



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
**U.S. Department
of the Interior**

www.doi.gov

Media Advisory

Date: May 14, 2009

Media Contact: Joan Moody (202) 208-3280

Event Contact: Diana Ziegler (202) 208-1169

Earth From Space illustrates environmental phenomena at the Interior Museum

WASHINGTON— Satellite imagery and its implications for understanding Earth's dynamic environment will be explored in *Earth From Space*, a lecture hosted by the U.S. Department of the Interior Museum on Wednesday, June 3rd at 1:00 pm.

A new generation of orbiting sensors has revolutionized our view of Earth. By the early 2000s a wide range of remote sensing satellites revealed new information about environmental cycles and natural disasters, such as volcanic eruptions, hurricanes, dust storms, and forest fires. Andrew Johnston, a geographer at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, will explain satellite remote sensing, showcase many of the remarkable images it has produced, and describe how these images have refined our understanding of Earth's environment.

The Smithsonian collaborated with the U.S. Geological Survey to produce a traveling exhibition, which premiered at the National Air and Space Museum in 2006 and continues to tour the country. The Smithsonian and the U.S. Geological Survey produced educational poster sets based on the *Earth From Space* exhibit that were distributed free of charge to more than 700 schools, libraries, and other venues across the country. In 2007 the exhibit was awarded the USGS Shoemaker Award for External Communications.

Who: Johnston recently authored the book *Earth From Space* and curated the companion traveling exhibition. In 2009 Johnston co-authored the *Smithsonian Atlas of Space Exploration*. Johnston researches and refines remote sensing techniques for observing environmental and geophysical processes, including regional scale landcover changes and forest canopy dynamics.

What: Lecture on the development and implications of satellite imagery.

When: 1 pm, Wednesday, June 3

Where: Interior Museum Classroom, Main Interior Building, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Special Assistance – For those in need of special assistance (such as an interpreter for the hearing impaired) or inquiries regarding the handicapped entrance, please notify museum staff at (202) 208-4743 in advance of the program. Special needs will be accommodated whenever possible.

About the Interior Museum: The Interior Museum, located in the Main Interior Building at 1849 C Street, NW between 18th and 19th Streets, interprets the history of the U.S. Department of the Interior. The museum is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm and from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm on the third Saturday of each month, except for all Federal holidays. Entrance is free but all adults must have photo ID to enter the building.