

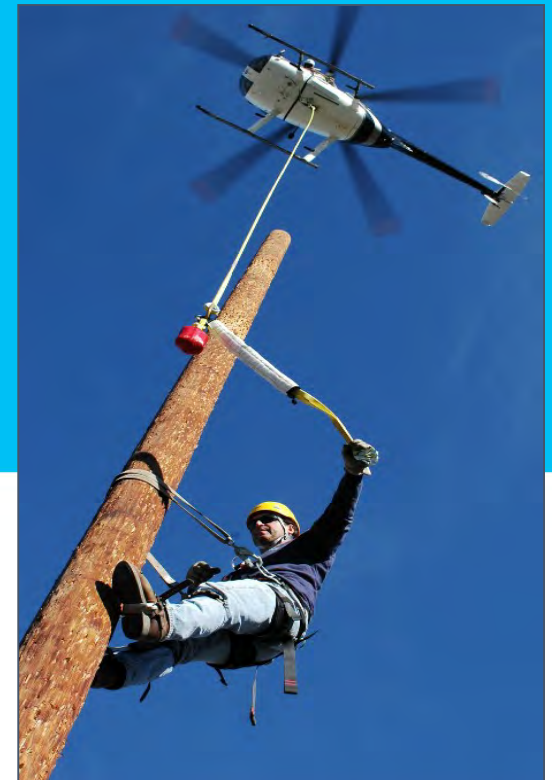
# Implementation of Remote Sensing Data: Pacific Gas & Electric Company

## Evaluation, Mitigation, and Monitoring of Gas & Electric Infrastructure in Central and Northern California

***Jeff Bachhuber, Chris Madugo – Geosciences***  
***Eric Woodyard – Electric Vegetation Management***  
***Teddy Atkinson – Gas Transmission TIMP***



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a Better California





# Drive to Integrate Technology – Consistent with PG&E's Mission, Vision, Culture

## Remote Sensing

### Benefits:

- **Cost & Time Efficiency**
- **Higher Quality**
- **Access (e.g. tower equipment)**
- **Safety**
- **Documentation**
- **Multi-use (e.g. VM, equipment condition, geotechnical)**

### Challenges:

- **New**
- **Takes Time to Develop Confidence**
- **Incomplete Data Sets**
- **Over-Expectations**
- **Traditional Job Change/Perceived Threat**

## Mission Vision Culture

### Our Mission

To safely and reliably deliver affordable and clean energy to our customers and communities every single day, while building the energy network of tomorrow.

### Our Vision

With a sustainable energy future as our North Star, we will meet the challenge of climate change while providing affordable energy for all customers.

### Our Culture

We put safety first.

We are accountable. We act with integrity, transparency and humility.

We are here to serve our customers.

We embrace change, innovation and continuous improvement.

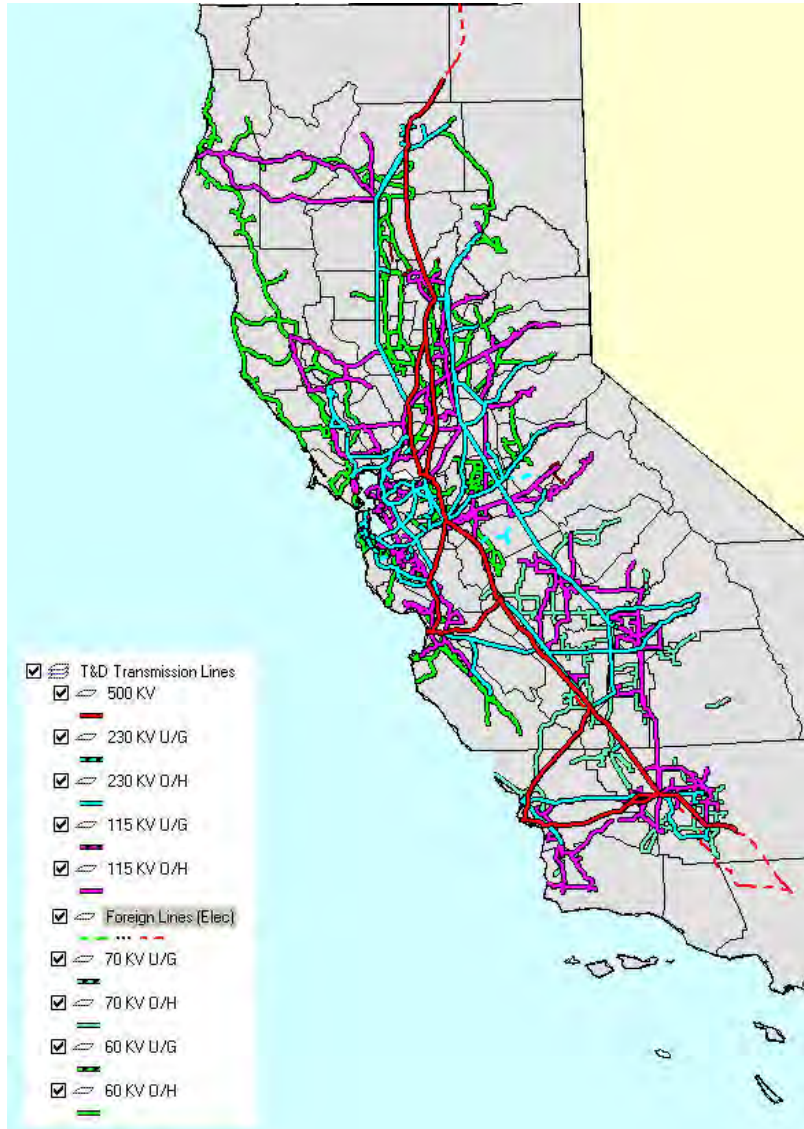
We value diversity and inclusion. We speak up, listen up and follow up.

We succeed through collaboration and partnership. We are one team.



# Maps of PG&E's Electric & Gas System

**Electric:** +18k mi. ET, +123k mi. ED

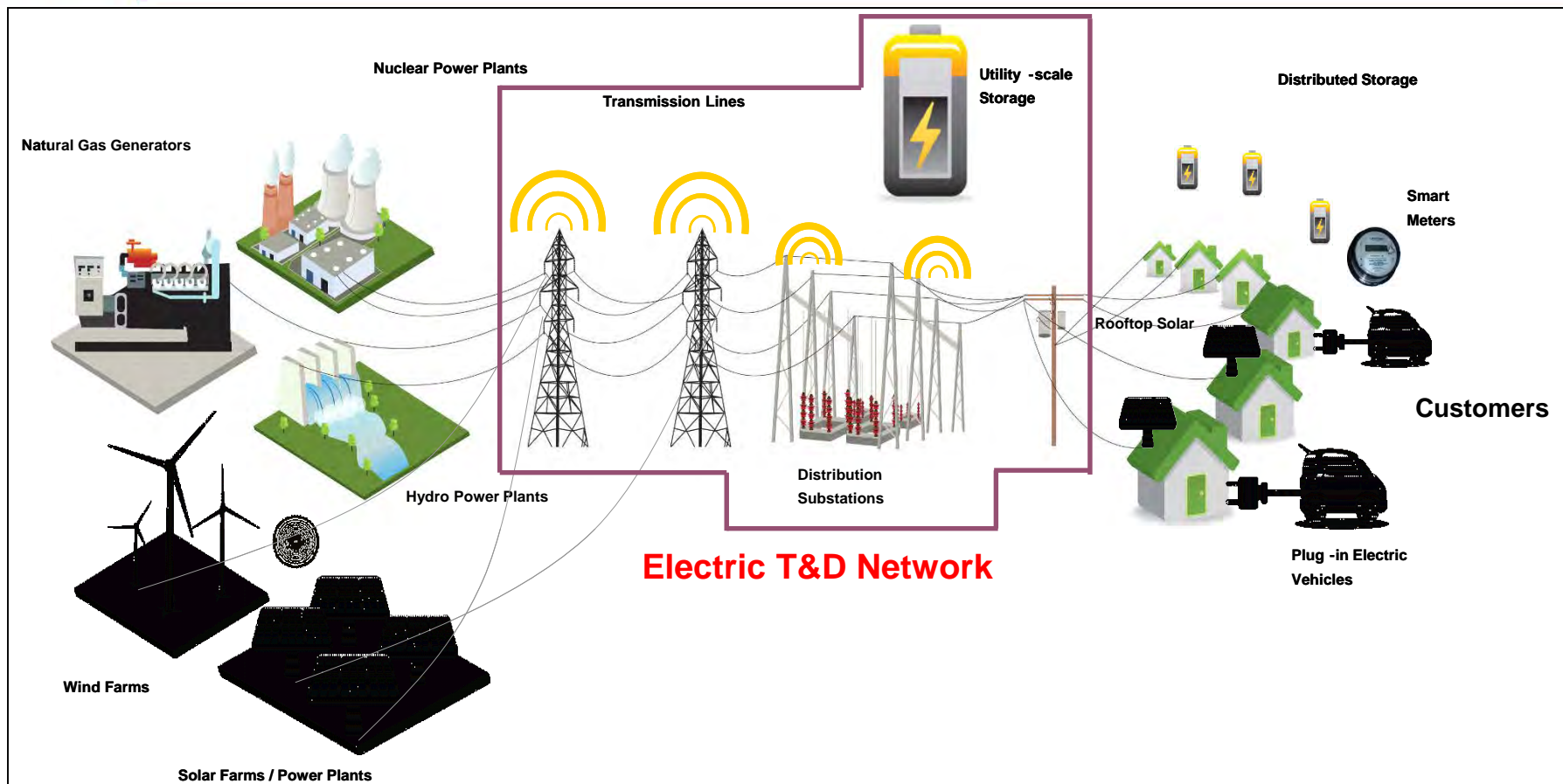


**Gas:** 48k mi. GTD





# Diverse Electric Generation, T&D Network & Customer Base



## Electric System Includes:

- Transmission lines, substations & the distribution system
- Greater than 1,000,000 transformers and 850 substations
- 66 hydroelectric powerhouses/169 dams generation, gas plants, increasing rooftop solar
- 5.3 million electric customers serving 15 million people [ 1 in 20 Americans]

