

*The National Academies of*  
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

DIVISION ON ENGINEERING AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

SPACE STUDIES BOARD

**Committee on the Review of Progress Toward Implementing the Decadal Survey-Thriving on  
Our Changing Planet: A Decadal Strategy for Earth Observation from Space**

**Meeting No. 1**

**September 28-29, 2023**

ALL TIMES IN US EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME (UTC-4:00)

This agenda is a draft, subject to change, and was last updated on 9/26/2023 3:41 PM

**AGENDA**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023**

**OPEN SESSION**

Livestream: <https://vimeo.com/event/3731315>

10:00 AM	Welcome	<i>Dr. Christian Kummerow &amp; Dr. Anna Michalak, Committee Co-Chairs</i>
10:05 AM	NASA Status (60 min presentation, 60 min discussion)	<i>Dr. Karen St. Germain, NASA</i>
12:05 PM	Lunch	
1:00 PM	Takeaways from the ESAS 2017 Decadal (30 min presentation, 30 min discussion)	<i>Dr. Waleed Abdalati, University of Colorado Boulder (virtual)</i>
2:00 PM	Science from the Earth System Observatory-Atmosphere Observing System (30 min presentation, 30 min discussion)	<i>Dr. Scott Braun, NASA</i>
3:00 PM	USGS Status (20 min presentation, 10 min discussion)	<i>Mr. Tim Newman, USGS</i>
3:30 PM	Break	
4:00 PM	Earth Systems Observatory Independent Review Board (30 min presentation, 20 min discussion)	<i>Dr. Waleed Abdalati, University of Colorado Boulder (virtual)</i>
4:50 PM	Committee adjourns to closed session	

\* Placeholder Title – To Be Updated Closer to Meeting Date

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023**

**OPEN SESSION**

Livestream: <https://vimeo.com/event/3731337>

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| <b>9:00 AM</b>  | <b>Welcome</b>  | <i>Dr. Christian Kummerow &amp; Dr. Anna Michalak,<br/>Committee Co-Chairs</i> |
| <b>9:05 AM</b>  | <b>NOAA Status<br/>(30 min presentation, 30 min discussion)</b> | <i>Dr. Steve Volz, NOAA</i>  |
| <b>10:05 AM</b> | <i>Committee adjourns to closed session</i>                     |  |

**The following information is provided for any members of the general public who may be in attendance:**

This meeting is being held to gather information to help the committee in its charge. This committee will examine the information and material obtained during this, and other public meetings, in an effort to inform its work. Although opinions may be stated and lively discussion may ensue, no conclusions are being drawn nor will recommendations be made. Observers who draw conclusions about the committee's work based on this meeting's discussions will be doing so prematurely.

Furthermore, individual committee members often engage in discussion and questioning for the specific purpose of probing an issue and sharpening an argument. The comments of any given committee member may not necessarily reflect the position he or she may actually hold on the subject under discussion, to say nothing of that person's future position as it may evolve in the course of the project. Any inference about an individual's position are therefore also premature.

## STATEMENT OF TASK

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) shall convene an ad hoc committee to review the responses from NASA, NOAA, and the USGS earth observations programs to the 2017 decadal survey, "Thriving on Our Changing Planet: A Decadal Strategy for Earth Observation from Space." The committee's review will include the following tasks:

1. Highlight the most significant scientific discoveries, technical advances, and relevant programmatic changes in Earth science and applications over the years since the publication of the decadal survey. Describe any significant changes in the scientific and operating environment specifically related to Earth Observations that should be considered as NASA, NOAA and the USGS move forward in implementing the decadal survey.
2. Assess the degree to which the programs of NASA, NOAA and the USGS address the strategies, goals, and priorities outlined in the 2017 decadal survey and other relevant National Academies reports, including the impact of legislative or national policy directives.
3. Assess the progress toward realizing these strategies, goals and priorities.
4. Assess and provide guidance on impact and effectiveness of Earth science programs (including research, applications, data systems and technology) in implementing the decadal survey recommendations, synergies, and portfolio balance.
5. Recommend actions that could be taken to optimize the full breadth of NASA's Earth science programs during the remaining decadal interval. Consider current and forecasted resources, progress on decadal missions, coordination with entities external to NASA including other agencies, international partners, and science and technology advances from the study groups examining implementation of the survey-recommended "targeted observables".
6. Recommend any actions that NASA, NOAA and the USGS should undertake to prepare for the next decadal survey, including information, observables, pathfinders, or technology.
7. Comment on NASA efforts since the last survey to enhance the vitality and diversity of the scientists and engineers who work on programs sponsored by NASA Earth Science Division (ESD) and recommend actions that might be taken to enhance progress in these areas.

In conducting these tasks, the committee shall not revisit or redefine the scientific priorities or recommended targeted observables, unless indicated by superseding legislative or national policy directives.