

# DOI demonstrates climate change

—by Emily Vines

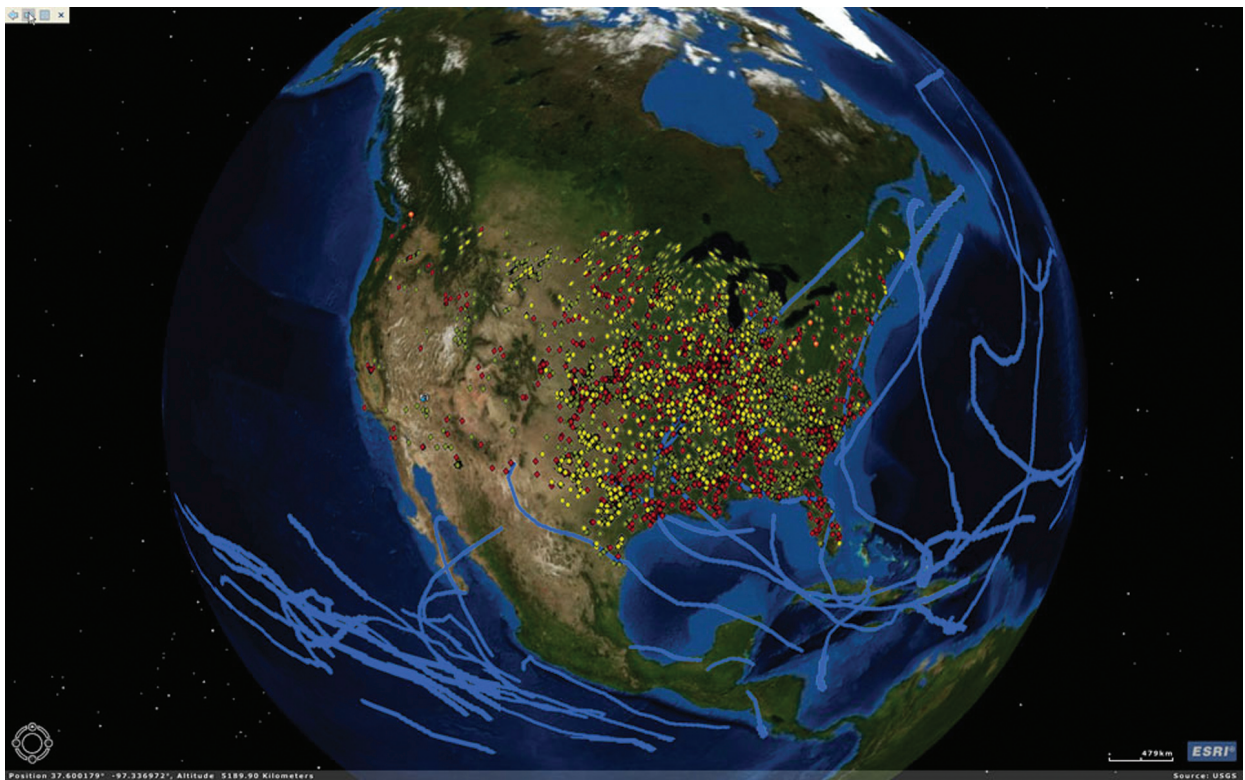
Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar recently signed an order to establish a coordinated strategy within the United States Department of the Interior (DOI) to improve response to climate change in the twenty-first century.

During the press conference announcing the order, DOI science adviser Kit Batten and enterprise geographic information management lead Robert R. Pierce, Ph.D., used ArcGIS Explorer ([www.esri.com/arcgisexplorer](http://www.esri.com/arcgisexplorer)) to show where on the Earth climate change is taking place and what that change looks like.

extreme weather, such as large hail and strong tornados, and lines showed the paths of intense hurricanes.

Batten also said that sea-level rises of up to one meter are possible by the end of the century, if greenhouse gases continue to warm the environment and cause glaciers and permafrost to melt. Information on potential impacts of such rises is imperative for designing strategies to protect low-lying coastal communities.

To better manage these and many other environmental impacts, Secretary Salazar's order includes establishing a Climate Change



Demonstration of hail occurrence

The live demonstration ([www.doi.gov/climatechange](http://www.doi.gov/climatechange)) focused attention on Interior's scientific expertise, data resources, and geospatial analysis and visualization capabilities and these resources will help the federal government understand, anticipate, and deal with the impacts of climate change."

Batten used ArcGIS Explorer's 3D capabilities to map increases in surface temperatures around the world and where warming negatively impacts the United States. Map points indicated incidents of

Response Council and Regional Climate Change Response Centers. These centers will be part of a network of Landscape Conservation Cooperatives overseeing the DOI Carbon Storage Project aimed at lowering the department's carbon footprint.

DOI will continue to leverage its investment in GIS technology for complex data analysis, data sharing, and collaboration with government agencies to address the complex nature of climate change challenges.