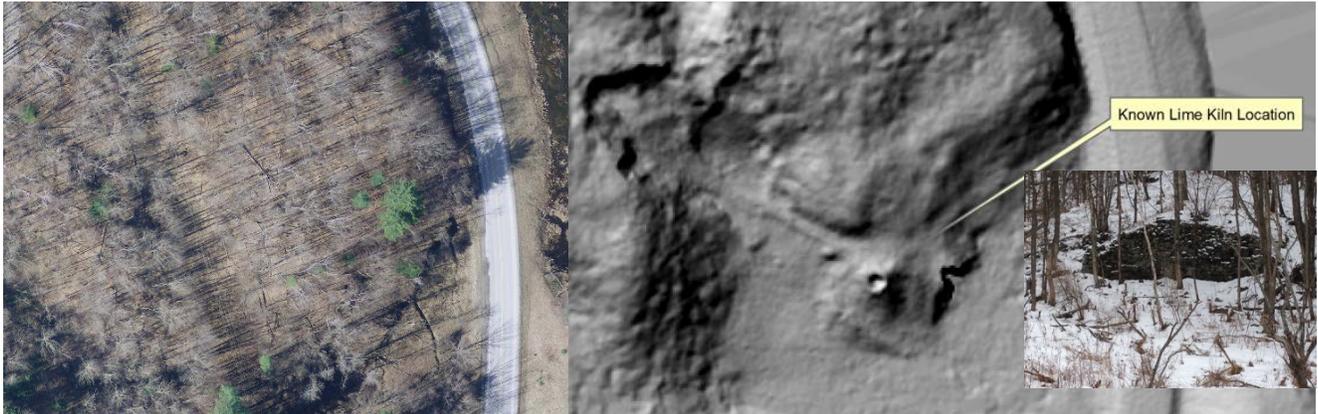
I-91 Putney LiDAR - 2008  
VTrans Mapping Unit

