BUILDING A MULTI-SOURCE, COUNTY-WIDE
VEGETATION DATABASE
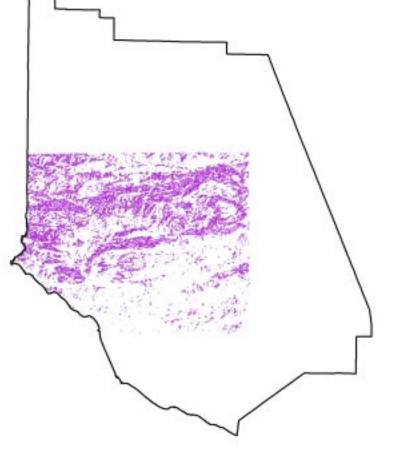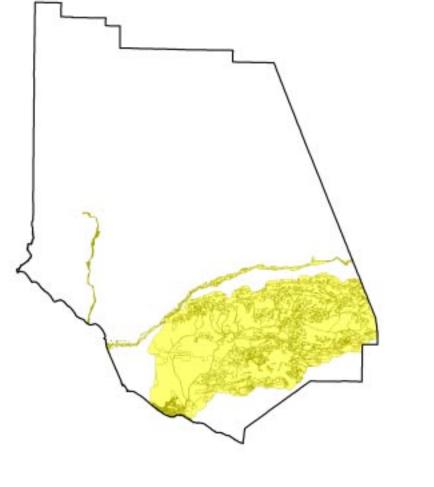
Legend

IVC Alliance

- Abronia-Ambrosia chamissonis Alliance
- Adenostoma fasciculatum Alliance
- Adenostoma fasciculatum-Salvia mellifera Alliance
- Adenostoma sparsifolium Alliance
- Agriculture
- Artemisia californica Alliance
- Artemisia californica-Eriogonum fasciculatum Alliance
- Artemisia californica-Salvia mellifera Alliance
- Artemisia tridentata Alliance
- Arundo donax Alliance
- Baccharis pilularis Alliance
- Baccharis salicifolia Alliance
- Barren
- Ceanothus crassifolius Alliance
- Ceanothus leucodermis Alliance
- Ceanothus megacarpus Alliance
- Cercocarpus betuloides Alliance
- Chrysothamnus nauseosus Alliance
- Danthonia californica (California Annual Grassland) Alliance
- Developed
- Distichlis spicata Alliance
- Encelia californica Alliance
- Eriogonum fasciculatum Alliance
- Eriogonum fasciculatum-Salvia apiana Alliance
- Juglans californica Alliance
- Juniperus californica Alliance
- Lepidospartum squamatum Alliance
- Lower Montane Mixed Chaparral
- Malosma laurina Alliance
- Nassella pulchra Alliance
- Opuntia littoralis Alliance
- Pinus attenuata Alliance
- Pinus coulteri Alliance
- Pinus jeffreyi Alliance
- Pinus monophylla Alliance
- Pinus-Abies Alliance
- Platanus racemosa Alliance
- Pluchea sericea Alliance
- Populus balsamifera ssp. trichocarpa Alliance
- Pseudotsuga macrocarpa Alliance
- Quercus agrifolia Alliance
- Quercus chrysolepis Alliance
- Quercus douglasii Alliance
- Quercus dumosa Alliance
- Quercus kellogii Alliance
- Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum--Veronica anagallis-aquatica
- Ruderal Grassland Alliance
- Ruppia Alliance
- Salicornia Alliance
- Salix lasiolepis Alliance
- Salix lasiolepis-Salix laevigata Alliance
- Salvia apiana Alliance
- Salvia leucophylla Alliance
- Salvia mellifera Alliance
- Salvia mellifera-Salvia leucophylla Alliance
- Sambucus mexicana Alliance
- Sand
- Schoenoplectus Alliance
- Shore
- Streambed
- Typha domingensis Alliance
- Unknown Riparian
- Upper Montane Mixed Chaparral
- Water

San Luis Obispo County

Kern County

Santa Barbara County

Los Angeles County

Locator Map

VEGETATION OF VENTURA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Sample Record

for: *Platanus racemosa* Alliance

These are the fields assigned to every record. This will allow display of the data using any classification system and at whatever scale and level of detail is appropriate to the purpose.

IVC_CLASS	Forest and Woodland
IVC_SBCLSS	Deciduous Woodland
IVC_GROUP	Winter Deciduous Woodland
IVC_SBGRUP	Natural/Semi-natural
IVC_FORMTN	Riparian Woodland
IVC_ALLIAN	Platanus racemosa Alliance
IVC_ASSOCN	Platanus racemosa Association
COW_SYSTE	Palustrine
COW_SUBSY	Palustrine Forested Wetland
COW_CLASS	Palustrine Broad-Leaved Winter-Deciduous Forested Wetland
CA_WHR	Valley Foothill Riparian
HOLLAND	Sycamore Alluvial Woodland
SKW_SERIES	California Sycamore Series

Process

1. Assign a Plant Series to each record based on the dominant species. (Review each of the four contributing datasets, create a field called SKW_SERIES, and assign a Sawyer/Keeler-Wolf Plant Series to each record.)
2. Assign a rank to each dataset; this will determine which dataset takes priority when there is a conflict.
3. Merge the subject datasets into one dataset. (see Challenges below).
4. Join to a table containing the corresponding values for each Series.
5. Use topology rules to ensure the vegetation coverage has no gaps or overlaps.
6. Complete the metadata.

Challenges

- Determining dominant species for each polygon based on the information given (the first step in the process!), provided a creative challenge for the responsible botanist.

- Merging the subject datasets while using only ArcView and the GeoProcessing Tools is a multi-step, iterative process involving Dissolve, Clip, Union, and Merge.

Next Steps

As we continue to receive updated or new data sources, the vegetation database must be updated.

The next step is to create a model, using ModelBuilder in ArcView 9.2, so that the merge step of the process can be re-run each time a new dataset is acquired, or a source dataset is updated.
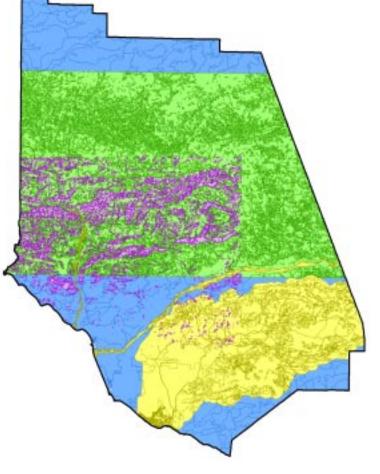
Oak Woodland
7890 polygons covering 91 square miles
Source: David Magney Environmental Consulting

River Vegetation
(Ventura River, Santa Clara River, and Calleguas Creek Watershed)
4418 polygons covering 394 square miles
Sources: David Magney Environmental Consulting, AMEC, GeoInsight International, CH2M Hill, VC Flood Control District.

Los Padres National Forest
19093 polygons covering 995 square miles
Source: United States Forest Service

Gap Analysis of Mainland California
522 polygons covering more than 18,000 square miles
Sources: University of California at Santa Barbara, California Department of Fish and Game, and United States Geological Service

Final Dataset
39,397 Vegetation Polygons
covering more than 18,000 square miles -
the user can analyze, sort, and display in a variety of ways.

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