## NASA

### Part I: SST for NWP

Part II: Decadal Strategic Plan for USGCRP



David Halpern Adjunct Professor

3 Nov 2011



## Part I: Sea Surface Temperature for Numerical Weather Prediction

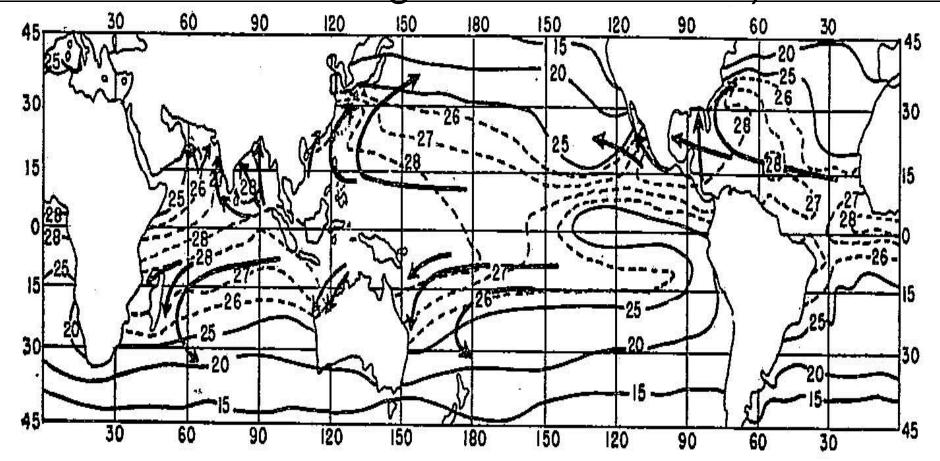
David Halpern
Senior Advisor, Earth Science Research
Earth Science Division
NASA Headquarters
Washington, USA

Representing
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO
Paris, France

Presented at 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) 3-7 October 2011, Saint Petersburg, Russia



# Principal Hurricane Paths and SST During Warmest Season)

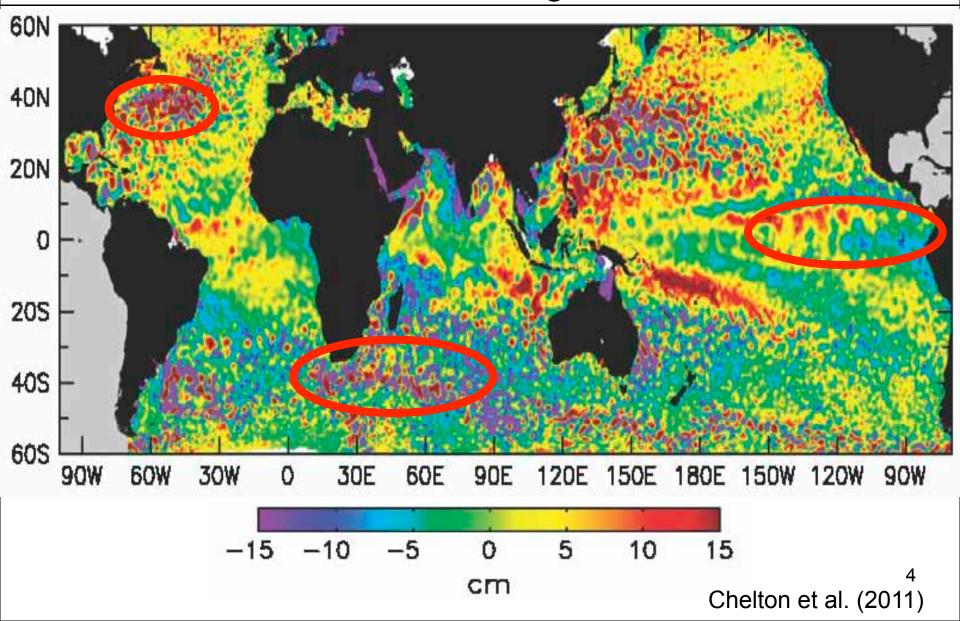


Hurricanes form only in oceanic regions outside the vicinity of the equator where SST > 26-27 °C.

A strong vortex can form in the area of converging air when |f| > critical value [f = 0 at the equator].