0 0.02 0.04 0.08 Miles

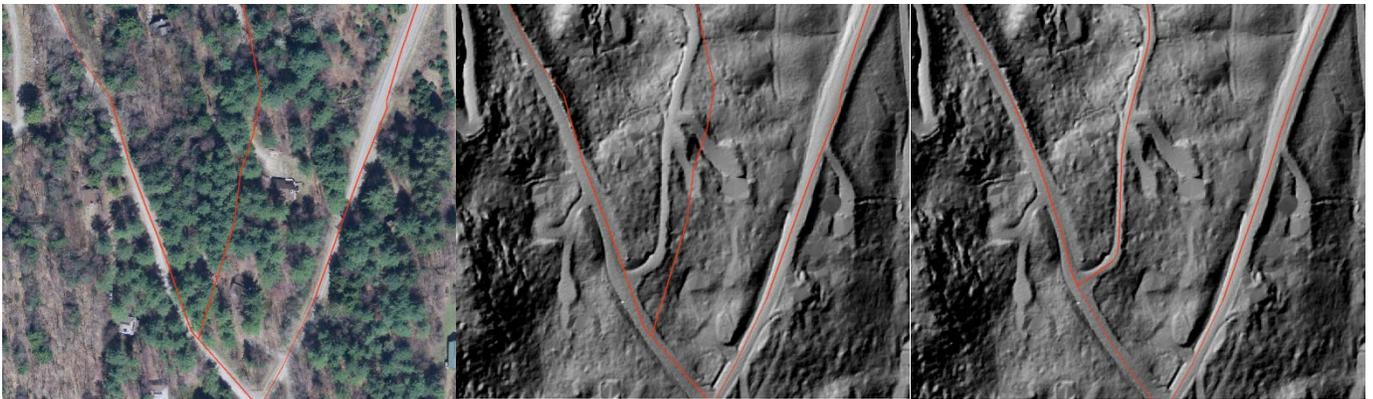


# VTrans Use of Light Detection & Ranging (LiDAR) Technology

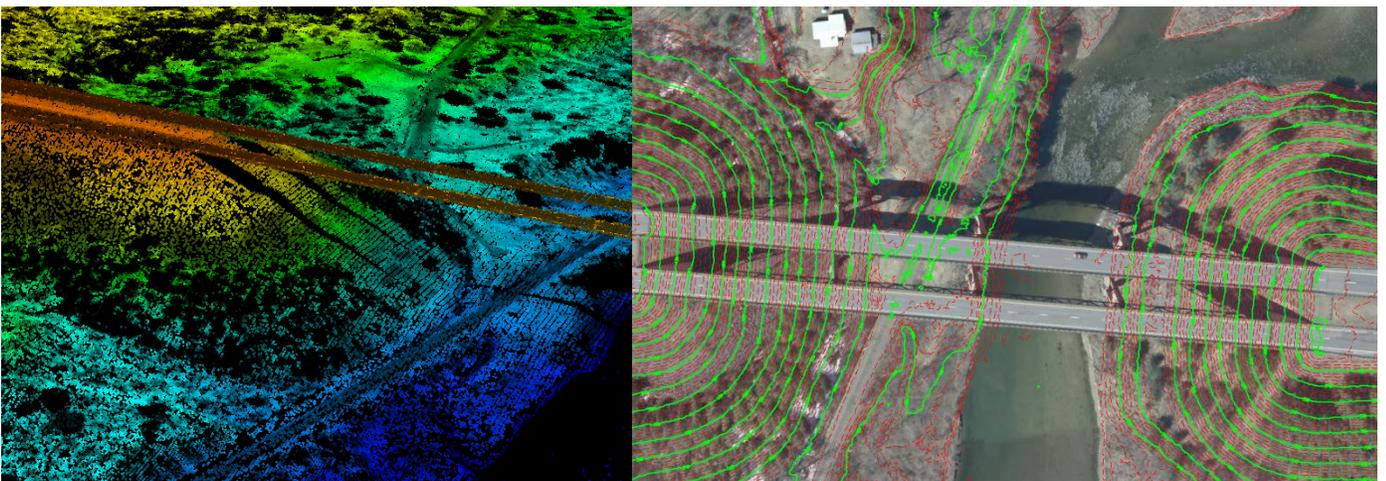
## LiDAR in Archeology

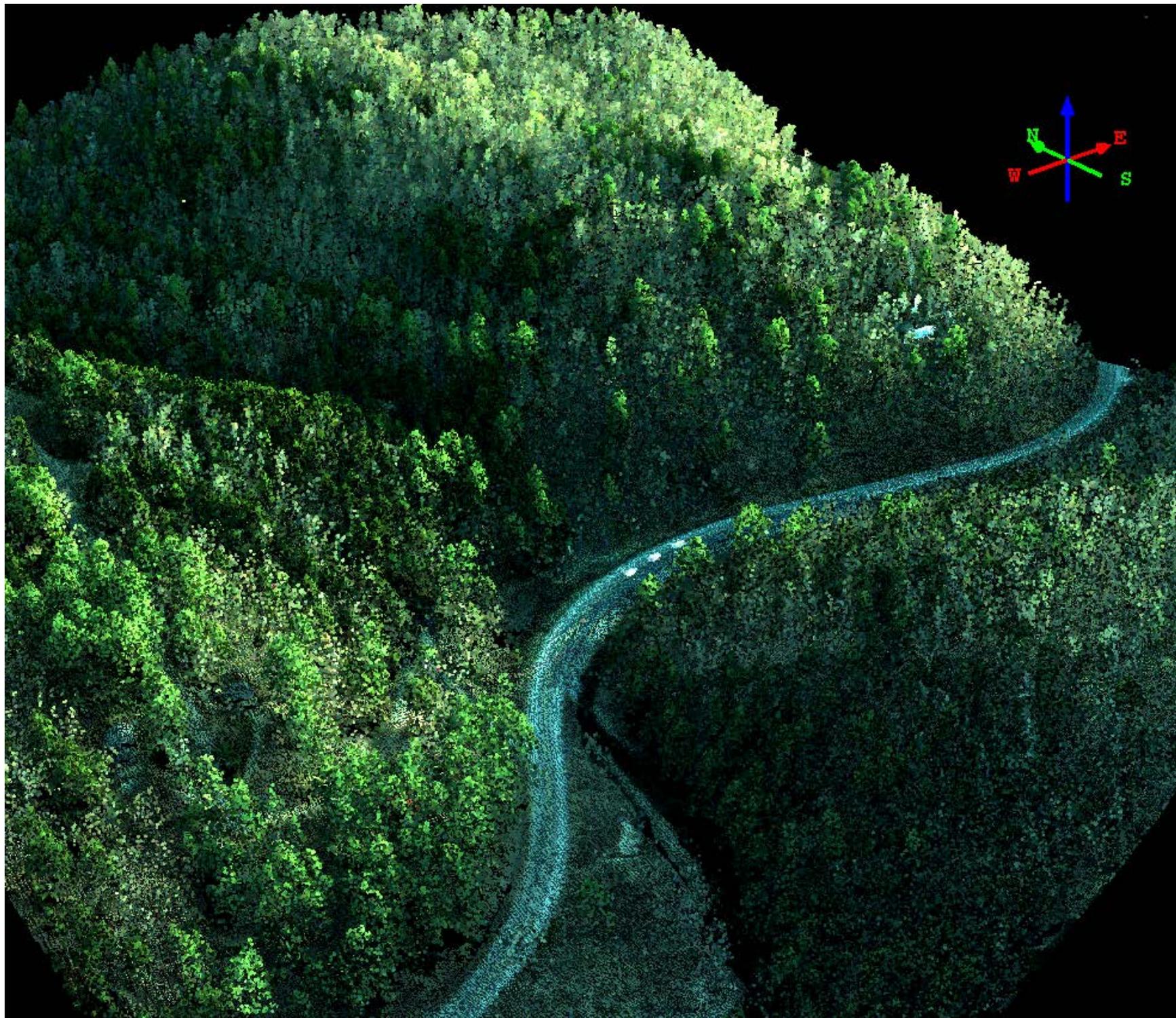


