

Direxant

A New Open Source Mapping/GIS/Tracking Project

Presented by Ian Klufft
at SBAY Pizza #172
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Purpose

- Stratofox and SVWUX have some mapping/GIS project needs
- Both groups' membership discussion lists are geared toward events.
- Mapping/GIS discussions involving small portions of the groups don't always get far.
- Each would have set up their own separate GIS projects.
- With members in common, we noticed we have needs in common.

What does Direxant mean?

- “direct” is short for directions
- “-ant” suffix means one who does something
- “x” shortens the name, sounds cool
- Direxant is “one who gives directions”

Project needs from SVWUX

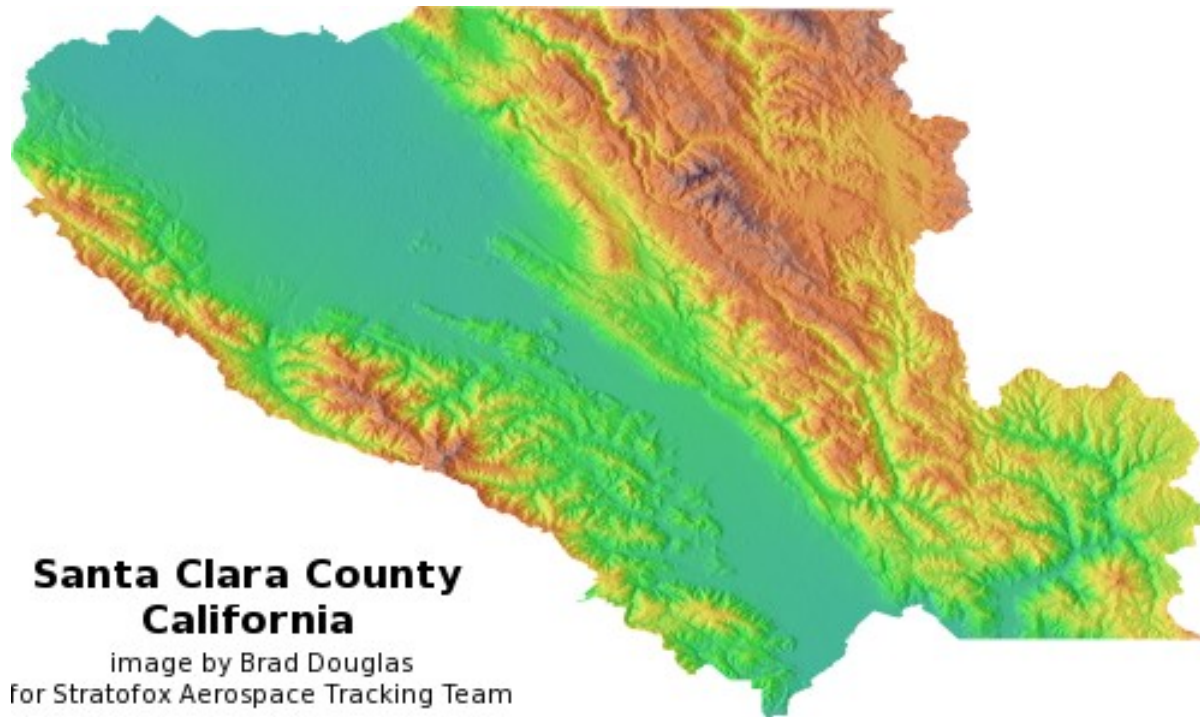
- Wi-Fi long-haul link planning support
- Digital site survey for potential new sites
- APRS maps for the South Bay Area

Project needs from Stratofox

- Wi-Fi long haul link planning support
- APRS maps for California and Nevada
- “Sonic boom direction finder” hardware for narrowing search area for rocket on atmospheric re-entry in case of transmitter failure
- Several proposed advanced rocket radio and radar tracking hardware projects

Map data from Stratofox

Brad Douglas KB8UYR has generated high-quality topographic and relief maps of every county in California, initially for Stratofox but also useful to SVWUX.



LBS tool from Stratofox

Location-based search tool by Ian Klufft KO6YQ has been useful to Stratofox when considering projected balloon landing sites



Stratofox location-based search tool

Latitude and longitude (decimal): Waypoint name (optional):

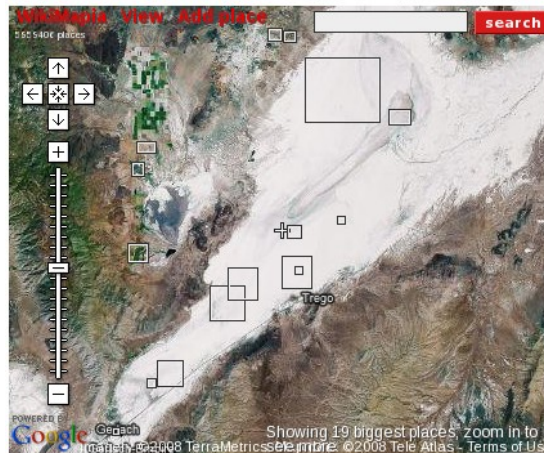
Stratofox 1 camp site

40.812139° -119.177830°
40° 48.7283' -119° 10.6698'
40° 48' 43.70" -119° 10' 40.19"

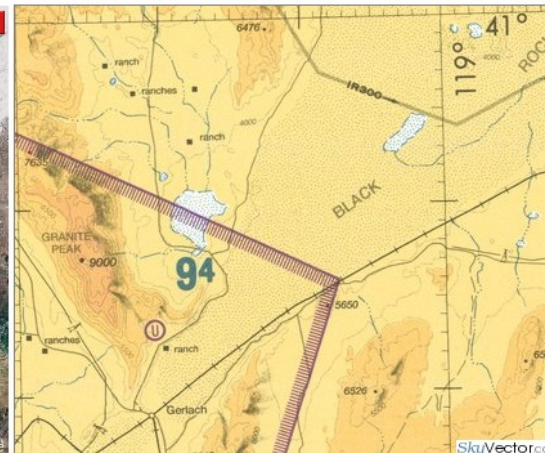
links customized to this location

[ACME Mapper](#) [Flickr photos](#) [Google Maps](#) [OpenStreetMap](#) [TopoZone](#)
[AirNav \(airports\)](#) [GOES wx sat](#) [Heavens Above](#) [Panoramic photos](#) [WikiMapia](#)
[Blue Marble \(night lights\)](#) [Geocaching](#) [Hotspot \(WiFi\)](#) [Runway Finder](#) [Yahoo Maps](#)
[Confluence](#) [Google - pizza](#) [MSN maps](#) [Shaded Relief](#)
[FindU](#) [Google - restaurant](#) [NWS weather](#) [Tiger Maps](#)

satellite/road/wikipedia map



aviation sectional chart



Direxant focus on Mapping/GIS

- The previous two projects developed in 2007 - until then Direxant was background discussion
- Initially “synergy” might not be the right word because it's the same members doing mapping/GIS in both Stratofox and SVWUX
- There are a lot of talented map geeks around – so synergy may still be possible anyway
- An Open Source project to focus on this will help provide an environment suited directly for development

Getting started

- Domains were registered in 2006 (done)
- Mail lists (done)
- Twiki site on the web server (in progress)
- Invite interested participants (this presentation!)
- Organize Open Source Project as a new SIG of sbay.org (to do)