

Surveying From The Sky

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Agenda



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- Safety Discussion
- Data Collection Best Practices
- Cloud Based Processing / Analytics / Storage
- Virtual Surveying – How Do We Design On 1 Billion Points?
- Life Cycle: Planning – Design – Construction– Maintenance

SAFETY

- Review the Project Scope
- Review the Job Hazard Analysis
- Avoid working alone.

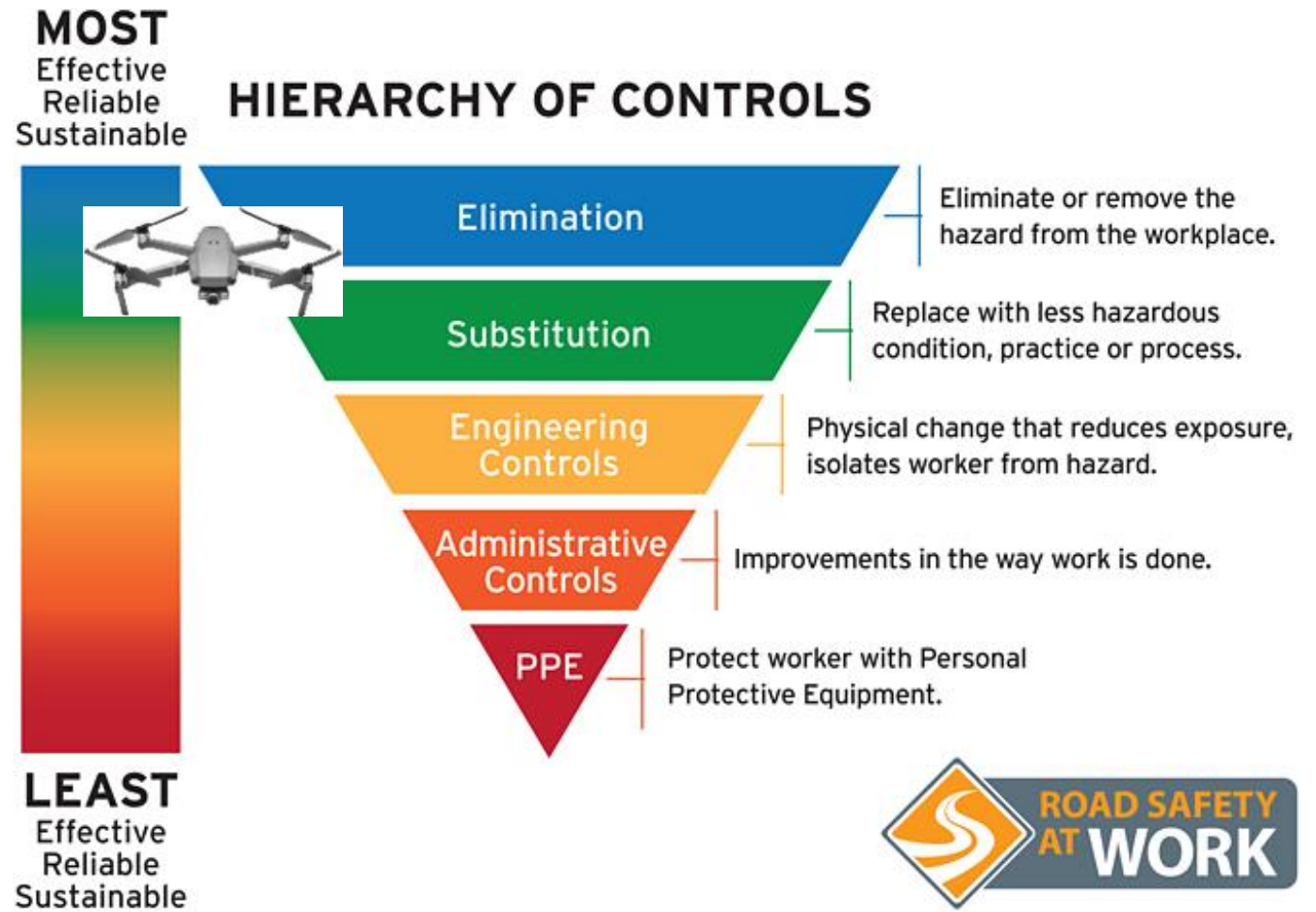


Image Source: <https://roadsafetyatwork.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/RSAW-Hierarchy-of-Controls-LS-Aug-10-16.png>



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Data Collection Best Practices

Data Collection Best Practices

- Know Your Drone & Survey Equipment!
- Basics of Photogrammetry
- How to Set Out Ground Control
- What Is The Terrain Like Where We Are Flying?
 - Is the drone the best tool for the job?
- What Is The Weather Condition At The Site?



Drone & Survey Equipment

Our Current Aerial Survey Package!

1. DJI Mavic 3E with (5) AeroPoints
2. AeroPoints are smart survey targets
3. Trimble Survey Equipment



Know Your Equipment!

Drone:

- Preferred Minimum Camera Properties
 - 1 – Inch CMOS Sensor – 20 MP
 - Mechanical Shutter – Prevent Motion Blur
 - RTK Capable Drone
- Preferred to have terrain follow ability

AeroPoints:

- Smart survey targets that collect static data.
- Capture time must overlap with drone flight.
- Minimum of 10 minutes of photo capture time.



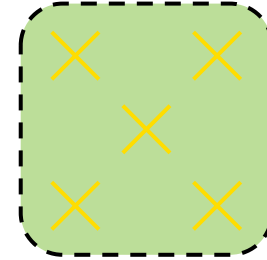
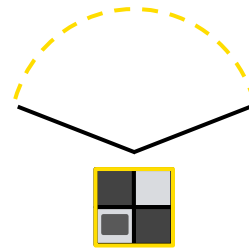
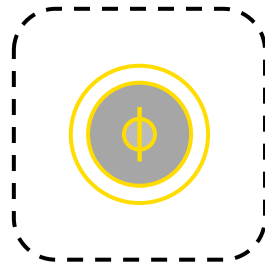
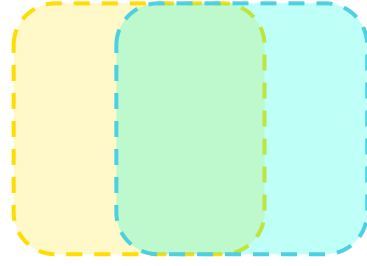
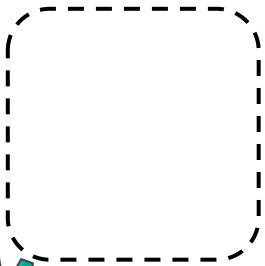
propelleraero.com/gsd-calculator



Accurate photo survey

Imagery

- Clean, crisp, clear
- Appropriately overlapped
- Precisely geotagged



N, E, Z



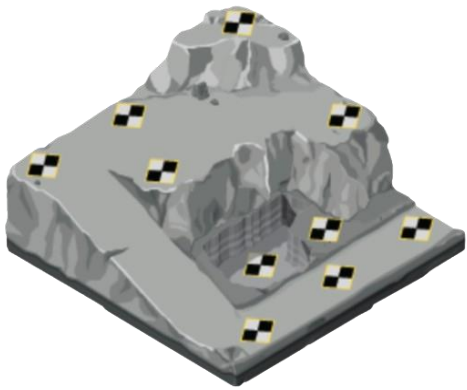
Quality in  Quality out

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Components of Mission **Success**

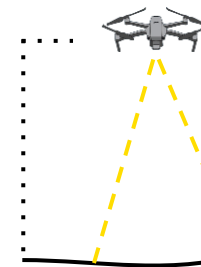
Ground control:

1. Each AeroPoint capture must be at least 10 minutes long.
2. All ground control must be within your mission boundary and [balance the site](#).
3. AeroPoint collections should be static (do not move them while logging data).
4. Ground control coordinate system must match [project coordinate system](#).



Drone flight:

1. Each flight must be at least 10 minutes long (this includes additional flights after battery changes).
2. [Camera settings](#) match assure high quality imagery.
3. Flight settings match PPK specifications.



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Working With Local Coordinates

Preferred Survey Method

- Known Point Method
 - Establish Coordinate Control Point
 - Set On Hard Surface



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Global Survey Benchmark

Select an AeroPoint on the map that was placed at a known location and enter its coordinates. We'll use it to process the other AeroPoints into accurate positions.

You can expect relative accuracy between the points of <2 cm.

Point 3
Global ID ac1569fd54
AeroPoint ID 692013
16 Nov 2017, 2:18 PM - 2:52 PM
AEDT

APPROXIMATE COORDINATES
Lat -33.89115119° Lon 151.23557103° Alt 95.378 m

Coordinate System **Geographic**

Vertical units **Meters**

Measured to **Top of aeropoint**

Datum

Vertical datum

- EPSG 3823 - TWD97
- EPSG 3888 - IGRS
- EPSG 4017 - MOLDREF99
- EPSG 4040 - RGRDC 2005
- EPSG 4074 - SREF98
- EPSG 4080 - REGCAN95
- EPSG 4466 - RGSPM06

