

LANDSAT DATA CONTINUITY - REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy invites you to provide information about your use of Landsat 5 and Landsat 7 data. Although this is not a rigorous benefit-cost analysis, your input will help us assess the ways that Landsat data are used and Landsat's importance to the Nation.

Purpose: The purpose of this questionnaire is to assess the importance of Landsat data and the impact of a potential data gap on the missions of university research projects, corporate users, and value-added data providers. We would like to identify:

- Critical uses of Landsat data
- The effect of current degraded Landsat 7 data on institutional missions
- Potential impact of a Landsat data gap plus experience with alternate data sources
- Potential cost and operational impacts resulting from a Landsat data gap
- Critical needs and concerns concerning Landsat data

Who should respond? Scientists, other technical users, program managers, and corporate or university managers who use Landsat data.

IF YOUR INSTITUTION OR COMPANY USES LANDSAT DATA, PLEASE HAVE SOMEONE RESPOND TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.

Please answer the following questions briefly and return to gwhitney@ostp.eop.gov as soon as possible, but **before COB September 28**. We will compile the results for distribution, so if you prefer that your input not be distributed, clearly mark your response appropriately.

1. Please tell us about you and your organization. Provide as much detail as you wish:

- University researcher
- Contractor or consultant
- Value-added service or information provider
- Corporation
- Other _____

2. Briefly summarize how Landsat 5 and/or Landsat 7 image data are used in your institution or company (one paragraph):
 - How many projects or applications use Landsat data in your institution/company?
 - Breadth and frequency (if repeated) of coverage needed
 - Do you use un-enhanced data, purchase value-added information products, or do you process the data yourself?
 - What kinds of reports or analyses result from your use of Landsat data?
3. Are you able to use the degraded Landsat 7 data or current Landsat 5 data for your purposes, or is your mission compromised by the problems with Landsat 7?
4. What are your alternate data sources to meet your mission needs? What technical compromise is required? What is the cost differential? Could the alternate data sources satisfy your mission requirements for the long term?
5. If there is a gap in acquisition of Landsat data, how would such a gap affect your programs and mission?
6. How important is the cost of Landsat data to your programs? If Landsat data were free, would your institution/company use significantly more data to enhance your mission?
7. Would your programs use (or prefer) 10m resolution multispectral data if it were available at comparable cost?
8. What is the primary source of funding for your work that includes Landsat data?
 - Totally funded by Federal funds (grants and/or contracts)
 - Partially funded by Federal funds. What proportion? _____
 - Private or corporate funding.
 - Other. Please specify _____
9. Do you have other concerns about Landsat continuity that are not addressed by the previous questions? If so, please provide them.

If your institution/company has conducted an analysis of Landsat use and you would like to submit a white paper, please feel free to do so. However, we would still like to make sure that the questions above are answered. Thank you.

Gene Whitney, Ph.D.
National Science and Technology Council

Mailing address:
Executive Office of the President
Office of Science and Technology Policy
New Executive Office Building
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20502

Contact:
Phone: 202-456-6081
FAX: 202-456-6027
E-mail: gwhitney@ostp.eop.gov