## LiDAR to Improve Road Centerlines



## LiDAR in Project Design





LiDAR 3D  
Example

TS Irene  
Corridor  
Imagery

Spring 2012

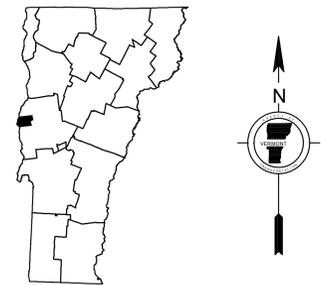
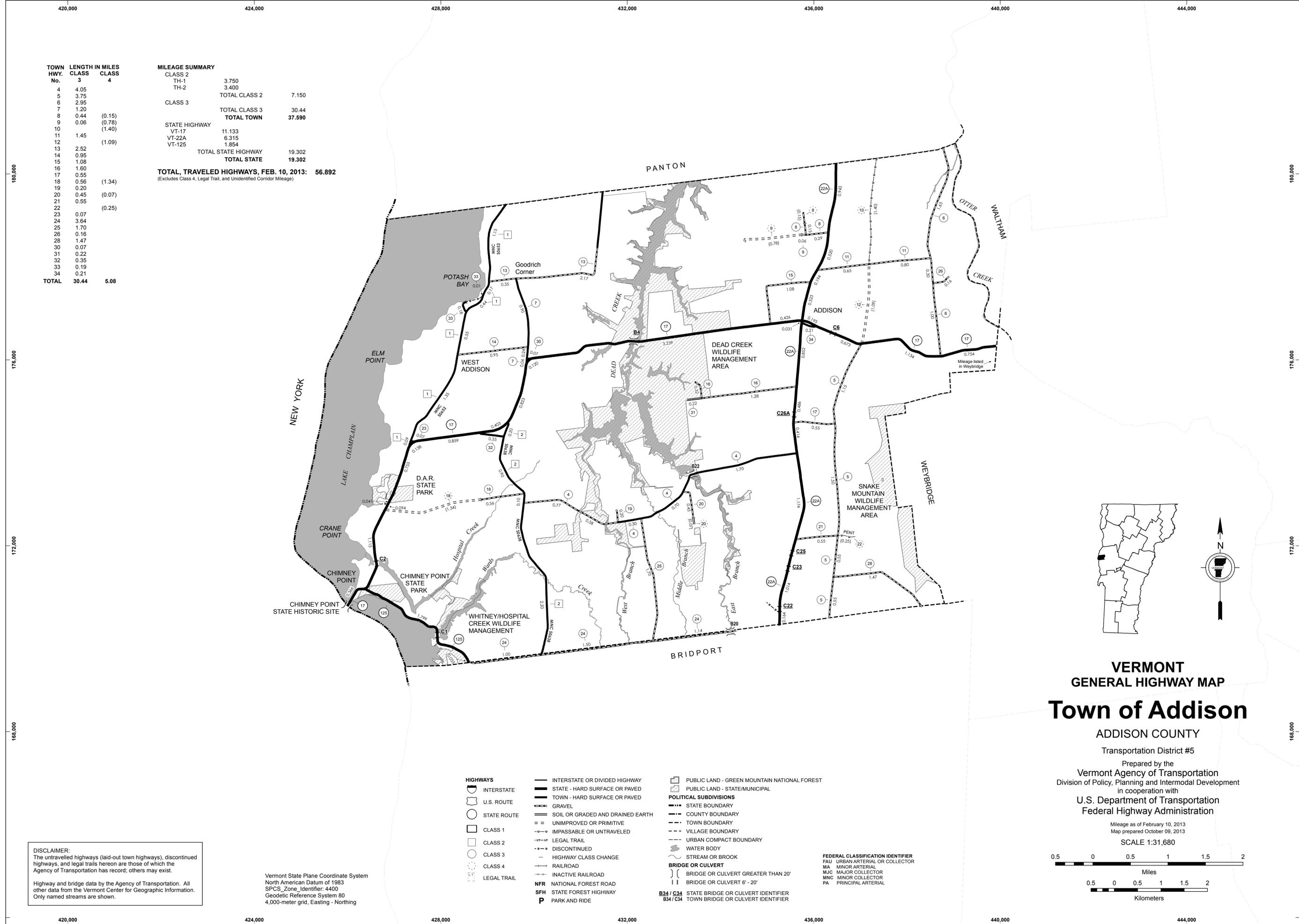
VTrans  
Mapping