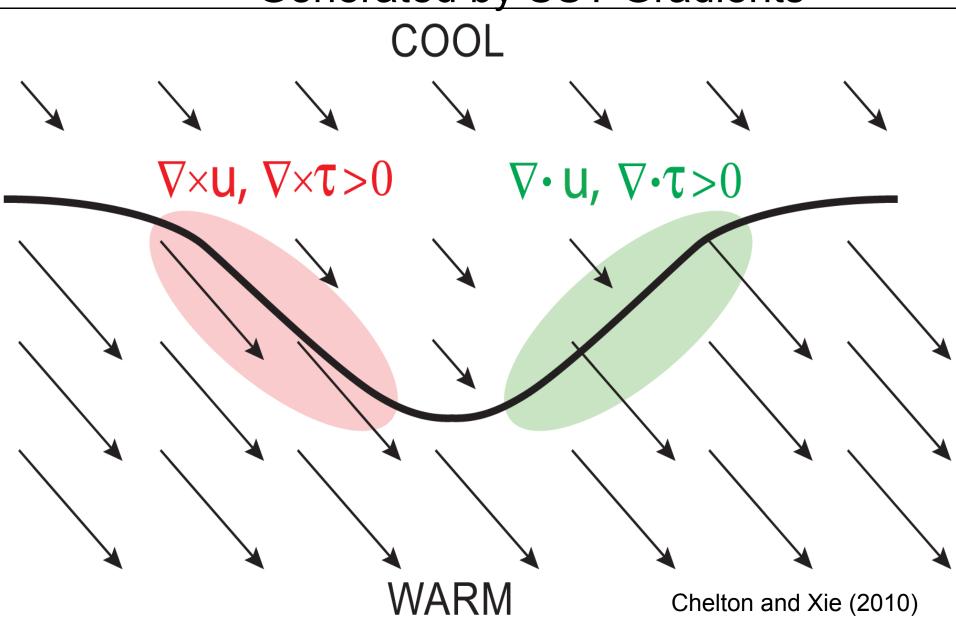


## Ocean Eddies Radius 100 km, Average Lifetime 32 weeks



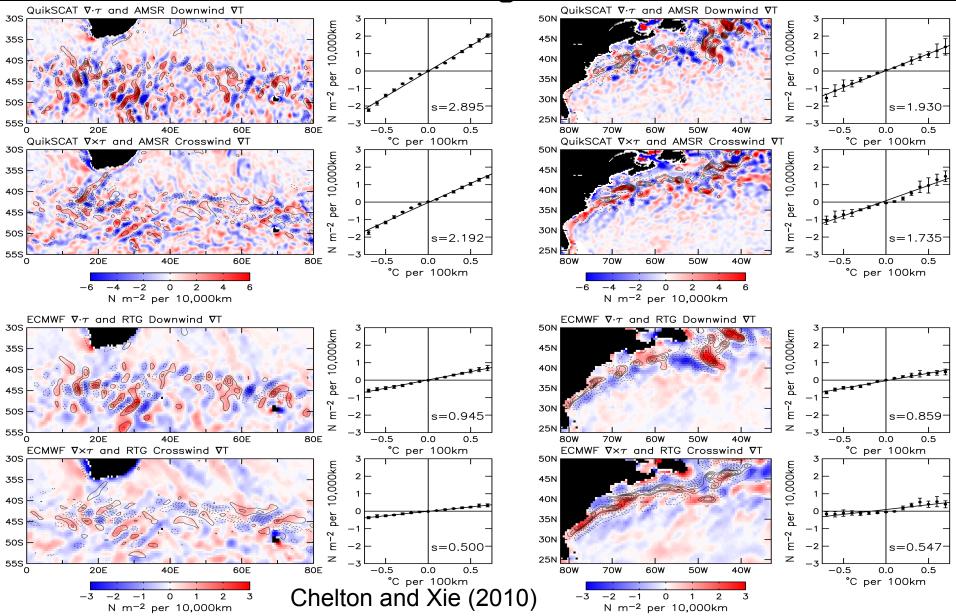


## Divergence and Curl of the Wind Generated by SST Gradients



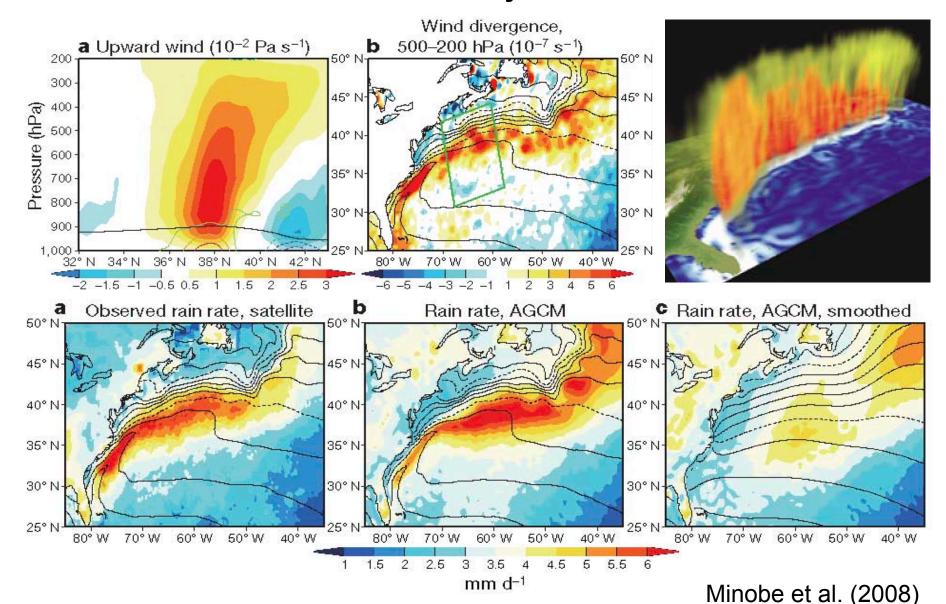


