

For
MESH DYNAMICS
SYSTEM INTEGRATORS

NETWORK LAYOUT DESIGN
AND
ANTENNA SELECTION

NETWORK DESIGN

The design of most networks starts with a satellite view of the deployment area. This can be gotten from Google Maps.

The satellite view can then be labeled to mark the root and relay nodes of a tree based wireless mesh network.

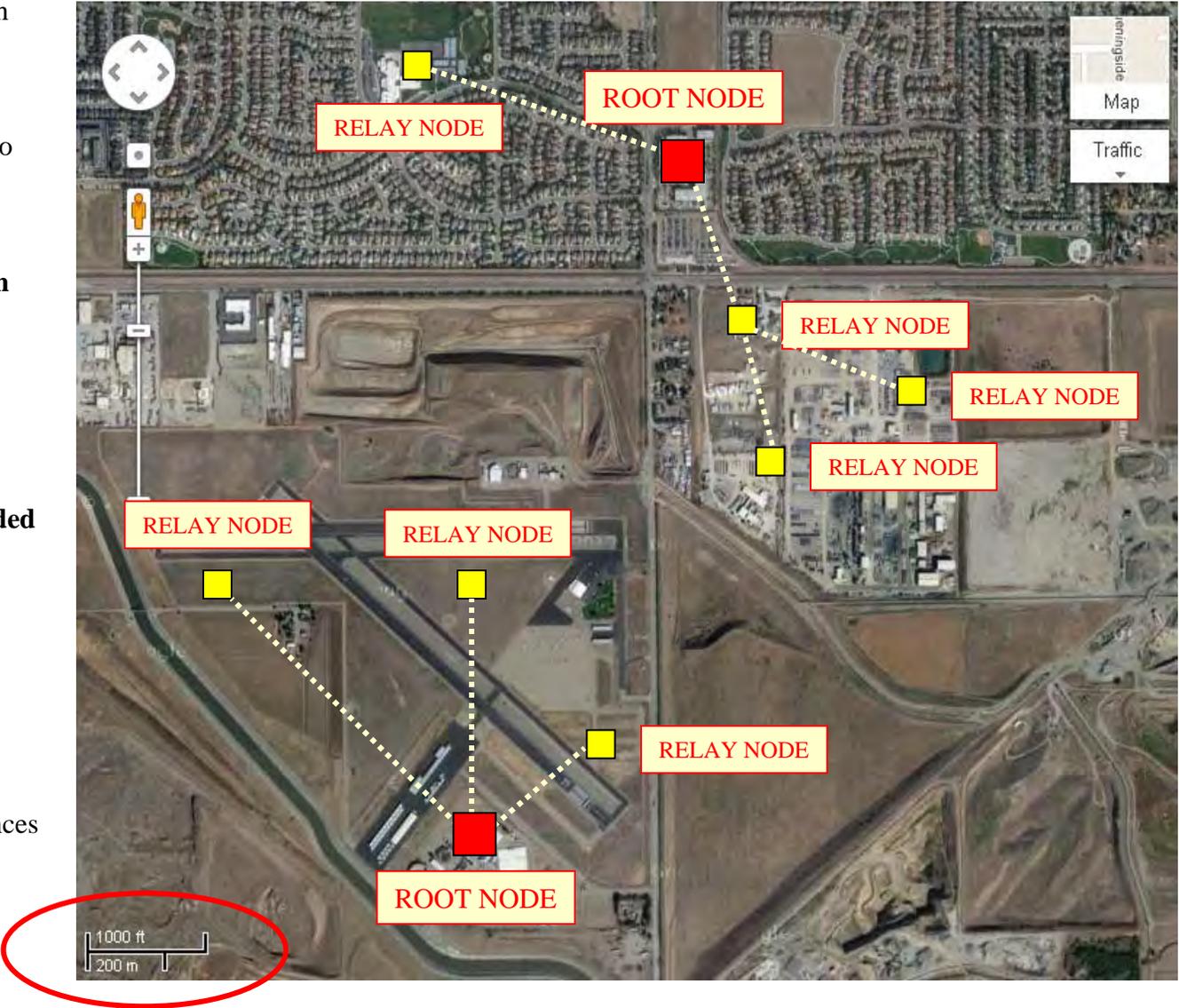
1) Where is the root of the bandwidth (root nodes):

- Internet source
- Security Office
- Network Operations Center
- etc.

2) Where are the points/areas of needed bandwidth (relay nodes):

- Associated Client Devices
- Surveillance Cameras
- Vehicles
- Customer Homes
- etc.

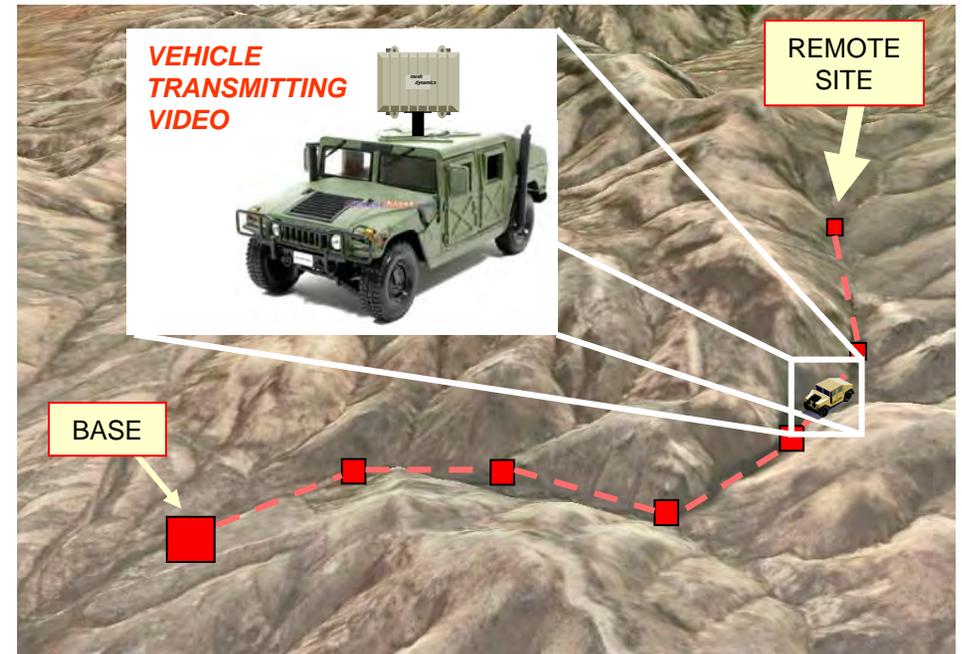
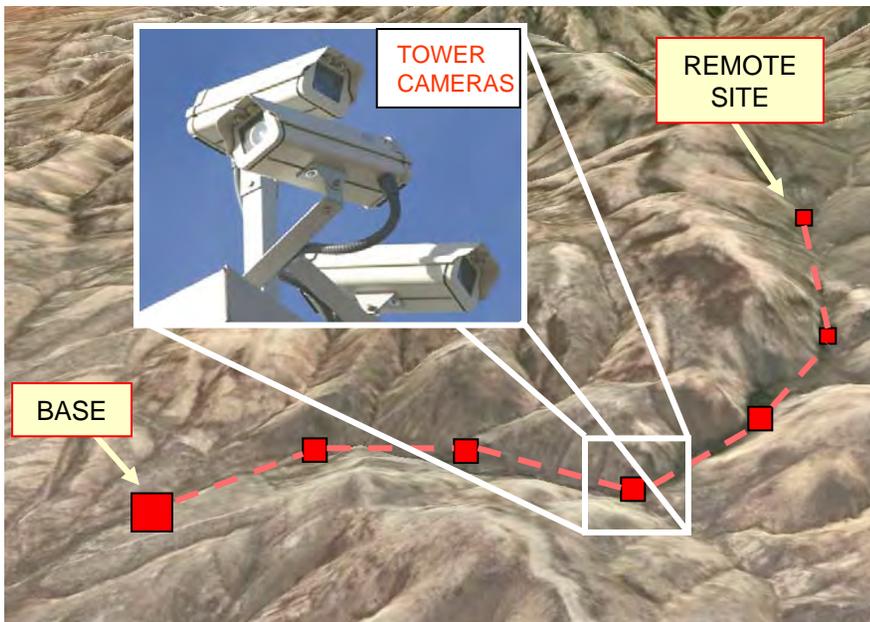
Node-to-node and node-to-client distances can be gauged using the satellite view.



NODE LOCATIONS

Node locations are influenced by:

- The start (root node) and end points (edge nodes) of bandwidth
- Points in between root node and edge node (backhaul)
- Local distribution of client devices
- Camera locations
- Possible vehicle locations
- Available power sources
- Limitations of antenna ranges
- Limitations of node-mounting locations



RANGE ESTIMATION

Node-to-node, and node-to-client ranges vary tremendously. It is helpful to use a link budget calculator – such the one shown (right).

Radio Power: The Wistron radio cards used by Meshdynamics have a maximum power output of 350mW (~25dBm). As can be seen by the table below, the transmit (Tx) power changes with varying data rates. Receive sensitivity (Rx) also reduces with high data rates.

Antenna Gain: Higher gain antennas provide more range, but, as distances increase, there is more noise and effective data rate is reduced. Hence a margin of safety is suggested. The following values have been plugged in.

Frequency: **5800MHz**

Tx power: **20dBm** (for 54Mbps, as per table)

Tx cable loss: **0.9dB**

Tx Antenna Gain: **17dBi**

Receive Antenna Gain: **17dBi**

Receive Cable Loss: **0.9dB**

Receive Sensitivity: **-74dBm** (For 54 Mbps)

Fade Margin: **5dB**



RADIO OPERATING FREQUENCY 5.20-5.825GHz								
TX SPECIFICATIONS				RX SPECIFICATIONS				
	DataRate	Avg.Power	Tolerance		DataRate	Sensitivity	Tolerance	
802.11a OFDM	6Mbps	25 dBm	+/-1.5dB	802.11a OFDM	6Mbps	-94 dBm	+/-1.5dB	
	9Mbps	25 dBm	+/-1.5dB		9Mbps	-93 dBm	+/-1.5dB	
	12Mbps	25 dBm	+/-1.5dB		12Mbps	-91 dBm	+/-1.5dB	
	18Mbps	25 dBm	+/-1.5dB		18Mbps	-90 dBm	+/-1.5dB	
	24Mbps	23 dBm	+/-1.5dB		24Mbps	-86 dBm	+/-1.5dB	
	36Mbps	22 dBm	+/-1.5dB		36Mbps	-83 dBm	+/-1.5dB	
	48Mbps	21 dBm	+/-1.5dB		48Mbps	-77 dBm	+/-1.5dB	
	54Mbps	20 dBm	+/-1.5dB		54Mbps	-74 dBm	+/-1.5dB	

RANGE ESTIMATION

RF Link Budget Calculator

Input

Frequency: 5800 MHz

Tx Power: 20 dBm

Tx Cable Loss: 0.9 dB

Tx Antenna Gain: 8 dBi

Distance: 0.4 miles

Rcv Antenna Gain: 8 dBi

Rcv Cable Loss: 0.9 dB

Rcv Sensitivity: -74 dBm

Fade Margin: 5 dB

Compute:

Fade Margin

Distance

Tx Power

Units:

miles

km

Output

Distance: 0.4 miles

Free Space Loss: 103.2 dB

Rcv Signal Strength: -69.0 dBm

Cable Loss Calculator

Input

Cable Type: other...

Loss per 100 ft: 4.0 dB (at 5800 MHz)

Cable Length: 3 ft

No. of connectors: 1

Total Cable Loss: 0.3 dB

Apply to:

Tx Cable Rcv Cable



SuperPass 5.1-5.9 Antennas should be used.

www.superpass.com/5100-5900M.html

SuperPass omni SPDJ80 9 Dbi shown above

For mobile nodes and/or more redundant paths, omni-directional antennas are preferred. However, their drawback is lower gain and thus lower range. Range calculation above for 54 Mbps, 8 Dbi Antenna

See www.meshdynamics.com/MDInstallationInstructions.html for suggested sector and panel antennas for static nodes suggestions

RANGE ESTIMATION

RF Link Budget Calculator

Input

Frequency: 5800 MHz

Tx Power: 23 dBm

Tx Cable Loss: 0.9 dB

Tx Antenna Gain: 8 dBi

Distance: 2.1 miles

Rcv Antenna Gain: 8 dBi

Rcv Cable Loss: 0.9 dB

Rcv Sensitivity: -86 dBm

Fade Margin: 5 dB

Compute:

Fade Margin

Distance

Tx Power

Units:

miles

km

Output

Distance: 2.1 miles

Free Space Loss: 118.2 dB

Rcv Signal Strength: -81.0 dBm

Cable Loss Calculator

Input

Cable Type: other...

Loss per 100 ft: 4.0 dB (at 5800 MHz)

Cable Length: 3 ft

No. of connectors: 1

Total Cable Loss: 0.3 dB

Apply to:

Tx Cable Rcv Cable

Changing the Transmit Rate from 54 Mbps to 24 Mbps:

1. Increases transmit power to 23 Dbm
2. Increases receiver sensitivity to -86 Dbm

Note: the transmit rate control algorithms automatically reduce transmit rate when control system running in each node deems it necessary.

Expert users can also set Transmit rate upper limits manually, see the NMS configuration manual.

Frequency: **5800MHz**
Tx power: **23dBm** (for 24 Mbps, as per table, page 4)
Tx cable loss: **0.9dB**
Tx Antenna Gain: **8dBi**
Receive Antenna Gain: **8dBi**
Receive Cable Loss: **0.9dB**
Receive Sensitivity: **-86dBm** (For 24 Mbps)
Fade Margin: **5dB**

See www.meshdynamics.com/MDInstallationInstructions.html for suggested sector and panel antennas for static nodes suggestions

MODEL NUMBERS, ANTENNAS, AND CHANNELS

The following slides help to give an idea how to manage antennas and channels with various node model numbers.

Model number selection is the first step in the design of a network. Most nodes will need an uplink, a downlink and an AP radio. Some nodes can go without an AP radio, while others will benefit from an *additional* AP radio. Some nodes do not need a downlink radio, and some may have *multiple* downlink radios. The following deployment examples show scenarios where several different model numbers are used.

Antenna selection is the next step in network design. If a node has multiple AP radios, for example, it needs to be determined *where* the signal from these radios need to be spread.