TOWN HWY. No.	LENGTH IN MILES CLASS 3	CLASS 4
4	4.05	
5	3.75	
6	2.95	
7	1.20	
8	0.44	(0.15)
9	0.06	(0.78)
10		(1.40)
11	1.45	
12		(1.09)
13	2.52	
14	0.95	
15	1.08	
16	1.60	
17	0.55	
18	0.56	(1.34)
19	0.20	
20	0.45	(0.07)
21	0.55	
22		(0.25)
23	0.07	
24	3.64	
25	1.70	
26	0.16	
28	1.47	
30	0.07	
31	0.22	
32	0.35	
33	0.19	
34	0.21	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30.44</b>	<b>5.08</b>

**MILEAGE SUMMARY**

CLASS 2	3.750	
TH-1	3.400	
TH-2		
<b>TOTAL CLASS 2</b>	<b>7.150</b>	
CLASS 3		
<b>TOTAL CLASS 3</b>	<b>30.44</b>	
<b>TOTAL TOWN</b>	<b>37.590</b>	
STATE HIGHWAY		
VT-17	11.133	
VT-22A	6.315	
VT-125	1.854	
<b>TOTAL STATE HIGHWAY</b>	<b>19.302</b>	
<b>TOTAL STATE</b>	<b>19.302</b>	

**TOTAL, TRAVELED HIGHWAYS, FEB. 10, 2013: 56.892**  
(Excludes Class 4, Legal Trail, and Unidentified Corridor Mileage)



**VERMONT**  
**GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP**  
**Town of Addison**

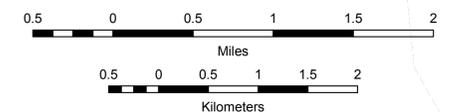
ADDISON COUNTY

Transportation District #5

Prepared by the  
Vermont Agency of Transportation  
Division of Policy, Planning and Intermodal Development  
in cooperation with  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

Mileage as of February 10, 2013  
Map prepared October 09, 2013

SCALE 1:31,680



- HIGHWAYS**
- INTERSTATE
  - U.S. ROUTE
  - STATE ROUTE
  - CLASS 1
  - CLASS 2
  - CLASS 3
  - CLASS 4
  - LEGAL TRAIL
  - INTERSTATE OR DIVIDED HIGHWAY
  - STATE - HARD SURFACE OR PAVED
  - TOWN - HARD SURFACE OR PAVED
  - GRAVEL
  - SOIL OR GRADED AND DRAINED EARTH
  - UNIMPROVED OR PRIMITIVE
  - IMPASSABLE OR UNTRAVELED
  - LEGAL TRAIL
  - DISCONTINUED
  - HIGHWAY CLASS CHANGE
  - RAILROAD
  - INACTIVE RAILROAD
  - NATIONAL FOREST ROAD
  - STATE FOREST HIGHWAY
  - PARK AND RIDE
- POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS**
- STATE BOUNDARY
  - COUNTY BOUNDARY
  - TOWN BOUNDARY
  - VILLAGE BOUNDARY
  - URBAN COMPACT BOUNDARY
  - WATER BODY
  - STREAM OR BROOK
  - BRIDGE OR CULVERT
  - BRIDGE OR CULVERT GREATER THAN 20'
  - BRIDGE OR CULVERT 6' - 20'
- FEDERAL CLASSIFICATION IDENTIFIER**
- FAU URBAN ARTERIAL OR COLLECTOR
  - MA MINOR ARTERIAL
  - MJC MAJOR COLLECTOR
  - MNC MINOR COLLECTOR
  - PA PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL
- B34 / C34** STATE BRIDGE OR CULVERT IDENTIFIER  
**B34 / C34** TOWN BRIDGE OR CULVERT IDENTIFIER

**DISCLAIMER:**  
The untraveled highways (laid-out town highways), discontinued highways, and legal trails hereon are those of which the Agency of Transportation has record; others may exist.  
Highway and bridge data by the Agency of Transportation. All other data from the Vermont Center for Geographic Information. Only named streams are shown.

Vermont State Plane Coordinate System  
North American Datum of 1983  
SPCS\_Zone\_Identifier: 4400  
Geodetic Reference System 80  
4,000-meter grid, Easting - Northing