# Wind Stress Curl & SST Gradient Wind Stress Divergence & SST Gradient



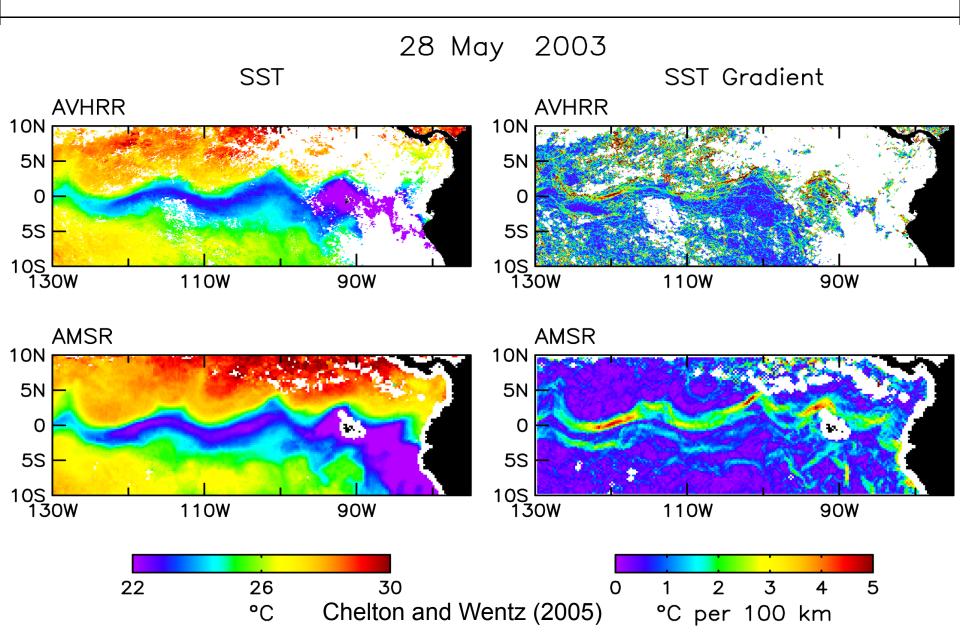


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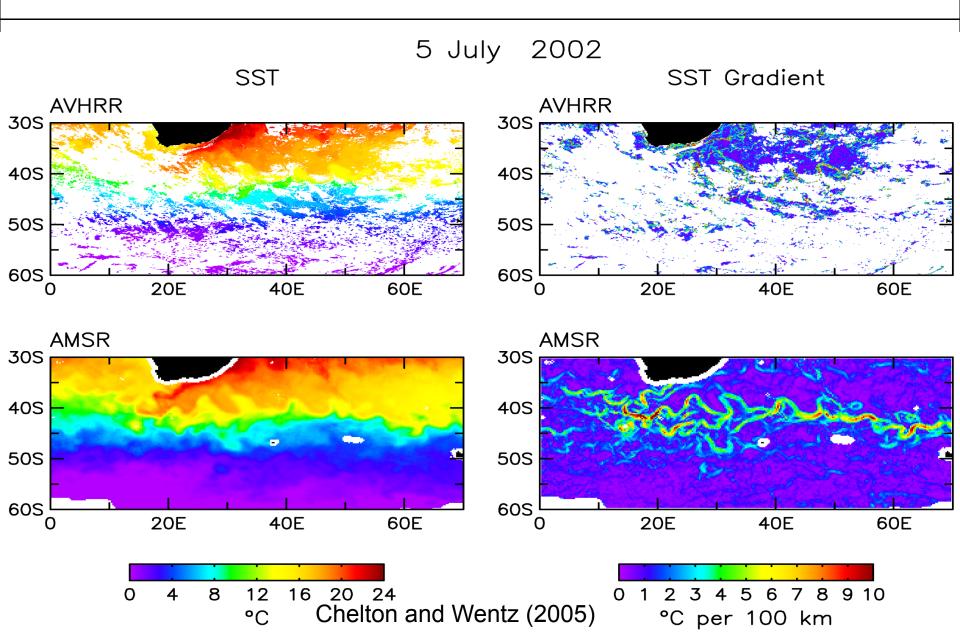


