Vegetation Monitoring Utilizing Gigapan Imagery



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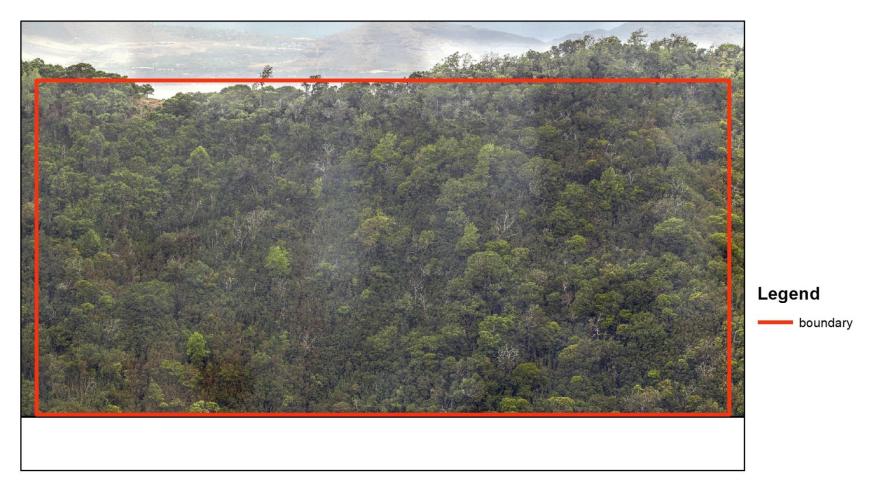
Gigapan

- A ground based high resolution remote sensing platform
- Allows a user to obtain a very high resolution mosaic of hundreds to thousands of images stitched into a gigapixel file
- Initially developed for the Mars Rovers
- Gaining use in science to track landscape change over time
- Has yet to be explored to its full potential for vegetation monitoring and mapping

