

CUSTOMER PROFILE: RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

The fourth-largest county in California and one of the largest in the nation, Riverside County stretches nearly 200 miles across from Orange County to the Colorado River at Arizona's border. Part of the Inland Empire, the county includes over 7,200 square miles of low deserts, river valleys, mountains, and plains. At the center of the Golden State's population explosion, Riverside County remains one of the fastest-growing counties in the United States.

THE CHALLENGE

According to Information Technology Officer Jeff Letterman, Riverside County needed better, higher-quality digital elevation data with greater accuracy for land development, flood control planning, watershed analysis, and various planning projects. "We're working on a pilot project to develop a countywide database and platform that all departments can share," said Letterman, who supervises the geographic information systems (GIS) department for the county's Transportation and Land Management Agency. "Planning for land development requires higher-quality contour data than we could get from U.S. Geological Survey data, and we required more detail than the 30-meter digital terrain models provided," he commented. "For example, during the permit process, when developers or home builders provide plot plans with contours, we did not have quality contour data in our GIS in order to check the accuracy of the plans. Therefore, we were missing a valuable evaluation tool."

THE SOLUTION

After reading about Intermap Technologies in various GIS trade publications and receiving a referral from one of the county's project managers, Letterman contacted Intermap to request dataset samples and compared them to various known elevations. "Intermap's staff demonstrated how the company's products could address our needs, which cemented in our minds that we were going to be happy," he said. Without delay, Riverside County purchased Intermap's NEXTMap® 3D elevation datasets and images, including digital terrain models (DTMs) for the 180-mile-wide county that almost equals the size of New Jersey. "When we looked at the high quality, accuracy, and cost of Intermap's datasets, it was very easy for us to decide on this purchase," added Letterman. "We received great value for the money, and now we have more confidence when we work on planning projects." He also believes Intermap follows a good business model. "They decided to fly the counties and then market the data. That's a smart business model, in my opinion, because the company has the quality terrain and elevation data that governmental agencies need."

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Information Technology Officer
Riverside County

SUMMARY

CHALLENGE

One of the largest counties in the nation, Riverside County required high-quality elevation data with greater accuracy for land development, flood control planning, watershed analysis, and planning projects.

SOLUTION

Riverside County purchased NEXTMap 3D elevation datasets and images from Intermap, including digital terrain models (DTMs) for the 180-mile wide county that nearly matches the size of New Jersey.

RESULTS

With Intermap's datasets, the county will continue "to reduce costs related to the land development process because we have a more accurate representation of the county's terrain... It's really a tangible savings for us."

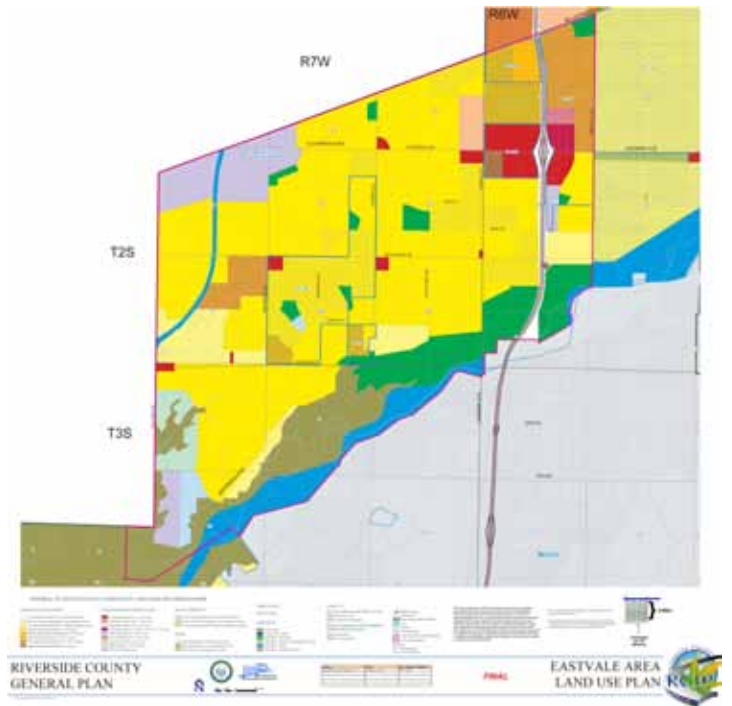
IMPLEMENTING THE SOLUTION

In addition to various other planning and land management projects, Riverside County uses Intermap's datasets to address Riverside County's Integrated Project (RCIP), an unprecedented planning effort to simultaneously prepare environmental, transportation, housing, and development guidelines. "This enhanced information will help us set aside 153,000 acres as open space and wildlife habitat in western Riverside County," Letterman said. "We'll also have better information in the form of Intermap's DTMs in order to implement our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit program as authorized by the Clean Water Act." He also noted that Intermap's DTMs "allow us to address all of these types of programs and projects in a more sophisticated manner."

THE RESULTS

Riverside County will continue to see a return on its investment, according to Letterman. "We will be able to reduce costs related to the land development process because we have a more accurate representation of the county's terrain at the point of contact with our customers. It's really a tangible savings for us."

"Without Intermap's data," he added, "we wouldn't have the kind of information we need to positively impact the quality of life for those who live in Riverside County."



THE INTERMAP ADVANTAGE

ACCURACY

Intermap provided more detailed and accurate information for Riverside County.

AFFORDABILITY

Riverside County found Intermap's datasets to be "a great value for the money."

AVAILABILITY

Intermap had the elevation datasets Riverside County required and provided "more detail than the 30-meter digital terrain models" provided by the U.S. Geological Survey.

USABILITY

Riverside County can now tackle land management projects "in a more sophisticated manner."



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