

Denver Service Center

The NASA Computer System given to the NPS Denver Service Center is now "up and functional," according to Maury Nyquist, Chief, Remote Sensing Section at DSC. Received in 1982, the system became operational in November and presently is engaged in projects such as FIREPRO for Yosemite NP and vegetational mapping of North Cascades NP.

The System consists of a quarter million dollars worth of hardware, backed up with what Nyquist estimates as "several million dollars worth of software." The Earth Resources Laboratory Applications Software (ELAS) allows the processing of multispectral data. The digital data can come from LANDSAT (satellite), from aircraft multispectral scanners (MSS), or from LANDSAT thematic mappers (TM) and can be used in concert with other geographically referenced data in the other half of the System, known as the Geographic Information System (GIS). The GIS allows almost unlimited manipulations of the cellular data for resource management applications of all kinds.

The new Forest Service software developed by the Northern Forest Fire Lab at Missoula, (Fuel Modeling and Fire Behavior Modeling — known as BEHAVE), is being transferred to the System in Denver as part of operation FIREPRO.