

Boyle Consulting Engineers Provides High Resolution Aerial Photography of Tornado Damage Areas in Northeast Georgia and Southeast Tennessee

August 1, 2011

Charlotte, North Carolina –On April 27, 2011, killer tornados rampaged the southeastern United States. The National Weather Service reported that an EF-3 tornado struck Lake Burton and Mountain City Georgia, periodically cutting a swath almost a mile wide and nearly 36 miles long. Over 100 homes were destroyed on Lake Burton and extensive damage occurred in Mountain City. The same weather system launched tornados in Tennessee, one or more of which touched down and carved a mile-wide path for 16 miles in the vicinity of Chilhowee Lake, just southeast of Maryville.

Aside from the death and destruction that these events caused to so many people, a significant amount of damage also was imparted on valuable timber resources in the Chatahoochee National Forest in Georgia, as well as the Great Smoky Mountains in Tennessee.

As part of a joint effort between the University of North Carolina Climatology Group in Asheville, NC and the University of Georgia Plant Science Group in Athens, GA, BOYLE assisted by collecting approximately 54 square miles of 8" resolution digital color aerial photography for use in assessing damages and long term impacts to forest resources. The photography was collected on June 30, 2011 and delivered on July 15 in formats conducive for further analytical work in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software such as ArcGIS.

BOYLE is able to rapidly respond to these types of requests and can furnish the data directly for local GIS consumption, or publish the data in our web-mapping service, InSiteful Imagery® (Rapid Response Viewer or ArcGIS Server).

Established in 1995, Boyle Consulting Engineers strives to be the first and best choice by air or on land for comprehensive geotechnical, geo-environmental, and geospatial services / site monitoring services in the Carolinas. BOYLE's mission is to bring real-world, bottom-line value to each project it touches through uncovering unearthly mistakes or oversights that can cost time, money and profits. # # #