

An introduction to the FY 2011 climate data records

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The development of long-term climate data records (CDRs) will provide critical information to the general public, science community, and decision makers for developing strategies to monitor, predict, adapt, and mitigate climate changes. The CDR program at the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) is leading the effort of the transition of research products to operational production and delivery for long-term CDRs based on satellite observations. Seven new CDRs for FY-11 will be delivered by their principal investigators from US government agencies, academia, and industry and distributed for public access through the NCDC CDR program. Value-added information such as code and algorithm documentation will be archived with the data and also be publicly accessible. These seven CDRs include two fundamental climate data records (FCDRs): The RSS Version-6 SSM/I Brightness Temperature (BT) and AMSU Microwave Sounder BT and five thematic climate data records (TCDRs): AVHRR Aerosol Optical Depth (AOD), the AVHRR Pathfinder Sea Surface Temperature (SST), the Passive Microwave Sea Ice Concentration, MSU (AMSU) Derived Temperatures, and HIRS Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR). This poster presentation provides an introduction to these seven CDRs, such as the description of spatial and temporal resolutions and coverage, and their potential applications in the studies of climate changes.