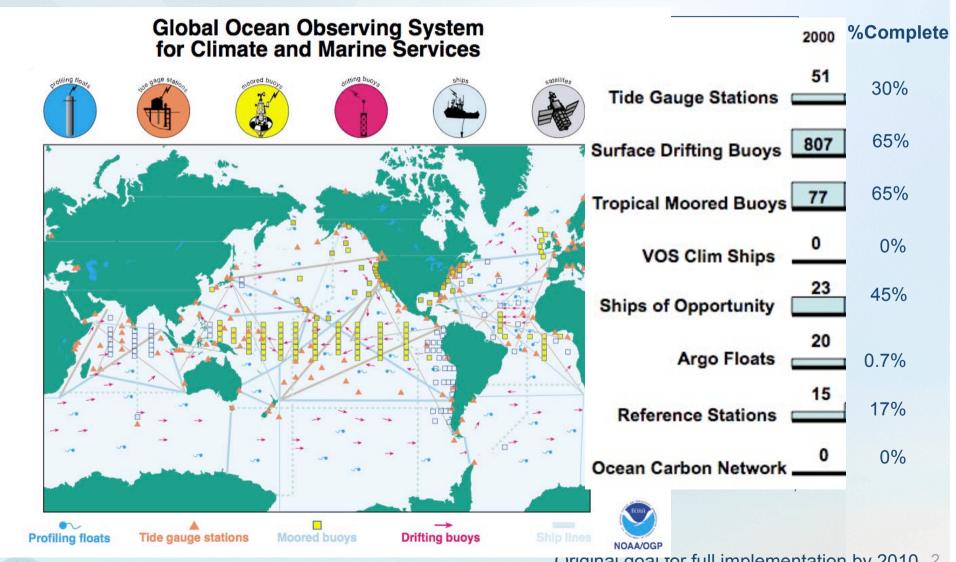


# OCEAN OBS 09: A DECADE OF PROGRESS

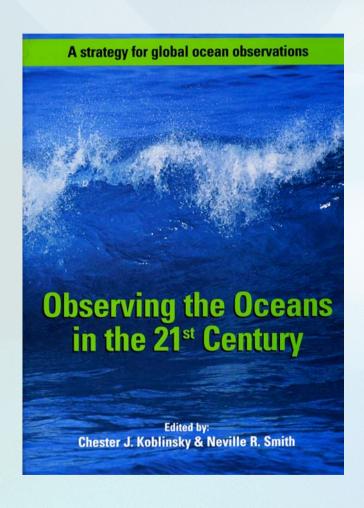
21 September 2009

Chester Koblinsky
Director, Climate Program Office, NOAA

## GCOS OCEAN OBSERVATIONS (2000)



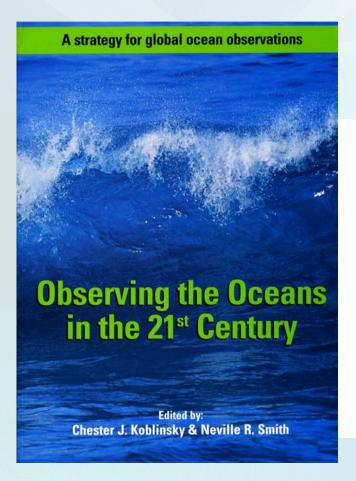
## 1999 A NEW ERA FOR OCEAN OBSERVATION







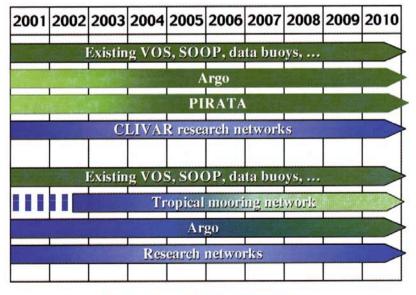
