



FORMA Systems was responsible for the GIS mapping of the recent Significant Ecological Area (SEA) study for the County of Los Angeles.

FORMA Systems worked closely with the County planning officials and a team of biologists to update these resources that spanned across the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. The project required over 623,000 acres of SEA boundaries and vegetation information to be digitized and input into the GIS system.

FORMA Systems devised an approach to give the team of biologists an equal-scale, equal-area plot based on color aerial imagery. The team used these imagery plots to draw the new SEA boundaries and vegetation data. The boundaries were digitized from the plots using standard digitizing methods, as well as state-of-the-art raster to vector technology, within ESRI's ArcScan component of ArcInfo. Upon completion of the boundary information, the data was documented and integrated into the County of Los Angeles' GIS database.

FORMA Systems also produced graphics utilizing the ArcInfo Arc Macro Language (AML) programming environment. The applications were developed to produce detailed portrait or landscape maps of the individual SEA boundaries with USGS digital image backgrounds. Utilizing ArcInfo's ability to process a series of maps with minimal user effort, this automated approach saved approximately 150 valuable man-hours, and vastly reduced the potential for human error.



- Automated Mapping**
- Custom Application Development**
- Digitizing and Scanning**
- Habitat Mapping**
- Quality Control**
- Team Effort**