# Overview of Natural Hazards in Northern/Central CA

- **Earthquakes and Fault Displacement (active plate boundary)**

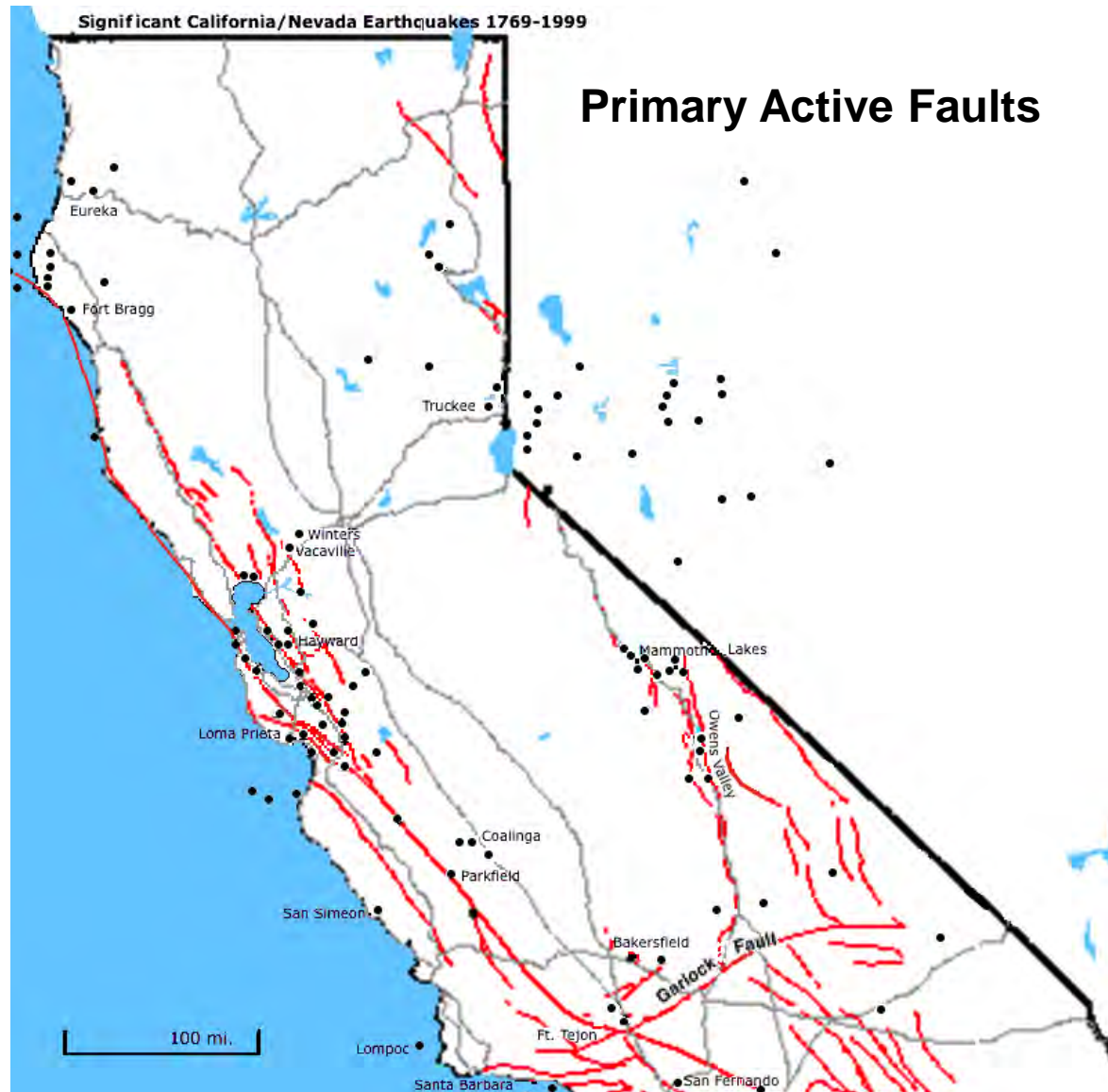
- **Erosion/Scour**

- **Geotechnical-Foundation Issues**

- **Storm-Induced Landslides & Flooding (atmospheric rivers)**

- **Subsidence & Sea Level Rise (accelerated by climate change)**

- **Wildfire & Debris Flows**  
*Significantly Affected by Climate Change*



# Electric Transmission & Distribution System:

- LiDAR Database
- Vegetation Management



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# PG&E Electric Vegetation Management By The Numbers...

**1 – annual patrol**

**100,000 – Line Miles Patrolled Annually**

**1,400,000 – Trees Pruned Annually**

**123,000,000 – Trees Adjacent to Lines\***

***\*Drought & Bark Beetle Tree Kills Have Increased Hazard***

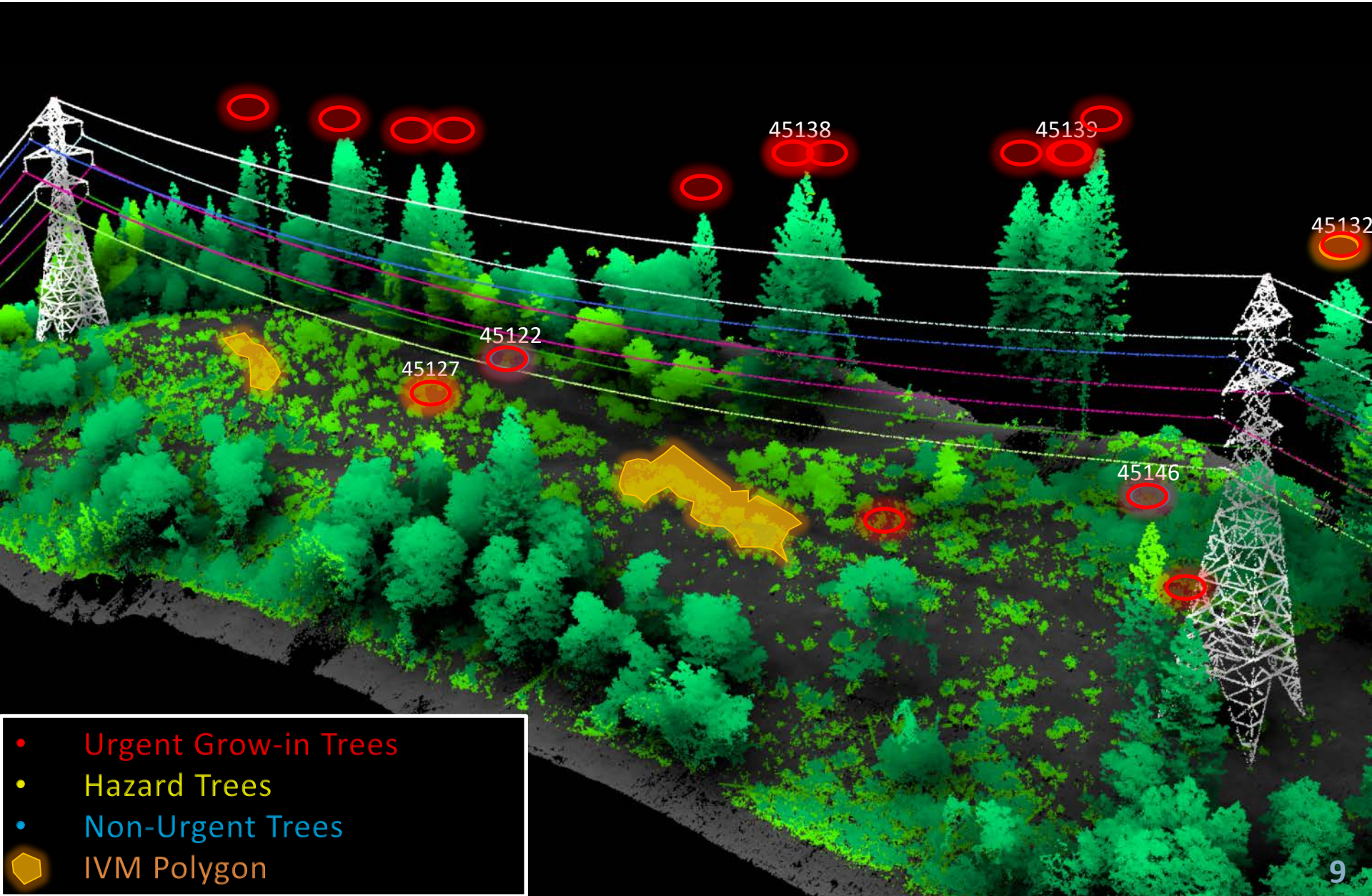
***\*Climate Change to Drier Conditions Increases Fuel Risk***



# LiDAR Program

- **Typical acquisition using 20-30 points/meter**
- **Outsourced, but evaluating using internal LiDAR resources**
- **Annual budget ~\$15M/year**
- **Compiled in a database with increasing use of change detection**
- **Field reconnaissance and vegetation removal reporting for calibration & detail**
- **Multiple users identified (e.g., electrical engineers component assessment, Geosciences ground stability)**
- **Pilot Program - Evaluated hyperspectral data collection for vegetation “typing” (but would double annual acquisition costs)**