## 1999 A NEW ERA FOR OCEAN OBSERVATION



**(b)** 

Tropical Atlantic

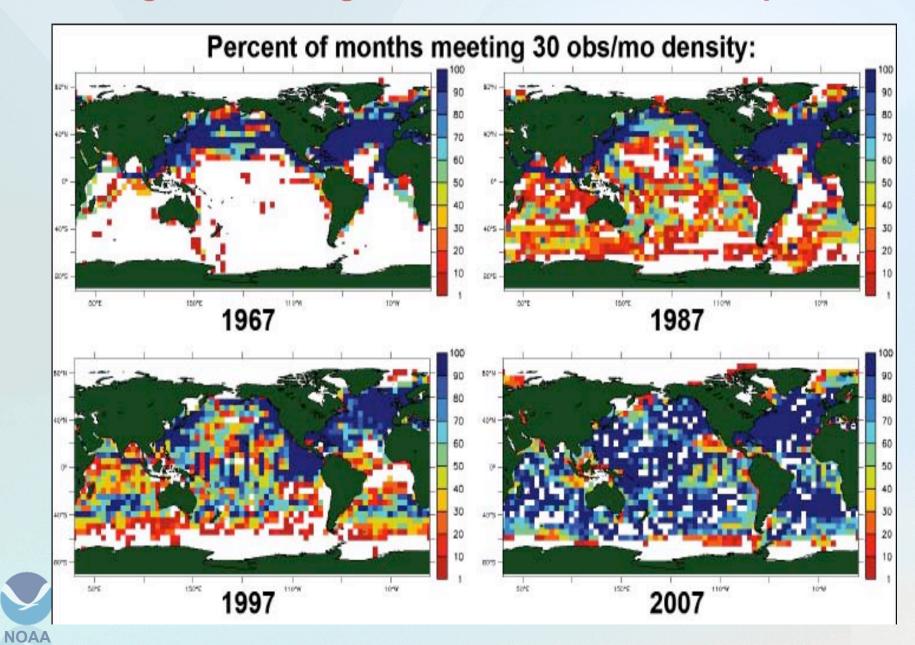
Indian Ocean



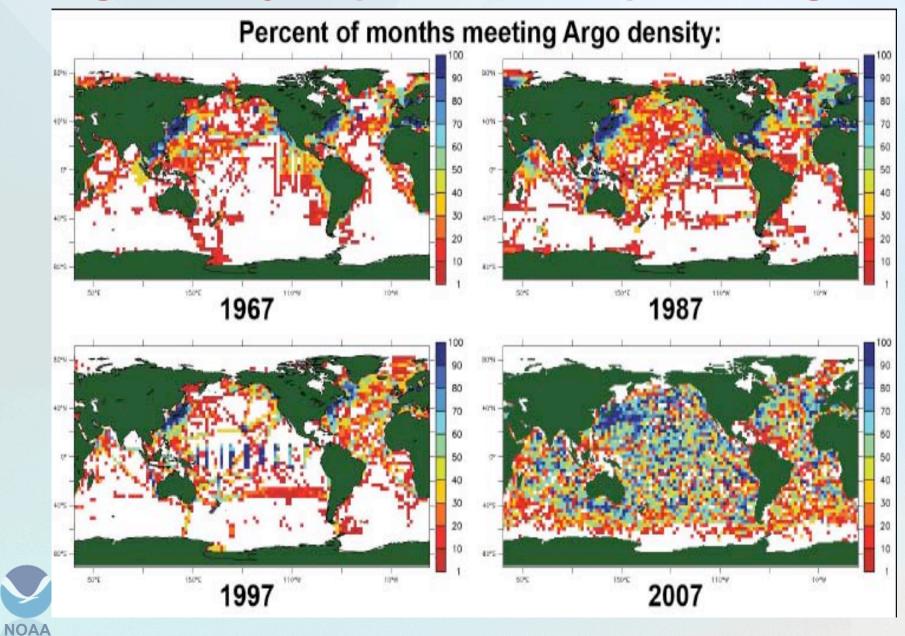
Two regional enhancements



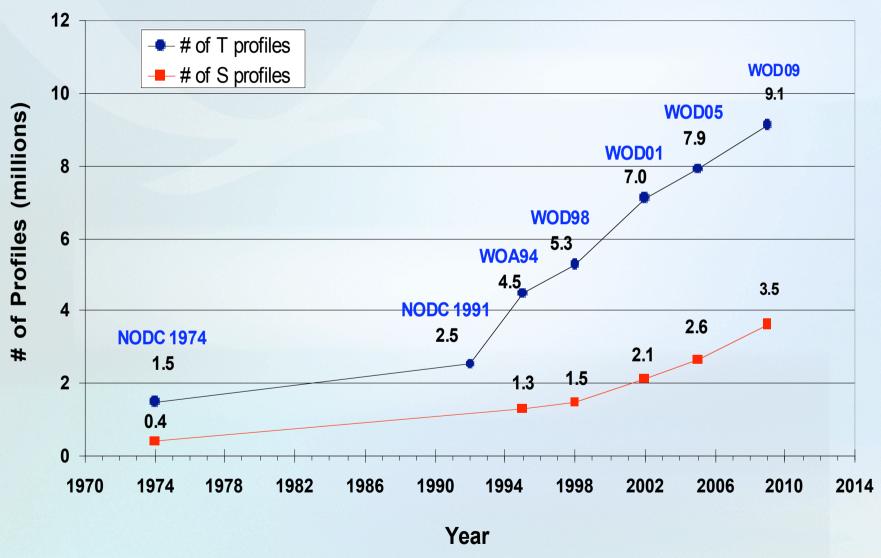
#### 5x5 regions meeting 'climate SST bias' data requirement



