



*Natural color, 3-inch resolution,  
Portland Head Light, Cape Elizabeth, ME*

# MAINE GEOLIBRARY ORTHOIMAGERY PROGRAM



Infrared, 3-inch resolution, Ogunquit, ME



Natural color, 3-inch resolution, Ogunquit, ME

As conditions in the economy increasingly impact resources, a more cost-effective and efficient means of managing and maintaining assets is essential. With reliable, statewide data, agencies and departments benefit from more accurate information for better, timelier decision-making to reduce unwanted costs or, at times, eliminate them altogether.

The Maine GeoLibrary is coordinating a five-year program to collect new orthoimagery for the entire state. If your county participates, **the program includes base imagery at two feet and one meter, with acquisition buy-up options for local governments and organizations, including both increased resolution orthos (three or six inches) and LiDAR.** Reflights for areas in the program are scheduled every three to five years.

The program also includes products that can be derived from the imagery, such as the following:

- Automated feature extraction
- Digital terrain models with contours
- Planimetrics
- Land use/land cover
- Solar maps
- Building footprints
- Impervious surfaces

These derived products can be purchased at the time the imagery is flown, or later, as budgets allow.

Imagery collected through this program will include four-band GeoTiff images (including infrared) and will be available to the municipalities and state/local organizations. In addition to the base imagery, municipalities have the opportunity to acquire a number of buy-up options at a reduced cost.

This data can be used for a number of projects or activities, including:

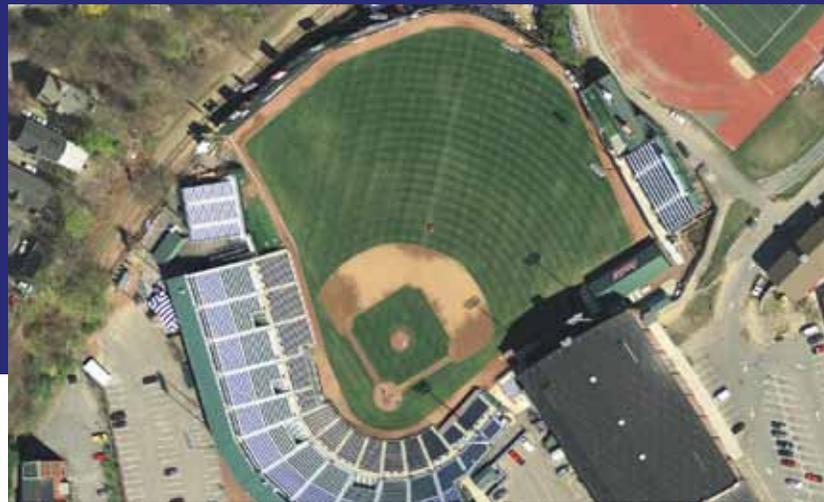
- Emergency response
- Wildlife management
- Natural resource planning
- Transportation planning and management
- Economic development
- Impervious surface/stormwater billing
- Land use/land cover
- And much more

**“Why can’t I simply use Google Earth or Maps to plan my projects?”**

*The answer is simple: the accuracy, resolutions and updates for free sources of imagery are undetermined. They lack flexibility and accuracy. And, most importantly, the data can’t be integrated into GIS software.*

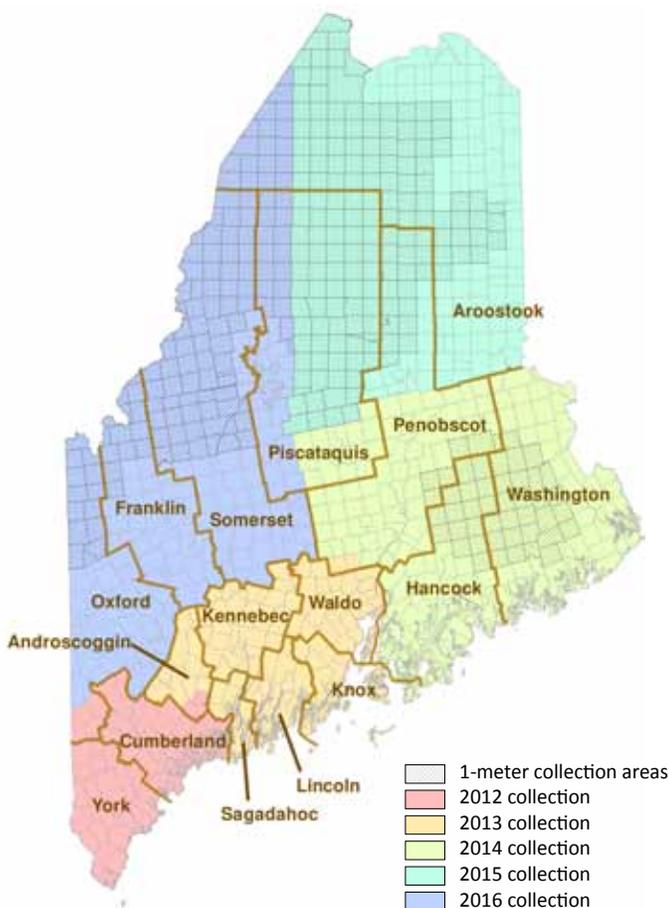


Infrared, 3-inch resolution, Hadlock Field, ME



Natural color, 3-inch resolution, Hadlock Field, ME

## Orthoimagery Refreshment Sections



Flight schedule is subject to change. Please refer to the interactive map located on the Maine GeoLibrary website ([www.maine.gov/geolib](http://www.maine.gov/geolib)) for the most accurate, up-to-date schedule.

Revised 07/17/2012

Using a conservative analysis of just three of 13 sectors which use aerial imagery, this investment still showed a return of over 400%.<sup>1</sup>

## Orthoimagery

An ordinary image cannot be used to accurately measure distances between two objects because lenses can distort distance and size. A long lens (for example, 400mm) will produce a very short perceived distance between two objects in an image, while in reality, they are very far apart. And a wide-angle lens will distort images near the edges, making objects look wider or shorter than they truly are.

Orthophotos, or orthoimagery, on the other hand, can be used to accurately measure distances and sizes of objects. Aerial photos are prepared specifically for mapping, with the topography of the area “flattened” so the images are accurate.

Visit our website for more information on the program, such as detailed maps of the collection schedule, a list of frequently asked questions and more.

Contact your county for more information on buy-ups or the Maine Office of GIS:

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<sup>1</sup> Applied Geographics Inc. *Return on Investment Analysis for Statewide Orthoimagery Acquisition for the State of Maine*. 3 Aug 2012.



[WWW.MAINE.GOV/GEOLIB](http://WWW.MAINE.GOV/GEOLIB)  
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