Latitude

Longitude

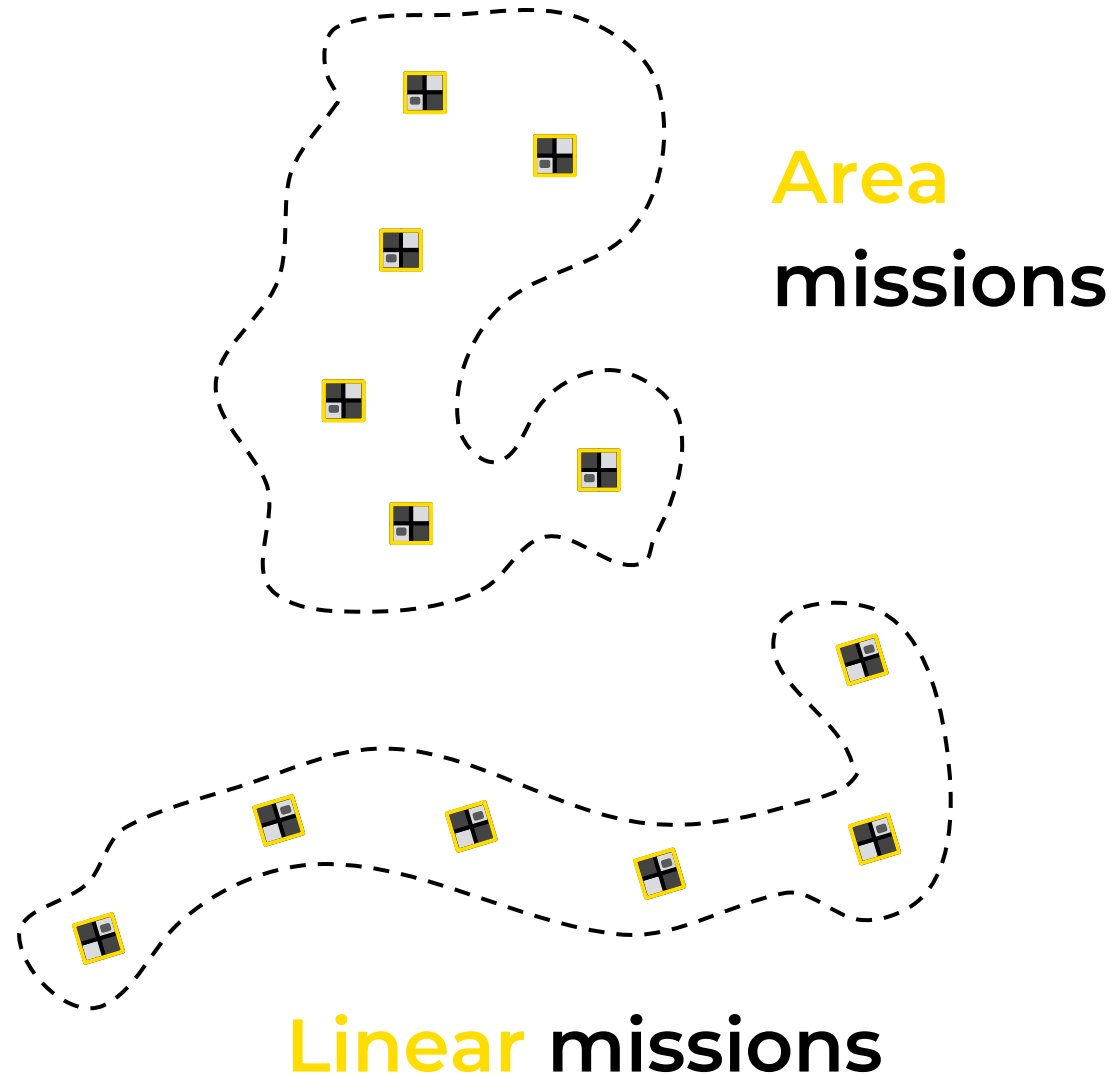
Ellipsoid height **m**



Placing AeroPoints on your site

Using [AeroPoints for our PPK](#) workflow is easy. Just make sure to keep in mind:

- 1-2 AeroPoints covers ~100 acres
 - Add 1 AP for each additional 50 acres
- Each AP position should be an unobstructed, uninterfered, ground-level placement.
- Consistency pays off!

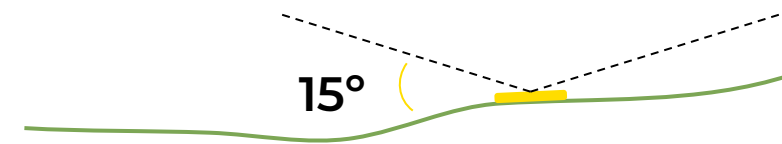
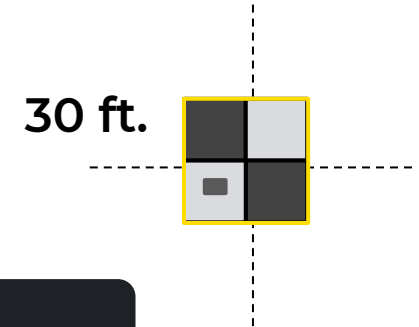


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Ensure quality **AeroPoint** observations

Deploy [best practices](#) when using AeroPoints for Propeller PPK to ensure accuracy and consistency:

- Min. 3 AeroPoints
 - No more than $\frac{3}{4}$ miles between AeroPoints in linear missions.
- Given clear sky view (15° rule).
- Kept at least 30 ft. from magnetic interference (trucks, structures, guardrails, walls, etc.).
- Remain unmoved while logging data.
- Collected in [reverse order](#) after your mission is complete.



What Is The Terrain Like?

- Drone is not a perfect solution

Photogrammetry: You can only survey what you can see.

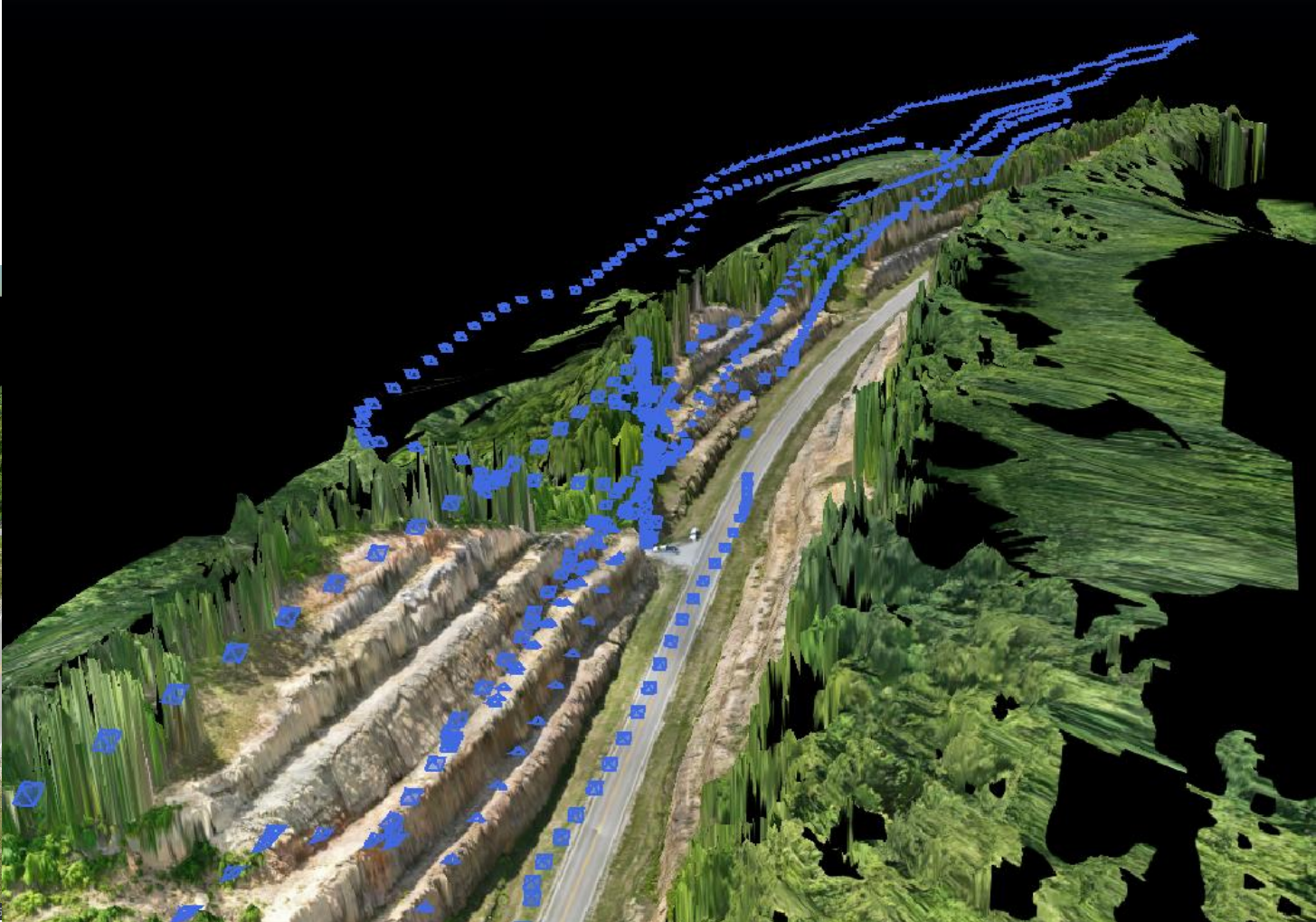
- Tree Canopy Over Roadway
 - Manual flights are preferred to avoid Overhanging trees on roadway.
 - Rolling lane closures are preferred for extended low flights.
- Urban curb and gutters.
 - Add extra oblique photographs to help gain information on the vertical face of the curb.
- Rock Cuts
 - Overhead utilities
 - Manual Flights with oblique images to obtain more detail of rock face.



What Is The Terrain Like?



What Is The Terrain Like?



Agenda



Advantages of Cloud Based Processing / Analytics /
Storage

Map, Measure, and Manage.

Step 1

Map

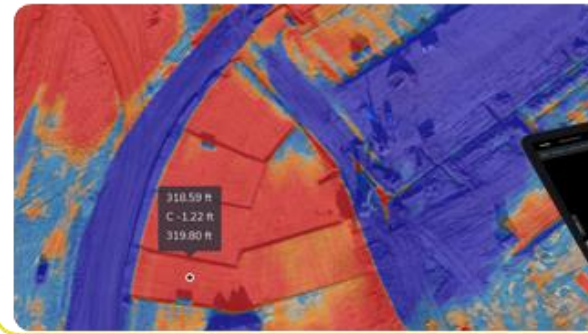
Bundle AeroPoints, high-accuracy drones, and expert survey processing for survey-grade results.



Step 2

Measure

Calculate cut-fill, elevation, and cross-section comparisons in just a few clicks.



Step 3

Manage

Manage your geospatial data, media, and user base from one central hub.



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PPK, the easy way.

The only fully-integrated, survey-grade drone mapping workflow.