### Infrared and Microwave SST Distributions



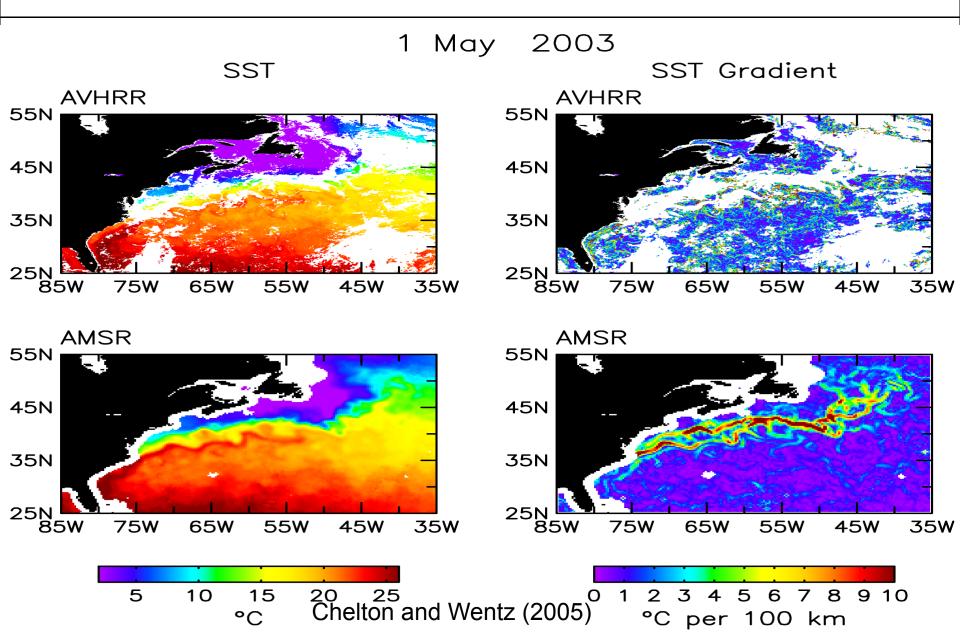


### Infrared and Microwave SST Distributions





### Infrared and Microwave SST Distributions



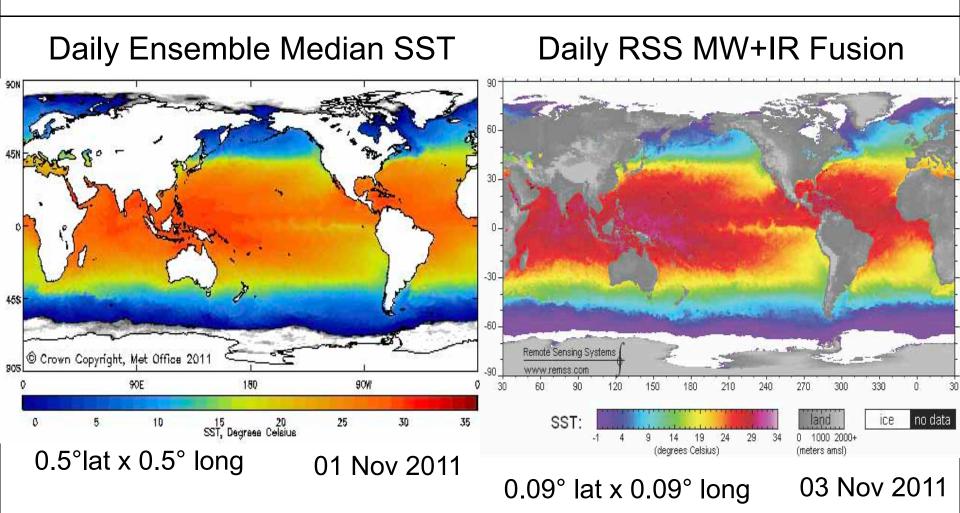


# Components of GHRSST Ensemble Median Global SST Distribution

- UKMO Operational Sea Surface Temperature and Sea Ice Analysis
- US NCEP Real-time Global Sea Surface Temperature Analyses
- US NOO Level 4 K10\_SST Global 1 Meter SST Analysis
- JMA Merged satellite and in situ Global Daily Sea Surface Temperatures
- RSS Microwave Sea Surface Temperature
- RSS Microwave and Infrared Sea Surface Temperature
- USN FNMOC High Resolution SST/Sea Ice Analysis for GHRSST
- EU Marine Environment and Security for the European Area Ocean Data Analysis System
- US NOAA Optimum Interpolation 1/4 Degree Daily Sea Surface Temperature Analysis
- Canadian Meteorological Center Sea Surface Temperature Analysis
- Australia BoM Global Australian Multi-Sensor Sea SurfaceTemperature Analysis



## Daily GHRSST Products



http://ghrsst-pp.metoffice.com/pages/ latest\_analysis/sst\_monitor/daily/ens/ index.html http://www.remss.com/sst/ sst\_data\_daily.html?sat=mw\_i<sub>f2</sub>



## Part II: Decadal Strategic Plan for USGCRP

### **USGCRP** (Brief) History

- National Climate Program Act of 1978
- Presidential initiative in 1989
- Congress enacted Global Change Research Act of 1990
  - ➤ Provide for development and coordination of a comprehensive and integrated United States research program which will assist the Nation and the world to understand, assess, predict, and respond to human-induced and natural processes of global change

<u>Governance</u>

**Executive Office of the President (EOP)** 

Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

**National Science and Technology Council (NSTC)** 

Committee on Environmental and Natural Resources (CENRS)

Subcommittee on Global Climate Research (SGCR) also

U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP)

**National Coordination Office** 



## SGCR Members and Objectives

Coordinates Federal research to better understand and prepare the Nation for global change

Prioritizes and supports cutting edge scientific work in global change

Assesses the state of scientific knowledge and the Nation's readiness to respond to global change

Communicates research findings to inform, educate, and engage the global community

Fosters the integration of global change knowledge across 13 Agencies or Departments

**USGCRP** Agencies and Departments



Department of Agriculture



Department of Commerce



Department of Defense



Department of Energy



Department of Health and Human Services



Department of the Interior



Department of State



Department of Transportation



**Environmental Protection Agency** 



National Aeronautics and Space Administration



National Science Foundation



**Smithsonian Institution** 



United States Agency for International Development 14



#### **USGCRP** Vision and Mission

- Vision "A nation, globally engaged and guided by science, meeting the challenges of climate and global change."
- Mission "To build a knowledge base that informs human responses to climate and global change through coordinated and integrated federal programs of research, education, communication, and decision support."