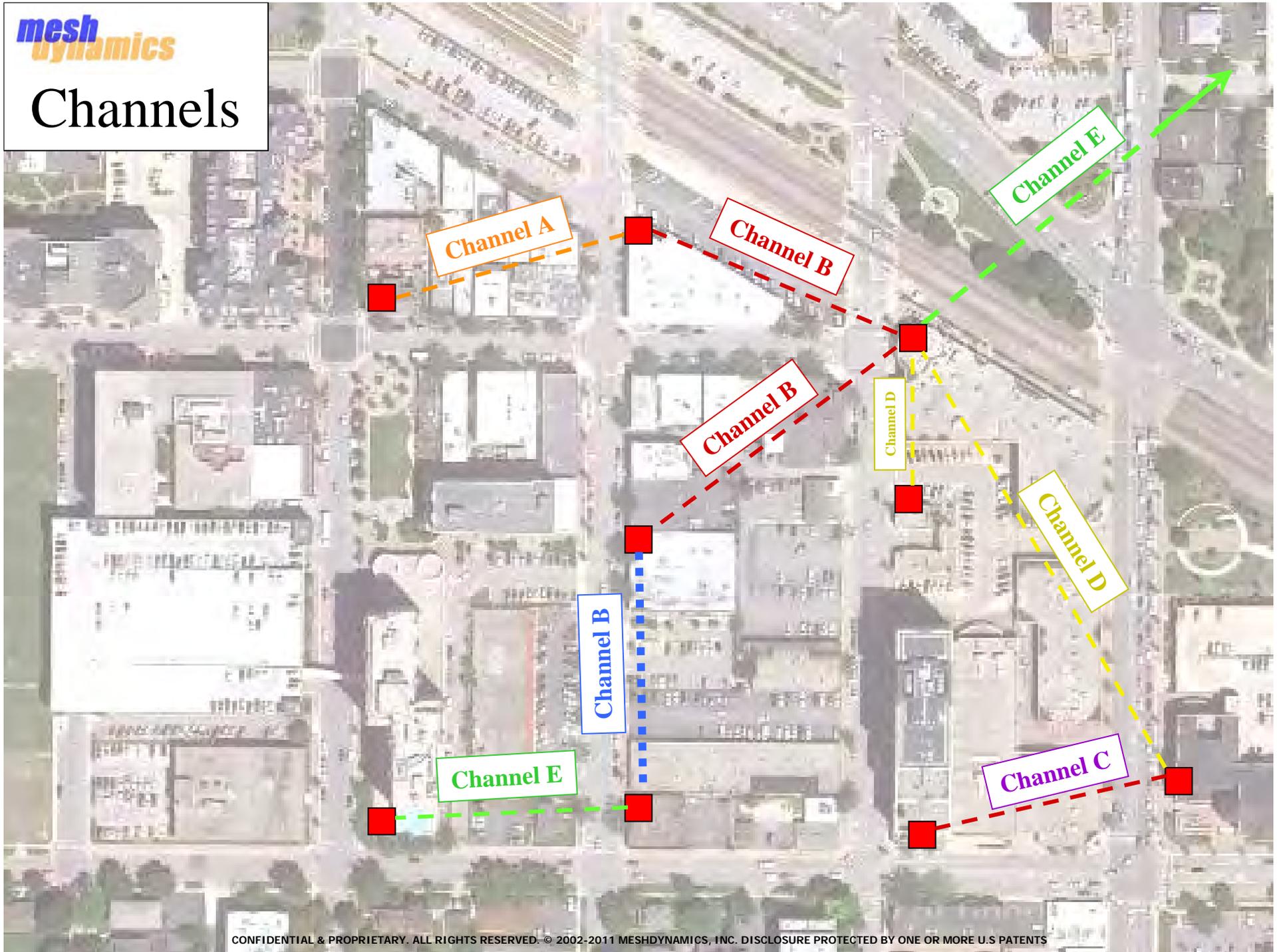
Multiple downlink radios can help the structure of a backhaul. Typically, if a node has multiple downlink radios, directional antennas are needed on each downlink to “shoot” the downlinks’ signals to their intended child nodes.

Multiple downlink radios on **root** nodes will give the mesh more bandwidth; each downlink on a root node will provide a separate channel. Again, antennas should be chosen to shoot the signal to the downlinks’ intended child nodes.

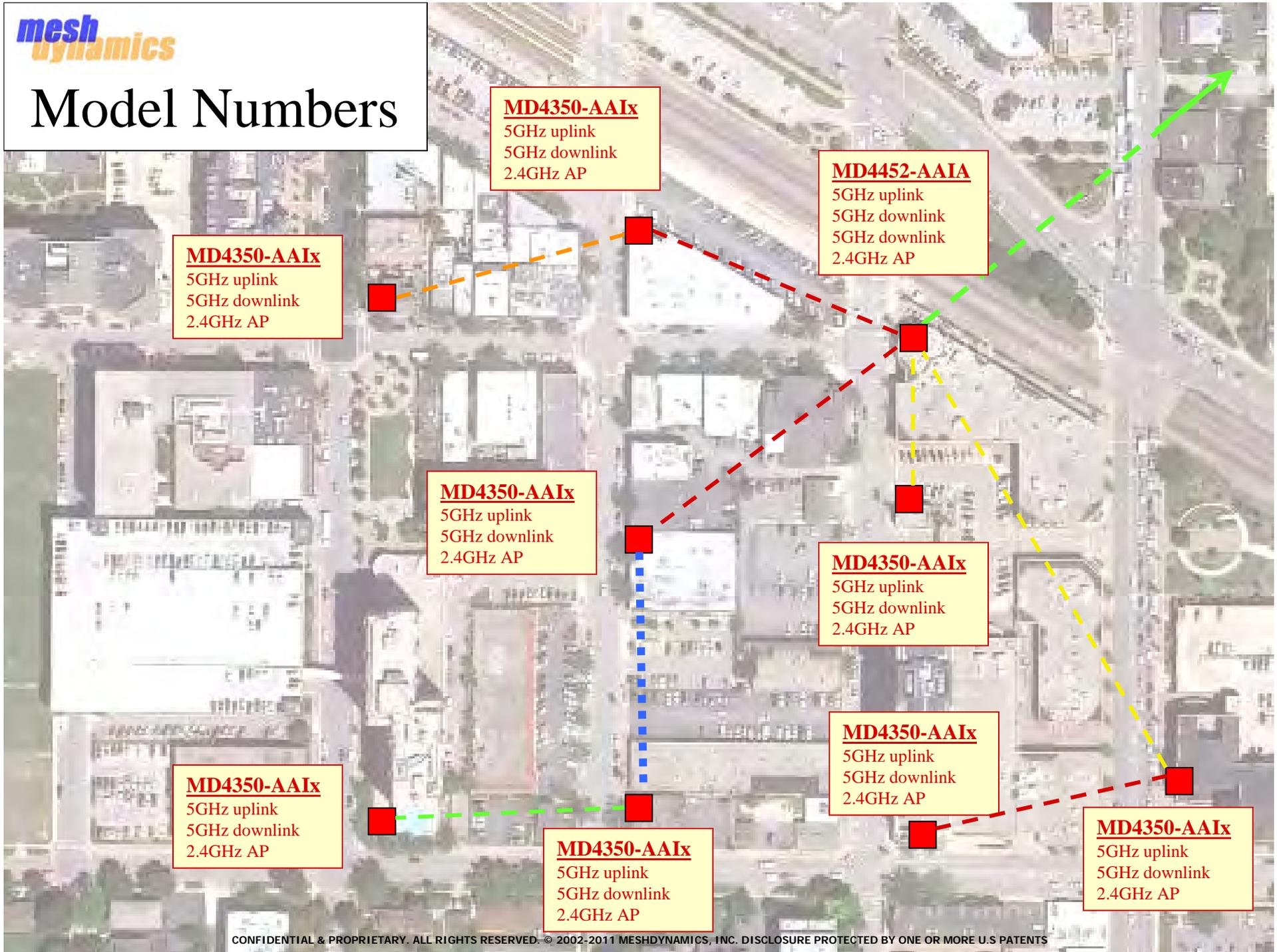
Channel usage is closely related to antenna spreads used in a deployment. It is possible to encounter signal overlap of the same channel if antenna spreads are not chosen carefully.

URBAN DEPLOYMENT

Channels



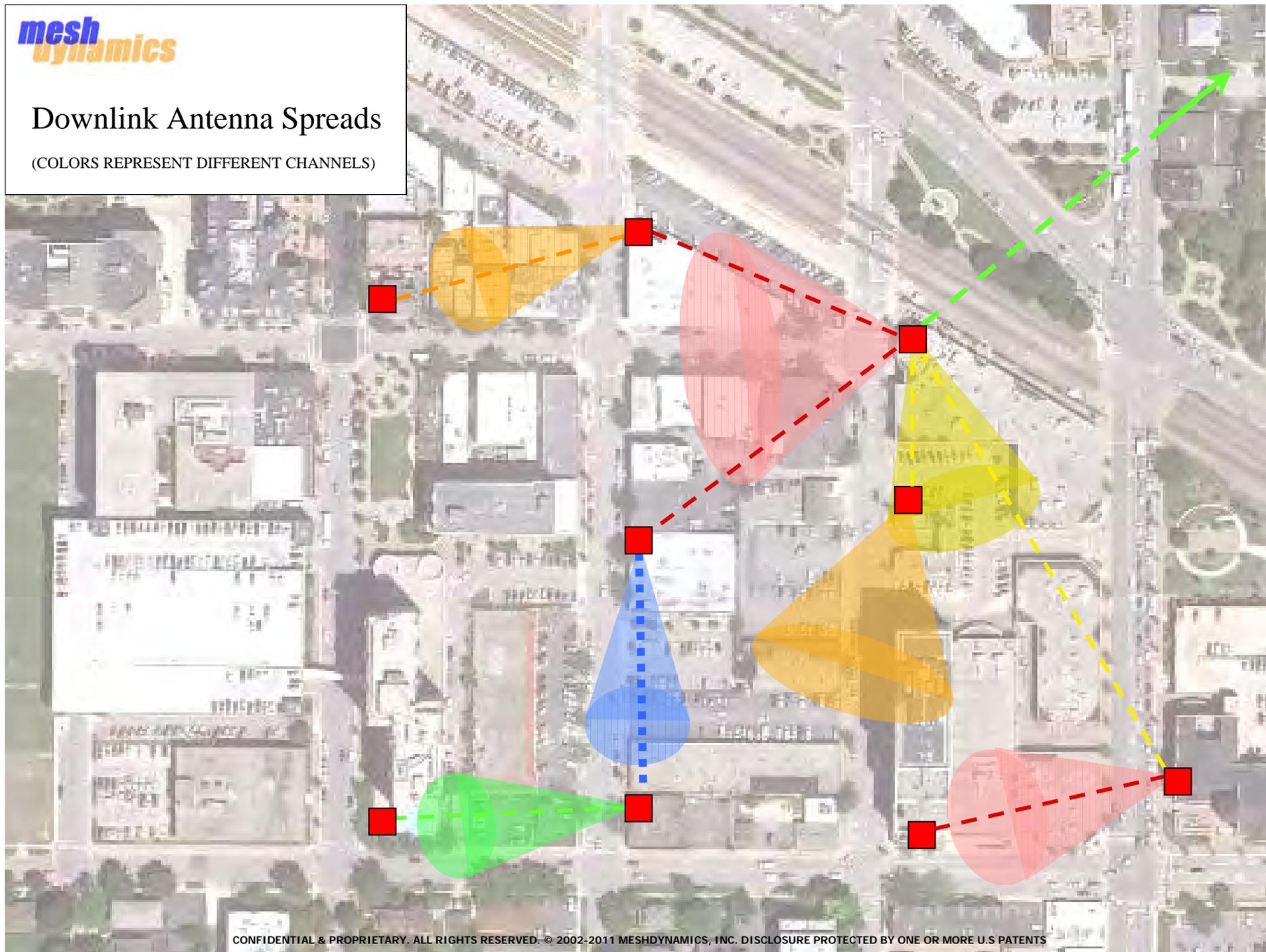
Model Numbers





Downlink Antenna Spreads

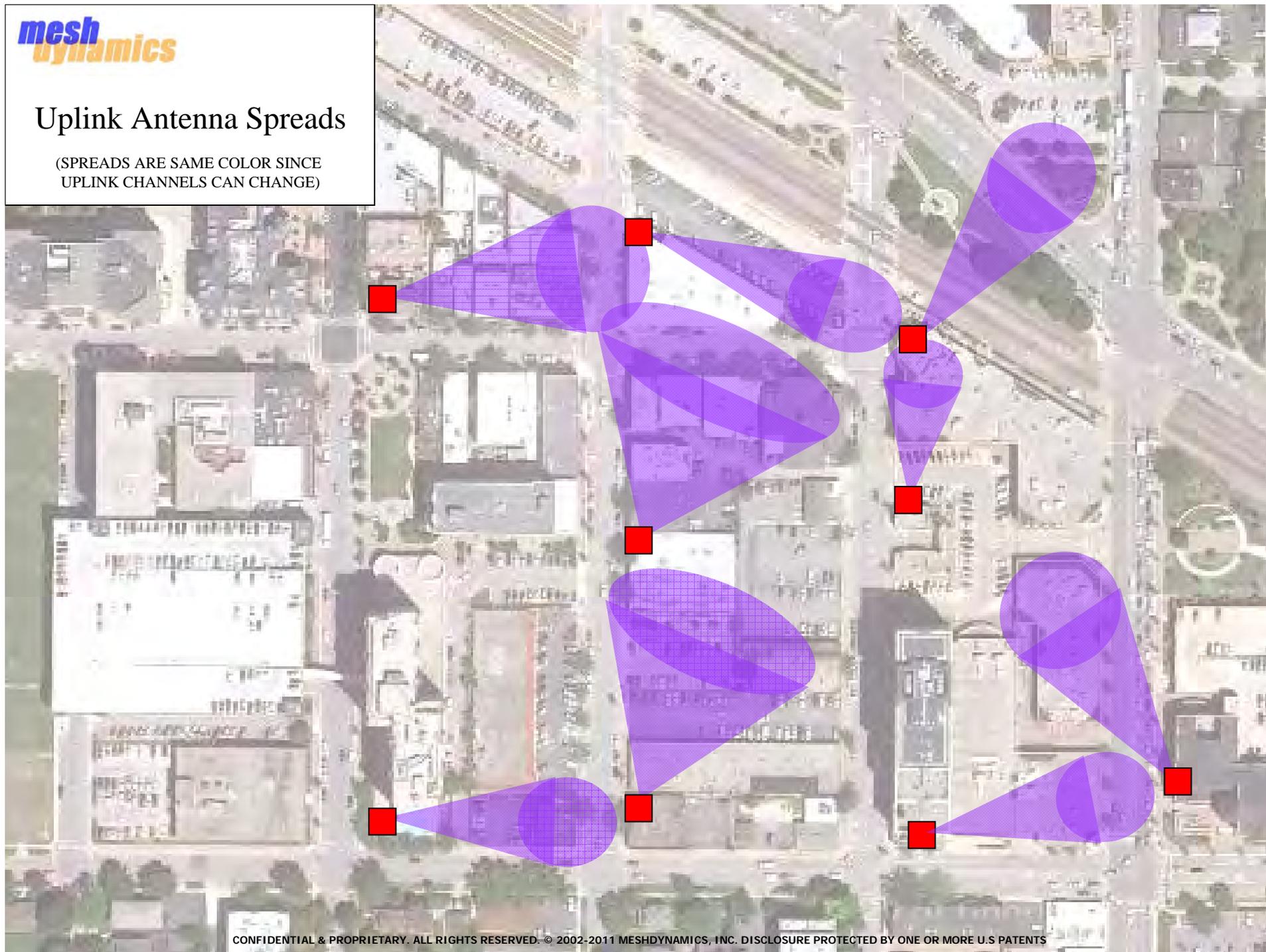
(COLORS REPRESENT DIFFERENT CHANNELS)