- ✓ **Fast:** Survey 100 acres in <30 minutes without the hassle and expense
- ✓ **Integrated:** Bundle AeroPoints, high-accuracy drones, and cloud-based software in one workflow.
- ✓ **Survey-grade:** Achieve 3cm (10mm) accuracy using a single AeroPoint (GCP) and an RTK drone
- ✓ **Scalable:** Process multiple datasets at once with outsourced survey processing (6-hour average turnaround)



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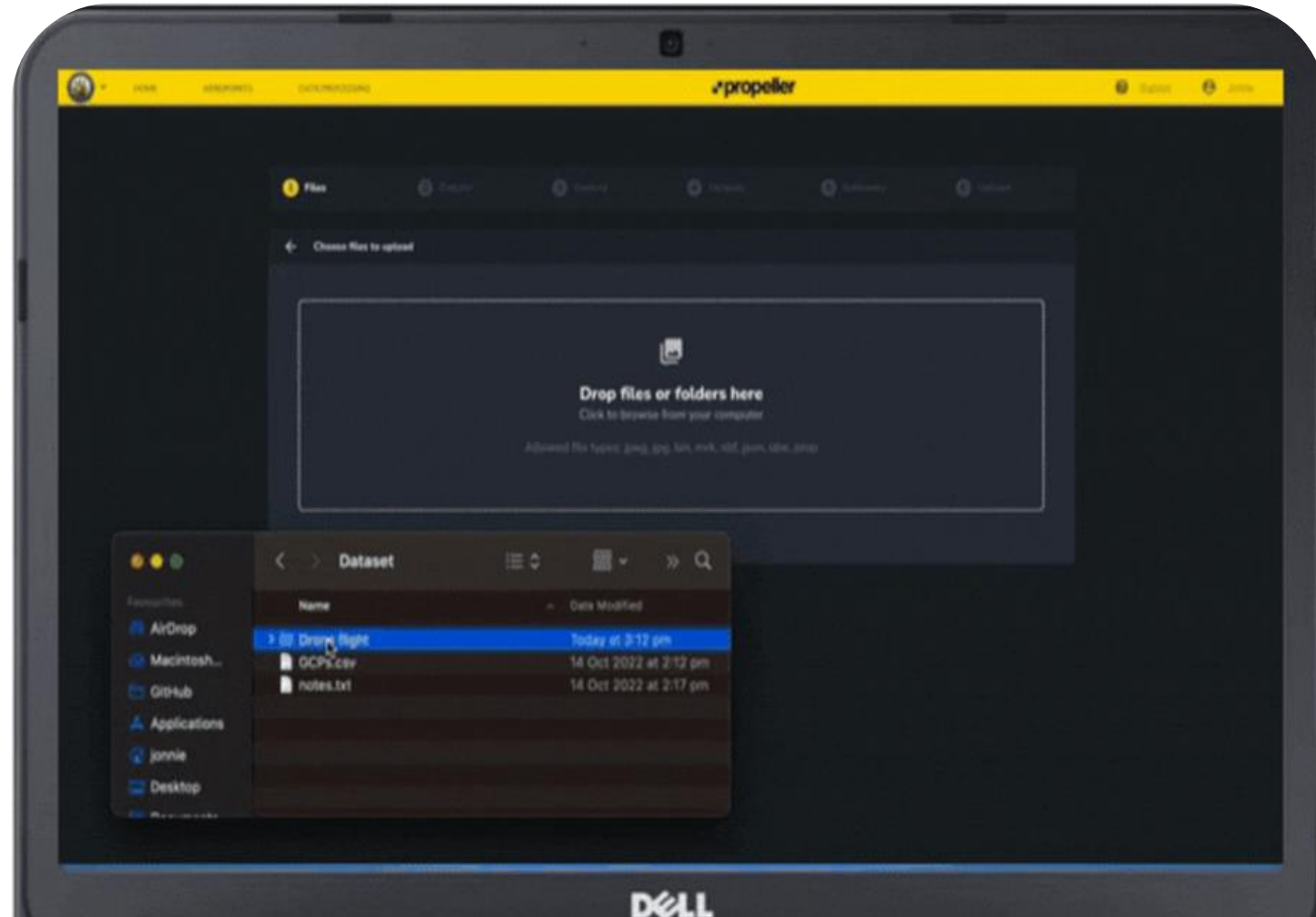
Advantages of Cloud Based Processing

Drag-and-drop upload

24/7 access to our GIS experts

6-hour average turnaround

Data accuracy reporting



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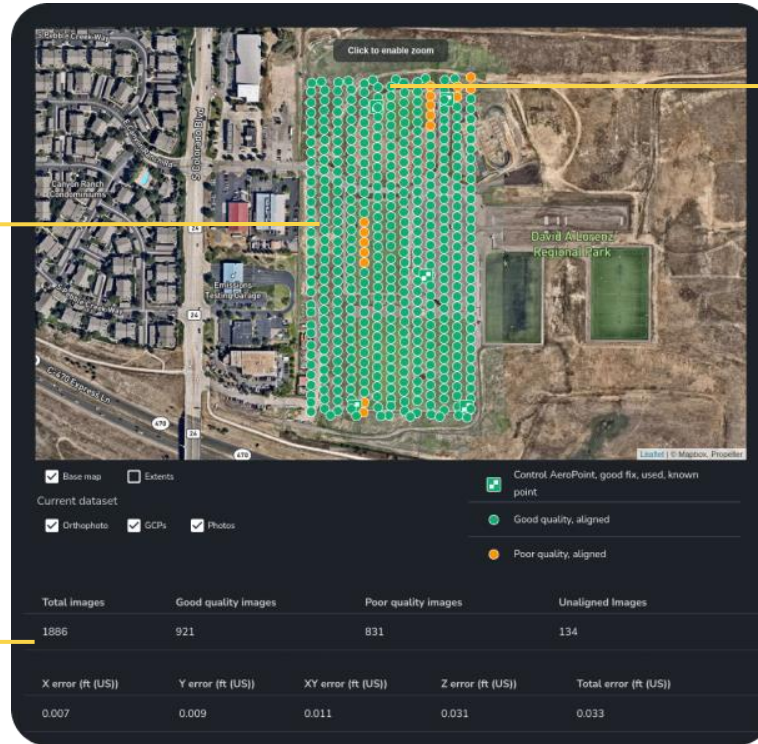
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Enjoy verifiable, survey-grade results.

See which photos met our quality standards and the location of each photo taken.

See a breakdown on accuracy and adjustments made to the geotag locations.



Visualize the location of your control points and accuracy report.

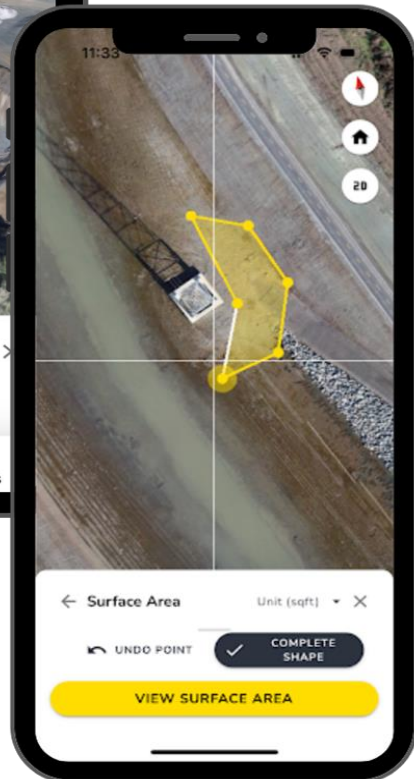
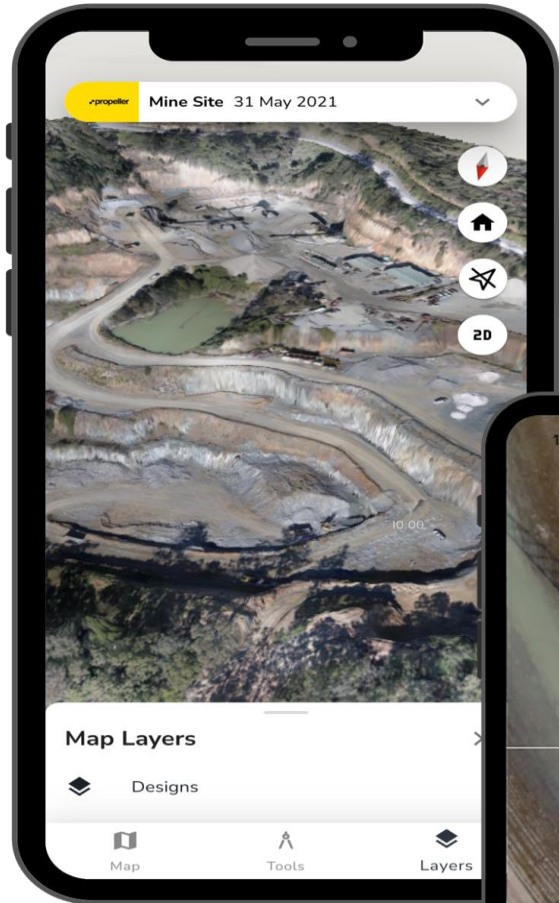
Expect 3cm (1/10ft) accuracy for surveys captured with one of our recommended drones and AeroPoints.



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Propeller Mobile App

Make important decisions on-the-go with Propeller Mobile



View all your Propeller Platform site maps in **high quality 3D**.

Easily review your design (DXF) files within two taps of the app, or add layers to your map.

Make quick measurements on site, so you can **keep your workflow moving along**.

Track your location on site, communicate and share information **in real-time**.