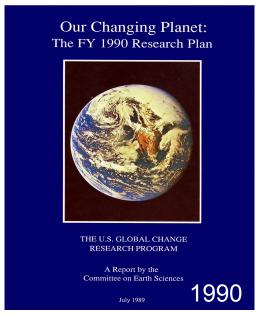
Apollo 17, 7 Dec 1972

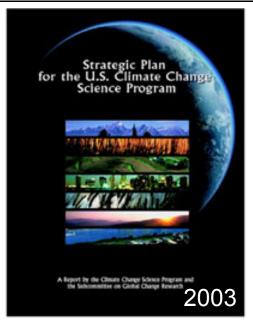


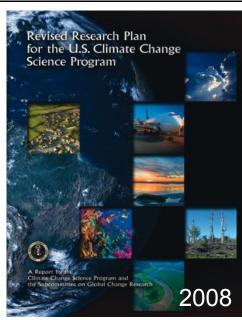
Kaguya, 6 Apr 2008



## **USGCRP Strategic Plans**



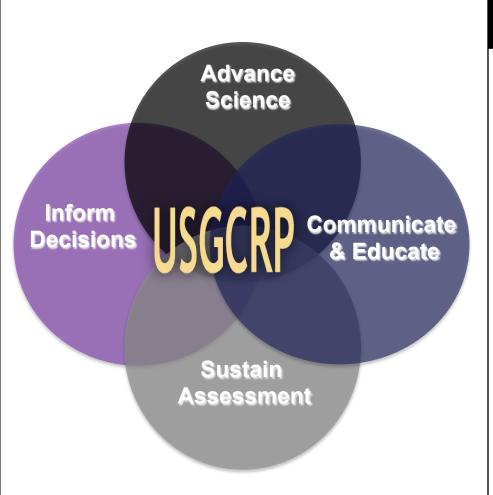




- Strategic Plans in 1990, 2003, and 2008 focused on improving knowledge of Earth's changing environment through observations, modeling, and prediction
- New Strategic Plan
  - ➤ integrates core research strengths (developed in previous years) with human dimensions
  - > creates framework for contributions of fundamental global change research to societal decision support



## Draft Strategic Plan Characteristics: Overview



#### **Current Strategic Plan Outline**

- I. Introduction
- II. Vision and Mission
- III. Goals and Objectives
- Goal 1 Advance Science
- Goal 2 Inform Decisions
- Goal 3 Sustained Assessments
- Goal 4 Communicate and Educate
- IV. Coordinating with Other Nations and International Organizations
- V. Implementation Planning



## Draft Strategic Plan Characteristics: Goals

#### 1 Advance Science

- 1.1 Earth System Understanding
- 1.2 Science for Adaptation and Mitigation
- 1.3 Integrated Observations
- 1.4 Integrated Modeling
- 1.5 Information Management and Sharing

#### 2 Inform Decisions

- 2.1 Inform Adaptation Decisions
- 2.2 Inform Mitigation Decisions
- 2.3 Enhancing Climate Services
- 2.4 Enhancing International Partnerships

#### 3 Sustain Assessment

- 3.1 Scientific Integration
- 3.2 Ongoing Capacity
- 3.3 Inform Responses
- 3.4 Evaluate Progress



#### 4 Communicate and Educate

- 4.1 Strengthen Communication and Education Research
- 4.2 Reach Diverse Audiences
- 4.3 Increase Engagement
- 4.4 Cultivate Workforce



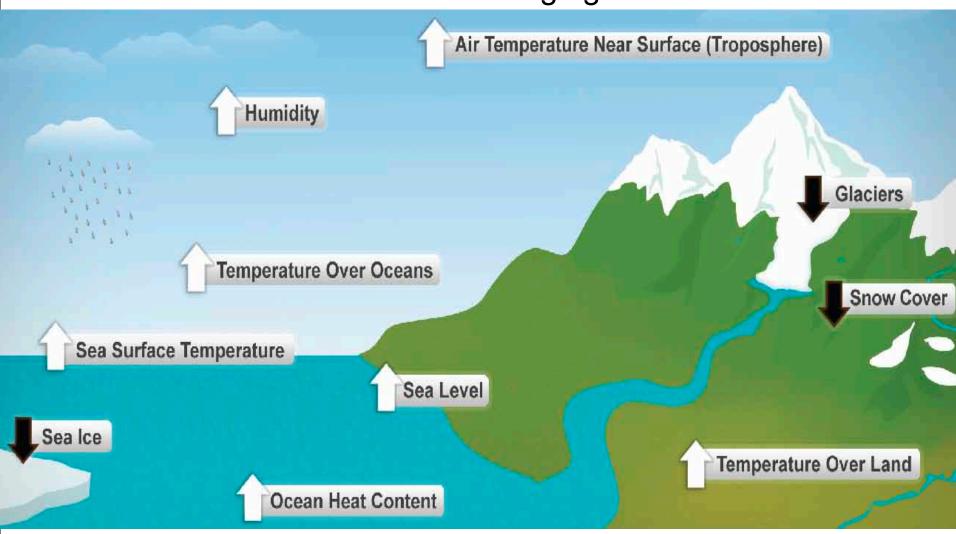
# Draft Strategic Plan Characteristics: Goal 1.1 Earth System Understanding