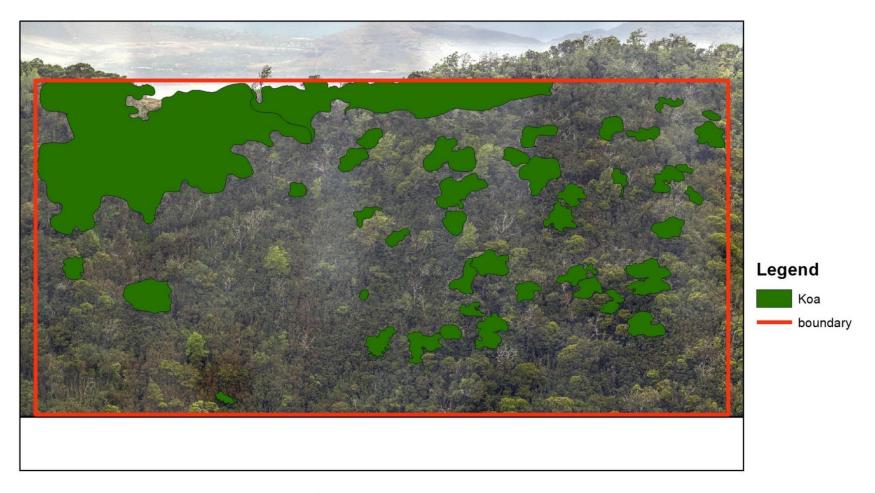




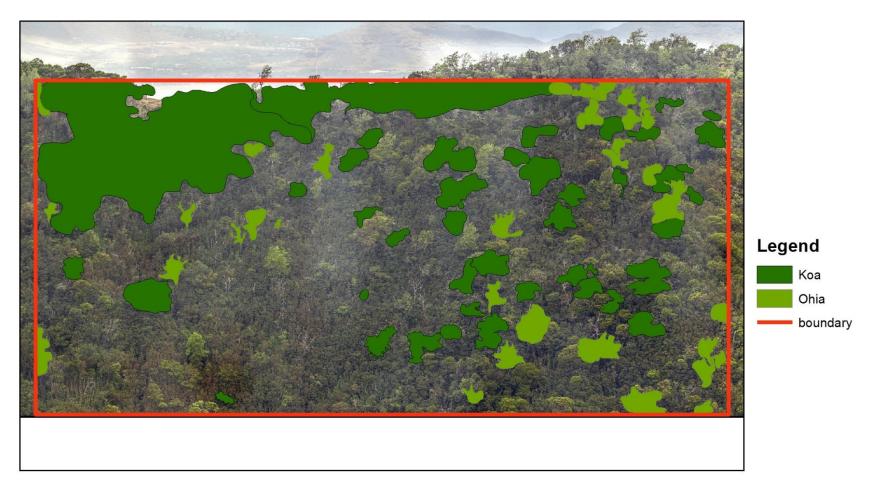




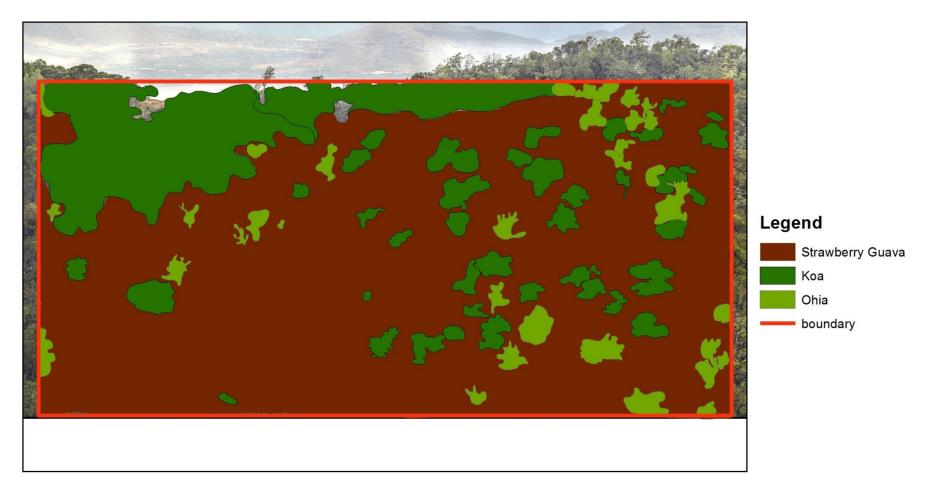




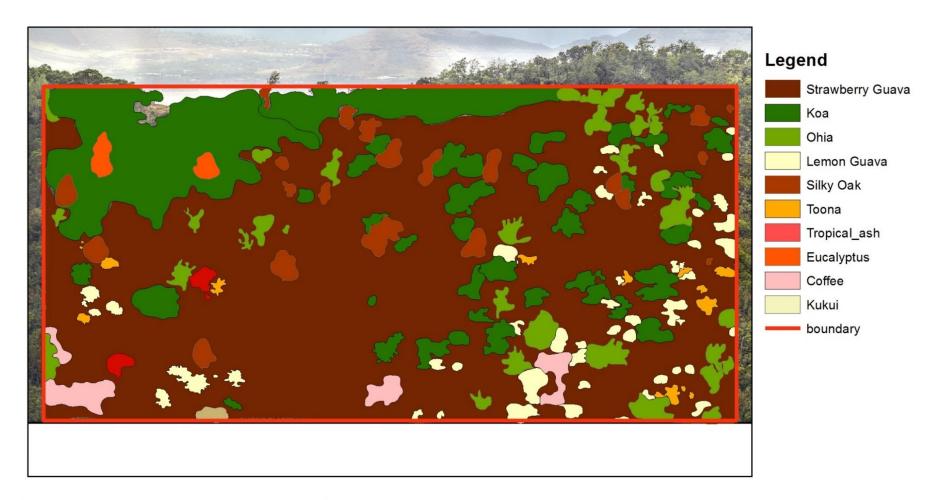
















- Gigapan georeferencing -Truepulse 360R Laser Rangefinder
- Integrates by Bluetooth to obtain laser GPS offsets
- 1000m range
- Take points for landmark vegetation in the mosaic or target incipient invasives.