### Argo Density - 3 profiles/month per 3x3 region

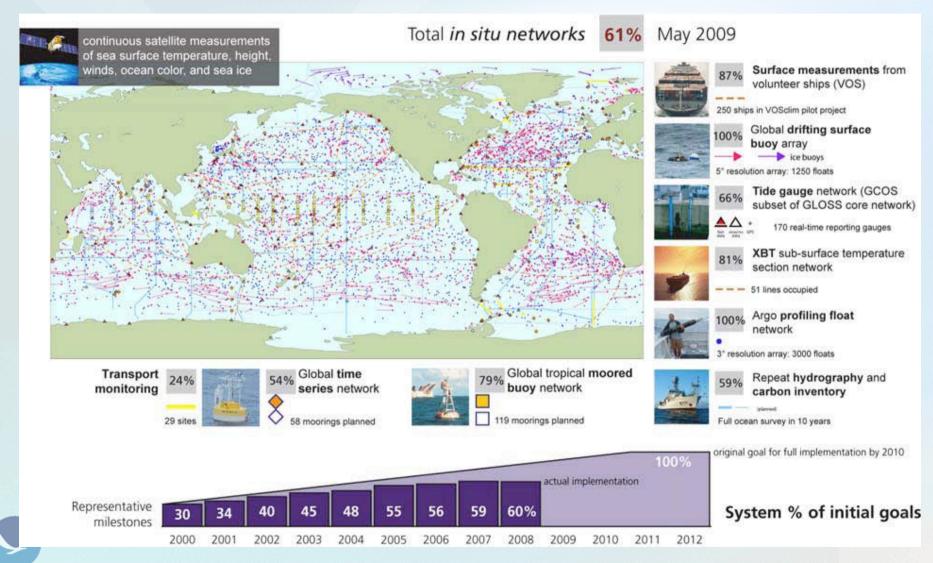


## NODC/WDC TEMPERATURE & SALINITY PROFILE TIME SERIES GROWTH- AS OF APRIL 2 2009





### GCOS OCEAN OBSERVATIONS



NOAA

#### 2009 GCOS PROGRESS REPORT



WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

Progress Report on the Implementation of the Global Observing System for Climate in Support of the UNFCCC 2004-2008

> August 2009 GCOS-129 (WMO-TD/No. 1489, GOOS-173, GTOS-70)

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMM INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE Report on the past five years of progress on implementation of the global observing system for climate in support of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Evaluate progress on Actions in the GCOS Implementation Report of 2004

Developments since 2004:

**IPCC AR4** 

**GEOSS** 

Increased attention to observations in support of adaptation

Coordinate UN action on climate change



## 2009 GCOS PROGRESS REPORT

Low	Low- Moderate	Moderate	Moderate- Good	Good
Ocean current data	Coasts	Multi-national participation	Sea-level gauge network	Ocean Plan review
Wave reference measurements	Sea-surface salinity	Voluntary ship obs (climate)	Sea level obs from space	R&D
Reference Network: biogeochemical and ecosystem ECVs	Sea-ice research	Satellite SSTs	Satellite sea-surface salinity	Partnerships
Data/analysis centers	Arctic Ocean	Autonomous obs: biogeochemical and ecosystem ECVs	Water column ship-based sampling	Plans for satellite obs
	Metadata standardization	Sea level measurements	Surface current analyses	Data rescue
		pCO2	Sea-ice obs from space	Global SST measurements
		Sea-ice products	Ocean color satellites	Argo array
		Voluntary ships obs (temp.)	Model data assimilation products	Ocean surface reference mooring network
		Tropical Moored Buoy arrays		Reanalysis
		Sea-level in coastal zones		
		Monitor implementation of data policy		
		Data management		
		Data transmission and exchange		
		Telecommunication links		
		Coordination of data assembly		

