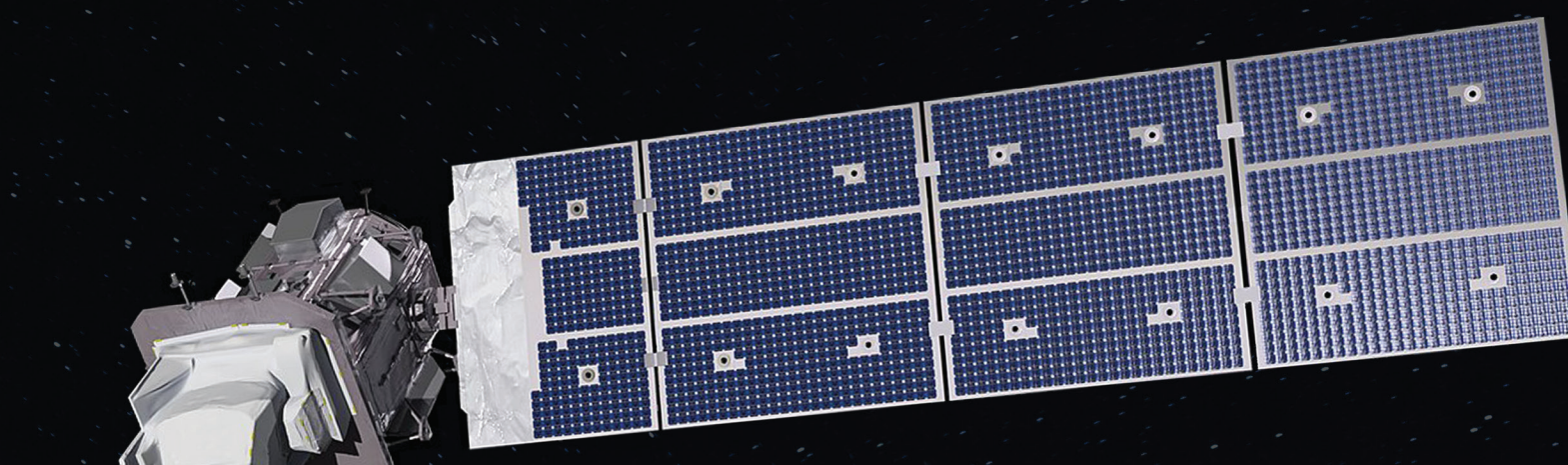


Landsat Portrait of America



What is Landsat?

Landsat is a joint USGS–NASA Earth-imaging program that has provided continuous, calibrated satellite observations of Earth's land and coastal regions since 1972. Landsat data are used by scientists, farmers, and resource managers to monitor land, water, and environmental change worldwide.



What Am I Looking At?

This image combines Landsat 8 and Landsat 9 imagery with elevation data from the USGS National Elevation Dataset to create a detailed portrait of the United States.

The mosaic highlights the nation's diverse landscapes, from the forests of the Northeast and Pacific Northwest to the deserts of the Southwest and the agricultural heartland of the Great Plains and Midwest.



Why Does Landsat Matter?



AGRICULTURE

Track crop conditions, irrigation, land productivity, and drought impacts



WATER

Monitor water quality, reservoirs, drought, floods, and coastal change



FORESTS

Assess forest health, wildfire impacts, and recovery



MINERALS

Support geologic mapping, mineral resource assessments, and exploration



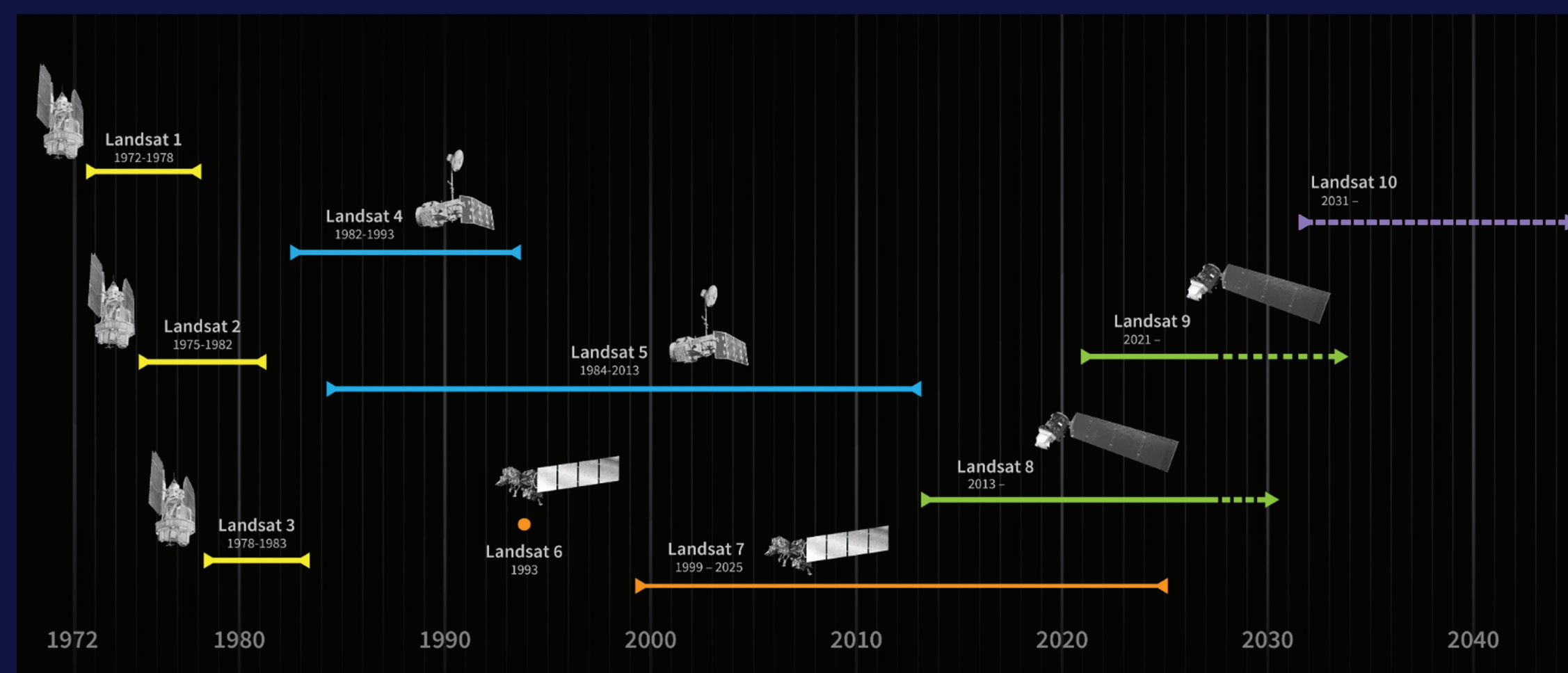
COMMUNITIES

Guide land-use planning, infrastructure decisions, and sustainable growth



The Landsat Legacy

A continuous record is only possible through successive Landsat missions. Each Landsat satellite extends the observations of its predecessors, preserving one of the world's most valuable records of Earth's changing land surface.



The Landsat Mission

Orbiting 705 kilometers (438 miles) above Earth, Landsat 8 and Landsat 9 work together to image the same location every 8 days. Landsat measures reflected sunlight and thermal infrared energy, providing information about vegetation, water, land cover, wildfires, drought, and surface temperature.

More than 50 years of continuous observations, combined with free and open data access, have made Landsat one of the world's most valuable Earth observation programs.

Explore Landsat:



usgs.gov/landsat
nasa.gov/landsat