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IMPORT

Survey

GEOTAGGED JPEGS

AEROPOINTS

GCPs

Pre-processed

GEOTIFF

Designs

GEOTIFF

TTM

KML

KMZ

LAND XML

DXF

PDF

CZML

IFC

Point cloud

LAS/LAZ

Media

JPEG

PNG

360° JPEG

CSV

EXPORT

Terrain

GEOTIFF

DXF

TTM

Orthophoto

GEOTIFF

JIFF

PDF

JPEG

Contours

DXF

Measurement outlines

DXF

KML

3D model

DXF

Survey boundary

GEOJSON

Point cloud

LAZ

Shapefile

CZML

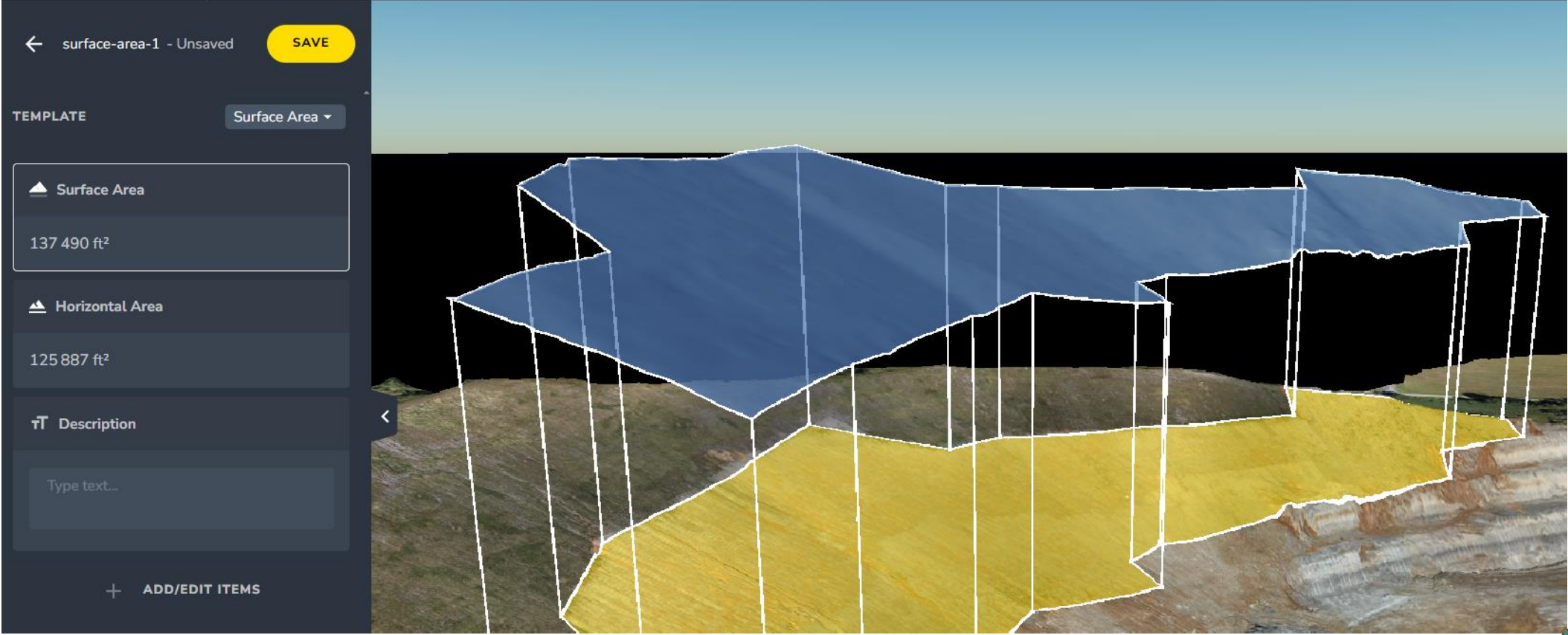
GeoJSON

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Advantages of Cloud Based Analytics

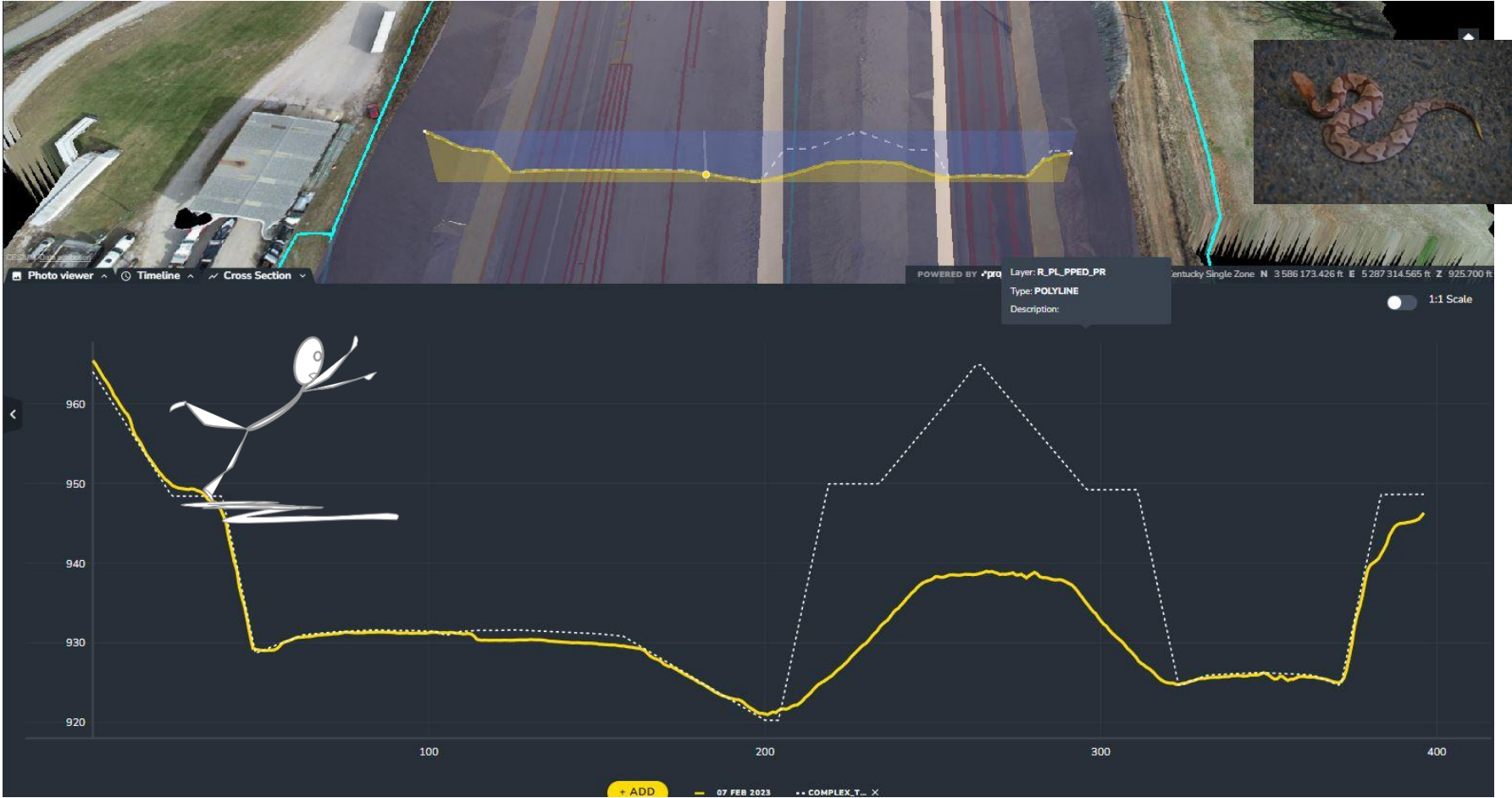


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Advantages of Cloud Based Analytics

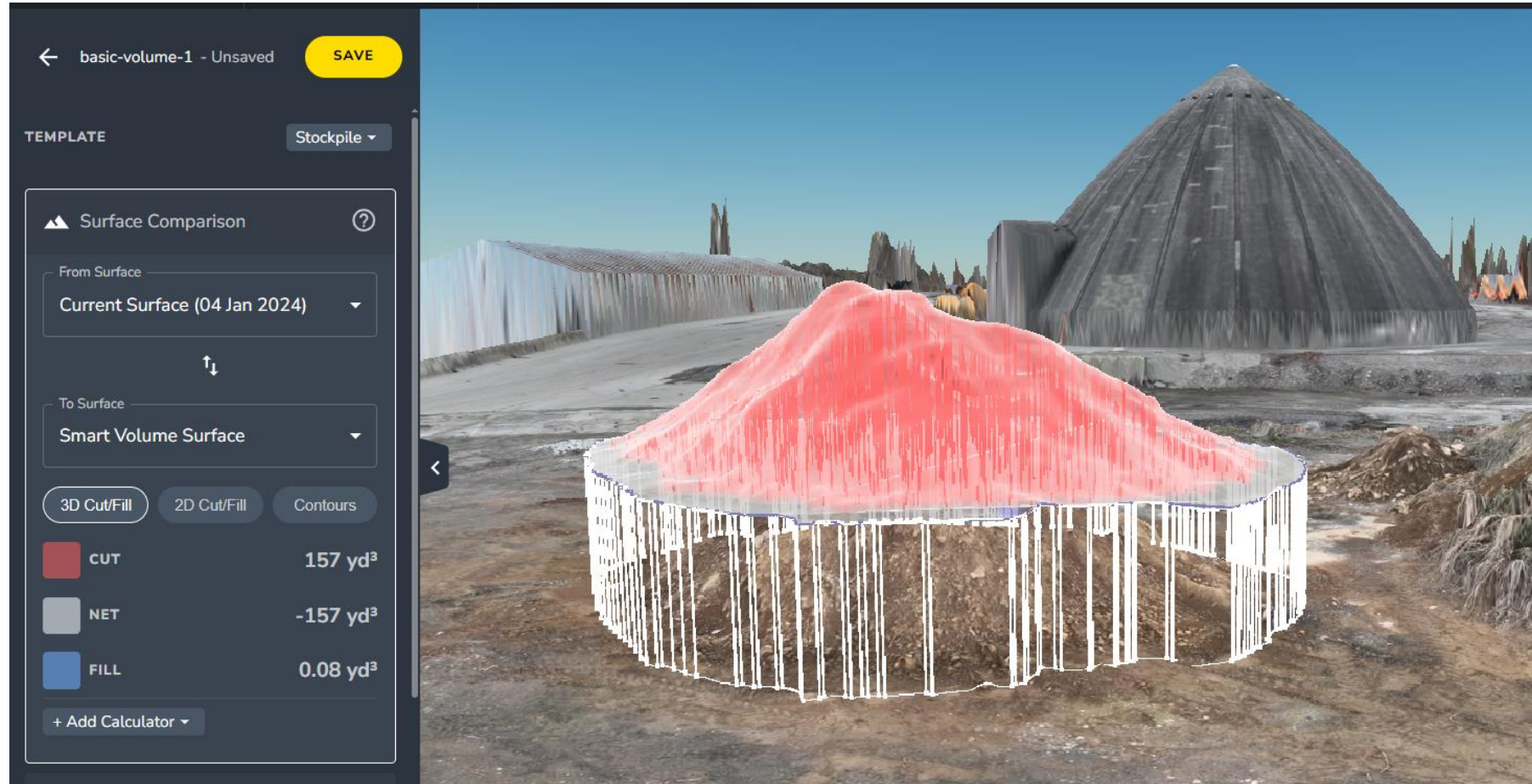


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Advantages of Cloud Based Analytics