- Urgent Grow-in Trees
- Hazard Trees
- Non-Urgent Trees
- IVM Polygon



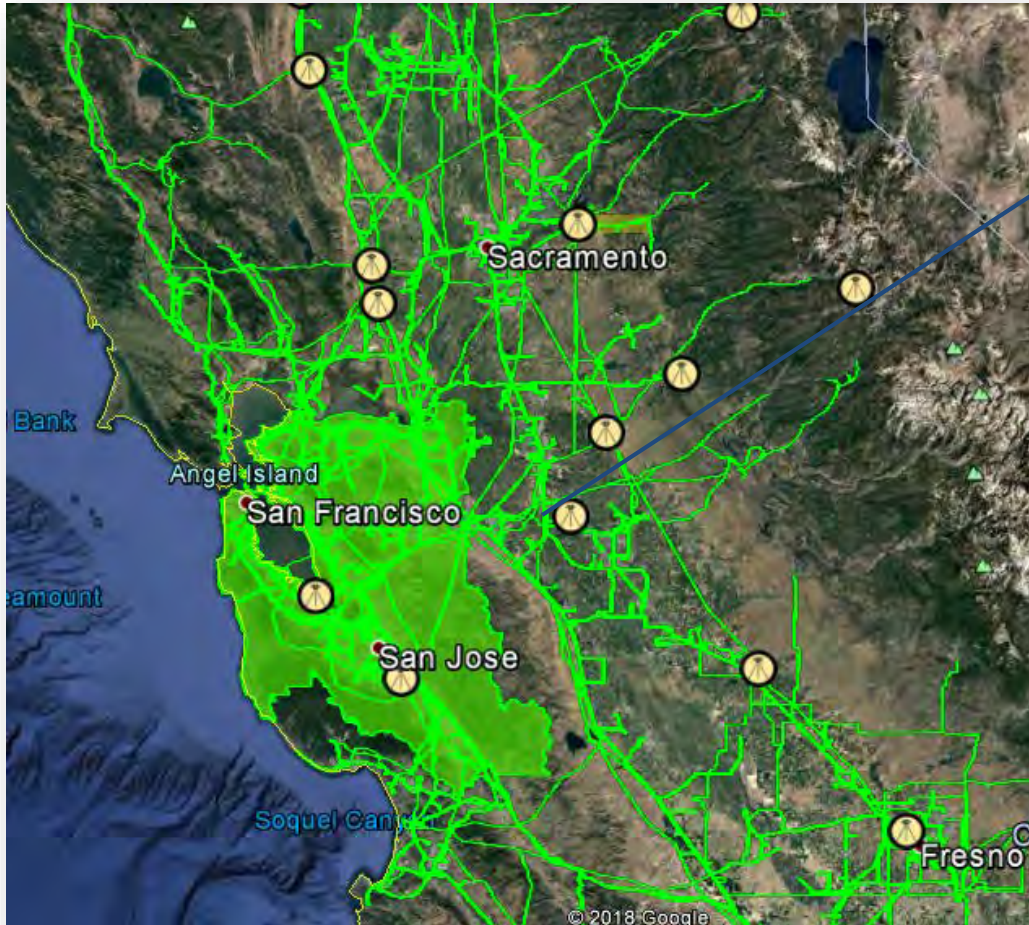
# Using Data in the Field for Work Efficiencies – Hand-Held Devices and Apps



**Red Dots:**  
Overhanging  
Trees

**Green Dots:**  
Encroachment  
Trees

**Field Crews Use Tree Inventory & Rating Database for Target Tree Identification, Vegetation Removal Planning, and Work Documentation. Apps Developed In-House with End User Feedback**



LIDAR Data	
TILE	SAN JOAQUIN_57168
ACQ_DATES	20140308 - 20140728
ACQ_YEAR	2014
H_DATUM	NAD83 (2011)
EPOCH	2010
V_DATUM	NAVD88 - GEOID12A
PROJECTION	UTM Zone 10
UNITS	Meters
PGE_ACC_CLASS	Class B
VERTICAL_ABS_ACC_95PCT	0.17'
HORIZONTAL_ABS_ACC_95PCT	0.18'
RELATIVE_ACCURACY_95PCT	0.18'
PPSM_AVG	39
VENDOR	QSI
PROJ_NAME	PG&E GT 2014 Pipeline Risk Management Data
ACQ_VEHICLE	Rotary Wing
SENSOR_TYPE	Optech Orion H
COLLECTION_ALTITUDE	2132'
DOWNLOAD_LINKS	<a href="#">Files To Download</a>

**Metadata – Vintage, Project, Acquisition Parameters  
Multi-LOB Uses**

## LiDAR Strengths and Limitations

Strengths	Limitations
Compliance assessments	Vegetation Health
Risk assessments	Cracks in tree trunks; uprooting trees
Historical Comparisons	Secondary wires and service drops
Forecasting; data scaling	Tree counting
Asset and Vegetation Mapping	Pole loading

- ***Continued validation with field observations over time and building out LiDAR dataset help address this***



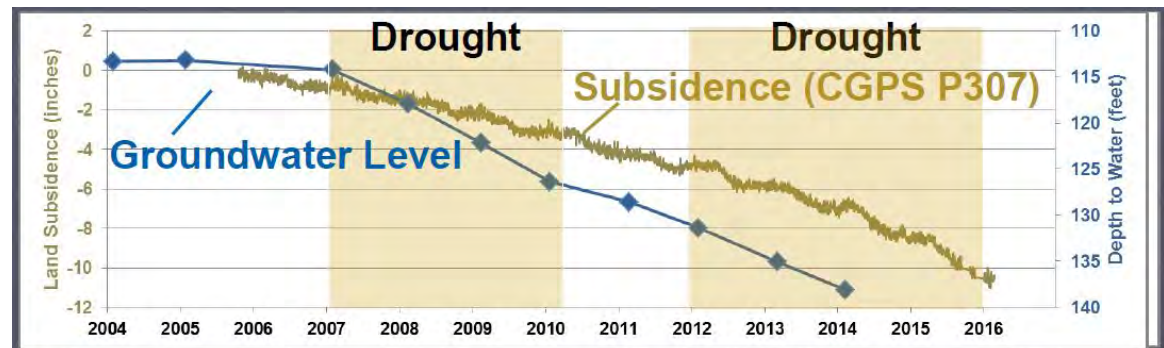
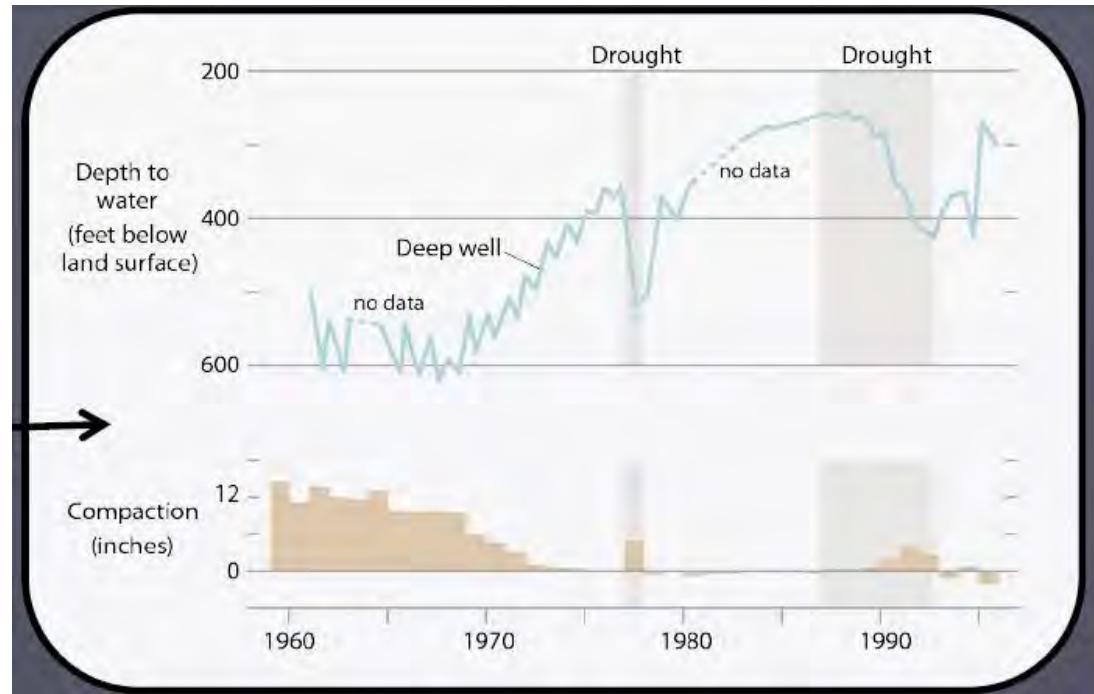
# Subsidence in Central Valley Impacts to Gas System



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# Long History of Subsidence in Central Valley Strongly Correlated with Groundwater Pumping & Drought Periods

