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Media Contact

Michael Hill
hillmj@aero.und.edu
701.777.6071

The Geographical Variability of Contemporary United States Land Change

Dr. Thomas R. Loveland

U.S. Geological Survey Center for Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS)

Grand Forks, ND – Urbanization, industry, agriculture and forestry are continually changing the U.S. landscape. Images from Earth-observing satellites provide a record of how the nation's lands are changing, and provide useful information for future economic development and improved natural resource management.

Dr. Thomas Loveland of the U.S. Geological Survey Center for Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS) will talk about the rates, causes, and consequences of our ever-shifting landscape on **Thursday, February 14th at 2 p.m. in Clifford Hall Auditorium, room 210, on the UND campus.** Refreshments will be served before the presentation, which is free and open to the public.

Dr. Loveland leads a USGS research team that is interpreting aerial photography and archived Landsat images from 1972 to 2001 to develop a contemporary land cover history of the United States. The study measures land change on a region-by-region basis; each region with distinct characteristics such as climate, topography, geology, soils, and natural vegetation that may influence the range of land use practices that are possible.

He has been engaged in research on the use of remote sensing for land use and land cover investigations for over 25 years and has conducted studies that have spanned local to global scales. He has B.S. and M.S. degrees in geography from South Dakota State University and a Ph.D. in geography from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

For more information contact Dr. Michael Hill at the UND Department of Earth System Science and Policy: 701.777.6071, or hillmj@aero.und.edu.



Upper Midwest Aerospace Consortium

Northern Great Plains Center for People & the Environment
4149 University Avenue, Stop 9011
300 Clifford Hall, University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND 58202-9011
Tel. 701.777.2490 • Fax 701.777.2940