

# INTRODUCTION TO EARTH OBSERVATIONS FOR WATER MONITORING

Emily Smail, Ph.D.
Executive Director, GEO Blue Planet
NOAA/NESDIS/STAR/SOCD
UMD/ESSIC/CISESS



# What can you are Earth Observations?

Earth observations are data and information collected about our planet, whether atmospheric, oceanic or terrestrial.

This includes space-based or remotelysensed data, as well as ground-based or *in* situ data.







# **Satellite Remote Sensing**





# **Satellite Remote Sensing**

October 22, 2016 true
colour image of the
Earth from the Visible
Infrared Imaging
Radiometer Suite (VIIRS)
onboard the Suomi
National Polar-Orbiting
Partnership. Data
supplied from VIIRS is
generated at a 750 m
resolution.

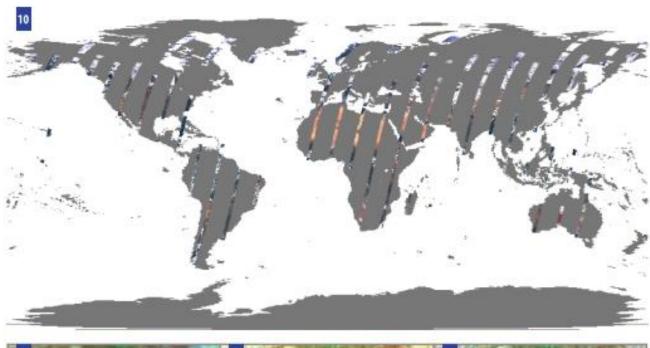
October 22, 2016 true
colour image of the
Earth from the OLCI
instrument onboard
ESA's Sentinel-3 satellite.
Data supplied from
Sentinel-3 OLCI is
generated at a 300 m
resolution.







## **Satellite Remote Sensing**





October 22, 2016 true color image of the Earth from the Landsat 7 and 8 satellites. Spectral data supplied from Land 7 and 8 is generated at a 30 m resolution.

Red/green/blue images of Lake Victoria's Winam Gulf at 750 m resolution (S-NPP VIIRS – January 12, 2017).

300 m resolution, Sentinel-3 OLCI – January 11, 2017).

10–60 m resolution (Sentinel-2 MSI – January 12, 2017).