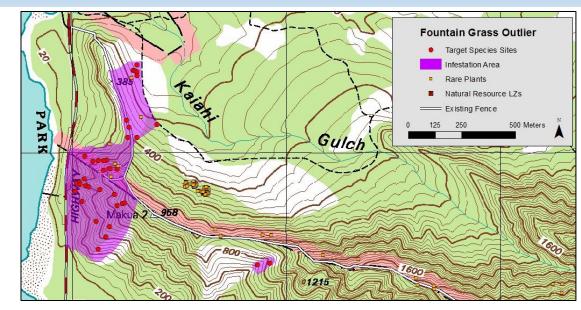






Background

- Cenchrus setaceus outbreak on cliffs at Makua
- Aerial and ground treatment began in 2012

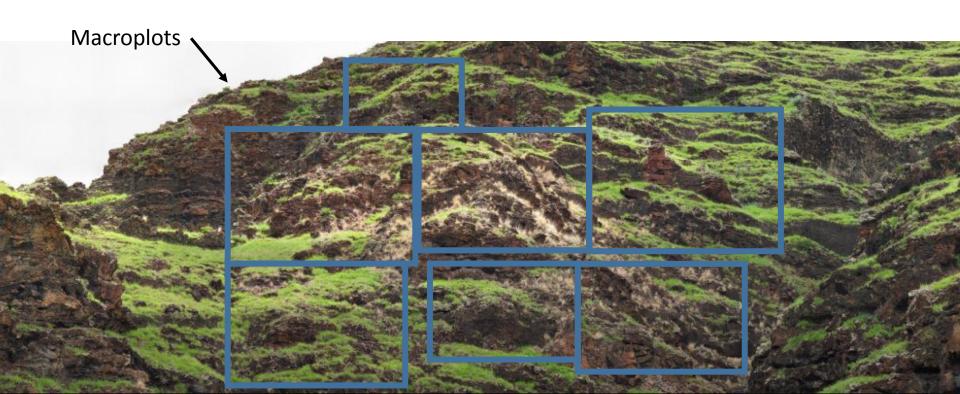


Core infestation, treated plants appear straw-colored



Methods

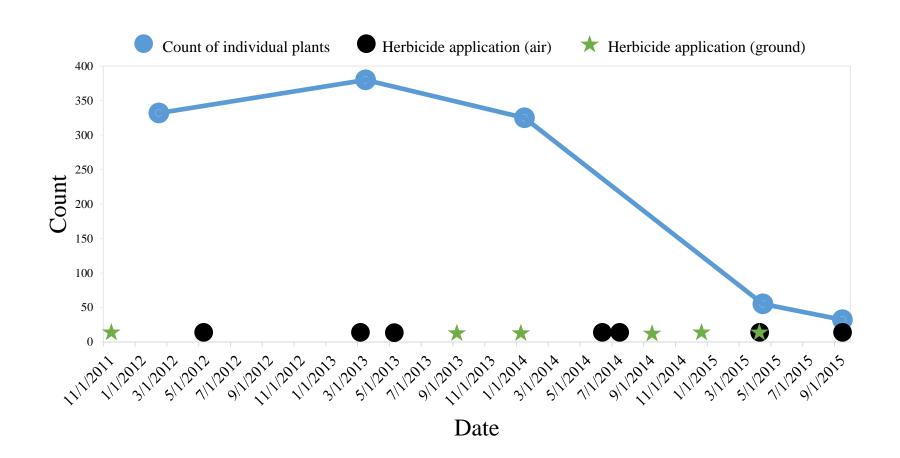
- Gigapan imagery taken between Feb 2012 Sep 2015
- Population change in core infestation area assessed by counting live plants in 7 macroplots over time





Results

90% reduction in population within core area by 2015



Discussion

- Sampling error: fuzzy imagery, vegetative plants hard to ID
- Isolated plants outside core area could be similarly analyzed separately
- Individual treatment efforts could be analyzed to see how many plants are missed or herbicide ineffective, though a bit more problematic



Mahalo!

