

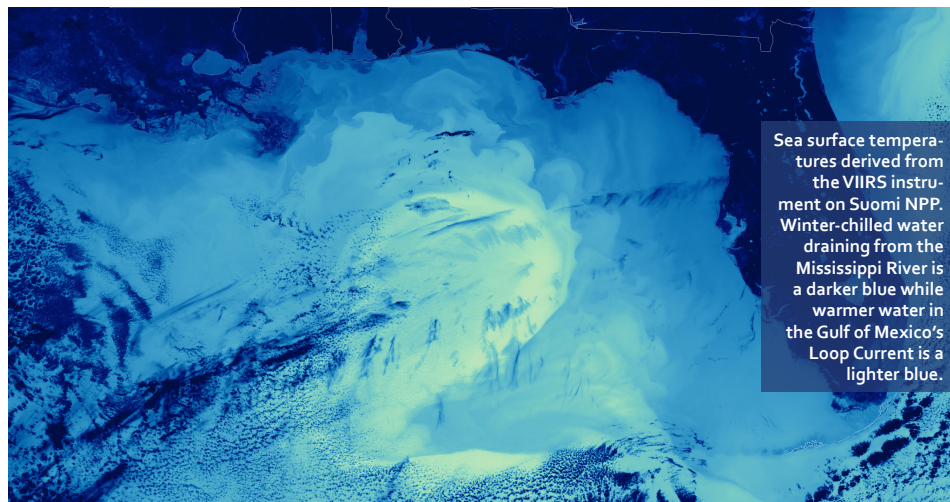
# the Downlink

A twice-yearly publication with news and updates from the NOAA Satellite and Information Service's International and Interagency Affairs Division

## NOAA's NEXT-GENERATION SATELLITE ARRIVES

**N**OAA'S SATELLITE OPERATIONS reached a major milestone on February 22, 2013 when operational control of America's newest polar-orbiting environmental satellite, Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (Suomi NPP), was transitioned from NASA to NOAA. Suomi NPP, launched on October 28, 2011, is a bridge between NOAA's current fleet of polar-orbiting satellites and the upcoming next generation Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS), the first of which is scheduled to launch in 2017.

And, NOAA has already begun providing data from Suomi NPP to the rest of the world in accordance with NOAA's full and open data policy and the GEOSS Data Sharing Principles (see reverse for access details). Meteorologists will



benefit from its advanced instruments, strengthening the global community's ability to provide basic weather forecasts, as well as advanced warning for severe weather such as tornados, heavy snowfall, hurricanes, heat waves, floods, and wildfires. Data from Suomi NPP will also be used to generate dozens of environmental data products, including measurements of clouds, vegetation, ocean color, and land and sea surface temperatures.

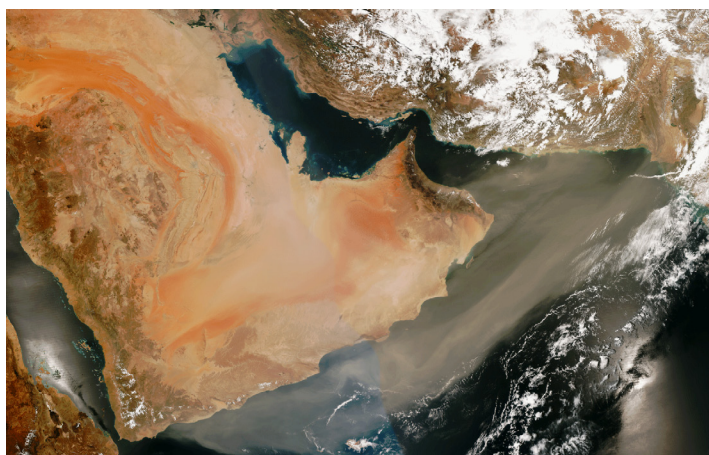
Suomi NPP is also NOAA's latest

contribution to its partnership with EUMETSAT, the European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites. In their integrated satellite system, NOAA and EUMETSAT coordinate the operations of their polar-orbiting satellites and exchange data both with each other and the global community to provide operational meteorological and environmental forecasting and global climate monitoring services worldwide.