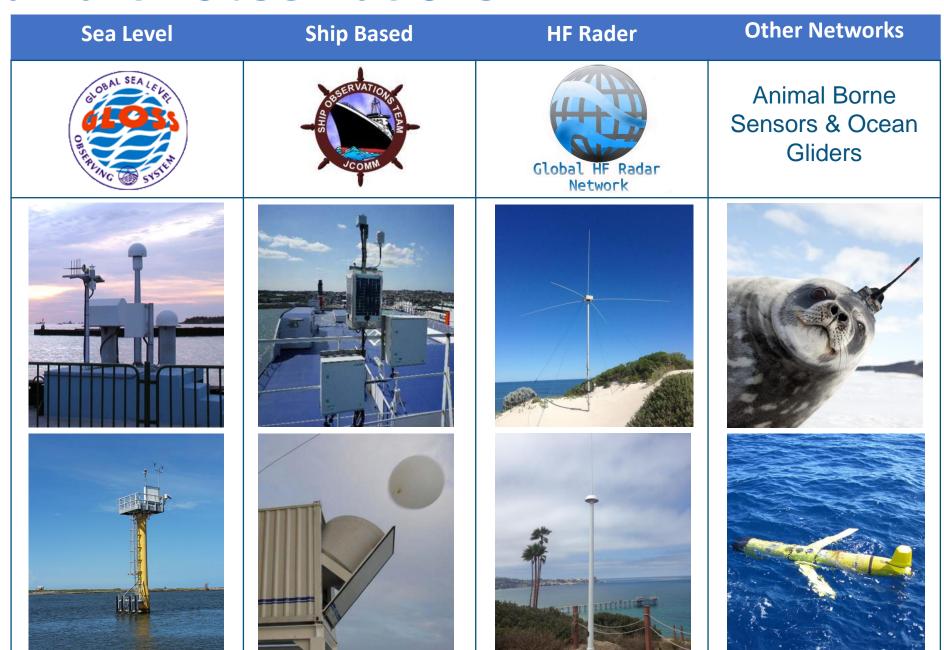


### In situ Earth observations



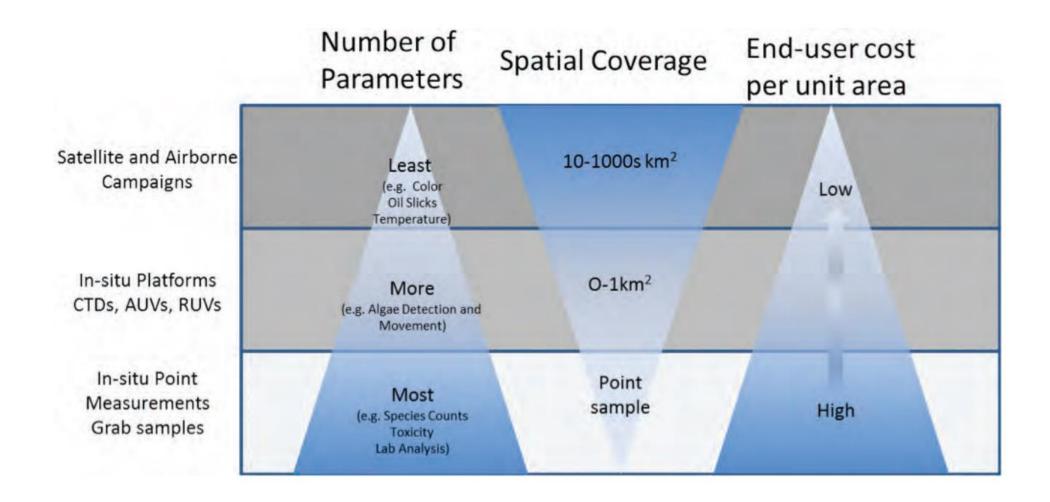


# In situ Earth observations





# **Comparison of Monitoring Approaches**





#### **Water and Earth Observations**

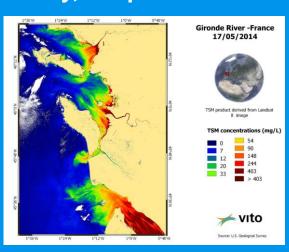
- Precipitation
- Evapotranspiration
- Soil Moisture
- Groundwater

- Level and Extent of Surface Water
- Snow Cover
- Temperature
- Water Quality

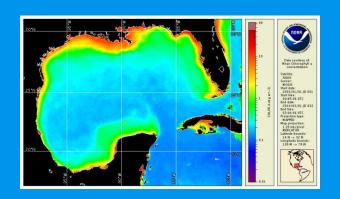


# **Example: Water Quality Products**

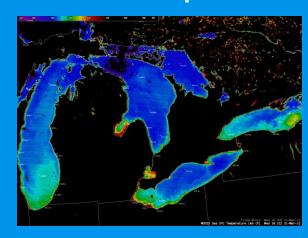
#### **Turbidity, suspended solid**



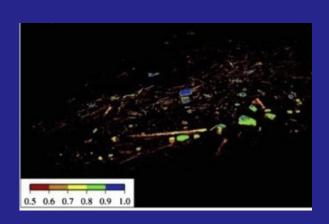
#### Chlorophyll-a, CDOM



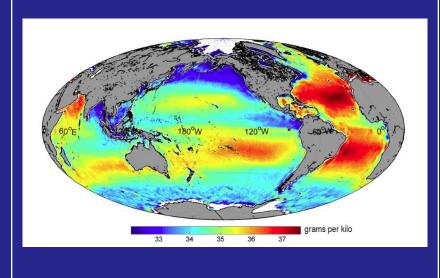
#### **Surface Temperature**



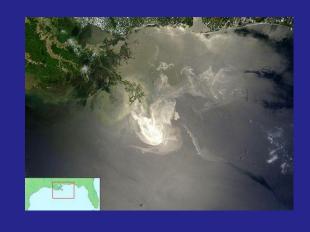
**Macro-debris** 



Salinity



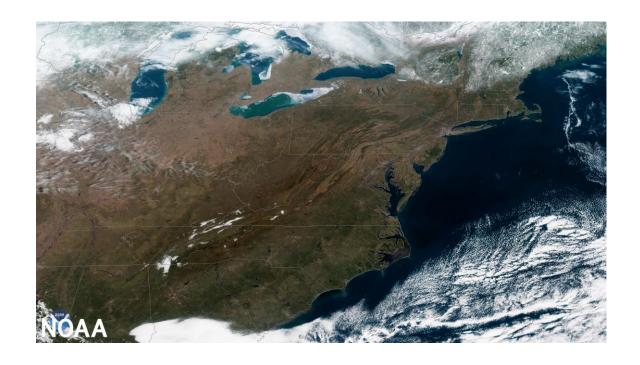
#### Slicks



# What you will see today

Examples of monitoring tools for water monitoring

- Flood forecasting
- Water-related pathogens
- Water quality
- Freshwater ecosystems







# THANK YOU!

