

RangeView - A New Web Based Tool for Providing Remote Sensing Products and Data to Natural Resource Managers in the Western States

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ABSTRACT

New web based resources that permit fast and easy access to geospatial data have been developed by components of the University of Arizona's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences through the NASA-Raytheon Synergy initiative (<http://rangeview.arizona.edu/>). These interactive tools were designed with end-user input and provide assistance in understanding vegetation dynamics across large areas and over time. The website provides the capability to create animations of multi-temporal satellite imagery (AVHRR and MODIS) over a twelve-year time period and compare greenness measures to the long-term average or between specific years. In addition, the site provides digital maps and higher spatial resolution data (e.g. Landsat TM) of the southwest through both an Internet map server and an image archive (<http://aria.arizona.edu>). These tools have been designed to complement traditional rangeland management methods such as field-based inventory and monitoring techniques. The web site also provides a tutorial to aid new users in understanding and interpreting geospatial information.