

Case Study

Compass4Colorado; Mapping, Tracking, Imagery and GIS Solutions to Aid Colorado Flood Recovery



Compass4Colorado

The Compass4Colorado campaign ran through March 31, 2014 and included the following offerings at no charge:

- Webinar and workshops dedicated to field data collection techniques to support assessment and recovery efforts
- One-year subscription with configuration service for Trimble Terraflex mobile data collection software
- Configuration of TrimbleConnect for water/waste water inspection leveraging Esri ArcGIS Server
- Integration of Laser Technology laser rangefinders into GPS data collection workflow
- Integration of FEMA inspection workflow on mobile devices
- Esri ArcPad and ArcMobile configuration and support

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Following the devastating Colorado floods of September 2013, the Compass family of companies created Compass4Colorado to put vital geospatial products and services into the hands of people involved in the recovery efforts. We are pleased to report that CompassData participated in two assessment projects related to the floods.

In the first project, we collected 400 Ground Control Points (GCPs) for LiDAR data that was captured by Photo Science (now Quantum Spatial). This data was used to control the LiDAR as well as verify its accuracy within different land classes. This project covered 15 counties in the Colorado Front Range including nearly one-tenth of the state that had been impacted by the floods.



Example of the large scale damage resulting from the September 2013 floods along the Colorado Front Range.

In the second project, we provided ground control and performed orthorectification of DigitalGlobe satellite images for SM Stoller Corp. at the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge, a former nuclear weapons assembly site. CompassData surveyors spent over a month in the field collecting data for the Compass4Colorado projects.

Compass4Colorado

The Compass4Colorado campaign ran through March 31, 2014 and included the following offerings at no charge:

- Three-month subscription to GeoSpatial Experts GeoJot+ photo-mapping application
- Ground control points to support CompassData processing of DigitalGlobe flood imagery

In addition, Compass4Colorado offered reduced rates on the following:

- Trimble GPS and Laser Technology laser range finder equipment
- Field inspection and assessment services
- Precision orthorectified DigitalGlobe imagery



Image of a displaced door buried in mud as a result of the floods.

Group Effort

Compass4Colorado was a success thanks to participating partners such as Esri, Trimble, and Laser Technology. The campaign has concluded, however, please let us know if your organization is still involved in Colorado flood recovery and re-building. We will provide whatever geospatial support we can at a reduced rate or free of charge. For more information, contact Philipp Hummel, PLS, CFedS at phummel@compassdatainc.com.



Disaster emergencies resulting from the floods were declared in 14 different Colorado counties. Many communities became isolated as surrounding roads were washed out.



CompassData provided ground control to verify the accuracy of LiDAR data collected to analyze the severity of the floods.