

USGS Commitment to the Commercial Remote Sensing Space Policy (CRSSP)

Helping Federal Users Obtain Imagery

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is responsible for gathering near-term remote sensing data requirements as part of implementing the Commercial Remote Sensing Space Policy (CRSSP). The USGS partners with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) and the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in these efforts.

Federal users who require aerial or satellite imagery can enter their requirements into the web-accessed CRSSP Imagery-Derived Requirements (CIDR) tool. Several agencies share imagery in support of CRSSP, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), NGA, and the National Park Service (NPS).

The requirements are analyzed by staff at the USGS Center for Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS).

Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software and the CIDR database, USGS analysts search imagery holdings at the USGS, NGA, and commercial vendors for existing imagery and seek partnerships with other agencies that may meet the users' requirements.

If existing imagery is found, Federal users are informed on how to obtain the imagery and of any potential partnerships.

If imagery cannot be found for a requirement, users are informed of procurement options that are available, such as the USGS Commercial Remote Sensing Data Contracts (CRSDC).

If new imagery is acquired, users are encouraged to share the imagery with other Federal agencies by providing a copy to the USGS. The USGS acts as a clearinghouse for commercial imagery that can be shared among Federal agencies.



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