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APPRAISING CHANGES IN CONTINENTAL MIGRATORY BIRD HABITAT

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Type I Progress Report for Period 1 September 1973 - 31 October 1973

Prepared for:

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Type I Progress Report
ERTS-1

- a. Title: Appraising Changes in Continental Migratory Bird Habitat
ERTS-A Proposal No.: SR 255
- b. GSFC ID No. of P.I.: IN 051
- c. Statement and explanation of any problems that are impeding the progress of the investigation:

Delays in the receipt of imagery and digital tapes is seriously threatening the timely conclusion of this program. Our previous Type I Progress Report (dated 1 September 1973) has discussed this problem. The following is a summary of the situation.

We have had in effect a standing order for black and white MSS imagery for data centered approximately at coordinates 47° 40' N by 99° 40' W. When instituted this standing order was effective for the period May through 6 October 1973. Throughout this period our requirements for imagery should have been satisfied on the 18 day cyclic schedule of 15 May, 2 June, 20 June, 8 July, 26 July, 13 August, 31 August, 18 September, and 6 October. To date we can account for imagery for 15 May, 2 June, 20 June, and 8 July. (Imagery for these dates has either been received or it has been excluded due to an excess of cloud cover.) Data which should have been collected on either 26 July or 13 August is very significant to this program because it documents conditions at the peak of the waterfowl brooding season. Our current information indicates that no site data for these dates has been entered into the NDPF User Services system. As a result we are unable to evaluate the quality of that data let alone order the CCT's for subsequent machine processing.

We have now recognized that it may be necessary to utilize an alternative data set and therefore on 1 October we placed an order with User Services for data of 7 July 73. This data will not be centered on our site and the data will

temporally two to three weeks premature. However, the data will suffice in view of the protracted delays apparent with regards to data of either 26 July or 13 August. It is also significant to note that CCT's for site coverage of 15 May were ordered in mid June but were not received until 13 September - approximately a three month turn-around time. Processing of this May data was deferred until receipt of the July data so that the two sets could be processed in tandem for reasons of economy and efficiency.

d. Discussion of the accomplishments during the reporting period and those planned for the next reporting period:

Progress on the program was suspended pending availability of a comprehensive May and July (or August) data set. The CCT's for 7 July 1973 have just been received and processing will commence at once. Processing and analysis is expected to require three months of effort. As a result, we realize that a contract extension will be necessary and action for requesting such an extension will be initiated. We anticipate a contract extension of three months or through 31 March 1974.

e. Discussion of significant scientific results and their relationship to practical applications or operational problems including estimates of the cost benefits of any significant results (to be prepared in scientific abstract form of 200 words or less):

None

f. Listing of published articles, and/or papers, pre-prints, in-house reports, abstracts of talks, that were released during the reporting period:

None

- g. Recommendations concerning practical changes in operations, additional investigative effort and/or results as related to a maximum utilization of the ERTS system:

We recommend a no cost contract extension for this task and for the subcontract with the Environmental Research Institute of Michigan.

- h. A listing by date of any changes in Standing Order Forms:

None

- i. ERTS Image Descriptor forms:

None

- j. Listing by date of any changed Data Request forms submitted to Goddard Space Flight Center/NDPF during the reporting period:

None

- k. Status of Data Collection Platforms (if applicable):

Not applicable