



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

(recd. 8-2-79)

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Memorandum

To: Under Secretary

From: Assistant Secretary - Energy and Minerals

Subject: Department of the Interior's Position on
Operational Satellite Remote Sensing
System Studies

Reference the memorandum from the Under Secretary to the Secretariat dated July 23, 1979, subject as above.

Attachments:

1. Memorandum from BLM through LWR, 7/24/79
2. Memorandum from FWS through FWP, 7/24/79
3. Memorandum from NPS, 7/25/79
4. Memorandum from PBA, 7/26/79
5. Memorandum from BR through LWR, 7/25/79
6. Memorandum from IA, 7/25/79



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

9673 (702)

• Memorandum

JUL 24 1979

To: Under Secretary
Through: Assistant Secretary, Land and Water Resources
From: Director, Bureau of Land Management
Subject: Department of Interior's Position on Operational
Satellite Remote Sensing System

As potentially one of the larger user of remotely sensed data in the Federal Government, and a major land resource agency, the Bureau of Land Management, strongly endorses the Department's position on an operational Satellite Remote Sensing System.

The Bureau is a microcosm of a Department of Natural Resources and believes that a satellite system for natural resources must be user oriented to be successful. Therefore, one believes users should set standards, identify hardware characteristics, and manage the remote sensing system.

We believe neither NOAA nor NASA should be responsible for its management and organization. NOAA is not a natural resource oriented agency and we would not presume to tell them how to operate the weather satellite system. NASA's primary responsibility is in the research and development field and should continue in that phase of remote sensing. It should not be involved in the daily operational aspect of the system.

We believe the Department should aggressively seek the position as head agency for an operational remote sensing system.

Enclosure (1)

Associate



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

ADDRESS ONLY THE DIRECTOR,
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



JUL 24 1979

Memorandum

To: Assistant Secretary - Energy and Minerals

Through: Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks *Richard J. Myshak*

From: ^{Acting} Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Subject: Department of the Interior's position on operational satellite remote sensing system studies

The Fish and Wildlife Service concurs with the draft position papers as written.

Robert S. Cook





United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

N42(493)

JUL 25 1979

Memorandum

To: Assistant Secretary - Energy and Minerals
Attention: Ed Risley

From: Acting Associate Director, Science and Technology,
National Park Service

Subject: Department of the Interior's position on operational
satellite remote sensing system studies

We have reviewed the Department of Interior's position on operational satellite remote sensing system studies. We have no specific comments to make at this time. We agree with the positions contained in Under Secretary Joseph's memorandum of July 23.

Richard W. Sardia



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUL 29 1979

Memorandum

To: Assistant Secretary—Energy and Minerals
From: Assistant Secretary—Policy, Budget and Administration
Subject: Comments on Interior's Position on an Operational Satellite

Since my comments on the first issue, "Private Sector Involvement", flow from comments on the second issue, "Integrated Remote Sensing", I will start with the latter.

Interior position on issue 2 - Since a decision has been made to go operational with civil remote sensing, I concur that Interior ought to seek the lead on Landsat to ensure the operation of a "simple" system designed to meet user needs at reasonable costs. The cost of such responsibility is of such magnitude that we would need added dollars and personnel from OMB. If the decision is made to give responsibility to some other agency, then I recommend that we transfer the Sioux Falls facility to that agency.

Interior position on issue 1. I concur that it is premature to define concretely the specific role private industry should play in this area. If Interior gains overall responsibility, as recommended above, we ought to set as a major program goal that we transfer as much responsibility as possible to the private sector over time as we perfect the product(s) and develop the market. We should also specify a finite timeframe (e.g., 1985-1990) as a test and evaluation period during which we measure progress in terms of public benefits. If, during this timeframe, it is evident that these benefits do not exceed the program costs, then we should redesign the program to ensure this, or drop the program. Finally, once the products become reliable to the users, we should establish a pricing structure which ensures that major users cover appropriate costs.

Larry E. Mcierotto



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY
REFER TO: 1920
472.2

JUL 25 1979

Memorandum

JUL 25 1979

To: Assistant Secretary - Energy and Minerals

Through: ~~Assistant Secretary - Land and Water Resources~~
~~Acting~~ *A.M. Cummings*
for

From: ~~Commissioner~~ *[Signature]*

Subject: Department of the Interior's Position on Operational
Satellite Remote Sensing System Studies

As requested by the Under Secretary's memorandum on this subject dated July 23, 1979, we have reviewed the drafts of the Department of the Interior's position on the Private Sector Involvement Study and on the Integrated Remote Sensing System Study. We have no objection to their contents.

We concur with and support the position that Interior aggressively seek designation as the lead agency for an operational Earth resources satellite program.



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

Memorandum

To: Assistant Secretary - Energy and Minerals
From: Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs
Subject: Department of the Interior's position on operational satellite remote sensing system studies

We have reviewed the position papers on the two draft studies pertaining to the subject matter.

With regard to the Department of Interior's position on the Private Sector Involvement Study (7/12/79), we support Interior's three principal conclusions including doubts expressed regarding optimistic projections of data sales and projected low Government subsidy requirements to private ownership. We also support Interior's principal conclusions and position, as stated, regarding the Integrated Remote Sensing System Study (IRS³).

This Bureau and the Indian tribes are using remote sensing systems to measure, monitor and manage Indian owned natural resources. This use and reliance on remote sensing systems is expected to expand in the future as development of energy and other Indian natural resources intensifies. We support continued or expanded federal investments in the space remote-sensing systems for earth resources, as necessary, to insure the technological advances flowing from this program are not disrupted or reduced. We also are in agreement with the specific position that Interior should be designated as the lead agency in implementation of an operational Earth Resources Satellite Program.

James D. Gerard