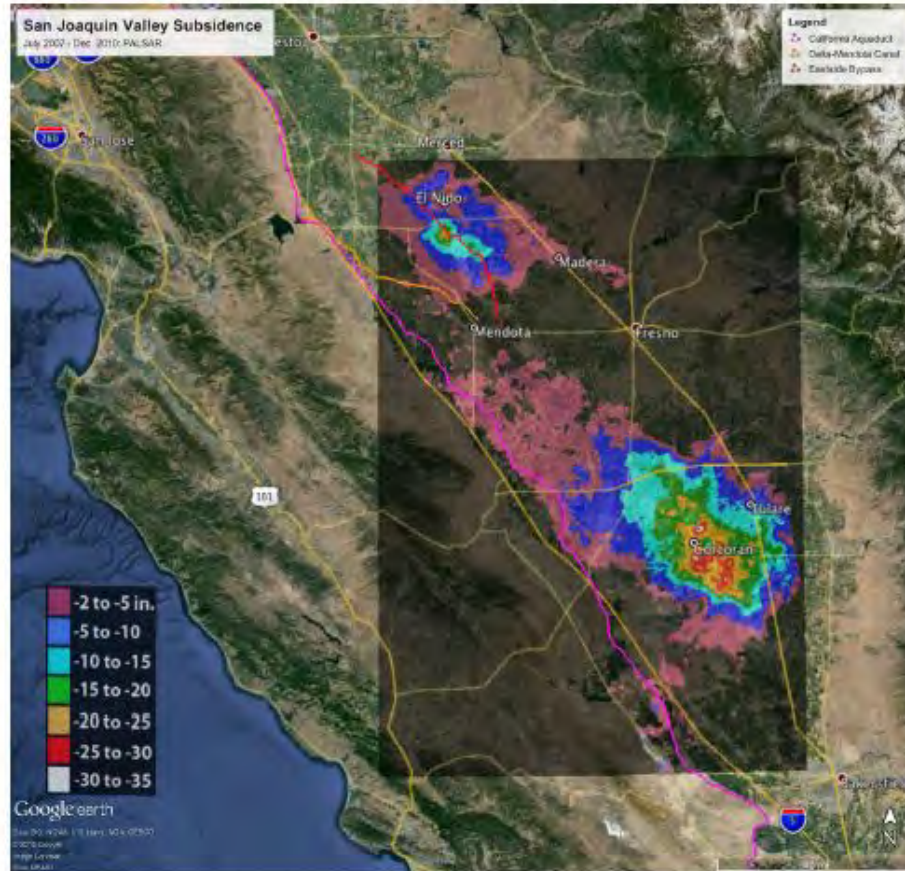


Source: Michelle Sneed, USGS, 2016



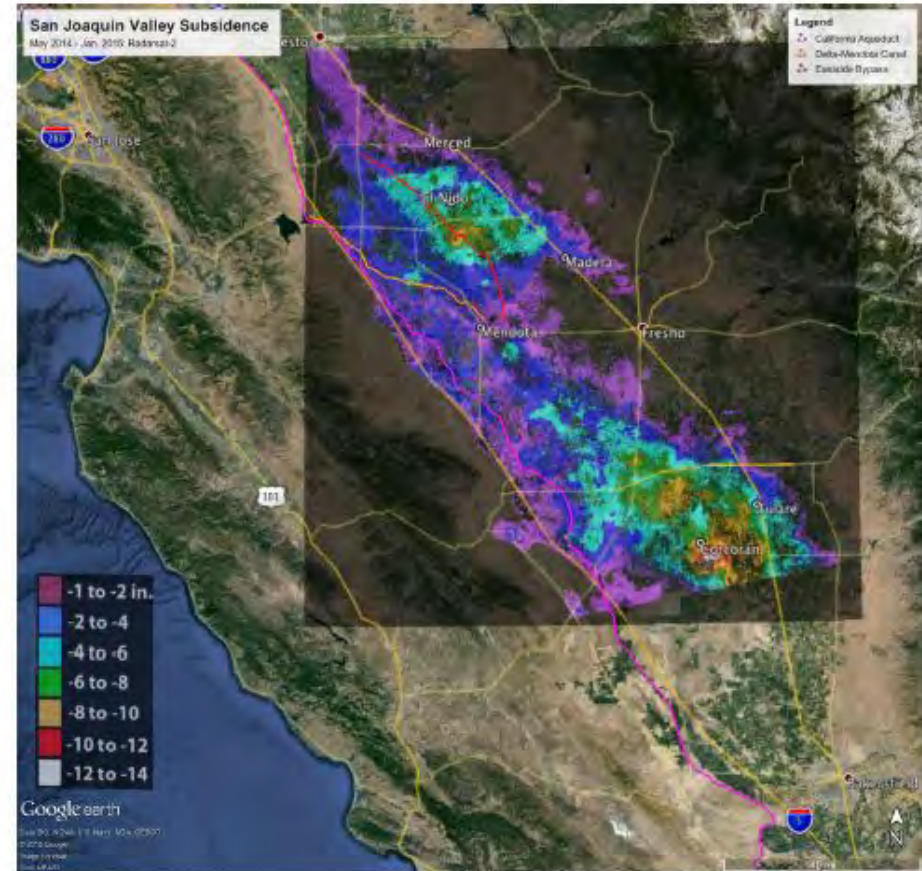
# InSAR data effectively identifies vertical subsidence distribution and rates since the 1990's

**June 2007 – December 2010**



**(42 mo. = 20 to 30 in.)**

**May 2014 – January 2015**



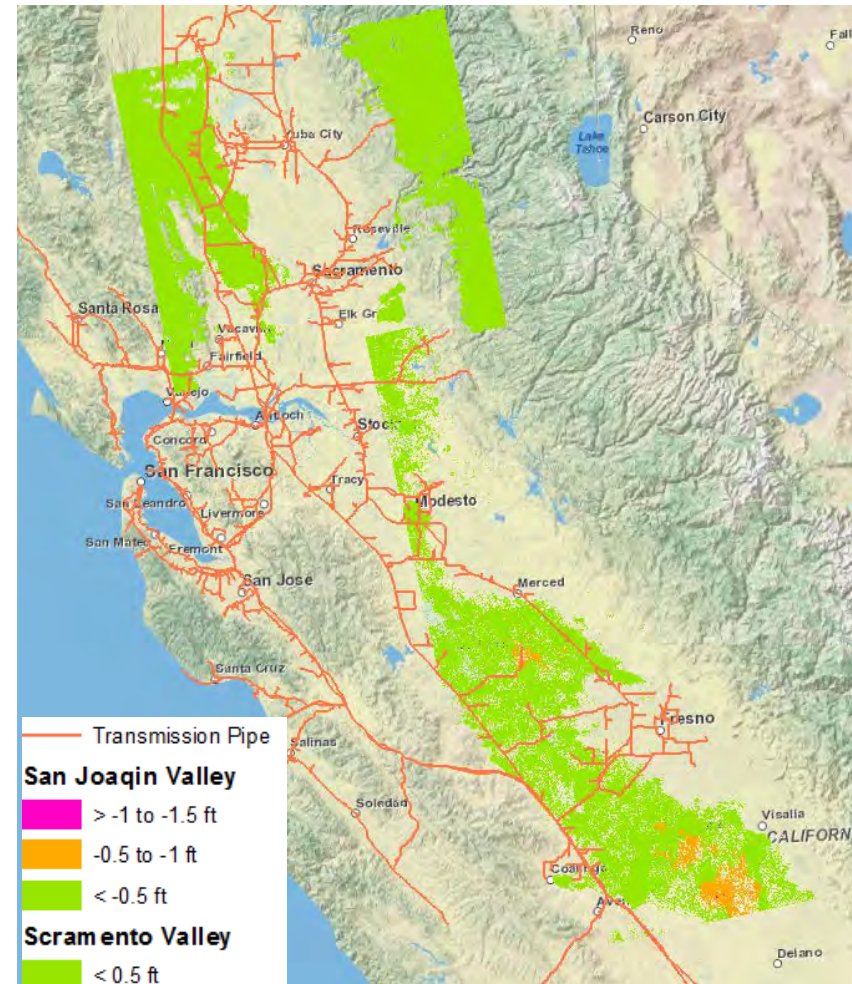
**(9 mo. = 8 to 12 in.)**

**Rates of Subsidence Significantly Increased During 2000's Drought**



- **Approximately 972 miles of 6,650 mile System Affected by 0.5-ft. or Greater Subsidence**
- **Evaluate pipeline response to subsidence in most rapidly subsiding area**
- **Use results to develop guidelines for addressing subsidence in other areas**
- **InSAR Provides Broad and Accurate Definition of Subsidence Cost-Time Effectively**

