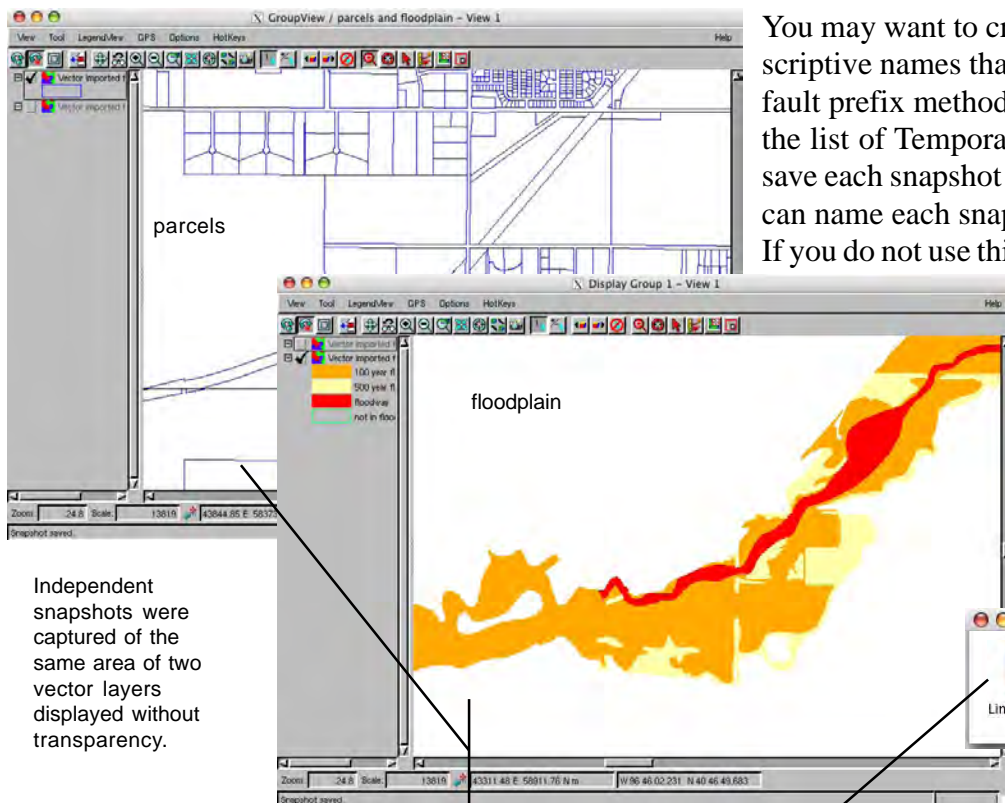# TNTview
Using Vector Snapshots in Google Earth

If you are displaying only vector or other geometric objects when you take a Quick Snapshot and you are saving snapshots in PNG format, the background areas of the view canvas are transparent in the PNG file. If your vector elements are partially transparent, they will be partially transparent when overlaid in Google Earth. If your view consists of both opaque and partially transparent elements, these styles will be preserved in the PNG file and used in Google Earth. Google Earth has a transparency slider that works on a layer by layer basis. So instead of capturing composite views, you may want to capture each layer separately without transparency so the full range of transparency can be controlled independently within Google Earth.

parcels

floodplain

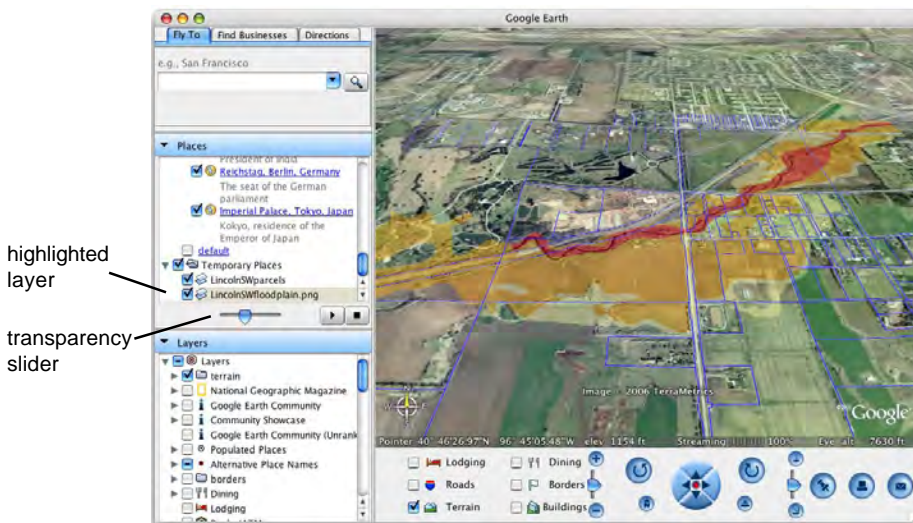Independent snapshots were captured of the same area of two vector layers displayed without transparency.

You may want to create your snapshots with more descriptive names than are available with the simple default prefix method so you can identify your layers in the list of Temporary Places in Google Earth. If you save each snapshot using View/Save Snapshot As, you can name each snapshot as desired when it is created. If you do not use this method to capture a snapshot and later decide you want a different name, you need to change all associated file names to match and edit the *.kml file in a text editor to change the KML name assigned by default in the KML file to the new name of the snapshot files. The name appears twice in the KML file.

Folder and files created by the Quick Snapshot tool. Note that these snapshots were created using Save Snapshot As to provide a distinct name.

highlighted layer

transparency slider

A portion of the parcel boundaries and floodplain polygons for Lincoln, Nebraska was displayed in TNTview when two Quick Snapshots were taken (top illustrations). Once in Google Earth, the floodplain layer was highlighted and the transparency slider used to adjust the transparency of the floodplain polygons without affecting the opaque parcel boundaries. If you want more extensive vector coverage while still maintaining reasonable resolution, you can take a series of snapshots. Click in the scroll bar trough between each snapshot to obtain a series of images with 10% overlap. You can also use Display/Render To/ Raster to render the entire geometric layer to PNG with associated georeference and KML files (see *Spatial Display: Render to KML*). However, the geometric object should be relatively simple since Google Earth limits each PNG raster used as a Temporary Place to 2048 by 2048 cells.