



Landsat End of Mission Criteria Discussion

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Actual mission ending will come from:

- Substantial decline in data quality or quantity -- or
- Failed mechanical or electronic subsystem -- or
- Fuel depletion



The Issue

- **What are the criteria that should be considered when determining whether to cease Landsat 5 or 7 operations?**
- **What level of data quality and what level of acquisition capabilities are needed in order for the mission to still be viable and valuable?**



Assumptions

- **Decision to “pull the plug” will be based on a convergence of evidence, discussion with data users, and management considerations of costs and benefits associated with mission continuation.**
- **Decision making must include weighing of alternatives for data access.**
 - **e.g., At what point would it be more appropriate to invest in acquisitions from international sources rather than continue limited or degraded acquisitions?**



What are the data considerations?

- **Correctable vs uncorrectable geometric and radiometric variations**
 - Can data be corrected to an acceptable and timely level?
- **Reductions in acquisition coverage and scene quantity**
- **Are degraded data being used?**
 - Importance of uses
 - Size of user community
- **Is there a viable alternative?**

