

MEDIA RELEASE

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The AmericaView Consortium, with the Support of the U.S. Geological Survey, Announces Earth Observation Day 2011

February 17, 2011, Morgantown, West Virginia - The AmericaView Consortium (<http://www.americaview.org/>) is pleased to announce Earth Observation Day 2011 (**EO Day**). AmericaView (AV) is a nationwide program that focuses on public domain remote sensing data and geospatial technology in support of applied research, K-16 education, workforce development, and technology transfer. The purposes of **EO Day**, which will be held on April 8, 2011, are: 1) to recognize the importance of using remotely sensed data to monitor the Earth and its environments; and 2) to promote the use of remotely sensed data by K-12 teachers and students. The first **EO Day** was held on September 21, 2006 to commemorate Landsat program, the longest continuous record of terrestrial observation in history.

For nearly forty years the data from Earth observing satellites have given scientists, land managers and conservationists an invaluable tool for studying and understanding our ever-changing planet. Earth Observation Day 2011 commemorates the 26th anniversary of the launch of Landsat 5 (March, 1984). Landsat 5 is still in operation 26 years after its planned design life. This venerable remote sensing satellite is still collecting critically important images that are downloadable at no cost from the U.S. Geological Survey's Global Visualization Viewer (GloVis) Web site at <http://glovis.usgs.gov/>. and on many of AmericaView's partner 'StateView' sites across the country at <http://www.americaview.org/membership-map>. Recognition of this technological achievement is well deserved.

Started in 2006, **EO Day** is an annual joint activity of the AmericaView Consortium and the U.S. Geological Survey (<http://www.usgs.gov/>). An **EO Day** Web site is available at <http://www.earthobservationday.com/> that includes information about the annual event, elementary, middle, and high school lessons for **EO Day** events, links to remote sensing resources (books, data, imagery, and software), information about Landsat 5 and other remote sensing instruments, and other information about remote sensing. K-12 teachers are encouraged to register their **EO Day** event via the Web site.

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