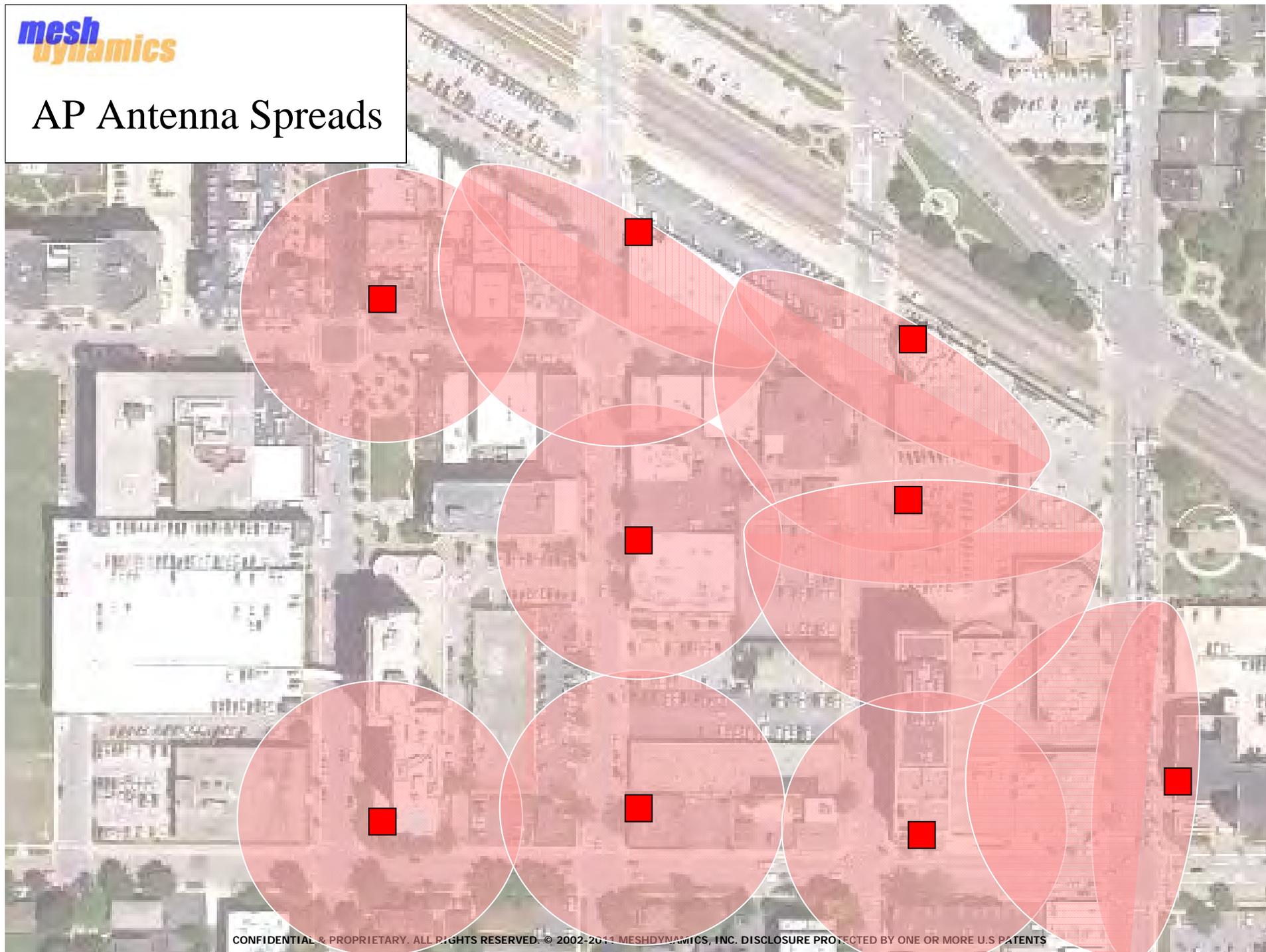


Uplink Antenna Spreads

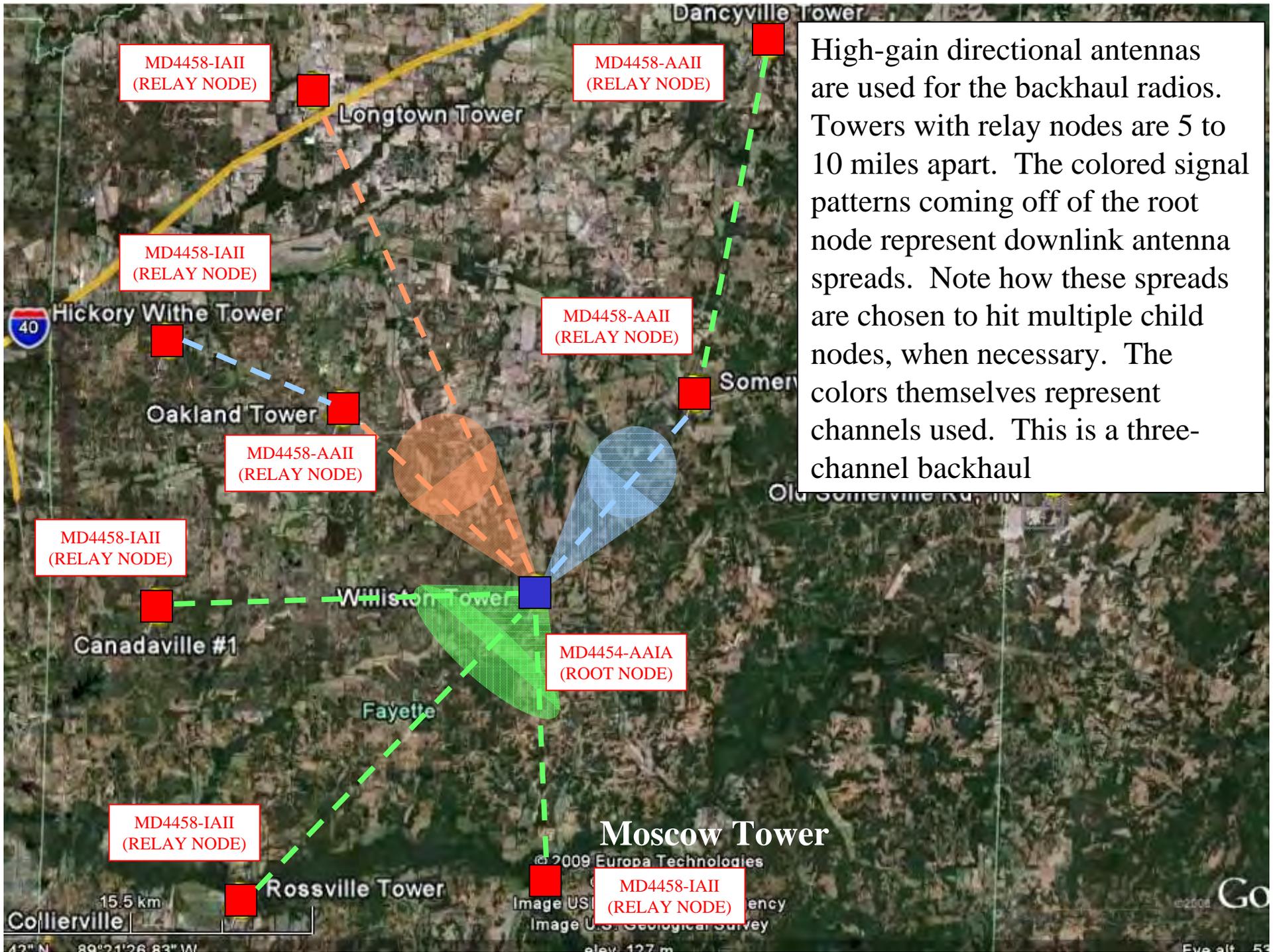
(SPREADS ARE SAME COLOR SINCE UPLINK CHANNELS CAN CHANGE)



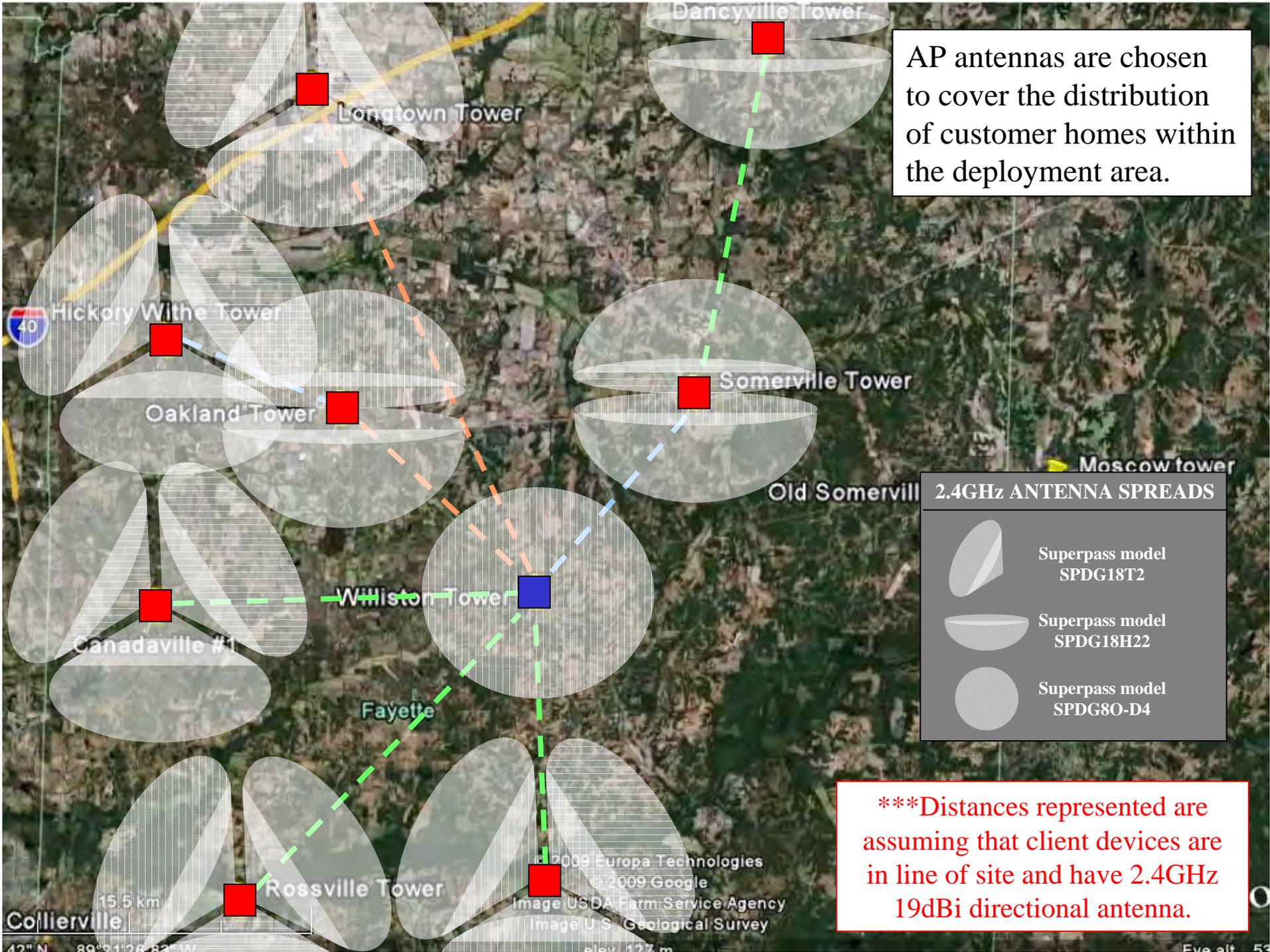
AP Antenna Spreads



RURAL DEPLOYMENT



High-gain directional antennas are used for the backhaul radios. Towers with relay nodes are 5 to 10 miles apart. The colored signal patterns coming off of the root node represent downlink antenna spreads. Note how these spreads are chosen to hit multiple child nodes, when necessary. The colors themselves represent channels used. This is a three-channel backhaul

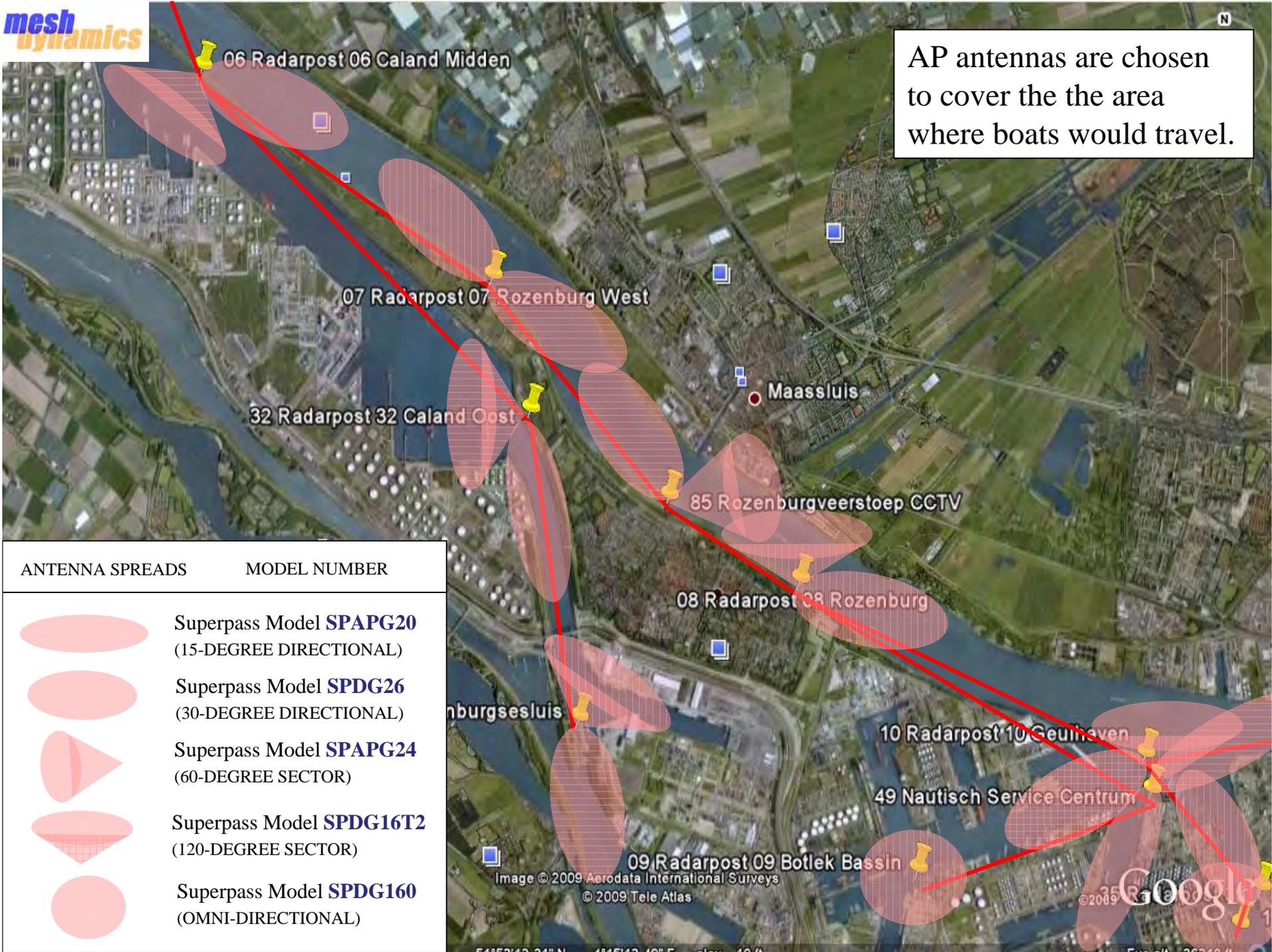


AP antennas are chosen to cover the distribution of customer homes within the deployment area.