## BUDGET UPDATE

**CURRENT FUNDING:** On March 26, 2013 NOAA received a budget that will fund the development of our satellite programs through the rest of fiscal year 2013 (end of September 2013). Budget cuts associated with "sequestration" are still in effect. As a result, U.S. Government agencies are facing severe restrictions (including, in some cases, program terminations and furloughs) and NOAA is working with Congress and the President to understand the full impact of this percentage cut on all U.S. Government programs.

**FUTURE FUNDING:** On April 10, 2013, the President announced his fiscal year 2014 budget request, which strongly supports NOAA's satellite programs. This request is now under consideration in Congress.



## DATA STREAMS

### ARABIAN CURRENT

A sandstorm blows off the Arabian Peninsula and across the Gulf of Oman in this true color image from the VIIRS instrument on Suomi NPP. It is composed of imagery from two orbital passes, both on April 8, 2013.

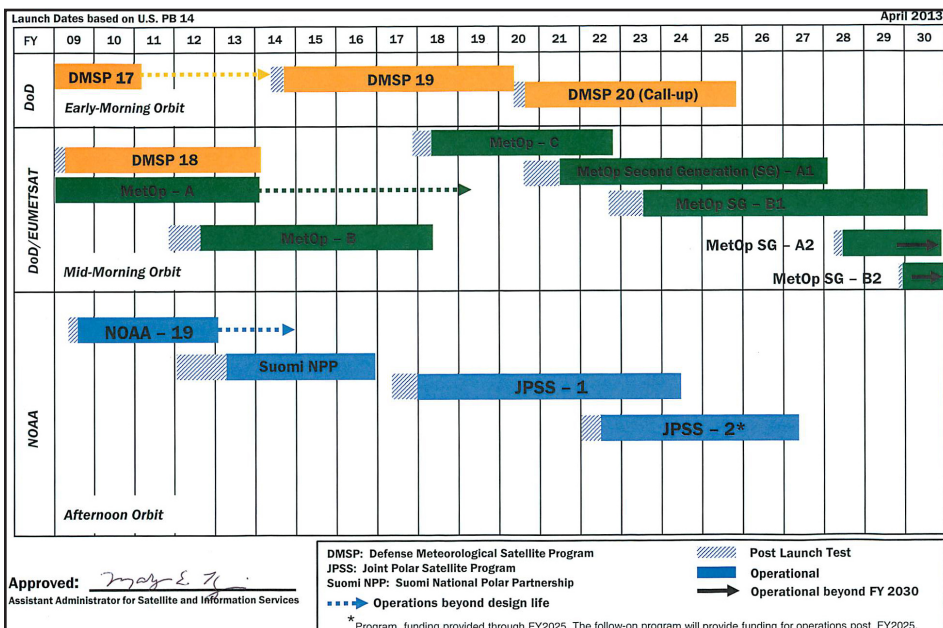
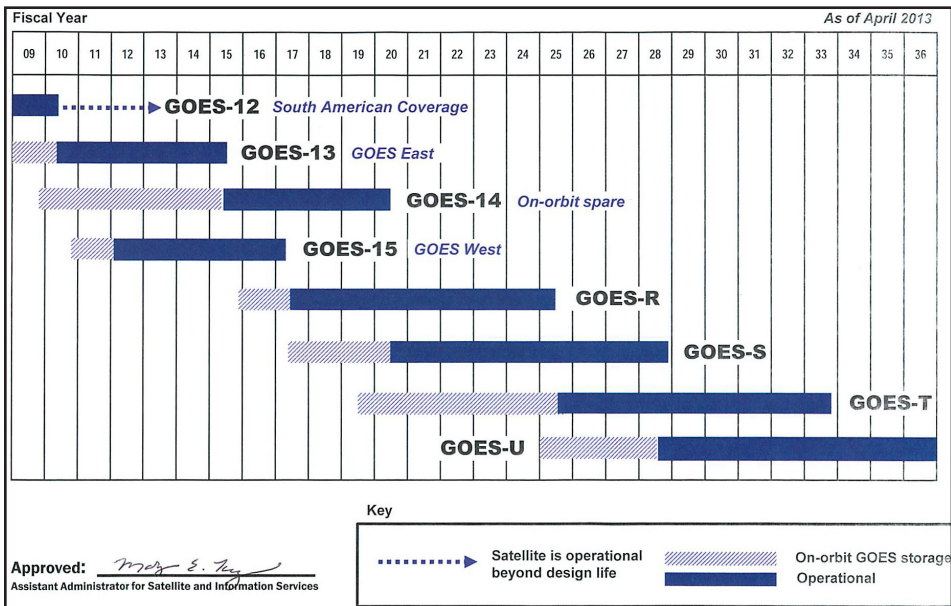
### INSIDE IIAD