NASA JPL data 5/2014 – 1/2015





# Line 186 Study Area in "El Nido" Subsidence Bullseye

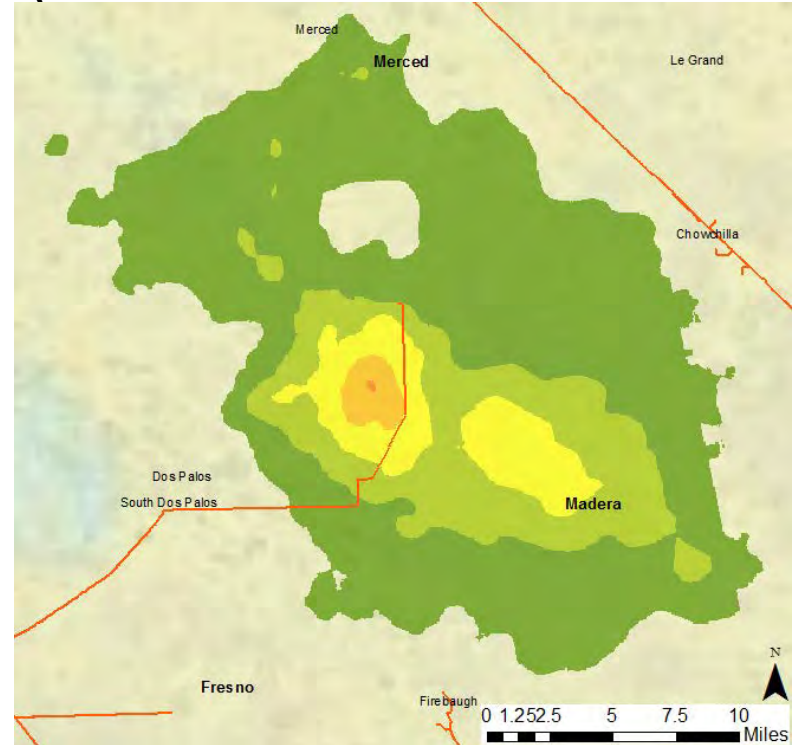


**Extension & Fissuring  
(Shoulders of bullseye...)**



**Compressional Buckling  
(Transition in Bottom of Bowl)**

**NASA JPL data 6/2007 – 1/2011  
(Plane-Borne Terrestrial)**



— Transmission Pipe

### San Joaquin Valley

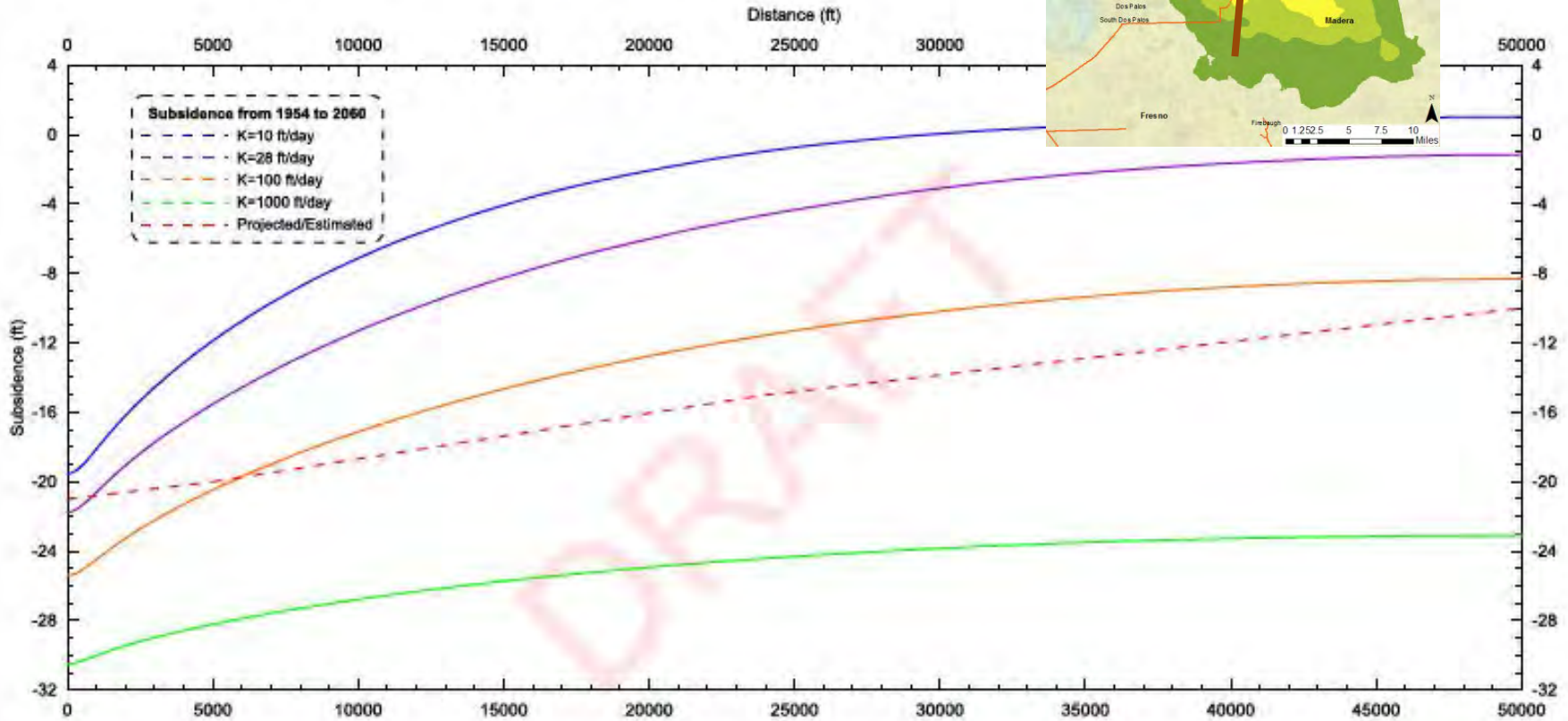
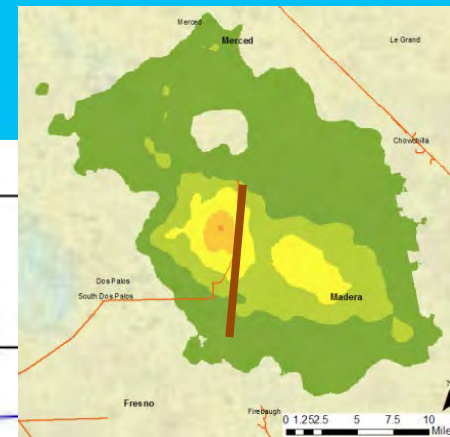
- 0.5 to -1.0 ft
- > -1.0 to -1.5 ft
- > -1.5 to -2.0 ft
- > -2.0 to -2.5 ft
- > -2.5 to -3.0 ft
- > -3.0 ft

**~ 3 ft.  
Subsidence  
in 4.5 yrs.**





# Predicted Vertical Deformation 2000 - 2060



**Note:**  
The projected/estimated subsidence profile shown in dashed line is approximated based on a combination of the subsidence contours shown in the San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study conducted jointly by the Reclamation Board of the State of California and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2002 for the time period between 2000 and 2060, and the estimated subsidence between 1954 and 2000 shown in Figure 3.



Project No. 1408253-63

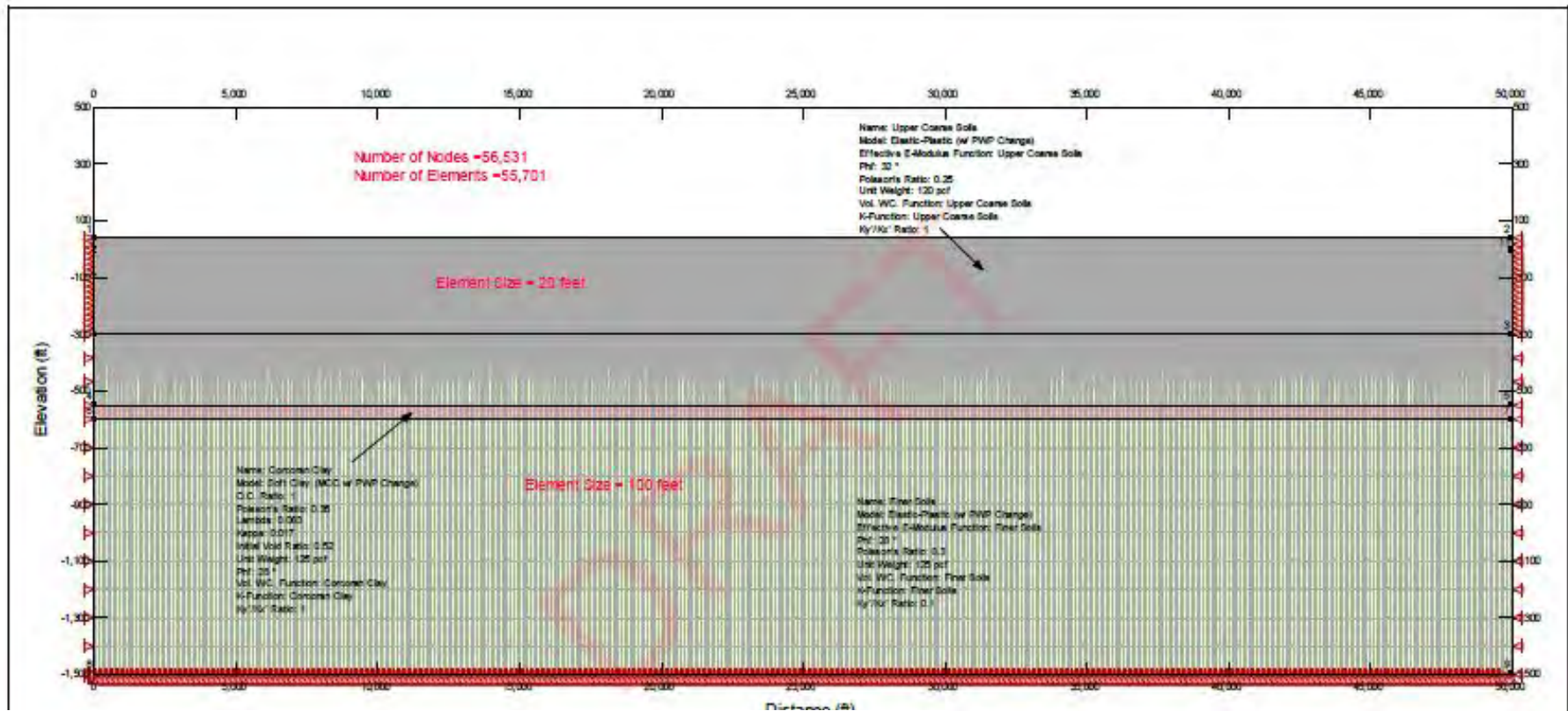
Pacific Gas & Electric  
El Nido, L-188  
Simulations of Subsidence 1954 - 2060  
Variation of Subsidence Profile with Hydraulic Conductivity

Date: May 2016

Figure: 5



# Finite Element Model of Pipe Response & Strain



- **Maximum strain in the pipeline is 0.03% tension and -0.05% compression at the predicted displacement**
- **0.05% tension and -0.09% compression at 1.5 times the predicted displacement**
- **Pipeline responding elastically**

	Pacific Gas & Electric El Nido, L-186 Finite Element Model	
	Project No. 1408253-63	Date: May 2016



