



Earth and Planetary Surface Processes

Greetings EPSP folks,

For many of us a semester unlike any other is just starting. The global pandemic has forced us all to teach, do research, and live in new ways. The struggle for [racial justice](#) is vital, and the political situation in the United States is entering a volatile phase as the November election looms. Amongst this turbulence, nevertheless, wonderful opportunities to engage with our research community shine through, as seen in the announcements that follow. Also on the horizon in December, is the mostly virtual [AGU Fall Meeting](#). Many of us are working together to ensure that the annual conference is as enriching as possible in its new remote format. We'll tell you much more about this in our next newsletter.

Best and be well,
Dorothy Merritts, President
Gordon Grant, President elect
Noah Snyder, Secretary

We have several [EPSP Connects](#) events coming up and a virtual town hall. These are science talks and EPSP-related panel discussions that are held on Zoom and are free to attend:

Special Virtual Town Hall: A Community Discussion of Typical Wildfire Effects on Earth Surface Processes

Monday, 14 September

3:00 PM San Francisco / 6:00 PM New York / 12:00 AM Berlin (15 Sept.) / 6:00 AM Beijing (15 Sept.) / 8:00 AM Melbourne (15 Sept.)

[Register here!](#)

Complex system response to external forcing in bedrock river networks – a talk by Dr. Helen Beeson (ETH-Zürich)

Wednesday, 16 September

8:00 AM San Francisco / 11:00 AM New York / 17:00 PM Berlin / 23:00 PM Beijing

[Register here!](#)

Panel discussion on the intersection of geomorphology and environmental justice

Wednesday, 14 October

8:00 AM San Francisco / 11:00 AM New York / 17:00 PM Berlin / 23:00 PM Beijing

[Register here!](#)

Our EPSP Connects volunteers are also looking for 1-2 people to join the organizing team for this event. Organizing team members can be from any career stage (student to emeritus) and any field (academia, industry, etc). Members typically commit ~1 hour per week to this effort. Please e-mail [Joel Scheingross](#) if you're interested in joining the team, and include a short note explaining why you'd like to join as well as your background/interests in surface processes.

NASA Expands Planet Contract to All Researchers

NASA has expanded their subscription with Planet to provide access to Planet imagery to all researchers receiving funding from NASA for their work. Planet acquires near-daily coverage of the entire landmass of the Earth at 3–5 m through its constellation of ~150 satellites, totalling over 13 TB of imagery downlinked every day. Through the agreement with NASA, all NASA-funded researchers can access imagery from the PlanetScope constellation (subject to 30 day latency unless otherwise approved by NASA), as well as the RapidEye 6.5 m archive. Each user is granted an initial 5 million sq km quota, with exceptions made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of NASA.

For more information on this program and instructions on how to gain access, please visit the NASA Commercial SmallSat Data Acquisition Program (CSDAP) [website](#).

For any university-based researchers interested in Planet data access but not funded by NASA, data access is available through the [Planet Education and Research Program](#). The Basic program provides free access to 5,000 sq km of PlanetScope and RapidEye imagery per month per user. For larger scale access, departmental and campus licenses are also available.

For any questions about data access through Planet's NASA or Education and Research Programs, contact [Dr. Tanya Harrison](#).

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