For more on our personnel, visit [www.nesdisia.noaa.gov](http://www.nesdisia.noaa.gov)

**Kate Becker** is on detail to NOAA Headquarters through the end of summer 2013.

**Pat O'Brien** is serving in Afghanistan through fall 2013. Contact Derek Hanson in his absence.

**Kerry Sawyer** has been appointed CEOS Executive Officer from Dec 2012 through Dec 2014.



## CURRENT OPERATIONS: CHANGES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**POES:** NOAA-17 was decommissioned on April 10, 2013. The primary POES satellite remains NOAA-19. NOAA now only flies polar-orbiting satellites in the afternoon orbit while its partner EUMETSAT flies satellites in the mid-morning orbit.

**GOES:** GOES-12, which provided over 3 years of additional coverage for South America on a best-efforts basis, will be deorbited in August due to its low fuel levels and degradation of its propulsion system. NOAA has no current plans to replace GOES-12, but will review options should circumstances change based on the health of the entire GOES constellation. NOAA will keep users fully apprised.

**SUOMI NPP:** Near-real-time access to CrIS (399 channels) and ATMS (all 22 channels) data is available via GTS and via EUMETCast, courtesy of our partner EUMETSAT. NOAA is currently researching how to best deliver VIIRS's large data volumes and will update the international community in the near future. Archived data is available via CLASS (including ftp), which hosts data for up to 85 days with a data delay of 6-24 hours.

## FUTURE PROGRAMS: PLANNING UPDATE

### GOES-R [www.goes-r.gov](http://www.goes-r.gov)

**Geostationary satellite**

**Key Instruments:** ABI, GLM, EXIS, SUVI, SEISS, MAG

**Expected Launch:** Oct 2015

**Status:** Spacecraft core structure is being integrated with the propulsion module; all first flight model instruments are near completion and will be delivered for spacecraft integration by the end of 2013 (except GLM)

### JPSS-1 [www.jpss.noaa.gov](http://www.jpss.noaa.gov)

**Polar-orbiting satellite**

**Key Instruments:** VIIRS, CrIS, ATMS, OMPS, CERES

**Expected Launch:** Jan/Mar 2017

**Status:** Will complete preliminary design review in May 2013

**Partner:** EUMETSAT

### JASON-3

**Ocean surface topography mission**

**Key Instrument:** Altimeter

**Expected Launch:** Mar 2015

**Status:** NOAA instrument will be shipped to CNES in May; integration of all instruments to spacecraft will begin in June

**Partners:** EUMETSAT, France, NASA

### DSCOVR

**Space weather mission**

**Key Instruments:** faraday cup, fluxgate magnetometer

**Expected Launch:** Nov/Dec 2014

**Status:** SpaceX Falcon 9 selected as launch vehicle; will launch jointly with NASA's Sunjammer Solar Sail Technology Demonstration Mission

**Partner:** NASA

### COSMIC-2

**Radio occultation mission**

**Key Instrument:** TGRS

**Constellation:** 6 equatorial satellites & 6 polar satellites (12 total)

**Expected Launch:** 2016 & 2018

**Status:** SpaceX Falcon 9 Heavy selected as 2016 launch vehicle

**Partners:** Taiwan, U.S. Air Force

**For near-real-time access to satellite data,** contact the Office of Satellite and Product Operations: [www.ospo.noaa.gov](http://www.ospo.noaa.gov). **For access to archived data,** visit CLASS, our online data stewardship system: [www.class.noaa.gov](http://www.class.noaa.gov).

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