- Role of aerosols on regional variations and change
  - Direct and indirect effects
- Role of short-lived radiative forcing agents
  - Quantify contributions and uncertainties
- Stratosphere and surface climate
- Interface and boundary layer interaction
  - Clouds and land feedbacks
  - Climate-biology feedbacks
- Integration of observations and models
  - Coupled data assimilation
- Process studies for fundamental understanding
- Thresholds and tipping points



## Draft Strategic Plan Characteristics: Goal 1.3 Integrated Observations

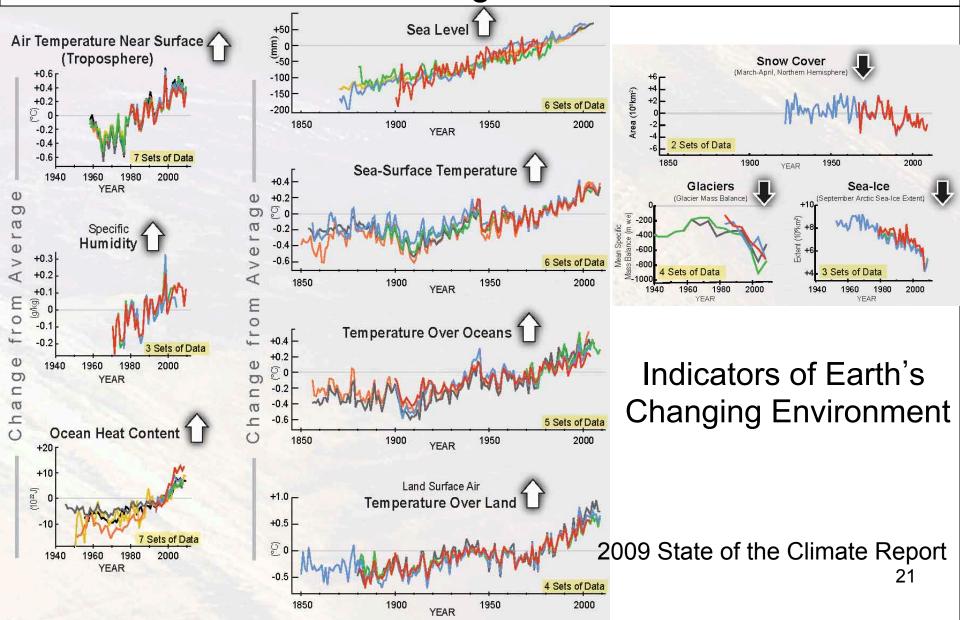
Indicators of Earth's Changing Environment