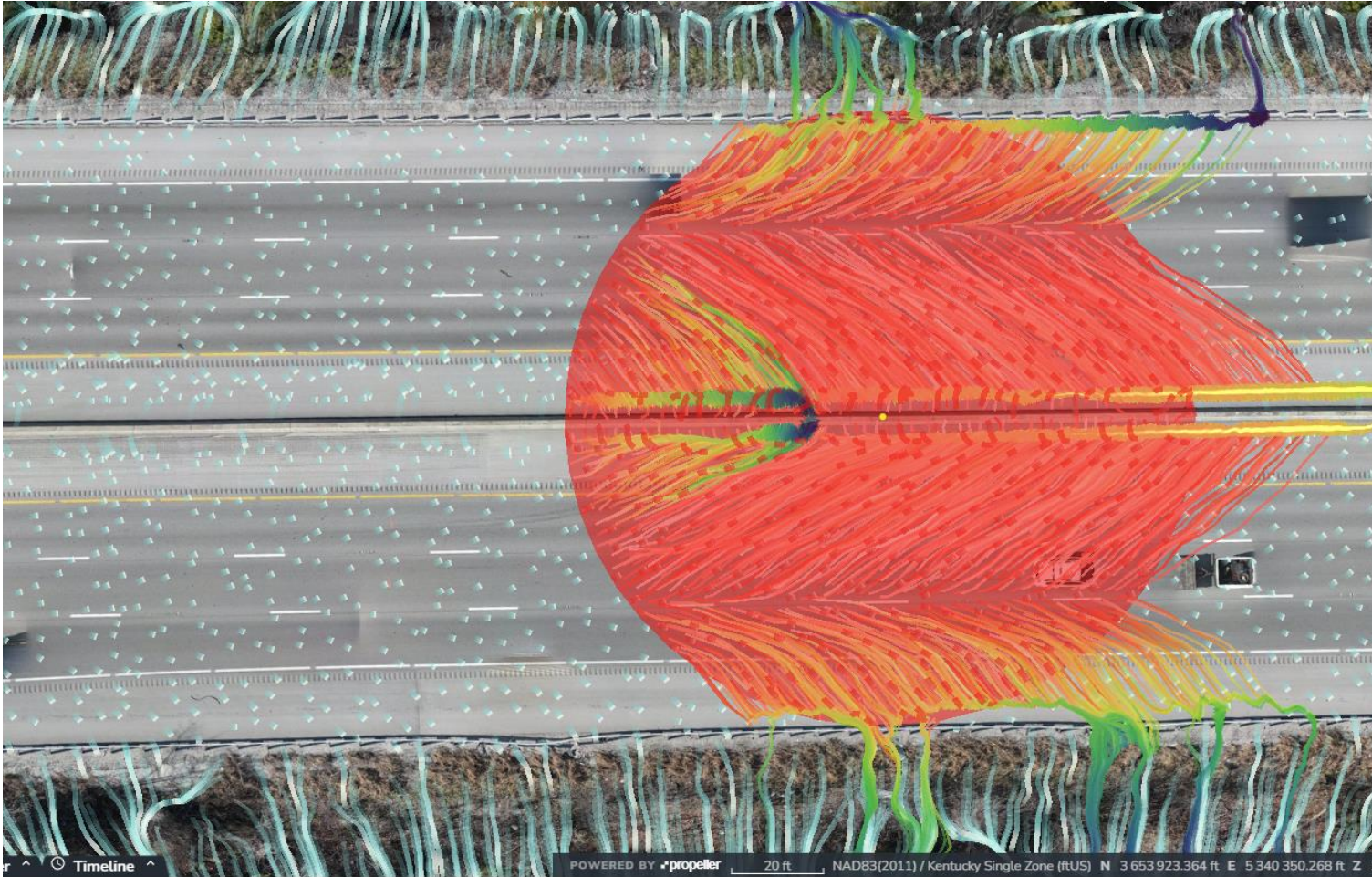


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Advantages of Cloud Based Analytics

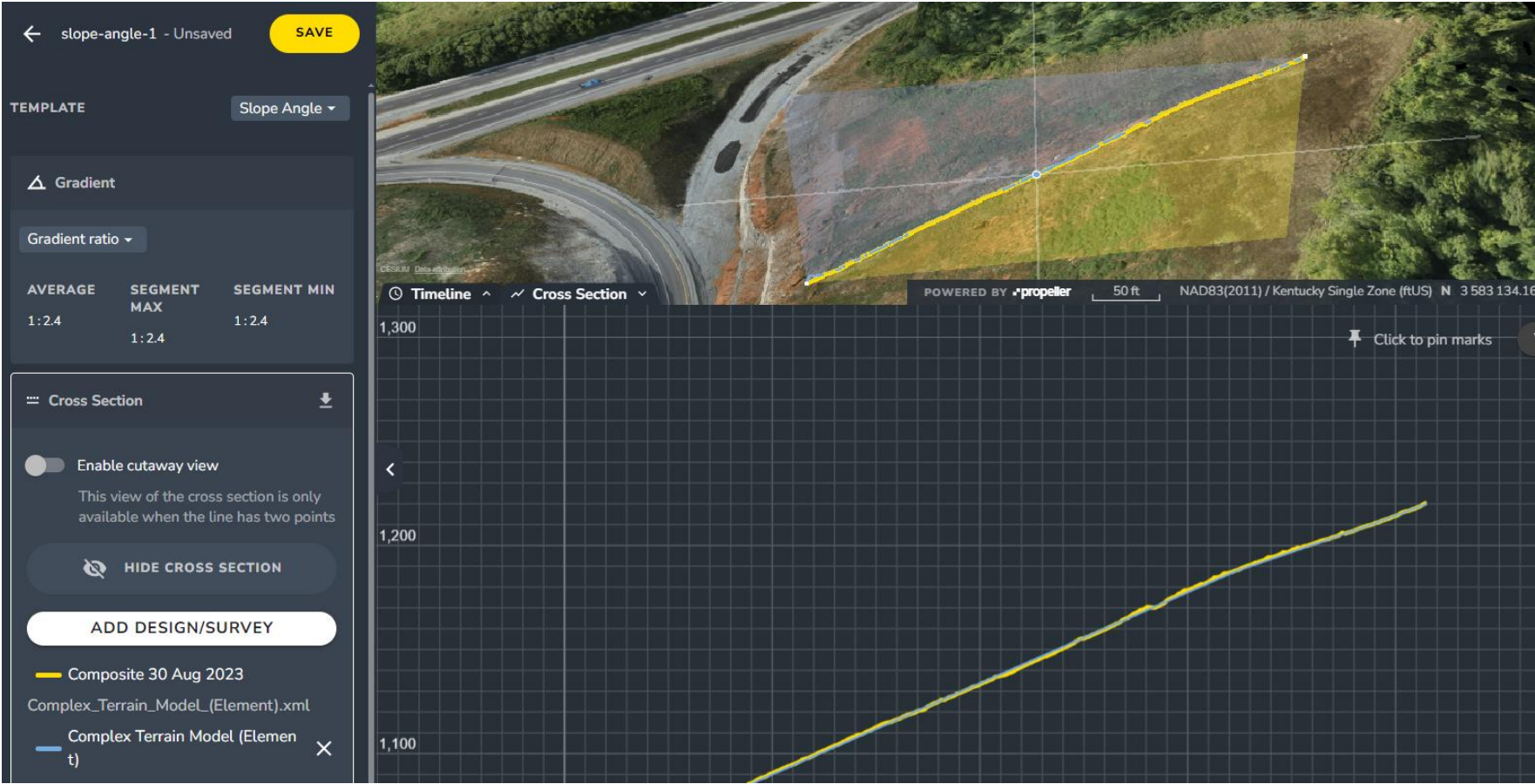


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Advantages of Cloud Based Analytics

