



National Land Imaging Program

Overview

On August 14, 2007, the Administration, through the Office of Science and Technology Policy, issued a plan for the United States National Land Imaging Program (NLIP). Recommendations in "A Plan for a U.S. National Land Imaging Program," call for NLIP to be established in the Department and to provide focused leadership and management for the Nation's operational land imaging efforts that would ensure the availability of land imaging data far into the future, with an uninterrupted history back to 1972.

The 2009 budget includes \$2.0 million for the USGS to initiate the planning and design and to develop the partnership efforts for an operational program of moderate-resolution satellite imagery data collection of the Earth's land surfaces.



Landsat 7 Image of New Orleans

2009

In 2009 emphasis will be in the following areas:

- Work with the land imaging user community (Federal Land Imaging Council, Federal Advisory Committee, universities, State, local, and tribal governments, and industry) to define future user and technical requirements,
- Conduct an assessment of the societal and economic value of moderate-resolution satellite data,
- Implement agreements to acquire new sources of moderate-resolution data to augment Landsat data,
- Initiate domestic interagency and industry technical agreements to begin development of new imagery applications and future mission technologies, and
- Establish cooperative agreements and grants with scientists and universities to jointly develop innovative applications (i.e., land use change, climate effects,

water monitoring, and agriculture and natural resource management support) that address societal needs.

What We're Already Doing

During 2008 the Department and USGS will take initial administrative steps to establish the Federal Land Imaging Council (FLIC) and begin initial outreach to domestic and international concerns with an interest in land imaging and land imaging applications. Outreach to domestic concerns includes State, local, and tribal governments, universities and scientists, and industry concerns involved in imagery data analysis and product development for U.S. public markets.

USGS Budget Information Online:

USGS Budget — <http://www.usgs.gov/budget/>

Funding and FTE Requested for the National Land Imaging Program

Program Element	2007 Enacted	2008 Enacted	2009			Change From 2008 (+/-)
			Fixed Costs & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
National Land Imaging Program	0	0			2,000	+2,000
FTE					3	+3

Full NLIP implementation

When fully implemented, NLIP as proposed in the plan, the NLIP would —

- Evaluate the options and mechanisms to fund costs now dispersed among agencies;
- Assume management control of U.S. land imaging satellites used for civil-operational purposes;
- Demonstrate leadership in advancing U.S. satellite and instrument technologies to better address land and natural resource management;
- Acquire the capacity to manage land imaging data from multiple U.S. and foreign land imaging satellites to satisfy U.S. public and private needs;
- Enter into commercial and foreign partnerships to shape future scientific and technical initiatives in global land imaging and land science; and
- Assume national and global leadership in the application of civil-operational land imagery to address U.S. economic, environmental, and national security interests.

Partners/Federal Role

Although the USGS will lead this initiative, it will be with shared responsibility among the other land imaging users. This initiative will begin coordinated interagency planning within departmental bureau activities that use and benefit from moderate resolution land imaging data, including supporting current science and operational activities and developing new applications of moderate resolution land imaging data. Partners will be composed of all Federal agencies of government that acquire, use, or rely upon the provision of civil land imagery and derived data to meet their Agencies' missions, and those Federal agencies that own or develop capabilities related to the development of civil operational land imaging systems.

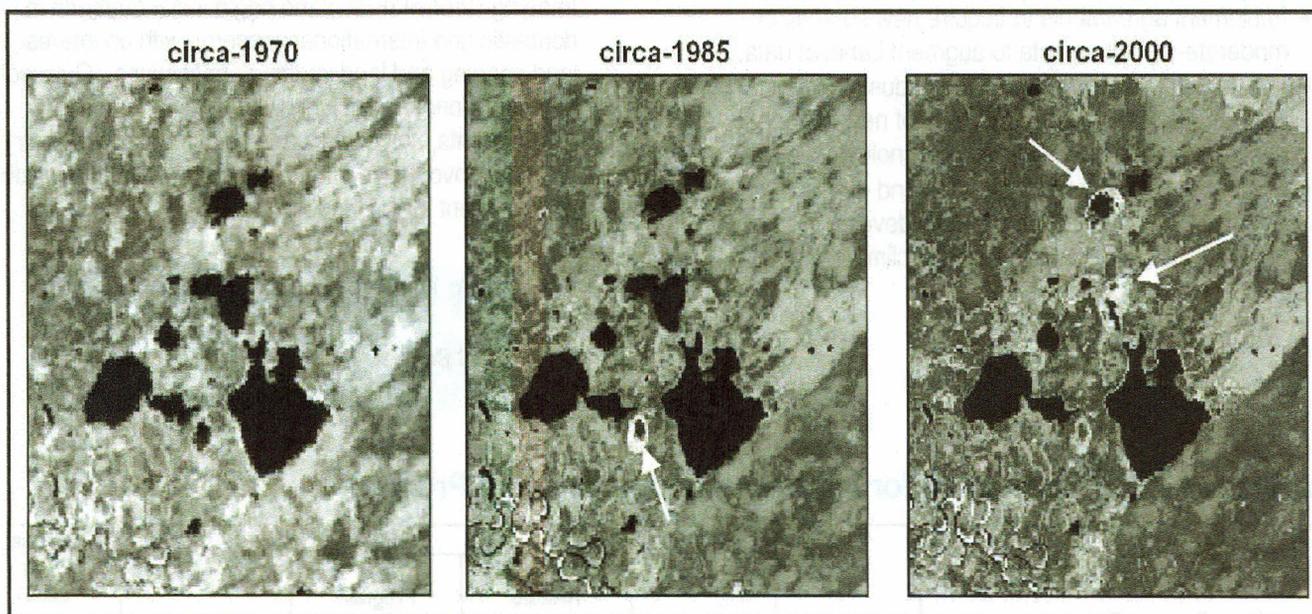
Performance Changes/Results

- Two workshops
- A formal assessment of the societal and economic benefit of satellite land imaging will also be performed
- Moderate resolution land imaging satellite data would be acquired to supplement Landsat 5 and 7 data

Contacts

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Time series of Landsat imagery showing lakes that are drying up through time.