2009 State of the Climate Report

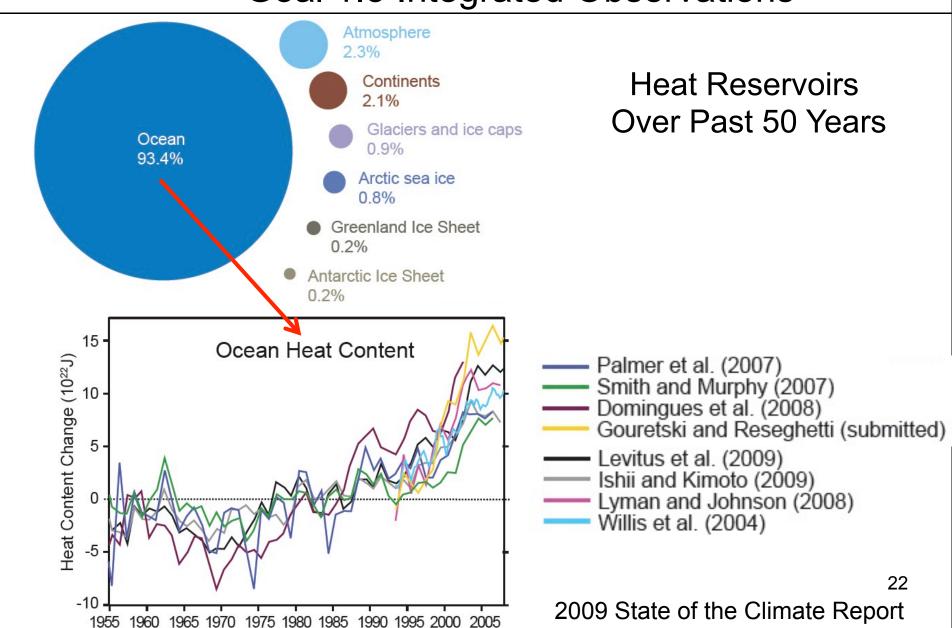


# Draft Strategic Plan Characteristics: Goal 1.3 Integrated Observations





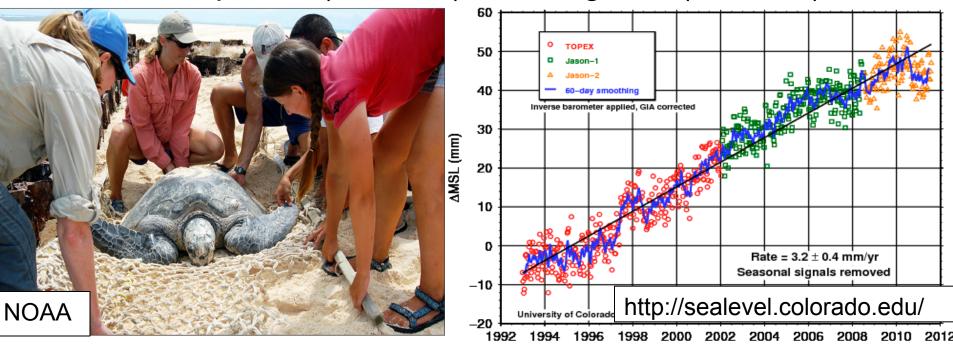
# Draft Strategic Plan Characteristics: Goal 1.3 Integrated Observations





## Draft Strategic Plan Characteristics Goal 2: Inform Decisions

Advance science (Goal 1) to inform and enable timely decisions on adaptation (Goal 2.1) and mitigation (Goal 2.2)



Every year hundreds of adult female endangered green sea turtles migrate to the beaches of the French Frigate Shoals to lay their eggs. Female sea turtles can live for over 50 years and throughout their mature lives return to the same nesting grounds they were born at to lay their egg clutches. The French Frigate Shoals are amongst the many Northwestern Hawaiian Islands that could be inundated by rising sea levels and thus affect green sea turtle reproduction.



## Draft Strategic Plan Characteristics: Goal 3 Sustained Assessments

Build sustained assessment capacity that improves the Nation's ability to understand, anticipate, and respond to global and climate change impacts and vulnerabilities





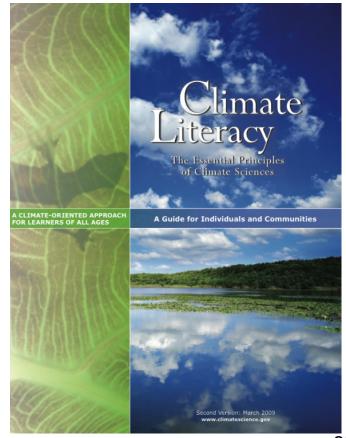
## Draft Strategic Plan Characteristics: Goal 4 Communicate and Educate

Advance communications and education to broaden public understanding of climate and global change, and empower the workforce of the future



High school students attending a "Science Careers in Search of Women" conference.

Credit: *NSF image*.





#### **USGCRP** Wants To Hear From You

- Draft Strategic Plan is available for public review and comment at www.globalchange.gov
- Deadline is 29 November 2011
- Respond to the following questions
  - ➤ How successful is the draft strategic plan at addressing the 10-year needs of the Nation in performing and utilizing global change research?
  - ➤ Does the strategic plan sufficiently address the need to provide authoritative, understandable, and actionable information to decision makers?
  - ➤ Are there areas necessary to achieve the mission and goals underrepresented or missing from the draft strategic plan?



## Conclusions: Two Challenges

- 1 Determine effect of high-resolution SST in climate models
- 2 Prepare an integrated graduate student response of USGCRP draft strategic plan

Thank you.