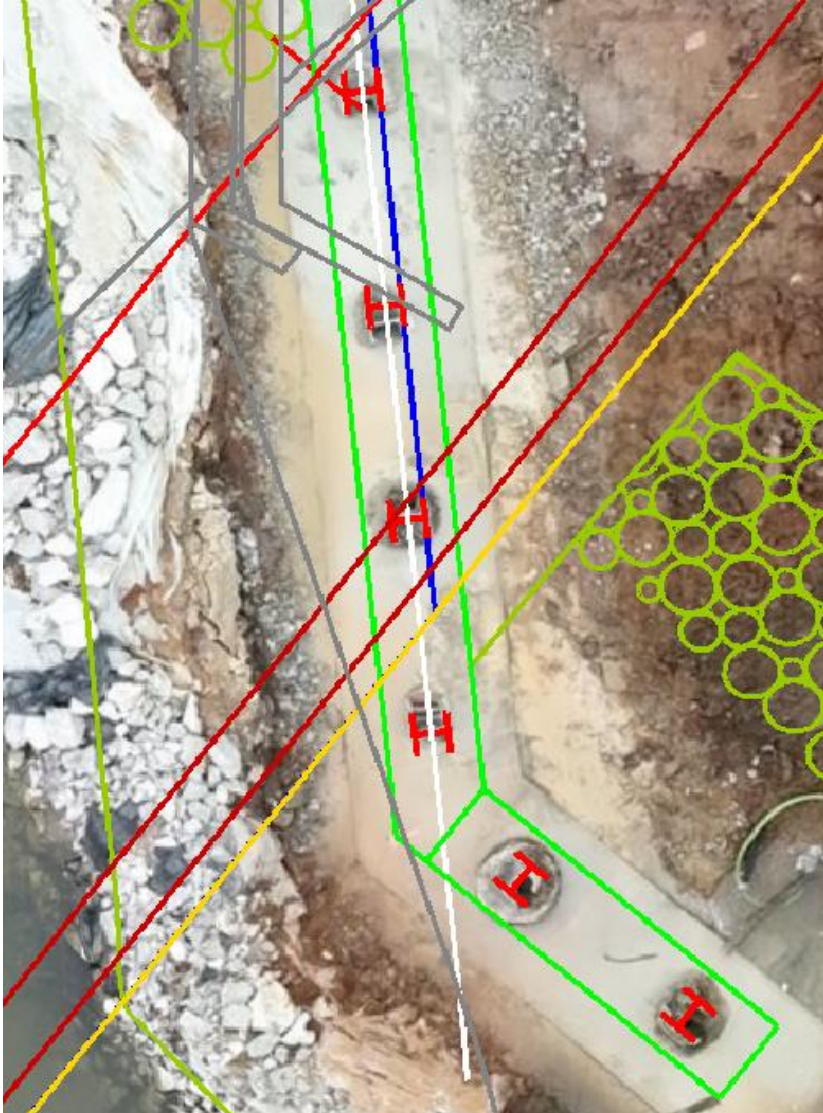


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Advantages of Cloud Based Analytics



Sample



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Advantages of Cloud Based Storage



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Virtual Surveying

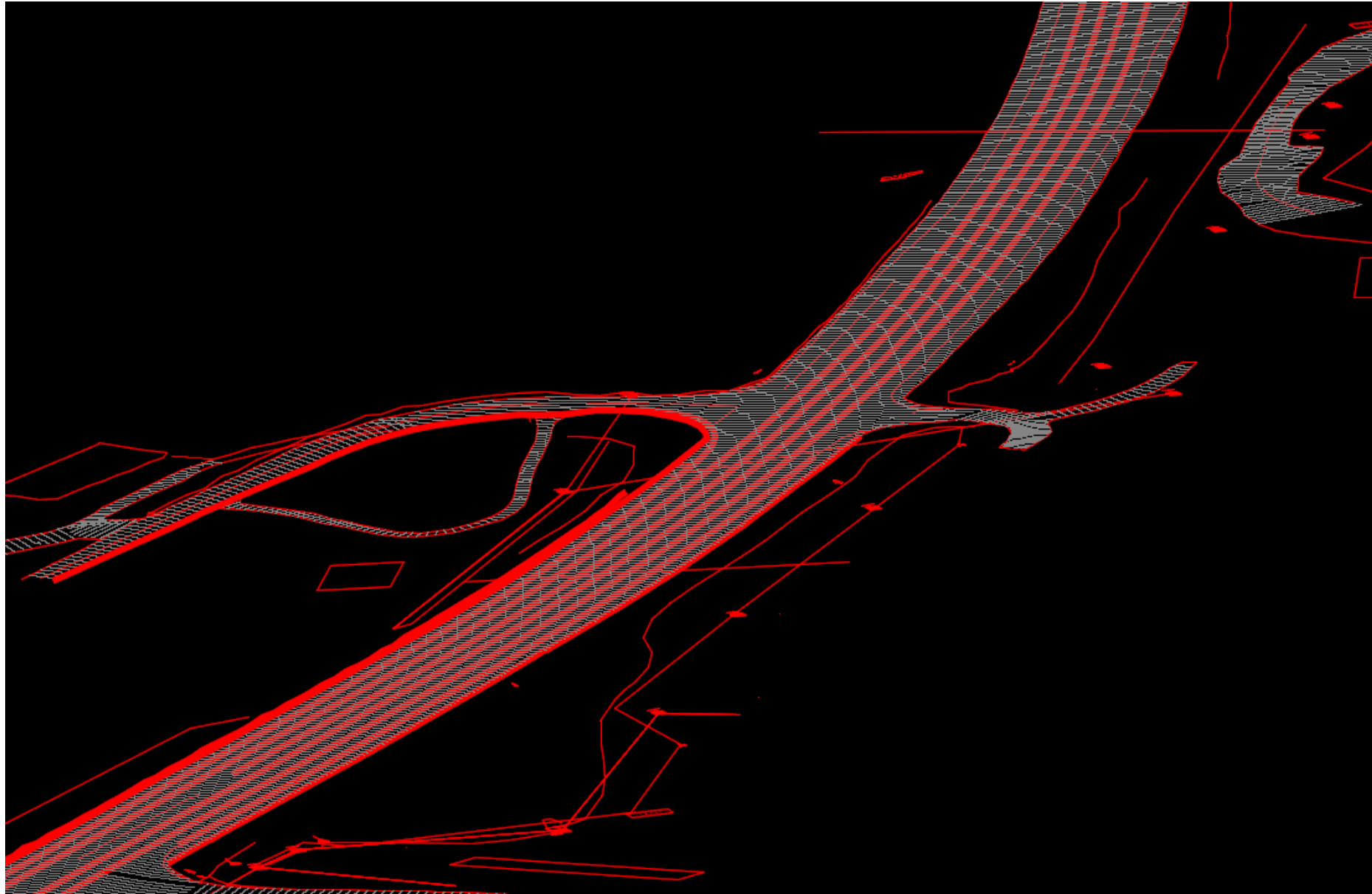
How Do We Design On 1 Billion Points?

Virtual Surveying

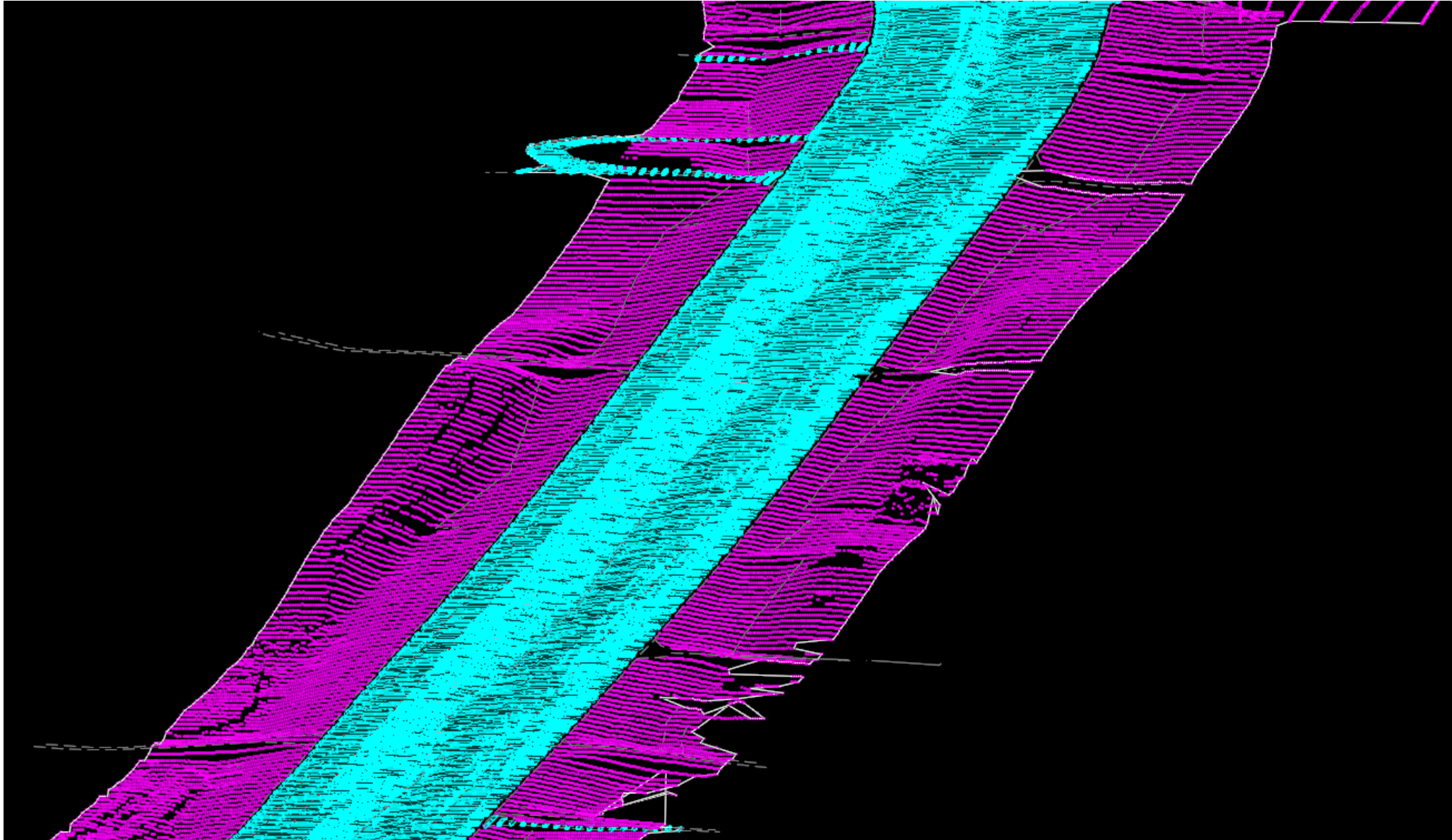
- We can use a Virtual Surveying software like TopoDOT or TBC
- Goal is to extract needed data:
 - Roadway Shots – We use 0.2 ft spacing perpendicular to CL
 - Ground Extraction – Not perfect, know your terrain
 - Break Line Extraction – Drawing planimetrics
 - Underground Utility Locates – Need to be boldly field marked
 - Utility Poles