*****Distances represented are assuming that client devices are in line of site and have 2.4GHz 19dBi directional antenna.**

HARBOR DEPLOYMENT

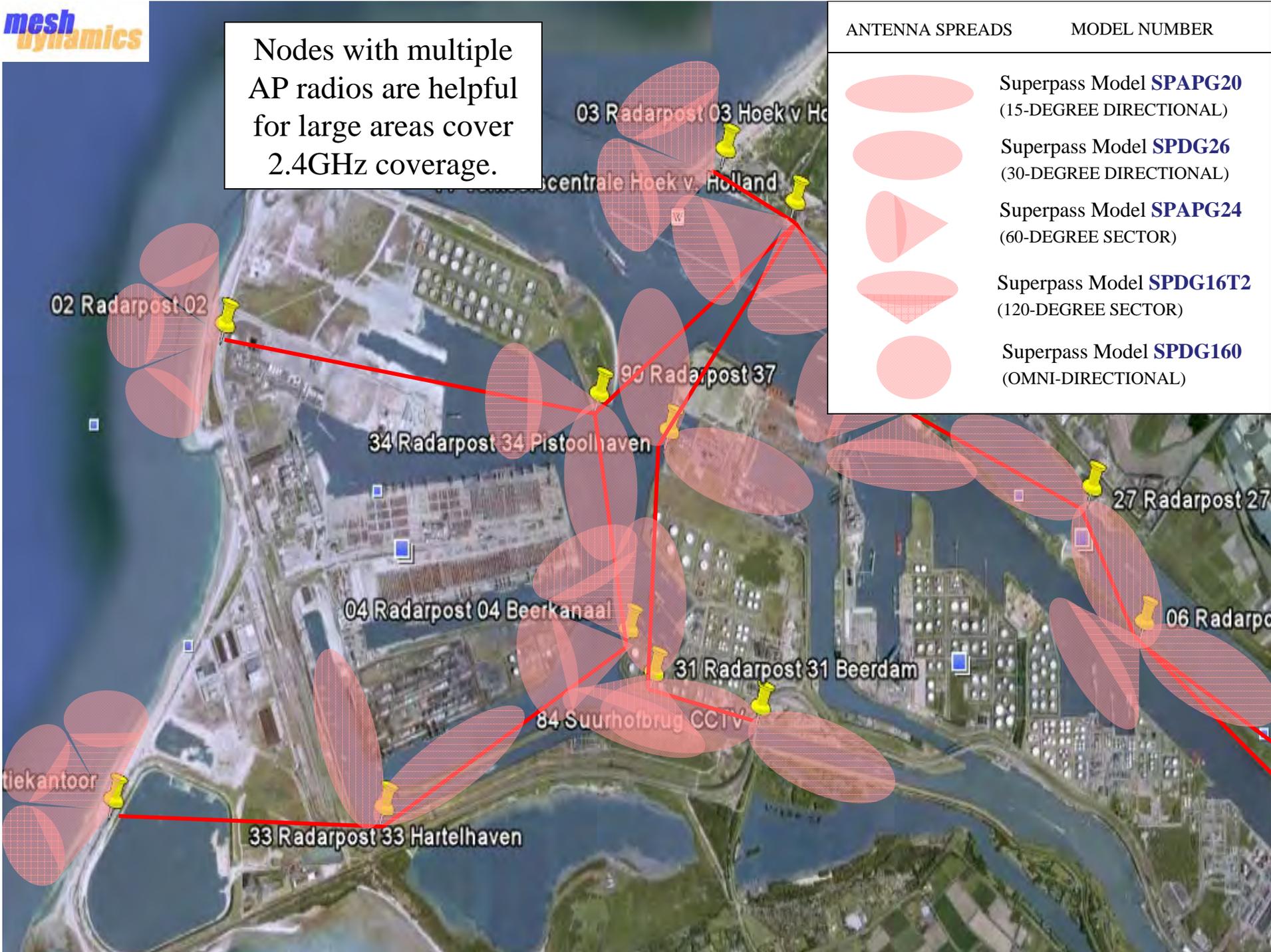
AP antennas are chosen to cover the the area where boats would travel.



ANTENNA SPREADS	MODEL NUMBER
	Superpass Model SPAPG20 (15-DEGREE DIRECTIONAL)
	Superpass Model SPDG26 (30-DEGREE DIRECTIONAL)
	Superpass Model SPAPG24 (60-DEGREE SECTOR)
	Superpass Model SPDG16T2 (120-DEGREE SECTOR)
	Superpass Model SPDG160 (OMNI-DIRECTIONAL)

Image © 2009 Aerodata International Surveys
© 2009 Tele Atlas

Nodes with multiple AP radios are helpful for large areas cover 2.4GHz coverage.



ANTENNA SPREADS	MODEL NUMBER
	Superpass Model SPAPG20 (15-DEGREE DIRECTIONAL)
	Superpass Model SPDG26 (30-DEGREE DIRECTIONAL)
	Superpass Model SPAPG24 (60-DEGREE SECTOR)
	Superpass Model SPDG16T2 (120-DEGREE SECTOR)
	Superpass Model SPDG160 (OMNI-DIRECTIONAL)

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HARBOR DEPLOYMENT

- Since most nodes will be a good distance from their parent and child nodes (2km+), directional antennas should be used on the backhaul links (Superpass model SPPJ48-BD is recommended for these links).
- In some situations, a child node may have multiple parent nodes within a small horizontal angle of its view. In these situations, it is beneficial to choose an antenna for the child node's uplink such that the antenna's spread hits these multiple parents.

For example, 22 Radarpost has four potential parent nodes in its site:

21 Radarpost,
29 Radarpost Erasmus,
28 Radarpost,
28 Boompjes.

In this situation, a suitable antenna for the uplink would have a horizontal spread big enough to encompass the four mentioned locations (Superpass model SPDN6W would be suitable --it has a 30-degree H-spread, and a 14-degree V-spread).

- Various model numbers are recommended for the mesh nodes...

For the **root node**, the MD4454-AAIA. This takes advantage of multiple-downlink technology, while also providing an AP radio. Whichever location(s) is selected to be the root node, antennas can be selected appropriately to aim the bandwidth to surrounding child nodes or node clusters.

For the **relay nodes**. The MD4458-AAII, MD4458-IAII and the MD4452-AAIA are recommended.

The MD4458-AAII provides two AP radios in addition to the backhaul radios. Antennas can be chosen for the AP radios in order to optimize the coverage distribution in areas where this might be needed.

The MD4458-IAII is used in situations where a node is on the edge of a deployment, and the only backhaul radio needed on the node is the uplink. The other three radios can be APs.

The MD4452-AAIA provides a second downlink radio to "shoot" the backhaul to child nodes in different locations/directions relative to the parent node. This might be useful in the location of 10 Radarpost, for example.

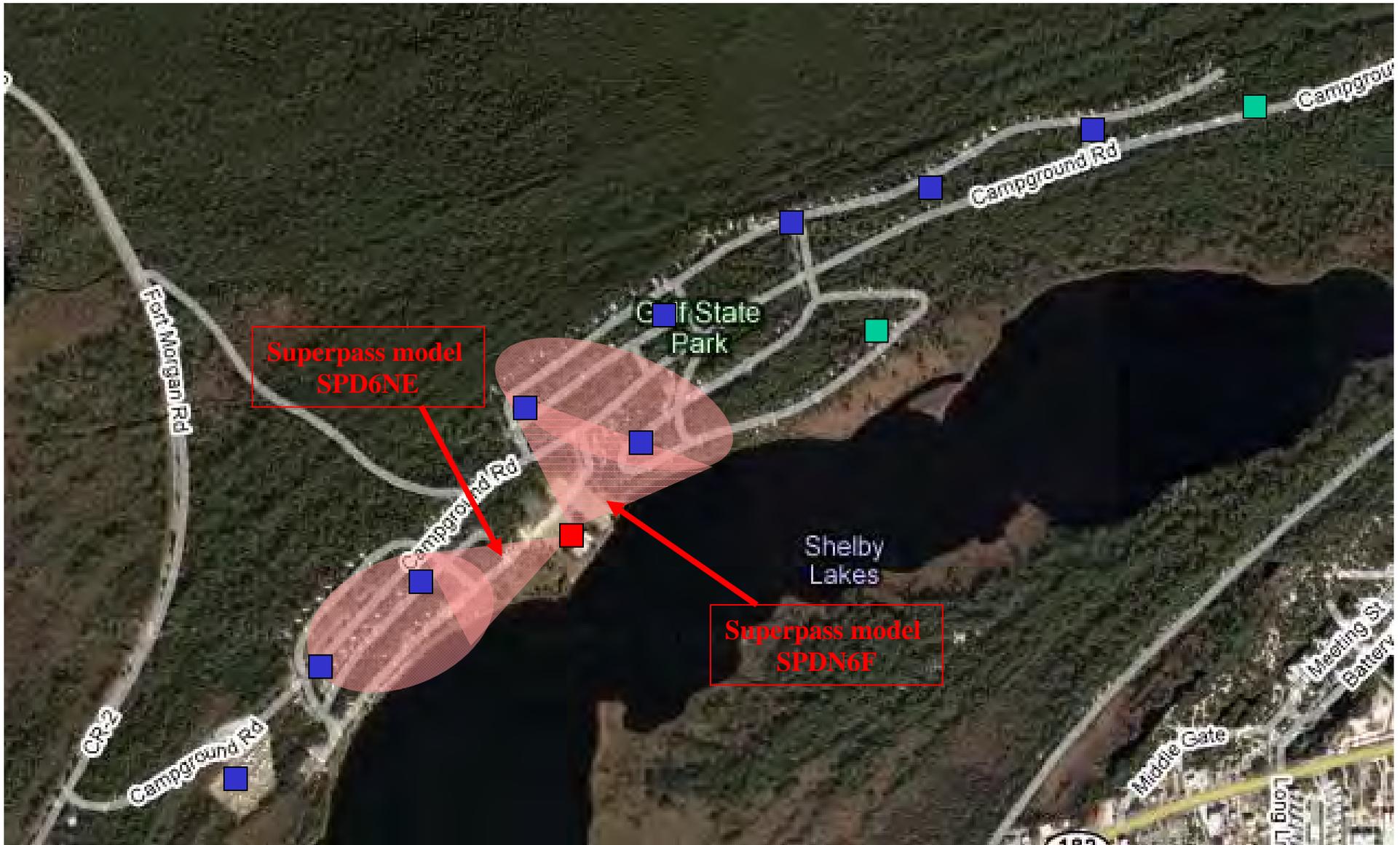
CAMPGROUNDS

■ MD4452-AAIA ROOT NODE (ONE UPLINK, TWO DOWNLINKS, ONE AP RADIO)

■ MD4350-AAIA RELAY NODE (ONE UPLINK, ONE DOWNLINK, ONE AP RADIO)

○ RADIATION SPREAD OF ROOT NODE'S DOWNLINKS (SECTOR ANTENNAS)

The root node will have two downlinks each with sector antennas. This will give each "section" of the mesh 22 Mbps of bandwidth (44 Mbps total) as opposed to the whole mesh sharing only one downlink from the root node).



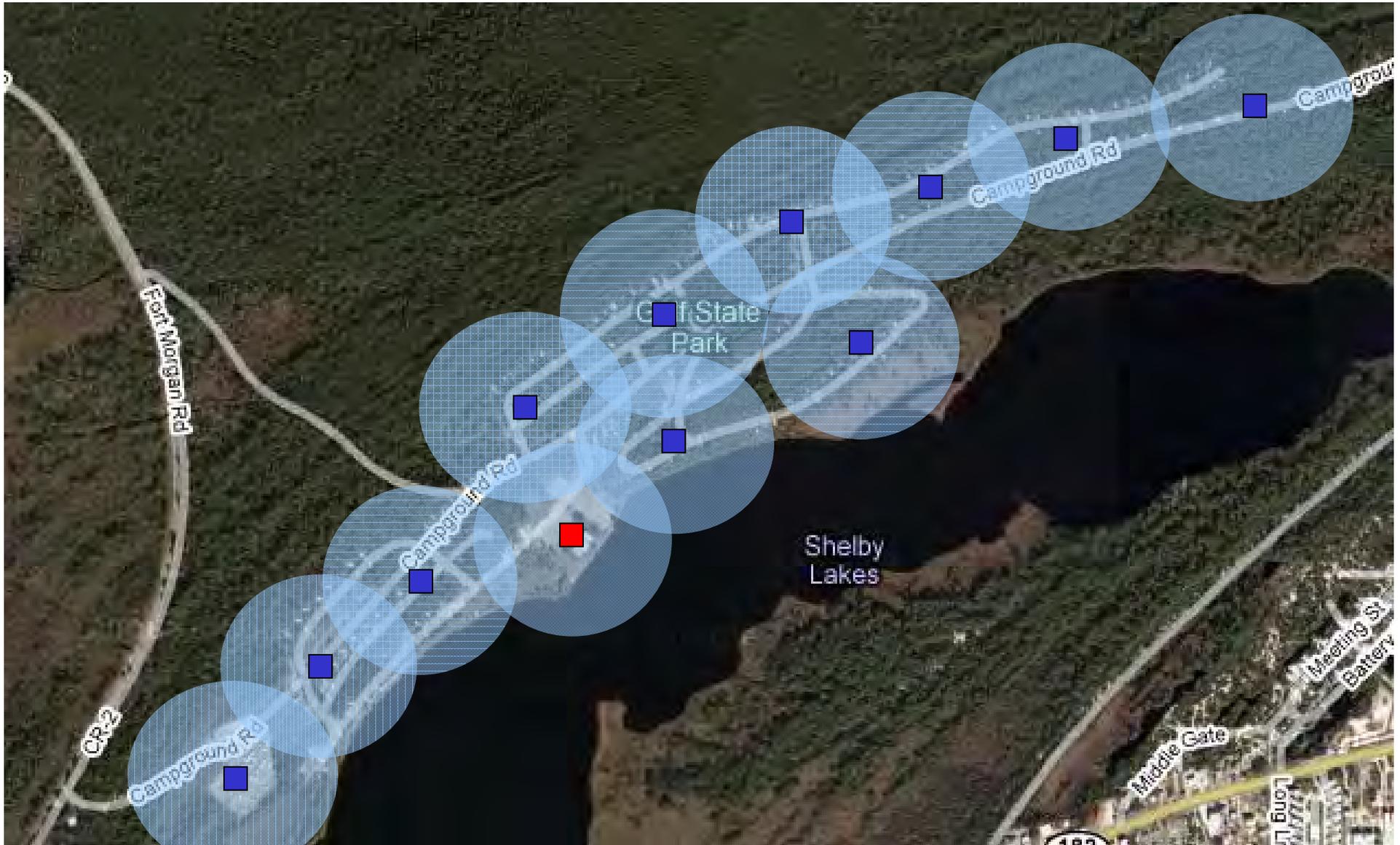
■ **MD4452-AAIA** ROOT NODE (ONE UPLINK, TWO DOWNLINKS, ONE AP RADIO)

■ **MD4350-AAIA** RELAY NODE (ONE UPLINK, ONE DOWNLINK, ONE AP RADIO)

● RADIATION SPREAD OF AP OMNI-DIRECTIONAL ANTENNAS

Each of the nodes will have a Superpass model SPDG160 omni-directional antenna on its AP radio.

