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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20233

August 2, 1972

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Mr. Arthur W. Fihelly
Code 450
NASA/GSFC
Greenbelt, Maryland 20771

Dear Art:

This is the first bimonthly progress report under NASA Contract No. S-70246-AG (ERTS-1 #106). This progress report covers the four months prior to ERTS-1 launch: April-May and June-July.

1. Title of Investigation: Evaluation of ERTS Data for Certain Oceanographic Uses.

2. Designated Proposal No.: 106

3. GSFC Ident. No.: C0309

4. Objective: ERTS-1 MSS data will be analyzed for water color variations in the Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay to determine whether broadband (0.10μm) multispectral imagery can be utilized to locate and map the extent of distinct water masses.

5. Work Summary During Reporting Period: Coordination was maintained with IFYGL to assure maximum surface truth is obtained during ERTS-1 overflights. A color additive viewer (Spectral Data) is being built for delivery in mid-August. This conforms to a revised work schedule made necessary by the delay of the ERTS-A launch.

6. Expected Accomplishments During Next Reporting Period: Begin analyzing first data over the Lakes. We expect the second ERTS-1 cycle over Lake Ontario to be a key period during August (Aug. 20-21) as a major chlorophyll collection period will be underway at that time. F. Polcyn (Univ. of Mich.) also expects to overfly some of the New York Coast of Lake Ontario in the same time period with multispectral aircraft data - including IR thermal.

7. Problems: It is our hope that ITOS-D will be launched in September to provide the necessary near-coincident (broadscale) IR imagery. No satellite thermal-IR is available now so we must rely on aircraft data. A letter was sent to you on 5 July regarding our need for additional aircraft support if possible during August. A copy was directed to C. Charlesworth at MSC. We await a decision on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Alan E. Strong
Project Manager
Environmental Sciences Group

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