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NCDC Uses Feature Analyst® for Detailed Landscape Mapping

MISSOULA, Montana – In collaboration with the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), Native Communities Development Corporation (NCDC) analyzed forest landscapes for chimpanzee habitat assessment in Gombe National Park, Tanzania. NCDC employed a dynamic mapping system that utilized Visual Learning Systems' Feature Analyst software, to identify features of interest from satellite imagery.

The first remote sensing applications for chimpanzee research began in 2002, and JGI has continued to acquire and analyze IKONOS and QuickBird images. NCDC has thus far utilized Feature Analyst to assist in the identification and assessment of vegetative features, oil palm, cassava, and other timber; as well as man-made features such as roads and buildings.

"We expect that conservation efforts worldwide will see incredible benefits from the use of image data and Feature Analyst for wildlife habitat monitoring," said Stuart Blundell, chief operating officer of VLS. "The accuracy and consistency of the mapping speak for themselves."

In addition to assisting JGI in its attempts to identify and restore areas that are important for chimpanzees, VLS' software is currently actively used within The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, and many other conservation and research-based organizations.

About VLS

Visual Learning Systems, Inc. is an international leader in automated mapping solutions. Feature Analyst and LIDAR Analyst™, the VLS flagship software products, are used worldwide for GIS database management and mapping applications supporting international defense, Homeland Security, education, environmental projects and more. Feature Analyst exists as extensions to ERDAS IMAGINE, SOCET SET, the ArcGIS suite, and now GeoMedia, and is used in every U.S. state, in over 50 countries and 100 universities. LIDAR Analyst is the revolutionary new VLS product that automates 3D capture of buildings, trees, and bare earth from LIDAR data. More information can be found at www.vls-inc.com.

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