All backhaul antennas of the MD4350-AAIx's will have Superpass model SPDJ160 omni-directional antennas.



SURFACE MINING DEPLOYMENT

 = Uplink antenna spread

WAP12 (MD4250-AAxx) has 60-degree sector antenna on its uplink radio (Superpass model SPDN6S). The antenna will see both WAP1 and WAP9 as potential parents.



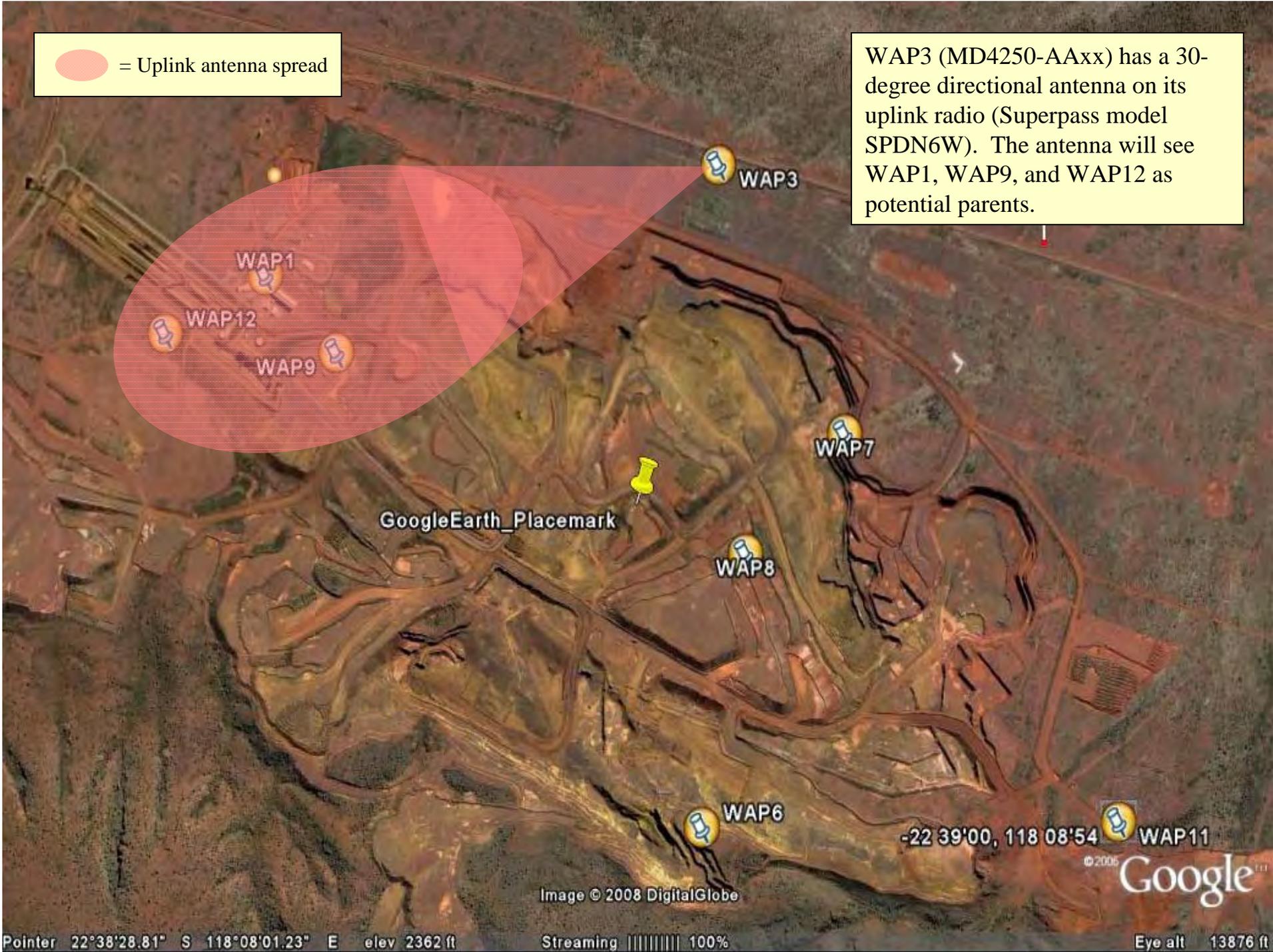
 = Uplink antenna spread

WAP9 (MD4352-AAxA) has a 60-degree sector antenna on its uplink radio (Superpass model SPDN6S). The antenna will see both WAP1 and WAP12 as potential parents.



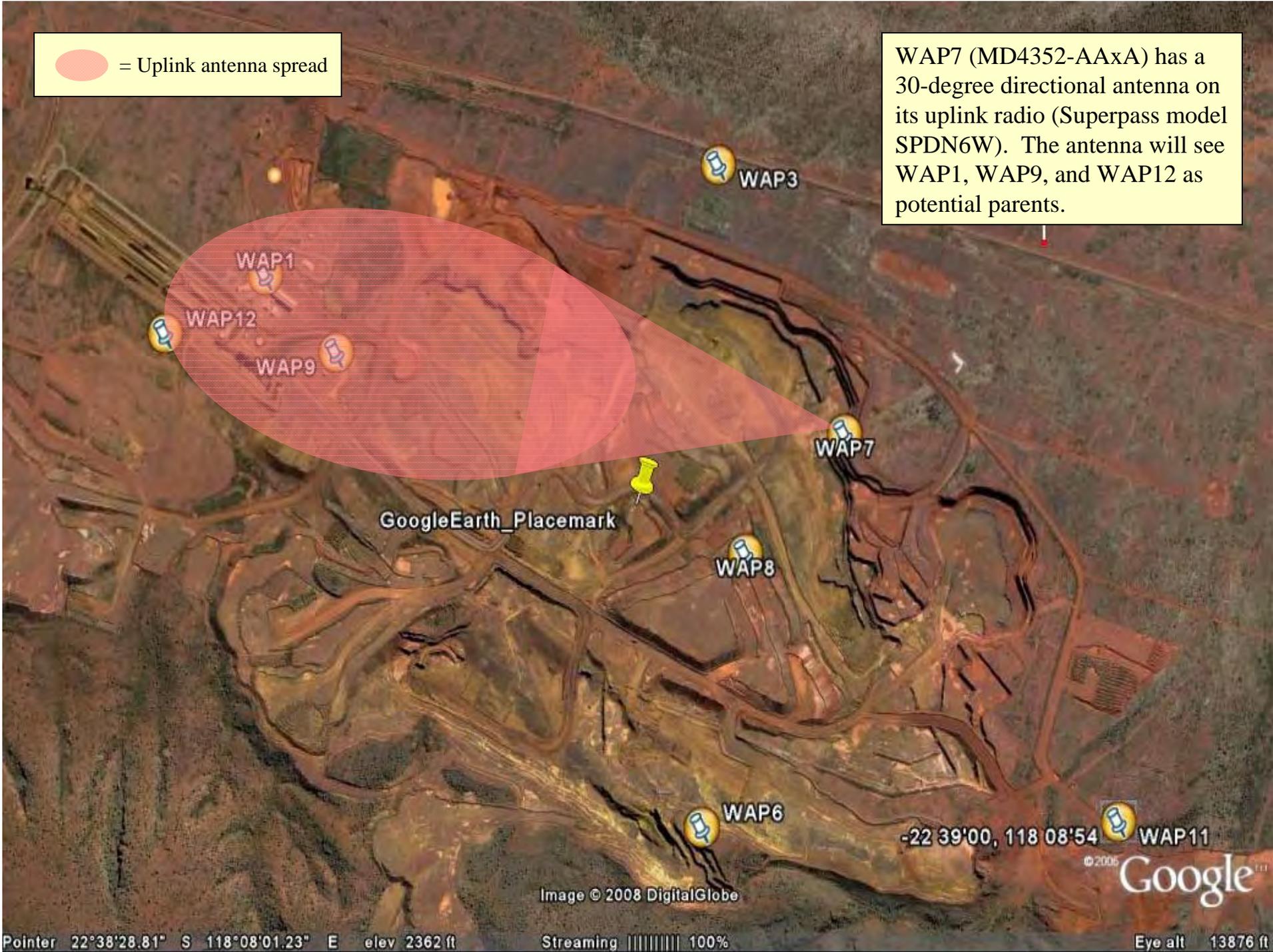
 = Uplink antenna spread

WAP3 (MD4250-AAxx) has a 30-degree directional antenna on its uplink radio (Superpass model SPDN6W). The antenna will see WAP1, WAP9, and WAP12 as potential parents.



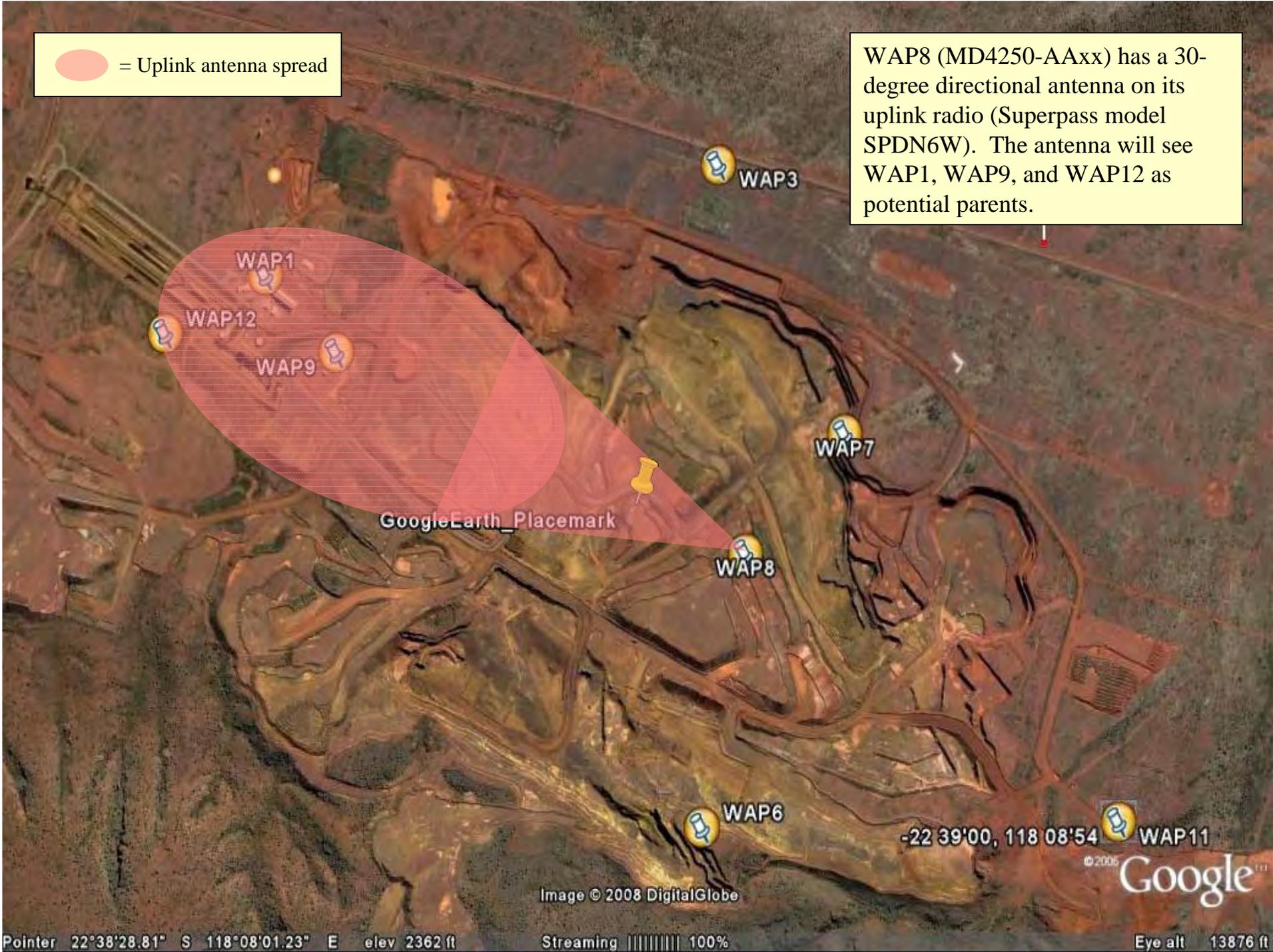
 = Uplink antenna spread

WAP7 (MD4352-AAxA) has a 30-degree directional antenna on its uplink radio (Superpass model SPDN6W). The antenna will see WAP1, WAP9, and WAP12 as potential parents.



 = Uplink antenna spread

WAP8 (MD4250-AAxx) has a 30-degree directional antenna on its uplink radio (Superpass model SPDN6W). The antenna will see WAP1, WAP9, and WAP12 as potential parents.