## Future Studies

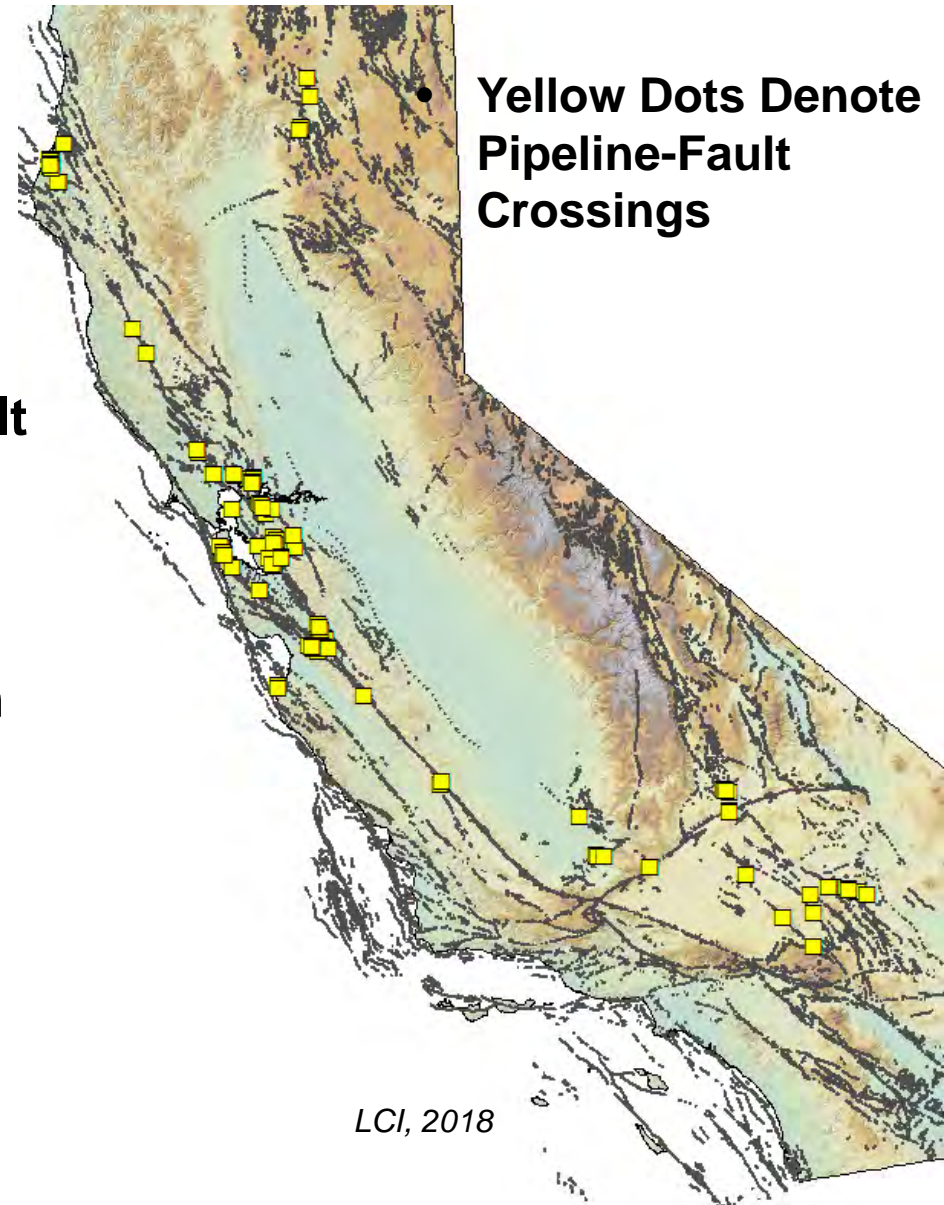
- **Additional InSAR and LiDAR Acquisition for Change Detection/Monitoring**
- **Correlations of Subsidence with Groundwater & Land Use (Help Forecast Where and Why – Possible Broad Mitigation)**
- **Instrumented Boreholes to Evaluate Depth Profile of Subsidence**
- **California Energy Commission Funded Studies Correlated to Climate Change and Gas System Reliability**

# Gas Transmission System:

- Fault Crossings
- Landslide & Erosion



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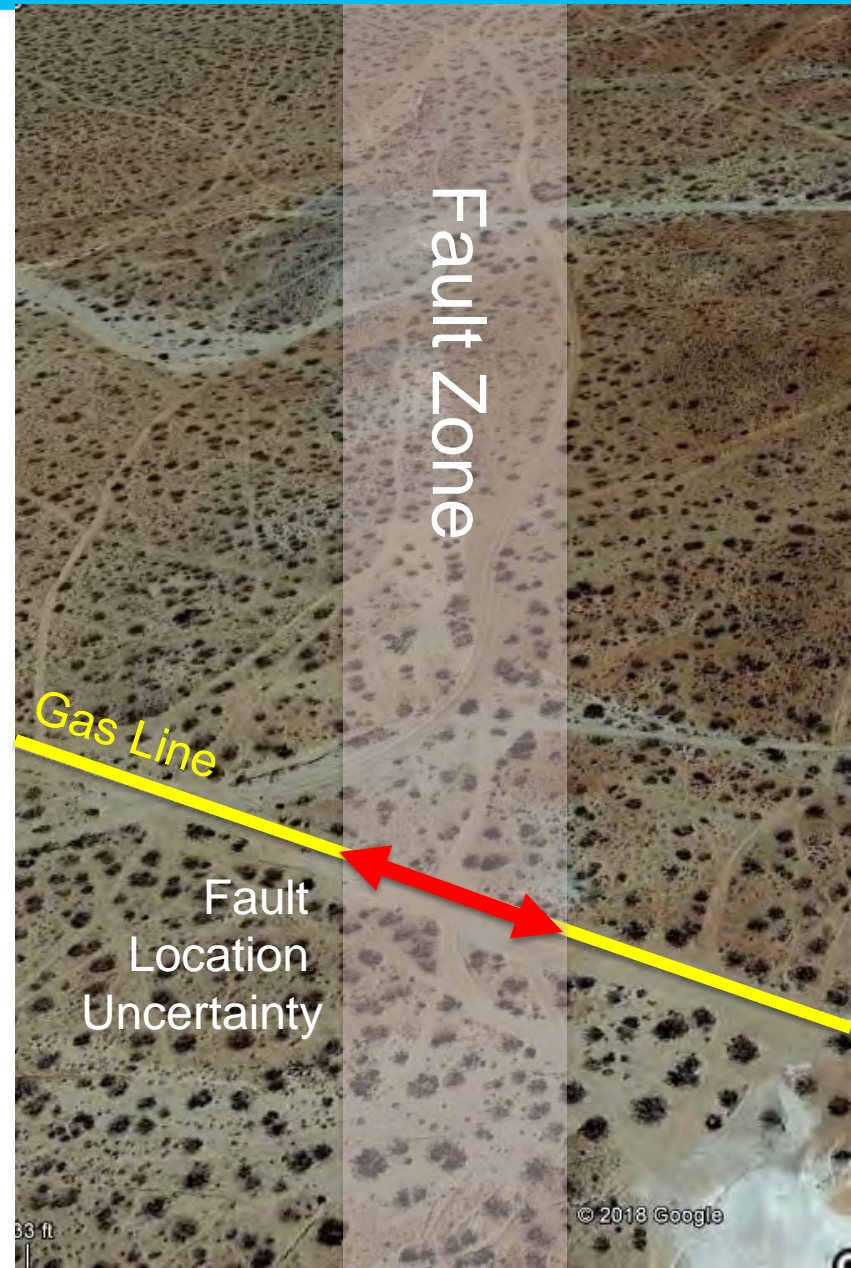


- Over 250 gas transmission-fault crossings
- ~90% of fault crossings have been studied: Proceeding from Most Active Faults to Least Active
- Ranking/Prioritization for Mitigation



## Fault Zone Parameters Are Important For Pipeline Risk Evaluation

- Width (Length) of Mitigation
- Strain Capacity of Pipeline
- Primary and/or Secondary Displacement Fields
- Fault Crossing Geometry (Pipe Put in Compression or Extension)



Garlock Fault Crossing – Google Earth





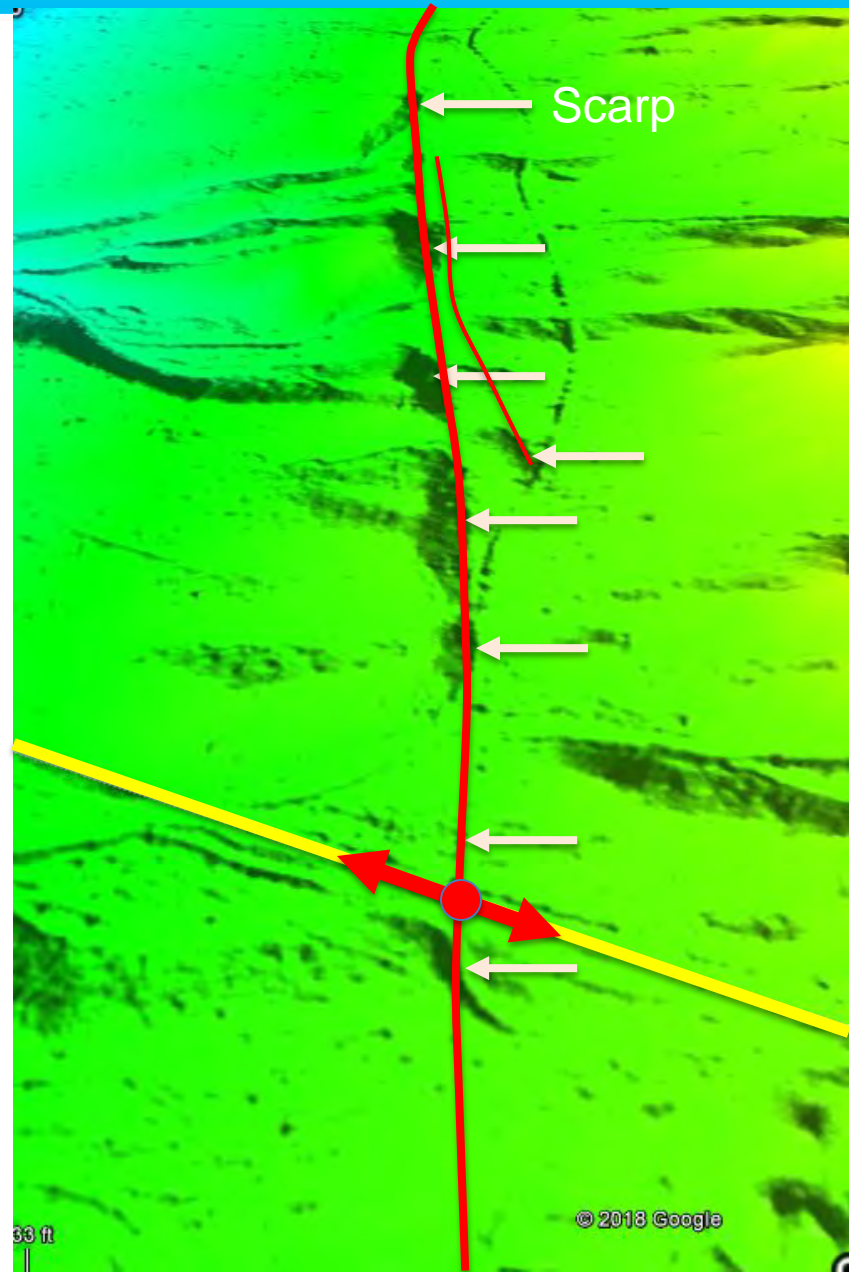
# Gas Transmission Fault Crossing Evaluation Program

