



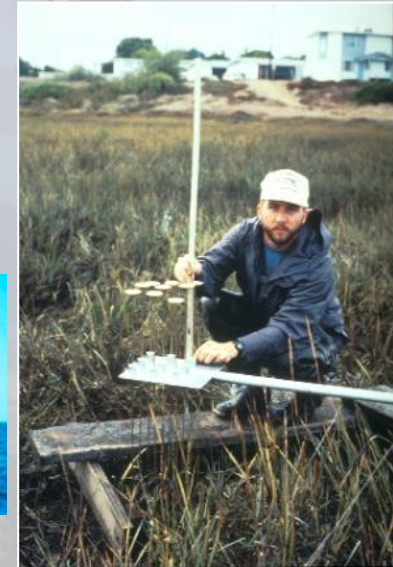
# Data as a national asset for decision making

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*Associate Director, USGS Climate and Land Use Change*

U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey

- **USGS is the Nation's Earth science agency – our focus is on natural systems (biotic and abiotic), natural resources, and natural hazards.**
- **Our reputation is our most important asset and it is dependent upon the quality and integrity of our science – including our data.**
- **Natural resource managers in a changing world need credible, timely, actionable science that is built on data from trusted sources.**



# All USGS Mission Areas share a common science quality and integrity policy – and our data is free and open to the public



**Ecosystems**



**Energy and Minerals**



**Natural Hazards**



**Water**



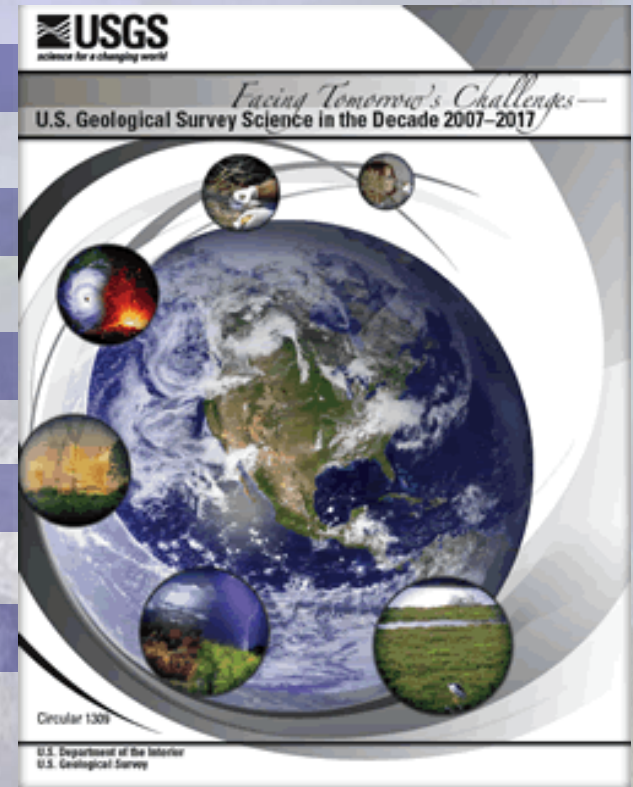
**Environmental Health**



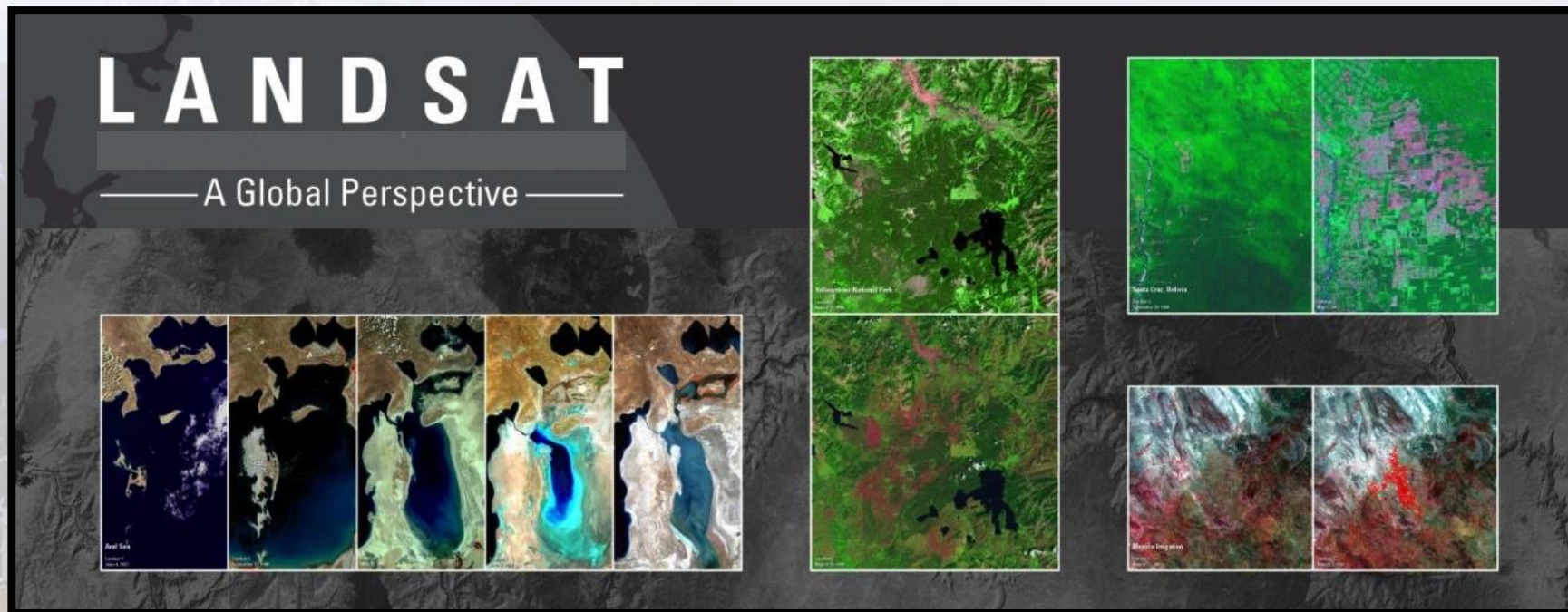
**Climate and Land-Use Change**



**Core Science Systems**



The Landsat archive is the longest, most comprehensive record of the Earth's condition ever assembled.



- The USGS the Landsat archive: more than **5.5 million images (187 billion sq. km) from 1972 to the present** – and spanning the globe.
- All Landsat images are **available to anyone at no cost.**
- **Each year nearly 8 million images are distributed** to users in over 180 nations and territories.

# Move to free Landsat data policy in 2008 enhanced resource management and open data policy globally

Landsat Scenes Downloaded from USGS EROS Center (Cumulative)