### SUMMARY OF GCOS PROGRESS

IN SITU OCEAN OBSERVATIONS FOR CLIMATE

#### Most in situ networks have made progress.

The Argo profiling floats and surface drifting buoy arrays which have reached global coverage at their target numbers enabled observations of the ice-free upper 1500 meters of the ocean systematically for temperature and salinity for the first time in history

There has been a substantial increase in the number of tide gauges now reporting both in near real-time and with tsunamidetection capability

Important progress has been achieved in the development of historical ocean reanalysis and in high-resolution ocean forecasting capabilities.

Promising developments in improved methods and standards will allow wider measurement of biological and chemical ECVs.

### SUMMARY OF GCOS PROGRESS

IN SITU OCEAN OBSERVATIONS FOR CLIMATE

# Most in situ observing activities continue to be carried out under research agency support

Data sharing remains incomplete, particularly for tide gauges and biogeochemical ECVs

Although progress has been made on recovery of the historical ocean dataset, continuing efforts in data rescue, digitization and data sharing are needed



### **Toward World Climate Services**

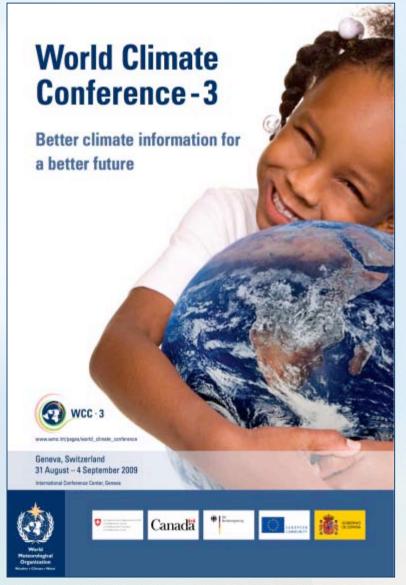
A "global framework for climate services" (GFCS) is the outcome of the World Climate Conference-3 (WCC-3) held in Geneva, Switzerland, this September

#### WCC-3 - HIGH-LEVEL DECLARATION

OP 1: Decide to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services ... to strengthen production, availability, delivery and application of science-based climate prediction and services;

"To work, solutions must fit local circumstances and produce results that people can use. Climate services must be relevant, accessible, timely, open, reliable, and sustainable."

Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, NOAA



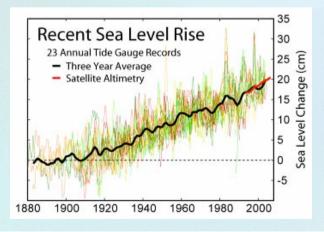
# CLIMATE SERVICE CASE STUDY: COASTAL REGIONS

#### Solution and problem focused:

- Sea level
- Precipitation patterns and associated effects on freshwater, nutrient, and sediment flow
- Ocean temperature
- Circulation patterns
- Frequency, track and intensity of coastal storms
- Levels of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and ocean acidification













# CLIMATE SERVICE CASE STUDY: LIVING MARINE RESOURCES

#### Problem focused:

- Attribution of Climate Signals impacting ecosystems : Long Term Change & Natural Variability
- Ocean Warming: Impacts on Distribution & Productivity (phenology, production, invasives)
- Impacts of Loss of Sea Ice on Living Marine Resources (at both poles)
- Physical and Chemical Changes to the ocean (Ocean Acidification Impacts on Marine Biota)
- Severe Weather
- Water Quality and Quantity
- Freshwater Supply & Resource Management
- Sea Level Rise (Natural Resource Implications)









# CLIMATE SERVICE CASE STUDY: ARCTIC

#### Solution and problem focused:

- Understanding relative contributions of natural climate variability and anthropogenic forcing
- Impacts of lower latitude activities on the Arctic climate
- The region's role overall in global climate change and ecosystem impacts
- Potential actions to prevent or mitigate climate changes in the Arctic and globally

#### Specific needs:

- Sea Ice Forecasts Daily to Decadal
- Sea Level Rise (Impacts on Coastal Erosion, Monitoring, Predictions)
- Understanding of Arctic Climate Processes





Village of Shishmaref, on the Chukchi Sea, Alaska