**PG&E Fault Studies Use High Resolution LiDAR-derived Digital Elevation Models to Map Pipeline Fault Crossing Locations**

**Note How Fault Trace “Pops-Out” With LiDAR**

**Lidar Can Help Significantly Reduce Fault Location Uncertainties, and Provide Estimates of Width of Crossing**

**Garlock Fault Crossing – LiDAR DEM**



## Example Hayward Fault

Becky Oskin, 2013



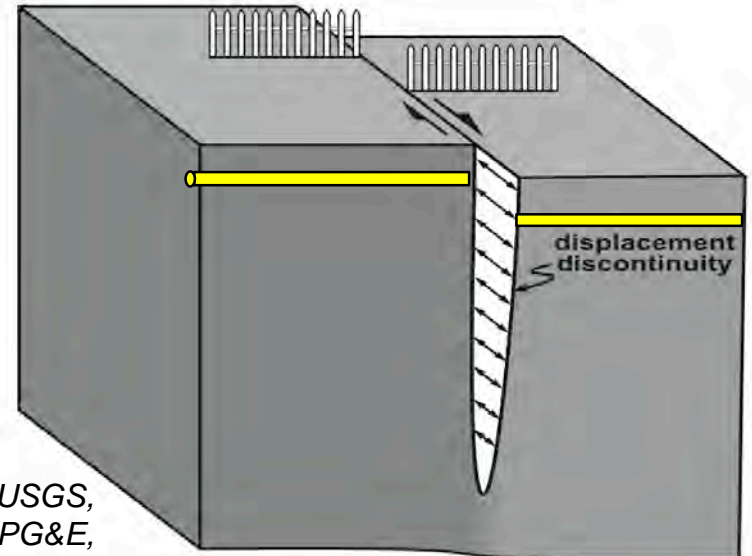
[https://geomaps.wr.usgs.gov/sfgeo/quaternary/stories/hayward\\_creep.html](https://geomaps.wr.usgs.gov/sfgeo/quaternary/stories/hayward_creep.html)

- **Many Faults in California Move Aseismically (fault creep)**
- **PG&E Gas Transmission Lines Cross Several Creeping Faults**

- **Pipeline Fragility Can Be Sensitive to Width of Deformation Zone**
- **Fault Tips for Some Creeping Faults Reach the Surface, Causing Knife-Edge Dislocations at Pipeline Depth**

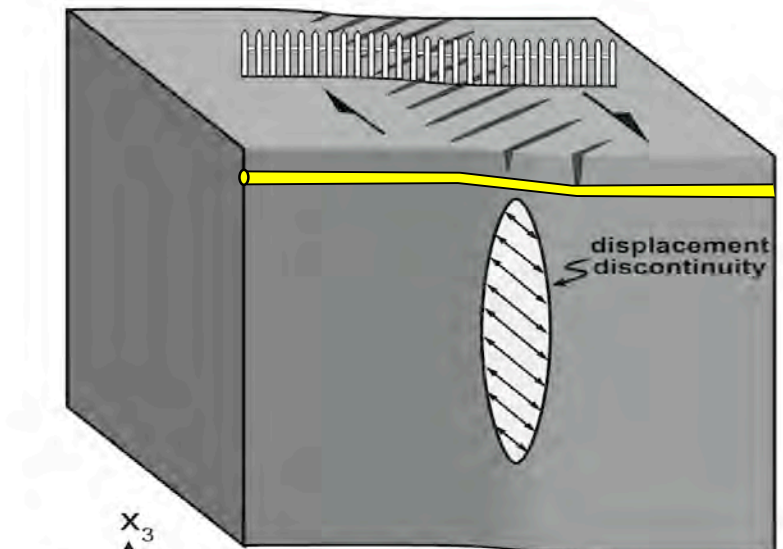


**Example Hayward Fault**



*Ben Brooks, USGS,  
presentation to PG&E,  
2016*

- **Some Fault Tips Stop Before Reaching the Surface, Causing Broad Warping at Pipeline Depth (Less Damaging)**
- **Width of Warping is Dependent on Depth of the Fault Tip**

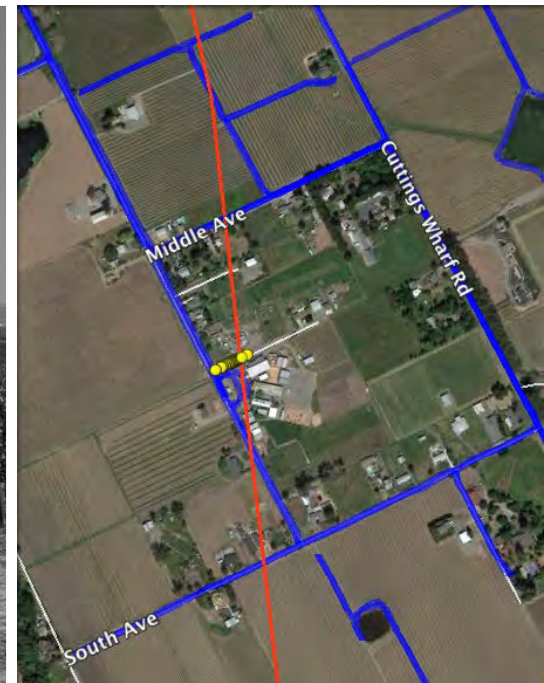
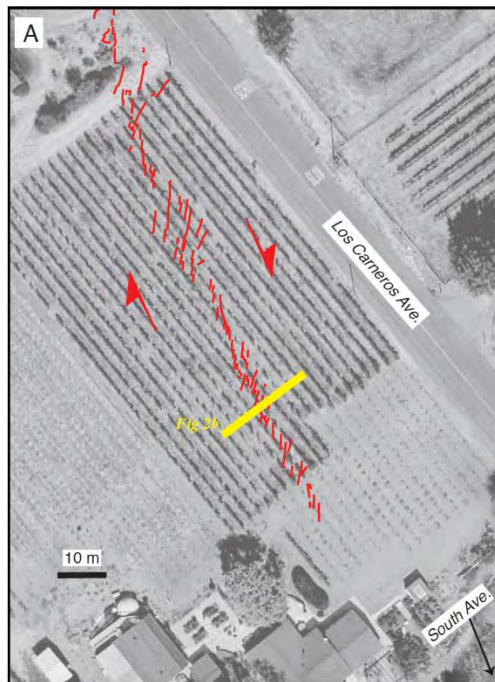






# Gas Transmission Fault Creep Monitoring Program

- **Following the 2014 Napa Earthquake, USGS Used Ground Based LiDAR to Characterize Surface Deformation Field Using Offset Vine Rows.**

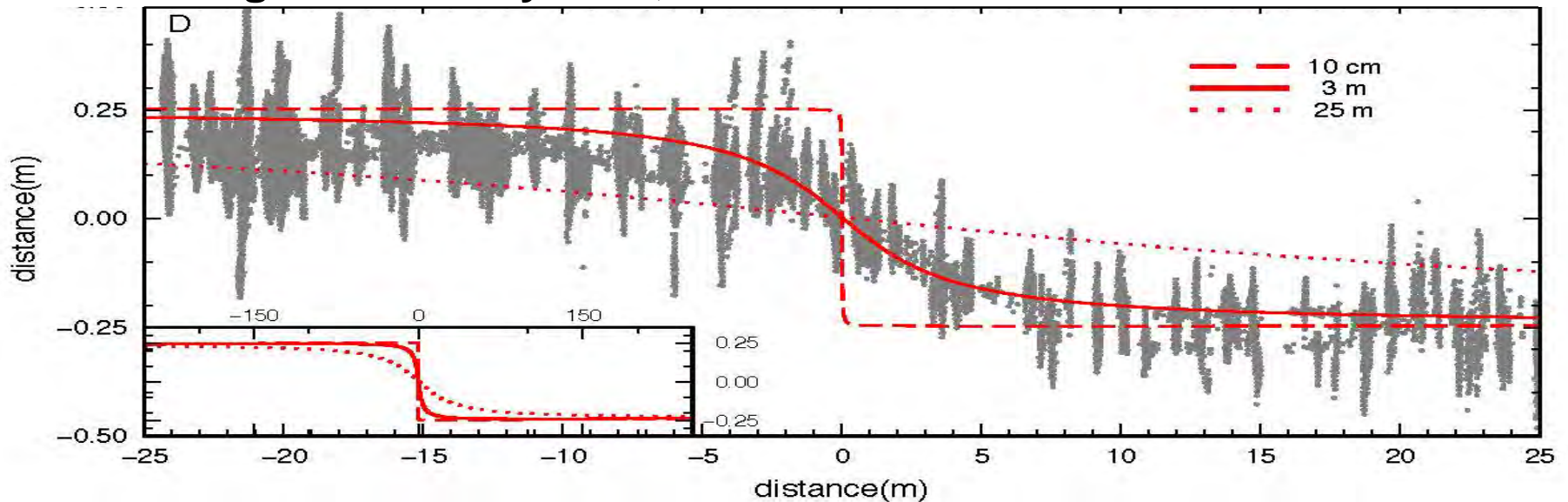






# Gas Transmission Fault Creep Monitoring Program

- **USGS Napa lidar data showed a broad deformation pattern, indicating that fault died below the surface**
- **PG&E gas lines did not rupture as deformation was broadly distributed**
- **PG&E has funded the USGS to characterize creep at pipeline fault crossings on the Hayward, Calaveras and Maacamma faults**