 = Uplink antenna spread

WAP6 (MD4352-AAxA) has a 60-degree sector antenna on its uplink radio (Superpass model SPDN6S). The antenna will see WAP8, WAP7, WAP9, and WAP1 as potential parents.

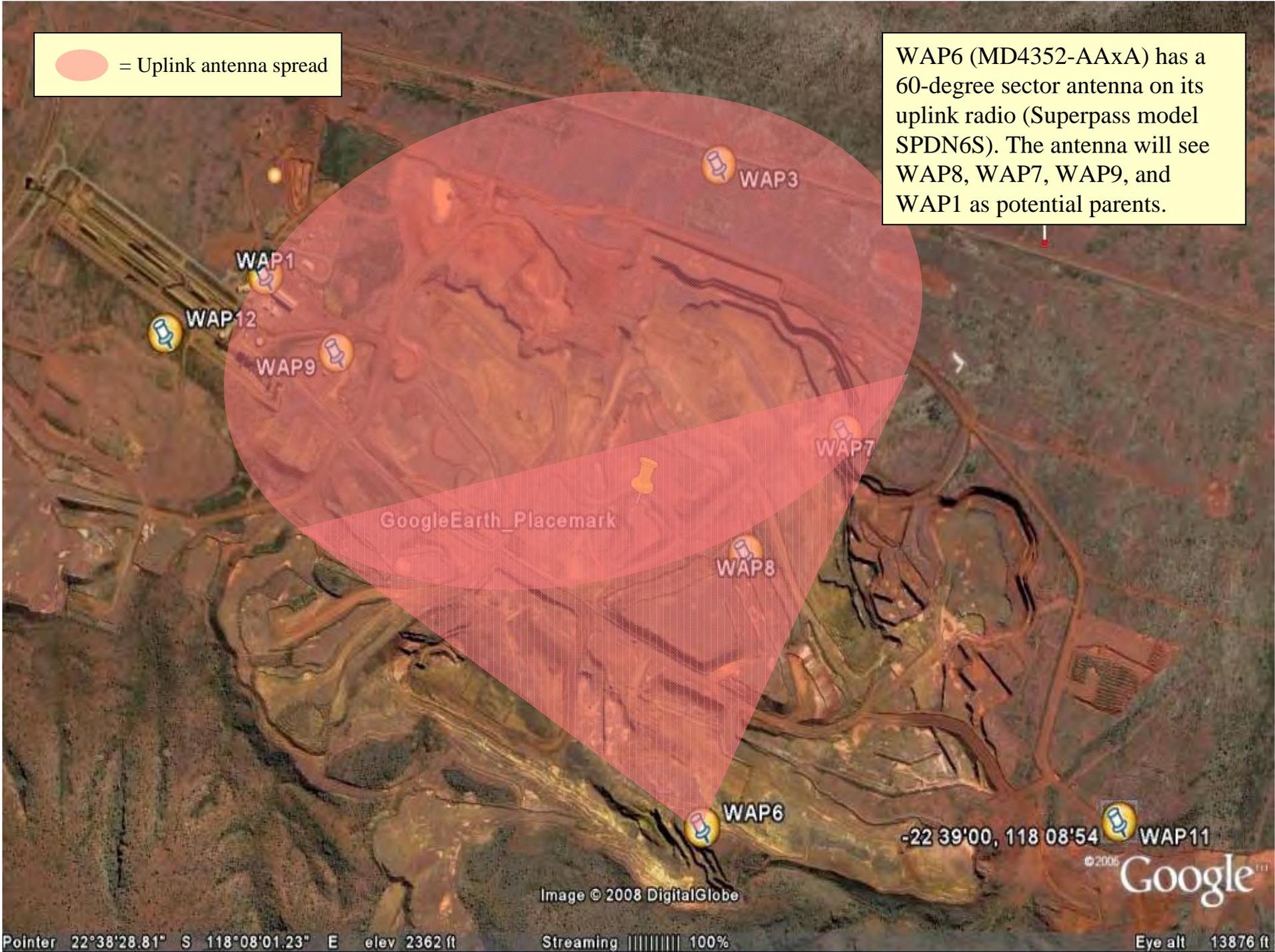


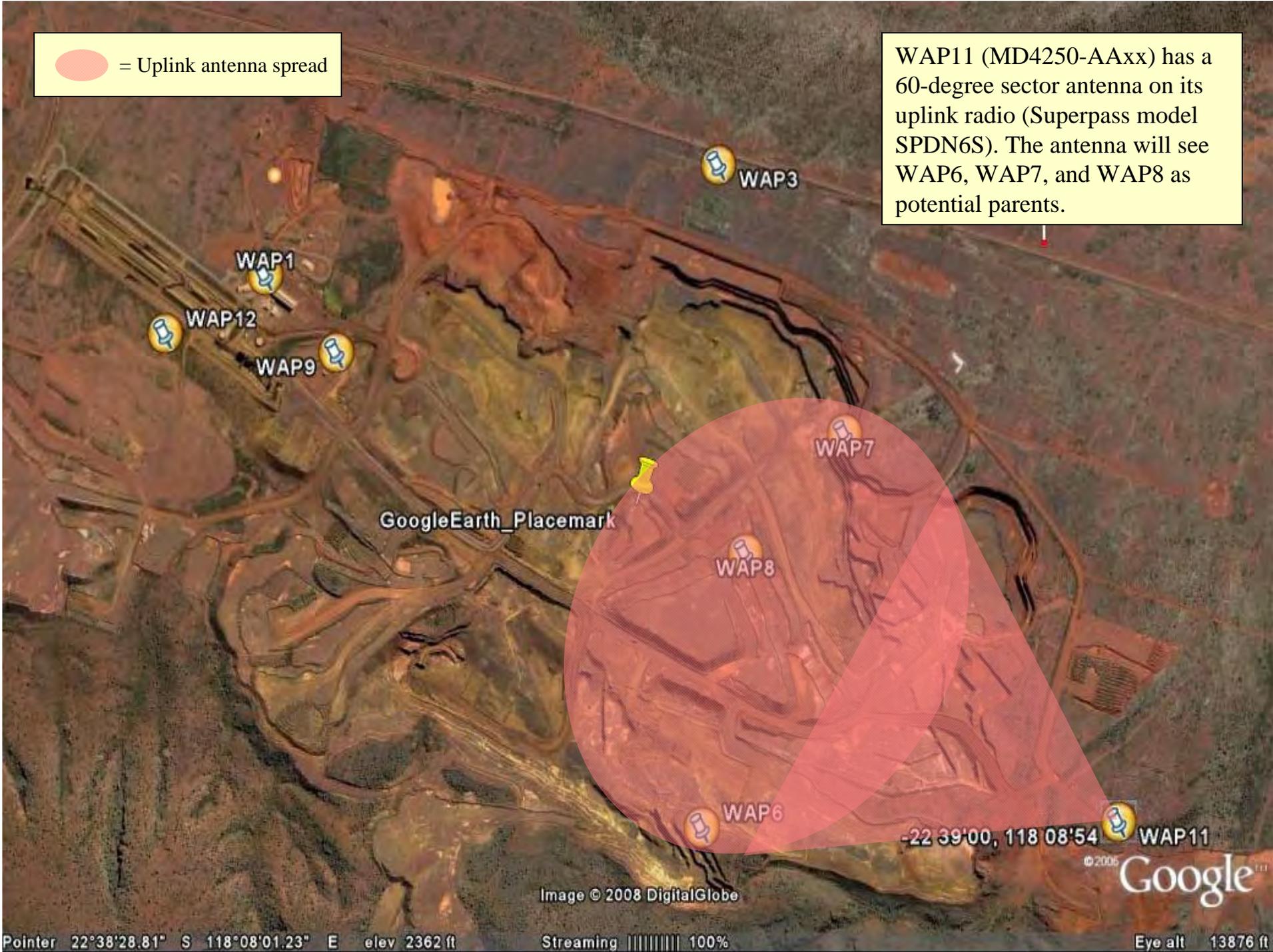
Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe

-22 39'00, 118 08'54  WAP11

© 2005 Google

 = Uplink antenna spread

WAP11 (MD4250-AAxx) has a 60-degree sector antenna on its uplink radio (Superpass model SPDN6S). The antenna will see WAP6, WAP7, and WAP8 as potential parents.



 = Downlink antenna spread

It is assumed that WAP1 is the root node (MD4250-AAxx). This should have an omni-directional antenna on its downlink radio (Superpass model SPDJ60).

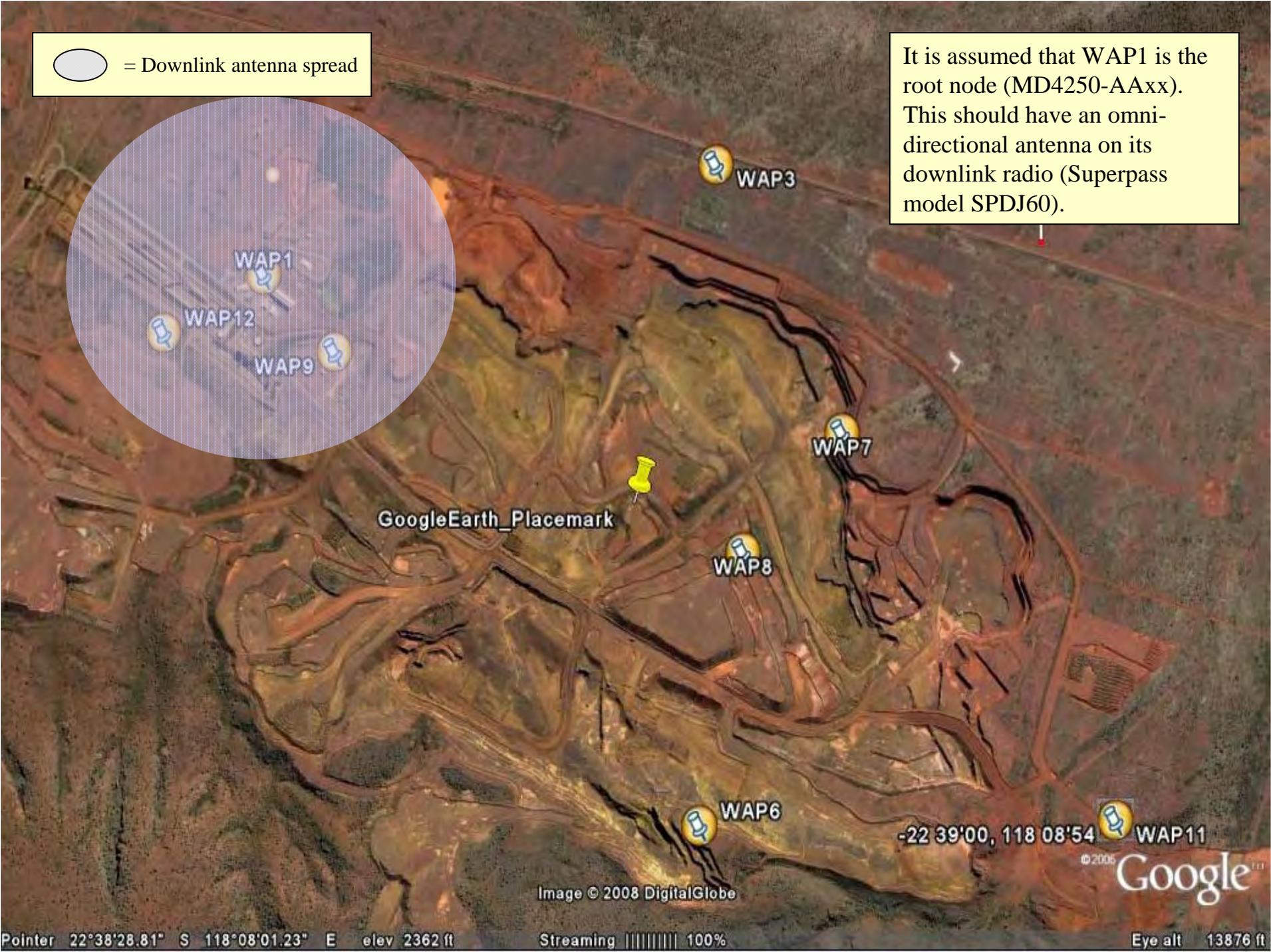
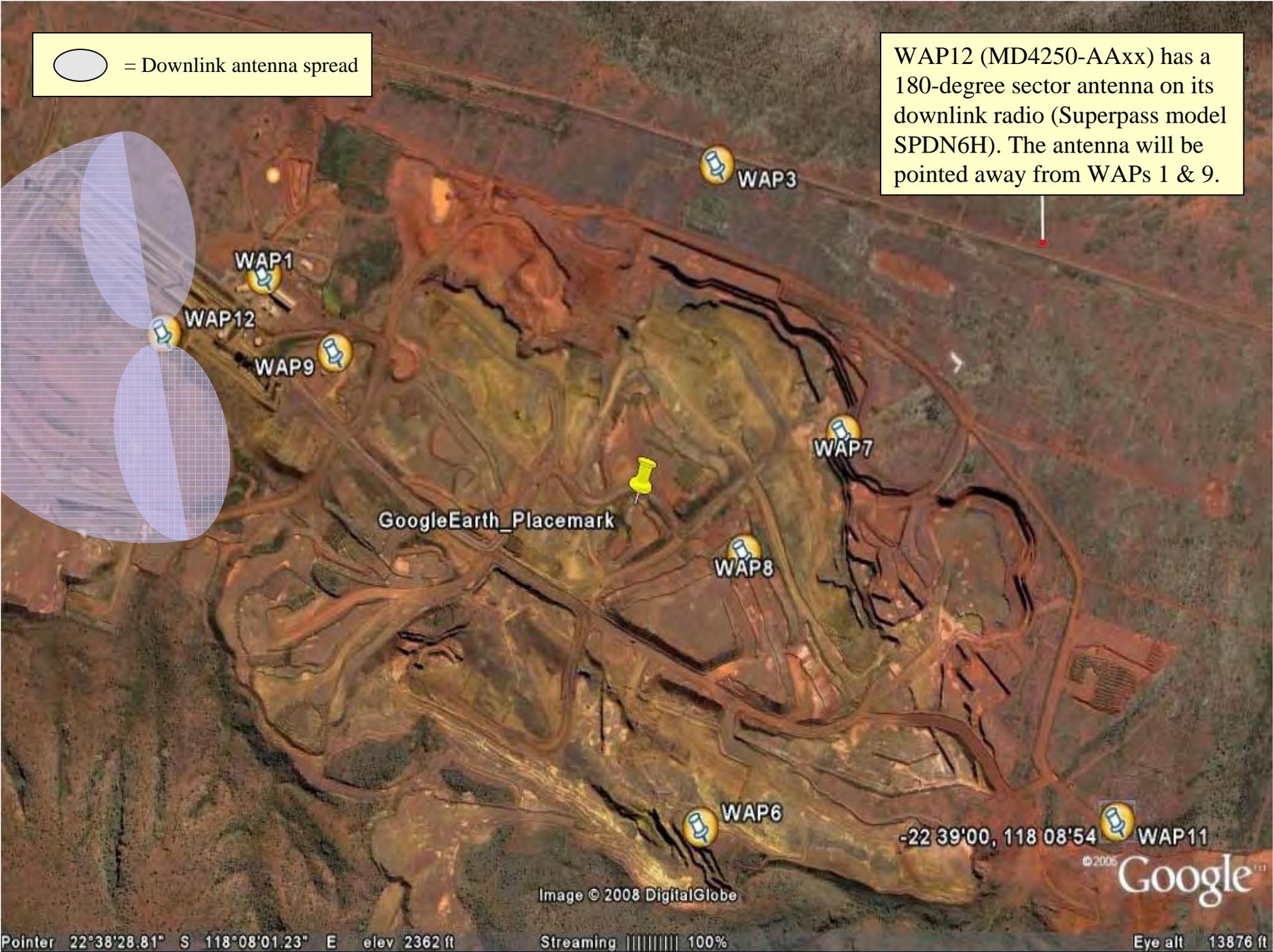


