

**Welcome**  
to the  
U.S. Geological Survey EROS Data Center  
and our celebration of 25 years of  
**“EXPLORING A CHANGING PLANET.”**

Today you will have full access to the Center, including the massive data archives which hold the world's largest collection of civilian satellite images and aerial photographs taken of the Earth. You will learn how information from the Center is used for environmental studies and for monitoring the effects of natural and man-made actions to the land mass of the planet. You will also be able to tour the advanced computer facilities being prepared for the next generation of Earth observing satellites, to be launched in 1999. You can participate in educational exercises, and can enjoy music, food, and special presentations as part of our celebration.

The U.S. Geological Survey EROS Data Center was established in 1973 primarily to receive, process, archive, distribute, and analyze land remote sensing data acquired by our Nation's civilian Earth observing satellites. Over 11 million frames of aerial and satellite photography and nearly 200,000 computer tapes are stored here and are used by earth scientists, land managers, resource specialists, and climate change researchers worldwide.

The 550 researchers, technicians, engineers and specialists working at the Center welcome you as we acknowledge our first 25 years of “EXPLORING A CHANGING PLANET.”