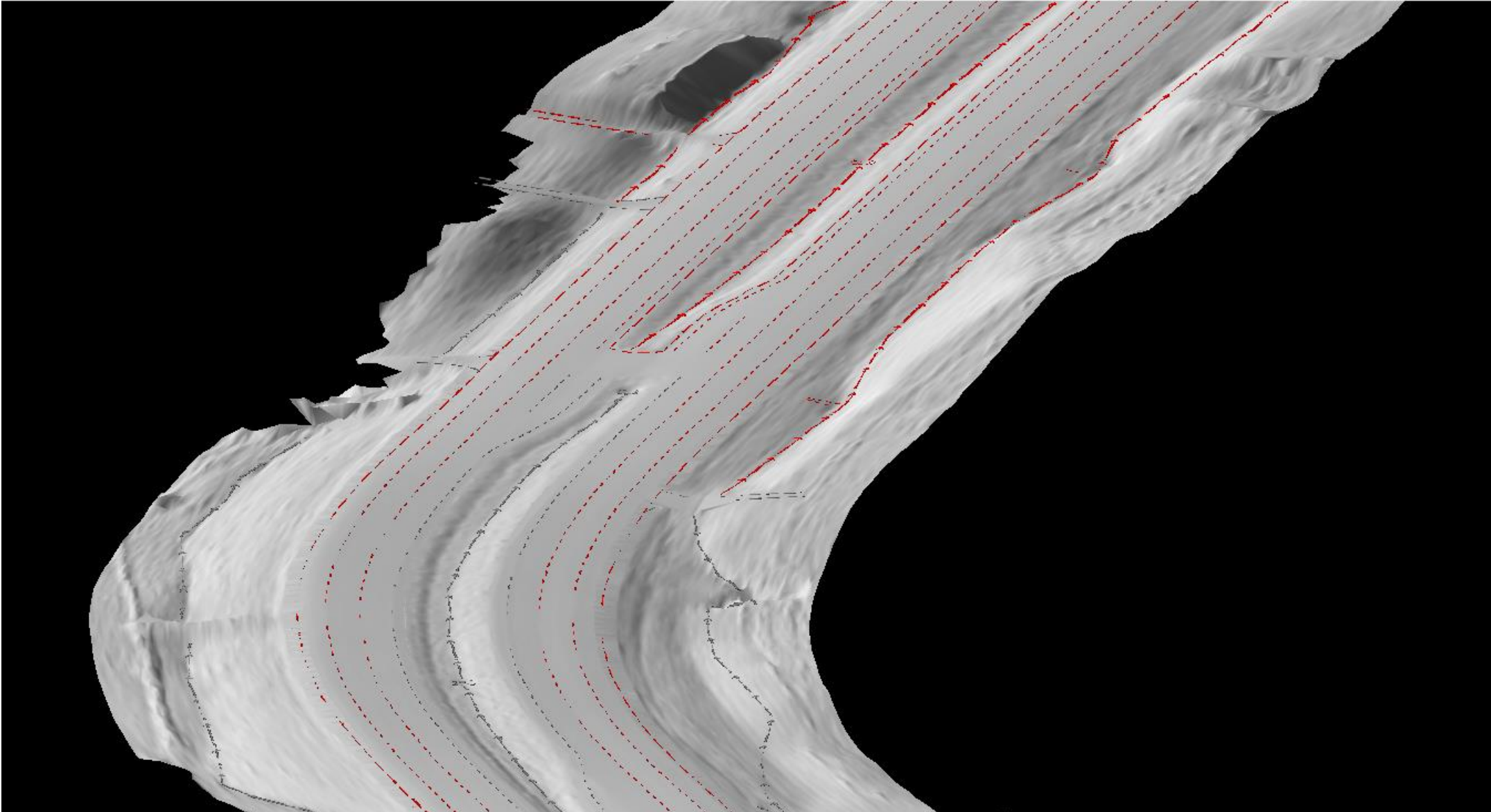
TopoDOT Samples



TopoDOT Samples



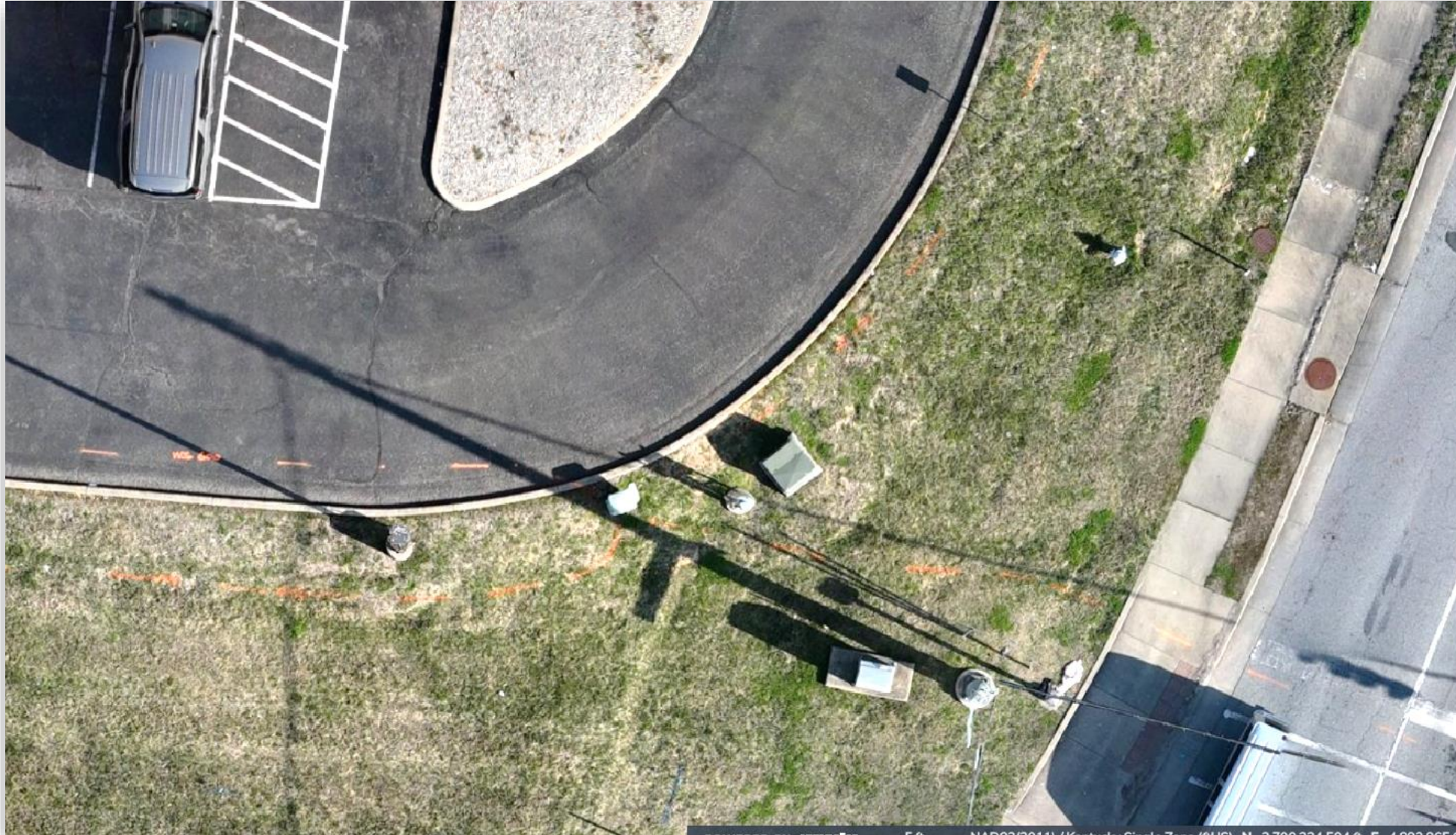
TopoDOT Samples



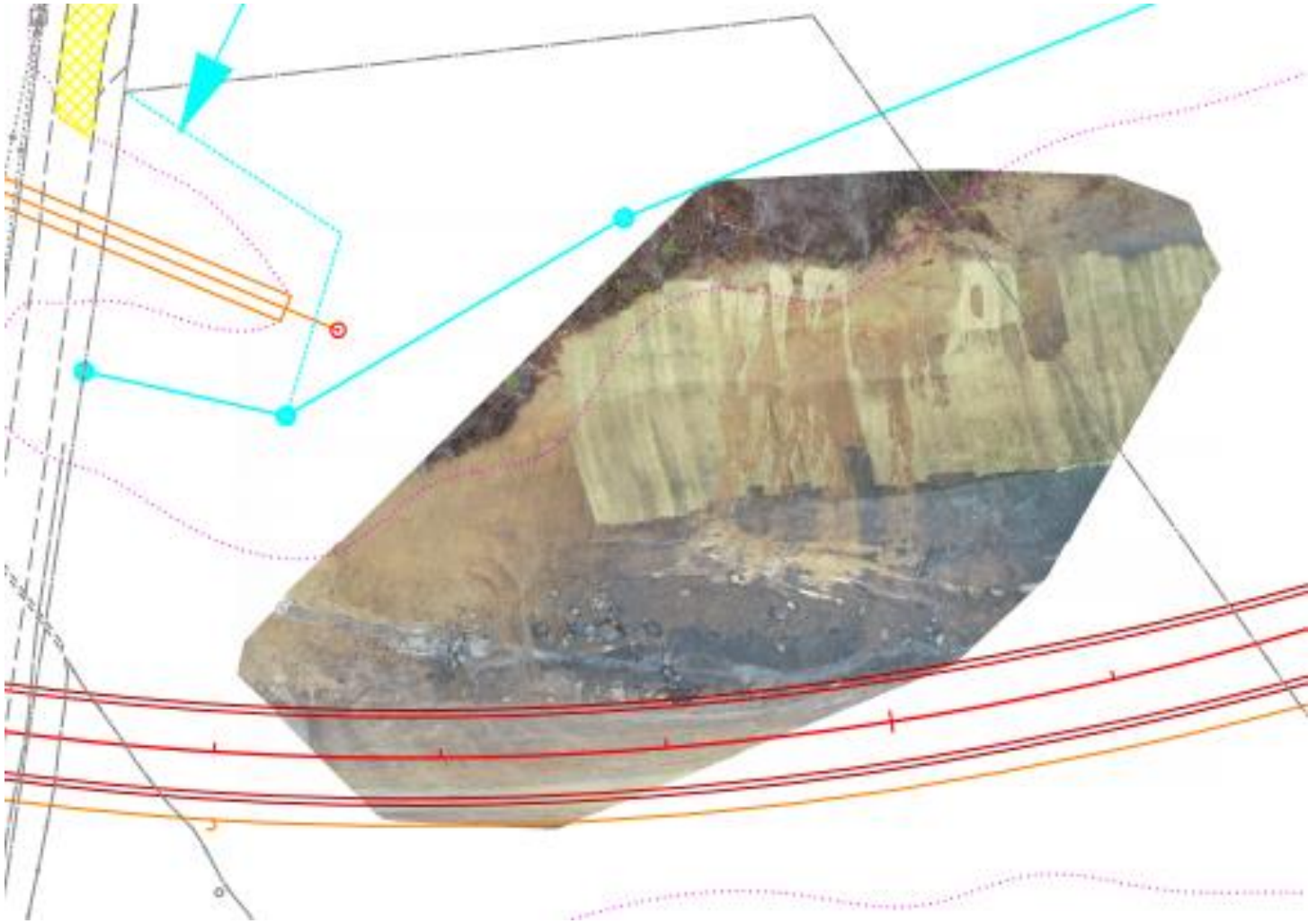
Samples



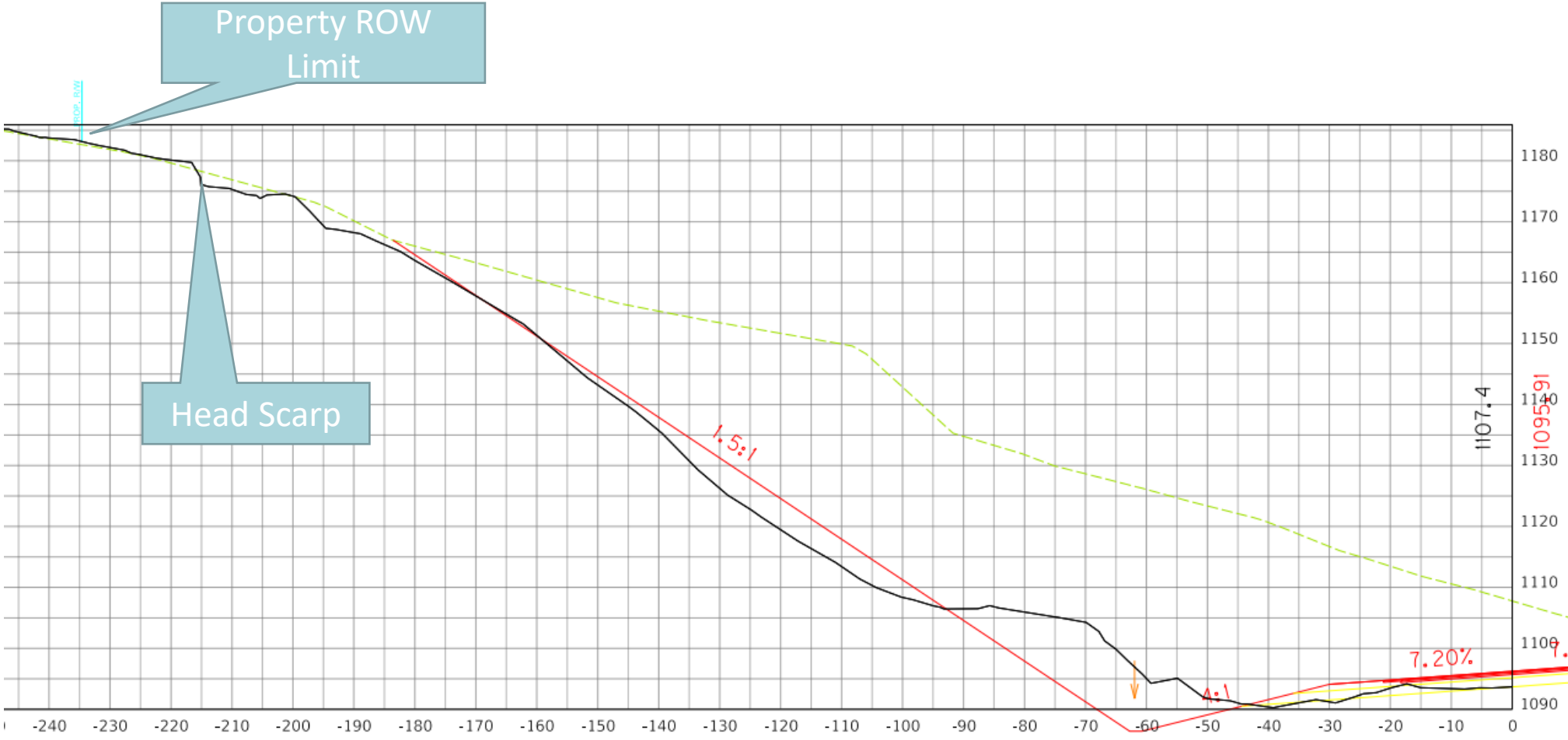
Field Marked Utilities



Sample



Sample



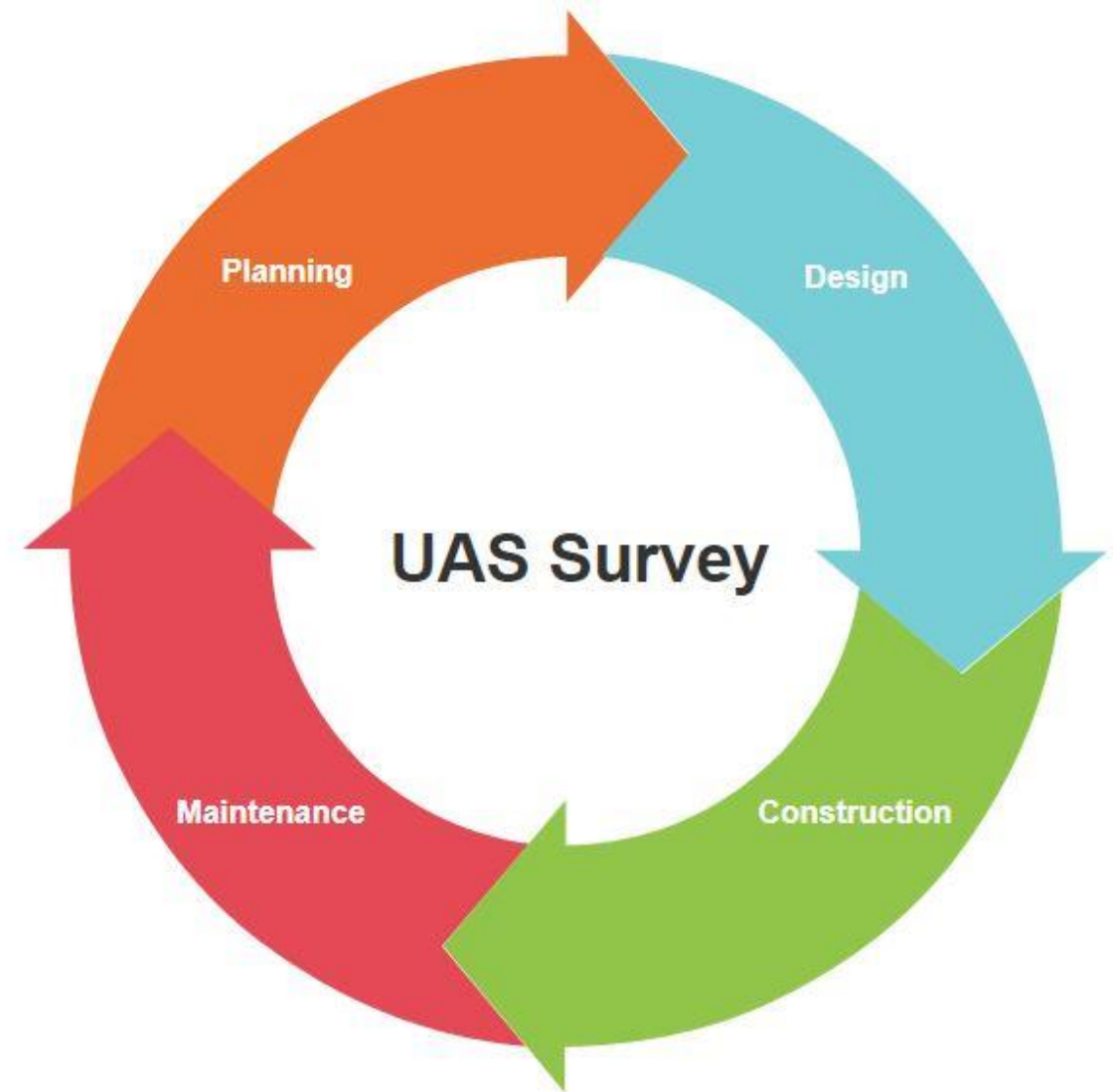
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Life Cycle: Planning – Design – Construction – Maintenance

Life Cycle

- Project Is Stored On The Cloud
- Re-Flown As Needed
 - New Right Of Way
 - New Construction
 - Maintenance
 - Project Improvement



Life Cycle Example

The screenshot displays the Trimble Stratus software interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Trimble Stratus', 'Kentucky', 'AEROPOINTS', and 'DATA PROCESSING'. A search bar is visible. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a right main view. The sidebar lists 'SURVEY' and 'DESIGNS' sections. The main view shows a 3D terrain model with overlaid design lines in various colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple). A list of survey data is displayed in the center, organized by year.

Year	Survey Name	Date
2024	Mud Slide 24 Jun 2024	24 Jun 2024
2023	Composite 30 Aug 2023	30 Aug 2023
2023	083023_Part 2	08302023
2023	02 May 2023	02 May 2023
2023	07 Feb 2023	07 Feb 2023
2022	Composite KY 461 INTERCHANGE	15 Dec 2022
2021	2021 Surveys	

Callout boxes on the left indicate the following stages:

- Maintenance (pointing to 'Mud Slide 24 Jun 2024')
- Construction Monitoring (pointing to '02 May 2023')
- Pre-Design (pointing to '2021 Surveys')





Surveying from the Sky 3:00pm