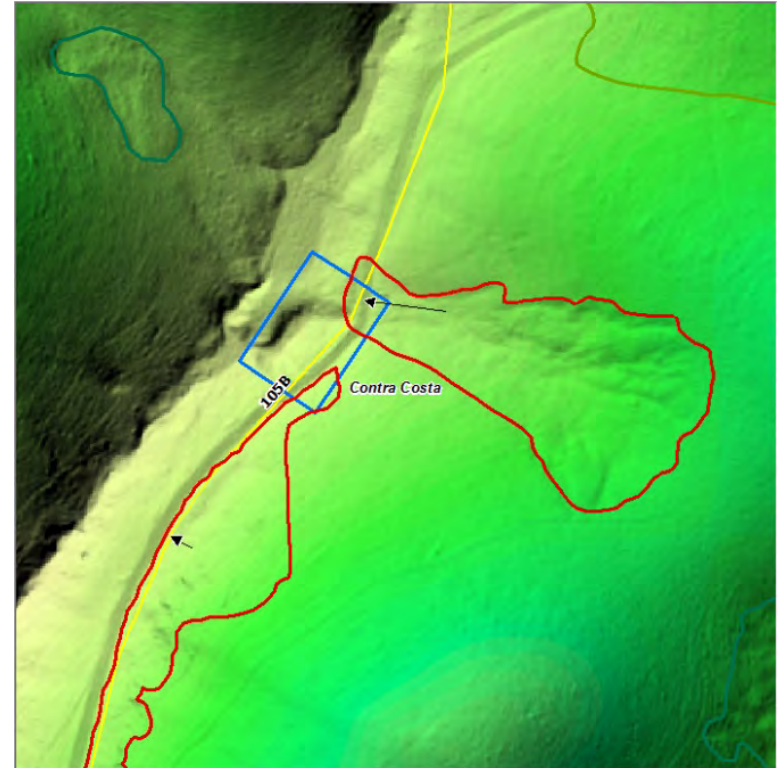




# TIMP Geohazards Program

**Implements a standardized methodology for identifying, characterizing, monitoring, and mitigating geohazards along 6800 miles of gas transmission line located in 40 counties in California**

- **Landslides/Debris Flows**
- **Slope Creep**
- **Erosion Gullying**
- **Stream Scour**





# LiDAR and Orthophotography – Cornerstone of Program

- **Baseline to Catalog and Rate Geohazards over Entire Gas Transmission System (2014; Over 4 Month Period)**
  - **11,384 Landslides**
  - **3,350 Erosion Features (includes sinkholes)**
- **Field Verification Campaigns**
- **With Repeat LiDAR Program is Progressing Towards Change Detection Monitoring and New Feature Identification**
- **Permits smaller team for TIMP program by Targeting Field Assessments & Prioritizing Areas of Highest Hazard**

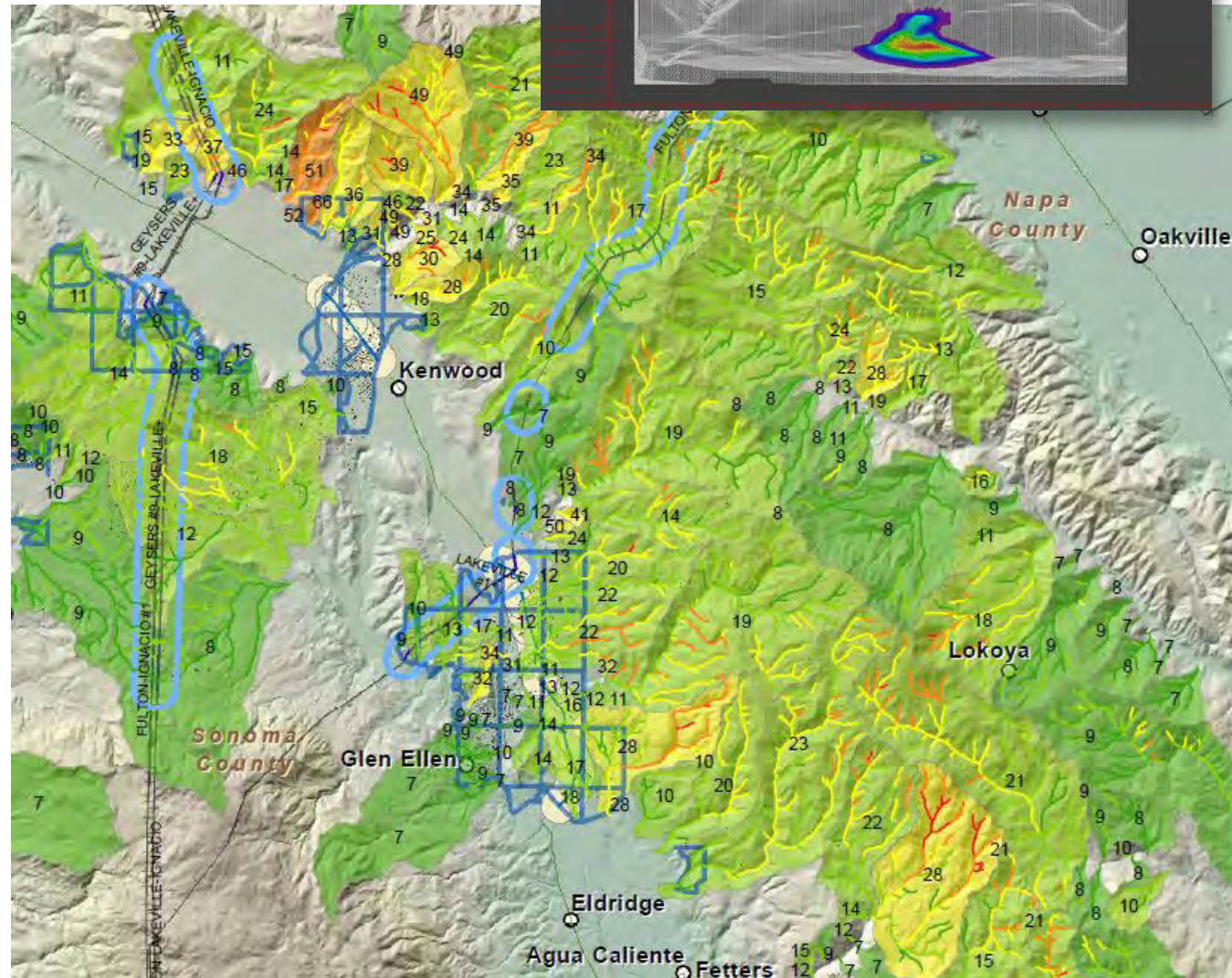
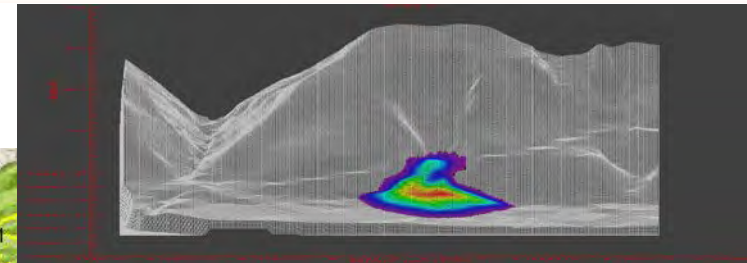
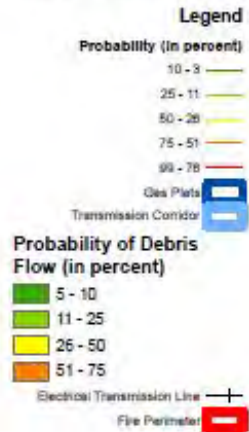






# Fire Burn Debris-Flow Model (USGS Model) Example

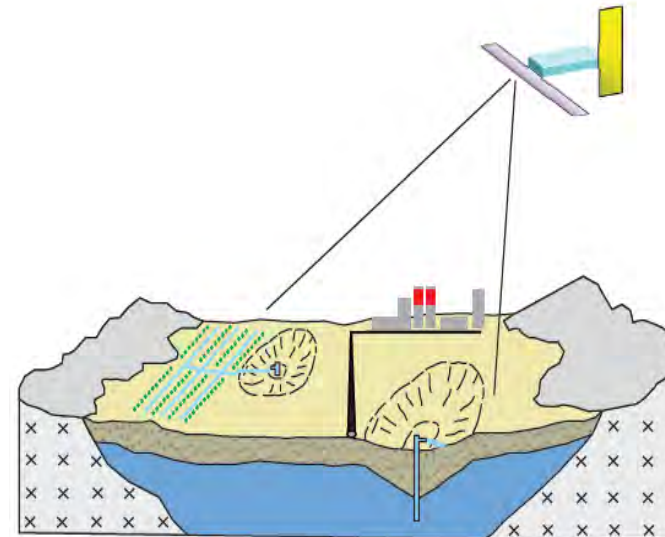
Source:  
USGS Debris Flow Models, PG&E facility datasets.



- **Yellow-Red Zones & Tracks Denote High Debris Flow Potential**
- **PGE Gas T&D Facilities in Blue**
- **Post-Fire & Post Rainfall Season Repeat LiDAR Used to Calibrate Model**

# Key Take-Aways

- **Remote Sensing Fits with Company Mission, Vision, Culture**
  - Long Term Commitment/Investment
- **Helps Evaluate & Plan for Climate Change**
- **New Technology - Benefits vs. Challenges**
  - Need to Temper Expectations/Reinforce Value of Incomplete Datasets
- **Multiple Approaches Provide Best Results**
- **Importance of Field Calibration (Validation)**
- **Integrated System-Wide Hazard Framework**
  - Multi-LOB Uses
- **Proactive, Beyond Compliance**
- **Driving Innovation By Research**
- **Important Monitoring Tool**







## Questions – Contact Information

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Manager; Vegetation Management**

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**Teddy Atkinson – Gas TIMP Geohazards Program  
Manager [teddy.Atkinson@pge.com](mailto:teddy.Atkinson@pge.com)**