Image © 2008 DigitalGlobe

○ = Downlink antenna spread

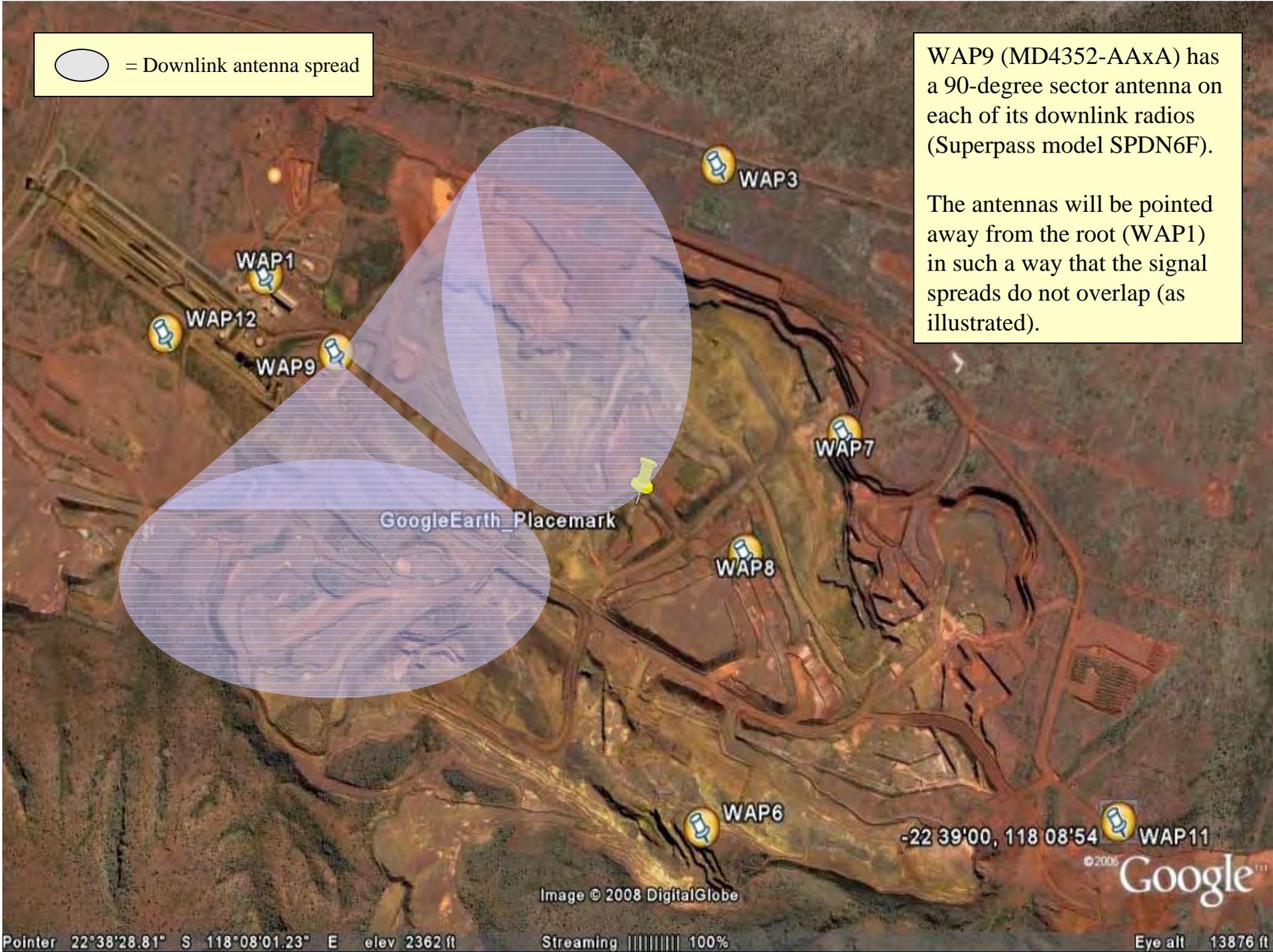
WAP12 (MD4250-AAxx) has a 180-degree sector antenna on its downlink radio (Superpass model SPDN6H). The antenna will be pointed away from WAPs 1 & 9.



 = Downlink antenna spread

WAP9 (MD4352-AAxA) has a 90-degree sector antenna on each of its downlink radios (Superpass model SPDN6F).

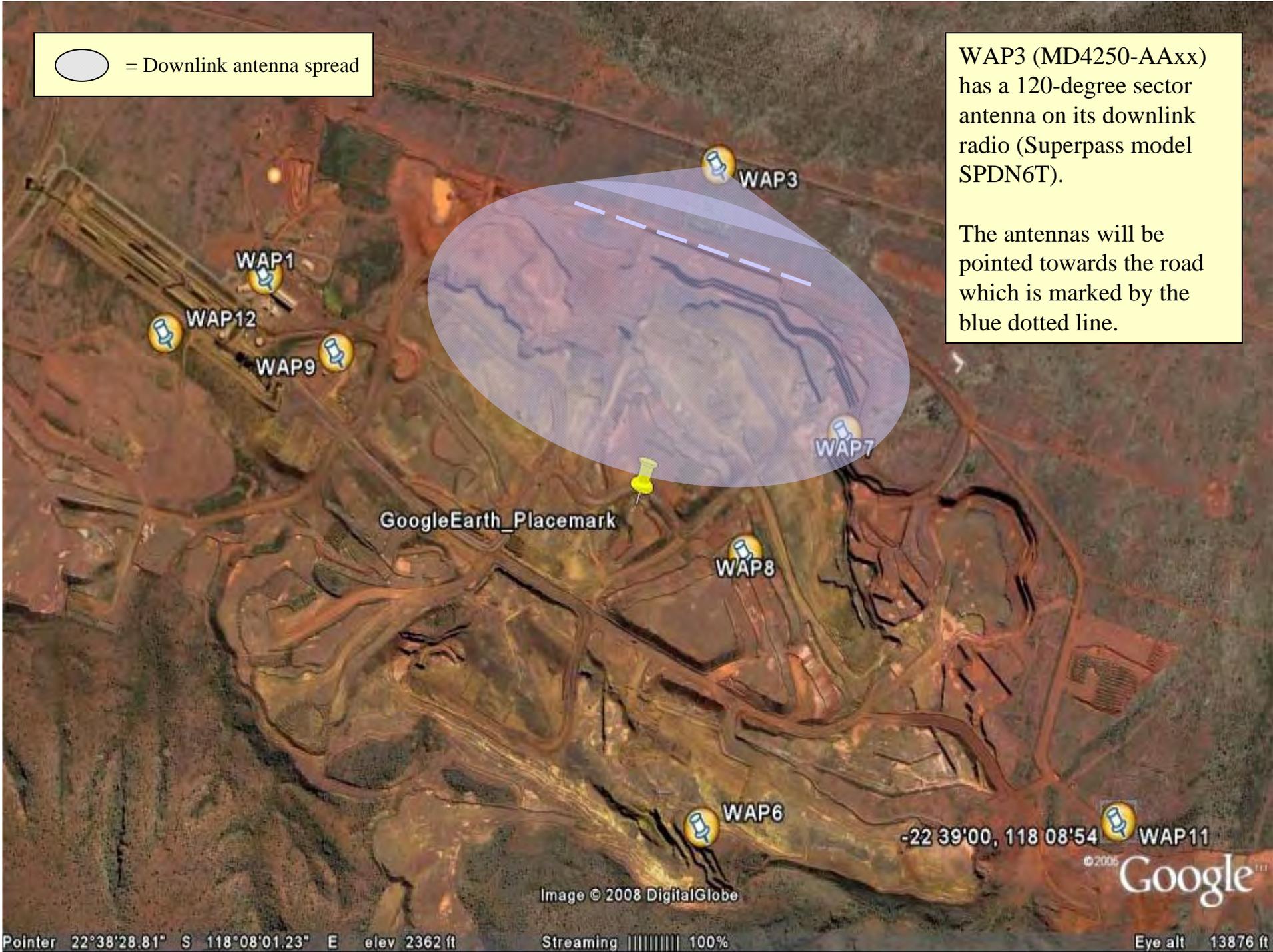
The antennas will be pointed away from the root (WAP1) in such a way that the signal spreads do not overlap (as illustrated).



 = Downlink antenna spread

WAP3 (MD4250-AAxx) has a 120-degree sector antenna on its downlink radio (Superpass model SPDN6T).

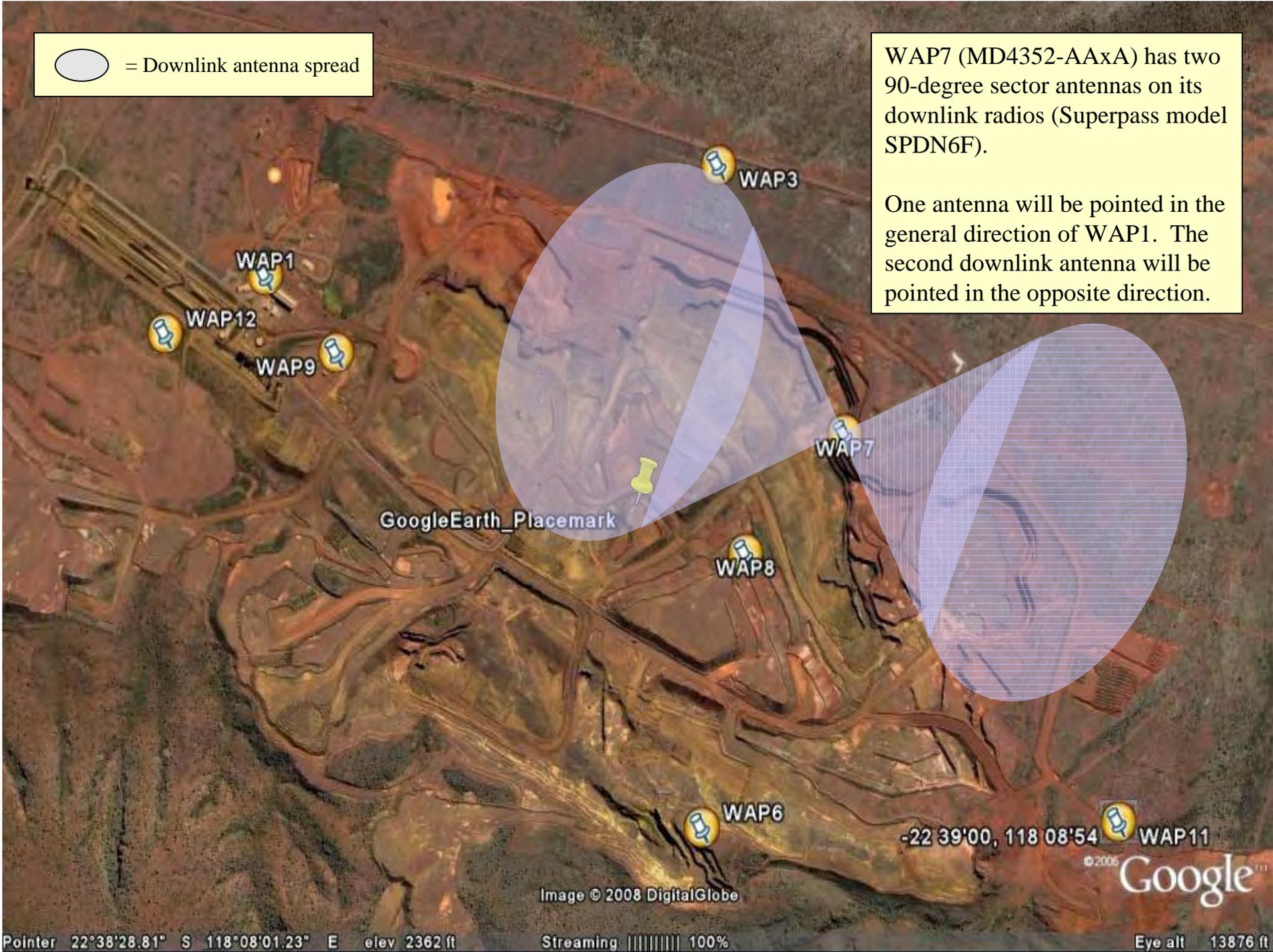
The antennas will be pointed towards the road which is marked by the blue dotted line.



 = Downlink antenna spread

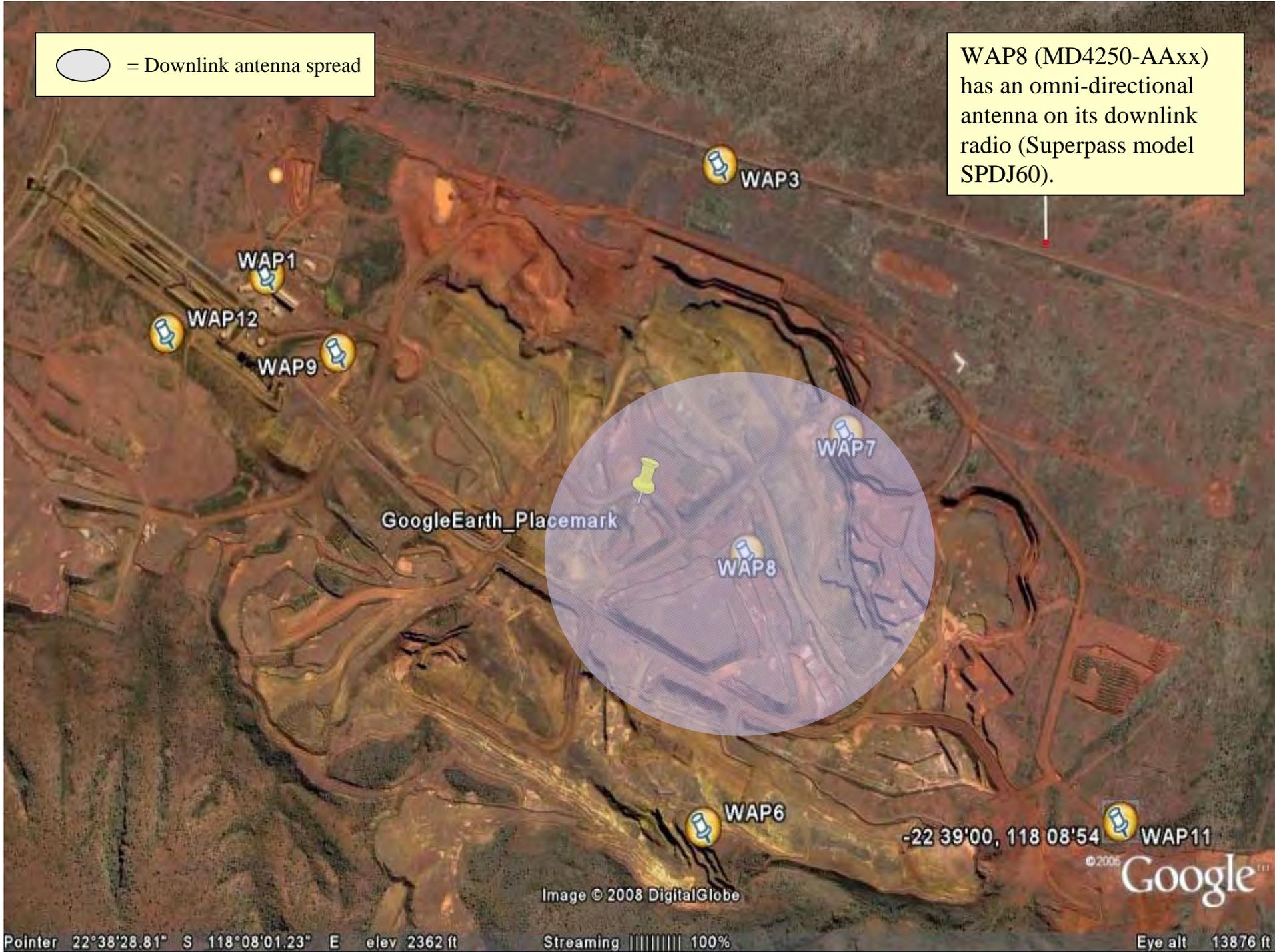
WAP7 (MD4352-AAxA) has two 90-degree sector antennas on its downlink radios (Superpass model SPDN6F).

One antenna will be pointed in the general direction of WAP1. The second downlink antenna will be pointed in the opposite direction.



 = Downlink antenna spread

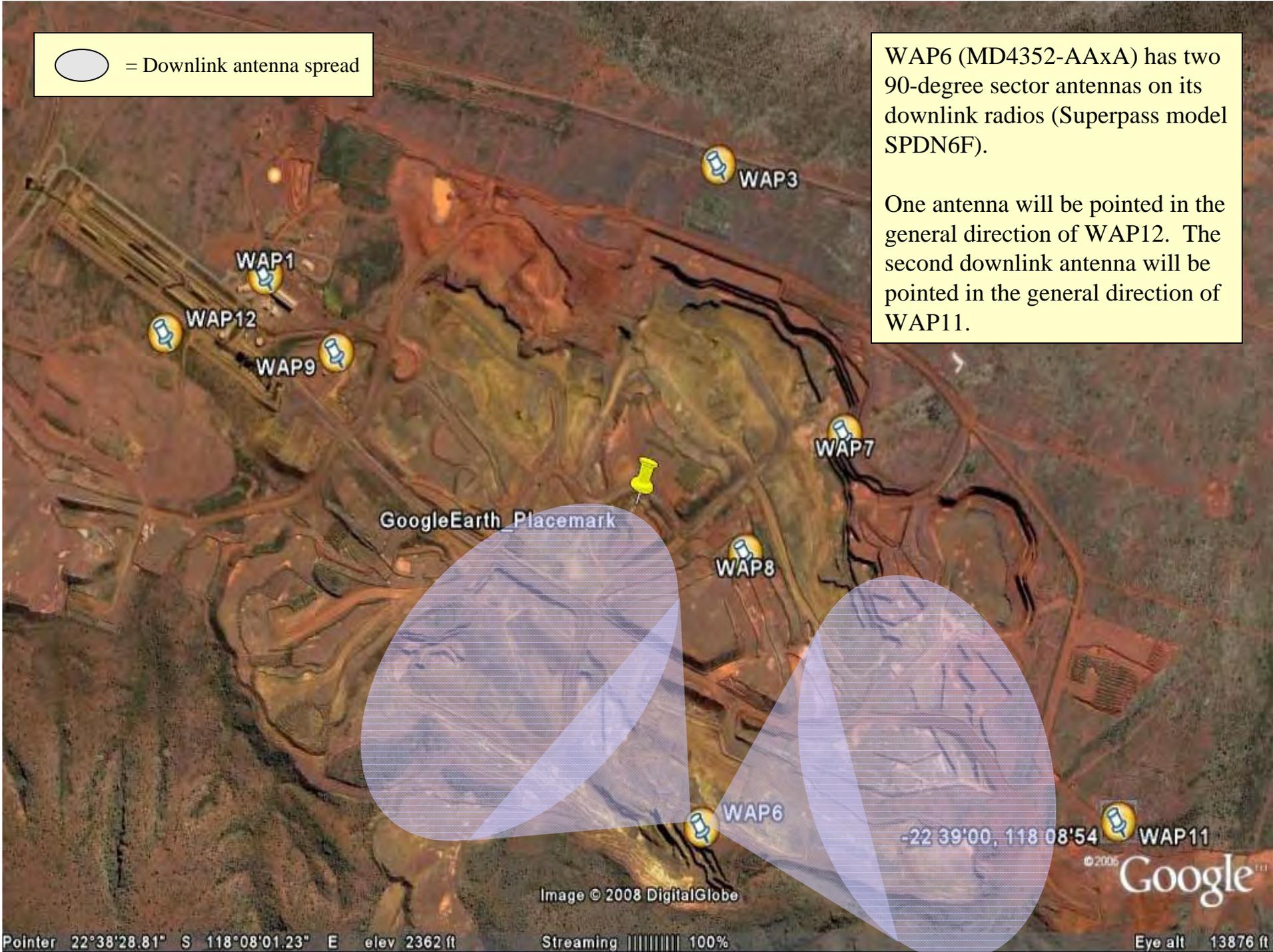
WAP8 (MD4250-AAxx) has an omni-directional antenna on its downlink radio (Superpass model SPDJ60).



 = Downlink antenna spread

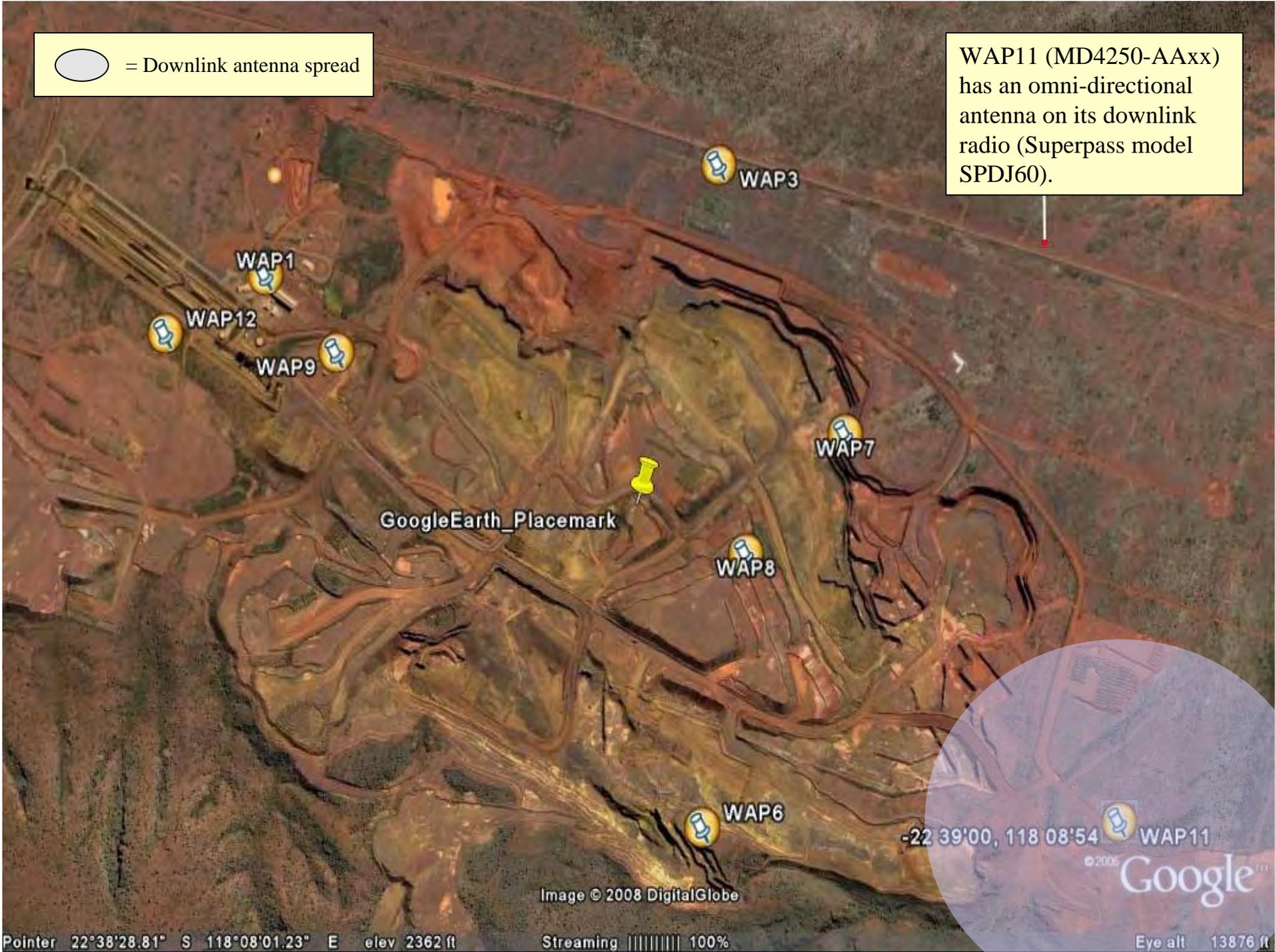
WAP6 (MD4352-AAxA) has two 90-degree sector antennas on its downlink radios (Superpass model SPDN6F).

One antenna will be pointed in the general direction of WAP12. The second downlink antenna will be pointed in the general direction of WAP11.



○ = Downlink antenna spread

WAP11 (MD4250-AAxx) has an omni-directional antenna on its downlink radio (Superpass model SPDJ60).

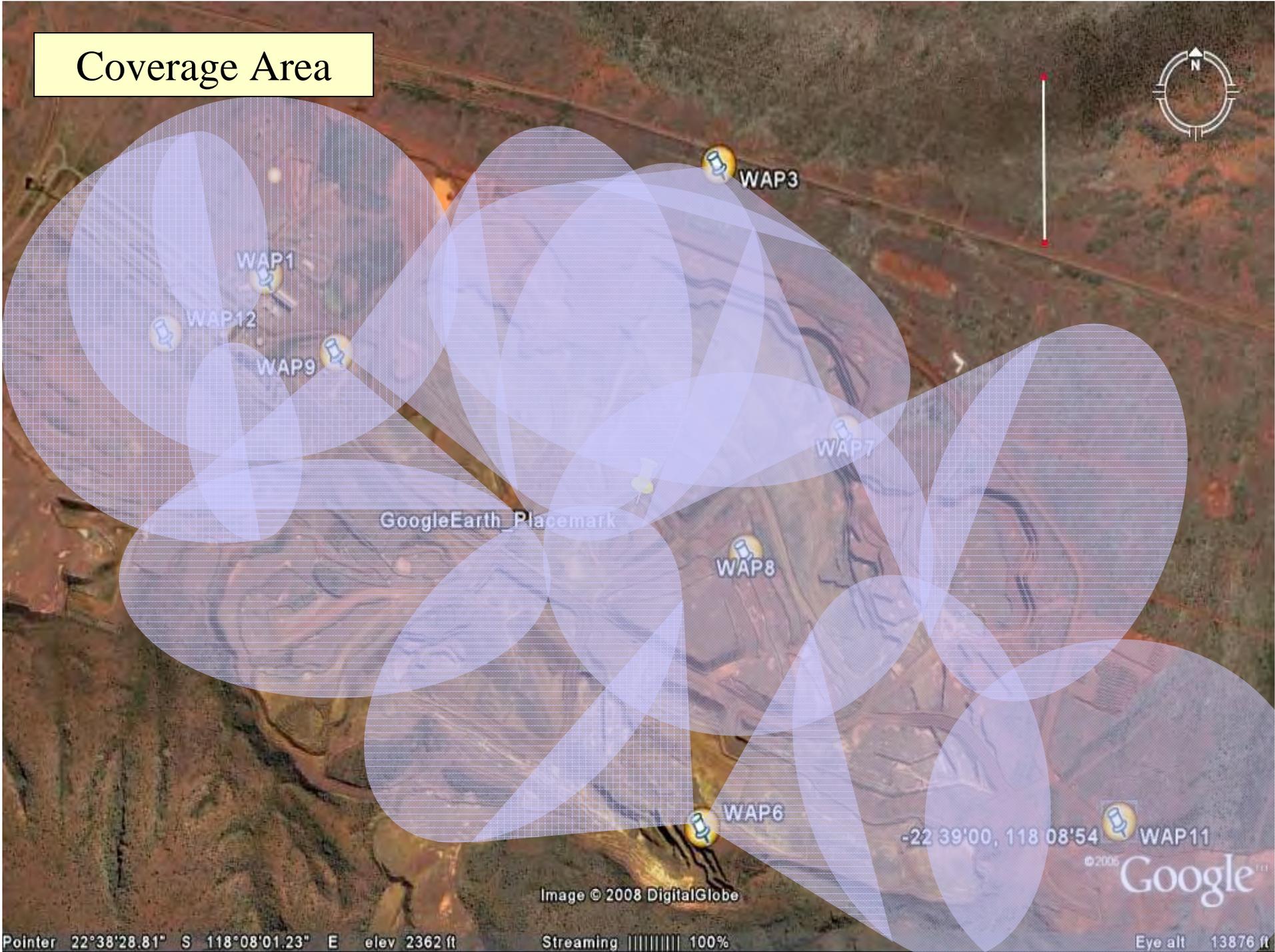


Pointer 22°38'28.81" S 118°08'01.23" E elev 2362 ft

Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye alt 13876 ft

Coverage Area



For more information on the MD4000 Modular Mesh Nodes,

Please visit:

www.meshdynamics.com/tech-presentations.html

Or send us an email at

techsupport@MeshDynamics.com

Thank you.